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May 2013

The Pulse

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School of Nursing Celebrates 147 Graduates



On Friday, May 17, 147 Moffett Nurses earned degrees from the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing. Students graduated with baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees and represented 21 states and Kenya. Of the 73 graduates earning the master of science in nursing degree, 40 completed the family nurse practitioner track, 23 the nurse anesthesia track and 10 the nurse educator track. Of the 28 graduates earning the doctor of nursing practice degree, 18 were advanced practice and 10 were administration. Class of 1963 alumna, **Dr. Juanzetta Flowers** provided the address.



Graduates by State

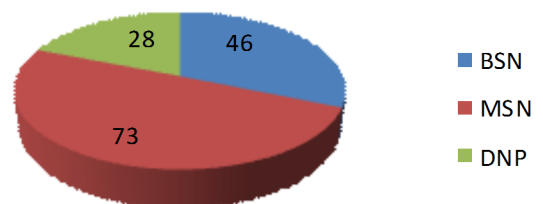
Ala. 58	Ark. 3	Cal. 1	Ore. 1
Ga. 16	Idaho 3	Ind. 1	Penn. 1
Tenn. 14	Ill. 3	Mass. 1	S.C. 1
Fla. 11	N.C. 3	Mo. 1	
Tex. 11	Ohio 3	N.J. 1	Kenya 1
Miss. 10	La. 2	Nev. 1	



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Graduates By Program



Visit our facebook page for more graduation photos.



Ann McEntire, director of nursing at Princeton Baptist Medical Center with Lisa Sheffield



Dr. Jane Martin, associate dean of graduate programs with Connie Jones



Megan Bryant with Mrs. Jennifer Steele, assistant professor

Students Honored at Annual Nursing Awards Ceremony

On April 19, outstanding nursing students from the baccalaureate, masters and doctoral programs were recognized at the annual Awards Day ceremony in Brock Recital Hall. Get to know some of the Awards Day recipients on page 3. The following awards were presented:

Baptist Health System Awards

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Academic Achievement BSN | Marie Yarbro |
| Academic Achievement MSN | Kelly Dyar |
| Ida V. Moffett Caring Award | Lisa Sheffield |
| Elizabeth Calhoun Memorial Award | Ashley Marass |

Baptist Health Foundation Awards

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Lucy Jarrell Estes Memorial Scholarship Award | Abby Anderson |
| Marion A. Marx Nursing Scholarship Award | Margaret Bazemore |
| Ida V. Moffett Memorial Scholarship Award: | Anna Beth Shelton and Samantha Egger |

Lucille Stewart Beeson Awards

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bachelor of Science in Nursing | Victoria Rogers |
| Master of Science in Nursing | Connie Jones |
| Doctor of Nursing Practice | Renee Shamblin |

Other Awards

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Don R. Craft Nursing Scholarship | Savannah Turman |
| Rebecca Lawson Horn Award | Megan Bryant |
| Alumni Association Award | Natalie Shields |
| Student Life Award | Kimblee Stallings |
| Christian Leadership Award | Cari Gelderman |
| Lonnie W. Funderburg Nurse Anesthesia Scholarship | Bethany Adkins |
| LeeAnna Grace Cunningham FNP Scholarship | Rick Gibbs |
| Head Family Missions Scholarship | Hannah Knotts and Lisa Jean Musolf |



Don R. Craft Award recipient Savannah Turman with Mrs. Sandy Craft and Mrs. Julie Head



Head Family Scholarship recipients Hannah Knotts and Lisa Jean Musolf with Mary Austin and Jane Head

May 2013

Rick Gibbs , LeeAnna Grace Cunningham FNP Scholarship Award



The LeeAnna Grace Cunningham Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Scholarship was established in 2011 in honor of LeeAnna Cunningham, daughter of Dr. Jill Cunningham, associate professor and chair FNP program. LeeAnna was born with severe disabilities, yet she works daily to overcome the barriers and limitations against her. Her joyful attitude is contagious and helps others maintain a positive outlook. Although LeeAnna will not attend college or ever become a registered nurse, she is a nurse to the spirit and helps many people reach their God-given potential. The scholarship was established to celebrate her life and to assist students in reaching their goal to become the best nurse practitioner they can be

in order to serve others with compassion and determination to make a difference.

The award is given to a nurse practitioner student who has demonstrated excellence and has a strong desire to care for vulnerable populations. This year's award was presented to **Rick Gibbs**.

