



Methodist College
UnityPoint Health

Issue 1 - 2014 | methodistCOL.edu

Dimensions



**RN-BSN Online Program | Daisy Faculty Award | Scholarships
Tornado Relief | Student Ambassadors**



Dimensions

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President's Update *Dr. Kimberly Johnston*

This past fall semester has truly been a very busy and productive one. We have begun work towards achieving the goals for the 2013-14 portion of our Methodist College 2013-16 Strategic Plan. In September we had our first speaker in our co-curricular program offerings: Holocaust survivor Magda Brown. Ms. Brown held our standing-room only audience spell-bound as she related her experiences as a Jewish prisoner in concentration camps during World War II.

Our students are living our mission through multiple acts of service to our community, by collecting coats for the students of Trewyn Elementary and distributing blankets to Morton Terrace Nursing Home residents. Our Student Government Association held its 1st Annual EDGE Run. The 5K/10K run/walk had 335 registrants and made almost \$8,000 towards student scholarships. Many of our students were very involved in helping the people of Washington Illinois following the terrible tornado that struck them this past November. Large numbers of our students delivered supplies, gave immunizations and provided support during the days immediately following the tornado.

Students, faculty, and staff came together to celebrate MC Pride Week with coffee and donuts, MC trivia, pride t-shirts, a showing of Hocus Pocus, a room decorating contest, prizes, and a fire pit/pep rally. Voting also took place for the college mascot and cheer. The winners were the Owl for the mascot, and "Methodist Pride, Methodist Proud" for the cheer. Finally many improvements have been made to the college to deliver the best student experience possible. The new Biology lab was completed this fall and is a high tech space made possible by a grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The residence halls had a new game room with many new games added for use by residence hall students. Our very busy semester ended Saturday, December 14th as 25 students participated in graduation exercises at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria. Last summer, 54 students completed their degree requirements and received their BSN. Graduation was bittersweet as our graduates said goodbye to old friends and looked to their futures as the newest alumni of Methodist College.

College Administration

Dr. Kimberly Johnston
President of the College

Dr. Linda Pendergast
Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Keith Branham
Dean of Enrollment Management

Dr. Pam Ferguson
Dean of Nursing

Dr. Kip Strasma
Dean of Arts & Sciences

Richole Ogburn
Director of Community
& Alumni Relations

Linda Moore
Director of Human Services

Steve Rollins
Director of Finance

Dr. Staci Pauer
Director of Institutional
Research & Analysis

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Dr. Amanda Wright
Ms. Tarah Gibbs



Dear Alumni,

I would like to introduce myself to you as the new Director of Community & Alumni Relations Coordinator at Methodist College. While I have been with the college for over a year in the admissions and recruitment sector, I have recently transitioned into working with our scholarship recipients, marketing and alumni relations. I am excited to get to know you and your story. I am very passionate about our students that attend Methodist College and look forward to seeing your legacy as an alumni live on here at the college.

Many of you were familiar with Jessica Dillon and Kirstin Marshall. Jessica has left the college to be the Program Manager at the Community Foundation of Central Illinois. Kirstin Marshall is still with Methodist. She recently transitioned to the UnityPoint Health - Methodist Foundation team and will be a strategic partner with the college. We look forward to her continued involvement here.

I am enthusiastic about working with you to enhance your experience and ties to Methodist College, Methodist College of Nursing and Methodist School of Nursing. The Methodist Alumni Association board members are dedicated to the goals and mission of Methodist College and are working on programs to help you stay connected to your alma mater.

As a legacy of Methodist College, we want to celebrate you and your accomplishments. If you are not receiving our electronic or printed newsletters, please be sure to visit our Alumni section on **www.methodistCOL.edu** to update your information. You are an important extension of Methodist College and I would love to know what is happening in your life. Be sure to visit our Facebook page to keep informed of regular happenings at the college. Please feel free to contact us with information, ideas, questions, or just to catch up!

