Howard Hall on the Clarkson College campus was buzzing with excitement and hugs as classmates gathered for the annual Alumni Brunch on Thursday, Sept. 19. The alumnae came from near and far (Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Dakota and several places in Nebraska) to catch up with peers. Many had not seen one another in years, and the greetings were filled with enthusiasm.

**The stories, laughter & memories**
Alumna Rosean Porter made many phone calls to graduates to see if they could attend and hosted the class of 1953 as they celebrated their 60-year reunion. Seven graduates from the class were able to join in the celebration. They had many great stories to share of their time in training. About six months prior to graduation, they were put in charge of the unit they were working on at the time. She said she didn’t realize how scary that was until about 10 years later! Other women from the class said several of them were married a year before they graduated and were placed on a different floor of the dorm so as not to “contaminate” the unmarried girls.

The class of 1963 was the largest group with 19 in attendance for their 50th reunion. This class was the first class to graduate from the Kiewit Hall nursing dorm. This being the first graduating class after the reinstitution of the Clarkson School of Nursing, a unique tradition was started. The last day of working on the floor at the hospital was celebrated by having the doctors sign the students’ uniforms. Alumna Linda Hartman Baker brought hers to share. Dr. Walter Cotton’s signature was still very readable on the back yolk of her uniform. All of the signatures were in red.

**Celebratory Reunions, Reminiscing Kicks Off Alumni Weekend**
Alumnae enjoy conversation & trips down memory lane

continued on page 5
I hope everyone has had a safe and fun summer. The new Alumni Association Board officers and members took office in June, and you will see familiar faces again this year. We are prepared for a fun and engaging year with many exciting events planned.

Taking a step backward to September, the annual events were a huge success. The 125th anniversary dinner at Joslyn Art Museum was a beautiful and entertaining night. It is always so good to see new students participate in Convocation and be infused with the traditions Clarkson College holds so dear. It is equally enjoyable to meet and share stories of when they were students at Clarkson College!

The Alumni Association will continue to give back to the College community, publish quarterly newsletters and organize special events and programs to bring alumni together.

I feel so privileged to be the Alumni Association President this year and will strive to serve the Board and our Alumni Association members to the best of my ability. While the deadline for membership applications was Aug 31, we will gladly still accept them if you have not yet joined.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

New Year, New Alumni Association Board

By Dr. Louis Burgher, Clarkson College President

I promised to share the essence of this year’s Strategic Plan with you. Our plan includes four Critical Success Factors (CSF’s), each with five or six goals.

CSF-1 continues a five-year future assessment of the College. We are beginning a new accreditation process for 2018, and we hope to increase graduation rates by 10 percent in two years and 20 percent in four years. We are examining a doctoral degree in Nurse Anesthesia, a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Therapist Assistant, an Acute Care Assistance track in the Master of Science in Nursing program, and the future of our Practical Nursing program.

CSF-2 addresses our capacity constraints. We will update our master facilities plan by 2016, remodel faculty offices, vacate the Ed Tech building, assess our HVAC system and develop a recitation room on campus.

CSF-3 is to enhance our student experience. We are looking at advancing our use of mobile devices in the classroom, as well as the adequacy of staffing in our Library.

We hope to collaborate with nearby campus resources for improved student health services. We also are reviewing community service at Clarkson College.

CSF-4 continues efforts to improve the learning environment. We have a faculty committee developing a program on academic honesty and a comprehensive recitation plan. We are evaluating our College community meetings as well as the potential to go “paperless” by 2015. Finally, we may need to upgrade our campus student information system.

Each year, we accomplish upwards of 91 percent of the goals.

As we say, “That’s a lot stuff,” it is typical of the task load we shoulder every year to help shape a growing, dynamic institution. Upwards of 85 people are involved in this plan, and it begins every January with an all-campus retreat. Each year, we accomplish upwards of 91 percent of the goals. This year will be no different.

Online Giving: A Unique Way to Give Back

Looking for ways to help the Alumni Association? Simply begin using Yahoo! powered GoodSearch.com as your search engine, and they’ll donate a penny to the Alumni Association every time you search online.

Before you surf the web, enter “Alumni Association – Clarkson College” in the search box at GoodSearch.com to show your support for the Alumni Association.

Looking for someone to shop cross-off of your list? Check out the “coupon and deals” section of GoodSearch.com where you can shop at more than 100 top online retailers. A percentage of your purchase costs will be donated to the Alumni Association.

For quick access to online shopping and browsing, download the GoodSearch toolbar at GoodSearch.com.

Alumni Scholarship Donations

Sept. 1, 2012 through Aug. 31, 2013

Below is a listing of donors who have given to the Alumni Scholarship Fund. These donations are greatly appreciated and assist the Alumni Association in continuing to be able to award scholarships. A special thank you is extended to all who have given to this fund.

