



**THE ISLAND NEWS**  
**FALL 2013**

**CELEBRATING**  
**EXTERNSHIPS**

# Letter from the Editor

From the Editor

Welcome to the third installment of the Berea College Nursing Newsletter: The ISLAND. This newsletter gives faculty and students a chance to let our Campus, Alumni, Friends and prospective students, know what is happening within the walls of the Hafer-Gibson Building.

We have a lot going on. In this edition we are celebrating our student summer internships/externships. We have had more students this past summer do internships/externships than in the past 10 years. These exciting learning opportunities are the student's chance to collaborate with institutions, countries, patients and communities to learn diverse aspects of nursing that they may not get to learn within their classes. These opportunities help students pull in the knowledge gained in class, and build upon that knowledge with experience, collaboration and leadership. Students had the opportunities this summer to experience rehabilitation nursing in Asheville, international nursing in Ghana, critical care nursing in Pittsburg and more. These diverse opportunities allow students to experience nursing, and get a taste of what they might want to do upon graduation. Internships/Externships may also lead to future job opportunities. We hope to continue this trend of internships/externships and encourage all students to take the chance to explore and grow through experience. We thank our donors who have given us the ability to offer these rich experiences. We thank the internship office for helping us find and fund student opportunities. We thank the students themselves, for bringing their experiences to life for all of us through the presentations they bring back and share. To listen to the presentations puts a smile on my face. It shows me these students have grown from being a scared sophomore, to being a critically thinking professional, ready to graduate. I hope you all take the time to congratulate these students on their accomplishments. If any alumni would like to mentor a student, nursing faculty would be happy to facilitate this, and students would be more than happy to have the opportunity.

You will also find fun things BCASN has been doing so far this year. They have been very active and are a great student organization to get nursing involved with the campus and community.

Nursing faculty have been busy. Some of their accomplishments are documented within these pages. We have a new faculty member, and you will meet her here.

Lastly, the program has been going through changes, some good, some not so good. We would like to thank our Program Chair, Carol Kirby for her dedication to the program, faculty and students. Her tenaciousness and leadership have helped us develop this program into one we all can be proud of. Thank you, Carol, for the opportunity to teach with you and educate future nursing leaders.

Teresa Villaran

## About the Cover

The cover is a photo contributed by Tommy Risk, Class of 2015. The photo is from his externship in Go, Ghana.



# BEREA COLLEGE HONOR SOCIETY OF NURSING



The Berea College Nursing Program was pleased to host Dr. Jenna Hatcher-Keller as the keynote speaker at the inaugural Berea College Honor Society of Nursing induction ceremony, held on May 3, 2013 at Boone Tavern. Dr. Hatcher-Keller is an associate professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Kentucky. Her research is focused on health disparities in vulnerable populations. Dr. Hatcher-Keller's keynote presentation, titled "Honor, Obligation, and Opportunities" discussed the basic principles in belonging to an honor society and how these principles work together for honor society members. Dr. Hatcher-Keller also highlighted the benefits of being in a nursing honor society, such as exploring new opportunities and developing mentoring relationships.



# CELEBRATING EXTERNSHIPS



**Natalie Branham, Class of 2014**

With her Preceptor  
Dayton, OH

**"I was able to grow out of my comfort zone and feel much more prepared to take on real life nursing."**



**Mikheil Matcharadze , Class of 2014**

With his fellow externs.  
Pittsburg, PA

**"I had opportunity to be part of the interdisciplinary team consisting of physicians, nurses, case managers, physical therapists, dietitians etc This truly helped me understand the big picture of the holistic patient care ."**

Nursing Students Externs also include:

**Ines Aquino, Class of 2014   Anna Carman, Class of 2014   Luwam Amare, Class of 2014**

Berea, KY

Lexington, KY

Springfield, VA



# CELEBRATING EXTERNSHIPS



**Tommy Risk, Class of 2015**  
Go, Ghana

**“Learning a whole new culture and different meaning to the American customs and healthcare.”**



**Betsy Crabtree, Class of 2014**  
With her Preceptor Teresa Villaran  
Lexington, KY

**“I work with my med-surg professor. Having my professor right beside me the whole way not only pushed me to do my best, but it also made me realize that our professors are not just our teachers in the classroom, but they are also great nurses.”**



