

VITAL SIGNS

Summer 2024

INTEGRITY | COMPASSION | SCHOLARSHIP | LEADERSHIP | EXCELLENCE IN NURSING PRACTICE | SERVICE TO ALL

In Memory: Jeanne Johnson

This summer we said goodbye to one of our former nursing chairs, Dr. Jeanne Johnson. Jeanne passed away on July 2 at the full age of 90. She attended Wheaton College where she met her husband, Dave, then completed her nursing degree in the newly formed baccalaureate program at the University of Illinois in 1956. After moving to Liberty in 1970 for her husband's teaching position at William Jewell College, she was asked to teach in Jewell's fledgling nursing program. She joined the nursing faculty in 1972 and completed a master's degree in education from UMKC in 1975 and a doctoral degree in education from the University of Kansas in 1984. She taught at Jewell for 24 years and was the chair of the department for 12 years until her retirement in 1996. She was instrumental in developing the Sigma Theta Tau Jewell chapter known as Mu Mu. Dr. Johnson continued to support the Department of Nursing after her retirement. Dr. Johnson was a very kind, compassionate, and gracious person. Her presence was always calming. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to the Jeanne S. Johnson Scholarship Fund. Select Tribute Gift and add Jeanne's name at jewell.edu/jewell-fund.



Honoring Retiree Wanda Mickelson



Wanda Mickelson received the Distinguished Contribution to Jewell Nursing Award at the 50th Nursing Pinning Ceremony in May. Wanda has served the College for more than 16 years. She started in Human Resources and International Studies and joined the Department of Nursing shortly after. She was on the founding team of the College Staff Council. She has served in nearly every position in the department over these years and has trained every current department staff member. She has also been the Service Coordinator for the last seven years. Wanda said, "Being the Service Coordinator gave me another opportunity to serve and encourage students." She also co-sponsored our chapter of Nurses Christian Fellowship. Wanda has been the mastermind for many

of our celebratory events. She loves to make a game or turn everything into a party, and she loves prizes. She began collecting raffle prizes for our students from local businesses for the Mind and Heart Undergraduate Nursing Research Symposium. Because of her example, we announced at pinning the beginning of the Wanda Mickelson Amendment. This amendment will be used by any staff or faculty member during all planning meetings to remind us to be sure to have fun. Wanda retired from the College in May. We wish her all the very best in retirement and the years ahead. Her gentle spirit and positive outlook are an inspiration. Thank you for your friendship and service to Jewell, Wanda!

Simulation Center

William Jewell College Simulation Center is thrilled to announce a significant achievement: being recognized and celebrated at the INACSL (International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning) conference in Raleigh, North Carolina, as the first and only simulation center in Missouri or Kansas to receive this prestigious endorsement. This remarkable accomplishment highlights our unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation in simulation-based education.

The endorsement from INACSL is a testament to our dedication to upholding the highest standards in simulation practices. It serves as an affirmation of the quality and impact of our programs, which are designed to provide exceptional training and education to our students. This recognition places Jewell's Simulation Center at the forefront of simulation education in the region, setting a benchmark for others to aspire to.

In line with our commitment to continuous improvement and innovation, we are excited to announce the integration of a new medication administration process, complete with a state-of-the-art medication system within the simulation center. This addition will enhance the realism of our simulations, providing students with invaluable hands-on experience in a controlled, safe environment. The new process aims to better prepare our students for real-world clinical settings, ensuring they are proficient and confident in their skills.



Tiffany Condren and Becky Jones represented our center at the INACSL conference and received the award.

We are also delighted to welcome Denise Patzner as our new Simulation Operations Specialist. Denise has already made significant contributions to our team, bringing in excellent ideas and implementing changes that have further enhanced our operations. Her expertise and enthusiasm have made her an invaluable addition, and we are excited to see the continued positive impact she will have on our programs.