Sincerely,
Richole Ogburn, *Director of Community & Alumni Relations*
(309) 672-5740 | rogburn@methodistcol.edu

In Remembrance

Beverly E. Burnham 1957

Betty (Howe) Hasselbacher 1951

Shirley V. Hoffman 1946

Teresa (Vaughan) Kazense 1994

Mary Ann (Trowbridge) Knaub 1947

Dennis M. Richrath 2006

Jean D. (Ray) Wheat 1947

RN-BSN Online Program

Continuing your education while you are still working is a whole lot easier with the Methodist College RN-BSN online program. This program is conducted entirely online and enables practicing nurses who have passed the NCLEX exam to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. It offers the same robust curriculum as our typical program, with the added advantage of allowing you the flexibility to work around your schedule.

The RN-BSN program adheres to nationally-recognized best practices and the highest standards of quality in online education. We internally review each course thoroughly to ensure quality, and our instructors receive intensive training on teaching in an online environment. Courses include content recommended by the Institute of Medicine and the essentials of a baccalaureate education from the Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Benefits of obtaining your BSN:

- Increase your marketability
- Advance your career and education
- Meet employer demand

Program highlights:

- Arrange your practicums to match your schedule and achieve your goals
- Learn from responsive, experienced nurse educators
- Attend online classes on your schedule, allowing you to work while furthering your career and education
- Receive credit for up to 82 of the total 122 required credits
- Fully accredited by HLC and CCNE

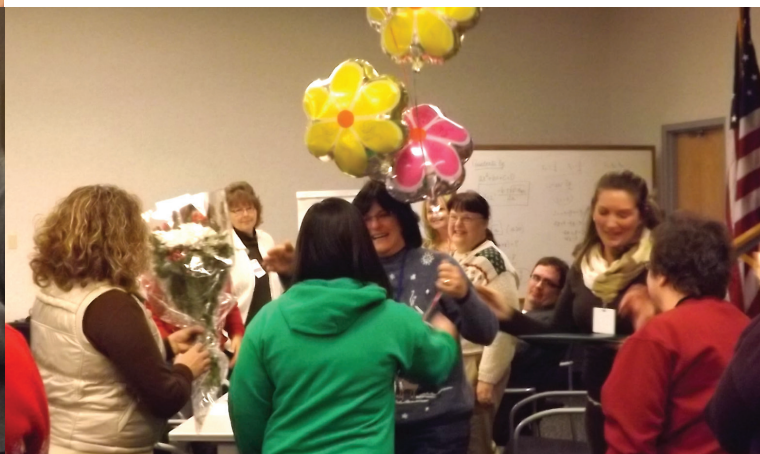
For more information on the online RN-BSN program, please call (309) 672-5513 or email admissions@methodistcol.edu.

Daisy Award

Joy Moss, RN, MSN, was awarded the DAISY Faculty Award by her peers, students and the administrative staff at Methodist College on December 12, 2013.

Ms. Moss was presented with the DAISY Faculty Award Certificate, an award pin and a stone sculpture entitled “A Healer’s Touch.” Moss teaches both Introduction to Nursing and Informatics in Healthcare. She is also a key contact at Methodist College for ATI (Assessment Technologies Institute), which provides resource guides and testing to assist in nursing education. Joy is also the advisor for the Student Nurses’ Association, a student-lead organization that promotes leadership and provides professional development opportunities for nursing students at Methodist College.

The DAISY Award is a national recognition program that colleges may use to demonstrate appreciation to teachers for their commitment and inspirational influence on their students. The DAISY Award is to honor extraordinary nursing faculty for their commitment and inspirational influence on their students.



Faculty and Staff Professional Activities

Dr. Pam Thomas -DeVito attended the National League for Nursing (NLN) conference in Washington, D.C. as a NLN Governor. The group met to discuss the past, present, and future of nursing education.

Rich Ellis was accepted into the PhD program at Mennonite College of Nursing in Normal. He completed his second Master’s degree in Healthcare Administration this past spring.

