

# DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



SCHOOL OF  
**HEALTH SCIENCES  
& EDUCATION**

**Message from Dr. Lance Ratcliff, Dean  
School of Health Sciences and Education**

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Greetings from the School of Health Sciences & Education! It is a pleasure to be part of such a dynamic group of focused professionals, and I am privileged to give an overview of our December newsletter.

As we've seen throughout this semester, colleagues across our School have found innovative ways to educate students and continue accomplishing our goals towards an exemplary Truman student experience. Recently, our own Michelle Boyd (Health & Exercise Sciences / Athletic Training) and Stacy Davis (Foreign Languages / Education) each earned Academic Innovation Awards from the University's Academic Professional Development Center. Equally impressive, this month features students in multiple programs of study who achieved special recognition for their remarkable work, and we highlight a few alumni with amazing accomplishments.

These honors speak volumes for who we are and the opportunities students have with us, and we continually seek ways to share our story with prospective students. Multiple examples of some current recruitment initiatives are shared this month, and we are proud to feature the newest program for which we are recruiting – our Counseling program.

Behind these and so many other endeavors is our assistant, Mona Davis. As some of you already know, Mona is retiring on December 31. She has been the School's go-to person for so many things the past 20 years, and her total of 40 years with our University is a testament to her character and dedication. Mona's hard work, humor, attention to detail, and care for each of us have made Truman a better place. She will be missed!

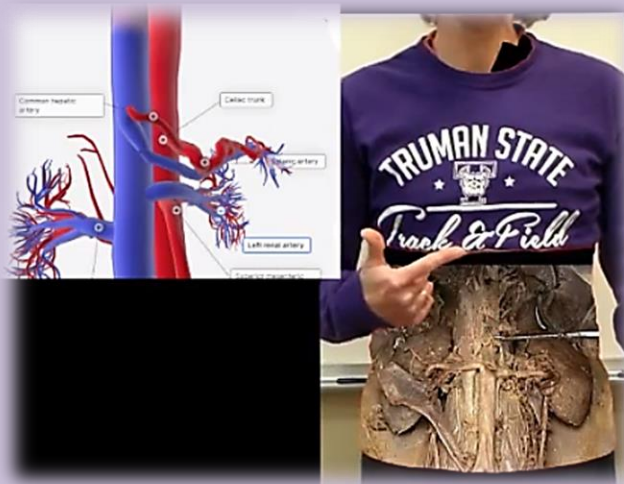
Happy Retirement, Mona, and a blessed Christmas and New Year to everyone!

## Academic Innovation Award Winners

Congratulations to the Fall 2020 winners of the Truman State University Academic Innovation Award, Ms. Michelle Boyd, Health and Exercise Sciences / Athletic Training and Dr. Stacy Davis (Foreign Languages / Education)! Click on the titles to read the explanations of their projects:

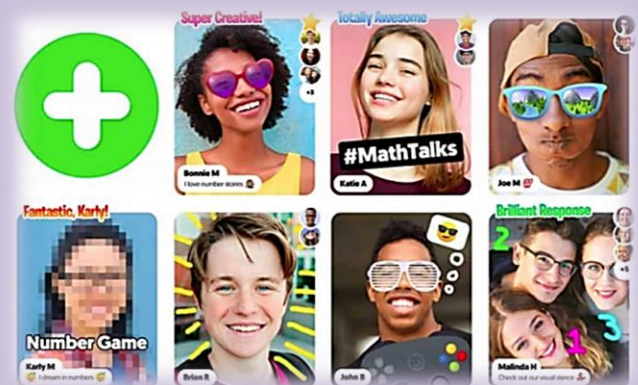
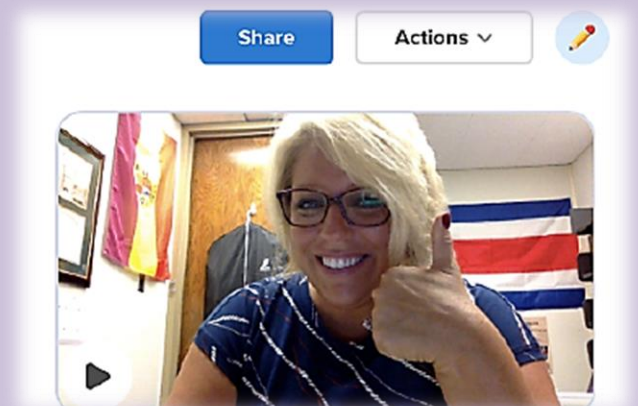
Ms. Michelle Boyd, [Virtual Cadavers](#)

