

BAPTIST HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

Alumni NEWS

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CONGRATULATIONS
CLASS OF 2021
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**BAPTIST HEALTH
SCIENCES UNIVERSITY**



President's CORNER

Dear friends and fellow alumni,

Just when we thought 2020 brought lots of challenges, then comes 2021! Many of you have shared the challenges you have experienced this past year. We are especially proud of our alumni who have served their communities through the amazing care they provide. We applaud you and lift you up in prayer often.

While many things evolved and changed in 2021, many of the really important things have remained true. Each academic year the University selects a Bible verse to guide programming and reflection. The verse for 2021-2022 is Romans 5:3-4:

3 Not only so, but we[a] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Faculty, staff and students continue to live out this verse by persevering through many different types of challenges, personally and professionally. It has been humbling to see their perseverance produce character reflecting generosity, diligence, patience, and even grit at times. The verse ends with character producing hope. The perseverance and character displayed by faculty and staff has continued to produce hope through showing up every day to serve our students. This commitment provides the students with stability and structure and the ability to see that there is hope. Hope to reach their educational goals even during a global pandemic.

We are learning to be more nimble as a University and adapt safety protocols and teaching methods based on increasing or decreasing community spread numbers. At the time of this article, life on campus is much like our community. Students have returned to live in the residence hall. Masks are still a required accessory – some stylish, some funny, some utilitarian. Asynchronous or synchronous virtual classes are being replaced with more in-person classes on campus. Slowly, in person events are replacing Zoom and Microsoft Teams as primary communication vehicles for student conferences, meetings and events. Clinical rotations have resumed.

We launched a new strategic plan, Strengthening Impact, as well as finalizing an update to the master campus facility campus plan. Many of the articles in this issue are related to that three year strategic plan that focuses on three primary areas: advancing learning, elevating brand and empowering community. You will read more about the exciting work of Dr. Kimberly Cunningham, Dean of Student Success, who is leading the implementation of a new student success model and received a major grant to support this important work. Dr. Briana Jeiger, Chair of Health Administration, is leading a team working with the Shelby County Health Department, Rhodes College, Lemoyne Owen College and others to educate community health workers.

Many of you have reached out to share prayers for your University and the faculty, staff and students. We are appreciative of those prayers and ask you to continue them as we remain focused on our mission of educating future health care professionals.

Warmest regards,

Betty Sue McGarvey, Ph.D., RN
President

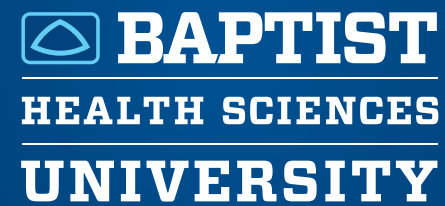
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Alumni NEWS

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BHSU Names New Alumni Coordinator

Zac Cox, a Baptist University nuclear medicine technology class of 2011 graduate, has recently been promoted to a newly-created position, relationship marketing coordinator. In his new role, Zac serves as the alumni relations coordinator, representing and building relationships between Baptist University, Baptist Memorial Health Care and the local medical community to help fill gaps in education and care. He will also implement alumni relationship strategies to connect alumni back to the University through reunions, regional events and specials programs. Zac previously worked as admissions officer for Baptist University, a role he has held since 2015.

Be on the lookout on emails from him and feel to reach out to Zac with any alumni matters at alumni@baptistu.edu.



Dr. Anne Plumb Announces Spring Retirement

Dr. Anne Plumb, dean of nursing at Baptist Health Sciences University, is retiring in April 2022 and Dr. Cathy Stepter, a Baptist University alum and current doctor of nurse practitioner program chair, will be taking her place.

Dr. Plumb is a nurse leader whose influence has been seen throughout her career. Beginning her nursing career in the Navy, Dr. Plumb has inspired, trained, and mentored many health care professionals who have crossed her path. During her tenure, she has served in a variety of leadership capacities including various director of Nursing positions and education roles, including staff development, as nursing faculty, and associate dean of nursing. As one of the founding members of Baptist Health Sciences University, Dr. Plumb has served as the dean of nursing for more than 17 years and has served in the Baptist Memorial Health Care system for more than 40 years.



“Nurses have the privilege of touching the lives of many others in such impactful ways,” said Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey, president of Baptist Health Sciences University. “Dr. Plumb’s contributions to our communities are not limited to the provision of health care services. She has positively influenced the education, training and professional development of countless others.”

Dr. Plumb is highly respected within the nursing and academic community. She serves as a professional accreditation site reviewer with the Commission on Collegiate Nursing and holds a number of professional nursing memberships. Dr. Plumb has also been instrumental in securing a variety of grant funds for various initiatives. Additionally, Baptist Health Sciences University’s first graduate program, the Doctor of Nursing Practice, was launched under her leadership.

Her commitment to the nursing profession and to Baptist Health Sciences University is why a scholarship fund has been established to honor her retirement and dedicated service. We hope you consider a gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or more to the Anne Plumb Nursing Scholarship Fund at Baptist Health Sciences University to support students in the nursing program. Donations will provide the opportunity to support a student financially, while contributing to their continued professional development. To make this possible, we need your support.

The Baptist Health Sciences University Board of Directors bestowed the title of Dean Emeritus to Dr. Anne Plumb upon her retirement.



Grant Endowment Leads the Creation of Blue Healer Student Success Center

In the fall of 2021, Dr. Kimberly Cunningham, the then-director of the Center for Academic Excellence, opened an email from the Department of Education that she had to reread several times to make sure it was real. She learned that the Baptist Health Sciences University is the recipient of a \$4.25 million grant from the Department on Education under the Predominantly Black Institutions Competitive Grant Program. This is the largest grant in Baptist University's history.

With the grant, Dr. Cunningham, now the Dean of Student Success, will establish the success center, starting by hiring up to six academic success coaches, an internship coordinator, a career development coordinator and a life coach. The academic coaches will be assigned to students who are identified early as at-risk for either potential academic struggles or even dropping out. Research has shown that around 30% of students drop out during their first year of higher education. In a time when health care providers of all kinds are in high demand, Dr. Cunningham wanted to find a way to stop the attrition.

"We are meeting a real unmet need with the help of these grants," said Dr. Cunningham. "The Blue Healer Student Success Center is a first of its kind at the Baptist University, providing wraparound support for the academic and wellness needs of all students."

While the grants are identified to help Black students, all students can have access to the BHSSC. Dr. Cunningham and her team will keep tight metrics on Black students to report back quarterly to the Department of Education.

Years of research have shown that communities benefit when their work force represents their population. In the Mid-South, that means we need more Black health care workers.

"We want to hire a diverse group of success coaches for the BHSSC, to be strategic in who we bring in," said Dr. Cunningham. "We are looking for passionate people who are excited to help our students succeed."

Baptist University students in any major will have access to the BHSSC and the academic success coaches. Through the BHSSC, students will have access to anything they need to help them succeed. The academic success coaches, through BHSSC, can help provide academic success centers and professional tutoring plans. Their work will improve student retention and graduation rates. The coaches will also teach the students how to learn.

"Students can learn time-management, note taking, study skills, really how to learn and understand material and information," said Dr. Cunningham.

During the 2020-2021 school year, Baptist University had a pilot program offering academic success coaches to first year students. Coaches become students' go-to person for all things Baptist University, serving as a great resource, which was especially important during COVID-19 with both remote and in-person learning. These students also reported feeling more connected to the school and more comfortable in their new setting. More than 230 students participated in the program.

Dr. Cunningham was a first-generation college student when she entered college as a freshman at University of Arkansas – Little Rock. She was given access to an advisor and a program to help her succeed. And succeed she has. This is one of her driving factors for helping other students succeed, having been in their shoes. Dr. Cunningham has both a master's degree and a doctorate, on top of a bachelor's degree. She has worked in education her whole career.

"Being able to pay it forward means the world to me," explained Dr. Cunningham. "I was a first-generation college student too, someone out there helped me, and I feel a big calling to help underrepresented students."

