

BAPTIST HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

Alumni NEWS

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BAPTIST HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

INTRODUCING
OUR NEW NAME
PAGE 3



BHSU



BAPTIST HEALTH
SCIENCES UNIVERSITY



President's CORNER

Dear friends and fellow alumni,

What a difference a year can make! As I reflect on this time last year, I could not have predicted the items I am covering in this letter. I certainly had no idea we would be educating students during a global pandemic. I am so proud of the work of all the faculty and staff for their ongoing commitment to our students and our mission. They demonstrated crucial traits of flexibility, adaptability and resilience. In a span of three days, faculty switched from face-to-face classroom learning to online learning in all classes. Progression plans were rearranged to accommodate limited clinical experiences. Virtual laboratory and clinical experiences were added to augment classroom content. Many faculty and staff transitioned to working from home while maintaining excellent service levels to our students and each other. Security officers became screeners for any persons coming to campus. Personal protective equipment (PPE) was obtained and maintained to keep those on campus safe. These are just a few of the examples of extraordinary teamwork I see every day as faculty and staff continue to focus on our mission of educating future health care professionals.

The heroism of our alumni in serving others during the pandemic cannot be adequately described. I have been greatly moved by the many stories of alumni who served others every day, both locally and across the country. They are leaders in creating new systems and processes to care for the growing number of patients needing care. They are influential in educating others on how to decrease the spread of COVID-19 for themselves and their families. They are trailblazers in learning how to provide the best care to patients and their families dealing with COVID-19. They are the compassionate caregivers remembering that every person affected is in need of someone to listen to them and truly care. You are our heroes, and we are grateful for you and the service you provide.

However, even with the continuous challenges of the pandemic, we have not lost our vision for a promising future. This is the first Alumni News for Baptist Health Sciences University! How exciting it has been to achieve this major milestone that coincided with the first graduating class of our Doctor of Nursing Practice students. My hope is that when we look back on 2020, we will remember the lessons learned and that we will carry those forward into the future to make us even stronger.

Warmly,

Betty Sue McGarvey, Ph.D., RN
President

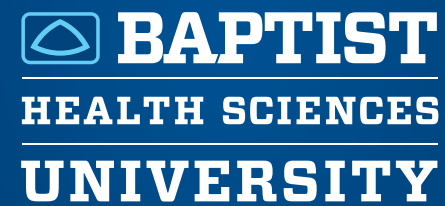
Alumni NEWS 2020

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Alumni NEWS

is sponsored in part by the Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation.



Baptist College of Health Sciences Announced New Name; Baptist Health Sciences University

Late this summer, we made an exciting announcement; we formally changed our name to the Baptist Health Sciences University which officially took place on Sept. 1. The change allows the University to offer graduate degrees in health care, including a Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN to DNP) focus with a concentration in Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, and an additional post MSN to DNP pathway for advanced practice nurses desiring to complete the practice doctorate and attain a second credential to practice in either acute care or primary care. With these new offerings, our graduate nursing students can select from either an acute care or primary care population specialty and attain nurse practitioner credentials at the doctoral level.

In addition, Baptist University is offering a new program, a baccalaureate degree in Neurodiagnostic Technology, which is an online degree program. The bachelor's degree incorporates new technologies such as magnetoencephalography (MEG) and autonomic testing. It includes courses in long-term monitoring, neuroimaging, an introduction to neuropsychology and a capstone project focused on the special interest of the student.

The Medical Imaging Sciences baccalaureate degree is also new. This degree will give working radiologic technologists credentialed by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) in radiography the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Health Science Degree (BHS) in Medical Imaging Sciences.

"We're so excited to announce our name change to Baptist Health Sciences University," said Dr. McGarvey. "This change allows us to continue our focus on providing stellar undergraduate education, as well as new opportunities for

our students to pursue graduate degrees in health care. Our establishment started out as a nursing school in 1912, and over the last 109 years, we have grown and diversified our educational offerings as the health care world has grown and changed. We currently have 13 majors across several disciplines. Our students are educated and well-prepared, which the health care field needs now more than ever."

Baptist University's direct partnership with Baptist Memorial Health Care provides our students with a network of 22 hospitals, 190 clinics and thousands of health care professionals. Our students receive hands-on education and mentorship while being immersed in the various laboratories and clinical training that are woven into our programs here. And with the new programs and degrees offered, BHSU will attract an even more diverse student population who are ready to answer their health care calling and serve the Mid-South community.

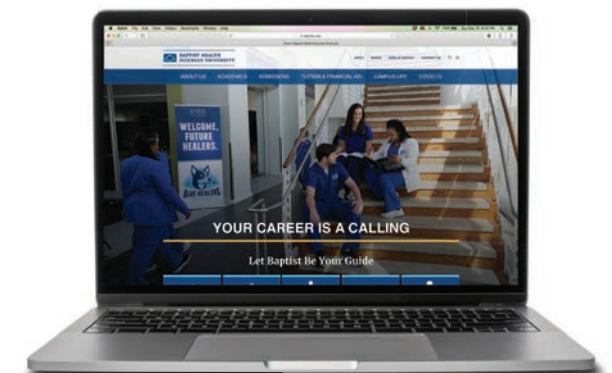
"COVID-19 will change the health care and education space for years to come," added Dr. McGarvey "With our name and programing change and an increased number of specialized graduates, Baptist Health Sciences University will continue to make a positive impact on the health of the Mid-South."

"I am proud of Dr. McGarvey and her team for making the Baptist Health Sciences University name a reality," said Jason Little, president and CEO of Baptist Memorial Health Care. "We rely on the University to educate the next generation of health care leaders for the communities we serve and look forward to welcoming new graduates into the Baptist family."

What is the new name? Baptist Health Sciences University



What is the new website? BaptistU.edu





Baptist College of Health Sciences Announced New Name; Baptist Health Sciences University *continued*

What is the new seal?



What about your mascot?
Still the recently named Blue Healers



You may notice our newly launched, strategic advertising campaign around the Mid-South running through Spring 2021. We have billboards around West Tennessee and North Mississippi in addition to local TV spots to help encourage student interest. Research has shown that outdoor, broadcast and digital media is the way to reach both traditional and non-traditional age students in the metro Memphis market.

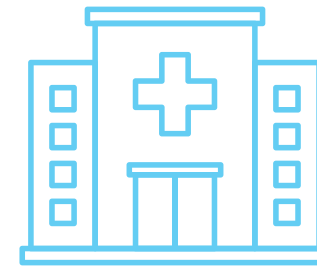
Visit our website at BaptistU.edu to learn about our new branding and educational offerings.



New Programs at Baptist Health Sciences University

Surgical Technology Associate Degree

Beginning Spring 2022
www.BaptistU.edu/Surgical-Technology



A Surgical Technologist is an integral member of the health care team who specializes in optimal patient care in a variety of settings. The Surgical Technologist is a skilled allied health professional specifically trained to work under direction of the surgeon to promote an adequate and safe operating room and/or environment for the surgical patient. This individual also participates in the appropriate aseptic technique, proper sterility, accurate function of equipment/instrumentation and the application of policies/procedures to care for the overall well-being of the patient. The Surgical Technologist is able to perform all duties included within the three phases of surgery: preoperatively, intraoperatively and postoperatively.

The Surgical Technology program includes 1 year of Surgical Technology coursework, as well as 34 credit hours of general education prerequisite courses. All general education courses may be taken at Baptist University, and the program accepts transfer credit(s) from other accredited institutions for most of the prerequisite courses.