**Jessica Pierce, Class of 2015**  
**Jazzmine Rmaey, Class of 2015**  
**Nicholas Cress, Class of 2015**  
Asheville, NC

**“At CarePartners, we help people to stabilize their lives and learn to be functioning again.”**

# Kentucky Association of Nursing Students

## Class of 2015



Junior nursing students, with the help of discovery funds from the Center for Transformative Learning: Internships, were able to attend the Kentucky Association of Nursing Students (KANS) annual meeting at the Center for Courageous Kids in Sottsville, KY. This year's focus was on the many roles of a nurse. Students were exposed to : flight nursing and pediatric nursing (burn and neuro). Students were able to attend a Hurst Mini NCLEX Review. The meeting was not all work, students had fun with: hayrides, bonfires, pumpkin carving, and flag football. We hope to make this an annual event for junior nursing students.

Junior nursing students learning about flight nursing at the KANS conference .



Annie Garland  
Jessica Pierce  
Kristen Lynch  
Klara Aminova  
Jessica Gates

# Berea College Association of Student Nurses

## Peer Support Program

The Nursing Peer Support is a new program focusing on nursing students helping one another to improve academically and clinically as well as offering psychosocial support. A senior nursing student is paired up with a junior and sophomore. This program has helped mentors and mentees alike, providing opportunities to learn from one another. A senior, Nk Oranusi, stated, "I enjoy helping my fellow nursing student. Not only that I help my mentees with their academics but I also try to give them advice such as time management, prioritizing, and how to get enough sleep amidst all the work."

Mentors and mentees meet about once a month. Since this program is fairly new, some nursing students believe that it can be developed to become stronger and more useful. Britney Sullivan a junior stated, "The program needs to grow more because I see so much benefit from it. I hope we can do more fun and exciting things with our mentors to build a strong bond with our mentors"

This program offers an opportunity for growth, networking and relationship building for all nursing students. With its promising growth in the future, nursing students will build a stronger relationship with one another.



## BCASN Homecoming Candidates



This is BCASN's second year nominating nursing students to the homecoming court. This year, BCASN will be represented by Klara Aminova and Tommy Risk, Class of 2015.

Keep your fingers crossed!

**KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF**



**WHERE LEARNING AND**



# NURSING STUDENTS (KANS)



**FUN COME TOGETHER!**

# Berea College Association of Student Nurses

## THIRD ANNUAL NURSING HAUNTED HOUSE



The Berea College Association of Student Nurses (BCASN) hosted their third annual haunted house this year in the Hafer-Gibson Nursing building. The event is a fundraiser for the group so that they can hold their second annual "Project Angel Tree" in which the group provides gifts for local children at Christmas. It is a hauntingly good time!

## Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliates

Nursing held a seminar in conjunction with the Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliates (KODA). This seminar gave students the opportunity to better understand organ donation and transplantation, as well as legal and ethical issues surrounding this healthcare topic.



### BCASN Raffle



BCASN held a 50:50 raffle at the KODA seminar. The winner was, Mrs. Marsha Branham! Mrs. Branham generously donated her winnings back to BCASN.



*Kentucky*



# Technology




## Work College's Consortium Grant

Teresa Villaran received a grant from the Work College's Consortium to create and implement a new labor position within the program of nursing. This grant will help develop an Information Technology Teaching Assistant (IT-TA) needed to help students and faculty understand the importance of technology in health, as well as help promote the use of technology in the classrooms. The first student in this position is Mikheil Matcharadze. Please congratulate Mikheil on his position. This is an extension of his contribution in the Summer 2012, with Teresa Villaran, Gilbert Bangha and Alison York, in their work, "Incorporating an Electronic health record into an undergraduate nursing program." We look forward to developing this role as we implement a simulation program into the nursing curriculum. This student laborer will be instrumental in the development and growth of technology as a teaching tool within nursing.