The grants, the PBI Formula Grant and the PBI Competitive Grant, will provide \$850,000 per year over the next five years until the end of the 2025-2026 school year. Recipients of the grant must have an enrollment of at least 40% Black students with at least 1,000 undergraduate students total. The school must have at least 50% low-income or first-generation college students as defined by the Department of Education. Lastly, the school must have 50% or more undergraduate students enrolled in a program leading to a bachelor's or associate's degree.

Over the five years, Baptist University will report quarterly metrics back to the Department of Education to prove that the money is being used well and to continue receiving it each year.

"This is an exciting time for us," said Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey, president of Baptist University. "I am so grateful to Dr. Cunningham and her team for securing the grants for our students and ultimately our communities."



Faculty & Staff Honors Convocation



Kira Anderson



Brenda McMillian



Kim Kennel



Brenda Buckley

On March 29, the University held a virtual Faculty & Staff Honors Convocation to celebrate the many accomplishments of faculty, staff, and students in scholarly, professional, and community service areas. The 2020 Rose Temple Distinguished Faculty & Staff recipients, Dr. Charity Brannen and Mrs. Sheri Whitlow, provided inspirational addresses; and several faculty and staff who had completed either a doctorate or a master's degree were honored. In addition, the 2021 Rose Temple Distinguished Adjunct of the Year Award was bestowed on Brenda Buckley, nursing adjunct faculty. Dr. McGarvey had the honor to announce and congratulate Ms. Kira Anderson as the 2021 Rose Temple Distinguished Faculty recipient and Ms. Brenda McMillian for being selected as the 2021 Rose Temple Distinguished Staff recipient. Ms. Anderson is Program Chair and Assistant Professor of Respiratory Care. Ms. McMillian is Academic Operations Coordinator for the Division of Nursing. The DAISY award went to Dr. Kimberly Kennel, Associate Professor of Nursing.

Health Administration Program Establishes Chapter of Upsilon Phi Delta Honorary Society by AUPHA

The Baptist Health Sciences University Health Administration Program has been granted the privilege of the establishment of the Baptist Health Sciences University Chapter of the Upsilon Phi Delta honorary society by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA). In granting this chapter, AUPHA acknowledges the program's excellence which could not have been achieved without the vision of the faculty, the motivation of the students, and the support of our preceptors and alumni. We congratulate the following students who were inducted in December: **Michael Faulkner, Connie Gentry, Grayson Landers, Jennifer Martinez, Megan Roberson, Austin Steinour, Melanie Williams.**

Alumni are eligible to be inducted into the chapter as an alumni member if your cumulative Baptist GPA was a 3.25. If you are interested in being inducted, **please email Dr. Jegier at briana.jegier@baptistu.edu.**

Nursing Faculty Member Selected for the AACN's Inaugural Digital Academy

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) announced 30 nursing faculty from across the nation have been selected to participate in the inaugural 2021 Digital Academy: Building the Essentials Tool Kit with Digital Innovation, which will be held on November 29- December 2 in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Renee Parker, Associate Professor, was one of the 30 faculty chosen for this honor from over 150 applicants. AACN launched this new initiative to bring together innovative faculty members with Apple Distinguished Educators to develop digital projects around the 10 domains outlined in the new AACN Essentials. Program participants come from 20 states and represent an array of institution types, including small liberal arts programs, public and private schools, and large academic health centers. "Building on our longstanding collaboration with Apple Education, we are excited to launch the Digital Academy, which helps to advance AACN's mission to serve as a catalyst for excellence and innovation in nursing education" said AACN President and Chief Executive Officer Deborah Trautman. "We look forward to seeing the creative tools and resources that faculty will develop to help schools implement the new curriculum standards for entry-level and advanced-level nursing education programs." During the Digital Academy faculty will finalize projects that leverage educational technology to offer new approaches to teaching and learning at schools of nursing. After completion of the academy, participants may submit their digital projects for inclusion in the Essentials implementation tool kit and for consideration as a poster presentation or abstract at one of AACN's conferences in 2022.



2021 Graduations

Spring 2021 Commencement Ceremony

On April 15, Baptist Health Sciences University conferred 85 Bachelor of Health Sciences degrees in the following disciplines: 4 Biomedical Sciences, 5 Health Administration, 4 Population Health, 11 Diagnostic Medical Sonography, 16 Medical Radiography, 5 Nuclear Medicine, 6 Radiation Therapy, 4 Respiratory Care and 5 RN-BSN, and 25 pre-licensure Nursing degrees during a socially distanced ceremony at Bellevue Baptist Church.

Holly Ingram, a Biomedical Sciences graduate, received the Board of Directors Award and the Joseph H. Powell Award. Rachel Dunlap, a Nursing graduate, received the Elizabeth Farnell Achievement Award. Amber Fowler, a Radiation Therapy graduate, received the Sarah Ainsworth Award. Harley Smith, a Medical Radiography graduate, received the Dr. Ling Lee Award. Samantha Hopper, a Nuclear Medicine Technology graduate, received the Rockett Award. Dasjia Wilson, a Respiratory Care graduate, received the Dr. Emmell Golden Award.



2021 Graduations

Summer 2021 Commencement Ceremony

On August 12, Baptist Health Sciences University held a modified, socially distanced summer commencement ceremony at Bellevue Baptist Church. President McGarvey conferred 64 associate and bachelor's degrees in the following disciplines: 4 Biomedical Sciences, 10 Health Administration, 5 Neurodiagnostic Technology, 2 RN-BSN, 41 Pre-Licensure Nursing, 1 Pre-Health Studies, and 1 Population Health.

Luis Hernandez, a BSN graduate, received the Board of Directors Award, the Elizabeth Farnell Achievement Award, and the Sigma Theta Tau Award. Roa'a Hajjeh, a Biomedical Sciences graduate, received the Joseph Powell Award.



Roa'a Hajjeh



Luis Hernandez



Winter Commencement Ceremony

On December 16, Baptist Health Sciences University held a modified, socially distanced summer commencement ceremony at First Baptist Church in Millington, Tennessee. President McGarvey conferred 59 associate, bachelor, and doctoral degrees in the following disciplines: 1 Biomedical Sciences, 3 Health Administration, 1 Neurodiagnostic Technology, 4 RN-BSN, 32 Pre-Licensure Nursing, 9 Doctor of Nursing Practice, 3 Pre-Health Studies, and 6 Medical Laboratory Science.

Omeed Safdara, a Biomedical Sciences graduate, received the Board of Directors Award and the Joseph Powell Award. Fannta Chan, a BSN graduate, received the Elizabeth Farnell Achievement Award. John Michalchuk, A Medical Laboratory Science graduate, received the Dr. Thomas McColl Chesney Award. Zakeia O'Braint, a Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate, received the Advanced Practice Leadership Award.





Call for Alumni Award Nominations

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Baptist Health Sciences University is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the 2020, 2021, and 2022 Distinguished Alumni Awards. The award will be given in late April during the alumni reunion luncheon. The award recognizes and honors alumni for distinguished personal and career achievements and for exemplary contributions to society that bring credit to Baptist Health Sciences University. One award is presented each year.

Criteria

1. Recipients must be of such integrity, stature and demonstrated ability that the award reflects positively on Baptist Health Sciences University.
2. Personal achievement through outstanding service to their community.
3. Achievements, patent on a new discovery or an innovation in a new technology.
4. Outstanding contribution to health care.
5. Regional, national or international reputation in the alumnus' field.

If you would like to submit a nomination, please complete the form below and return to Zachary Cox, alumni coordinator, Baptist Health Sciences University, 1003 Monroe Ave., Memphis, TN 38104. You can also email Zac at Zachary.Cox@BaptistU.edu. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize our

graduates who have had a very positive impact on their profession and their community.

ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

The Alumni Service Award acknowledges significant contributions of time and energy on behalf of the University and the Alumni Board/Association. Award selections will be made by a sub-committee of the Alumni Board of Directors.

