



# TANNER HEALTH SYSTEM SCHOOL OF NURSING

## Newsletter

Fall 2024

Volume 8

Issue 1



## Notes from Oliver Duah, Interim Dean

Dear Colleagues, Alumni & Friends,

Nursing has always been a science and an art with practice centered on trusting relationships. It can be likened to a fountain that brings beauty to its surroundings yet serves a vital role in providing access to water for various creatures, including people, birds, and insects. However, the fountain can't serve its purpose without the retaining walls and conduits.

It is with this mindset that the Tanner Health System School of Nursing has sought to deepen our relationships with our partners, alumni, and friends. As the holiday season kicks in, we are happy to share some of the accomplishments of the Tanner Health System School of Nursing with you and invite you to join us for our Community of Advisors breakfast.

I am very proud to share that we significantly increased the number of MOUs signed with new community partners this year. Our students enjoyed the expanded educational opportunities and increased our community engagements through student service learning projects with community partners. These relationships with community partners have yielded an increase in philanthropic gifts, making it possible to continue to provide affordable nursing education through scholarships.

Although the nationwide nursing and nurse faculty shortage continues, we have been blessed with excellent faculty who understand the value of investing in future nurses. Demonstrating caring through curriculum design, teaching-learning activities, and assessments. I am proud that we have doubled the number of students sitting for the NCLEX while maintaining a high graduation and NCLEX pass rate. I am inspired by the care our students embody in clinical practice, as several received DAISY nominations and awards from multiple health systems this year.

Though caring and excellence have always been the foundation of our nursing programs, this year has cemented my belief that nurses replicate the care they receive from faculty in their

practice. I want to express a heartfelt appreciation for the staff and faculty who have been crucial to our student success initiatives.

As the year ends, it is a good time for reflection and renewal. 2025-2026 will mark a turning point in the history of our school as we welcome Dr. Imelda Reyes as Dean of the Tanner Health System School of Nursing. We will also implement a revised curriculum for BSN and MSN programs to align with the 2021 AACN essentials. The revised curriculum will focus on student experiential learning and further enhance the development of clinical competencies for practice readiness.

Thank you for your continued collaboration and support as you read more about our progress and how our faculty and alumni impact the nursing landscape. We have accomplished so much together and hope to continue our partnerships to educate the next generation of caring and competent nurses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Oliver Duah". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Oliver Duah

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## BSN Spring 2024

### TANNER HEALTH SYSTEM SCHOOL OF NURSING



BSN SPRING CLASS OF 2024



UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

## BSN Fall 2023

### TANNER HEALTH SYSTEM SCHOOL OF NURSING



BSN FALL CLASS OF 2023



UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

### UWG Honors College Nursing Students

Jalen Adams  
Melana Bell  
Destiny Colton  
Justin Cook  
Shari Mane De La Pena  
Harlev Ersing  
Alisha Gordon  
Madison Hall  
Iasmine Kline  
Rita Lancheros  
Jacinta Muorah  
Precious Mwenya  
Sarah Pack  
Naidia Rodriguez  
Miracle Sales  
Makayla Simmonds  
Avyonne Smyre  
Jaden Stanley  
Addison Sturdivant  
Jennifer York

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TANNER HEALTH SYSTEM  
SCHOOL OF NURSING



# Nursing Alumni Recognized

The UWG Alumni Association celebrated its 47th Annual Awards during its Alumni Weekend in Spring Semester 2024. Four Nursing Alumni received recognition.

## **Achievement Award for Tanner Health System School of Nursing Amy Hicks '11**

A certified Family Nurse Practitioner and entrepreneur passionate about helping her patients, Amy Hicks is the founder of MedSpa Downtown. She is the proud wife of Brett Hicks who is a Coordinator of Special Education at Carroll County Schools, and she is the mother of Benjamin and Marykate Hicks. Prior to discovering her passion for the aesthetic industry, Amy worked as a trauma critical care nurse at Grady Health System. During her time, there she was repeatedly recognized for her dedication and excellent care, receiving multiple awards. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of West Georgia and Master of Science in Nursing from South University.

Amy is known for her warmth and ability to put patients at ease. She is passionate about continued education, and she and her team actively seek out opportunities to provide patients with the latest and most effective treatments available. She utilizes an artistic approach rooted in science to help patients explore available options to achieve their aesthetic goals.

Amy is a proud member of Dawnbreakers Rotary. She is also actively involved in supporting various organizations within the



**Amy Hicks**

West Georgia community, focusing her philanthropic efforts on adults and children with disabilities as well as at-risk students. In addition, she supports various Christian organizations that work toward the betterment of the community.

## **Achievement Award for the Graduate School Janet Daniels '76 '87**

Janet Daniels retired from her full-time position with Tanner Health System in 2020 as the System Director of Accreditation. After her retirement, she continued her career with Tanner on a part-time basis working as a Registered Nurse for Employee and Occupational Health. Janet is Board Certified in Nursing Administration and is a Certified Joint Commission Professional. She celebrated her 49th anniversary at Tanner on February 01, 2024.

Janet has served in many capacities at Tanner including in Medical/Surgical

Intensive Care and the Emergency Department. She held the positions of Nursing Supervisor, Director of Nursing, Division Director for Access to Care, and Director of Accreditation Services. In 2011, she was promoted to System Director of Accreditation and led the accreditation initiative for all accredited entities within the health system until her retirement.

Janet was accepted into the first class of the West Georgia Nursing program in 1974. After graduating with an Associate Degree in Nursing, she began her career in Nursing as a Registered Nurse at what was then Tanner Memorial Hospital. In 1978 she received a B.S.N. in Nursing from the Medical College of Georgia. In 1987 she received an M.A. in Psychology with an emphasis in Organizational Development from the University of West Georgia.



**Janet Daniels**

# Nursing Alumni Recognized (cont)

## Thriving Under 30

### Gracelove Anamoaba Bonful '22

Gracelove Anamoaba Bonful was born in Ghana, West Africa. She moved to the United States in 2015 with her family. Gracelove graduated from the University of West Georgia (UWG) with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2022. She received the coveted DAISY Award in her cohort for her academic excellence and passion for people. She currently works as a registered nurse in the emergency room of a community hospital and is thriving. She has participated in life-saving procedures and is committed to learning daily to improve as a nurse. She is also passionate about kids and is her church's Children's Ministry leader. Gracelove has always had a passion for teaching and intends to become a nursing faculty.

