

Winter
2021 Issue

Alumni Times

Clarkson College Alumni Magazine



Coming together
as a community

President's Message

The Clarkson College Master Plan and the 2019-2020 Strategic Plan, including *The Path to 150*, are published and have been presented to the College Board of Directors with thorough assessment and projection of needs and opportunities for growth in both academic programming and campus facilities. We are collectively optimistic as we move into the next academic year, with consistently high academic and service outcomes including student and employee satisfaction. Clarkson College stands ready to meet the needs of our community partners by continuing to graduate high quality, ethical and compassionate health care professionals.

Key Strategic Progress Report

ACADEMICS: *Evaluation and improvement of academic programs (emphasis on collegiate readiness and program development).*

Clarkson College developed programs and resource databases surrounding our readiness support capabilities (benchmarked to industry best practices). We also developed new academic programs that launched in Nursing, online instruction in PTA, expansion of MA and other allied health programs. We've also further refined and integrated Marketing and Communications and Technology support as critical to success.

STUDENT SERVICES: *Improve service to students (emphasis on partnerships and outreach).*

The College has developed many new partnerships which augment enrollment and professional development service opportunities. New partnership management databases better manage these expanded partnerships (and related agreements). Additionally, support for expansion of the College Advancement office was identified as critical to success.

QUALITY: *To improve the overall quality of the College (emphasis on wellness, compliance, master plan).*

Progress in this area provided early identification and intervention capabilities developed to support students with English as a second language (ELL), as well as furthered initiatives in diversity, financial literacy and campus wellness. The College Accreditation Committee also meets regularly, and as a result, training, institutional goals, and assessment of College organizational readiness compliance (retention, staffing, ongoing professional development) helps us manage and steward human and financial resources most effectively. Funding for renovations and new construction to support academic and financial goals will be critical to our growth and future success.

ANNUAL PROJECT: *Offer professional development for employees and students (emphasis on de-escalation).*

Representatives of this team reviewed literature and existing resources based on campus feedback surveys and developed de-escalation curriculum and training initiatives for College faculty, students and staff. Future work in this area entails a broadened focus to include leadership professional development.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this historic higher education institution. Your contributions of time and effort, as well as your continued prayers are essential to our success and maintaining local and regional recognition of the highest regard that Bishop Robert H. and Meliora Clarkson would be most proud of today.

Respectfully,
James Hauschildt, Ed.D



President, Clarkson College

Mission

Preparing students to professionally provide high quality, ethical and compassionate health care services.

Values

Learning

The lifelong process of education through both structured and unstructured experiences.

Excellence

A level of performance in which all individuals strive for extraordinary quality.

Integrity

Adherence to moral and ethical standards in personal, professional and organizational actions.

Commitment

Dedication and accountability to the shared mission of Clarkson College.

Caring

An empowering relationship through an attitude of empathy, compassion and respect for those with whom we interact, serve and lead.





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On the Cover

Florence Mortensen Cline ('44) visits with College Alumni Coordinator in her home. **6**

PHOTOGRAPH BY Clarkson College

Coming Together, While Far Apart

Community finds ways to connect for Spirit Week and Alumni Weekend

Each year, the College community gathers during Spirit Week and Alumni Weekend to celebrate our institution's history and legacy. In 2020, COVID-19 had a significant impact on the events, but alumni, employees and students came together to celebrate our Values of Integrity, Caring, Excellence, Commitment and Learning in new and unique ways. The community participated in socially distanced gatherings, online events and virtual meetups to celebrate the College and unite in our shared dedication to its Mission.

MONDAY – INTEGRITY

Spirit Week kicked off on Sept. 21, and the College celebrated the Value of Integrity with a boxed lunch event for all students and employees featuring a live performance by Omaha Street Percussion. The musicians performed in the Courtyard on campus while students and staff enjoyed a socially distanced meal.

Clarkson College also kicked off a donation drive on Sept. 21 to demonstrate their commitment to service. Community members were encouraged to collect items for Magdalene Omaha, an organization that provides recovery, housing, community and economic self-empowerment opportunities for survivors of sex trafficking, prostitution, trauma and addiction. Their mission is to deliver hope through four programs, each offering distinct support opportunities for female, male and transgender survivors at all points in their healing journeys.

By the end of the week, the College community gathered nearly 500 items for the organization including clothing, masks, hand sanitizer and household essentials. A monetary donation was also made to Magdalene Omaha from generous College community members.

TUESDAY – CARING

On Tuesday, Sept. 22, the College celebrated the Value of Caring with the second annual chalk drawing contest. The event, hosted by the Alumni Association and Student Activities Council, encouraged participants to create a drawing in the Courtyard that demonstrated the Value of Caring. Artists were required to complete their drawings in chalk and include the Maltese Cross as part of their creation.

Following the event, the College community had the opportunity to vote on their favorite works of art on the College Facebook page. Students Treasure Robb and Gracie Kliegl won the student category with their creation, and faculty members of the Radiography and Medical Imaging programs won the employee category. Both winners were awarded a \$100 gift card from the Alumni Association.

WEDNESDAY – EXCELLENCE

The community enjoyed a socially distanced health and wellness fair in the Courtyard on campus on Sept. 23 to showcase the Value of Excellence. Organized by Clarkson College faculty with the support of the Nebraska Medicine Guild, a non-profit organization that supports the education and outreach efforts of Nebraska Medicine and the College, the event featured several booths to support students' and employees' mental, physical, spiritual and financial wellness.

Several student groups participated in the fair by providing activities and services during the event. Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) students and faculty provided demonstrations featuring educational tools and patient care equipment. Faculty and students also

led groups in chair yoga to teach attendees relaxing stretches and poses that can be done throughout the work or school day. Members of the Undergraduate Nursing program provided blood pressure checks and Counselor Julie Brummer led participants in mindfulness exercises.

The event also included a booth offering free books for students and staff as well as relaxing activities such as adult coloring, crossword puzzles and sudoku. Also present were representatives from the Omaha Police and Fire Departments who provided attendees with information on best practices for safety in their homes and the community.

THURSDAY – COMMITMENT

Due to COVID-19, the Alumni Association was not able to host an in-person alumni event on campus this year. Instead, the College offered online experiences to encourage alumni to connect with one another and the College.

On Thursday, Sept. 24, the College celebrated the Value of Commitment with a Zoom brunch for all graduates. Participants heard from graduates of the Master of Science in Nursing program, which celebrated its 25-year anniversary, as well as recipients of the Gateway to Success Minority Nursing Scholarship, which celebrated its 20-year anniversary.

The College broadcast the Heritage Garden Walk over Zoom and Facebook Live so that alumni could hear about the College history and see the dedication of bricks in the Heritage Garden. This year, bricks were donated in honor of the Gateway Minority Scholarship 20-year anniversary and in memory of Joshua Georges, a member of the Radiography class of 2006.



This year's event included the crowning of Mr. and Ms. Clarkson as part of Alumni Weekend. Typically chosen later in the year, organizers wanted to highlight and nominate deserving students for these awards during Spirit Week to further recognize individuals who live out the College Values. This year's candidates for Ms. Clarkson included Kelsey Nieto, Brianne Earley and Mashaya Dierking. The nominees for Mr. Clarkson were Zak Hinzmann, Luis Ramirez and Stephen Spanel.