Criteria

1. Significant contributions — Recipients have shown dedication to their alma mater over time by volunteering their time to assist in whatever way they feel they can best serve. We acknowledge "significant" as meaning above and beyond the normal commitments. Finally, their dedication has been an inspiration to others.
2. The recipient may be a graduate of the Baptist School of Nursing, any of the Baptist schools and/or Baptist Health Sciences University.
3. Candidates must perform community service in addition to service at the University.
4. Candidates must possess the highest standards of integrity and character that reflect the University's values.

Selection Process

1. The Alumni office gathers recommendations made by alumni, faculty, staff or other students and passes the recommendations to the awards committee for review.
2. A letter must be submitted indicating the significance of the service rendered to the University by the nominee, along with a detailed list of accomplishments.

YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

The Young Alumni Service Award recognizes a recent graduate (fewer than 10 years) whose early volunteer service for Baptist University sets an example for their peers, helps to keep other young alumni involved and shows promise for continued service and leadership in the future. Qualified candidates will also have made significant strides in their chosen profession.

Nominations can be made by alumni, faculty and staff. The nomination is in the form of a written letter to the Baptist University Alumni Office. Nomination forms for both the Alumni Service and Young Alumni awards are given to the alumni office and forwarded to the awards committee. Awards are granted on an annual basis and announced at the June alumni reunion.

I nominate: _____ Field: _____ Class of: _____

Address: _____

Phone number(s) _____

Reason for nominating the alumnus _____

Information regarding professional career _____

Information on other honors/awards _____

Note: Attach a current resume or biography to this form. You may need to contact the nominee for this information.

Distinguished Alumni Award 2020, 2021 & 2022

Please address nominations to: Zachary Cox, alumni coordinator, Baptist Health Sciences University, 1003 Monroe Ave., Memphis, TN 38104.

Nominated by: _____

Address: _____

Phone number(s): _____



Baptist Alumna Honored in TICUA Hall of Fame - DENESE SHUMAKER

- Baptist Health Sciences University R.N. | 1960
- University of Memphis B.S., M.Ed
- Union University B.S.N.
- University of Tennessee M.S.N.
- Experienced Nurse and Hospital Administrator
- Award-Winning Leader in Nursing Education
- Community Mentor

Denese Shumaker exemplifies the mission of Baptist University and the nursing profession through her many contributions as an educator, a practitioner, community leader, and mentor to countless nursing students and colleagues. Shumaker greatly contributed to the history of nursing education within the Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation. After receiving her diploma from the Baptist School of Nursing, now Baptist Health Sciences University, she embarked on a career with Baptist lasting 46 years. During those years, she served as a staff nurse, instructor at the Baptist Memorial Hospital-Medical Center, chairman of Maternal/Child Health Nursing, assistant director of the Hope Health Center, and the executive director of Administrative Services at Baptist Health Sciences University. Throughout her career, Shumaker continued to promote the profession of nursing. She served with a dedicated team who led the transition of Baptist School of Nursing and various allied health certificate programs to a collegiate level of education with the formation of Baptist College of Health Sciences. She also coordinated the opening of the Hope Health Center, a primary health care clinic for the homeless in Memphis. The clinic operated for eight years and in 2005, Baptist partnered with Christ Community Health Services to transition the stand-alone clinic to the Baptist Operation Outreach mobile clinic for the homeless. Recognized for her many outstanding contributions to the community, Shumaker has received numerous awards throughout the years. These awards include the Greater Memphis Interagency Coalition for the Homeless Hope Outstanding Civic Support and Involvement Award (1999), Memphis Business Journal Health Care Heroes Award (2000), Outstanding Individual Service Award (2001), and Tennessee Hospital Association's Nurse Distinction Award (2002).

“I had no idea of the wonderful and unique opportunities in my future. All I can say is, ‘look what God hath wrought’ and thank Him for the opportunities I had to serve patients, students and co-workers.”

– Denese Shumaker

Mitzi Roberts – Medical Radiology, Class of 1993, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, class of 1994

From ‘other’ to a fastest growing field: how Mitzi Roberts and SDMS have changed sonography

In the fall of 2021, Mitzi Roberts, was sworn in as President-Elect of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. She is the first President-Elect of the organization from Tennessee or Mississippi; she lives in Mississippi and works in Tennessee. She is also the first President-Elect affiliated with Baptist Memorial Health Care.

In this role, Mitzi will serve two years as the President-Elect and then will be sworn in as the SDMS President. After her two-year term as SDMS President, Mitzi will transition to a two-year term on the SDMS Board as the SDMS Immediate Past President.

According to its website, the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography is a professional membership organization founded in 1970 to promote, advance and educate its members and the medical community in the science of diagnostic medical sonography. It is the world's largest association of sonographers and sonography students with more than 30,000 members.

“The SDMS depends on our volunteers to accomplish our mission and our success over the last 50 years is directly attributable to the dedication of volunteers such as Mitzi,” said Catherine Rienzo, President of SDMS. “Mitzi’s willingness to volunteer her skills, talents, and time on behalf of the SDMS and the sonography community has enabled us to elevate the diagnostic medical sonography profession through the establishment of minimum education standards and the expansion of our leadership development. For her outstanding achievements and contributions, Mitzi has been recognized by the SDMS as both an SDMS Distinguished Educator (2018) and an SDMS Fellow (2020). It has been an honor and a privilege to work with Mitzi over the past 10 years and I look forward to our continued collaboration.”

Mitzi’s work extends beyond the SDMS. She is currently a sonographer at Memphis Obstetrics and Gynecological Association and works as a project consultant for Baptist Health Sciences University. Her history with Baptist goes back to her college years. After graduating from Northwest Mississippi Community College, Mitzi attended what was then-called the Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Radiologic Technology where she earned a certificate in Medical Radiology. The following year, she attended the Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Diagnostic Medical Sonography earning a certificate in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. For the last 25 years, Mitzi has worked as a sonographer while also teaching at Baptist Health Sciences University. She served as the program chair for Diagnostic Medical Sonography from 1998 until 2013. Since then, Mitzi served as the Director of Institutional Effectiveness and the Associate Dean of Allied Health. She worked in these roles all while also earning a master’s degree in leadership



“The need for sonographers is growing as well. The job outlook shows that from 2020 to 2030, the demand for sonographers will go up 14%, growing faster than the average job demand of 8%.”

– Mitzi Roberts



“I remember the field of sonography being listed as ‘other’ on professional forms. We didn’t even have a listing for our profession. The SDMS has worked to change that in the last 25 years.”

– Mitzi Roberts



concentration and a doctorate in education with focus on educational leadership with a specialization in higher education.

Mitzi has been a great role model for her students. All of the current professors in the sonography program and the program chair of sonography were her students while they were in school at the Baptist University.

As a sonography student, Mitzi was introduced to the SDMS.

“Our program chair of sonography required us to be members of the SDMS while we were students,” explained Mitzi. “After my first conference in 1994, the organization stuck with me.”

Mitzi has been selected by the SDMS to be presenter at many of their annual conferences across the country in addition to presenting webinars, including a webinar alongside a Yale University professor. She has co-authored a review series published by the SDMS and has been published by the Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. These opportunities to present and author publications have also allowed Mitzi to be selected as the author of many chapters in sonography textbooks.

The SDMS has helped grow and change the field over the years. The organization has pushed to distinguish the role of a sonographer as its own field, different from radiography.

“I remember the field of sonography being listed as ‘other’ on professional forms,” said Mitzi. “We didn’t even have a listing for our profession. The SDMS has worked to change that in the last 25 years.”

Achieving a separate designation was a big achievement for the SDMS, one that Mitzi is proud of and one of the reasons she stays so involved with the professional organization to this day. Mitzi has helped draft letters to elected officials

about the importance of certified sonographers in the state of Tennessee. She has worked with SDMS to create a national standard for sonography education and practice, polling people across the United States and analyzing the results to develop recommendations for those in her field. Mitzi has also worked with Baptist Memorial Health Care over the years to write sonographer job descriptions for positions across the system in addition to creating varying pay scales based on experience and education to help keep Baptist competitive and among the best.