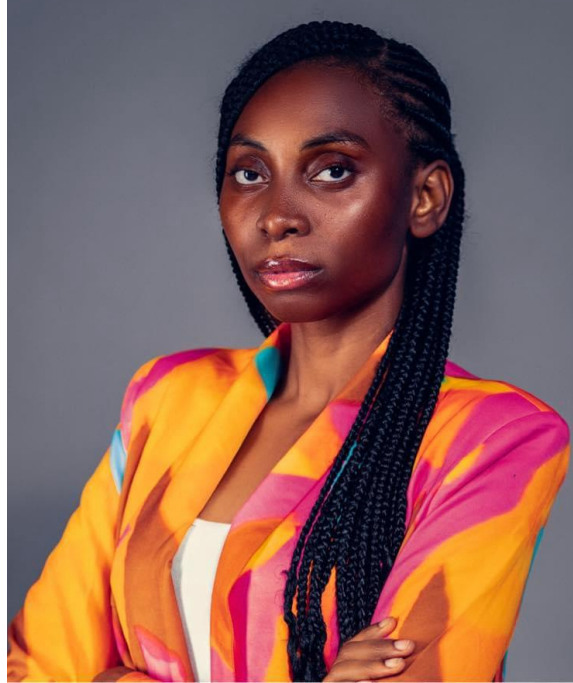
She has expressed joy in giving back to the community that invested in her. She was a peer tutor at UWG and is currently a part-time instructor at the Tanner Health System School of Nursing.

She is also currently pursuing her Master of Science in Nursing with a concentration in Nursing Education at her alma mater, hoping to become a professor. She intends to be an excellent example to her three sisters and pursue her doctorate.

## Thriving Under 30

### Taylor Chaffin '18 '20

Taylor attended the University of West Georgia where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology



**Gracelove Bonful**

in 2018 and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2020. During her time at the Tanner Health System School of Nursing, she was elected as president of her cohort and worked on various community projects and events as the president of the Student Nurses Association.

Throughout the past few years as a nurse, she has worked in the emergency department, intensive care unit, and post-anesthesia care unit.

She also worked for the University of West Georgia as a clinical instructor, helping to prepare the next generation of nurses.

After launching her nursing career, she had a desire to have more impact on patient's lives. While working full time, she spent two years studying at Columbus State University in an Advanced Practice Nurse Program and graduated with a Masters in Nursing. She recently accepted a Nurse Practitioner position at her local urgent care in order to care for patients within her Community.

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Nominations for 2025 Alumni Awards are open through December 1, 2024. Nomination forms are available here: <https://www.westga.edu/alumni/alumni-awards.php>

Awards for 2025 will be announced at the ceremony on April 26, 2025.



**Taylor Chaffin**



# After Graduation

## Two UWG THS SON Nursing Graduates Tell Their Stories

### Northside Hospital Residency Program Cynthia Castillo '23

I am a first-generation college graduate in my family. Being the first in my family to be able to pursue higher education is one of my most significant accomplishments and I am proud that I get to represent the Hispanic community as a whole. While in nursing school, I had several opportunities to work with different patient populations and experience different units.

One of my best experiences was at an infusion center where I cared for oncology patients and other immunocompromised patients.



**Cynthia Castillo**

I had a gratifying time working with the amiable staff and delightful patients. The patients I cared for then inspired me to seek a job as an oncology nurse after graduation.

Consequently, I am now an Inpatient Oncology nurse at Northside Hospital. I began the residency program February 2024, and I could not be happier. I have learned so much.

I hope to become the preceptor that guides future nurses someday!

### Nursing is full of change and adapting Brandon Elliott '20

I graduated nursing school and started my nursing career on the Cardiac Progressive Care Unit. While I was still learning how to be a new nurse, my unit was also learning how to take on a higher acuity of patients. I soon found intubated patients and pressers that I worked to learn to manage.

Nursing, though, is full of change and adapting. I soon found myself as a senior nurse on the unit. Helping with the ICU patients and cross training in the Telemetry department.

After a year of night shift work, I came to day shift.



**Brandon Elliott**

Shortly after the transition, I was asked to be a charge nurse for my unit. My skills grew over the next two years on day shift.

Being ACLS Certified and elected as the President of the unit practice council, were just a few of my accomplishments. My nurse manager was a fantastic leader for our unit, so her announcing that she was leaving came as a shock to everyone. She spoke with me privately and encouraged me to apply for the nurse manager position.

I applied and was hired in November of 2023, almost three years since graduating nursing school. Since taking on this new role, the Cardiac Progressive Care Unit has taken on sicker patients and the team has grown in their skills as nurses.

# A Space to Learn

## UWG Cuts Ribbon on Hatton Family Study Lounge

by Miranda Hodges

The University of West Georgia announced the naming of the Hatton Family Study Lounge in the [Tanner Health System School of Nursing](#), in honor of Herbert Hatton, a retired pharmacist and generous supporter of UWG with a commitment to advancing education and the success of students across the university.

Hatton has made significant contributions to various areas of UWG, including the [College of Education, of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry](#) and, most recently, a second gift to the Tanner Health System School of Nursing.

His most recent gift, celebrated through the naming of a study lounge on UWG's Carrollton campus, is a new endowment that will support nursing students through scholarship support, programmatic support and assistance for them to expand their horizons by attending national conferences, among other forms of support.

"Education has always been a passion of mine," said Hatton. "I am thrilled to continue supporting UWG in providing students with the resources they need to succeed."

"The Hatton Family Study Lounge represents a space where nursing students can study, grow and ultimately shape the future of healthcare," Hatton continued.



The celebration in honor of Herbert was a heartwarming occasion, filled with close-knit friends and students he has worked with and impacted. The atmosphere was one of joy and gratitude, as attendees celebrated his generosity and the positive impact he has had on the university community.

"We are thrilled to honor Herbert Hatton's generosity and commitment to education through the naming of the Hatton Family Study Lounge," said Dr. Brendan Kelly, UWG's president.

"This space will be instrumental in providing our nursing students with an environment that promotes innovative learning.

By enhancing our commitment to student success and academic excellence, we aim to [curate a first-choice university](#), and creating

spaces like this study lounge plays a significant role in advancing that effort."

The study lounge will provide a dedicated space for nursing students to study, collaborate and engage together in group projects. With a quiet and focused environment, this lounge will allow students to concentrate on their studies and enhance their learning experience.

For more information about how you can impact UWG through an endowment, scholarship or annual giving, please visit UWG's [Give West](#) page.



*photography by Miranda Hodges*



# Nurturing Nursing: UWG Celebrates Impact of Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation



by Miranda Hodges

The [Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation](#) has been a longtime beacon of hope and support for aspiring nurses at the University of West Georgia's [Tanner Health System School of Nursing](#). Since 2005, their dedication has translated into nearly \$2.5 million in grants, benefiting more than 950 students and shaping the future of healthcare.

"Our commitment to nursing has grown over time because we recognize the critical role nurses play in improving health outcomes for all," said Grants Program Administrator for Lettie Pate Whitehead, Emily Patteson. "We also know that obtaining a nursing degree changes the life trajectory for a student and her family because it offers the promise of a meaningful career and upward mobility."