Gibbs has overcome adversity and disability in his pursuit of a nursing career. Gibbs began as an LPN, later becoming an RN and now a Family Nurse Practitioner. He has accomplished these goals while facing dyslexia, which makes reading and studying more challenging.

Gibbs was motivated to learn about medical illnesses from a young age. When he was a child,

his mother was diagnosed with a chronic condition. After each of the doctor visits, the family left more confused than when they arrived. This experience is a daily reminder to him of the importance of providing appropriate general health and condition specific education to patients using words and terms they can understand. After graduation, he has the dream of establishing a clinic to serve a rural community in Alabama.

Gibbs embodies the qualities of caring and compassion for serving vulnerable populations that are central to the LeeAnna Grace Cunningham FNP Scholarship. Currently efforts are underway to fully endow this important fund, [click here to make a gift.](#)

Natalie Shields, Alumni Association Award

The Alumni Association Award is given to a graduate student who is committed to preparation as an advanced practice nurse and who demonstrates academic and clinical excellence. This year's recipient is Natalie Shields.

Shields entered the nurse anesthesia program with more than four years of critical care experience including emergency, trauma and ICU after completing her BSN at Oregon Health and Science University. Shields's experience was not ordinary as it included deployment to

Afghanistan with the United States Air Force. Her experience ranged from pediatrics across the lifespan including trauma, oncology, and critical care.

Shields has faced many challenges and has repeatedly performed with excellence. Shields's Capstone chairman said of her, "Natalie truly put forth an effort seen more on a doctoral level than that of a master's student. She exceeded expectations at every level during the process. It was a mentor's dream to work with a student such as Natalie." Completing the nurse anesthesia program to earn

her MSN her grade point has remained flawless as a 4.0 with an average of greater than 98%.

Some clinical preceptors' comments say it best: "She desires to excel and be prepared for all types of cases." "Often, she teaches and refreshes my knowledge base!" "Natalie is a shining example of what an excellent SRNA should be! She will be an asset to the CRNA profession!"



Shields with Dr. Terri Cahoon, Assistant Professor and Chair, Nurse Anesthesia Program

Accolades, Honors and Acknowledgements—Alumni and Students



Cari Gelderman and Lauren Churey at the NSNA Convention

Eliot Barnwell, BSN student, and other members of the Samford University men’s tennis team won the Southern Conference championship on April 21.

Jenni Barr, MSN, Nurse Anesthesia 2013, authored the case study “Sjogren’s Syndrome” that was published in the Spring 2013 issue of *The International Student Journal of Nurse Anesthesia*.

Margaret Bazemore, BSN student, was selected for the Nurse Extern Program at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, Ga.

Beth Brown, DNP 2013, had her abstract, “Congregational Health Assessment: Laying the Groundwork for Congregational Health Ministry,” selected for a regional Sigma Theta Tau International conference.

Cami Calhoun, MSN, Nurse Anesthesia 2013, authored the case study “Alternatives for Anesthetic Management of Pheochromocytoma,” a case study that was published in the Spring 2013 issue of *The International*

Student Journal of Nurse Anesthesia.

Lauren Churey and Cari Gelderman, BSN students, attended the National Student Nurses Association Convention in Charlotte, NC April 3-7. Churey and Gelderman are both officers in SUANS; Churey serves as volunteer coordinator and Gelderman serves as chaplain.

Cristy Daffron, DNP 2012, published “Fit for Service: A Model of Self-Care for Parish Nurses” in the April-June 2013 issue of the *Journal of Christian Nursing*.

Helen Degree, Noor Hussain, and Libby McCully, BSN students, presented at the HEAL Conference on April 12.

Ali Edwards, Trinity Henderson and Meredith McCoy, BSN 2013, presented their Capstone Project, “Wound Care Practices” in the Samford Spotlight during the annual Samford Showcase on May 2.

Casey Elkins, DNP 2013, passed

the national lipid exam and was offered a full-time teaching job at South Alabama in the FNP/DNP programs.

Brenda French, ASN 1979, presented “Polytrauma Staff Education” at the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses in Nashville, Tenn. and “Healthcare and Humor” at the Virginia Association of Rehabilitation Nurses.

French also represented The Association of Rehabilitation Nurses at the National Student Nurses Convention on April 5 in Charlotte, NC.

Paul Ropp, DNP 2012, has been accepted to the University of Arkansas Medical Sciences Campus College of Nursing PhD in Nursing Science program to start June 2013.