Ramirez, a student in the PTA program, and Dierking, a student in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, were named Mr. and Ms. Clarkson during the Heritage Garden Walk. Both students were nominated by the College community because they exemplify the five College Values daily and are active both on and off campus.

FRIDAY – LEARNING

The College celebrated the Value of Learning by hosting the continuing education event "The Impact of 3D Printing on Health Care" on Friday, Sept. 25. Participants attended the event through Zoom and heard from a panel of experts including Sarah A. Flora, BS, RT

(R)(MR)(ARRT), Program Director of the 3D Lab at Geisinger Health System, David Salazar, MS, Doctoral Research Assistant at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, and Gabe Linke, BS, RT (R)(MR)(ARRT), Advanced Imaging Program Coordinator at Children's Hospital & Medical Center.

The guest speakers addressed how medical 3D printing is rewriting the way medical professionals prepare for complex cases. Medical 3D prints such as anatomic models, implants, prosthetics, and simulators help save time as well as cost to the patient by allowing health care teams to study and practice, hence cutting surgical time and cost to the patient. Whether 3D prints are helping educate patients or researching new treatments, the possibilities of what this field of medicine has in store are endless.

Rather than gathering for an evening of food and entertainment, Alumni Weekend ended with an online trivia event on Friday evening. Employees, students and alumni formed teams and tuned in via Zoom for the chance to test their knowledge on topics such as sports, music, movies, history and more. Prizes were awarded to the top teams.



Watch as some of our Gateway to Success Minority Nursing Scholarship recipients share the impact of the award on their academic journeys in honor of the scholarship's 20-year anniversary.

View the full video [here](#).

Alumni Weekend

Sept. 23–24,
2021

SAVE THE DATE

The Clarkson College Alumni Association will host Alumni Weekend on Sept. 23–24, 2021 to honor all Bishop Clarkson Memorial School of Nursing and Clarkson College alumni. This year's event will honor the anniversary classes of 1971 (50 years), 1981 (40 years) and 1996 (25 years) although all graduates are invited to join us for a celebration and the chance to gather and reminisce. We will also host reunions for the classes of 1970, 1980 and 1995 who were unable to join us on campus in 2020.

Alumni Weekend will coincide with Spirit Week from Sept. 20–24, an event that honors our institutional Values of Integrity, Caring, Excellence, Learning and Commitment. More information regarding events and how to register will be provided later this year.

If you have any questions, contact alumni@clarksoncollege.edu

House Call

Alumna gets special visit from the College

Like many others, Florence Mortensen Cline ('44) had been looking forward to the Clarkson College Alumni Weekend event in 2020. It would have been a chance to meet with former classmates in person, catch up on each other's lives and celebrate with one another. COVID-19, however, had other plans and to help keep the community safe, the College decided to move all Alumni Weekend events online. Saddened but understanding, Florence sat down to write a letter to the College and tell the community what she wouldn't be able to share during Alumni Weekend.

Inspired by her letter, College President Dr. James Hauschildt and Alumni & Advancement Coordinator Kat Pursell ('19) took Florence up on her offer for a visit and stopped by her house during Spirit Week. It was the chance to gain insight into the history and people who make Clarkson College what it is today—an institution driven by the passion and dedication of its community.

Florence and Gene, her husband of nearly 78 years, welcomed the guests into their home in Omaha, Neb. Prominently displayed in the living room, right next to Gene's photo from his time in the military, was Florence's graduation photo from the Bishop Clarkson Memorial School of Nursing. The photo shows Florence in her white nurse's cap, which she proudly wore along with her nurse's cape during the visit.

Just shy of her 98th birthday, Florence could still remember the names of many of her Bishop Clarkson Memorial School of Nursing classmates. "What I remember most are my best friends," she said. As she pulled out scrapbooks and showed photos of her classmates, she spoke about the time spent playing tricks, both on one another and on school administrators. "We would sneak out through the fire escape, and to get back in, you had to have someone down waiting for you at the door," she said.



Florence's school photo proudly displayed alongside her husband Gene's service photo.

Breaking curfew wasn't Florence's only act of rebellion. During the time she was enrolled at the School of Nursing, students were prohibited from getting married. "If you were married, the idea was that you would spend too much time with your husband, and not enough on school," she said. She and Gene, however, met and decided to get married while Florence was still a student. They kept their marriage a secret from school administrators for years until Florence graduated and passed her nursing exams.

During the visit, Florence and Dr. Hauschildt spoke about the changes in the nursing field as well as the school. Long since retired, Florence keeps up with the roles of nurses by speaking with her grandson, who is a licensed nurse practitioner. She said she marvels at his abilities and how his education differs from her own training. "I love speaking to him," she said. "He knows the reasons behind everything he does. Nurses now can do things that are way beyond me."

Nevertheless, today's nurses are building on the legacy that Florence and her classmates helped establish years ago. It's a legacy that resonates with today's graduates just as much as it did with Florence. Her love of the profession shows no sign of diminishing, and her appreciation for the education she received from Bishop Clarkson Memorial School of Nursing is evident whenever she speaks about the school.

Florence's guests left her home reminded of how fortunate the institution is to have alumni who continue to share our institution's story and inspire future generations.



Dr. Hauschildt helps Florence don her nurse's cap.

Sept. 7, 2020

Dear Clarkson Friends,

Such a pause in our lives. Never thought a "bug" that I could not see or identify would stop the world so radically. So, of course it will be impossible for me or my "big sister" to attend together, which I had hoped to do this fall.

My "big sister", Emily Zabka Bellinghiere who was 99 on July 14, and myself, Florence Mortensen Cline, 98 on Sept. 26, had planned to get together, but wow, Corona flew in and we are now home based. Emily and I think we are the only living ones in our classes. Both used to be redheads—or strawberry blonde—now, I'm totally grey.

My husband of nearly 78 years and myself are healthy as far as we know—just moving a lot slower. We are still in our own home with our daughters nearby to see that we have help where it is needed.

I am still very interested in what nurses now know and what is expected of them. (My grandson is an LPN, and he knows and does more procedures than I can think of). I am so proud of what I hear and see on TV, although I am not actually a TV fan, as I keep busy doing craft items, keeping the beds made, waiting for my daughters to show up to take me somewhere—anywhere! Sewing has been a hobby, along with dominoes, card games, church, praying for our country and the young people who will eventually be in charge. Maybe one of today's Clarkson College nurses will be mayor

here in Omaha. She or he will be a leader of some value I am sure.

I showed my Bishop Clarkson School cap and pins to a young friend last week. They don't wear white like we did (and I was so excited when that day came). I have kept a few things, especially my cape, and I wear it once a year if possible—no moth holes yet! I also have the grey dress we wore as students. I disliked fixing our caps, collars and cuffs (I still have two of mine, starched and ready to go—ha! My hair is off my collar by a couple of inches.

I hope I'm around and able to attend in 2021, as I so enjoyed and was blessed in my nursing career. God's blessing to all Clarkson students and fellow graduates.

Florence Mortensen Cline
Class of 1944

With Gratitude

Clarkson College extends a warm thank you to all individuals who donated to our institution this past year. Throughout 2020, as well as during our Choose to Give campaign in fall 2020, donors raised more than \$56,000.