Founded in 1946 by Conkey Pate Whitehead in honor of his mother, Lettie Pate Whitehead, the foundation's mission resonates deeply with the spirit of

empowerment and upliftment of deserving women.

"Scholarship funding plays a critical role in helping students persist and graduate because so many face significant financial barriers in their pursuit of higher education," explained Patteson. "Scholarship support also signifies to students that someone thought they were worthy of investment, and it gives them the confidence to persevere."

The foundation's commitment to nursing education extends beyond financial support. Representatives Carrie Conway, senior program officer; Emily Patteson, grants program administrator; and Litzy Perez, foundation fellow, recently visited UWG's Tanner Health System School of Nursing to meet a few of their scholarship recipients.

"These women's personal stories and commitment to their educational endeavors were inspirational to hear," said Patteson. "We know these students will go on to touch countless lives

through their service to the nursing profession."

"Philanthropy is the foundation of our institution, and we are deeply grateful to the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation for their unwavering support of our nursing students. Their generosity not only provides financial assistance but also instills a sense of confidence and purpose in our scholars," said Allyson Bretch, UWG interim vice president for [university advancement](#) and CEO of university foundations.

"Together, we are transforming lives and strengthening the fabric of healthcare. We are nurturing the next generation of nurses who will undoubtedly profoundly impact our communities."

For more information about how you can make an impact by supporting UWG, please visit UWG's [Give West](#) page.

*photography by Miranda Daniel*

# UWG's Online MBA Remains No. 1, Online Nursing Masters Degree Program Remains No. 2 in Georgia



by Julie Lineback

For the third consecutive year, the University of West Georgia's [online MBA](#) program remains top in the state, as announced by media powerhouse [U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings](#).

The institution's online master's degrees in education were also noted as being among the highest-quality programs in the nation, which is no surprise, given the programs' [enrollment growth](#) and national reputation in advancing the careers of educators.

Overall online bachelor degree programs also continued to hold steady at No. 2 in the state, only bested by the University of Georgia.

The [nursing master's degree](#) program also was second in Georgia, behind Georgia College and State University. The publication also recognized UWG's programming in graduate education for [veterans](#).

"Our commitment to the curation of a [first-choice university](#) demands that we offer programs that are aligned with industry and

also offer flexibility and convenience," said Dr. Brendan Kelly, UWG's [president](#). "This commendation confirms that UWG has a nationally recognized academic reputation and leads the state as a university that leans into offering a high-quality, career-connected educational experience for our students."

Surveys evaluating bachelor's programs assessed more than 360 institutions across engagement, services and technology, faculty qualifications and training, and expert opinion. Similarly, the surveys examining graduate degree programs encompassed the same four criteria along with student achievement.

U.S. News utilizes rigorously verified academic data sourced from surveys and reputable third-party outlets for ranking computation, supplemented by user input, consultations with educational institutions and experts, literature assessments, analysis of existing trends, integration of new data, and interactions with deans and institutional researchers

at higher education events. Subsequently, only the most outstanding institutions are featured in the rankings.

"UWG is proud to be honored once again by U.S. News & World Report as an outstanding higher education institution," said Dr. Jon Preston, provost and senior vice president for [academic affairs](#). "These rankings consider many variables, so to be positioned at or near the top in various categories speaks to our commitment to providing a rigorous curriculum, a supportive learning environment and practical skills that prepare our students for success."

For more than 25 years, UWG has offered affordable and convenient online classes and serves as the administrative headquarters for the [University System of Georgia's eCampus](#), which includes [eCore](#) and [eMajor](#). Collaborating with USG institutions, it delivers high-caliber [online](#) education programs tailored to meet the demands of national and international industries.



# New Faculty and Staff Join SON

The UWG THS School of Nursing added four new faculty members and one new staff member this year.

The new faculty include:

**Kate Aldom**, DNP, RNC, Assistant Professor. Dr. Aldom brings 22 years teaching experience and 16 years nursing experience. You can find Dr. Aldom in Health Care of the Client I and Clinical Practice I.

**Mandy Bowman**, MSN, RNC, Assistant Professor, is a recent graduate of the UWG THS School of Nursing MSN. She brings with her 21 years of nursing in the

state of Georgia and clinical instructor experience from both Auburn University and LaGrange College. Look for Mandy in Health Care of the Client III, Clinical Specialty Practice and Clinical Practice III.



**Dr. Kate Aldom**



**Dr. Shakia Johnson**

**Shakia Johnson**, DNP, FNP-C, MSN, RN, is an Assistant Professor and has 15 years nursing experience, including family nurse practitioner and certification as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse. She has also taught at the Chattahoochee Technical College. She teaches Pathophysiology & Pharmacology II and Clinical Practice I and II.



**Dr. Michelle Venn**



**Craig Brown**

**Craig Brown**, BFA, is the UWG THS School of Nursing Graduate Studies Associate. He works with the Graduate Programs. His primary responsibilities include graduate program student recruitment, admission, scholarships and graduating processes.



**Mandy Bowman**

**Michelle Venn**, DNP, RN, CNE, CLNC, C-OB, C-EFM and Assistant Professor, has 24 years nursing experience and 17 years teaching. Dr. Venn teaches Clinical Practice I, II, and IV as well as Clinical Specialty Practice, Role of Caring in the Healthcare Profession and Lead for Quality, Safety and Health.

# A Legacy of Compassion: Daughter Honors UWG Nursing Leader's Legacy with Classroom Dedication

By Miranda Hodges

As future nurses fill the seats of the Dr. Laurie Jowers Ware Classroom at the University of West Georgia, they will carry forward her values of resilience and a commitment to making a difference in healthcare.

UWG's [Tanner Health System School of Nursing \(THSSON\)](#) recently named a classroom in memory of Ware, who served as associate dean and the first coordinator of the THSSON graduate program before her passing, following a generous gift by Ware's daughter, Laurie Ann Taylor.

Taylor's gift established the Dr. Laurie Jowers Ware Graduate Nursing Program Endowment, as well as naming the classroom space, both dedicated to advancing the education of future nurses.

"My mom had a remarkable bond with her students," said Taylor. "They knew they could turn to her for guidance, and she was always there to support, encourage and mentor them. This classroom is a way to keep that bond alive by carrying on her legacy of excellence and kindness."

Known for her distinctive ability to connect with students, Ware fostered a nurturing environment that allowed students to excel both academically and personally. Her efforts not only created a rigorous, student-centered curriculum but also established a community of alumni who launched prosperous careers at UWG.



**Dr. Laurie Jowers Ware and Laurie Ann Taylor**

"My mom helped build a program where students were empowered to lead with skill and heart," explained Taylor. "She believed that nursing education should prepare students to meet the highest standards in healthcare while also nurturing their commitment to patient care."

Through her daughter's generosity, Ware's legacy will extend beyond the classroom naming; funds also support a graduate nursing endowment, ensuring that aspiring nursing leaders have greater access to resources and opportunities that foster growth and success in the profession.