Tricia Fox, Director of Center for Student Success, and **Sheri Streitmatter**, Nursing Coordinator, presented at the National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA) conference in Charleston, SC this fall. Their presentation was entitled “M.A.P. out Student and Learning Center Successes.” They discussed how goal focused tutoring can help both students and learning centers, using MC’s Midterm Action Plan (MAP) as an example of goal focused tutoring.

Dr. Octavian Gabor recently presented on suffering and forgiveness at Ohio State University-Newark. The title of the speech was, “Birth-Givers of Beauty: A Reflection on Suffering and Forgiveness during the Communist Persecution in Romania.”

Marjorie Getz presented at the Shared Care Conference in Canada in June. The presentation was regarding Resource Link at Children’s Hospital which trains primary care practitioners in screening for and treatment of emotional/behavioral problems in pediatric patients.

Lori Wagner has enrolled in the PhD in Nursing Education program at Capella University.

Congratulations to This Year's Scholarship Recipients

Because of the kindness of our donors and their gifts to the college, we are proud to announce the Fall 2013 scholarship recipients.

Harry and Julia Leming Memorial Scholarship

Tamara Allen Sarah Fischer

Donna Miller Scholarship

Elizabeth Campbell Sherri Weer

MaryJane Dowling Scholarship

Sonya Closen

Helen Waldo Scholarship

Casey Crow

Gay and Irene Ford Scholarship

Jonathan Duncan Lori Young

Harold McAvoy Scholarship

Travis Griffin

MC 2nd Degree Scholarship

Ellen Hendricks Bobby Lucia

MC Sophomore Scholarship Fund

Kayla Holtke Molly Miller

Margerie Mievile Scholarship

Erika Howisen

Rose Marie Murdock Scholarship

Michelle Keinath

Morris Adland Scholarship

Kendra King

Alumni Scholarship

Courtney Mallaney Lanore Spahn

Rose Emma and Lester Ackerman Scholarship

Taran McQuade

MC Freshmen Scholarship

Michaela Mennel Elisa Renski

Nelda Carroll Memorial Scholarship

Genenda Milloy

Marlene Mossberger Woodfill Scholarship

Sabrina Oxarart

Carol Sue Hall Majeske Scholarship

Natasha Pilcher

Ron Taylor Memorial Scholarship

Tiffany Randle

Ann Landwirth Nickoll Memorial Scholarship

Serena Schmechel

Harry and Julia Leming Memorial Scholarship

Lindsey Semonski Stephanie Whitman

If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution to our scholarship funds or create a new scholarship, please contact **Richole Ogburn** - Director of Community & Alumni Relations
Methodist College

Kirstin Marshall - Director of Donor Relations & Communications
UnityPoint Health Methodist - Foundation

or mail your gift to:
Methodist College | 415 NE St. Mark Court | Peoria, IL 61603

Transcripts

All transcript requests may be submitted in writing and mailed to:

Methodist College

Attn: Registrar's Office | 415 NE St. Mark Court | Peoria, Illinois 61603

For a copy of the transcript request form, please visit **www.methodistCOL.edu**. Questions can be directed to the Registrar's Office at (309) 672-5513. The following information should be included in the request:

- Student name at time of attendance
- Middle, maiden, and other legal names
- Social security number
- Date of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Specify School of Nursing, College of Nursing or Methodist College transcript
- Number of copies requested
- Address to which the transcript will be mailed
- Signature
- \$5.00 per transcript requested. Payment must be submitted with your request. Methodist College accepts personal checks, certified bank checks, money orders, Visa, MasterCard, or Discover.



SAVE THE DATE: Methodist Alumni Reunion

The Methodist College Alumni Reunion will be held during Saturday, April 26, 2014.

The Alumni Reunion Luncheon will take place from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Weaver Ridge Golf Club 5100 N. Weaverridge Blvd, Peoria, IL 61615.