As we look ahead to the 2024-2025 academic year, we are filled with optimism and excitement. Our goals remain steadfast: to strive for excellence and to meet the Simulation Standards of Best Practice. With our recent achievements and ongoing innovations, we are confident that the William Jewell College Simulation Center will continue to be a leader in simulation-based education, providing our students with the highest quality training and preparing them to excel in their future careers.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead, filled with growth, innovation, and continued success at the William Jewell College Simulation Center!



Letter from the Chair



Dear Nursing Alumni and Friends,
We are happy to share this year's edition of the newsletter. I appreciate all the faculty and students who put this newsletter together to share with you. I will detail here a few updates and our great news.

The big news is that Jewell Nursing turns 50! Please save the date for our 50 Years of Nursing Celebration! We will gather the evening of Saturday, October 19, 2024, during Homecoming weekend. We will share more details and a link to register soon. We are planning a Silent Auction and Wine Pull to raise our Nursing Excellence in Practice Alumni Scholarship from \$25,000 to \$50,000 in celebration of 50 Years!

Bigger news! Not only did the 2023 graduating class have 100% pass rate on NCLEX®, the 2024 graduating class completed at 100%, too! The May AT and three-year cohorts had THREE years in a row of 100%! This is amazing because the National Council of State Board of Nursing (NCSBN) changed to a Clinical Judgment Measurement Model for NCLEX focusing on clinical reasoning in clinical and new question formats like bowtie, dropdown, drag and drop and extended multiple response (code pumped up Select All That Apply). Fortunately, we are The Critical Thinking College and our students proved that! Our faculty are doing an amazing job bringing clinical to the classroom and promoting clinical judgment. Professor Sarah Light is also hard at work supporting graduates through NCLEX. It's a great day to be a Jewell nurse!

Even better, our Simulation Center earned recognition from the International Nursing Association Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) Endorsement for 2023-2026. This recognition places the William Jewell College Nursing Simulation Center in an elite group of 28 globally recognized simulation programs. Jewell is the first and only simulation center in Kansas or Missouri to receive such an endorsement. The INACSL endorsement

affirms the innovative, high-quality simulation teaching and learning strategies integrated into the Department of Nursing curriculum and underscores the Jewell Simulation Center's position as a leader in simulation-based learning.

We started the Collegiate Nursing Academy in partnership with Liberty Hospital and Liberty Public Schools last year with 21 high school students from both Liberty High School and Liberty North completing the program. Many are taking the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' Certified Nurses Assistant Exam this summer. Upon completion, students can sit for the certification exam, interview at Liberty Hospital for a Patient Care Technician (PCT) position and are eligible for a scholarship at Jewell for their four years of college. We will welcome four students this fall from the cohort: Gabrielle Fisher, Allison Fong, Faith Homan, and Kaylee Wooldridge. We have 22 students from Liberty high schools this fall for our second cohort. Thank you to Mike Boggs, Academy Instructor, for his great work with these students.

It is with regret that we share difficult news: This summer we said goodbye to one of our former nursing chairs, Jeanne Johnson. Please take a moment to reflect on her nursing journey in the article dedicated to her. Dr. Johnson continued to support the Department of Nursing after her retirement. Dr. Johnson had a very calming and positive presence about her. She will be greatly missed

We are thriving, enjoying and continuing to focus on providing high-quality nursing education. Our strong commitment to the students by faculty and staff is our cornerstone. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or suggestions. You have an open invitation on The Hill for any nursing event!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leesa".

Leesa McBroom, PhD, APRN, FNP-C,
Chair/Professor of Nursing

Be The Match

Kaitlin Anderson, Nursing, BSN-AT

In the fall of 2023 I volunteered to help organize the NMDP (formerly Be the Match) donor drive alongside the team organizing the blood drive. I had donated blood and seen the organization at other drives previously but didn't know a ton about it. I spent time during our first planning meeting doing some research about the organization and found that it provides kits with all the necessary items to host a drive for free. I registered our drive with them and got the kit in the mail several weeks later. It had flyers, stickers, promotional materials, and donor kits.

