The Island

The development of the ISLAND came from discussions about increasing the number of informal learning spaces available to students within the Hafer-Gibson building. The ISLAND is a place for students to gather, relax, and engage in active learning outside of the classroom.
Dear Friends of the Nursing Program,

In May of 2010, I was appointed to the position of Department Chair for Berea College’s BSN Nursing Program after the untimely passing of our long time chair, Dr. Pamela Farley. Since that time, Berea College, the nursing program, faculty and our building have changed considerably. Berea College has a new president, Dr. Lyle Roelofs, and we have changed from a department to a program within a new divisional structure. Nursing is now a part of Division I: Natural Science, Mathematics and Nursing. Over the past two years, the Hafer-Gibson Nursing Building received several upgrades including new classroom furniture, faculty office furniture upgrades, and renovations to our front and back lobby spaces. We are excited about creating new spaces that provide our students much needed informal learning spaces. Last year, we added four Laerdal Vital Sim manikins to our clinical nursing skills laboratory and we are actively working towards incorporating advanced simulation based learning experiences for our students.

I am proud of all the hard work being done by our dedicated team of nursing faculty and staff. We currently have six dedicated fulltime teaching faculty that are engaged in active learning strategies and the incorporation of technology into our classrooms. There is nothing more energizing than standing in front of a group of nursing students who are excited about their future and their chosen profession. I am always inspired by our students who ask difficult questions and seek to solve complex healthcare problems.

Our alumni and friends have always taken an active interest in our nursing program and many of you have made contributions to the college that directly and indirectly support our nursing program and for that we want to express our sincere gratitude.

I hope you will find time to come back to Berea College and reconnect with your nursing program. We are expanding our efforts to stay connected with alumni and friends through this newsletter, our webpage, and through our nursing program Facebook site entitled “Berea College Nursing Department Alumni and Friends”. Our students, alumni and faculty are making a difference in health care through their leadership. We are…Berea College Nurses!

Carol Kirby, RN, CNM, MSN, DNPe
Chief Nurse Program Administrator
Berea College, Nursing Program

We would like to thank the following individuals for their generous donations to the Berea College Nursing Program:

**Ronald E. Meissen**, Ph.D., P.E.  Sr. Director Sustainability Corporate Environment, Health and Safety, Baxter Healthcare Corporation: for directly covering all of the graduating expenses and NCLEX-RN board/state nursing fees for the seniors that graduated in May 2012.

**Tom Henderson, Guy and Ruby Murphy Casebourn Trust**: for equipment to benefit our students in the clinical nursing skills laboratory.

**Class of ’69, on behalf of Dr. Martha Pride** that supported the purchase of a media screen and player for the front lobby allowing us to digitalize all of our nursing historical photos and graduation class pictures.

**Donors to the Pamela Farley Nursing Memorial Fund**.  

**Terry Farley**, husband of Dr. Pamela Farley: for his generous donation of Pam’s office furniture for the nursing building resource/library room.
Class of 2012

Dean’s List Spring 2012

Natallie Branham (2014)
Paeleena Busscher (2015)
Anna Carman (2014)
Courtney Conyers (2015)
Betsy Crabtree (2014)
Nicholas Cress (2015)
Kari Kviten (2015)
Ifeanyi Madujibeya (2015)
Edith Munyiri (2012)
Nicole Oguike (2015)
Erin Phillips (2013)
Jessica Pierce (2015)
Brandy Woodall (2013)

Class of 2012

Name and Interest

Heather Renee Agee—Maternity
Erica Brooke Bailey—Critical Care
Nicole Ryanna Childress—Critical Care
Nahkitta Mariee Angelique Hubbard—Neonatal/Pediatric Intensive Care
Edith Wangari Munyiri—Critical Care
Mandalynne Gabrielle Pearce—Emergency and Trauma
Jennifer Nicole Robbins—Women’s Health/Maternity
Brittney Nicole Sandlin—Pediatrics
Natasha Page Smith—Pediatrics
Emmy Chelimo Toroitich—Critical Care
Georgeanna Faye Ward—Emergency
Jakea Latoya Ware—Maternity
2011-2012 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: Laura Ashley Short (2013)