Your contributions helped fund academic scholarships, including the Academic Integrity Excellence Award and a new diversity scholarship, as well as contributed to the Student Emergency Fund, which assists students during times of financial difficulty.

Thank you for supporting our students and helping them achieve their goals of becoming ethical and compassionate health care professionals.

Karen M. Abboud* ('05, '12)
JoAnn M. Acierno* ('07)
Daniel Aksamit*
Frances Anderson ('64)
Jen Anderson ('10)
Becky Allen*
Siti Arshad-Snyder*
Lori Bachle*
Thomas A. Bamford
Joey S. Battles*
Shaylene Baumgartner*
Steven B. Black
Joan M. Blum* ('81, '86, '01)
Patricia M. Brennan*
Tony Brostek-Van Manen ('19)
James D. Browning*
Stacey L. Buckley ('00)
Kitty Cappellano*
Candice Carter ('11)
Nicole E. Caskey*
Kimberly Ciurej*
Clarkson Regional Health Services
Ellen L. Collins*
Council of Independent Nebraska
Colleges Foundation
Marsha K. Cravens*
Kendra L. Croghan ('17)
Jayne Cromer*
Catherine Cruz-Montes ('20)
Marie Dahlberg*
Lisa DeLair*
Jean M. Delfs
Amie Dirkschneider ('09, '10)
Carla K. Dirkschneider* ('07)
Mary L. Dishman* ('85, '91)
William & Mary Jo Dixon
Mary L. Dobleman ('94)
Hope Dogbevia*
Colleen E. Dummer ('95)
Kelly J. Eaton* ('06)
Sharon Eden*
Helen M. Ehm ('14)
Michael Ehrecke*
Natalie Eilers*
Laura Enenbach*
Carole J. Engquist ('83)
Angela Y. Felton-Coleman ('06, '15)
Sophie Feng*
Dawn Fichter*
Sarah Flanagan*
Will Fleig*
Debra K. Floreani ('75)
Susan C. Flurry ('85)
Jodi Flynn

David S. Fuller ('75)
Katherine Fuller*
Katie K. Fulton* ('04)
Ruth A. Gahan ('79, '85)
Leanne Galvan*
Charles Gaumond
Ann Glow*
Terry K. Hack*
Ann M. Hagenau* ('95)
Susan Hall*
Jamie Halverson*
Suzanne L. Hanna ('06)
Janet K. Hansen ('92)
Adam Hardy*
Kathy A. Harrison* ('07, '17)
James Hauschildt*
Cydni Hauser
Samantha Headley*
Caitlin Hebrew*
Anne Heimann*
Robyn Heiser*
Angela Hemminger ('67, '91)
Nikie J. Herrera ('70)
Heather Hickland
Layna J. Himmelberg*
Julie Hines ('77)
Norma A. Hintz ('87, '88)
Pam Holtz*
Stephanie Hopp*
Laurina Hoss*
Beckie Humanik*
Mary Jo Jelinek*
Linda Jensen*
Lori Jerina*
Jay M. Jevne ('16)
Janine Johnson*
Lindsey Johnson*
Candie Jones* ('20)
Pam Jones*
Gretchen Jopp*
Bailey Jorgensen*
Jeanette Kassmeier ('72, '86)
Hannah M. Keenportz ('16)
Maureen R. Kelp ('72, '83)
Cecilia C. Kiefer ('77)
Valerine King*
Katherine Kirkpatrick*
Andrea M. Kwiatkowski* ('12)
Tim L'Heareux*
Chris Landon*
Megan Lane*
Jane Langemeier*
Ruth A. Larkins ('84)
Travis & Alison Lavine

Kristin Ledvina ('13)
 Leslie Leget
 Patricia M. Lett ('88)
 Susan Leutzinger* ('89, '09)
 Jade Liles*
 Andrew Lim ('18)
 Jerilyn List*
 Margaret Lorimor
 Neil Lulla*
 Chuck MacDonell*
 Kathryn A. Madsen ('16)
 Sharon J. Mantz*
 Amy L. Masek*
 Christine D. Mason*
 Jennifer Mayotte*
 Melanie McCluskey*
 Pam McDonald-Jones*
 Kassie R. McKenny* ('07)
 Nancy McMahon*
 Jennifer Memolo*
 Brittany Metzler
 Kimberly L. Miller ('17)
 Neka Miller*
 Desiree L. Milner ('10)
 Shirley J. Mondero ('95)
 Kiara Monteith
 William Montgomery*
 Joann Morris ('54)
 Paul Nathenson*
 Kristin Ndoda*
 Andreia Nebel*
 Nebel Family
 Colleen M. Nielsen ('89)
 Jessica M. Niemann* ('99, '16)
 Katherine Noden*
 Emily O'Neill*
 Ashley B. Oetken ('15)
 Cheryl L. Olomon ('71)
 Aubray D. Orduña*
 Denny Owens*
 Rebecca S. Paar ('97)
 Jina Paul*
 Kyle Peacock*
 Rachel Pfeifer*
 Sherri L. Porter*
 Cynthia A. Privitera ('01)
 Katherine Pursell* ('19)
 Devika Ramachandran*
 Bosie Rand*
 Brenda Randall-Jensen
 Adrienne Rochleau*
 Reid Roemmich*
 Liz Rogan*
 Renee M. Ruhkamp* ('09)

Marilyn Russell*
 Karen M. Sander ('66)
 Greta Schoneman*
 Paula J. Schreurs ('02)
 William Schroeder
 Ryan P. Schurman*
 Doris F. Sell ('65)
 Victoria Shaw*
 Teresa Shepherd*
 Chris Shives*
 Nicole Shives*
 Luke Sieburg*
 Erin J. Sillman*
 Kathleen V. Smith
 Rachelle Smith ('19)
 Susan F. Stogdill ('87)
 Danna Swartz
 Julie Taylor-Costello*
 Laura Thayer-Mencke*
 Regina Toman*
 Shirley L. Travis
 Rebecca Van Gundy*
 Ann Van Hoff
 Rita A. VanFleet ('67, '94, '06)
 Ricardo Varguez*
 David Vasquez*
 Myrna J. Vasta ('74, '89)
 Kristen Villarreal*
 James Voge*
 Natalie J. Vrbka*
 Cheryl F. Walburn*
 Andrea Walker*
 Erin M. Wallace ('19, '20)
 Christine Walton*
 Jerry and Naomi Warner
 Fallon Watts*
 Patricia R. Weber* ('95, '08, '11)
 Shelli J. Weddum* ('05, '11)
 Marcia Weeks ('65)
 Karen N. White ('70)
 Megan Wickless-Mulder*
 Edwina L. Wilber ('97)
 Jennifer Wilson*
 Jessica Wissink*
 Michael Witte*
 Shelli Wobken-Plagge
 Daniel Wojtalewicz*
 Ken Zeiger*
 Sara A. Zimbelman ('72)

* [Clarkson College employee](#)

Making your contribution

If you are interested in making a contribution to Clarkson College, visit ClarksonCollege.edu/donate or mail directly to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101 S 42nd Street, Omaha, NE 68131.

All attempts have been made to correctly acknowledge contributed donations. If any errors have occurred, please contact:

alumni@clarksoncollege.edu/donate

Alumni Association Awards

Academic Integrity Scholarship

The Alumni Association funds the Academic Integrity Scholarship each semester to honor students who demonstrate the institutional Value of Integrity. The summer 2020 recipient of the award was Anna Fortina ('13, '20) who was enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing program.