"Laurie Ann Taylor's tribute to her mother's legacy is an inspiration to us all," said Allyson Bretch '14, UWG's [vice president](#) for [university advancement](#) and CEO of UWG's philanthropic foundations. "Dr. Ware's influence will continue to inspire and shape the next generation of healthcare professionals, and this endowment will ensure her dedication to nursing education lives on."

For more information about how you can impact UWG through an endowment, scholarship or annual giving, please visit UWG's [Give West](#) page.





# SON Social Media Recognizes National Months

## Rita-Beatriz Lancheros is the Hispanic Heritage Month Student

UWG THS School of Nursing recognizes National Month and Weeks on its social media.

Our 2024 Hispanic Heritage Month student is Rita-Beatriz Lancheros. We asked her to tell us her thoughts about the National Hispanic Heritage Month and her experiences with nursing and her future plans.

"National Hispanic Heritage Month is important to me because it highlights the contributions of Hispanics and Latin Americans in various fields. Recognizing these contributions helps us appreciate the diversity that makes up our community and society. I have one family member who was in the nursing field: my aunt Graciela who was a nurse in Colombia and is now retired.

"My nursing education is memorable because I get to go through this experience with my close friends. They provide an immense amount of support, and we get to learn and help each other while sharing fun memories along the way. After graduation, I hope to work as a pediatric nurse in Atlanta and later pursue a master's degree in sports medicine.

" In my free time, I like to go on walks and spend time with my family and friends.

" A fun fact about me is that I am a dual citizen of the United States and Colombia!

"To upcoming nursing students, I would say don't focus on the negative things that people may say. Everyone's experience is different; just take it day by day. Yes, it can be hard, but in the end it will all be worth it."



**Rita-Beatriz Lancheros**

Click the following QR Codes to become part of the UWG THS School of Nursing social media group.

SON social media groups learn about students, accomplishments, nursing news, scholarships and more.



**SON Facebook**



**SON Instagram**



# UWG Graduate Students Advance Careers

Five UWG THS School of Nursing graduate students shared their career advancements with us.



**Heather Watson**

## Heather Watson

Heather earned her initial nursing degree from UWG in the 1990s which prepared her for a long and successful clinical career that included coordinating one of the first nurse residency programs in Atlanta.

Before graduating from UWG's MSN-Ed program in 2022, Heather became part of the National League for Nursing's first cohort of Certified Novice Nurse Educators (CNEs), and upon graduating Heather obtained her dream job in nursing academia. Utilizing the scholarly inquiry, education methodology, and writing skills acquired in the MSN program, in 2023 Heather published a peer-reviewed journal article titled "Improving Eating Disorder Education Using Flipped Classroom Method" in the journal *Teaching and Learning in Nursing*.

## Pierce Wilson

"I successfully completed my Masters of Science in Nursing with a major in nursing education from the University of West Georgia in May 2021. I absolutely loved my program at West Georgia and it has set me up for success in my career.

"Since completing my degree, I have served as a clinical instructor at a local university, nurse educator for the emergency departments, nurse manager for a 10-bed emergency department, been recognized as one of the Emergency Nurses Association Top 20 under 40 in 2023, and now leading a 84-bed level one trauma center emergency department."



**Pierce Wilson**

"My advanced degree from West Georgia prepared me not only in the clinical education realm but also as a future nurse leader by exposing me to different courses and quality, safety, and health policy, and informatics, technology, and healthcare outcomes."

"The professors in the program truly cared about my success. I felt fully supported and am forever thankful for my experiences and growth throughout the program."



**Lisa Pugsley**

## Lisa Pugsley

"Since graduating from UWG with a Doctor of Nursing Education (EdD), I started as a faculty member in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at the University of North Georgia.

"I am an Assistant Professor and teach across the undergraduate nursing curriculum. I serve on several nursing department committees and as the Chair of a Doctor of Nursing Practice Scholarly Project Committee.



# UWG THS SON Graduate Students Advance Careers (cont)

## Lisa Pugsley (cont)

"The EdD Program afforded me the opportunity to complete research on nursing students' self-confidence with clinical judgment and as a result, I successfully submitted a literature review article for publication in *Nursing Education Perspectives* titled, "Nursing Students' Perception of Just Culture and Development of Self-Confidence with Clinical Judgment: A Scoping Review." I am grateful for the amazing Tanner Health System School of Nursing faculty for helping me reach my goal of obtaining a Doctor of Nursing Education and advancing my career as a nurse educator."

## Laura Wynn

"The MSN educator track prepared me well for my dream job in academia. Since graduating from UWG in 2020, I procured a job as faculty in the BSN program at a local university in Birmingham. My professors mentored me and are the cornerstone of my success as a nurse educator. They spurred me to publish, and I have published three articles since graduation.

"They also taught me everything I needed to know to be successful at the Certified Nurse Educator Exam offered by the National League for Nursing. I have developed many active learning activities that students use to help them master concepts and grow their clinical judgment skills. I have written and received grant funding to support fellow educators where I work. I have had the privilege of speaking at Sigma Theta Tau's biennial conference about developing clinical judgment in nursing students.

## Careers (cont)



**Karen Wust**

## Karen Wust

"My experience in the Tanner Health System School of Nursing Master of Science in Nursing Health Systems Leadership track has grown my skill set as well as enhanced my career."



**Laura Wynn**

"The various areas of leadership that are addressed in this program have helped me to develop my skills in budgeting, goal development, conflict resolution, and performance evaluation and improvement.

"The lessons I learned in project planning were instrumental in my co-authoring a grant application that my organization was ultimately awarded. This \$125,000 grant will allow our organization to build out our dental clinic to provide dental care to medically underserved individuals living with HIV across middle Georgia.

"I would recommend this program to anyone looking to strengthen their leadership skills, advance their career, and increase their impact on those they serve.

For more information on UWG THS School of Nursing MSN and EdD programs, click the QR Codes below.



# Courtney Klink Gets NLN Foundation Scholarship

Courtney Klink, (EdD(c), UWG THS School of Nursing, received one of 13 National League for Nursing Foundation for Nursing Education Faculty Scholarship Awards for 2024. As a student at the UWG THS School of Nursing, Courtney was the only student at a Georgia school to receive one of these awards this year.

Advanced degree nursing students have been awarded a total of \$114,645 in financial support through the annual competitive scholarship program run by the [National League for Nursing Foundation for Nursing Education](#).

There are 13 recipients of foundation scholarships of up to \$8,000 each.

"We are proud to sponsor another year of scholarship support to deserving students enrolled in advanced degree programs who are committed to pursuing careers in nursing education. Thanks to the generosity of our dedicated donors to the NLN Foundation, the total available funds have increased every year, now over \$100,000, which enables us to expand the number and size of scholarship awards and also focus on some specialized areas of study within nursing education," said NLN Foundation Chair Patrick Robinson, PhD, RN, ACRN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN, vice president of nursing at Pacific College of Health and Science.