Doctor of Nursing Practice

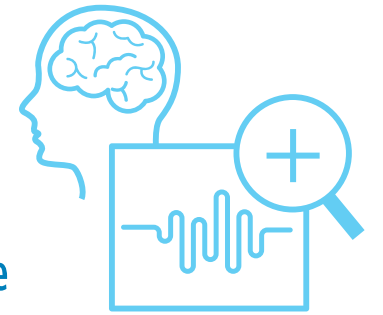
Doctorate Degree
BSN to DNP
MSN to DNP
Concentrations Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner & Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
www.BaptistU.edu/DNP



The newest additions are the Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN to DNP) with a concentration in Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, and an additional post MSN to DNP pathway for advanced practice nurses desiring to complete the practice doctorate and attain a second credential to practice in either acute care or primary care. With these new offerings, our graduate nursing students can select from either an acute care or primary care population specialty and attain nurse practitioner credentials at the doctoral level.

Neurodiagnostic Technology Bachelor's Degree

Associate Degree
www.BaptistU.edu/Neurodiagnostic-Technology



As part of the health care team, neurodiagnostic technologists record electrical activity arising from the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves using a variety of techniques and instruments. This involves preparing patients for procedures, obtaining medical histories, recording electrical potentials, calculating results, and maintaining equipment.

The newest pathway is the bachelor's degree in Neurodiagnostic Technology. This is an online degree program that is perfect for both the full-time student and the working technologist who would like to advance their career with additional skills. The bachelor's degree provides foundational courses in physics, statistics, pathophysiology, and advanced neuroanatomy. It incorporates new technologies such as magnetoencephalography (MEG) and autonomic testing. It includes courses in long-term monitoring, neuroimaging, an introduction to neuropsychology and a capstone project focused on the special interest of the student.



Faculty and Staff Honors Convocation

On March 2, the then-College came together to celebrate the many accomplishments of faculty, staff, and students in scholarly, professional, and community service areas.

The 2019 Rose Temple Distinguished Faculty & Staff recipients, Dr. Renee Parker and April Tyson, provided inspirational addresses; and several faculty and staff who had completed either a doctorate or a master's degree were honored.

In addition, the 2020 Rose Temple Distinguished Adjunct of the Year Award was bestowed on Jae Kwag, an adjunct radiation therapy faculty. Dr. McGarvey had the honor to congratulate Dr. Charity Brannen for being selected as the 2020 Rose Temple Distinguished Faculty recipient and Sheri Whitlow for being selected as the 2020 Rose Temple Distinguished Staff recipient.

The DAISY award went to Christina Hillhouse. This was the third year that faculty who were involved in interprofessional education were acknowledged, along with students who had engaged in scholarly work such as oral presentations at professional conferences.



Jae Kwag



Sheri Whitlow



Charity Brannen



Christina Hillhouse

Baptist Health Sciences University Alumna Honored in TICUA Hall of Fame



Anita Vaughn

Anita Vaughn, alumna, current chairman of the Baptist Health Sciences University board of directors, and former CEO of Baptist Memorial Hospital for Women, is among 24 honorees named to the Inaugural Class of the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association (TICUA) Hall of Fame.

"Anita Vaughn's exemplary leadership skills and exceptional communication with physicians and staff poised Baptist Women's Hospital for future success," said Jason Little, CEO of Baptist Memorial Health Care. "Congratulations to her on this wonderful and well-deserved recognition."

Vaughn is a lifelong Memphian and registered nurse who served Baptist Memorial Health Care for more than 40 years. In 1998, she accepted the CEO position and led the planning and development team for Baptist Memorial

Hospital for Women. The hospital opened in May of 2001 making it the only free-standing women's hospital in Memphis and one of only about 15 in the country.

Vaughn also led the efforts in opening the Spence and Becky Wilson Baptist Children's Hospital in 2015. The opening of the Children's Hospital added to her many career achievements before retiring in 2016 following a 43-year career.

Tennessee's Independent Colleges and Universities have helped shape some of our nation's most distinguished and impressive citizens - from Nobel laureates and Pulitzer Prize winners to faith leaders, entrepreneurs, and elected officials. Vaughn is among 24 honorees recognized for showing the value of the liberal arts education and how it can be used in a variety of career fields.

Making a Difference Every Day: Working in Health Care during a Pandemic

In early March, when the first local case of COVID-19 was announced by the Shelby County Health Department, Baptist Health Sciences University was already working on a back-up plan for students, faculty and staff. A few weeks later, the Shelby County Health Department declared COVID-19 community-spread, the transition to working and learning from home was quick.

"We were fortunate in that most of our courses are created on an online platform, so we didn't have to create it from scratch," said Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey, president of Baptist Health Sciences University.

Faculty and staff worked around what else they needed to make the full remote transition, residents halls were closed, and everyone started learning remotely within the week.

During this time, PPE was in scarce supply. As a result, most hospitals suspended clinical rotations, a requirement for nursing and some allied health majors. Baptist University faculty got creative, finding ways to keep students learning and preparing them for their careers. They set up virtual learning labs for nursing students and administration purchased access to three different kinds of video conferencing for all students and faculty to use.

"We helped ramp up student Wi-Fi access and provided testing and study rooms in the library for students who needed the additional Wi-Fi, following COVID-19 protocols with sanitizing, masking and distancing," said Dr. McGarvey. "Thanks to our IT team, we even have hotspots in the parking lot so students could sit in their cars for Wi-Fi if they don't feel comfortable coming into the building."

Dr. Michelle McDonald, program chair of population health and associate professor at Baptist University, said that most faculty and staff had a remote learning plan in place since the H1N1 threat in 2009. The transition for her students and faculty went well, because they had those protocols in place.

As part of her course load, Dr. McDonald teaches a global infectious disease course and has for years.

"At the beginning of each semester, I always ask my students if they believe we're prepared for a global pandemic. In past semesters, they didn't seem to have much of an opinion," said Dr. McDonald. "Now that we are in full-swing of COVID-19, our students have much more insight into the threat a global pandemic can bring to the world, our country and our communities. I look forward to the discussions we'll have now that there is an abundance of firsthand experience."

Dr. McDonald also used her population health background to develop modeling for the Baptist system.

"In the early stages of COVID-19 locally, there was a need for mathematical modeling of what was going on, how the disease was developing and spreading," said Dr. McDonald.

For three months, Dr. McDonald used her background in population health to develop models that would adopt not only to metro Memphis but to the 22-hospital system. COVID-19 spread is different in rural and suburban areas, and to prevent the spread, community leaders first needed to know how the

disease was spreading. She used outside, national data to develop predictive models for the Baptist service areas. Initially the models could only predict two to three weeks ahead of time, particularly for PPE needs which helped hospitals prepare for surges.

Dr. Lilian Nyindodo (Ogari), chair and associate professor of biomedical sciences at Baptist University, also used her background to help the Baptist system, in a different role than her typical teaching and administration job. Until 2018, Dr. Nyindodo (Ogari) concurrently served as the Chronic Disease Epidemiologist with Shelby County Health Department while teaching. In early 2020, Dr. Paul DePriest, chief medical officer for Baptist Memorial Health Care, asked Dr. Nyindodo (Ogari) to write a memo about the potential system needs during an epidemiology breakout. He reached out again once Baptist had a COVID-19 patient, needing help to develop to a COVID-19 contact tracing plan.

"We were fortunate in that most of our courses are created on an online platform, so we didn't have to create it from scratch,"

– Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey



Making a Difference Every Day: Working in Health Care during a Pandemic *continued*

Dr. Nyindodo (Ogari) used her knowledge and experience working with the Shelby County Health Department to create a plan and to recruit students from all over the Southeast, including Baptist University, to help with the COVID-19 tracing project. Since students weren't allowed to do clinical rotations for several months, this was a good experience in population and community health. She is also working with IT, specifically at Baptist University, on a screening tool.