UP TO $99

Cynthia Arbaugh (’78, ’09)
In memory of Pat Arbaugh.

Susan Bristol (’78)
In memory of James Canedy Sr. and in honor of Patricia Perry.

Nicholas Denich (’10)

Diana Denker (’14)
In memory of Marsha Green, Pat Perry and Maxine Jacks.

Carla Dirscherl (’07)

Colleen Dummer (’95)

Debbie Florani (’75)
In memory of Sandy Pappas Thrasher and Neva Havrah.

Norma Hintz (’87, ’88)
In memory of her husband, Donald Hintz.

Jean Huff (’71)
In memory of Dr. Patricia Perry.

Gary Javitch (’95)

Joan Killainger (’54)
In memory of Thomas M. Davies.

Milena Kruml (’93)

Rosemary Lebeda (’00)

Carol McCayle (’84)
In memory of Marcia Green Stoller.

Patricia Morgan (’49)

Letitia Naprstek (’96)
In memory of Sharr Hansen.

Cheryl Oloron (’71)

Susanne Soppe (’78)
In memory of Arthur Adams and Thomas Adams.

Liz Svetos, College employee

Chara Tremblay (’08)

Marcia Weeks (’65)
In memory of her grandmother, Vilda Fitzgerald.

Barbara Lynch Young (’55)
In memory of her father Tom Lynch, in honor of mother Mae Lynch.

Lygia Arcaro (’98)

Mathew Beeman (’07)

Annette LeRoy, honorary alumna

Ruth Siebert (’64)
In memory of Emory and Frieda Briggs.

Ann VanHoff, honorary alumna

$500 AND UP

Marlin G. Stahl, M.D.

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$500 AND UP

Marlin G. Stahl, M.D.

DONATE

Donations to the scholarship fund are welcomed at any time throughout the year. This is an excellent way to recognize or remember someone while helping students meet the financial challenges of their college education. Donations may be sent to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131. Make checks payable to “Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.” The Alumni Association is very grateful to all who have so generously donated.

A sincere thank you to donors The Alumni Association and Clarkson College would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to those who donated to the 125th Anniversary Alumni Scholarship.

Doris Jirk (‘49); Joan Bolter (‘92); Jo Anne Pfister (‘53); Mercedes Randolph (‘12); Carol Engquist (‘87); Sharon Schuett (‘71); Linda Miller (‘86); Patricia Wilts (‘75); Dr. Judith Stern; In memory of Dorothy M. Barbour; Maureen Kelpa (‘72, ’83); Karen Verdran; VanFlecr; Rita (‘67, ’94, ’06) In honor of Mary Margaret Schiffer; Samuel Thompson In memory of Dorie Marguerite Parker Rowley (‘20); Marjorie Kline in memory of Louis William Kline (‘46); Sara Saunders In memory of Joann Frisch; Janet Danforth-Bacon (‘73); Members of the class of 1963, including Sara Worm, Judith Swanson, Mary Vondra, Judith Vidito, Linda Baker, Lauren McReynolds, Sara Saunders and Judith Janak. In memory of Mary Sorgerini-Donaldson.
ATTENDING ALUMNIAE STAND AS THEY’RE HONORED DURING THE CEREMONY.

Class of ’63 Gives a Special Donation

In honor of the Clarkson College 125th anniversary, the Alumni Association created a one-time scholarship.

The class of 1963 organized a collection in memory of Mary Sorgenfrei Donaldson, a classmate who died a few years after graduation. Mary was an exceptional nurse, a wonderful person and had the honor of being crowned Miss Clarkson from their class. All of the 1963 graduates who attended their 50th reunion made contributions (see names on page 3). The total amount they collected for the scholarship was $600.

Interested in making a difference?

Donating to the Alumni Association scholarship fund is a great way to assist current students with their education. For more details, contact Rita VanFleet, Alumni Coordinator, at 402.552.3516 or via e-mail at vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu.

The stories shared by the class of ’63 were as interesting as those of the class of ’53. Judy Janak told about her first experience bathing a patient. She enlisted the assistance of a few students, and they had the patient bathed, turned and spiffed up only to have the instructor come look at the patient and announce to the students that she had expired. They must have been really engrossed in the bathing process! This class also remembered one of their classmates who died from a brain tumor a few years after graduation—Mary Sorgenfrei Donaldson. She had been crowned Miss Clarkson and was remembered as an exceptional person. Gloria Triggs brought copies of her statement showing how much her educational process cost back in the ’60s.

The class of ’63 were dedicated bridge players. Many nights, they played into the early morning hours and would vow to not stay up that late again. That all changed the next night. Linda Hartman Baker, Melissa Van Way and Mary Vondra were hostesses for this class.