When COVID sent students home it was suddenly impossible to give anatomy students the same experience they get when examining a cadaver. Using cadaver pictures from the internet, Michelle Boyd made her own abdomen into a “green screen” for a three dimensional view.



Dr. Stacy Davis, [‘Flipping’ the Language Classroom: Using Flipgrid to Increase Student Participation](#)

Dr. Stacy Davis examines the use of Flipgrid, a free social learning platform, which allows learners to use Spanish in more interactive discussion boards for interpersonal communication crucial to language acquisition.



## Communication Disorders

The CMDS Department hosted a virtual graduate student open house during the month of November. A flyer contained information and a website to visit showed recorded focus. Virtual live Q&A sessions with faculty and current graduate students were held November 6, 7, and 13. Information was sent to program chairs in the surrounding states as well as all students who made inquiries concerning the CMDS Graduate Program. There were 16 participants in the Q&A sessions. Prospective students from the University of Iowa, Utah State University, University of Northern Iowa, Illinois State University, Missouri State University, Iowa State University, and Truman State University attended.

Kaylee Collins, Emily Goerlich, Anna Hess, and Abby Moore were awarded CMDS Department Honors for the Fall Semester, 2020. All four students graduated during the Winter Commencement, 2020.

The following students in the CMDS Department graduated during the Winter, 2020 commencement:

Naomi Raible, Bachelor of Arts  
Emily Goerlich, Bachelor of Arts  
Anna Hess, Bachelor of Arts  
Allyson Horst, Bachelor of Arts  
Kaylee Collins, Bachelor of Arts  
Legacy Huff, Bachelor of Arts  
Skylar Buechel, Bachelor of Science  
Brianna Dean, Bachelor of Science  
Madison Thomason, Bachelor of Science  
Brianna Grotts, Bachelor of Science  
Abby Moore, Bachelor of Science  
Kylie Albrecht, Master of Arts  
Adriana Arabas, Master of Arts  
Kait Head, Master of Arts  
Andrea Newburry, Master of Arts  
Katy Poston, Master of Arts  
Richae Tipton, Master of Arts  
Shiloh Wilson, Master of Arts

CMDS hosted site visitors Dr. Tony Vazzana, Math and Computer Science, Truman State University, and Dr. Dana Fritz, Communication Disorders, University of Missouri-Columbia, for their five year review site visit. The site visit was conducted virtually.

## Counseling

The Counseling program is pleased to share that we are LIVE! The webpage <https://www.truman.edu/majors-programs/graduate-studies/ma-counseling/> and application <https://connect.truman.edu/apply/?pk=gr> opened November 2, and potential students have already expressed interest. We offer 60-hour, fully online Master of Arts degrees in Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling using a year-round cohort format. New cohorts will start in the fall and spring of each year, with the first classes beginning in August 2021. Our faculty search is also underway, with a terrific committee involved in that process.