"We piloted through several programs, and are still working on a piloting phase, for a daily health check for our students and faculty," said Dr. Nyindodo (Ogari). She helped develop an app for students, faculty and staff to check-in daily, answering questions about their health. As part of the pilot program, she learned that nine questions was the maximum, and medically appropriate, she could ask people to respond to daily. This will be rolled out in full in the spring, or when students are able to safely return to campus.

Also during this pandemic, Baptist College became Baptist University.

"We had the name and accreditation plan in place for years," said Dr. McGarvey. "Our board of directors recommended and supported the plan to move forward with the changes in August and I am so grateful that they did. This is a great time to focus attention on the hard work we do to educate and prepare future health care leaders in our community. By becoming Baptist University, we will be able to educate even more students with a wider variety of offerings."

Dr. McGarvey still stays in touch with many alumni, most of whom are frontline workers right now. They've helped educate family and friends since the beginning of the pandemic about COVID-19 and how to sanitize and avoid transmission. She said many were involved in the early PPE preservation and have developed new respiratory protocols and processes in their hospitals.

"I cannot express my high level of admiration for our alumni enough," said Dr. McGarvey. "I am so proud of everything they have done to serve others during an unprecedented pandemic."

Baptist University has held several graduations during this pandemic as well. In April, our faculty and staff held a drive-thru graduation parade to honor recent graduates. Most recently, they've held socially distanced graduations, assigning time blocks for each student while allowing them to invite up to five guests each. Graduates and their guests can take photos outside after ceremony.

Dr. McGarvey said that faculty and staff are learning a lot about teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic and changes that may stick around once in-person learning resumes. For example, students are required a specific number of service and worship hours. As it turns out, they seem to be more engaged in an online setting. Karen Smith, director of faith and service, has seen a larger demand from the Baptist University food pantry. Students whose home situations have changed may need a little more help with necessities like food, gas and diapers.

Thanks to donations from faculty and staff, the food pantry has been well stocked.

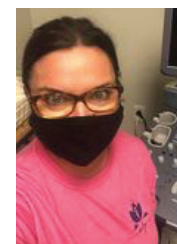
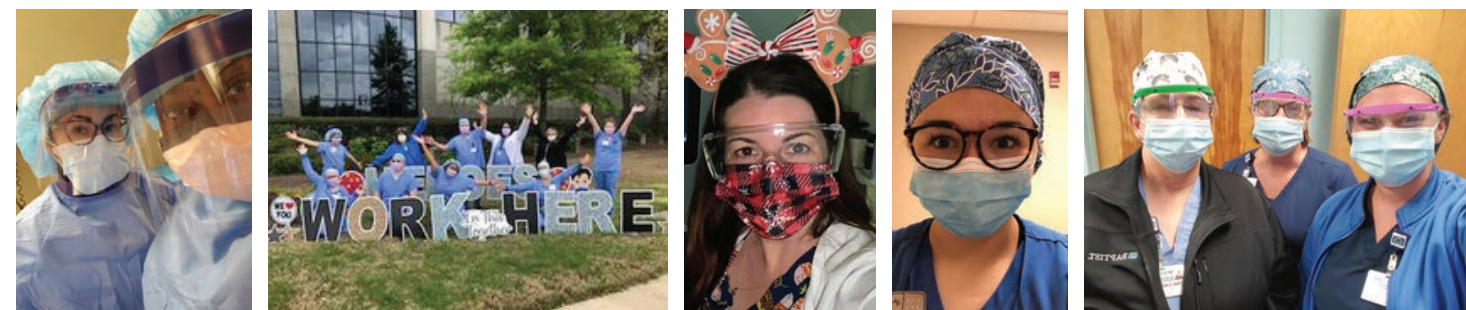
"We believe that students chose health care because of a calling. The pandemic has provided the community with the greater sense of appreciation for those

who answer that calling and has put them in the limelight," said Dr. McGarvey. "I hope that the pandemic will demonstrate, in an amazing way, that potential health care workers can see what a rewarding and in-demand career we can help provide and where they can make a difference every day."

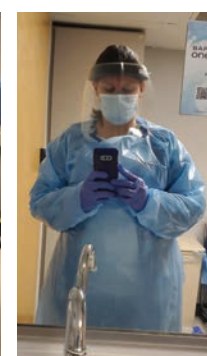
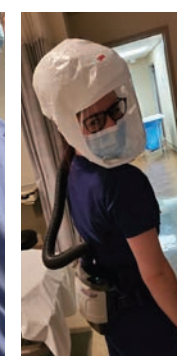
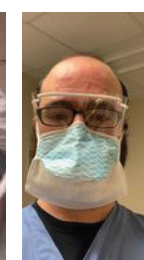
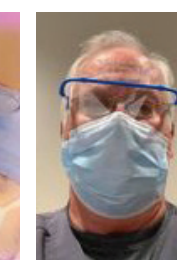
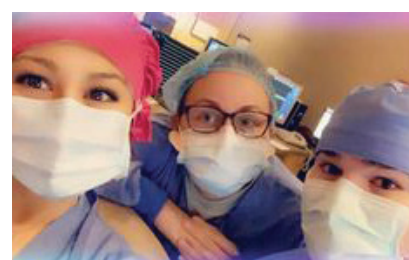
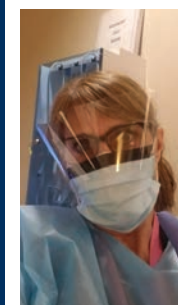
Baptist University will continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and, if needed, may adjust plans for spring 2021 in accordance with the best available health guidance from the State of Tennessee, the City of Memphis and Shelby County Health Department, in an effort to protect the safety of its students, faculty and staff. Please refer to www.BaptistU.edu for the latest updates and information about plans for spring 2021.

"Faculty and staff are learning a lot about teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic and changes that may stick around once in-person learning resumes."

– Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey



Thank you, Alumni!
SAVING LIVES & CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY





2020 Graduations

April 17, 2020: Baptist College of Health Sciences Graduation Parade

Like so many, our students set to graduate in April 2020 from the Baptist College of Health Sciences had to reimagine their graduation activities. Our faculty, staff, and administration found a unique, socially distant and responsible way to honor their spring graduates. We held a drive-thru graduation parade on April 17 where graduates picked up diplomas, college pins and a virtual graduation-in-a-box kit to celebrate at home with family and loved ones.

The box kits included the graduates' diplomas, official college pins, photo props, custom College cookies, honor cords or stoles for those who earned them, and alumni-branded mugs and license plate covers.

"This time has been an adjustment for everyone, but especially for those graduating in 2020 and for those working in health care," said Betty Sue McGarvey, president of the Baptist College of Health Sciences. "I am so proud of our students and faculty for their unique thinking to create the drive-thru graduation ceremony, a definite first for the Baptist College of Health Sciences, and I look forward to the traditional commencement ceremonies when circumstances allow."

In addition to the graduation-in-a-box kits, the graduates received a video link from faculty, staff and administration congratulating them on their achievements in addition to a brief commencement address from Dr. McGarvey.

Since traditional cap and gown, diploma-receiving pictures weren't an option, College administration arranged for drone photos of the car lines and pictures of each graduate's car as they pulled up to receive their graduation goodies. Graduates decorated their cars and faculty from all majors celebrated with signs, pompoms and encouraging cheers.

"We had a great time celebrating our College graduates while maintaining social distance," said Megan Bursi, director of marketing and alumni relations at the Baptist College of Health Sciences. "While it wasn't traditional, it was definitely memorable. Congratulations to our new Blue Healer alumni."