The \$250 gift is available to one graduating undergraduate or graduate student for academic expenses including board exam costs, outstanding tuition or certification fees. Applicants must have zero academic integrity violations on their record and exemplify what it means to maintain moral and ethical standards as a student and health care provider.

To apply for the award, Fortina submitted an essay where she explained what academic integrity means to her. "Integrity is a characteristic that I've fostered throughout my own personal life, learning as I go, but always trying as hard as I can to maintain," she wrote. "I have the courage to do what is right, even when it is difficult, and I try to inspire others to do the same."

Fortina earned her Bachelor's degree in Nursing in 2013 from Clarkson College and returned to earn her Master's degree in Nursing Health Care Administration in 2020. She now works as a Nurse Manager at a hospital, and integrity has been an integral part of both her academic and professional journeys.

"I take my education seriously and commit to academic integrity for every project, assignment, and clinical experience knowing that this commitment is in my own best interest for my education," she wrote. "I am rigorous with my coursework and have overcome obstacles in distance learning, but have stayed committed to my graduate plan and persistence in my educational goals."



I have the courage to
do what is right, even when
it is difficult, and I try to inspire
others to do the same.



Community Partners

Spotlight with Daryl Kuchera from MSForward

When it comes to preparing well qualified, compassionate health care providers, the time Clarkson College students spend out in the community is just as important as the time they spend studying. Through community partnerships, the College provides students with opportunities to interact with individuals of all backgrounds, situations and abilities. One relationship that reflects the invaluable experiences students gain is between Clarkson College and MSForward, a non-profit organization founded by Daryl Kuchera and based in Omaha, Neb.

“

In each workout, we try to combine the emotional, mental and physical aspects of everything that we do.

DARYL KUCHERA

”

MSForward began as a gym where Kuchera provided high school athletes a space to train for their upcoming sports seasons. Only one month after opening in 2001, however, he began experiencing concerning symptoms and shortly after, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS). In spite of his diagnosis and changing health, he kept the gym open to athletes. Eventually, his physical therapist suggested he explore the possibility of modifying the space for individuals who shared his diagnosis, many of whom had nowhere to continue their therapy after leaving the therapist's office.

“So that's what we did,” said Kuchera. “We met with the MS Society and neurologists around Omaha, and we revamped our programs to work with individuals with MS, and then eventually we added Parkinson's disease, dementia and sight impairment accommodations to our services.”

In 2003, the gym became MSForward, which now offers individuals faced with medical conditions a place to build a community while improving their physical health. Through in-person and online sessions, clients can practice yoga, strength training and cognitive therapy, all within a safe environment that can accommodate their physical needs. Each course is based on the idea that movement is medicine and has the power to improve mood, focus, energy, strength and coordination in individuals with neurological conditions or injuries.



It's the physical, mental and social benefits that Clarkson College Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) students can provide to MSForward clients. The two organizations began working together in 2009 when they established an opportunity for students to complete service requirements at the MSForward gym. Over the years, the relationship has only grown stronger.

While at the facility, students work with individuals with MS as well as other conditions such as cerebral palsy, Parkinson's disease and neurological injury as they work through suggested exercises and stretches recommended by medical professionals. Students help record client statistics to measure progress and learn methods to help individuals modify exercises to meet their needs.

Following completion of their service learning projects, students submit essay assignments where they reflect on their experiences at MSForward. Over the years, students have commented on both the personal and professional insights they gained at the gym.

"Being at MSForward, I was able to learn a lot more about multiple sclerosis and how that affects a person and their daily life," wrote one student. "It also gave me a look at how to work with a patient with multiple sclerosis as a future PTA. I was able to learn about what their body can handle and the types of pain and limitations they are dealing with."

According to Kuchera, the relationships built between clients and Clarkson College students are like none he has ever seen. "It's amazing what is happening here," he said. "It is like a family—when

the semester is done and the students are done, they all get hugs from the patients."

Students in turn, recognize the two-way relationships that they are establishing at MSForward. "Upon finishing my service-learning project through Clarkson College, I felt that I touched the lives of the individuals I worked with and made a difference in their day," one student wrote. "With that being said, they also left a mark on me, and I am grateful I had the chance to build on new relationships within the community."

It is for this reason that Clarkson College incorporates service learning into every program curriculum. Through these opportunities, students learn to live out the Value of Caring and form relationships with community partners that change their lives long past graduation.



MSForward Testimonials

"MSForward was a huge eye-opening experience for me. Once the clients started showing up, I realized how upbeat and positive everyone was. I had a lot of fun participating in the workouts. I've never seen a group of people who are physically being challenged in every aspect of their lives work so hard. The mental toughness was incredible and a true learning experience."

"I have gained more respect toward myself and other people as I have become more appreciative of how healthy I am... I have also created a great relationship with Daryl through this program and have talked to him about coming back to help volunteer more due to the great time I had there."

"One major benefit of having physical therapist assistant students interacting with the community is being able to give more information about the profession of physical therapy. A few common questions I received from some of Daryl's clients were 'what is physical therapy exactly?' 'What do physical therapists do?', and 'how is physical therapy different from just going to a gym?' I feel that I was able to advocate for the profession in the community while providing members of the community with pertinent information."

"I think that all students should do some type of service-learning activity. It helps students get familiar with the types of things they will be seeing in their careers. For PTA students in particular, it helps you get some confidence in instructing someone to do exercises and encouraging them through their exercises, all because you want to see them feel better."

Visit [MSForward.org](https://www.msforward.org) to learn more.

www.msforward.org



Cross-Country Care

Two students travel to the East Coast to provide support during the pandemic



The resiliency and strength of the health care work force has never been more apparent than during the COVID-19 pandemic. It has affected everyone and even took two recent graduates of the Master of Science in Nursing – Nurse Anesthesia program option, Josh Annett, BSN, RN, LP, CRNA ('20) and Brandon Barnhart, BSN, RN, CRNA ('20), to one of the hardest hit areas of the country. The two spent nearly a month in New York treating COVID-19 patients in the spring of 2020. In the midst of the harrowing experience, they saw firsthand the impact they and their fellow health care workers have in helping the nation get through the pandemic.

To find placement in areas that needed support during the pandemic, Barnhart and Annett worked with a travel nurse recruiting organization. The two signed on to complete a 21-day contract in the



Barnhart (Back row) and his fellow health care workers at the Jacobi Medical Center.

spring and within two days of getting the call that they had been placed at the Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, they were on a plane to New York.

For both men, the decision to go to New York was not a difficult one to make; they knew their skills and experience would be invaluable to the people of the community. "The main reason I decided to travel to New York was to help," said Annett. "I have helped with disaster relief efforts in the past, and I knew how appreciated it was to have 'fresh bodies' to help carry the workload."

It was an opportunity to further live out his calling as a nurse and demonstrate his commitment to caring for the community. "We are in this business to help people in their worst times, possibly when they are having the absolute worst day of their lives," he said.

"Add that to a pandemic, and there is no way I could sit on the side lines."