NLN President and CEO Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN, said, "Expanding the ranks of nurse faculty remains an urgent priority,

helping the National League for Nursing to fulfill its mission to prepare a diverse nursing workforce to deliver outstanding and equitable care to advance the health of the nation and global community."

## 2024 NLN Foundation for Nursing Education Faculty Scholarship Awards

The NLN Foundation Scholarship Awards Program seeks to support diverse nurses committed to careers in academic nursing education. Awards of up to \$8,000 are made to nurses enrolled in accredited master's or doctoral programs and have completed at least one year of advanced academic study toward their degrees.

### · Courtney Klink, EdD(c), MSN, MBA, RN, University of West Georgia (\$8,000 Award)

·Arienne Patano, BSN, RN, CHPN, Michigan State University College of Nursing

·Fotini Katsipoutis, BSN, RN, CNOR, Chamberlain University

·Elicia Egozcue-Ochoa, MSN, APRN, CNRN, SCRNP, CVRN, NPD, Grand Canyon University

·Adejoke Felicia Ogidan, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNE, University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing and Health Innovation

·Katherine Kreis, MSN, RN, CHSE, University of Texas at Arlington

·Jasline Moreno, MSN, RN, CHSE-A, CNE, MGH Institute of Health Professions

·Courtney Taylor, MSN, RN, University of South Alabama

· Jennifer Remick, MSN, RN, CPN, Bryan College of Health Sciences

- Pauline Hwang, DNP, AGACNP-BC, RN, Penn State University

·Kellie Ashburn, MSN, RN, CNE, Post University

·Tracy Scaletti, MSN, RN, CEN, CNE, Widener University

·Dorothy Addo-Mensah, MN, Bsc, RN, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dedicated to excellence in nursing, the National League for Nursing is the premier organization for nurse faculty and leaders in nursing education. The NLN offers professional development, networking opportunities, testing services, nursing research grants, and public policy initiatives to its nearly 45,000 individual and 1,000 institutional members,

*From National League for Nursing  
Michael Keaton, Deputy Chief  
Communications Officer  
[mkeaton@nlm.org](mailto:mkeaton@nlm.org)*



**Courtney Klink**



# Join the 2025 Study Abroad Nursing

UWG THS School of Nursing students, join us for the 2025 Study Abroad program.

## Program Description

Within a quality caring framework, this course will provide the student with a broad overview of global, public, and community health care and health care systems with a particular focus on the region surrounding Foligno, Italy. Through this experience, students will be able to explore the impact of community and culture on the health of individuals. Students will examine issues such as access to health care as well as current global, public, and community health trends, issues, policies, and practices within the context of a hands-on experiential learning opportunity.

In this experience, students will engage with the rich history and culture of Foligno and the surrounding areas to experience learning about nursing and healthcare care from a community, public, and global health perspective. The program will occur during the time in which other UWG study abroad experiences are happening in Italy. These overlapping programs will allow students to learn with and among students and faculty in other academic disciplines, enhancing the learning of all students. This course and program will not look like a typical classroom, as you will have real-world interactions with the Italian healthcare system through experiential and service-focused activities.

## Special Requirements

To participate in the program, students must enroll in NURS4486.

Participation requires **one** of the following:

- Currently accepted or enrolled in a bachelor's or graduate-level nursing course
- Currently accepted to and enrolled in any bachelor's or graduate-level community health and wellness course
- An active and valid CNA certificate in any state
- An active and valid RN license in any state
- An active and valid EMT or Paramedic license/certification in any state
- Validated military experience as a medic or corpsman

\*Students may apply while they are completing their CNA, EMT, or Paramedic programs but must complete and obtain the certification or licensure by February 15, 2025. Program participants must be 18 years of age at the time of the trip and have an overall GPA of 2.5.



## Costs and Deadlines

The total program charge of \$3900 is due in three installments with the following deadlines:

- **Non-refundable deposit** of \$100 due **December 1**
- First Payment of \$1000 due **December 1**
- Second Payment of \$2000 due **February 1**
- Final Payment of remainder due **March 1**

**If a student decides to pay through Touchnet**, they must be aware that there is a 3% non-refundable applicable fee to each payment.

**Not included in program fee ETIAS Visa Waiver Fee (Travel Permit)**- This fee may range at about \$10.00 but is subject to change. Students are responsible for securing their visa. The inability to travel due a lack of visa/passport will result in the complete loss of the program fee.

To contact the Office of Education Abroad, email [goabroad@westga.edu](mailto:goabroad@westga.edu)

For more information, click the QR Code for the Nursing Study Abroad Program Brochure.



# UWG THS School of Nursing is Growing DAISYs

A record number of UWG THS School of Nursing students and faculty received DAISY awards this year.

## **Devoted to DAISYs: UWG Nursing Students Earn Esteemed DAISY Award**

by Abby Grizzard

The [DAISY Foundation](#) awarded the [DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses](#) to three University of West Georgia [Tanner Health System School of Nursing](#) (THSSON) students who exemplify compassion and excellence in nursing – Kristie Gardner '23, Dejah Shipman '24 and Emily Powell '24.

Patients, family members, faculty and others who observe or experience exceptional care from nursing professionals nominate DAISY candidates who epitomize the qualities needed to excel as a nurse.

Powell and Shipman received nominations from [Wellstar Health System](#) for fulfilling these outstanding roles as healthcare professionals.

Powell suffered through an extensive sickness that resulted in two missed years of high school and, after a carousel of hospital visits, discovered her calling as a nurse.

"When I got sick, I went to multiple doctors, sat throughout countless tests and was put on endless rotations of different medications," said Powell. "At 15, I knew I never wanted anyone to experience what I'd gone through. I believe it was my calling to nursing."

Shipman understood her passion as she went from playing "dress up" as a nurse to wearing real scrubs as an RN.

Despite their varying backgrounds, these instances inspired these UWG students to provide countless patients with intentional, above-and-beyond care, resulting in the coveted DAISY Award.

Gardner experienced significant loss after caring for both her father and adopted son, who both passed away in 2016 and 2019, respectively.

After experiencing such significant grief, I felt lost and without purpose," explained Gardner. "Through this suffering, my purpose to become a nurse became ignited. In 2021, I started my journey with the UWG nursing program and graduated with a bachelor's degree in nursing in December 2023."

These nurses acknowledge the significance of the DAISY Award and express deep appreciation for being recognized with such an admirable accolade.

"This award is one of the biggest honors a nurse can have," said Shipman. "To me, the DAISY Award means dedication, compassion and kindness, down to the little things others may overlook. "

Gardner expressed similar sentiments. "Receiving the DAISY Award is a tremendous honor," said Gardner. "Winning this award set a standard for me as a nurse by treating each patient as if they were my family member by

taking the time to make a connection, offering a smile and words of encouragement, and truly listening."