The idea for the drive-thru ceremony came from the graduation planning committee in March when large events started to be canceled and the CDC recommended against gatherings of ten or more people in order to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The College had 99 graduates across ten majors for the April 2020 term and 84 were able to participate in the parade.



April 2020 Graduation Awards

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS AWARD - **Brandon Baker**
- ELIZABETH FARNELL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - **Alissa Wolf**
- DR. LING LEE AWARD - **Michaela Dunlevy**
- SARAH AINSWORTH AWARD - **Carrie Runions**
- DR. EMMEL GOLDEN AWARD - **Kelsey Bolton**
- ROCKETT AWARD - **Makayla Holley**
- JOSEPH H. POWELL AWARD - **Sarah LaVoice**

2020 Graduations *continued*

August 13, 2020: Doctor of Nurse Practitioner Program graduates its first students

On August 13, Baptist College of Health Sciences held a walk-thru graduation and private event for our Doctor of Nursing Practice graduates. The event marked the hooding of the College's first ever doctoral graduates with five students graduating with their Doctor of Nursing Practice with a concentration in Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. The program started enrolling students in the fall of 2018 and takes three years to complete. The new graduates are able to treat patients 16 and older. Across the country, there is a growing need for more advanced health care providers, like nurse practitioners, with critical skills to care for complex patients with an aging population.

"We are proud of our very first class of graduating nurse practitioners," said Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey, president of the newly-named Baptist Health Sciences University. "Now that we have become a University, we look forward to welcoming more doctoral students and graduating more nurse practitioners, whose practice is needed now more than ever in our communities."

Each graduate was hooded by doctor of nurse practitioner faculty members Dr. Cathy Stepter and Dr. Renee Parker. Their degrees were conferred by the registrar, dean and president of the now Baptist Health Sciences University.

"While the last several months and graduation ceremonies were disrupted due to COVID-19, our new nurse practitioner graduates have worked hard to complete their course loads and clinicals," said Dr. Stepter, who also serves as the Doctor of Nurse Practice program chair. "They are well-prepared to take on the medical needs of our Mid-South patients."

The graduates were able to invite five guests to attend the event, where masks and other social distancing measures were observed.



Crystal Wilkerson



Tyler Willis



Jasmine Minnis



Linda Bowen



Felicia Dillard



2020 Graduations *continued*

August 13, 2020: Undergraduate Walk-Thru Graduation



Following the doctoral hooding event on August 13, individual private events were held for each Baptist College undergraduate. Each student was able to walk across the stage, receive a diploma with a scaled down conferral of the degree by Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey and have their pictures taken. The graduation planning committee planned for and allowed private ceremonies for the August graduates to be able to create a memorable experience while still in the midst of the pandemic. Graduates were able to invite five guests to attend the event, where masks and other social distancing measures were observed. Each of the 46 graduates was assigned a time to arrive along with their guests for their private, distanced ceremonies. A special area was set up outside for the graduates and their guests to take photos before leaving.



Graduates also received virtual graduation-in-a-box kits to celebrate at home with family and loved ones.

Graduation awards were given to:

The Board of Directors Award was presented to Kevin Shelton, a BSN graduate. The award recognizes a graduate who has demonstrated outstanding academic performance, leadership skills, commitment to community service, commitment to Christian principles, and potential for leadership in the health care professions.

The Elizabeth Farnell Achievement Award was also presented to Kevin Shelton. This award is named in memory of Elizabeth Farnell, vice president of nursing for Baptist Memorial Hospital from 1971 to 1991. The recipient of this award has attained the highest cumulative grade point average among the nursing graduates.

Christa Kramer, a BSN graduate, received the Joseph H. Powell Award. The award honors Powell, former chief executive officer of Baptist Memorial Hospital and Baptist Memorial Health Care. Powell has provided noteworthy legacy of leadership in health care and community service. The recipient of this award has demonstrated outstanding academic performance and the potential for advanced studies in the health sciences.

August 13 graduates earned their degrees under the Baptist College of Health Sciences name.



2020 Graduations *continued*

December 17, 2020: Undergraduate Walk-Thru Graduation



On December 17, individual private events were held for each Baptist University undergraduate. Each student was able to walk across the stage, receive a diploma with a scaled down conferral of the degree by the University President, and have their pictures taken. The graduation planning committee planned for and allowed private ceremonies for the August graduates to be able to create a memorable experience while still in the midst of the pandemic. Graduates were able to invite five guests to attend the event, where masks and other social distancing measures were observed. Each graduate was assigned a time to arrive along with their guests for their private, distanced ceremonies. A special area was set up outside for the graduates and their guests to take photos before leaving.



Graduates also received virtual graduation-in-a-box kits to celebrate at home with family and loved ones.

December 17 graduates were the first graduates to earn their degrees under the Baptist Health Sciences University name.

December 2020 Graduation Awards

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS AWARD - **Katie Williams**
- DR. THOMAS MCCOLL CHESNEY AWARD - **Katie Williams**
- JOSEPH H. POWELL AWARD - **Kalon Robinson-Goodman**
- SARAH AINSWORTH AWARD - **Akaysha Clark**





Alumni Awards Call for Nominations

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Baptist Health Sciences University is pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award. 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 Megan Bursi, director of marketing and alumni affairs, Baptist Health Sciences University, 1003 Monroe Ave., Memphis, TN 38104. You can also email Megan at megan.bursi@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.

Distinguished Alumni Award 2020

Please address nominations to: Megan Bursi, director of marketing and alumni affairs, Baptist Health Sciences University, 1003 Monroe Ave., Memphis, TN 38104.

Nominated by: _____

Address: _____

Phone number(s): _____

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.



Alumni Spotlight : Lois Billings Woods, Nursing Class of 1944



When Lois Billings Woods graduated from the then-Baptist School of Nursing in 1944, things were very different. World War II was still ongoing and three years of tuition cost \$86, including books, nursing uniforms and housing.

Lois has great stories and memories about her time at the now-Baptist Health Sciences University. In fact, she attended the ceremony when we became a College and the Baptist Memorial Health Care Centennial celebration in 2012, where she was the oldest graduate in attendance.

Lois is from Burlison, Tenn. where she graduated from Byars Hall High School.

After taking a gap year, she entered the Baptist School of Nursing in 1941 entering the three-year nursing program. Students were required to live in the dorms for their entire time in school with a strict 10 p.m. curfew, work voluntary shifts at the hospital and maintain a dress code of dress and stockings even when not in class or working. Students were not allowed to be married or engaged while in school.

“Nursing school didn’t allow for a lot of free time,” explained Lois.

Lois used to walk to church at First Presbyterian or Bellevue Baptist with her friend, as the street car was too pricey for them to take both ways.

During her time, nurses didn’t have specialties or focuses like we do now. They learned a lot of everything from labor and delivery, surgery, medicine and ENT while in the classroom and working shifts at the hospital.

While in nursing school, Lois met her husband who was a chef at the Peabody Hotel. She would take friends down to Peabody on occasion for meals he would prepare. Three months before Lois was set to graduate, she and her husband eloped in Marion, Ark.. She thought that her teachers suspected that she had gotten married, which wasn’t allowed as a student, but no one ever questioned her.

After graduation, Lois worked as a private duty nurse which is similar to current in-home nursing except she often lived with the patients, then she worked in a doctor’s office and then at the VA Hospital located at Park and Getwell, where she worked until 1967. Her husband passed away the previous year and

she had a young child, Charlotte, so the shift work of weekends and night wasn’t conducive to childcare. She does have good memories of her time at the VA Hospital though.