Similarly, Barnhart knew this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to share his talents and help others. "I chose to go to New York to help during the COVID-19 pandemic because I felt guilty that I was sitting around at home while my fellow nurses were fighting to save people's lives during what will one day be remembered as one of the most difficult times in medical and US history," he said. "I wanted the opportunity to take care of the sickest patients, and being a healthy available nurse, I thought it was my duty to do what I could, while I could."

**Every day
I was there
I felt like I
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for something
greater than
myself.**





When Barnhart and Annett arrived in New York, it was unlike anything they could have imagined. Popular tourist spots like Times Square as well as bars, restaurants and other gathering places were eerily empty and in stark contrast to the clinics and hospitals that were hectic and packed with people.

Between the 12 to 14-hour shifts the two worked and the shutdown of the city, Barnhart and Annett saw little other than their hotel rooms and the hospital. They wouldn't have had it any other way, however, because they knew they were making an impact in patients' lives. "Every day I was there I felt like I was working for something greater than myself," said Annett.

During their time at the hospital, the two saw COVID-19 patients of all ages and abilities with a wide range of

medical histories and conditions. The staff faced challenges including lack of proper equipment and space, as well as the risk of provider burnout. In spite of the setbacks, however, working at the hospital allowed Barnhart and Annett the opportunity to work with nurses, physicians, respiratory care technicians and other providers from all backgrounds and specialties.

Now back in the Midwest, Barnhart and Annett know the pandemic is far from over. Their experiences here may differ slightly than in New York, but the dedication of health care workers is apparent wherever they go.

Their message to people working with COVID-19 patients is to stay diligent while finding the balance they need to fight complacency. "You are a working backbone in history right now—

remember the excitement you felt when you got the phone call or email that you were accepted into nursing school or when you accepted your first job to help get through it all," said Annett. "Most of all, lean on one another because we are all stronger together."

"For those of you out there still fighting, keep fighting," said Barnhart. "If you keep fighting for others, you won't always win, but if you don't fight, we will always lose."

Photo: Times Square nearly completely empty during the city-wide shutdown.

College Waives Application and Enrollment Fees

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to strain the health care workforce, and Clarkson College is continually looking for ways to encourage individuals to pursue careers within the field. To help encourage enrollment in health care academic programs, the College is waiving the \$35 application fee for all applicants starting November 1, 2020 through the start of the fall 2021 semester. As an additional measure, the institution is waiving the \$100 enrollment deposit for students that are admitted to the College.

"The demand for health care professionals is significant right now, and the pandemic has increased interest

in the field," says President Dr. James Hauschildt. "We want to ensure as many individuals as possible can explore a career in health care through education at Clarkson College."

The goal is to help alleviate any barriers to enrollment and encourage individuals to take the next step in furthering their careers as health care professionals. Students can pursue positions in highly sought-after fields in Nursing, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiography and Medical Imaging, Healthcare Business, Health Information Management, Community Health and Education and Leadership.

If you or anyone you know is considering applying to one of our programs, now is an excellent time. For questions, contact the Enrollment & Advising team at

402.552.3100 or admissions@clarksoncollege.edu or visit clarksoncollege.edu/Academics to learn more.

Community Gives Back During Holiday Season

The Clarkson College community came together this holiday season to support local organizations and demonstrate their commitment to the institution's Value of Caring. Students and employees gave hundreds of hours and monetary donations to support the community and spread holiday cheer.

Annual Giving Tree

Members of the Student Government Association (SGA) set up their annual Giving Tree on campus in fall 2020. Employees and community members selected paper ornaments from the tree containing wish lists from local children. After community members dropped the items off on campus, SGA members wrapped and delivered the gifts to Children's Square, an organization that serves families and children in the Council Bluffs and Omaha areas.

Students Adopt Families

Each year, Radiography and Medical Imaging students partner with Calling the Hope Revolution into Service (CHRS) organization to adopt a local family who is in need of assistance during the holiday season. Throughout the fall 2020 semester, members of the Radiography Student Association as well as the Lambda Nu Honor Society raised hundreds of dollars to purchase gift cards the families could use to purchase food, gifts, clothing and other items.

Nursing Students Administer Flu Shots

Undergraduate Nursing students enrolled in the Population Health IV course kicked off the Nebraska Medicine annual flu vaccination clinic by delivering more than 200 vaccinations to employees and students. The clinic was a trial run with the new COVID-19 precautions in place including gloves, mask and goggles for all vaccination distributors. Each station was placed six feet apart and sanitized every half hour, and employees were also required to pre-schedule appointments to avoid crowding.

New Directors Lead Academic and Service Departments

Rebecca Weber-Van Gundy,
Director of Marketing
and Communications



Rebecca Weber-Van Gundy joined the Clarkson College community as the Director of Marketing and Communications in September 2020. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is currently pursuing her Accreditation in Public Relations and will start her Master's in Corporate and Organizational Communication from Northeastern University this summer. Her professional background includes working as a fundraising and communications consultant for political and non-profit organizations, which led to the creation of her own consulting business which she managed for 11 years. Before coming to Clarkson College, she also worked at two local integrated marketing agencies, specializing in content marketing and public relations.

Although she's only been working at the College for a few months, Van Gundy has long been aware of the institution. Over ten years ago, a close friend graduated with her Bachelor's degree in Nursing from the College, and Van Gundy attended the pinning ceremony in Howard Hall.

This connection served as the basis for her desire to work for the institution. "The opportunity to promote one brand, specifically one that I had a personal connection to and is making our community a better place, appealed to me," she said.

Since joining the College, Van Gundy has established goals for the upcoming year to help the Marketing and Communications department further the institution's Mission. These goals include building a strategic content and communications framework, increasing local awareness through public relations and community engagement initiatives, and building out current audience personas for each academic program's target audience. Together, these goals will help the department deliver clear messages to the community that will increase awareness of the benefits Clarkson College has to offer.

"My background in public relations lends me the opportunity to expand those marketing channels to further the Clarkson College name and increase our awareness in the local and surrounding areas," she said.

Van Gundy is excited to see these efforts translate into tangible results such as increased enrollment within the next year. As the College continues to grow, Van Gundy plans to position the Marketing and Communications Department so that it can share this growth with the

"My background in public relations lends me the opportunity to expand those marketing channels to further the Clarkson College name and increase our awareness in the local and surrounding areas."

In August 2020, Clarkson College welcomed Regina M. Toman, PhD, SHRM-CP, as the Director of the Healthcare Education and Leadership (Ed.D.) program. Dr. Toman earned her Bachelor's degree in English and Speech Communication from Nebraska Wesleyan University. She holds two Master's degrees in Higher Education with specialties in Student Affairs and Counseling as well as Leadership and Adult Education from Syracuse University and the University of Maine-Orono. Her doctorate degree is in Higher Education Administration and Leadership from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Throughout her career, Dr. Toman has held positions in both academics and student affairs at public and private universities in the Midwest and East Coast. She has taught both undergraduate and graduate students in a variety of areas and recently served in an academic and faculty human resources position at the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

The reputation of Clarkson College and the opportunity to contribute to health care education brought her to the institution. "The possibility of joining such a respected institution focused on health care education and student success was most appealing to me, and my positive impressions of Clarkson College have proven 100% true since I started here," she said.

As director of the Ed.D. program, Dr. Toman will have the opportunity to work with students pursuing their doctorate degree in Healthcare Education and Leadership at Clarkson College. She looks forward to supporting students through the doctoral journey and continuing the program's success. "Partnering with the talented faculty scholars who teach in the program, I plan to build upon the success of the Ed.D. program and lead its evolution into a nationally recognized, premier doctoral program for health care educators and leaders," she said.