Martha E. Wylie Award
Awarded annually to a junior nursing student to recognize superior achievement in nursing.
Recipient: Mariam Pourheydarian (2013)
Brandy (Vaughn) Woodall (2013)

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: Erin (McDonald) Phillips (2013)

Margaret G. Rogers Nursing Award
Awarded annually to a nursing student who has demonstrated excellence in labor.
Recipient: Mandalynne Pearce (2012)

W. H. & Mabel Simmons Dean Scholarship
Awarded annually to a sophomore student planning a career in the health sciences.
Recipient: Mikheil Matcharadze (2014)

Other Campus Scholarships & Awards:

Carlisle Keller MacDonald Scholarship for Study Abroad
Recipient: Natallie Branham (2014)
Nicholas Cress (2015)
Jessica Renner (2014)
Alison York (2013)

Doris and Harold Rosenbaum Scholarship
Recipient: Nahkitta Hubbard (2012)

John B. Stephenson Scholarship Fund: Non-Western Study Program
Recipient: Alison York (2013)

Raymond B. Drukker Memorial Award for Library Science
Recipient: Emmy Toroitich (2012)

Mortar Board
Recipient: Lara Zavalza-Neeson (2013)
Betsy Crabtree (2014)
Luwam (Okbazion) Amare (2014)

Phi Kappa Phi
Recipient: Natallie Branham (2014)
Nursing Program Faculty

Susan Vickous, RN, MSN
Joined the Nursing Faculty August 2011.
Received her AD & BSN from Western Kentucky University and her MSN/Nursing Education from University of Wyoming.
Experience: taught in the AD programs of Elizabethtown & Bluegrass Community Colleges.
Areas of practice: pediatrics, Med/Surg, same day surgery & ER, community wellness, and infection control.

Lisa Turner, RN, PhD
Joined the Nursing Faculty August 2012.
Received both a BSN and MSN from the University of Virginia. She is a board certified advanced public health clinical nurse specialist. She received her PhD in Nursing from the University of Kentucky in 2010.
Experience: community, public health, and school nursing. UK Good Samaritan Nursing Center.
Doctoral research: “Obesity Among Commercial Truck Drivers”
Currently teaching: Community Health Nursing, Fundamentals I & II, Nursing Research, Synthesis.

Dianna Hacker-Taylor, RN
MSN CPNP APRN
Returned to the Nursing Faculty August 2012. Previously taught at Berea 2009-2011.
Received her BSN from the College of Mt. St. Joseph and her Master’s degree in Pediatric Nurse Practitioner from the University of Cincinnati.
Experience: pediatrics, high risk obstetrics and as a PNP for the school based-clinic in Boone County, Ky.

New Faculty
BCASN Officers

President Ashley Short, Senior
Treasurer Brandy Woodall, Senior
Secretary Alyssa Gordon, Junior
Vice President-Gilbert Bangha, Senior

Mentoring Program

The Berea College Association of Student Nurses (BCASN) is hosting a mentoring program this year to promote bonding between classes. Research has shown that achievement is higher when students are mentored at least once a week (Fletcher, Strong, & Villar, 2008). Through the program, upperclassmen were paired with interested underclassmen. The idea came through Gilbert Bangha, the BCASN treasurer, who recognized a need for community in the nursing program. The goal of the mentoring is to bring people together, promote success, and decrease attrition from the program through peer encouragement.

The Berea College Association of Student Nurses (BCASN) hosted their second annual haunted house this year in the Hafer-Gibson Nursing building. The event is a fundraiser for the group so that they can host other events for students throughout the year. It is a hauntingly good time!

Homecoming Candidates

This is the first time in recent years that Nursing students came together to nominate Nursing students for the Homecoming Court. The candidates include: Nicole A. Oguike and Gilbert T. Bangha. Gilbert is among the finalists for Homecoming King.
Students Getting Involved

2012-2013 Nursing Teaching Assistants

We have six, 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 program and their peers.

Class Representatives

Students 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.