Please visit the Alumni section on www.methodistCOL.edu to nominate an outstanding alumni for the 2014 Methodist Alumni Awards. Nominations must be received by April 10, 2014 and awards will be presented at the Alumni Reunion Luncheon.



Mission in Action

The mission of Methodist College is to provide quality educational programs that promote the holistic development of a diverse student population to become healthcare providers. The College is also committed to community service and to meeting the healthcare needs of the diverse population it serves.

Scholarships

2012-2013: Out of 157 applicants, a total of \$39,450 scholarship funds were awarded to 52 students

Simulation Learning

22,000 hours of practice time logged by students in our hands-on Simulation Learning Center and Learning Resource Center

Alumni Board

Active alumni from the School of Nursing and College of Nursing provided four learning opportunities for students to gain knowledge in resume writing, interviewing skills and professionalism.

Fall Commencement Ceremony

Methodist College's 2013 fall commencement ceremony was held on Saturday, December 14, 2013, at 10 a.m. at Embassy Suites in East Peoria. The College awarded the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree to 46 summer and 25 fall graduates. Tarah Gibbs (Class of 2008), Methodist Alumni Association Board President, was the alumni speaker at the commencement ceremony.

Congratulations to all of the recent graduates!

Summer 2013

Heather Dawn Achuff
Benjamin Tyler Anderson
Kristin Theresa Ansteatt
Crystal Lee Battaglia
Kelly Patrice Blecha
Nicole Lynn Blessman
Jessica Patricia Brooks
Anthony Joe Conway
Donna C Czulno
Lorna Marie Dawson
Anthony John Dohman
Andrea Michelle Duke
Adam Christopher Evans
Tara Marie Evans
Vanessa Lauren Galloway
Priscilla C Gutierrez
Jonathan Weeks Haws
Ashlee Sue Heid
Timothy Ryan Hemp
Amy Bernice Hill
Rachel Mae Hoerr
Lindsey Ann Hohenbery-Owens
Kambria Marie Kazense
Gabriela Mutiara Kirk

Brittany Erin Leach
Shawna Danielle Musselman
Adam Jacob Noe
Kayleen Marie O'Rourke
Nicole Marie Reese
Brandi LaShay Richmond
Tyler Bradford Ropp
Kody Keith Schisler
Courtney Jo Spencer
Julie A. Stoddard
Whitney Freund Thomas
Brooke Alyssa Turner
Jacob Paul Turner
Shawn Aaron Wash
Joseph William Welch
Leslie Zeta Wetzel
Jennifer Nicole White
Cassie Jo Whitsitt
Holli Helene Winckler
Morgan Rade' Young
Xylina Tehrii-Michelle Young
Jennifer Kristen Zimmerman

Fall 2013

John Lardizabal Apilado
Dorinda Delicia Boadi
Melissa Lynn Earley
Ashley Nicole El Hadj Saad
Janet Lynn Fox
Ashley Elizabeth Gough
Clarissa Jansen
Deidra Diane Klaus
Zackie Kyle Monroe
Brittany Danielle Moxley
Gloria Esi Osei-Tutu
Marissa Lindsey Reynolds
Angelia Renee Robbins
Sydney Ellen Ryan
Serena Minnie Schmechel
Lindsey A. Semonski
Tonia Kay Shofner
Courtney Michelle Shults
Rachel Elizabeth Slama
Danielle Elizabeth Smallberger
Brittany Pamela Smith
Kamini Srenevasan
Melanie R. Stahl
Jordan Shaleen Willis
Eden E Yetter

Central Illinois Tornado Relief



Methodist College students have proven their dedication to the community and meeting its health care needs through their response in light of the tornado devastation. Four faculty members, Val Ragon, Nora Sullivan, Julie Mattingly and Sylvia Link, were able to demonstrate to students the need for disaster training by providing first-hand experiences in partnership with the Red Cross.

Students provided immunizations, health assessment intakes, donation distribution and assistance with cleanup efforts immediately. Methodist College also accepted both monetary and tangible donations to provide assistance to the tornado victims. The college offered temporary housing, free of charge, in our residence halls to any full-time Methodist College student who was without suitable housing due to the disaster.