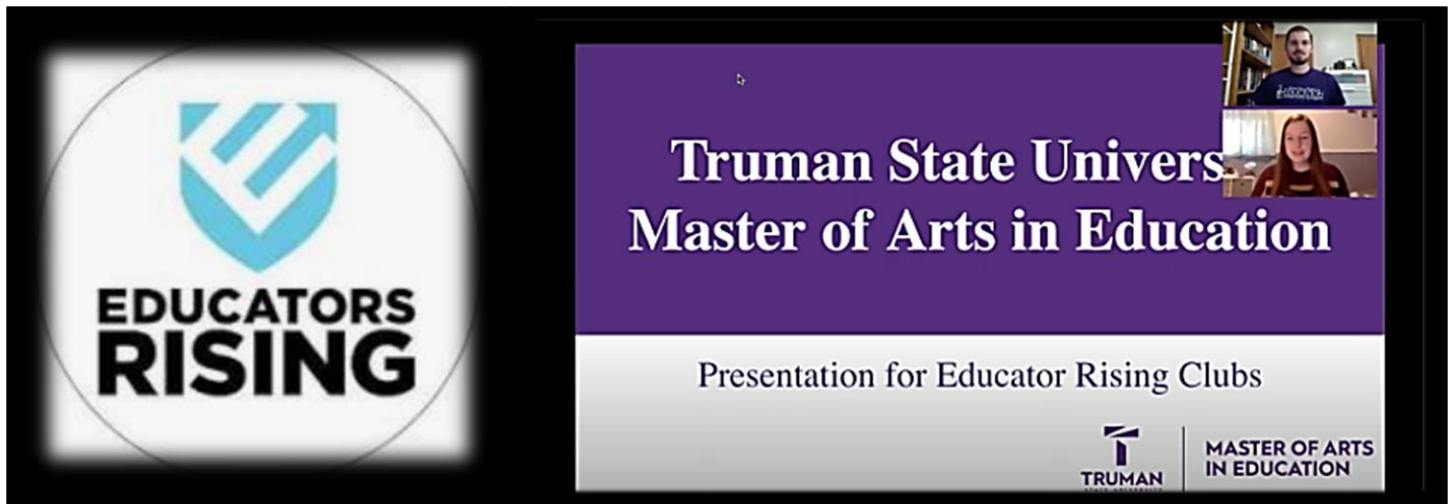
For more information regarding the program, please visit <https://www.truman.edu/majors-programs/graduate-studies/ma-counseling/> or contact:

Graduate Office  
Truman State University  
McClain Hall 203  
100 East Normal Ave.  
Kirksville, MO 63501-4221  
Phone (660) 785-4109  
Fax: (660) 785-7460  
[gradinfo@truman.edu](mailto:gradinfo@truman.edu)



Inaugural Chair of Truman's Counseling program, Dr. Karl Witt, has a Ph.D. in Counselor Education, a M.S. in Counseling from Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi, and a B.A. in Physics with a Mathematics minor from Texas A&M University. He is a national board-certified counselor and a dually-licensed counselor and counselor supervisor with current research interests in rural mental health and counselor training.

## Education



“As part of the Education Department’s recruitment efforts, last month GTRA Isaac Gottman and scholarship worker Leah Anderson-Little attended the Educators Rising Missouri State Conference and presented about the MAE program at Truman. Educators Rising is a pre-professional organization that supports high school students that wish to become educators and there are a variety of chapters both within Missouri and across the nation. The conference was held in preparation for the state-wide competition that will take place in the spring, in which the Education Department also plans to participate. GTRAs and student workers have been focused on cultivating relationships with the Missouri clubs as a way to promote Truman’s MAE program and to connect with future educators.”