Prior to hosting the drive, I only vaguely knew of the program and ended up learning a lot while working with them. NMDP (the National Marrow Donor Program) works to create a diverse database of potential donors for bone marrow and blood stem cells. These donations are then used to help individuals with cancers like leukemia or lymphoma, or hematological disorders like sickle cell. Bone marrow donations only account for about 10% of the total need while blood stem cells make up the other 90% — and can be donated similarly to plasma. The process of joining the data base is a quick cheek swab and online registration. The entire process only takes about 10 minutes. More than 75% of requested donations come from those aged 18-35 and the program especially looks for donors of non-white racial/ethnic backgrounds. The more diverse the donor base is, the higher chance there is a match for someone who needs one.

The day of the drive I arrived early to help set up for the blood drive and then set up my table. My original plan was to try to catch as many as possible when they were leaving their blood donation. However, it ended up being a little more difficult to get people to sign up than I anticipated. Unlike blood, people don't need to swab multiple times so many said they were already signed up. Several others were too young or too old. In the end we got nine individuals to swab and sign up. While we had set a goal of 15, the NMDP staff I had been coordinating with said that small events and blood drives often only had 10-15 new sign ups. At the end of the day all I had to do was box everything and mail it back. Overall, I had a good experience working with the organization and learned more about their work.



Science Olympiad

Nicole Bentley and Laura Yerino, Nursing BSN-AT

Our service project involved high school students competing in the annual Science Olympiad, hosted by William Jewell. These events not only test scientific knowledge but also critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. We chose to help with the Science Olympiad event called Disease Detectives. This involved writing a test about microorganisms. This responsibility demands a deep understanding of the subject matter, as well as creativity in devising questions that challenge competitors' knowledge and analytical skills. Crafting a balanced test involves selecting topics that are both comprehensive and fair, ensuring that each question contributes to assessing a broad spectrum of scientific understanding. We were able to use past tests for examples. The test we developed was approved by Dr. Annette Behney. On the day of the competition, the contestants from different schools worked in pairs to complete the test. We graded the tests, ranked the scores, and turned the results in to the officials.

It was interesting to watch the young people work together, while critically thinking to come up with their best choices. We could see a deep appreciation for scientific inquiry, teamwork, and the pursuit of knowledge from participants that will prepare students for future challenges in their academic and professional careers. Overall, this was a rewarding experience that we were fortunate to be part of.

Liberty Public Schools Shadow Search Day with Jewell Nursing

Isabella Deiparinei and Carter Lipari, Nursing, BSN-AT

In this service activity, we held the roles of leaders and mentors. We took the lead in educating and reaching middle school students in our local community on CPR and the field of nursing. We encouraged these students to get CPR certified and explained how useful a skill could be in many situations and settings. We also encouraged them to explore the opportunities of the nursing field and consider a future in health care. We educated them on the basics of nursing and how nurses help people and make a difference in their communities.

We talked with many middle school students who were already interested in health care and educated many students on what nursing means and the opportunities that come with it. Several students expressed interest in these conversations, showing us that both our outreach and exposure was successful. We also taught approximately 900 middle school students how to do CPR compressions. We used a return demonstration technique while educating the students. This showed us that we were successful in giving them an idea of how CPR works and saves lives, as well as how to physically perform compressions.

The target population served by this activity was local middle school students. More exposure like this to healthcare careers at a young age may provide them with more insight and inspiration to pursue a path in the nursing field. Many students seemed very interested and set on going into health care. Other students were also interested but had little to no knowledge of what healthcare careers look like because of lack of exposure. More service events like this could help improve this knowledge deficit. A similar service event, but independently focused on nursing, and more time provided with each group of students, would be beneficial to many of these students as well as the future of nursing. Overall, this was a very successful service event which we think positively impacted several kids in our community.