Paige Toulon, BSN student, was selected for the St. Jude Summer Externship program at St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.

Nurse Anesthesia Program Hosts Annual Graduation Luncheon



Nurse Anesthesia Class of May 2013

At a graduation luncheon, the Nurse Anesthesia class of 2013 celebrated with the department faculty and staff. The Agatha Hodgins Award was given to **Ashley McIntosh** as the most outstanding nurse anesthesia student. This award is to recognize McIntosh’s excellence in clinical practice, service and leadership skills as well as academic achievement. McIntosh served her class as a representative. She also presented a lecture, “Anesthetic Agents,” at the spring meeting of the Association of Perioperative Nurses.

The Resa Culpepper Professionalism Award was given to **Amanda Bishel Long** for her professionalism and service as an anesthesia student. Long served as the Student Representative to the ALANA and worked with ALANA-PAC. Recently, at the Mid-Year Assembly in Washington, DC, Long took the opportunity to network with the delegation from the Texas Association of Nurse Anesthetists as she is moving there after passing boards. Congratulations to these two deserving graduates!

Accolades, Honors and Acknowledgements—Faculty and Staff



Dr. Lisa Allison with Anne Alexandrov, PhD, RN, Assistant Dean & Professor, DNP Program Coordinator at UAB

Lisa Allison, DNP, CRNA graduated from the UAB DNP program on May 7; she was honored as the 2013 Outstanding Graduate Student in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

Cindy Berry, DNP, RN and **Geri Beers**, EdD, MSN, RN received a Faculty Development Grant and a Technology Grant to study the use of iPads in the clinical area.

Jennifer Coleman, PhD, MSN, RN, is currently serving as president of the Birmingham Black Nurses Association and she will present at the National Black Nurses Association 41st Annual Institute and Conference in New Orleans, La. in July. **Dr. Coleman** has also been accepted as a CCNE on-site evaluator.

Dr. Coleman, **Tracey Dick**, MSN, RN and **Susan Sheffield**, MSN, RN had their abstract accepted at Sigma Theta Tau's 42nd Biennial Convention in Indianapolis.

Andrea Collins, DNP RN, published

"Practice Implications for Preventing Population Vulnerability Related to Vitamin D Status" in the *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*.

Cyndi Cortes, DrPH, MSN, CPNP-PC, and **Debra Whisenant**, PhD, RN, had their article "Faith Based Health Promotion: A Tale of Two Programs" accepted for publication in the *Journal of Christian Nursing*.

David Fort, DNP, CRNA presented several lectures at the LACES 2013 Spring Seminar in March. His lecture topics included: "The newest diabetic drugs: Do they affect our choices?" "O2 saturation 100% pulmonary status fine? What may be undetected beneath the surface?" "Anesthetic management of robotic procedures in the steep trendelenburg;" "Update on ventilation strategies for optimizing pulmonary function during general anesthesia;" and "Review of diuretic agents: Perioperative uses and

complications."

Lisa Gurley, MSN, RN, CNE, was selected as an *Association of periOperative Registered Nurses Journal* reviewer.

Jane Holston, DNP, CRNP, FNP-C presented, "An Innovative Teaching Strategy to Increase Knowledge and Awareness within a Community," at the NONPF 39th Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, Penn.

"Transformational Leadership in Nursing Education," a paper co-written by **Erin Killingsworth**, MSN, RN, has been accepted for a podium presentation at the Sigma Theta Tau 42nd Biennial Convention in Indianapolis in November 2013.

John Lundeen, MSN, RN, has successfully passed his comprehensive exam in the Instructional Leadership Doctorate for Nurse Educators at the University of Alabama. He will now proceed with his dissertation research.

Nursing and Pharmacy IPE Project Nears Midpoint

"The teamwork between the students and the faculty has been incredible. This collaborative project is just the beginning of many great inter-professional projects that will continue as we move forward with the College of Health Sciences."

In September 2012, *The Pulse* featured an announcement about an Interprofessional Education (IPE) project between the school of nursing and the McWhorter School of Pharmacy. As a part of the project, students enrolled in the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program and third-year pharmacy students have engaged in periodic online IPE interactions with each other regarding drug therapy and patient care. In addition, the project is being formally studied to assess students' thoughts about IPE in general and online IPE.