*~ by Leah Anderson-Little*

## Truman State University Master of Arts in Education

### Presentation for Educator Rising Clubs

“On October 26th, Education Department Chair Dr. Wendy Miner, Director of Field Experiences Mrs. Jeanne Harding, Admissions Counselor Mark Clynes, Education Department Student Worker Leah Anderson-Little, and GTRAs Angelique Beasley and Sam Slane gave a virtual presentation to an Educator Rising Club located at Troy Buchanan High School of the Lincoln County R-III school district in Troy, Missouri. Educator Rising Clubs are organizations and programs in high schools that provide classroom experiences, job shadowing, networking, and professional development opportunities to students who are interested in a career in education. The presentation gave an overview of the Master of Arts in Education Program at Truman, information on professional development opportunities for pre-MAE students and graduate students in the MAE program, potential scholarships for Truman students, and more. The next Educator Rising Club Presentation will be given virtually to the Park Hill Educator Rising Club and the Liberty Educator Rising Clubs in Kansas City, Missouri. Truman’s Education Department is looking forward to coordinating more virtual presentations with other Missouri Educator Rising clubs. To learn more about Educator Rising Clubs, visit <http://educatorsrising.org/> “

*~ by Sam Slane*

Dr. Summer Pennell attended and presented at the virtual National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Annual Convention and the Assembly Literacy for Adolescent literature at NCTE (ALAN) Workshop. At NCTE she chaired a roundtable session for the Genders and Sexualities Equality Alliance (GSEA) called A ;Confluencia! of Queer Songs. Pennell serves as the Past Chair for the GSEA. She also presented her individual paper "Pre-Service Teachers Engaging with Social Justice: Focusing on Theory to Encourage Practice" based on research she conducted on her English MAE course. For The ALAN Workshop, she introduced YA author Nina LaCour, who spoke about her new book Watch Over Me.



MASTER OF ARTS  
IN EDUCATION

## Retention and Recruitment Goals

Angelique Beasley, Isaac Gottman, & Sam Slane

"On October 29th, Education Department Recruitment and Retention GTRAs Angelique Beasley, Isaac Gottman, and Sam Slane met with nine education faculty members to discuss what has been done for recruitment and retention, what will be done, and how faculty could be involved. The recruitment and retention GTRAs highlighted past events such as the Education Department Meet and Greet, Showcase Days, and the MAE Film Series. In the future, the GTRAs would like to coordinate more presentations with Educator Rising Clubs, promote Truman Education clubs, and work with the students in the Education Living Learning Community (LLC). The Education Department faculty expressed interest in sharing Education Department information with pre-MAE and potential MAE students and meeting with the LLC and Education clubs. To learn more about what is being done with recruitment and retention in the Education Department, contact:

Angelique Beasley ([adb4144@truman.edu](mailto:adb4144@truman.edu)),

Isaac Gottman ([itg4811@truman.edu](mailto:itg4811@truman.edu)), or

Sam Slane ([sns6713@truman.edu](mailto:sns6713@truman.edu))."



"On October 29th, GTRA Isaac Gottman and scholarship worker Leah Anderson-Little hosted this semester's MAE Film Series event via Zoom. The focus of this event was "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" which reflects one of the Education Department's 2028 goals of focusing on social justice. The students and faculty that were in attendance viewed a recorded panel discussion hosted by Digital Promise about the docuseries "America to Me," and had discussions throughout the viewing. In addition to learning about the docuseries, students also learned about the Learner Variability Project that was created by Digital Promise. The Learner Variability Project seeks to help teachers understand the variety of contexts that students come into the classroom with to ensure access to equitable education."

~ by Leah Anderson-Little



“Hoping everyone had a safe and eventful Halloween. Some of the education LLC students certainly did. They participated in a scavenger hunt created by Ryan Thompson. This scavenger hunt had the students travel all around Truman’s beautiful campus and take pictures of certain monuments or landmarks. For each item on the scavenger hunt, the students were provided a brief description of the significance of the landmark and the surrounding area in the format of a Haiku. After reviewing the descriptions carefully and putting on their Halloween costumes, the LLC students embarked on the hunt. They were able to find all of the items, with some pictures being provided of their adventure. The scavenger hunt is posted below.