“The demand for sonography has grown tremendously over the last 30 years,” said Mitzi. “The change in technology has changed the field in a good way. It is a never-ending continuing education process.”

Mitzi has taught medical students - the future doctors in our community - about what sonographers can do for them in any place, emergency departments, intensive care units or other inpatient settings and especially in doctor’s offices. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, the role of sonography shifted to meet a need.

“Sonography allows us to do bedside ultra sounds on the lungs in a noninvasive way,” said Mitzi.

This has been important during COVID-19 because the lung ultrasounds have provided a portable, noninvasive way for health care providers to see patients’ lungs.

The need for sonographers is growing as well. The job outlook shows that from 2020 to 2030, the demand for sonographers will go up 14%, growing faster than the average job demand of 8%.

Mitzi said that her big goal for sonography is to improve patient care, that the patient is the most important part of everything she does.

ALUMNI: Spotlight – Alice Nsawi – Respiratory Care, Class of 2018

Listening to Learn

Alice Nsawi became driven to pursue a career in health care, and respiratory therapy in particular, after her uncle died in 2011. Two weeks after she arrived in America from Cameroon, Alice received the call that he died. He struggled to breathe after he collapsed in the bathroom. She wanted to find out what happened to him and how to prevent it in the future.

“In Cameroon, where I grew up, people tend to lean toward witchcraft instead of more traditional diagnostics,” said Alice.

After graduating from community college in Nashville in 2016, Alice applied to then-Baptist College of Health Sciences where she was accepted. She graduated with a bachelor’s degree in respiratory therapy in 2018.

“Where I come from, teachers are not your friend,” explained Alice. “English isn’t my first language and teachers

at Baptist helped me. Many believed in me more than I believed in myself.”

Since Baptist College isn’t a large school, Alice felt seen and supported by her teachers, who all knew her and her name, and her fellow classmates, especially those in her respiratory therapy program.

Alice said that Baptist College helped her financially, spiritually and emotionally. She took advantage of the extra study sessions and the Learning Center to help her in areas where she was struggling.

“While a student at Baptist College, I knew what was expected of me, what the standard for learning was,” said Alice.

In June 2019, Alice started work as a respiratory therapy at a hospital in Nashville. Months later, COVID-19 hit and the demand for respiratory therapists grew due to the nature of the virus. In November 2020, Alice started working as a travel respiratory therapist, first in El Paso, Texas where COVID-19 had hit especially hard at that time. Now she is working at a 26-bed hospital on Kodiak Island in Alaska.



“Everything I learned in school, I use. When I talk to doctors about treatment plans, they ask where I studied,” said Alice. “Doctors like the way I think, the way I analyze the reasons behind the whys.”

When asked if she had advice for current health care students, Alice said that she’d tell students not to give up and to listen to what your teachers say as their knowledge will serve you in the future.

Recently, a doctor sent Alice a note complementing her smart work during

a delivery and birth. She emailed the note to Kira Anderson, her former professor and current program chair of respiratory therapy at Baptist Health Sciences University, telling her that she used what she learned in her class.

“You have to listen because you’ll never know when you’ll need the information,” Alice added.





ALUMNI: Spotlight – Felicia Dillard – Doctor of Nurse Practitioner (DNP), Class of 2020



Felicia Dillard was part of the inaugural graduating class in the Baptist Health Sciences University Doctorate of Nurse Practitioner program in August 2020. Earning her doctorate with Baptist University was not her first interaction with Baptist. In fact, she has spent all of her higher learning experience and career within the Baptist system.

She graduated from the then-Baptist College of Health Sciences in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in nursing. Following her graduation, she worked on the cardiac med-surg unit at Baptist DeSoto. Felicia ran in to Dr. Cathy Stepter, the DNP program chair and professor at Baptist University, while at work at Baptist DeSoto before the program launched. She encouraged Felicia to apply

“I had always thought about going back to school, so this seemed like a good time,” said Felicia.

She continued to work at Baptist DeSoto, transitioning to weekend work once she enrolled in the DNP program in Jan. 2018.

“I had to be very scheduled about my time,” said Felicia. “It took me some time to get that worked out, but it was the only way I could work and be in school.”

Not only was Felicia working and learning, she’s also the parent to four young boys. Each semester, she would write down her work schedule times, her class time and clinicals then fill in her study time, carefully organizing each week.

All was going smoothly for two years, then COVID-19 hit the Memphis area in March 2020, mere months before her graduation, last semester of classes and rounds of clinicals. Because Felicia had been so organized and deliberate with her time, she had completed most of her clinicals before hospitals across the county had to cut off clinical rotations for medical students to conserve the then shortage of personal protective equipment. She, along with many of her peers, completed clinical rotations in the COVID Call Center for Baptist, helping with contact tracing and scheduling testing appointments in the early months of the pandemic.

Felicia now works at Baptist Memphis on the neurology critical care unit as an employee of Baptist Medical Group. She travels around the hospital, making treatment plans after diagnosing patients. She sees strokes, brain bleeds and other vascular issues.

“My role as a nurse practitioner from registered nurse has totally changed my approach to the patient,” said Felicia. “I think I’ll always have the bedside nurse in me, but now I’m the one giving out orders.”

When asked about advice for those considering enrolling in the DNP program, Felicia said if she can do it with four kids, anyone really can.

“Going to school for a doctorate while working takes a village,” said Felicia. “You have to learn how to proactively pick and choose your priorities.”



BHSU Online Pep Rally

The second annual Baptist University pep rally was held on September 10th. The event was virtual and featured spirited TikTok videos submitted by students, faculty and staff. A contest was held to identify the best video by students and faculty/staff. The winner in both categories received the treasured Spirit Stick.



“Get the Facts on the Vax” Live Stream and Vaccination Event

Baptist University hosted a Live COVID-19 Vaccine Q&A session on September 8, 2021. The event featured a panel of physicians, including Dr. Lilian Nyindodo, Biomedical Sciences program chair, and Dr. Jacques Samson, maternal fetal medicine specialist with Baptist Medical Group. Panelists shared real answers and insights on attendees’ questions on COVID-19, the Delta variant and the COVID-19 vaccines. COVID-19 Pfizer® vaccines were available on-site following the event.



Hartley getting his Covid-19 Vaccine



SGA and Hartley at the Campus Vaccine Event



Davien Alexander with Hartley



Faculty and Staff packing Christmas Boxes for City View Apartments



New Mural in the Student Lounge



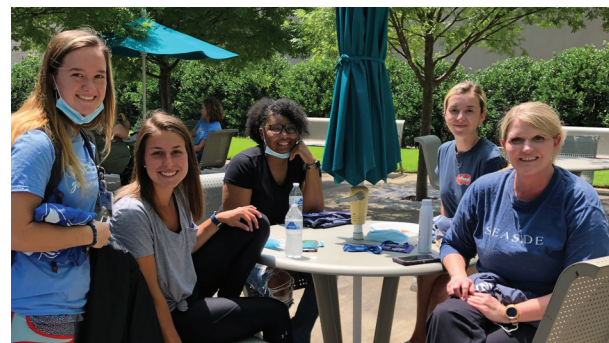
Blue Healer Student Success Center team



Baptist Summer Scholars 2021



Sigma Zeta



Students on Campus



Student Organization Fair



Move in Day



Pioneers In Education Day Event

Baptist Health Sciences University Receives Federal Office of Minority Health Grant to Create Community Health Worker Program

Dr. Briana Jegier and her team recently partnered with Shelby County as a sub-grantee (sub award total: \$262,900) to improve the public health response related to COVID-19 vaccinations. Dr. Jegier, Dr. Jan Hill and their colleagues designed a 96-hour hybrid curriculum of both in-person and virtual training. The program aims to train community health workers to provide vaccine education to the community and to address vaccine equity. The team will also provide quality improvement and program evaluation consultation through the entire grant over the next two years.

On December 6, 2021, Health Administration and Population Health welcomed 25 trainees for its inaugural class for the non-credit bearing program.