All three students praise THSSON as a vessel to achieve their accomplishments.

"UWG's nursing program has been a big part of my life," said Powell. "This program helped me accomplish my dream of becoming a nurse. I've met some great people and professors throughout my time there and wouldn't trade it for anything."

The list of UWG THS School of Nursing DAISY recipients for 2023-24 include:

- Diggs, Tai, UWG student, Wellstar Health System
- Gardner, Kristie, student, UWG THS School of Nursing
- Garnett, Tim, graduate nursing student, UWG THS School of Nursing
- Howell, Alliee, UWG alumna, Atrium Health Floyd Medical Center's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Howell, Dr. Quetina, assistant professor, UWG THS School of Nursing
- Moody, Ashly, assistant professor, UWG THS School of Nursing
- Nichols, Janet, student, UWG THS School of Nursing
- Powell, Emily, UWG student, Wellstar Health System
- Shipman, Dejah, student, Wellstar Health System
- Smith, Justin, UWG student, Tanner Health System



# Sigma International President Speaks at UWG Induction

The UWG Sigma Pi Nu Chapter welcomed Sandra C. Garmon Bibb, DNSc, RN, FFMRCIS, FAAN, President 2023-2025 Sigma International Board of Directors, as the guest speaker at its spring induction ceremony.

Dr. Bibb's topic, "Persist, Persevere. Represent," encouraged and welcomed the new chapter members:

- Heidi Dulaney
- Madison Luster
- Janet Nichols
- Ann Osby
- Madison Whited
- Lillian Wood

Dr. Katie Morales, Student Success Coordinator & Associate Professor, UWG THS School of Nursing, and Pi Nu Chapter President, reminded Pi Nu members the importance of volunteering.

"As members of the Pi Nu Chapter of Sigma, it is important to know that volunteers are integral to Sigma as a whole, as well as to the Pi Nu Chapter. There are several volunteer pages available on the Sigma website to capture volunteer interests and opportunities," Dr. Morales said.

"It is important that all members complete and update their Volunteer Profile as a way of showing the Chapter's commitment in the area of service within Sigma. By completing the profile, you are not necessarily committing to any specific opportunity but simply allowing Sigma and the Chapter to identify activities of interest to you."



**Dr. Sandra C. Garmon Bibb**



For more information about the Pi Nu Chapter of Sigma, contact:

- Dr. Katie Morales, President (kmorales@westga.edu)
- Dr. Laura Phillips, Past President (lphillips@westga.edu)

To update Sigma volunteer information, visit The Circle on the Sigma website.

# Diversity in Nursing Leadership Fellows

## Highlighted at NC Nurses' Annual Convention

### Christi Jordan Named as Diversity in Nursing Leadership Fellow

As the nursing profession faces increasing challenges, more than 500 nurses gathered to recognize important achievements, network, and develop strategies at the North Carolina Nurses Association's 117th Annual Convention.

One of the highlights of the event was the recognition of the first Diversity in Nursing Leadership Fellows, a new leadership development program for nurses from underrepresented groups, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender identification, sexual orientation, disability, and religion. NCNA spearheaded the program, which was primarily funded through a grant from the National Commission to Address Racism in Nursing. The Georgia Nurses Association and South Carolina Nurses Association were also partners in the effort.

"I am so proud of these Fellows and all the hard work they have put in over the past few months. They are and will continue to be impactful nursing leaders," said Samta Bhakta, MHA, NCNA's Manager of Special Projects. "The fact that NCNA was willing and able to launch this program demonstrates the importance of elevating underrepresented nurses. The positive impact on both the profession and patient care cannot be overstated."



**Christi Jordan**

#### **Diversity in Nursing Leadership Fellows**

- Liza Abison of Cary
- Leticia Acevedo of Rocky Mount
- Chrissy Bass of Charlotte
- Ralph Brown of Rolesville
- Fe Caballero of Winston-Salem
- Jessica Chadwick of Winterville
- LaTonia Chalmers of Durham
- Felita Chandler of Summerville, SC
- Taminesha Cherry of Fayetteville
- Nakiyha Dumas of Winston-Salem
- Irfat Habib of High Point
- Sonia Hart of Indian Trail
- Maria Henderson of Lexington, SC
- Katrice Hester of Haw River

- Cascelia Howard of Huntersville
- Melanie Johnson of West Columbia, SC
- Christina Jordan of Carrollton, GA**
- Elizabeth Knox of Holly Springs
- Sahrron Knox of East Spencer
- Krystal Lott of Charlotte
- Julia Martin of Fuquay Varina
- Tiffany Mitchell of Ahoskie
- Tamara Neely of Mint Hill
- Ashley Owen of Clover, SC
- Veronica Parks of Durham
- Glenda Sims of Spartanburg, SC
- Kristin Surgeon of Ellerbe
- Dasheka Tate-Aragon of Indian Trail
- Munashe Terrell of Wake Forest
- Ben Valente of Durham
- Bianca Washington of Shelby
- Tammy Woods of Salisbury
- Karen Worthy of Columbia, SC

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*Chris Cowperthwaite, APR  
Director of Communications &  
Outreach  
North Carolina Nurses Association  
[chriscowperthwaite@ncnurses.org](mailto:chriscowperthwaite@ncnurses.org)*



# Faculty, Staff, Students Get Honors, Awards & Publications

## FY 2023-2024

UWG THS School of Nursing faculty, staff and students were recognized with honors, awards and publications.

### Fall Semester 2023

- **Dr. Denise Morris**, assistant professor, selected to participate in the 2024 Cohort of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Diversity Leadership Institute

- **Dr. Sophia Robinson-Harris**, assistant professor, presented, "The Implementation of the Pause Debrief Process in an Emergency Room," at the 34th International Nursing Research Congress organized by Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Honor Society of Nursing

- **Dr. Katie Morales**, associate professor, presented, "Developing Prelicensure Student Nurses' Dementia Care Competence During COVID-19 Pandemic: A Mixed Methods Study," at the 34th International Nursing Research Congress organized by Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Honor Society of Nursing

- **Christi Jordan**, assistant professor, published in the Nursing Education Perspectives, with her article, "Using a Flipped Classroom and Role-Play to Introduce Nursing Students to LGBTQIA+ Patient Care"

- **Christi Jordan**, assistant professor and certified Mental Health First Aid Instructor, spoke in a webinar with the Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice, "Understanding Traumatic Stress and the Importance of Officer Wellness. about officer stress and wellness in the Police-Mental Health Collaboration Program

- **For Us Nursing (FUN)** traveled to Acworth, GA and participated in the Feed My Starving Children Community Service Event

- Six UWG THS School of Nursing CP4 students-**Audrey Agyemang, Robyn Brantley, Tiyonna Ziqurrea Gamble, Emily Holt, Alexis Yvonne Thompson, and Jaitlyn Weaver**-worked with the Tanner Get Healthy/Live Well Program and the Community Christian Council (CCC), helping 212 families, handing out almost 20,000 lbs. of food and serving 817 hot meals

- **Laurie Lopez**, UWG THS School of Nursing doctoral student, co-authored "Back-to-Back Building: An Exercise to Improve Communication" in the Radiologic Technology (Journal of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists)

- Two UWG THS School of Nursing EdD students – **Tabitha Quillen** and **Tonya Herring** – received National League for Nursing Foundation for Nursing Education Faculty Scholarship awards.