CONGRATULATIONS to 21 Liberty High School and Liberty North High School Seniors who completed the first Collegiate Nursing Academy Collaboration with Liberty Public Schools and the William Jewell Nursing Department in the 23-24 academic year.

Sigma Theta Tau Update

Associate Professor Melissa Timmons, MSN, RN-BC



The Mu Mu Chapter had another great year for 2023-2024! We were excited to welcome seven high-achieving candidates in our May 2024 Induction Ceremony. We can't wait to see what these amazing nurses will do in their service to others and the community. Please welcome the following new members:



*Community Nurse Leader: Sarah Light [not pictured].
BSN Senior Students of Distinction (left to right):
Laura Yerino, Isabella Deiparine, Jonathan Watkins,
Grace Dixson, Sydney Ware, Londin Edds*

In the fall, we started the academic year by our continued support and celebration of nursing student research by sponsoring seven posters for Jewell nursing students at Jewell's Mind and Heart Symposium. During this event, we enjoyed spending time learning about the various research endeavors of nursing students and providing treats and Mu Mu Chapter informational flyers to Jewell's nursing students. The Chapter enjoyed seeing the joy on the face of a raffle winner for our donation of a QT gift card during the Symposium.

The Mu Mu Chapter and Department of Nursing was blessed to participate again in the Winter 2023 Adopt-an-Angel Holiday Program by Saint Luke's Crittenton Children's Center where we were able to provide for two children in Foster Care plus an amazing haul of general stocking stuffers. With the support and donations received, Crittenton was able to make the holidays special for over 400 children in our residential, hospital, foster care and home-based programs.

On April 5, 2024, the Mu Mu Chapter again co-hosted the Annual Kansas City Sigma Collaborative Conference, titled *Annual Embracing Excellence: Navigating the New Frontier - Generative AI in Nursing Education and Practice*. This conference was held virtually through

the support of Liberty Hospital and was a meaningful opportunity for our chapter to support local and regional educational needs.

We were particularly proud to support the learning, knowledge and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in healthcare and education throughout Greater Kansas City.

Please contact us if you are interested in participating in next year's upcoming conference, as the conference planning committee is a great way to network and meet other nurses and Sigma members in the Kansas City area. You can find our Sigma KC Collaborative via Nursing Network (www.nursingnetwork.com).

We are looking forward to many more activities this coming year! Please contact any Board member if you are interested in joining for the first time or reactivating your membership. If you are already a member, we encourage you to browse the Chapter website and ensure that your contact information is up-to-date so that you can stay in the know. The Mu Mu Chapter Circle website: mumu.sigmanursing.org/home.



Magalie Acsenvil, Mu Mu Chapter Member, attended the Biennial Convention in San Antonio, Texas, in November 2023 representing and voting for the Chapter along with providing the Chapter pertinent business updates.

Student and Faculty Accomplishments

Hallmarks of a William Jewell Nursing Student Awards

Award for Integrity (BSN).....	Sydney Ware
Award for Integrity (BSN-AT)	Nina McDowell
Award for Compassion (BSN).....	Katie Knock
Award for Compassion (BSN-AT)	Amanda Kepus
Award for Scholarship (BSN).....	Jonathan Watkins
Award for Scholarship (BSN-AT)	Isabella Deiparine
Anne Bax Ozbolt Awards for Servant Leadership (BSN)	Ben Click
Anne Bax Ozbolt Award for Servant Leadership (BSN-AT)	Katelynn Sheets
Award for Excellence in Practice (BSN).....	McKenzie Stahl
Award for Excellence in Practice (BSN-AT).....	Travis Bailey
Mary Grant Seacole Award for Service (BSN)	Abbey Negosian
Mary Grant Seacole Award for Service (BSN-AT)	Kaitlin Anderson
Outstanding Academic Achievement Award (BSN).....	Madeleine Smith
Outstanding Academic Achievement Award (BSN-AT)	Joshua Gately
Outstanding Nursing Student Award (BSN).....	Londin Edds
Outstanding Nursing Student Award (BSN-AT)	Carter Lipari