**Dr. Regina M. Toman,
Director of Healthcare
Education and Leadership**



“ I plan to build upon the success of the Ed.D. program and lead its evolution into a nationally recognized, premier doctoral program for health care educators and leaders. **”**

College Announces Partnership with Vetter Senior Living

Clarkson College is pleased to announce an educational community partnership with Vetter Senior Living, the region's premiere provider of rehabilitation and long-term care services for the aging population. The partnership will offer team members as well as their spouses and dependent children a reduced tuition rate, preferred application status and employee tuition reimbursement.

The two organizations share a long history benefitting Clarkson College students as well as the workforce and patients of Vetter Senior Living. The expanded partnership will build on this relationship and lead to growth for both institutions.

"This educational partnership expansion evolved because of the connectedness of our organizations' missions and values and our shared dedication to living those values," said Vice President of Academics Affairs Dr. Andreia Nebel. "Clarkson College and Vetter Senior Living are committed to quality experiences, excellence, teamwork and integrity, and we look forward to this partnership as we continue to serve our students, Vetter Senior Living residents and employees, and the community at large."

Through the partnership, all Vetter Senior Living employees, as well as their spouses and dependent children, will receive a 30% reduced

tuition rate at Clarkson College for specific programs. Employees are also eligible for the tuition reimbursement program through Vetter Senior Living to offer even more access to continuing education.

All applicants who meet admissions qualifications and are seeking enrollment in online programs will be accepted. Preference will be given to applicants enrolling in on-campus programs through additional points on their application. Participants are also eligible to apply for Clarkson College academic scholarships and financial aid, and graduates will have the opportunity to gain salary and advancement potential at Vetter Senior Living.

The partnership leads the way to creating a more highly trained workforce and opportunities for career advancement. "Clarkson College provides most of its educational degree programming through an online platform with part- and full-time options available, which meets the needs of Vetter Senior Living employees," said Dr. Nebel. "We also both serve a multi-state area, which allows us to offer opportunities to employees across the nation."

Vetter Senior Living embodies their mission of Dignity in Life through building meaningful relationships with residents, families and staff. Their goals and vision align closely with the Clarkson College Values and Mission to prepare students to provide high quality, ethical and compassionate health care services.

Learn more

clarksoncollege.edu/vetter-partnership.

Purchase College Merchandise Online

Alumni and community members can now purchase College-branded apparel and accessories online using the new Marketplace website. The store features a variety of clothing options as well as items including backpacks, hats, water bottles and more. Visit clarksoncollege.mybrightsites.com to complete your purchase.

<https://clarksoncollege.mybrightsites.com>



Community Members Honored by the March of Dimes



The March of Dimes Nebraska and Western Iowa chapter honors nursing professionals each year during their Nurse of the Year awards ceremony. In fall 2020, two Clarkson College community members earned nominations in their respective categories. March of Dimes held a virtual event on Dec. 1 to announce the award winners and celebrate all nominees and their dedication to the nursing profession.

Dr. Lori Jerina, Academic Educator of the Year Nominee

Lori Jerina, DNP, APRN-CNM, was nominated for the March of Dimes Academic Educator of the Year award. An Assistant Professor in the Undergraduate Nursing program, Dr. Jerina has been with Clarkson College since 2016. Her nomination for the award came from her colleagues at the College.

"This is such an incredible nomination that means so much more because it came from my peers," she said. "It means so much to be recognized."

Dr. Jerina earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She also received her Master's degree from the University of Cincinnati and her doctorate degree from Nebraska Methodist College. Her

career spans a wide range of experiences in both metropolitan and rural settings in intensive care and labor and delivery units. According to Dr. Jerina, it is these experiences that made her want to enter the education field.

"I have always loved the education aspect of nursing and come from a family of teachers," she said. "I have had so many different roles in nursing, that I wanted to share my experiences with others and make an impact as a nurse educator."

Nominees for the Academic Education of the Year award must demonstrate distinction in education, conducting research or providing practice expertise to nursing students. They must also promote a positive nursing image, exhibit strong leadership skills and exemplify an extraordinary level of care and compassion.

Gracie Kliegl, Student Nurse of the Year Nominee

Gracie Kliegl, who is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program at Clarkson College, was nominated for the Student Nurse of the Year award. Kliegl plans to graduate from the program in December 2021 and become a nurse in an intensive care unit. Eventually, she plans to continue her

education at the College and become a nurse anesthetist.

During her years at the College, Kliegl has shown dedication to both the institution as well as the nursing profession. Her nomination by faculty demonstrates her commitment to excellence both personally and academically

"Being nominated for the Student Nurse of the Year award is such a great honor," she said. "It shows that I have made an impact throughout my time here at Clarkson College. I strive to help others and show how great the school is, and I cannot thank the College enough for this amazing opportunity, I greatly appreciate it."

Kliegl is a member of several organizations on campus including the Student Government Association, Student Ambassadors, Student Nurses Association and Residence Hall Council. It is her involvement with the College and her profession that led to her nomination.

Nominees for the Student Nurse of the Year award must have been enrolled in a nursing program for at least one year and reflect a record of academic excellence.

PTA Faculty Member Earns Clinical Excellence Award

Karen Abboud, PTA, MHA, CLT, Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Education for the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program earned the 2020 American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Nebraska Chapter Clinical Excellence Award in honor of her dedication to providing students with an outstanding PTA education.

Abboud was honored on the Clarkson College campus during a small, socially distanced ceremony on Dec. 10. APTA Chapter President Grace Knott, PT, GCS, presented the award and Dan McCutchen, PT, DPT, OCS, Chapter Secretary, and Michael Wellsandt, PT, DPT, OCS, Chapter Treasurer, as well as Abboud's family were also present. The Clinical Excellence Award is given to one individual who is respected by their peers as an active APTA member and who contributes to PTA education, management, patient care or research.

As a long-time APTA supporter and member, Abboud was honored to be recognized by the organization. "One of the highest honors is to be recognized by your peers, and I hold this as one of my most honored achievements and a highlight of my professional career," she said. "I do what I do because I love it and it doesn't feel like work. I wouldn't be where I am today without the love and support of my husband and kids, family, friends and colleagues!"

"I have been actively involved with APTA at the state and national level for many years and do so because I am passionate about what I do and feel it is important to advocate for the profession of physical therapy and the role of the physical therapist assistants as well as serve as a role model for my students."

In her work with students and clinical educators, Abboud encourages individuals to get involved with APTA. Along with patient care and continuing education resources, she notes the numerous benefits the organization has to offer.

"There is so much more to the profession than what people typically think of as physical therapy or patient care," she said. "APTA endorses advocacy and legislative efforts that support what I love to do. They also provide networking opportunities that allow students and professionals to meet and work with amazing individuals from across the country and collaborate with other educators. Additionally, they allow people to serve the community, advance their knowledge-base, present at local and national conferences, along with providing the highest quality of care using the latest research."

To learn more about APTA, visit www.aptanabraska.org



Upcoming Events

Alumni Book Club

All alumni are invited to join Alumni Association and Clarkson College Leadership in a book club discussion this season. Participation is free, and members can join the discussion via Zoom. This year, participants will read *Little Leadership Lessons... from an Old Guy* by Glenn Van Ekeren, available for purchase on Amazon.