- **Christi Jordan**, assistant professor, co-authored "Nurses of Color: A historical Snapshot" in the August issue of Beginnings, the American Holistic Nurses Association publication

- **UWG THS School of Nursing CP4 students** were on the news when they volunteered at the Healing Bridge Clinic and 11Alive News showed up to cover the Pop-Up Clinic

- **Alliee Howell**, alumna, UWG THS School of Nursing, received the DAISY award at Atrium Health Floyd Medical Center's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, for her work helping new mom and baby with breastfeeding

- **Tonya Herring**, MSN, RN, CNE, UWG THS School of Nursing EdD student, successfully defended her dissertation, "Prelicensure Academic Nurse Educators' Use of Exam and Item Analysis.

- **Susie Jonassen**, BSN Director & Assistant Professor, UWG THS School of Nursing, successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, "The Leadership Experience of Academic Chief Nurse Administrators in the State of Georgia during the COVID-19 Pandemic Upon Return to Campus after Full Virtual Instruction: A Qualitative Study"

- **Lisa Hesser**, EdD, MSN, RN, OCN, and assistant professor, presented at the 2023 National League for Nursing Education Summit, "HELP! Nursing Students with a Learning Disability in Clinical"

- UWG THS School of Nursing EdD graduate **Bonnie Fellows** presented at the 2023 National League for Nursing Education Summit her poster presentation titled: "Contributors to Second Degree Accelerated Student Success During COVID-19 Pandemic"

- UWG THS School of Nursing **senior nursing students** worked in the First Aid tent of the 2nd annual Carrollton Pride Celebration

- UWG THS School of Nursing **students** administered flu shots at the campus Flu Shot Clinic

- UWG THS School of Nursing **students** helped with the Oak Mountain Cross Country Invitational

- **Dr. Denise Morris** presented at the 49th Annual Transcultural Nursing Society Conference Dr. Morris presented, "Exploring the Cultural Self-Efficacy of Nursing Faculty to Promote an Inclusive Classroom Environment"

- UWG THS School of Nursing EdD student, **Courtney Klink**, received the Cameo of Caring Award from the Allegheny Health Network Citizens School of Nursing

# Faculty, Staff, Students Get Honors, Awards & Publications

## FY 2023-2024 (cont)

### Fall Semester 2023 (cont)

- **Dr. Denise Morris** presented her research, "The Role of Cultural Self-Efficacy with Nurse Leaders in Promoting an Inclusive Environment," at the Association for Leadership Science in Nursing's Annual Conference

- **Students** assisted with a pickleball tournament in Newnan

- **Three new grads** from the UWG THS School of Nursing Carrollton '23 class started the nurse residency program at Piedmont Atlanta

- UWG THS School of Nursing EdD student, **Rafael Tubongbanua**, presented his research at two events:

- 26th Midwest Regional Nursing Educators Conference

- Title: The impact of the lived experiences from different cultures in addition to textbook instructions on nursing student's perception of culture

- Truman's Celebration of Faculty Scholarship Integrative review about the overarching challenges and strategies for success of English as an Additional Language (EAL) for nursing students in nursing education

- Two UWG THS School of Nursing students, **Emily Powell** and **Dejah Shipman**, were surprised at the Newnan Campus with DAISY awards

- Nursing Education Perspectives (National League for Nursing journal), accepted for publication an article by **Dr. Michele Gerdes**, UWG THS School of Nursing EdD alumna, entitled "Nursing Students' Resilience and Intent to Work at the Bedside"

- **Dr. Susie Jonassen**: (1) graduating with PhD from The University of Southern Mississippi College of Nursing and Health Professions School of Leadership and Advanced Nursing Practice, (2) receiving the PhD award that is awarded to one

Doctor of Philosophy student for exemplary work each semester, and (3) receiving the Dissertation Completion Grant Award for Fall

- Fall Student Award Recipients: **Madison Sharpton**, Dean's Award for Academic Achievement; **Noah Robins**, BSN Nursing Excellence Award; **Stuart Bishop**, Clinical Nursing Excellence Award; **Kristie Gardner**, DAISY Award for Extraordinary Undergraduate Nursing Student; and **Kimberly Fulmer**, RN to BSN Nursing Excellence Award

### Spring Semester 2024

- **The Scholarly Teacher** published an article by **Dr. Katie Morales** and **Dr. Cindy Johnson**, "Reflection and Sense of Connection and Caring Between Faculty and Students"

- UWG THS School of Nursing faculty - **Dr. Sophia Robinson**, **Dr. Katie Morales** and **Dr. Pam Dunagan** presented at the American Association for Colleges of Nursing 2024 Doctoral Education Conference

- UWG THS School of Nursing student **Mmesoma Ugwueke** was selected as a UWG Social Media Ambassador

- **U.S. News & World Report** ranked **UWG THS School of Nursing online master's degree program** as second in State of Georgia and 43 out of 186 in total rankings

- UWG THS School of Nursing Ambassadors: **Madison Doughty**, **Anna Grace Gay**, **Autumn Hicks**, **Janet Nichols**, **Adelaide Obo**, **Piya Patel**, **Noah Seagle**, **Madelyn Seagle**, **David Bready** and **David Nwakaeze**

- **Dr. Kim Crawford**, assistant professor, and **Dr. Tonya Herring**, EdD 2023 graduate, presented at the 12th annual Doctoral Conference offered by the Georgia Nursing Leadership Coalition

- **Dr. Sophia Robinson-Harris**, assistant professor, published

"Concerns about Calling Out Sick" in the Ethics Inbox of the American Nurse Journal

- **Lettie Pate Whitehead (LPW) Foundation administrators, UWG LPW scholarship recipients** and School of Nursing faculty met at the School of Nursing, touring the Experiential Learning Center and visiting with each other

- **Dr. Bonnie J. Fellows**, EdD graduate, published in Nursing Education Perspectives, vol. 45, no. 2, March/April 2024, "Contributors to Second-Degree Accelerated Student Success During the COVID-19 Pandemic as Perceived by Administrators, Directors, and Faculty: A Qualitative Descriptive Study"

- **Dr. Susie Jonassen** presented her dissertation research at the SNRS (Southern Nursing Research Society) 2024 Annual Conference