“Patients stayed in the hospital a lot longer then, so they became friends, family almost in some cases,” said Lois.

Charlotte, her daughter, remembered her mom bringing home patient family members’ laundry. She even took her own television up to the hospital so that patients and their families could watch the World Series one year.

After leaving the VA, Lois worked at the US Army Corps of Engineers as an Occupational Health Nurse then moved to The Memphis Defense Depot in the Employee Health Clinic. While at the Memphis Defense Depot, Lois was commended by the Colonel for her outstanding work and responses during emergency situations.

When she retired, Lois worked as a travel nurse for American Contract Bridge League tournaments. Each state has a different licensing body for nursing, but Lois was able to practice in the states where tournaments were held, which she attributes to the training from Baptist College of Nursing.

When asked what she would say to current nurses, Lois said, “Don’t forget you are there for the patients; it’s about caring for the sick.”

Alumni Spotlight: Crystal Wilkerson, Nursing class of 2010 (BSN), 2020 (DNP)

Nursing graduate part of the first Doctor of Nursing Practice graduating class

The first class of the Doctor of Nursing Practice at Baptist Health Sciences University graduated in August 2020 and Crystal Wilkerson (2010 Nursing) was among the five new graduates.

Following her undergraduate graduation, Crystal stayed in touch with Dr. Cathy Stepter, the Doctor of Nursing Practice program chair, who encouraged her to apply to the DNP program when it was launched.

As hers was the first DNP class, there were a lot of learning opportunities for students and faculty alike.

“We all worked hard to shape the program,” said Crystal. “Baptist University took our input for the graduates coming behind us.”

Crystal started the DNP program, along with her classmates, in 2018. She continued her work as a cardiac ICU nurse in the Transplant ICU at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Memphis, though she did take on weekend shifts and part-time while studying for her state licensure. She recently passed her board and certifications but has to apply through the state for her DNP license then be approved by the Baptist Memorial Health Care credentialing department.

Like most health care workers, Crystal has experienced COVID-19 patients on her floor. Experimental treatment with the extracorporeal member oxygenation (ECMO) machine to help patients in cardiac and lung distress, was rolled out in the cardiac ICU. Since clinicals and rotations weren’t possible as part of the DNP requirements, Crystal worked in both the COVID Resource Center and helped with contact tracing with Baptist, which showed her the population health side of nursing.

When asked about working while earning her doctorate degree, Crystal said, “You have to have a strong support system, including a family at home who will support and celebrate with you; you can’t do it by yourself.”

Crystal will soon start a new job with Memphis Lung Physicians.





Alumni Spotlight: Megan Alston, Respiratory Care Class of 2016

How a traveling respiratory therapist finds compassion in COVID-19

COVID-19 has been especially tough on health care workers. For Megan Alston, respiratory care graduate class of 2016, it's been no different.

In March, pre-pandemic, Megan was living in Nashville and working two jobs, at a skilled nursing facility and part-time at a long-term acute care facility. Because she had young children, she went part-time with both jobs when the pandemic hit. Over the summer, she heard about travel respiratory therapy needs and applied to help those communities hit the hardest with the pandemic.

During the months of July through September, Megan was in McAllen, Texas at what she describes as a make-shift hospital.

"Everyone in that facility had COVID-19," said Megan. "It was an emotional place to work, with so much severe illness and death. The facility offered on-site counselors to help the health care workers emotionally."

After a few weeks back in Nashville, Megan went back to Texas in early November. She was in El Paso, which was experiencing an all-time high transmission rate, and eventually landed in Pecos, located in West Texas in between Midland and El Paso. She is at a small, community hospital helping establish respiratory best practices and protocols for COVID-19 patients. The hospital wasn't familiar with ventilator practices, so Megan has shown them how to intubate patients in need and has

taught them about current interventions and therapies. She will be in Pecos until December, then back to Nashville to spend Christmas with her family.

"My days are a lot busier than they were pre-COVID," said Megan. "Now every day brings a new challenge; even codes are different with the pandemic."

Her 6- and 8-year-old sons are proud of the live-saving work she is doing.

"They know I help people and they love it," said Megan. "But it takes a strong-minded person to work in health care now; you can't break down and cry every time someone dies."

Megan said she has seen families come in severely ill, one after another, following celebrations, likely not following distancing and masking guidelines. She recommended that her family and friends heed the caution in advance of holidays, to keep get-togethers limited, masked and outdoors.

"Demonstrating empathy and compassion is so important right now," said Megan. "Patients, as well as their families, are dealing with some of those most challenging times of their lives. Our job as health care providers goes beyond what we do from a clinical or therapeutic standpoint. We have to have compassion whether we're on the edge of sanity or not. Be kind to one another and although we can't physically love on one another show some love in whatever way you can. Just make sure it's from 6 feet away!"



STUDENT PROFILE:

Hawa Kamara, Population Health Class of 2020

How two pandemics helped shape a career

Hawa Kamara, set to graduate from Baptist Health Sciences University in December 2020, hasn't had a traditional path to Population Health. But that doesn't make her any less passionate about the field. It actually makes her an even more avid student.

Hawa, now 33, moved to the United States in 2014, just before Ebola hit her home country of Liberia. She felt helpless as family members, friends and really everyone in her childhood community was suffering. The early months of Ebola were difficult to navigate; people didn't know how to prevent its spread, signs or symptoms of containment or how to treat the deadly disease. She wanted to help, to learn more about disease management and to help those less educated care for themselves.

Hawa went to Southwest for an associate's degree in health sciences and worked as a CNA for several years before enrolling at then-Baptist College of Health Sciences in 2018 hoping to become a registered nurse. She ultimately ended up changing her major to Population Health which perfectly marries her bachelor's degree in accounting she earned in Liberia and her love of helping people.

"I love the journey I've been on; I'm learning so much about health care," explained Hawa. "I enjoy the needs assessment, information collection, learning how different races and genders are affected by disease, collecting the data and building it into a system."

Hawa is currently interning with Ann Marie Wallace in the Baptist corporate communications and community outreach department. She is working to trace COVID-19 super spreaders, educating 12-19-year olds about COVID-19 awareness and how to stop the disease dissemination.

With what she is learning, Hawa hopes to help people in low-income areas care for themselves better, whether that is here or in Liberia where her parents and some siblings still live. She plans to go back to school to earn a graduate degree in epidemiology.



"Baptist is not just a hospital. They help people get their lives back together, share the message of God and care for the homeless with the mobile outreach clinic."

– Hawa Kamara

"Baptist is not just a hospital," said Hawa. "They help people get their lives back together, share the message of God and care for the homeless with the mobile outreach clinic. It is much more than just a hospital or university."

"I have had the privilege of working with Hawa since she first enrolled at Baptist Health Sciences University, and I have been so impressed with her passion and resolve to achieve her academic goals, and her determination to have an impact on the health and wellness of her community," said Michelle McDonald, DrPH and chair of the population health department at Baptist Health Sciences University. "She inspires me and all those who have worked and learned with her in the Population Health program."

Hawa also runs a childcare center with seven employees, which has been especially challenging during the early months of COVID-19 in Memphis. She and her husband have two young children.

Hawa has a drive for learning – and teaching – everything she can about health care. "Education is the one thing no one can take away from you."



President's and Spirit Award

Congratulations to Blue Healers Award Recipients



Dr. Michelle McDonald



Dr. Lilian Nyindodo (Ogari)



Dr. Hurley Shepherd

President's Award: Congratulations to **Dr. Michelle McDonald** and **Dr. Lilian Nyindodo (Ogari)** for being selected as the 2020 President's Award recipients.