The discussion will take place on March 1 at 7 p.m. To register, visit: www.clarksoncollege.edu/alumni

LITTLE LEADERSHIP LESSONS

FROM AN OLD GUY

GLENN VAN EKEREN

Grand Opening of the Clarkson College Commons and Education Center

Campus expands to accommodate highest new student spring enrollment and incorporate new technology

Clarkson College celebrated the grand opening of the new Clarkson Commons and Education Center in January with students and faculty using the building at the beginning of the spring 2021 semester. The added space will help the College accommodate the highest new student spring enrollment in its history.

Located at Douglas and 42nd Streets, the building formerly housed the Clarkson Family Medical practice. The space underwent major renovations and was funded in conjunction with Clarkson College partners Nebraska Medicine and Clarkson Regional Health Services (CRHS).

"As a leader in health care education, we recognize the importance of offering our students the latest in technology and support," said President Dr. James Hauschildt. "This new space will help students reach their full potential and allow us to continue to fulfill our Mission of preparing them to be the best in health care."

The project was spurred by the growth of the College, which increased the need for additional student study space, classrooms and offices. The additional 14,000 square feet gives students three multipurpose, high-tech classrooms with stadium-like seating for a better learning experience and provides faculty the

opportunity to teach in a modern space. The building also offers open study space and four private group study rooms, each equipped with screens and technology to allow students to share and collaborate as they learn.

Undergraduate Nursing student and Student Government Association President Gracie Kliegl notes that the new building will offer students an advanced, interactive learning environment. "As health care professionals, we will be expected to keep up with the vastly changing medical field," she said. "The new building gives us the opportunity to learn in interactive ways, improve collaboration, and prepare us to enter our fields."

Faculty members are looking forward to utilizing the space in the upcoming semester as well. "I am excited to teach in a space designed for a large lecture environment that still allows for ease of movement and student interactions," said Jeri List, Associate Professor of General Education. "With the retractable wall between the two classrooms, elevated seating for students, and the technology needed to teach in-person and online simultaneously, the classrooms will provide endless opportunities for student engagement and learning."

"This new space will help students reach their full potential and allow us to continue to fulfill our Mission of preparing them to be the best in health care."

"Clarkson College is known for its personal, individual, and quality education, which is further enhanced by the new classrooms, study areas and faculty offices in the Clarkson Commons and Education Center that supports the highest level of student success," said Dr. Jayne Cromer, Director of Nurse Anesthesia.

In addition to faculty offices located on the lower level of the building, the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) is housed on the upper level. With 50% of students enrolled in online programs, the CTE is equipped with a faculty training area and state-of-the-art recording room containing a Smartboard that is available to faculty to record online course material in more interactive ways and provide students with the best in online education experiences.

Watch the full ribbon cutting ceremony for the Clarkson College Commons and Education Center [here](#).



College Discusses the Effects of the Pandemic on Health Care Needs

Local media calls on the institution for insights

COVID-19 continues to affect all aspects of the health care field, including education. Local news stations featured Clarkson College this fall for the organization's perspective on the effects of the pandemic on the field, particularly in light of the nursing shortage currently affecting the state of Nebraska.

Clarkson College President Dr. James Hauschildt, who is also a registered nurse, spoke with KMTV 3 News in Omaha in November 2020 about what effect the pandemic is having both on the nursing shortage and in enrollment numbers. Not only is he seeing the demand for nurses grow, he also notes that it has been a trend for years.

"It's a trend that I've seen over the past 10 years and then the pandemic has accelerated that need," said Dr. Hauschildt.

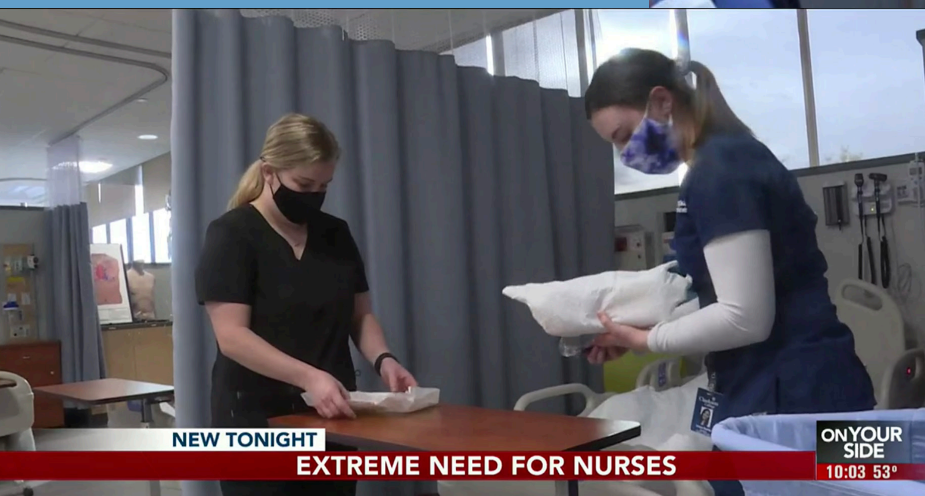
Earlier in the fall, Dr. Hauschildt spoke with WOWT 6 News about how COVID-19 has affected enrollment, specifically within the nursing field, at the College. "We've actually seen increases just under 10% this fall," he said.

He goes on to note that there's a high demand for professionals, "because of the aging population, because of the regulatory and governmental changes in health care delivery and the way

that health care is financed. So, we've incorporated all of that into a curriculum so that we're really preparing the best professionals."

Due to the growing demands placed on the health care workforce by the pandemic, hospitals and similar organizations are going to see a continued need for qualified health care professionals across all fields. Dr. Hauschildt notes that in many cases, individuals are being inspired to enter the field in order to assist their families and communities who are affected by COVID-19.

Watch the full WOWT feature [here](#).



Watch the full KMTV feature [here](#).

COLLEGE COMMITS TO OPPORTUNITY, DIVERSITY AND EQUITY

In fall 2020, Clarkson College joined the Greater Omaha Chamber as a member of the Employer Coalition for a Commitment to Opportunity, Diversity and Equity (CODE). The initiative offers employees and students the opportunity to join in a commitment to help achieve sustainable growth in the areas of diversity, inclusivity, equity and opportunity.

College President Dr. James Hauschildt initiated a conversation with the Greater Omaha Chamber to help the organizations form an ongoing relationship. "One of the first actions I took when I began at Clarkson College, was to reach out to College employees and the regional community to learn and share 130 years of good news about our institution," he said. "The Greater Omaha Chamber resonated with me in regard to what they are doing in and for our city."

As a result of the partnership, the organization offered Clarkson College the opportunity to sign and commit to an institutional pledge to incorporate diversity and equity in all forms at the College. While the form allows for one signature by the CEO of each institution, Dr. Hauschildt wanted to emphasize that it will take efforts by every employee to develop, implement and achieve these goals. As a result, all students, employees and community members were invited to submit their electronic signature on the pledge.

CODE was created to help the Omaha community achieve sustainable growth in the areas of diversity, inclusivity, equity and opportunity. Created in 2016, the Greater Omaha Chamber is focused on creating positive, measurable outcomes leading to increased opportunities and equity for underrepresented populations.