## IT -TA

### Mikheil Matcharadze

Mikheil Matcharadze has been accepted to present a Poster entitled: "Incorporating an Information Technology Teaching Assistant (IT-TA) into an Undergraduate Nursing Curriculum." This is a presentation related to the Work College's Consortium grant the program of nursing received to develop this new labor position. The poster will be presented at the National Student Nurses' Association's 31st Annual Mid-Year Conference, 7-10 November 2013, in Louisville.



SimChart is a web based simulated documentation system we incorporated across the curriculum this year. Student experience with documenting in an EHR was varied or absent, within the clinical settings. This software gives all of our students the needed experience, and has the added feature of being adaptable within a simulation program of learning.



## 2013-2014 Nursing Teaching Assistants



Front Row:

Mikheil Matcharadze , Senior

Betsey Crabtree, Senior

Natallie Branham , Senior

Back Row:

Nicholas Cress, Junior

Jessica Pierce, Junior

We have five, very strong teaching assistants who are energetic, committed, and act as role models for their peers. They demonstrate compassion, patience and a sincere desire to help their peers succeed. They are tireless in their work to provide an atmosphere that is conducive to fun learning. The TA's are flexible to provide varied hours for lab time. Aside from their routine duties, they also provide students with teaching sessions for med- math, test taking strategies, stress relief and reviews for course exams. We value each of our teaching assistants ,as well as their commitment to the nursing department and their peers.

## 2013-2014 Class Representatives



Student representatives were elected by their peers to represent their class at weekly Nursing Faculty meetings. This is an opportunity for students to participate in program decisions, as well as be the voice of their class.

Gladys Kamau,  
Sophomore Representative

Anna Carman,  
Senior Representative

Jazzmine Ramey,  
Junior Representative

# Scholarships and Awards

## **Edd C. Hogg Memorial Scholarship**

Awarded annually to second-term juniors majoring in Nursing or Agriculture & Natural Sciences who have demonstrated Christian faith, economic need, and academic Achievement.

**Recipient:** Natallie Branham, Class of 2014, Nursing Major

## **Martha E. Wylie Award**

Awarded annually to a junior nursing student to recognize superior achievement in nursing.

**Recipient:** Mikheil Matcharadze, Class of 2014, Nursing Major  
Anna Carman, Class of 2014, Nursing Major

## **Julie Braden Thompson Award**

Awarded to a nursing or pre-medical student who has achieved an outstanding academic record, manifests professional promise and who exemplifies excellent moral character.

**Recipient:** Lara Zavalza-Neeson, Class of 2013, Nursing Major

## **Margaret G. Rogers Nursing Award**

Awarded annually to a nursing student who has demonstrated excellence in labor.

**Recipient:** Erin Phillips, Class of 2013, Nursing Major

## **W. H. & Mabel Simmons Dean Scholarship**

Awarded annually to a sophomore student planning a career in the health sciences.

**Recipient:** Nicholas Cress, Class of 2015, Nursing Major

## **Other Campus Scholarships & Awards received by Nursing Students:**

### **Mortar Board**

**Recipient:** Mikheil Matcharadze, Class of 2014, Nursing Major

### **Paul V. Kreider, Jr. Memorial Book Prize**

Given by Dr. and Mrs. Paul V. Kreider, Sr. of Cincinnati, OH. Established to encourage the enjoyment of reading and to help a junior or senior student "who displays love of worthwhile books and a better than average acquaintance with them" to purchase books for his or her own library.

**Recipient:** Ashley Shackelford, Class of 2013, Nursing Major

### **Departmental Labor Award for Student Life Hall Leadership**

**Recipient:** Katie Laxson, Class of 2013, Nursing Major

### **Outstanding Contributions to Residential Life Award**

**Recipient:** Gilbert Bangha, Class of 2013, Nursing Major

### **Class of 1942 Scholarship**

**Recipient:** Mariam Pourheydarian

## **Dean's List Spring 2013**

Natallie Rochelle Branham

Anna Renee Carman

Alyssa Deanne Gordon

Ifeanyi Nnamdi Madujibeya

Kirsty Joy Maxson

Alison Heather York

## Berea College Nursing Faculty



### Welcoming New Faculty!



#### **Judy Ponder, RN, DNP**

Judy Ponder, RN, DNP joined the Nursing Faculty August 2013. She received her BSN from Berea College, MSN from the University of Kentucky specializing in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program and DNP from the University of Kentucky specializing in Leadership. Her experience includes Pediatrics, Management and Leadership, Case Management - Working with Special Needs Children, Infection Control and Performance Improvement. She is an active member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Delta Psi Chapter and is a board member. She is a member of the American Nurses Association (ANA) and the Kentucky Nurses Association (KNA), where she serves on the Education and Research Cabinet. She is the current Continuing Education Administrator for the KNA.