Dr. Michelle McDonald, associate professor and chair of Population Health, was recognized as being a member of the Baptist Memorial Health Care COVID-19 Response Team working with prediction models to guide hospital administrators regarding potential need for PPE and inpatient needs. Her work includes tracking hospitalization data for trend analysis to improve planning for resource availability.

Dr. Lilian Nyindodo (Ogari), associate professor and chair of Biomedical Sciences was recognized for her work managing the contact tracing process for employees and patients within Baptist Memorial Health Care. In addition to her leadership and teaching roles, Dr. Nyindodo (Ogari) developed the teaching modules and oversaw the training for medical students, doctoral nursing students and employee health nurses to do the contact tracing. Dr. Nyindodo (Ogari) continues to serve as an epidemiologist consultant for hospitals, clinics and nursing homes within Baptist Memorial Health Care.

Baptist Spirit Award: Congratulations to **Dr. Hurley Shepherd** for winning the 2020

Baptist Spirit Award. His nominator recognized him for always assisting faculty and staff. "He is very giving of his time and is always willing to step outside of his comfort zone to help. He is an advocate for his students and advisees and gives his students the confidence to succeed. He truly represents the Baptist spirit."

First Ever Baptist University Pep Rally

The inaugural Baptist University pep rally was held on September 10th. The event was virtual and included a welcome by Dr. Betty Sue McGarvey, President, and appearances by the Blue Healer and spirited 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 a treasured Spirit Stick. An exciting event in the Pep Rally included revealing the name of the Blue Healer mascot. There were a number of great submissions, but there was one name was clearly the favorite, Hartley - the Blue Healer.

The event can be found on the Baptist University YouTube page (<https://www.youtube.com/user/bchsmem/videos>).





Philanthropy-What Does It Mean To You?

Do you remember that first time you had a deep desire to perform an act of kindness or provide financial support for someone in need? I vividly remember the first time I felt that desire. I was nine years old and the church I attended was becoming too small to accommodate all of our members. Each Sunday, before Sunday school, the deacons would place metal folding chairs throughout the sanctuary so everyone would be able to have a seat during worship service. After many months of this routine, our church family continued to grow and a decision was made to expand the existing building in order to accommodate our growing membership. Our Pastor asked each member to financially support this effort. I really wanted to offer my assistance. During my childhood, we did not have much but that never stopped my family from embracing the importance of offering assistance to those in need. I saved all the money I had for one month. At the end of that month, I was able to save a little over \$3 to make a donation. My savings may not seem like a lot now, but it meant the world to me. My heart felt extremely happy when I placed the donation in the giving basket that following Sunday. I am sure kids at that age were saving up to buy the latest

toy or perhaps a bag of candy, but my desire at that time was to help the church. Not only was I able to give a donation, I also volunteered in various fundraisers held at the church. I was not able to do much at that young age, but my small part played a huge part in the overall outcome of the building expansion.

According to Merriam - Webster, philanthropy is defined as an act or gift done or made for humanitarian purposes. As I reflect back on placing my donation in the basket to support the church, I now realize that was my first encounter with philanthropy. For me, that desire to support others continues to grow stronger each day. At the age of nine, I never imagined years later being a part of the Baptist Memorial Health Care Foundation assisting the Baptist Health Sciences University in securing funds to support its mission. Throughout my life, God has truly blessed me and each day I strive to be a blessing to others. As you reflect upon what philanthropy means to you, please remember Baptist University. Your gift of \$15, \$25, or \$50, will provide financial assistance needed to continue supporting scholarships, emergency assistance or equipment for our students.



Sherita Martin

In addition to giving financially, we also need your time and talents to ensure a bright future for our students pursuing their dreams of becoming a health care professional.

We hope that you will use the enclosed donation envelope to make a tax-deductible gift to 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 that even something small 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 2020. 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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*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 University 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

It is a Blessing to Be a Blessing

Many students find themselves struggling to pay for necessity items needed as they begin clinical courses, despite receiving federal, state, and/or institutional financial aid. Darian Simmons, a December 2020 nursing graduate, wanted to make a difference in the lives of the students pursuing their dreams as well. She knows first-hand how difficult it is to pay for those essential items all at once. She is also passionate about giving back to her alma mater and advocates on the importance of investing in the University to provide a legacy for future generations. With the help of the development office and other generous donors, Darian's aspiration has come to life with the Blessings Bag Initiative. Based on available funds, we will select one student each trimester from a pool of applicants to receive a blessing bag. The total cost of the bag is \$425 and tailored to the recipient's specific major containing the following items:



- BHSU Bag
- Stethoscope
- Lab coat, scrubs, and patches
- Pen light
- Blood Pressure Cuff
- Dosage IV Book
- Medication Manual
- \$50 Gas Gift Card (allied health students)

Your gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, or \$425 will ensure that we are able to provide assistance for this essential need.

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**.



Faculty and Staff Accomplishments 2020

TAMEKA GOODEN, assistant professor in medical laboratory sciences, served as a Registrar for the Tennessee Association of Blood Banks 2020 Spring Conference in Clarksville, Tennessee, March 13, 2020 – March 15, 2020.

DONNA MARS, chair of the nuclear medicine technology program, received the Bob Bowen Award for Outstanding Dedication given by the Nuclear Medicine Technologist of Tennessee on March 15, 2020.

- **DONNA MARS** gave an oral presentation at the Nuclear Medicine Technologist of Tennessee meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, on March 15, 2020. Her presentation was titled “PET/MRI: Enhancing Hybrid Imaging”.
- **DONNA MARS** served as a virtual site visitor for the nuclear medicine technology program at Mayo Clinic College of Medicine & Health Sciences (Rochester, MN) on behalf of the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRCNMT), August 6 & 7, 2020.

DR. MAGGIE MARSH-NATION, chair of neurodiagnostic technology, presented two online presentations titled “Neurodiagnostic Instrumentation” and “Experiential Learning and The Current State of Neurodiagnostics” for the Alabama Society of Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists in Birmingham, March 13, 2020 – March 14, 2020.

BEN ROBERTS, assistant professor in medical radiography, published *Rock the Registry – Volume 1*. Book. March 9, 2020. Amazon #1 New Release in Radiology.

- **ROBERTS** presented “CT-Guided Abscess Drainage” (Online presentation for the American Society of Radiologic Technologists. February 25, 2020.)

NIKKI ROBINSON, instruction in nuclear medicine technology, was recognized by the executive board of the Nuclear Medicine Technologists of Tennessee for serving as President of the organization during 2019/2020.

MEGAN BURSI, director of marketing and alumni affairs, received a 2020 Case District III Gold Award for the Blue Healer Mascot Creation; Branding/Identity Program or Campaign.

- **BURSI** received a 2020 Gold MarCom award for the Rebranding/Identity Suite for the change of Baptist College of Health Sciences to Baptist Health Sciences University.
- **BURSI** received a 2020 Gold Marcom award for the Rebranding Commercial titled “The University for Your Calling.”

DR. ANGEL BOLING, assistant professor of nursing and undergraduate program chair of nursing, successfully defended her doctorate dissertation entitled “Interprofessional Simulation Among Healthcare Students: A Randomized Controlled Trial to Improve Communication Self-Efficacy.”

DR. CAMERON CONN, director of planning and institutional effectiveness, will assume responsibilities as the interim dean of Allied Health starting April 24, 2020.

DR. DARIUS WILSON, chair of medical laboratory science, was selected as the 1st Reviewer and Mentor to a new reviewer as a volunteer with NAACLS (National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences). May 29, 2020. Dr. Wilson was selected to volunteer with NAACLS to serve as a site visitor for the pilot virtual site visit format that was created due to cancelled on-site visits in response to the pandemic.