Flora Halley was the hostess for the eight attending 1973 graduates. She brought numerous photos, and the alumnae enjoyed revisiting memories from their time in training. One of their fondest memories was that of Dr. Patricia Perry, former Dean and College President. They remembered her as a wonderful person and had the honor of being the first classmate who died a few years after graduation—Mary Sorgenfrei Donaldson.

This class also remembered one of their classmates who died from a brain tumor a few years after graduation—Mary Sorgenfrei Donaldson.

Celebratory Reunions, Reminiscing Kicks off Alumni Weekend

the scholarship fund is a great way to assist current students with their education. For more details, contact Rita VanFleet, Alumni Coordinator, at 402.552.3516 or via e-mail at vanfleetrita@clarksoncollege.edu.
FALL REUNION EVENTS

CLASS OF 1953, FRONT ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, ROSEAN PORTER, RUTH MUCHMORE, MARY BREINIG LEONOVICZ & BONITA RITTENBURG MORTENSEN. BACK ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, MARILYN ENGH WOOD, BEVERLY BROWN GOTTISCH & MARY JENSEN OSBORN.

AT LEFT, FRONT ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, KELLY JACKSON ('05), J.J. KASSMEIER ('72, '86) & JACKIE PARMENTER ('93). STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, CHEBA TREMBLAY ('88), JOANN MORRIS ('54) & KATE HIGGINS ('54).

AT RIGHT, ALUMNAE MARY BRECI ('96) & BETTE MOLLER ('77).

AT LEFT, SHARON WILWERDING ('88), CHANDRA BAUMANN ('83) & JUDITH ROBBINS ('83).

AT RIGHT, CLASS OF 1973, SEATED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, FLONA HALLEY, KATHY PARR, GLADYS PIERCE & JANET DANFORTH-BACON. STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, MARIETTA HOFERBER, TERESA RICHET-ERICKSON & JANE HARPENDAU.

CLASS OF 1963, FRONT ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, KAREN HOUFEK, MARILYN UHE, SARA WORM, RUTH ANNE HARTMAN & MARY VONDRA. STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, LINDA BAKIR, JUDITH JANAK, SHARON SCHMID, GLORIA TRIGGS, SARA SAUNDERS, JUDY SWANSON, MELISSA VAN WEY, JOANNE SHAW, SUZANNE SALMINEN, LAUREL MCREYNOLDS, JUDY VIDITO, BEVERLY BRASEL, CAROL IRBECK & ANN LAMBERTY.

Joslyn Art Museum Storz Fountain Court was the setting for the dinner commemorating the Clarkson College 125th anniversary and the anniversary classes of 1953, 1963, 1983, 1988, 1993 and 2003. The evening began with cocktails and music by the Mahr String Quartet. The Storz Fountain Court was decorated for the occasion, and a “GoBo” of the Clarkson College logo and “125 Years” illuminated the walls above the podium. Tables were simply decorated with a floral bouquet and a gift for all attendees in the form of a booklet highlighting historical events of the College.

Rita VanFleet, Alumni Coordinator, welcomed the guests and introduced The Very Reverend Thomas Hurley, who gave the opening invocation. Rachel Thompson, Alumni Association President, acknowledged the College Board, the Alumni Association Board and guests. College President Dr. Louis Burgher gave a short speech and introduced three students who discussed their decision to attend the College and how their education is preparing them for their career paths. The students were Michelle Glow, Radiologic Technology student and Alumni Scholarship recipient; Jordan Blackwell, Nurse Anesthesia student; and Amy Wise, Undergraduate Nursing student and 125th Anniversary Scholarship recipient.

Dinner was served following the presentation. Much conversation and story sharing was done during this time, especially with the anniversary classes who continued their reunion remembrances. Friends of the College, staff and faculty also enjoyed socializing with one another.

Once dinner was completed, the galleries on the main floor were open for guests to visit. This event was well attended, and many positive comments about the evening were received.

A visual recap of the evening

The pages that follow highlight our 125th anniversary celebration.

Anniversary Dinner: Event Recap & Summary

A classy, enjoyable evening for our 125th historical milestone

EVENT ATTENDEES ENJOY CONVERSATION & DINNER IN JOSLYN ART MUSEUM STORZ FOUNTAIN COURT.
CLARKSON COLLEGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS & THEIR SPOUSES, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, SUSAN BURGHER, ROBERT HOWARD, DIANE & JM CANEY, THE VERY REVEREND THOMAS HURLEY & DIANE HURLEY.

ATTENDING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF CLARKSON COLLEGE BOARD MEMBERS, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, JEANETTE KASSMEIER, CARLA DIRKSCHNEIDER, RITA VANFLEET, RACHEL THOMPSON, NICOLE HARDIN & CHERA TREMBLAY.