This training is a part of a Federal Office of Minority Health grant awarded to the Shelby County Division of Community Services and Baptist University is a training and evaluation partner. Baptist University is a sub-grantee along with Rhodes College, Lemoyne Owen College and UT Health Sciences Center.

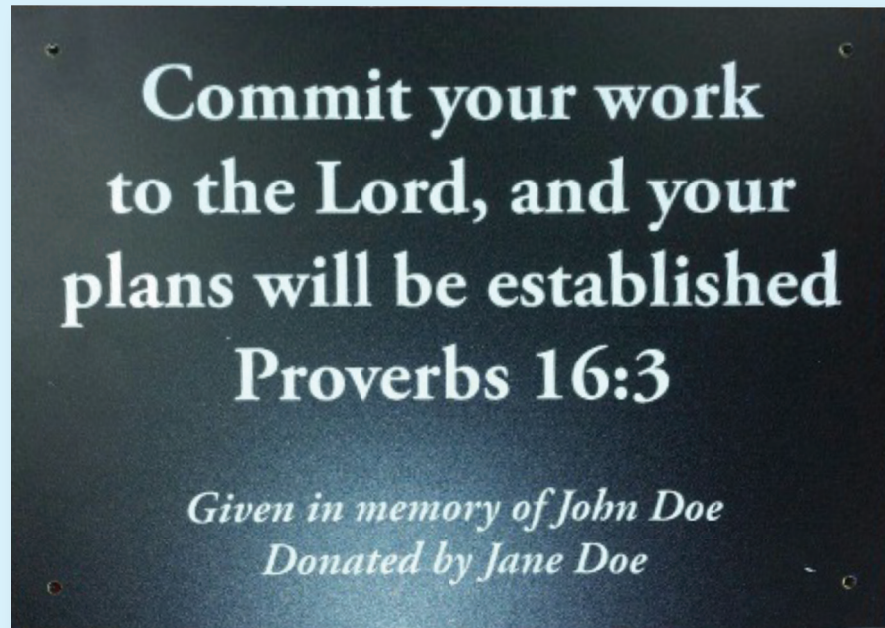
Due to popular demand, Baptist University has started accepting students for training in spring 2022.



Enhancing Each Classroom of BHSU with the Word of God

College can be a very trying time for any student. Studying, taking tests, or just adjusting to college life itself are a few stressors students endure while enrolled. At Baptist Health Sciences University, we encourage our students to lean on God's word to make everyday a better day.

Our goal is to place a scripture plaque in each classroom and study room at Baptist University. **You can be a part of this project** and we are asking for your support. This is a special way to remember or honor a loved one, a colleague, or a friend. These plaques will offer our students encouragement to persevere, ease anxiety before a test and give the reassurance that God is with us always.



8 x 8
Plaque
\$200

10 x 14
Plaque
\$300

12 x 24
Plaque
\$400

We hope that you will use the enclosed donation envelope to make a tax-deductible gift to the Baptist University this year. To pay by credit card, please visit www.baptistu.edu/giving or contact **Sherita Martin at 901-572-2773**. Please remember a small amount can make a big difference.

Baptist Foundation Thanks You

The Baptist Health Sciences University and the Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation wish to thank the following alumni and friends for their generous support in 2021. These gifts allow us to offer student scholarships and awards in addition to enhancing our instructional activities. With your gifts, our students can fulfill their callings.

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Keisha Herron
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Jasmine Hill
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Regina Howard *
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Susie Ingalls *
Susie Ingalls *
Robert Irwin
Madalyn Ivy
Mary Jackson
Veronda Jackson
Tina Jefferson *
Briana Jegier
Gloria Jenkins
Sarah Jennings *
Robbie Johnson
Cheryl Johnson-Joy
Tammira Jones *
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Kathryn Swicord *
Kelian Tate
Nemetria Tate
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Alexis Taylor
Cheyenne Taylor
Pamela Taylor
Tawana Taylor
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Lakesha Tillmann
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*BaptistU graduate.

Donate

We hope you will consider using the enclosed donation envelope to make a tax-deductible gift to Baptist University to **support our mission of healing, preaching and teaching**. Or to charge a gift, call Sherita Martin at **901-572-2773**. Remember, a small amount can make a big difference.

Thompson and Associates – Planning is the Key

The Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation has partnered with estate planning firm, Thompson and Associates to provide complimentary estate planning services to our Baptist College alumni. Jeremy Pharr, JD, is our representative, and he is on-site at the Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation monthly. Thompson and Associates will provide estate planning advice to assist in achieving your estate planning objectives. We hope that you will take advantage of this unique service. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Sherita Martin at 901-572-2773.



Jeremy Pharr, JD



Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

IVY ANDERSON, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional & Community

- Selected to serve as a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Diversity, Equity and Leadership Network.
- Serves as Educational and Health Consultant for Faith-Based organizations in Bolivar, Desoto, Hinds, and Washington County, MS.

Fellowship Award

- Recipient of the 2021-2022 Rubies Humphries Hibbard Doctoral Fellowship.

KIRA ANDERSON, *Assistant Professor, Program Chair of Respiratory Care*

Service: Professional & Community

- Member on the Board of Respiratory Care for the state of Tennessee Health Related Boards.

DR. RAMAZAN AYDOGDU, *Assistant Professor, Sociology*

Publications

- Aydogdu, R., Yildiz, M. & Orak, U. (2021). Religion and well-being: Devotion, Happiness and Life Satisfaction in Turkey. *Mental Health, Religion & Culture*, 24(9), 1-15.

SARAH BIGGS, *Student Activities Office*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves on the Memphis Medical District Collaborative Safety Sub Committee (MMDC), Memphis, TN.

DR. ANGEL BOLING, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- National Council State Board of Nursing (NCSBN) NCLEX® Examination Item Development Reviewer.
- Serves as Faculty Counselor for Beta Theta-at-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.
- Elected Officer-Secretary for the Mid-South Association for Nursing Professional Development Organization.
- Serves as member of the Quality and Safety Education in Nursing (QSEN) Academic Task Force.

Oral Presentation

- Boling, A. (2021, March 30). Interprofessional Simulation Among Healthcare Students: *A Randomized Control Trial to Improve Communication self-Efficacy*. [Virtual Conference]/ *Global Virtual Conference on Nursing Education and Research*.

DR. CHARITY BRANNEN, *Associate Professor of Chemistry*

Service: Professional & Community

- Brannen, Charity, Served as ACS Student Chapter award reviewer, National American Chemical Society.
- Brannen, Charity. April 2021. Judged MAIS 1 East District Virtual Science Fair, Chemistry section. Magnolia Heights School.

Presentation

- Brannen, C. (2021). Preparing for an interview. Black Men White Coats Seminar Series.

MEGAN BURSI, *Director of Marketing & Alumni Affairs*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves on the Memphis Medical District Collaborative Communications Committee (MMDC), Memphis, TN.
- Serves as the Community Engagement Chair on the Memphis Arthritis Foundation Board of Directors, Memphis TN.

TAKEITHA CHAMBERS, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Serves as an Item-Writer for the National League for Nursing (NLN) Testing Services.

DR. PAM CHERRY, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves as member on the Baptist Memorial Health Care System Nursing Practice Council.
- Serves as member on the Board of Child Evangelism Fellowship.