“When I entered the first neighborhood that had been affected it broke my heart. To see this in person was really different than what the news showed. I was honored to be a student of Methodist College and able to help all of these people. So many homes were demolished, and there were many people digging through the rubble to find their memories. Every house that we stopped at and gave items to they thanked us for being nursing students who were out to help their community. I felt like this was an awesome experience that we got to do, and it also showed us what a community health nurse position would be when a disaster comes along. Overall, this was an amazing experience not only because I touched people’s lives, but because it was so great to see so many people come together to help the communities that have been affected by the tornadoes that hit Central Illinois. I am honored to be a Methodist College student and also honored to be a part of this great community.”

– Samantha Carroll, Methodist College nursing student

Student Ambassadors

The Student Ambassador program at Methodist College is a group of exceptional students who are identified to represent the College in various capacities. Ambassadors inspire prospective students and promote Methodist College, working as an asset to the Office of Admissions and Recruitment. Ambassadors serve as a front-line contact with prospective students and their families by participating in college events, conducting tours, answering emails, acclimating students at orientation, assisting with graduation, interacting with faculty and staff and also attending high school and college recruitment visits.

At Methodist College, we have found that engagement with Student Ambassadors creates a connection to prospective students and can provide them with insight that only an “insider” can describe. Methodist College Student Ambassadors are a great example of the student leaders we have on campus. Student Ambassadors are dedicated to student success, demonstrating respect, teamwork, integrity and professional behavior. Ambassadors enjoy working with people and are excited about sharing their experiences at Methodist College with others.

In order to apply for the position, students must submit an application and go through an extensive interview process before being selected for the program. The Office of Admissions and Recruitment then provides specific training for the Ambassadors in order to create consistent conversations and messaging about the College, all while working around the students’ schedules. Through the program, students develop leadership and communication skills, enhance their personal resume, create meaningful connections with new students and gain a unique perspective of the College. Please meet the outstanding Methodist College Student Ambassadors! The Student Ambassador program is funded by proceeds from the Harry and Julia Leming Endowment Fund at the UnityPoint Health – Methodist Foundation.



(from left to right: Jessica Juergens, Kayla Holtke, Joey Conway, Chelsea Jones - not pictured Julia Duran)

EDGE Run

The First Annual Methodist College EDGE Run to benefit student scholarships was a huge success. The event, held on November 3rd, drew 330 participants to run or walk in the 5K/10K race. EDGE stands for “Everyone Deserves Great Education” and is a community event designed to help support the Student Government Association (SGA) scholarship fund. Many community members, UnityPoint Health employees,

Methodist College students, faculty, staff and administration were happy to support the student scholarship fund. The SGA advisor and Methodist College faculty member and race director, Colleen Karn, encouraged her group to put together an idea that could directly benefit students attending the college while involving the surrounding community. Race proceeds generated \$8,000 towards student scholarships and is a great start to what will be an annual event. We have made enough to create a Student Government Association endowed scholarship with some of the proceeds going to the Hannah Morris Memorial scholarship. Thank you also to our generous sponsors in particular Lincoln Office who served as our principle sponsor. Start training as we hope to see you all in 2014!

2014 Calendar of Events

February 5 Residence Hall and Biology Lab Preview
March 19 Spring Open House
April 11 President’s Award Breakfast

February 17 – 24 Career Week
March 6 Alumni Speaker Series - Gerontology
April 26 Alumni Reunion Luncheon

Please visit www.methodistCOL.edu for further details on attending these special events and learn more about opportunities to connect alumni and current students.

You Can Help

You make an impact on the College regardless of when you graduated. As one of our Methodist Alumni, you are our greatest legacy, and you hold the key to our future through student engagement and support. If you are interested in giving your time, talent or treasures, please contact Methodist College or Methodist Foundation to find out how you can make a difference.

Richole Ogburn

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Kirstin Marshall

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