An Academy  
For which they named after me  
On the quad, I’ll be



Arms locked in a stance  
Near the library by chance  
Engaged in a dance

A mascot to all  
From where I sit, I see C-H’ all  
Best toy is a ball

One, two, three, four, five  
In front of MO Hall, we thrive  
A sweet ring we strive

Previous names I hold  
For Truman State is not old  
By flag pole once told

Heart with school color  
Welcome any visitor  
Soldiers I honor



Keeping our streams clean  
Going to Barnett, I’m seen  
Garden full of green

In need of some books  
Upon Violette Hall, it looks  
Invites all crooks

Bigger than a shed  
By Barnett Hall, is what’s said  
And colored with red

Kindness is the talk  
Pershing Building, take a walk  
Many stones in stock”

~ by Ryan Thompson



Truman alumnus Dr. Jeremy Mapp was the speaker at Truman's graduation ceremonies, November 21, 2020. Mapp earned a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology in 2010, and a Master of Arts in Elementary Education degree in 2012. He began his career as an elementary teacher in the Maplewood Richmond Heights (MRH) School District in St. Louis County. From 2014-2018, Mapp and his wife and Rachel (Richardson) Mapp ('10), served as house parents at Joe's Place, a nationally acclaimed program through the MRH School District that provides homeless teenage boys in the area a supportive environment while encouraging a positive future. Since July 2018, Mapp has served as assistant principal at Keysor Elementary School. He earned his Ed.D. in educational leadership from Maryville University in 2019.



This year's recipients of the Dr. Kay Clapp Children's Literacy Awards are Master of Arts in Education (MAE) student Jaqueline Jacezko and Jessica Daniels, a teacher in the Schuyler County School District. The Dr. Kay Clapp Children's Literacy Award was endowed in 2006 to honor Dr. Clapp, a professor emeritus in the Department of Education at Truman. Dr. Clapp is a powerful proponent of literacy and children's literature. Thousands of students and practicing teachers have been influenced by her dedication and careful mentoring. The fund provides \$500.00 each to a MAE student and a current teacher to purchase children's literature for their professional practices. This year's awards were presented via gift package with the award checks and hand written congratulatory notes from the MAE faculty and Dr. Clapp.





Dr. Julie Lochbaum and her students in TRU 100 ENABLE were featured in the November 16, 2020 issue of Truman Today for their work on the Forest Lake Area Trail System (FLATS). When completed, FLATS will be a bike and walking trail connecting Kirksville to Thousand Hills State Park. The article appears here <https://bit.ly/32STS3T>

“The semester is nearing the end and we are all getting ready for break. However, before the semester concludes, we have some comments from our education LLC students about their experiences.

When asked, “How do you think your LLC experience has been different from living in a traditional on-campus living space?” some students responded with:

“Because I am living with people who desire the same profession as I do, then we are able to relate to that level and coexist knowing that we have similar goals.”

“I think it has been interesting to have many people to interact with who share similar interests in becoming educators. We have been able to create more of a community that interacts with one another, rather than just being a group of people who live next to each other.”

When asked, “What are some things you have liked about living in the education LLC?” some students responded with:

“I like getting to know people who are in the same profession in me, and establishing bonds and connections that will hopefully last for a very long time.”

“I like that I can talk with people who have similar goals to me, and we can talk about things we are doing in education, etc.”

When asking the students about the future LLC groups, many of them responded by saying they wished more students would be a part of the LLC. We appreciate our education LLC students and Truman community. Moving into spring semester, we plan to have events available to all pre-MAE students so make sure to look out for announcements.”

~ by Ryan Thompson

## *Health and Exercise Sciences*

Truman hosted the first virtual Midwest/West Regional Undergraduate Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity Conference with Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges (COPLAC), November 14. Ian McCluskey presented “Comparison of Selected Bioelectrical Impedance Devices and Skinfolts to Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry to Estimate Body Fat in College Male Soccer Players,” mentored by Ms. Liz Jorn.