DR. CHRISTOPHER CHURCH, *Professor of Philosophy & Religion*

Presentation

- (June 30, 2021) Shared Decision Making 1: Informed Consent and Assessment of Decisional Capacity: 3 cases. [PowerPoint-slide-guided case discussion]. Physician Assistant Studies Program, Christian Brothers University, Memphis, TN.
- (July 7, 2021). Shared Decision Making 2: Surrogate Decisions and Advance Care Planning Cases. [PowerPoint-slide-guided-case discussion]. Physician Assistant Studies Program, Christian Brothers University, Memphis, TN.
- (July, 14) Ethical Practices in End-of-Life-Care. [PowerPoint-slide-guided case discussion]. Physician Assistant Studies Program, Christian Brothers University, Memphis, TN.
- (July 2021). Confidentiality of Medical Information. [Introductory PowerPoint presentation] Physician Assistant Studies Program, Christian Brothers University, Memphis, TN.
- (July 2021). Confidentiality Cases. [PowerPoint-slide-guided case discussion]. Physician Assistant Studies Program, Christian Brothers University, Memphis, TN.
- (July 2021). 'Difficult' Patients & Families. [PowerPoint-slide-guided case discussion]. Physician Assistant Studies Program, Christian Brothers University, Memphis, TN.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments *continued*

Service: Professional & Community

- President, Annesdale-Snowden Historic Neighborhood Association. Administered \$50,000.00 community development grant from the State of Tennessee, represented the neighborhood before City and County boards, served as a Neighborhood Watch liaison with MPD.
- Ethics Committee, St., Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN.
- Wm T. Cashdollar Distinguished Visiting Lectureship planning committee, College of Nursing, University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center.
- Ethics Committee, Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, TN.
- Camille Sarrouf Distinguished Visiting Lectureship in Bioethics & Medical Humanities planning committee, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, TN.
- Serving as co-creator for new IPE Projects for ENG 203, Literature and Medicine, and PHI 301 Biomedical Ethics.

IPE

- Church, C. and Waggener, P. Serving as co-creator for new IPE Projects for ENG 203, Literature and Medicine, and PHI 301 Biomedical Ethics.

FELICIA COBBS, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Founder and Chair of the Better Woman Scholarship Foundation, awarding annual scholarships for students enrolled in baccalaureate nursing programs in TN, MS, AL, AR and TX.

Fellowship Award

- Recipient of the 2021-2022 Sophie Wice-Gordon Doctoral Fellowship.

KATIE CODY, *Instructor of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*

Service: Professional

- Served as a manuscript reviewer for the *Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, August and October 2021, February 2022.
- Served as a virtual site visitor for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Costa Mesa, California, August 2021.

Degree Award

- Awarded the Master of Science degree in Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Memphis, Memphis, TN, December 2021.

Oral Presentation

- "Clinical Instructor Workshop," Presented a workshop to DMS Clinical Instructors, Memphis, TN, February 1, 2022.

DR. CAMERON CONN, *Director of Planning & Institutional Effectiveness*

Service: Professional

- Served as a dissertation committee member for the Department of Higher Education, Azusa Pacific University, 2020 – 2021.
- Served as a dissertation committee member for the Department of Higher Education, Bethel University, 2020-2021.
- Served as a peer reviewer for *Christian Higher Education Journal*, July 2021 and September 2021.

Oral Presentation

- Kim, Y.K., Conn, C., Wong, m., & Moihen, L. (2021, August 9). The Impact of High Impact Practices on Cognitive Career Preparation Outcomes for Latino/a College Students. Roundtable presentation at the annual meeting of the American Sociological.

ZAC COX, *Relationship Marketing Coordinator*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves as a mentor at Grizzlies Preparatory Charter School with the Memphis Grizzlies Foundation Team Mentor program.

DR. PAUL CRISS, *Honors & BUE Coordinator*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves on Board of Directors as Vice-Chair, Area One Ministries.
- Serves as Treasurer, North Lakeland Community Association.
- Serves as Director, Northeast Shelby County Community Choir.
- Serves on Board of Directors, Northeast Shelby County Rotary Club.

Oral Presentation

- Criss, Paul. (2021). Thinking About Thinking – Developing a Shared Concept/Language for Critical Thinking. Baptist Health Sciences University Quest Symposium.
- Criss, Paul. (2021). The Historical and Spiritual Significance of September 11, 2001. North Lakeland Community Association 9/11 20th Anniversary Memorial.

Publications

- Criss, Paul. Book Review: "The Five Phases of Leadership: An Overview for Christian Leaders by Justyn Terry," *Evangelical Review of Theology*, 2022. (Forthcoming).

ANGIE CROW, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Community

- Serves on the Safe Kids Mid-South Committee.
- Serves on the Advanced Practice Council for the Mississippi Nurses Association.

DR. KIMBERLY CUNNINGHAM, *Dean of Student Success, Blue Healer Student Success Center*

Service: Professional

- Featured in the *Daily Memphian*, Baptist Health Sciences University receives \$4.3M to help Black students succeed, October 21, 2021.
- Featured in the Baptist Leader, Grant Endowment Leads to Creation of Blue Healer Student Success Center, January 21, 2022.

MS. MARY MARGARET FREEMAN, *Academic Success Coaching Services; Supervisor*

Degree Award

- Master of Science in Student Affairs Administration, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR. May 2021.



Faculty and Staff Accomplishments *continued*

CHRISTEN GANLEY, *Instructor & Program Chair of Radiation Therapy*

Service: Professional

- Served as site visit team member for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, Garden City, NY, November, 2021.
- Served as virtual site visit team member for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, La Crosse, WI, November, 2020.

DR. LEAH GREENE, *Assistant Professor of Health Administration*

Service: Professional & Community

- Served on Board of Directors for the Forrest Spence Fund as Secretary of the Board.

DR. LISA HIGHT, *Professor of Biomedical Sciences*

Publications

- Hight, Lisa. Authored Two Chapters: "Porth's Pathophysiology, Structure and Function of Skin and Disorders of Skin Integrity and Function," 11th edition, 2023.

DR. JAN HILL, *Assistant Professor of Health Administration*

Service Professional & Community

- Serves on the Shelby County Opioid Prevention and Education Task Force.
- Assistant Reviewer, Association of University Programs in Health Administration.
- Auburn University Undergraduate Program Certification Review Team.
- Reviewer, Association of University Programs in Health Administration. California State University Long Beach Undergraduate Program Certification Review Team.

Oral Presentation

- (2021). Understanding Abstinence and Sexual Consent. Healthy Relationships Series Baptist Health Sciences University Student Government Association Virtual Meeting.
- (2022). Homeless in Shelby County, Tennessee. Southern College of Optometry Student Public Health Vision Care Association Meeting.

DR. BRIANA JEGIER, *Assistant Professor & Chair of Health Administration*

Service: Professional

- (2021-2022). Journal Reviewer, PLOS ONE.
- (2019-2022). Journal Reviewer, WHO Bulletin.
- (2014-2022). Journal Reviewer. Breastfeeding Medicine.
- (2013-2022). Journal Reviewer. Journal of Human Lactation.
- (2009-2022). Journal Reviewer. Pediatrics.
- Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Steering Committee Member, BMHCC.
- (2020-2022). Inaugural treasurer. American Public Health Association, Maternal and Child Health Section.
- (2020-2022). Reviewer. Association of University Programs in Health Administration, Program Certification Review Team.
- (2019-2022). Research consultant. Durham Baby Café.
- (2017-2022). Audit committee member. Association of University Programs in Health Administration.
- (2015-2022). *American Public Health Association representative. United States Breastfeeding Committee.*
- (2015-2022). Breastfeeding forum, Chair. American Public Health Association.

Other Scholarly Activity

- (2021-2022). Health in all spaces (HiAS): Building public-academic community Partnerships to enhance Shelby County, Tennessee's response to Covid-19 grant. Sub-awardee for Community Health Worker Training and Grant Evaluation. Shelby County Government Division of Community Services.

Oral Presentation

- Careers in Health Sciences: How to set yourself for Success. NAF School Presentation Fall 2021 Kickoff: Hamilton High School.
- Careers in Health Sciences: How to set yourself for Success. NAF School Presentation Fall 2021 Kickoff: Trezevant Career and Technical Center High School.
- Careers in Health Sciences: How to set yourself for Success. NAF School Presentation Fall 2021 Kickoff: Kingsbury Career and Technical Center High School.

DR. CHERYL JOHNSON-JOY, *Professor of Nursing & Associate Dean of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Serves on the Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation (BMHCC) Institutional Review Board (IRB) as the Baptist University Representative.
- Serves as Chair, Governance Committee for Beta Theta-at-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.
- Serves as an on-site evaluator for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

ABBY JOHNSTON, *Instructor of Sociology IPE*

- Johnston, A. & McDonald, M. (Fall 2015-Spring 2022). IPE Pathophysiology and Medical Sociology. BHSU.