Nicholas Cress, Sophomore
Betsy A. Crabtree, Junior
Lara Zavalza-Neeson, Senior
A Summer Undergraduate research and creative projects grant was awarded to the Nursing Program Summer 2012. Team members included: Teresa Villaran (Faculty) Alison York Gilbert Bangha Mikheil Matcharadze

Incorporating an Academic Electronic Health Record into a Small Liberal Arts College Medical Surgical Nursing Curriculum. Teresa Villaran MSN APRN CCRN, Gilbert

Bangha, Allison York, Mikheil Matcharadze, Nursing Program, Berea College, Berea KY 40404

Healthcare is becoming increasingly dependent upon patient care technology, including electronic health records (EHRs). The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act of 2009 created a mandate to build a health infrastructure for the country which included incorporating EHRs and demonstrating meaningful use of this technology by 2014. This impacts all health care providers, especially nurses. Nursing organizations, including the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and Quality and Safety Education for Nurses, require informatics become an essential part of baccalaureate nursing education. The purpose of this project was to address a learning gap in the use of technology, specifically use of an academic electronic health record (AEHR). Three nursing students worked with a faculty member to incorporate an AEHR into the medical-surgical nursing course in the fall semester of 2012. The research model used for this project was Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA), a continuous improvement model often used to implement change. The PDSA model will be used for implementing the AEHR across the curriculum. With the faculty member as facilitator, the students selected an AEHR and planned for implementation and evaluation. If the AEHR is a useful and effective learning tool in the medical surgical course the AEHR will be implemented across the curriculum. In the research, we discovered no information regarding utilizing students as part of the implementation team.

13th annual Berea Undergraduate Research Symposium, Berea College, October 5, 2012 (Oral Presentation and Poster Presentation)
2012 ACA Summit at Knoxville, TN, October 12 and 13, 2012 (60 minute talk)
KNA 2012 Convention, Louisville, KY, October 25, 2012 (Poster Presentation)
Junior (2014) students collaborated with campus health to administer flu injections to faculty and students in October of this year. This was a great opportunity for nursing to increase visibility on campus and collaborate with health services. We look forward to future opportunities like this.

Junior Class Poster Presentations

Junior students (2013) participated in a poster presentation session at St. Joseph Berea Hospital in March, 2012. Students wrote an ethical issues paper and then created a poster presentation of their literature review. This gives students the opportunity to develop professional presentations, and participate in a question and answer session with peers and lay persons. This is the second year we have presented the posters at a local health care institution. We look forward to our continued participation in community events like this. Students are graded but also have the opportunity to win a small cash prize for their efforts. Winners this year included: first place: Janie Presnell (2013); second place: Lara Zavalza (2013) & Gilbert Bangha (2013)
Senior Nursing Students Take the EcoChallenge

Thirteen Senior Nursing students (Class of 2013) joined in the Berea College EcoChallenge program for 2 weeks in October 2012. The students and professor, Dr. Judith Carr, completed an Environmental Usage Questionnaire.

The group drew a picture of their individual environmental footprint. Most found they had a large footprint which meant their environmental impact needed improvement. Personal goals that were set:
1) Reduce, reuse and recycle personal plastic eating and drinking containers.
2) Reduce consumption of meat.
3) Increase awareness of at least one other person.

At the end of the two week period, the senior nursing students discussed their progress and made a new drawing of their individual footprint. Most participants discovered they had a small reduction in the size of their footprint. The group concluded that they had reduced their environmental impact only slightly. They discussed challenges and barriers encountered:
1) Not having recycling bins conveniently placed around campus.
2) Forgetting.
3) Being too busy to re-wash containers.

The general consensus was that it was more difficult than they thought to achieve their set goals of environmental footprint reduction.

Junior and Senior Nursing Students Attend the Kentucky Association of Nursing Students (KANS)

Students received financial assistance to attend this meeting from the Berea College Discovery Fund. This is a great networking opportunity and a way to get nursing students involved in local organizations.
BC Nursing Students

Class of 2013
Alison H. York
Ashley E. Shackelford
Ashley Short
Brandy K. Woodall
Erin G. Phillips
Gilbert T. Bangha
Janie N. Presnell
Katie L. Laxson
Kelly L. Korb
Lara M. Zavalza-Neeson
Mariam F. Pourheydarian
Steven R. Homer

Class of 2014
Alyssa D. Gordon
Anna R. Carman

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_______________________________________________________________________
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____________________________________________________________________________
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____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Newsletter Committee: Teresa Villaran, Dianna Hacker-Taylor, Nicholas Cress, Erin Philips, Klara Aminova, and Natallie Branham