Daisy Awards

Londin Edds – *Student Award*

Anna Kaaikamanu – *Faculty Award*

Sarah Light – *Clinical Faculty Award*

Carter Lipari – *Efficacy of GLP-1 Agonists (Ozempic) for Potential Weight Loss*

Nina McDowell – *Alternative Therapies for Pain Management During Labor*

Mind and Heart Research Symposium Podium Presenters:

Joshua Gately – *Food for Thought: Mental Health Across the Gut-Brain Axis a Farmalogical Approach (also presented at Duke Colloquium)*

Amanda Kepus – *Patients with Down Syndrome Show Increased Sensitivity to Medications (also presented at Duke Colloquium)*

Ethan Mott – *The Rising Prevalence of Pediatric Mental Health Disorders and The Long-Term Consequences*

Katelynn Sheets – *The Trajectory of Childhood Attention Deficit Disorder to Adult Bipolar Disorder (also presented at Duke Colloquium)*

Mind and Heart Poster Presenters

Kaitlin Anderson – *Non-Nutritional Uses of Human Breast Milk*

Travis Bailey – *Euthanasia: Is it Time? (also presented at Duke Colloquium)*

Nicole Bentley – *Management of Spasticity Using Intrathecal Pump*

Carolyn Jordheim – *How Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Psychiatric Disorders, and the Gut-Brain Axis are Connected*

Alumni Survey 2023 Gift Card Winners!

Elizabeth Feller

Devin Hampton

Jolee McMullin



The Department of Nursing Team

Nursing Faculty

Leesa McBroom, PhD, APRN, FNP-C
Chair, Professor

Annette Behney, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
*Associate Professor of Nursing
Medication Calculation Coordinator*

Raechel Blades, MSN, RN, RNC-OB, CNE
*Instructor of Nursing
Nursing Arts Laboratory Coordinator*

Tiffany Condren, PhD(c), RN, RNC, CHSE
*Assistant Professor of Nursing
Simulation Coordinator
NCF Faculty Advisor*

Becky Jones, '08, MSN, RN, CPN
Instructor of Nursing

Anna Kaaiakamanu, '17, DNP, RN, CCRN
*Assistant Professor of Nursing
Nursing Arts Laboratory Coordinator*

Ellen Kisling, '81, MSN, RN
Adjunct Instructor of Nursing

Sarah Light, '06, MSN, RN
Adjunct Instructor of Nursing

Debra Penrod, '07, MSN, RN
Assistant Professor of Nursing

Patty Richter, DNP, RN
*Assistant Professor of Nursing
Vital Signs Editor
SNA Faculty Advisor*

Jennifer Ryan, MSN, APRN, FNP-C
Assistant Professor of Nursing

Melissa Timmons, MSN, RN-BC
Assistant Professor of Nursing

Clinical Faculty

Magalie Acsenvil, '14, MSN, RN

Debbie Diaz, '95, MSN, APRN, NP-C,
CWON

Hannah Holterman, MSN, RN, CPN

Melissa Jackson, MSN, RN

Lorie Niffen, MA, BSN, RN

Modestine Powers, '17, BSN, RN

Thomas Sims, '14, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Ashley Slaughter, '14, MSN, RN

Heather Wilkie, '16, MSN, RN

Staff

Katie Cazzell
Clinical Compliance Coordinator

Kristina Fredde
*Assistant to the Chair and Department
Coordinator*

Allie Foltz
Nursing Student Liaison

Denise Patzner
Simulation Operations Specialist



Keep in Touch

We'd love to hear about your education beyond Jewell, new job, publications, research, honors, etc. Email us at nursing@william.jewell.edu or mail your update to:

William Jewell College Department of Nursing
500 College Hill, Box 2002
Liberty, Missouri 64068-1896



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