#### **Learning in Plain View: What the Flip?**

Teresa Villaran has been accepted to present a poster presentation at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing 2013 Baccalaureate Education Conference being held in New Orleans, Louisiana in November. The poster is titled, "Learning in plain view, what the flip is all about." This presentation will highlight her efforts to incorporate active learning into nursing classes. This National forum gives her a chance to encourage other nursing faculty to utilize this approach in nursing education.

# BC Nursing Alumni

## **Kelsey Scenters, Class of 2010**

I graduated from Berea College in 2010. I have found critical care nursing to be the most challenging and rewarding area of nursing for me. For the past two years I have been employed at St. Joseph Berea ICU. During this time I have been able to care for some extraordinary patients who have stories and personalities that have truly touched my heart. As a nurse I hope to provide not only critical care but also comfort to my patients and their family members during some of their most difficult times. I am also grateful to work alongside some wonderful nurses and respiratory therapists who have become my dearest friends. I have been married to my best friend, Adam Scenters, for 4 years. My husband and family have been extremely supportive of my nursing career. I feel very blessed to have their support and to have been given the opportunity to attend Berea College's nursing program for it has without a doubt changed my life.

## **Rachelle Fowler, Class of 2011**

Since I graduated in 2011, I chose to stay in KY & I've been employed at UK Medical Center. I work in their Clinical Decision Unit; it's a transitional unit where we sometimes function as an extension of the ED. We board patients under all levels of care and just about any service/provider cohort. Then we try to have them transferred to someplace more fitting to their needs within 30hrs of their admission to our unit. It's given me immense opportunities to encounter all sorts of interesting cases and really flex my wings as a newer nurse (not to mention learn my way around the hospital). I've been able to further my education with NIH certification, ACLS, and TNCC among others, and continue to seek other opportunities for advancement. Although I still haven't made up my mind what I want to be when I grow up, the option of going back to school to further my nursing education is a definite possibility!

## **Brittney Sandlin Class of 2012**

I have worked at Rockcastle Regional (along with Tasha Smith) since graduation. I was just offered and accepted a job at UK Children's Hospital in the PICU progressive Care unit where I will be given the opportunity to cross train in the PICU and NICU thanks to my year of ventilator experience! I wanted to say thank you, again, to each and everyone of you! I would not be the person/nurse that I am today had it not been for your support and guidance for 5 years of my life. I consider myself very blessed to be a Berea College graduate of the nursing department! It has made all my dreams come true and you all are the reason I have been given such amazing opportunities!

# BC Nursing Alumni

## Brandy Woodall, Class of 2013

After graduation, I moved to Spanaway, Wa and after obtaining a temporary Washington state nursing license, I was hired by Avail Home Health , Inc. We also got a Siberian Husky after graduation, who is 7 months old right now and keeps us on our toes. In addition, I'm 16 weeks pregnant! We don't know yet if the baby is a boy or girl.

## Steve Homer, Class of 2013

After graduation, I have already moved to and settled in Knoxville, Tennessee. This coming Fall I will begin my employment as a Registered Nurse at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in the Neurological/Stroke unit. I will be working the night shift which results in a much higher pay scale.

## We Want to Hear From You!

Please take time to drop us a line about your professional activities, honors, employment, or other items of interest.

### Alumni

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

News \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please email information to Teresa Villaran: [Teresa\\_Villaran@berea.edu](mailto:Teresa_Villaran@berea.edu).

### Newsletter Committee:

Teresa Villaran, Nicholas Cress, Natallie Branham, Jazzmine Ramey,

Joan Maninang, Klara Aminova, Brittany Sullivan