The Exercise Science Program recently had 10 students present 6 research studies at A. T. Still University’s Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Symposium. Student presenters were Alex Abrams, Alexandra Arabas, Andrew Brennan, Dominic Desprospero, Shanley Kliethwermes Ian McCluskey, JayCee Mudd, Allison Oligschlaeger, Jordyn Steffen, and Wyatt Titus. Faculty advisors included, Jana Arabas, Liz Jorn, and Jerry Mayhew. The research by Ian McCluskey and Alex Abrams entitled “Consistency in recreating a virtual 3D human trunk” was chosen as the outstanding undergraduate work for the symposium.

Researchgate, a European network for scientists and researchers, tracks exercise science publications across the world. Their latest update shows that research articles from the Exercise Science Program at Truman have been read by 68,960 individuals. Furthermore, publications by Exercise Science faculty have been cited by other researchers in 3,967 published articles. This has contributed to Truman’s 8th place ranking for best sports medicine degree programs in the US by CollegeChoice. Incidentally, the No 1 program is the University of North Carolina which is headed by Truman graduate Abbie Smith-Ryan.

A.T. Still University’s (ATSU) A.T. Still Research Institute (ATSRI) recently hosted its 12th annual Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Symposium, conducted virtually due to the coronavirus pandemic. The event was the largest in IBRS’ history, with more than 100 abstracts submitted and Ian McCluskey won the Best Undergraduate Research Presentation, “Consistency in Recreating a Virtual 3D Human Trunk.”

Health and Exercise Sciences presented the following student awards during the fall 2020 semester:

### MOSHAPE MAJOR OF THE YEAR:

In Exercise Science—Josh Russell

In Health Science—Drew Zieba

In Physical Education—Kayla Quanstrum

### DEPARTMENTAL HONORS – DECEMBER, 2020:

Health Science—Trinajoy Karanja

Exercise Science:

Jessalyn Hultz

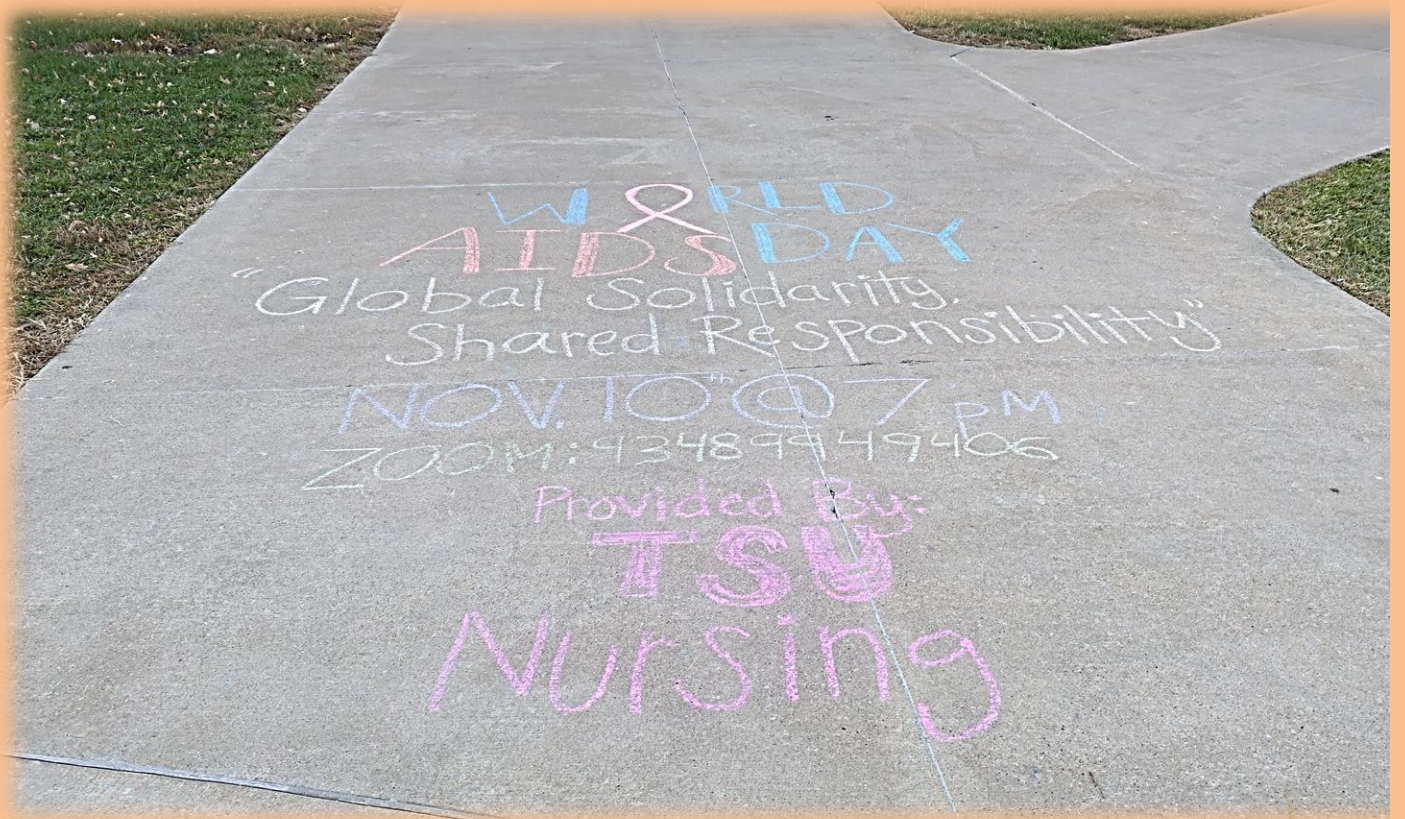
Rachel Jacobs

Shanley Kliethermes

Meredith Roach

Sydney Slosson

Logan Woolf



Truman Nursing students in the Rural Public Health Nursing course recently completed their outreach project for fall semester. Under more normal circumstances, plans would have been made to hold a candlelight observance of World Aids Day, which falls on December 1 every year. But with current health protection recommendations in place discouraging gatherings, and the early end of the semester, students had to be creative. So, plans were made for a virtual event marking this important issue. The students provided an educational program about HIV and AIDS at the November 10 Nursing Student Council meeting. They used a variety of media to publicize the event and invite anyone who wanted to attend. Just over 100 attendees participated via Zoom.

*(Photos are of students chalking information about the event and a screen shot of the Zoom meeting)*



Alyssa Wernimont ('2022) listening to bowel sounds on Laerdal Nursing Anne® Simulator.



Carl Michalak ('2022) scanning the patient's wrist band for a medication administration simulation.



IV Start Lab completed during 'Junior Skills Boot Camp' early in the semester.