According to Dr. Jill Cunningham,

assistant professor and FNP program chair, the program is approaching the midpoint and is going very well. "The teamwork between the students and the faculty has been incredible," said Cunningham. "This collaborative project is just the beginning of many great interprofessional projects that will continue as we move forward with the College of Health Sciences."

The project was recently presented at the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, Penn. and the Alabama League for Nursing Annual Meeting in

Jacksonville, Ala. "We received incredibly positive feedback at both conferences," said Cunningham. "Attendees were particularly interested in how we are implementing IPE in an online format," she added.

The project will continue until the FNP and PharmD cohorts participating graduate in May 2014. At the conclusion of the study period faculty are confident that the subsequent manuscript will be a unique contribution to the literature.

May 2013

Nurse Anesthesia Celebrates 10 Years with Destin Reception



Justin and Liz Trucks Henley, Patrick Hubbard, Amy Snow, John Morris, Kerry Gossett, Heather Rankin



Nurse anesthesia students from the classes of 2014 and 2015

On April 26, sixty-eight alumni, faculty, and students celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the reopening of the nurse anesthesia program at Samford University. The reception was held at the Sandestin Hilton in conjunction with the Alabama Association of Nurse Anesthetists (ALANA) Spring Meeting. It was great to see graduates from the Birmingham Baptist program as well as graduates representing many different classes. Items were sold to raise money for students travelling to professional meetings and for medical missions. "Save the date" cards were also distributed for the February 2014 Continuing Education Seminar.

The Nurse Anesthesia Student Travel Fund makes it possible for students to attend professional organization meetings such as the ALANA Spring Meeting and others, [to make a gift to that fund, click here.](#)

Join the Moffett Nurse Network in Las Vegas

Please make plans to join us while you are in town for the American Association of Nurse Practitioners Conference.

WELCOME
MOFFETT NURSE NETWORK
LAS VEGAS
NEVADA

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Samford University is an Equal Opportunity Institution that complies with applicable law prohibiting discrimination in its educational and employment policies and does not tolerate or discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, disability, veteran status, genetic information, or national or ethnic origin.

Networking Lunch
Thursday, June 20, 1–2:30 p.m.
The Venetian
R.S.V.P. to rbrazil@samford.edu or 205-726-2328

May 2013

Looking Ahead: Save the Date

BACK TO SCHOOL TAILGATE

Saturday, September 21

Alumni are invited to join students as they gather for Samford's first home football game of the season. Watch for details on our social media channels.



CAP AND CAPE SOCIETY LUNCHEON

Friday, October 11, 2013

11:00 a.m., Birmingham, Ala.

Alumni from the classes of 1922-1973 are invited to join us for an annual gathering celebrating the memories and traditions of the Birmingham Baptist Hospital School of Nursing.



Courage to Care Awards Gala

Friday, October 11, 2013

7:00 p.m., B & A Warehouse

Celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of extraordinary alumni with an elegant evening at one of Birmingham's favorite event venues. Dress is black-tie optional and tickets are \$75 and must be purchased in advance. Complimentary valet parking will be provided. [Sponsorships and tables are available here.](#)

Courage
to Care

Annual Homecoming Barbecue

Saturday, November 17, 2013

12:00 p.m., Center for Healing Arts Plaza, Samford University

Join us for our annual alumni and friends barbecue. Individual classes may schedule reunions by contacting Katie Stripling. Tickets are \$5 per person.





Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing Mission

The mission of the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing is to nurture students while providing quality education in a Christian environment that prepares caring, competent and compassionate graduates with a commitment to service, scholarship, life-long learning and professional practice.

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Dates to Remember:

- **June 3-4:** Bulldog Days
- **June 10-11:** Bulldog Days
- **June 17-18:** Bulldog Days
- **June 20:** Moffett Nurse Network in Las Vegas
- **August 2:** Advisory Board Meeting
- **August 21-23:** Bulldog Days
- **August 23:** Freshmen Move-In Day
- **September 21:** Back to School Tailgate
- **October 11:** Cap and Cape Luncheon
- **October 11:** Courage to Care Gala
- **November 16:** Homecoming Barbecue



Rachel Kennedy, BSN graduate, poses with Mr. Beeson before the commencement ceremony.

Share Your News!

If you know of any student, faculty, or alumni awards, presentations, conferences, scholarships, photographs or any other announcements, etc. that you would like posted in the next edition of The Pulse, please send them to kstripli@samford.edu or call 205-726-2265.

Special Thanks

....to everyone who contributed news and photos to this issue. Please continue to share your news with us!

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