- **Dr. Quetina Howell** presented "How to Unlock Rockstar Program Success Through Collaborative Leadership" at the Rising Nurses 3rd World Virtual Summit on Nursing Education & Healthcare

- UWG THS School of Nursing Student Nurses Association members, **Janet Nichols** and **Tamara Young** along with faculty advisor, **Dr. Katie Morales**, volunteered at the 22nd Annual West Georgia Domestic Violence Shelter 5k

- UWG THS School of Nursing presenters at the Georgia Association for Nursing Education, Inc. (GANE) Conference 2024. **Dr. Lisa Pugsley** (EdD alumna), **Dr. Oliver Duah** (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs & Assistant Professor), **Ashly Moody** (Assistant Professor), and **Kelly Wilson** (MSN alumna)

- **Dr. Kim Crawford**, assistant professor, and her **CP3 class** visited the CDC museum



# Faculty, Staff, Students Get Honors, Awards & Publications

## FY 2023-2024 (cont)

### Spring Semester 2023 (cont)

- **Megan Ross**, EdD student, UWG THS School of Nursing, received a 2024 Alpha Alpha Chapter of STTI Research Grant for her research

- UWG THS School of Nursing student, **Jessica Friedl**, presented at UWG 2024 Scholars' Day

- UWG THS School of Nursing student, **Vekondja Ogbogu**, presented at UWG 2024 Scholars' Day

- UWG THS School of Nursing faculty, **Dr. Katie Morales** and **Dr. Cindy Johnson**, published their research in Nurse Education in Practice

- **Tai Diggs**, was awarded the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nursing Students by the DAISY Foundation (Wellstar Health System)

- **Dr. Denise Morris** received the 2024 UWG Inclusive Excellence Award

- **Dr. Jenny Schuessler**, Dean, UWG THS School of Nursing, received the 2024 UWG Leadership Award

- New members of the UWG Pi Nu Chapter 395 of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma), **Heidi Dulaney**, **Madison Luster**, **Janet Nichols**, **Arin Osby**, **Madison Whited** and **Lillian Wood**

### Summer Semester 2024

- **Dr. Sophia Robinson-Harris**, Assistant Professor, presented virtually "The 2025 Code of Ethics for Nurses: The Process and Your Role in the Revision"

- **Dr. Quetina Howell** received certification as a certified nurse educator

- **Becky Gentry**, BSN, RN, Clinical Placement Specialist, received Master of Science in Integrative Health and Wellness degree

- UWG THS School of Nursing CP4 students and **Dr. Nancy Capponi** and Assistant Professor **Ashly Moody** manned the first aid tent at the Rock'n The HOP Newnan Pickle Ball Tournament

- Recent graduate student at University of West Georgia Tanner Health System School of Nursing, **Brittany Robinson**, MSN RN CGRN, received notable recognition from the Society of Gastroenterology Nursing Association (SGNA) for her Capstone Project, "Enhancing Patient Safety Using Capnography During Endoscopy." She presented her project at the SGNA 51st Annual Course

- **Dr. Heather Bono**, Richards College of Business, and **Dr. Laura Caramanica**, UWG THS School of Nursing, presented at the USG Teaching & Learning Conference

- **Dr. Katie Morales** and **Kari Mau**, EdD student, attended the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Evaluator Training

- UWG THS School of Nursing Spring 2024 DAISY Award Recipients: **Tim Garnett**, Graduate Nursing Student; **Dr. Quetina Howell**, Assistant Professor; **Ashly Moody**, Assistant Professor; and **Janet Nichols**, Undergraduate Nursing Student

- UWG THS School of Nursing Spring Semester 2024 Award Recipients: **Tabitha Quillen**, Outstanding EdD Graduate Student Award; **Margo Chumley**, MSN Outstanding Nurse Educator Award; **Jada Alexander**, Clinical Nursing Excellence Award; **Noah Seagle**, BSN Nursing Excellence Award AND Dean's Award for Academic Achievement; and **Kira Dunn**, MSN Outstanding Health Systems Leadership Award

- UWG THS School of Nursing **Karilyn Breer**, MSN CNL student, and **Dr. Kelly Dyar** applied for and were accepted to attend the American Nephrology Nurses Association Advocacy and Policy Workshop

- **Dr. Susie Jonassen** published her original research: "The leadership experience of academic chief nurse administrators post pandemic" internationally in the Journal of Nursing Education and Practice

- **Christi Jordan**, assistant professor, presented, "Holistic Care Makes a Difference: Diverse Perspective Practice Stories," at the 44th Annual American Holistic Nurses Association

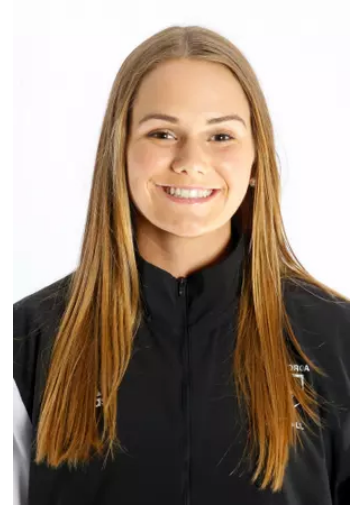
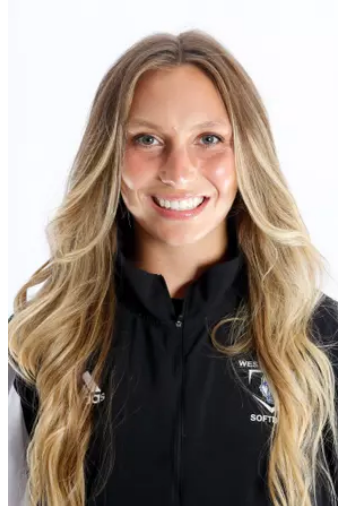
- UWG THS School of Nursing faculty, **Dr. Katie Morales**, **Dr. Cynthia Johnson** and **Dr. Nancy Capponi**, presented, "How to Get Undergraduate Students Interested in Research," at the 2024 ConnectUR annual conference

- **Dr. Oliver Duah** highlighted in the UWG Focus magazine, Volume 5, Spring 2024

- **Courtney Klink**, EdD student, UWG THS School of Nursing, for receiving the 2024 NLN Nursing Education Scholarship for her dissertation research. She will receive the award together with the \$8,000 scholarship at the NLN Education Summit

- Tanner Health System awarded UWG THS School of Nursing student, **Justin Smith**, a DAISY award for Extraordinary Nursing

# Nursing Students are Athletes Too!



Eight UWG student athletes are in the UWG THS School of nursing. Top row (l-r) Rylee Green, Softball; Cadence Hardison, Softball; Jacelyn Lahr, Softball; Emerson Miller, Softball. 2nd Row (l-r) Avery Moon, Women's Soccer; Marley Staats, Volleyball; Jaden Stanley, Football; and Addison Sturdivant.

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