Nursing students have had a busy and productive semester completing learning activities in the Nursing Simulation Center (NSC) and in the clinical setting. After finishing spring 2020 semester with 'virtual clinicals', nursing students have overwhelmingly reported being grateful to be back on campus to participate in in - person learning (as have faculty). Learning activities in the NSC provide students with realistic patient care experiences which augment their hospital clinical hours, promote clinical competence, and prepare our graduates to provide the highest quality care. Students in NU240L Assessment and Fundamentals Lab and NU350L Adult Health Lab, using scenario - based learning, have been practicing vital signs, measurement, bathing and hygiene, medication administration, IV therapy, venipuncture, bladder catheterization, ostomy care, wound care, NG - tubes, and more. The NU375 Maternal Neonatal Nursing class participated in childbirth and neonatal resuscitation using our Gaumard birthing simulator Noelle®. Students in NU385 Child Family Nursing have had pediatric simulations caring for a child in both outpatient and acute care situations. NU350C Adult Health students have participated in simulations using the Laerdal simulators (manikins) to care for medical and surgical patients. The Laerdal Nursing Anne® simulators in the NSC have spontaneous breathing and blinking eyes, anterior and posterior breath sounds, heart and bowel sounds, and realistic anatomical landmarks for IVs and injections. These features offer a high level of fidelity, enabling students to realistically practice essential nursing skills, from basic assessments and critical thinking, to advanced patient care, planning, and interventions. The Gaumard birthing simulator and the Laerdal simulators were funded with previous NEIP grants. The NSC activities are under the direction of Pamela Melvin, Associate Professor of Nursing. Pam could not do this without the help of 10 senior nursing students (peer assistants) who keep the NSC open and assist underclassmen with scenario-based skills practice and critical thinking. The peer assistants staff the NSC five evenings each week. This year's peer assistants are Ceci Davis, Hannah Dickmann, Madi Fulte, Paul Myers, Emma Poisson, Maddie Rupprecht, Gemma Sathhoff, Riley Scheer, Rachel Smith, and Kenzie Snyder. The Peer Assistants have done an amazing job assisting with learning activities during this challenging semester while maintaining social distance and cleaning equipment and rooms between students.

Twenty-six senior nursing majors were able to participate in a unique standardized patient / telehealth simulation in collaboration with ATSU as part of their Community Mental Health Nursing course this fall. The nursing students were paired with medical students from ATSU and using a virtual visit system, each pair evaluated a standardized patient having a mental health issue. The standardized patient experiences with ATSU are funded by a Nursing Education Incentive Program grant. The initial in-person simulations were completed spring semester 2020 prior to COVID. With COVID limiting in-person contact, students were provided the unique experience of telehealth to the standardized patient situation. Feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive.

Each fall, senior nursing students in the Rural Public Health Nursing Course participate in a number of flu vaccination clinics throughout a several county area. One event included the large drive-through clinic held October 14 by the Adair County Health Department at the Northeast MO Fairgrounds, where nearly 2,000 vaccines were given. This fall, students assisted with other clinics in businesses, health departments, and schools in Adair, Schuyler, Howard, and Linn counties. These clinics offer nursing students a glimpse into the important role nurses play in community outreach while providing the opportunity to practice their intramuscular injection skills by administering flu vaccines to residents throughout northeast Missouri.

### *Calendar of Selected Upcoming Events*

December 5, Saturday: Board of Governors

December 7, Monday: Finals Begin (for all classes not holding finals prior to Thanksgiving)

December 9, Wednesday: Reading Day

December 10, Thursday: Faculty Senate, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

December 11, Friday: Finals End (for all classes not holding finals prior to Thanksgiving)

December 12, Saturday: Interim Begins

December 21, Monday – December 25, Friday: Truman Closed

December 31, Wednesday – January 1, Friday: Truman Closed

January 9, Saturday: Interim Ends

January 20, Wednesday: Graduate Council, 3:40 p.m.

February 6, Saturday: Board of Governors

February 15, Monday: Admission Office Admitted Student Event

February 17, Wednesday: Graduate Council, 3:40 p.m.

March 17, Wednesday: Graduate Council, 3:40 p.m.

March 19, Friday: Admission Office Admitted Student Event

March 27, Saturday: Admission Office Showcase

April 10, Saturday: Board of Governors

April 21, Wednesday: Graduate Council, 3:40 p.m.

April 24, Saturday: Admission Office Showcase

June 12, Saturday: Board of Governors

# *Mission Statement*

The School of Health Sciences and Education is committed to preparing students to effectively serve as professionals and leaders in their communities and fields by providing an exceptional education grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, promoting diverse learning experiences, and inspiring the pursuit of continued scholarship and research.

## *Five Pillars*

- ❖ Professional programs grounded in the liberal arts and sciences
- ❖ Leadership development
- ❖ Interdisciplinary collaboration
- ❖ Diverse learning and service opportunities
- ❖ Pursuit of continued scholarship and research