DR. LILIAN NYINDODO (OGARI), chair and associate professor of Biomedical Sciences, co-published a COVID-19 provider update. J. Wood, J. Lancaster, L. Ogari, A. Comer, J. Foster, S. Threlkeld, S. Stroud, M. Jain, B. Barrett. COVID-19 Provider Update. April 16, 2020. Baptistonline.org.

- **DR. NYINDODO (OGARI)** was a guest lecture for Southern School of Optometry, IPE course. Presentation title: “Moving Upstream Economic Hardship and Life Expectancy in Shelby County TN”, July 1, 2020.
- **DR. NYINDODO (OGARI)** presented a poster, titled: “Camp FHP by the Mid-south Interprofessional Health Collaborative (MIHC)” along with Dr. Melissa Zarn of SCO and Dr. Sajeesh Kumar of UTHSC at the TIPEC 2020 Annual Conference, July 31, 2020
- **DR. NYINDODO (OGARI)** was a panelist at the Virtual Celebrate What’s Right: Health Equity event hosted by New Memphis, August 4, 2020
- **DR. NYINDODO (OGARI)** was featured in The Commercial Appeal, Contact tracing in Memphis: a look at Baptist System’s Initiative, July 21, 2020
- **DR. NYINDODO (OGARI)** was featured in The Daily Memphian, How local experts deal with COVID-19 in daily lives, July 19, 2020
- **DR. NYINDODO (OGARI)** was featured in Fox 13 news, Mid-South hospitals deal with delays in getting COVID-19 test results, July 21, 2020
- **DR. NYINDODO (OGARI)** led a webinar August 14th for colleagues across Tennessee addressing contact tracing associated with COVID-19. The webinar was hosted by the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association. Dr. Nyindodo (Ogari) was also a panelist for AONL-TN on September 11 and provided a feature presentation: “Lessons Learned in COVID-19.”

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments *continued*

DR. ANGEL BOLING, chair of undergraduate nursing and assistant professor, completed the graduation requirements for the PhD in Nursing from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Mo. Dissertation: “Interprofessional Simulation Among Healthcare Students: A Randomized Controlled Trial to Improve Communication Self-Efficacy”.

DR. CATHY STEPTER, chair of graduate nursing, applied and was granted promotion from associate professor to professor.

DR. KIMBERLY KENNEL, nursing, applied and was granted promotion from assistant professor to associate professor.

DR. BRANDI LAMBERT, transitioned from graduate adjunct faculty to full time assistant professor of Nursing in the graduate program. Dr. Lambert is working on her 2nd APRN certification in Adult-Gerontology Primary Care to coordinate our newly approved APRN concentration.

DR. LOREDANA HAEGER, provost/vice president of academic affairs and professor, along with Dr. Michelle McDonald, chair and associate professor of population health, and Abby Johnston, sociology instructor, presented the following topic at the TIPEC (Tennessee Interprofessional Practice and Education Consortium) third annual conference: Undergraduate IPE Online Learning: Innovative Use of a Simulation Debriefing Tool on July 31, 2020. This year, the conference was held virtually due to COVID-19. More than 50 participants attended, including faculty and students, and more than 20 higher education institutions across the state of Tennessee were represented.

KATIE CODY, instructor of diagnostic medical sonography, earned the ARDMS pediatric sonography specialty credential.

TAMEKA GOODEN, assistant professor of medical laboratory science, served as a member of the editorial team for a research proposal on clinical preceptorship presented to the Austin Peay State University Institutional Review Board (July-current).

DR. CHARITY BRANNEN, associate professor of general education and health studies, certified as a scorer with the Quantitative Literacy VALUE rubric by the VALUE Institute.

DR. CHRISTINA HERRING, VALUE Institute Certified Scorer for Written Communication VALUE Rubric. Association of American Colleges and Universities.

DEBRA SMITH, assistant professor in medical radiography, presented an oral presentation titled “Resume Essentials” at the Tennessee Society of Radiologic Technologists (TSRT) Annual Conference (virtual) October 9. Mrs. Smith was also unanimously selected as president-elect for the Tennessee Society of Radiologic Technologists (TSRT), and will serve as President of the TSRT for 2021-2022. As president, Baptist University will become the host organization for the 2021 TSRT Conference.

DR. BIANA JEGIER, program chair and associate professor in health administration, presented at several conferences: Bartick, M. C., Jegier, B. J., Smith, J. P. (2020, November).

“The value of breastfeeding and the costs of artificial feeding to society: An analysis of the methods and comparison of results”. Poster Presentation. 25th Annual International Meeting of Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine. Virtual Meeting. Bartick, M. C., Jegier, B. J., Smith, J. P. (2020, October). Measuring the economic implications of not breastfeeding: Making sense of diverse estimates, calculators, and models. Oral Presentation. 148th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association. Virtual Meeting. Camodeca, G., Jegier, B. J., Davie, J. (2020, September) “SARS, Sudden Acute Relevance Syndrome – How COVID-19 Turned Humanities into Suddenly-Applied Science.” Oral Presentation. WMY Medical Humanities Conference. Virtual Meeting.

▪ **DR. JEGIER** was elected inaugural Treasurer of the Maternal and Child Health Section of the American Public Health Association and will serve October 2020 – October 2022 in this leadership role.

DR. JAN HILL, assistant professor for health administration, Advancing Health through Leadership: American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Student Presentation. Higher Education Network: Baptist Health Sciences University Virtual Meeting.

- **DR. HILL** Advancing Health through Leadership: American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Student Presentation. Higher Education Network: Austin Peay University Virtual Meeting.
- **DR. HILL** . Showcasing Teaching Innovations: Transition to Virtual Internships. University Gathering. Conference Presentation. 5



CONGRATULATIONS

NURSING

Amanda McDowell, class of 2019, received the DAISY Foundation award in July 2020. Amanda was nominated by a patient's sister for being a hardworking and compassionate nurse.

Zavion Johnson, class of 2018, received the Rising Star Award in honor of his outstanding dedication to the Nursing profession presented by the Medical Executive Committee of the Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation Metropolitan Market.

Christina (Cantrell) Smith, class of 2018, married Jon Smith in a private beach ceremony on October 20, 2020. Christina is currently a registered nurse at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. (1)



Matt Bowden, class of 2011, has been working as a CRNA for about 4 years. Matt has been working for LifeLinc Anesthesia for less than a year, and was recently nominated to be featured in their clinical spotlight in October 2020. The feature notes that Matt is an exceptional member of the LifeLinc Oxford, MS team and is thanked for his hard work and dedication. The full clinical spotlight may be found at LifeLincAnesthesia.com. (2)

Sonia Holt Foster, class of 2005, received her Doctor of Nursing Practice in Healthcare Systems Leadership from Chamberlain University, Downers Grove, Illinois, in September 2020.

Tawanna Wakefield, class of 2004, was appointed to serve a two-year term on the American Holistic Nurses Association Education Approver Committee

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Elena Sava, class of 2020, has been accepted into the Bethel University PA program and will start in Spring 2021.

MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHY

Laura (Bunch) Howse, class of 2004, works at Chattanooga State Community College in Academic Resources where she assist faculty with online course development. Laura previously taught Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) at Chattanooga State where she converted the program to a fully online program. She recently spoke on the topic of MRI Safety for the Imaging Department at the 2020 Nuclear Medicine Technologist of Tennessee annual meeting. Currently, she is completing her Master's degree in Education in Learning and Technology at Western Governors University.

MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHY & DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

Mitzi Roberts, EdD, RT(R), RDMS, RDCS, FSDMS, medical radiography class of 1993 and diagnostic medical sonography class of 1994, was nominated and inducted as a 2020 SDMS Fellow during the 2020 virtual conference. The SDMS Fellow membership category recognizes the lifetime achievement of individual members who have made

outstanding contributions to the field of sonography and to the SDMS. An SDMS Fellow is known for their outstanding professional accomplishments as well sustained engagement in SDMS activities and continued SDMS membership. Additionally, Dr. Roberts published a chapter on Fetal Echocardiography in the textbook *Sonography: Introduction to Normal Structure and Function, 5th edition*.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE

Brittany (Winfrey) White, class of 2019, is working PRN as a nuclear medicine technologist at Methodist North Hospital. She and her husband Willis bought their first house recently and welcomed a baby girl, Winterly, in August 2020. (3)



Mikaela Deal, class of 2018, is a full-time nuclear medicine technologist at Methodist North Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

Jamie Keller, class of 2018, is working in nuclear medicine technology at West Cancer Center. Most of her time at West is in PET/CT imaging; however, she is also involved in the various treatments performed in the nuclear medicine department. She and her husband Brian just bought their first home. They stay busy with their six-year-old son and three-year-old daughter.

Kendall Carpenter, class of 2017, works fulltime at Baptist Memorial Hospital-DeSoto as a staff nuclear medicine technologist. She recently moved and is enjoying time with her two beagle babies and taking advantage of spending time at the park.

Cora Savinell, class of 2016, is a nuclear medicine technologist at The Heart Center of Memphis. She recently completed her CT exam with the NMTCB. When not working, she enjoys time with her children.

Angela McBride, class of 2014, is currently attending the Bethel University Physician Assistant Program.

Audra (Bagwell) Cissna, class of 2013, is a nuclear medicine technologist and Director of Computed Tomography at Cardiology Associates of North Mississippi where she performs cardiac PET/CT using Rubidium-82. Recently, she spoke on the topic of Cardiac PET/CT at the 2020 Nuclear Medicine Technologists of Tennessee annual meeting in Memphis, TN. On weekends, she and her husband Brandon spend most of their time running between cheer competitions and softball tournaments with their two kids.

Lindsay (Henry) Foshee, class of 2012, works as a nuclear medicine technologist at Baptist Memorial Hospital-DeSoto. She is married to Kyle and has a son, Cash, who is 2 years old. Cash enjoys rides on the farm, looking at the cows and being with his daddy "working" the farm.

Saphia (Jaffery) Roberts, class of 2010, recently moved to Germantown, Tennessee after working several years as a nuclear medicine technologist in Jackson, Mississippi. She is currently working in nuclear medicine PRN as a part of Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare, working at their LeBonheur, North, and Germantown locations. She and her husband Brian have a 2-year old son named Noah.

Clinton Cody Johnson, class of 2010, is a nuclear medicine technologist at Methodist South Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Recently, Cody earned his MRI certification. He and his wife Britney (Solomon), medical radiography class of 2009, keep busy with their three kids Riley (11), Finley (8), and Nori (2). Britney works in Computed Tomography (CT) at LeBonheur Children's Hospital.

Steven Gonzalez, class of 2009, is a nuclear medicine technologist and a registered nurse at Jackson-Murray County General Hospital (JMCGH) in Jackson, TN. Steven, who has a background as a medical radiographer, completed his nuclear medicine technology training at Baptist. While working as a staff technologist in nuclear medicine technology at Dyersburg Regional Medical Center, he completed his RN degree at Jackson State Community College. Steven now works weekends in nuclear medicine technology while working days as a RN in Interventional Radiology at JMCGH. He is also responsible for all Lu-177 infusion performed in nuclear medicine at the hospital.



CONGRATULATIONS

Amber (Carter) Johnson, class of 2009, is the nuclear pharmacy manager and radiation safety officer (RSO) at Red River Pharmacy of Jonesboro. She is married to Matt and has two children, Beau (8 years) and Emry (2 year). When not at the pharmacy, Amber enjoys photography, time with her family, and watching her son play baseball.

Kimberly (Rohling) Williams, class of 2009, is the Lead Technologist in the nuclear medicine department at Baptist Memorial Hospital-DeSoto. She is married to Stephen and has two young children, Addison (6) and Gage (3). On her days off, she spends time with her family swimming or going to the park, lake, or gymnastics.

Amanda (Powell) Anderson, class of 2001, is a nuclear medicine technologist at Cardiology Associates of Bartlett. She recently earned a new credential as a CPhT (certified pharmacy technician).

Tonee M. Porter, class of 1997, works at Methodist South Healthcare in Memphis, TN as a staff nuclear medicine technologist. She is currently pursuing her Masters of Business Administration degree, scheduled to complete in 2020.

David McCaslin, class of 1996, is a nuclear medicine technologist at Cardiovascular Outpatient Diagnostics associated with Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare (formerly Sutherland Clinic). He has worked at the outpatient center/ Sutherland Clinic in nuclear cardiology for over twenty-one years.

Trina (Hare) Cox, class of 1996, is a nuclear medicine technologist and radiation safety officer (RSO) for St. Francis Cardiology and Memphis Cardiology.



ABOVE: NMT Class of 2020 with BHSU Faculty. Left to Right: Jakendria Bernard, Donna Mars (NMT chair), Nikki Robinson (BHSU Faculty), Makayla Holley, Summer Hutchinson, Carrie Runion.

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 Megan.Bursi@BaptistU.edu.

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LEFT: Baptist Alumni gather at the Nuclear Medicine Technologists of Tennessee (NMTT) annual meeting; March 13 - 15, 2020 in Memphis, Tennessee.



ABOVE: Nikki Robinson (recognized as President of the NMTT) & Donna Mars (recipient of the Bob Bowen Award for Outstanding Dedication to NMTT)



LEFT: NMT Class of 1996 Left to Right: David McCaslin, Trina Cox, Donna Mars.

IN MEMORIAM

Helen Deneka, Nursing class of 1946 passed away on January 29, 2021.

Jo Alice Root, Nursing class of 1966, passed away November 17, 2020.

Terri Yolanda (Wells) Ibitoye, Nursing class of 2013, passed away on November 11, 2020.

Madelynne "Jan" Leth-Steensen, Nursing class of 1955, passed away September 29, 2020.

Sylvia Bennet Harden, Nursing class of 1958 passed away August 2020.

Maerene Gary Campbell, Nursing class of 1944, passed away July 16, 2020.

Donna Beavers Toya, Nursing class of 1960, passed away on June 26, 2020.

Yvonne (Kem) Wade, Nursing class of 1957, passed away February 27, 2020.

Bessie "Ilene" Lancaster Davis, Nursing class of 1949 passed away on January 9, 2020.

Lt. Col. Ellen Crowder Roe, Nursing class of 1942, passed away December 6, 2019.

Velma D. Martin Coughlan, Nursing class of 1949, passed away on June 30, 2019.

Gerald Eugene Whitlock Harper, Nursing class of 1952 passed away May 2019.

Wanda Jane Alexander Rippee, Nursing class of 1957, passed away on April 11, 2019.

Minnie Fulcher McCall, Nursing class of 1946, passed away on July 1, 2018.

Mary Neves, Nursing class of 1948, passed away on March 26, 2018.

Mildred Estelle Morris O'Neal, Nursing class of 1947, passed away on January 7, 2018.

Iva Dell McAlister Crawford, Nursing class of 1945, passed away on January 25, 2017.

Mildred Mikell, Nursing class of 1946, passed away on August 08, 2016.

Lois Linebarrier Park, Nursing class of 1984, passed away on October 28, 2015.

Lyndal Carlene Ragon, Nursing class of 1946, passed away on March 12, 2015.



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