Presentation

- 30, July 2021, Cultivating learning: Social determinants & development/progression of disease. TIPEC (Tennessee Interprofessional Practice and Education Consortium) Virtual Conference Presentation.

DR. KIMBERLY KENNEL, *Associate Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Serves as Treasurer for Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA) District I.
- Serves on Nominating Committee for the State of Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA).
- Serves as the President-Elect for the American Association of Critical Care Nurses- Greater Memphis Chapter.
- Serves as a TN Achieves Mentor for High School Students.

ABIGAIL KURTZ, *Assistant Professor of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*

Service: Professional & Community

- Served as a manuscript reviewer for the Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography. June 2021, September 2021, November 2021, February 2022.
- Served as a site visitor for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography. April 2021.
- Served as a consultant for the Memphis Zoo, performing cardiac, scrotal, and pelvic sonograms. October 2021.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments *continued*

Fellowship Award

- Recipient of the 2021-2022 Ruby Humphries Hibbard Doctoral Fellowship Award, Baptist Health Sciences University, Memphis, TN.

Oral Presentation

- Kurtz, A. (2021, November 8). *Helping our students become better learners: Best practices for learning performance.* Baptist Health Sciences University, Memphis, TN.

Journal Article

- Kurtz, A. (2022). Feeling and learning: A study of students' emotions in the sonography classroom. *Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*, 38(3).

DR. BRANDI LAMBERT, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Post Masters Graduate Certificate

- Awarded Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Certificate from the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS.

Certification

- Certified as Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner through the American Academy of Nurse

SHARON MARKHAM, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Serves on the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary, Memphis, TN.

DR. MAGGIE MARSH-NATION, *Assistant Professor & Program Chair Neurodiagnostic Technology*

Oral Presentation

- Virtual Commencement Address Marsh-Nation, M., (2021, Dec. 17). Global State of Neurodiagnostic Technology [Virtual]. Second Graduating class of Neurodiagnostic Technology Program at University of Lagos, Nigeria.

DONNA MARS, *Associate Professor & Chair of Nuclear Medicine Technology*

Service: Professional

- Services as the West Tennessee representative on the Nuclear Medicine Technologists of Tennessee (NMTT) Executive Council.

DR. MICHELLE MCDONALD, *Dean of General Education and Health Studies*

IPE

- Johnston, A. & McDonald, M. (Fall 2015-Spring 2022). IPE Pathophysiology and Medical Sociology. BHSU.

Presentation

- 30 July 2021. Cultivating learning: Social determinants & development/progression of disease. TIPEC (Tennessee Interprofessional Practice and Education Consortium) Virtual Conference Presentation.

DR. BETTY SUE MCGARVEY, *President*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves on Board of Directors and Treasurer, Memphis Medical District Collaborative, Memphis, TN.
- Serves as Chair for Off-Site Cluster 15 Reaffirmation Review, Southern Association Colleges and Universities Commission on Colleges, November 2020.
- Serves as Committee Member, Research Oversight Committee, Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation, Memphis, TN.
- Serves as the Chair, Onsite Reaffirmation Review, Southern Association Colleges and Universities Commission on Colleges, March 2022.

DR. DEMETRIC OSBORN, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves as a Community Health Advisor on the American Cancer Society Organization.
- Serves as a member on the Memphis River Bluff Nursing Association

DR. RENEE PARKER, *Associate Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional & Community

- Accepted to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's 2021 Digital Academy. Project focus is on improving the use of scholarship in nursing practice by strengthening the student's abilities to use scholarship at the bedside and understand its relevance to improve patient outcomes.
- Serves as the Coordinator for Project Linus - Memphis, TN Chapter.

Oral Presentation

- Parker, R. (2021, August 25). The Doctor of Nursing Practice Project: Developing Clinical Scholars. [Virtual Symposium]. Quest Symposium, Baptist Health Sciences University.

MR. ROBERT PARKER, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service Award

- Baptist University's 3rd Quarter Service Award Recipient.

DR. KRISTIE PEGGINS, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves on the Educational Committee for the Mississippi Association of Nurse Practitioners.
- Serves on the Advisory Board and Instructor for Paideia Preparatory Academy, Cordova, TN.

DR. DALLAS PITTS, *Assistant Professor of Religion*

Publications

- Pitts, Dallas. (June 2021). Book review editor for The Evangelical Review of Theology. Practitioners National Certification Board, Inc.

DR. ANNE PLUMB, *Professor & Dean of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Serves as an on-site evaluator for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

AMANDA RILEY, *Assistant Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Serves as President- Elect for Beta Theta-at-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

NIKKI ROBINSON, *Instructor, Masters Pending, Nuclear Medicine Technology*

Service: Professional

- Serves as the past-president on the Nuclear Medicine Technologists of Tennessee (NMTT) Executive Council.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments *continued*

DR. CHERYL SCOTT, *IPE Simulation Coordinator*

Service: Professional

- Serves as Vice-President for Beta Theta-at-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Oral Presentation

- Scott, C. (2021, August 25). *Learning from Interprofessional Practice*. [Virtual Symposium]. *Quest Symposium*, Baptist Health Sciences University.
- Scott, C. (2021, May 20). *Learning from Interprofessional Practice*. [Virtual Education Session]. Beta Theta-at-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

DR. BARRY SCHULTZ, *Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs*

Service: Professional

- Served on On-Site Reaffirmation Committee for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).
- Served on the "Academic & Faculty Relations" panel for the Executive Leadership Institute of the Tennessee Independent Colleges and University Association at Christian Brothers University, November 30, 2021.

DEBRA SMITH, *Assistant Professor of Medical Radiography*

Oral Presentation

- April 10, 2021 | Present (virtually) today (4/10/21) at the Alabama Society of Radiologic Technologist. My title: "MRI Safety".

KAREN SMITH, *Director, Office of Faith and Service, Chaplain*

Service: Professional

- Serves as Chair for Board of Directors, Crosslink, Inc.

LEANNE SMITH, *Vice President of Financial & Business Services*

Service: Professional

- Serves on the Memphis Medical District collaborative Buy Local Committee, Memphis, TN.

DR. CATHY STEPTER, *Professor of Nursing & Chair of Graduate Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Serves as Recorder for the Baptist Memorial Health Care System Advanced Practice Council, Memphis, TN.
- Serves as Recorder for the Baptist Memorial Health Care Metro-Memphis Advanced Practice Council.

Fellowship Award

- 2021 Elevating Leaders in Academic Nursing Fellow, American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN).

Oral Presentation

- Stepter, C (2021, August 25). The Doctor of Nursing Practice Project: Developing Clinical Scholars. [Virtual Symposium]. *Quest Symposium*, Baptist Health Sciences University.

DR. LARITHA H. SWEET, *Associate Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves on the Board of Directors at KIPP Memphis Public Schools serving on Academic Excellence Committee, Chair of Finance Committee and Selection Committee for new Chief Executive Officer.
- Accepted by the National Council State Board of Nursing (NCSBN) as an exam development volunteer for NCLEX panels.

MS. PATTI WAGGENER, *Chair, General Education, Associate Professor*

IPE

- Church, C. and Waggener, P. Serving as co-creator for new IPE Projects for ENG 203, Literature and Medicine, and PHI 301 Biomedical Ethics.

MRS. SHERI WHITLOW, *Administrative Assistant/HR Generalist*

Degree Awarded

- Bachelor of Arts, Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, December 2021.

DR. RITA WEST, *Associate Professor of Nursing*

Service: Professional

- Serves on the Government Affairs Committee for Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA).
- Appointed Chair of the Board of Memphis Area Arthritis Foundation, Memphis, TN.
- Serves on the Board of the Mary Galloway Foundation and Vice-President of the Board, Memphis, TN.
- Serves on the Board of the Jamestown Homeowners Association.