CREATING AND IMPLEMENTING A COMPREHENSIVE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STRATEGY.

Strategies are encouraged to focus on inclusive talent processes including recruitment, hiring, retention, promotion, professional development, advancement and mentorship to engage underrepresented employees.

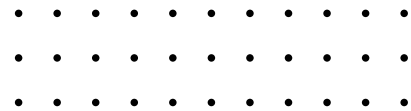
HIRING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION LEADERSHIP TO DEVELOP AND SUPPORT EFFORTS.

Large organizations are encouraged to hire or appoint a senior staff person responsible and accountable for diversity and inclusion efforts. Smaller organizations are encouraged to appoint a team of individuals. Regardless of size, leadership at an executive level is strongly encouraged to adopt inclusive language and practices in order to ensure the greatest success and impact.

MEASURING ONGOING SUCCESS BY PARTICIPATING IN THE ASSESSMENT CREATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-OMAHA.

The goal of the assessment process is to provide organizations a tool or barometer to identify areas of focus and opportunity. All reporting and analysis are kept confidential.

Nearly 200 College employees, students and community partners signed the CODE pledge and demonstrated their commitment to develop a culture with greater empathy, love, mutual respect and diversity in all forms.



FALL 2020

Capstone Projects

JENNIFER THURMAN

Case Managements' Impact on Decreasing Hospital Lengths of Stays in the PACE Setting, advisor Dr. Layna Himmelberg

TIFFANY SIMON

Complexity of Illness Scoring Tool: Validation to Determine Children with Special Care Needs Utilization of Emergency Services, advisor Dr. Kathy Harrison

DOMINIQUE SAMUEL

An Exploration of Nursing Experience & Perceived Level of Cultural Competence, advisor Dr. Pam Holtz

BRANDI SAMUEL

Social Turbulence & Intestinal Failure: Implications for Pediatric Outcomes, advisor Dr. Katie Kirkpatrick

CHELSEA LOVELESS

Perceptions of Newly Graduated Nurses on a Nurse Mentorship Program & Its Impact on Retention, advisor Dr. Margaret Lorimor

MICHELLE WINEGAR

Exploring the Education & Clinical Experience Related to Newborn Feeding Options of Pre-Licensure & Nurse Practitioner Students, advisor Dr. Liz Rogan

STACY SALCEDO

Identify the Effectiveness of De-Escalation Training on the Competence & Confidence of Pediatric Clinical Staff, advisor Dr. Kathy Harrison

STACY WATNE

An Exploration of Nursing Experience & Knowledge on the Importance of Oral Care, advisor Dr. Pam Holtz

DOCTORAL STUDENTS

Doctor in Healthcare Education and Leadership (Ed.D.) candidate **MARK AMBLER** defended his dissertation, *The Effect of Attitudinal Dynamics of Impatient Nurses on the Use of a Mobile Electronic Health Record*, on Dec. 9. Dr. Daniel Aksamit served as the Dissertation Committee Chair, and Dr. Katherine Kirkpatrick and Dr. Jayne Cromer served as committee members.

FALL 2020

Clarkson College Graduates

Certificate in Health Information Management

Nathan Scott Isbell Σ
Theresa Lynn Schiller

Certificate in Medical Imaging Informatics

Jessie Kristine Houston λ Σ

Winnie Vanessa Kibe **

Associate of Science in Health Information Technology

Laura Ann Bear Σ ****

Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

Jonathan Edward Hislop **
Derrick Lee Johnston
Kelsey Kanaby
Katlynn Marie Koenke *
John Leversee *
Nyalot Momyjiak *
Jacob O'Neill *

Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Business

Emily LaGois Σ
Elizabeth Marie Morgenroth Σ ****
Katlynn Grace Ripley

Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging

Katy Bielmaier λ **
Monica Bielmaier λ *
Christina Borzobohaty *
Jessica Breeden λ Σ *
Bailey Bruce *
Jessie Kristine Houston λ Σ

Megan Marie Milne λ Σ
Evelyn Laurean Ochoa λ **
Emma Lynn Ross λ ***

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Katie Ann Burns ****
Sidney Devol
Michelle Epp *
Tyler Faulds
McKenna Gill
Jenna Giller
Devan Gray *
Citlalli Guzman † ****
Emilie Sue Halford
Stephanie Hoerle ****
Beth Inzauro **
Mona L. Johnson Σ *
Abbie Leigh Jones †
Sophia Junge
Andrea Karns *
Alexis Linderman
Lauren Marr
Melissa Ann Miller *
Sagal Yusuf Mohamud † Σ
Alondra Murillo
Hannah Lynn Novotny *
Paige Ryan Olson
Rebekah Push †
Autumn Kimberly Schlee
Brittini Schmidt ****
Abigail Louise Shamburg
Hannah Maree Smith †
Kristen Stapleton
Natalie Stegall
Kimberly Stutzman † Σ

Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

Alexis Ann Gibbs ***
Courtney Labenz ***
Laura Potter Σ ****

Master in Healthcare

Administration
Catherine Cruz-Montez Σ
Phoebe Jo Gearhart Σ
Terri Lynn Reeves
Ashley Wyatt Σ

Master of Science in Nursing

Kirisha Afuh
Bailey Jo Baker
Sheena Marie Blocker
Angela Boesch
Jessica Ann Boll
Ellen Brinkman Σ
Lana K. Brooks
Lyubov Butsyak
Carly Ann Clare Σ
Alma Diaz
Brandi Kay Gerhardt
Krystle Hajek Σ
Kate Alexandra Hueftle
Wanda Dee Hughes Σ
Caitlyn Johnson
Candie Jones Σ
Anna Kill
Cora Ann Miller
Stacey Lynn Poldervaart † Σ
Stacy Ellen Salcedo
Dominique Samuel
Tiffany Diane Simon
Amanda Smith
Amanda Standage
Jennifer P. Thurman
Stacey Watne

Master of Science in Nursing – Nurse Anesthesia

Brent Owen Allen
Josh Taylor Annett Σ
Brandon Paul Barnhart Σ
Kathleen Berger
Chad Aaron Bredthauer
Justin D. Curtis
Meagan Nichole Dolezal
Katherine Ann Eggers
Nathan Griswold Σ
Timothy Joseph Healy
Stephanie Hutsell
Katie Lashmett
Kyle McCormick Σ
Troy Claude Sibbett
Jason Zabloudil

Doctor in Healthcare Education and Leadership

Karen Elaine Clark Σ

Academic Honors

Academic honors are conferred on Bachelor of Science and Associate of Science degree candidates who, upon graduation, distinguish themselves by maintaining a high cumulative grade point average. To qualify for academic honors, a student must have completed the minimum required residency hours. Honors are distinguished as follows:

- **** Summa Cum Laude: 3.85 and above
- *** Magna Cum Laude: 3.75 through 3.84
- ** Cum Laude: 3.65 through 3.74
- * With Distinction: 3.50 through 3.64

Honor Societies

Honor societies at Clarkson College include:

- λ Member of Delta Chapter Lambda Nu National Honor Society for the Radiologic and Imaging Sciences
- † Member of Omicron Epsilon Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing
- Σ Member of National Society of Leadership and Success Sigma Alpha Pi Interdisciplinary Honor Society