Oral Presentation

- West, R. (2021, August 25). Windshield Survey Population health Honors Assignment, [Virtual Symposium]. *Quest Symposium*, Baptist Health Sciences University.

Book Review

- Contributing-Editing Reviewer for the *Community and Public Health Nursing: Promoting the Public's Health* (10th ed. Wolters Kluwer Publication).

JEREMY WILKES, *Director of Student Services and Housing*

Service: Professional & Community

- Serves as Chair of the Executive Committee for the Tennessee Coalition for Healthy and Safe Campus Communities (CHASCo) for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments *continued*

CONNIE WILLIS, *Assistant Professor & Chair of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*

Service: Professional

- Appointed on behalf of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography to serve on the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography Board of Directors, effective October 2017.
- Served as Chair-Elect on Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography Board of Directors, effective October 2021.
- Served as Chair of the National Education Curriculum for Sonography Revision Committee, for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, effective February 2022.
- Served on the Virtual Site Visit Committee for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, effective May 2020.
- Served on the Armature Task Force for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, effective January 2020.
- Served as a Self-Study Reviewer for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, October 2021, November 2021, November 2021, December 2021, and February 2022.
- Served as a virtual site visitor chair for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Piscataway, NJ, October, 2021.

Oral Presentation

- Willis, C. (2022, February 10) "*Data Analysis of Virtual Site Visits and Peer Evaluations*", *JRC-DMS BOD Winter 2022 Meetings*, Miami, FL.

DR. DARIUS Y. WILSON, *Professor & Program Chair of Medical Laboratory Science*

Service: Professional

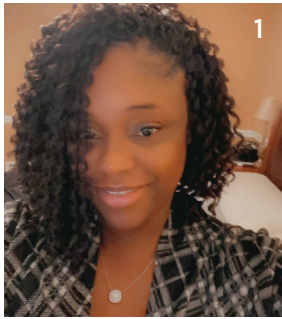
- Continued to serve as a mentor with National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science (NAACLS). Role as mentor to new volunteers to review and complete paper review for MLS program self-study reports. Fall 2021 and Spring 2022
- Served as a member of the Tennessee Association of Parliamentarians-Beta Unit, Fall 2021

Oral Presentation

- Presented Medical Laboratory Science information and performed hemoglobin analysis serving approximately 20 persons at the Community and Health Fair Event at St. Paul M.B. Church (2021, Dec. 12).



CONGRATULATIONS



HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Shunkeitha Mabry (class of 2021) received recognition as a future health leader and one of the selected 2021 Association for University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA) Bugbee-Falk Book Award Winner. (1)



Health Administration Class of 2021

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

April Smith (class of 2017) and her husband Cody welcomed a baby boy, Caleb, in October 2021. April is a full time lead sonographer at Baptist Memphis. Her husband, **Cody Smith** (BMD class of 2016), is currently working as an AEMT at life care ambulance as he applies for medical school. (2)

Connie Willis (class of 2004) was elected as the Chair-Elect for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography Board of Directors. As a member of the Executive Committee, she will also serve on the JRC-DMS Finance Committee.

Katie Cody (class of 2009) received her Master of Science degree in Leadership and Policy Studies with a concentration in Leadership from the University of Memphis in December 2021.



Mitzi Roberts (Class of 1993 Medical Radiography/1994 Sonography) was sworn in as President-Elect of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography in the fall of 2021. She is the first President-Elect of the organization from Tennessee or Mississippi. Read the full article on page 11. (3)



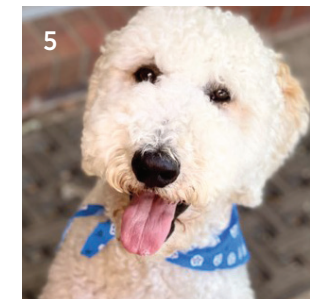
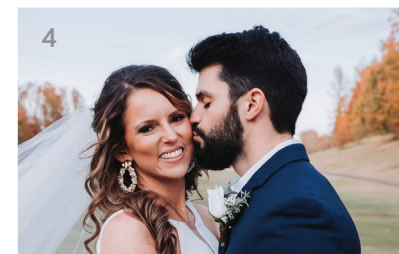
MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHY

Siobhan Dunn (class of 2017) is a full-time instructor for the Baptist Health Sciences University Medical Radiography program. Recently, Siobhan was an adjunct for the Medical Radiography Program.

Andrea Delony (class of 2016) earned her Master of Science in Radiological Sciences from Southern Illinois University. Andrea is the regional director at Onsite Mammography in Westfield, MA.

RADIATION THERAPY

Kourtney Newsom (class of 2019) married Clark Newsom on November 20th, 2021 in Dyersburg, TN. Kourtney is a Radiation Therapist at West Cancer Center and Research Institution (4).



NUCLEAR MEDICINE

Katelyn Westbrook (Class of 2019) is a nuclear medicine technologist at East Memphis PET Imaging. In her role as a PET technologist, Katelyn has been involved in seven different clinical trials for Alzheimer's research. She is currently scanning patients for four different clinical trials relating to Alzheimer's research. Her most recent exciting news took place during November in the Smoky Mountains when she became engaged to Gray Fenter, a baseball player for the San Francisco Giants. She recently bought a house in Gray's hometown of Marion, Arkansas. Katelyn plans to stay in Arkansas until their wedding in 2022 and will be traveling with him in the future. During the off-season, they plan to return to Arkansas with their crazy golden doodle named Nuke. (5)



BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Patrick Townsend (class of 2017) graduated from Christian Brothers University PA Program in May, 2021. (6)

William Curry (class of 2017) graduated from Christian Brothers University PA Program in May 2021. (6)



CONGRATULATIONS

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES CONTINUED



Isaac Lies (class of 2019) is currently in his second year of medical school at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. (7)

Alek Rickman (Class of 2020) was accepted into 3 medical schools for Fall 2022.



Anisha White (Class of 2020) graduated from the University of Memphis in August 2021 with an MPH. She is currently applying to medical schools. (8)

Omeed Safdari (class of 2021) was accepted into the PA Program at Lipscomb University for Fall 2022. (9)



Charles Brown, (class of 2019) started Pharmacy School at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center Fall 2021. (10)



Chandler Coleman (class of 2020) started PA school at Christian Brothers University Spring 2022.



August 2021 BMD graduates
L to R Brady Cooper, Eman Zarrouq, Roa'a Hajjeh, William Rhinehardt



April 2021 BMG graduates
L to R Jessica Lopez, Holly Ingram, Brandon Ward.



NURSING

Shanley Brasher (class of 2014) was appointed a direct commission as a Captain into the United States Army as a Family Nurse Practitioner January 5, 2020. (11)



Brittany Barnett (class of 2017) and her husband welcomed Aubrey Leland Barnett into the world on November 13, 2021! She started as a new grad at Emory St. Joseph's Hospital on a complex medical surgical/surgical oncology floor four years ago and is still working there. Brittany and her husband just bought their first home in Flowery Branch, GA at the beginning of the year. (12)



IN MEMORIAM

Helen Deneka, Nursing class of 1946, passed away on January 27, 2021.

Mary Alice Paysinger Wolaver, Nursing class of 1946, passed away March 1, 2021.

Carol "Anne" Phelps, Radiology, class of 1962, passed away on March 5, 2021.

Danny Ramage, Radiology class of 1971, passed away on April 25, 2021.

Billie White, Baptist School of Nursing instructor and student services coordinator, passed away August 11, 2021.

Alberta "Ruth" Noel Hopkins, Nursing, class of 1964 passed away on November 10, 2021.

Paul King, Radiology class of 1977, passed away on November 22, 2021.

Helen Swain, Radiology class of 1964, passed away on December 19, 2021.

WANT TO BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF ALUMNI NEWS?

Please send us your photos for Class Notes, and find us on Facebook by searching Baptist Health Sciences University and Alumni. You may also send us a message or email Alumni@BaptistU.edu

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2022

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Saturday, October 1**

More information forthcoming.



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