STUDENT SPEAKERS & ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT, SEATED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, JACINDA BLACKWILL, MICHELLE GLOW, & RACHEL & CLARK THOMPSON. BACK ROW, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, JORDAN BLACKWILL, AMY WISE’S FATHER & AMY WISE.

SANDY BYERS (‘88), JUDITH ROBBINS (‘83), CHANDRA BAUMANN (‘83), SHARON WILWERDING (‘88) & JUDITH FRANCES (‘88) PAUSE FOR A PHOTO DURING COCKTAIL HOUR.

CLASS OF 1973, SEATED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, FLONA HALLEY, JANE HARREN & JANET DANFORTH-BACON. STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, KATHY PARR & GLADYS PIERCE.

CLARKSON COLLEGE FACULTY & ALUMNAE (MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK). SEATED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, NINA WARDELL & SHARON SCHUETT.* STANDING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, ANN VANHOF (HONORARY ALUMNA), JOAN BLUM,* JOANN ACIERNO* & MARY DISHMAN.*

FALL REUNION EVENTS

FLONA HALLEY (‘73) SHARES MEMORIES FROM THE “CLOSEUP” PUBLICATION.

CLASS OF 1963, FRONT ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, JOANNE SHAW, SANDRA FREEBERG, BEVERLY BRASEL, JUDITH JANAK, MARY VONDRA & LAUREL McREYNOLDS. MIDDLE ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, SHARON SCHMID, GLORIA TRIGGS, JUDY SWANSON, SARA SAUNDERS & JUDY VITO. BACK ROW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT, MELISSA VAN WEY, SARA WORM, ANN LAMBERTY, MARILYN UHE & LINDA BAKER.

DR. LOUIS BURGHER SHARES MEMORIES & LAUGHS WITH FLONA HALLEY (‘73) & JANET DANFORTH-BACON (‘73).
FALL REUNION EVENTS

Working with the Non-Compliant Client
Continuing education event summary & recap

An educational offering was sponsored by the Alumni Association with the assistance of the office of Professional Development. Seventy-seven registered for the event, which was held on Friday, Sept. 20 in Howard Hall from 7:30 a.m. to noon.

Joe Councill, M.S.N., R.N., Undergraduate Nursing Assistant Professor and alumnus of Clarkson College, opened the session discussing non-compliance and how to handle the barriers. Joe gave several examples and stressed that the relationship between the client and the care provider should be one of partnership and not one with a paternalistic approach. He stressed that the goals and wishes of the client should be addressed and respected.

Linda Dabelstein, B.S.N., R.N., Risk Management Coordinator at The Nebraska Medical Center, followed Councill and discussed the ethical issues related to non-compliance. One of the things Linda stressed was that documentation is crucial to maintaining cohesive care between caregivers, and it also protects against a potential law suit.

After a short break, a panel discussion was carried out using client case studies. Joe Councill, Nicole Hardin, M.S., R.T(R), MCIIP, Andrea Nebel, PT, DPT, and Gretchen Jopp, RHA, CPC, participated in the discussion and answered questions from the audience.

Alumni Referral Program Update

Our alumni continue to support the College by referring students and sharing the educational and programmatic experiences while attending Clarkson College. Many of our students choose to attend Clarkson College based on a referral or conversation with a graduate. Your impact on prospective students and future health care providers is beneficial, and the College and Alumni Association would like to recognize and thank you through our Alumni Referral program.

How the Alumni Referral Program works

For every student that lists you as an alumni referral on their application, the College will send you a $25 gift card when the student begins classes. You will also have the option to apply this $25 gift card toward an Alumni Association membership or renewal. In addition to the gift card, your name will be added to a drawing for an iPad. The drawing will take place next summer, and the winner will be announced in the Alumni Times.

In order to receive these tokens of our appreciation, the student needs to provide your name as an alumni referral on his/her application. Students can apply online at ClarksonCollege.edu or an application can be mailed to them.

This year’s drawing winner

Congratulations to Carla Steppat, this year’s iPad winner. Carla is a December 2012 graduate from the Master of Science in Nursing program, majoring in Family Nurse Practitioner. She currently works as a nurse practitioner at the South Dakota Human Services Center.

When asked why she chose Clarkson College to pursue her Master’s degree, Carla said, “Clarkson College impressed me because the programs are challenging but rewarding at the same time. I heard great things from prior alumni and that impressed me about the school, as well. I feel confident referring students because I know they will get a great educational experience like I did.”

“Alumni Cookbook Available

Looking for new recipes? Save yourself some time by investing in an alumni cookbook, and have more than 250 recipes at your fingertips. For $18, you’ll have peace of mind while you support the Alumni Association, current students and Clarkson College.

To purchase your cookbook, send a check or money order made out to “Alumni Association of Clarkson College” to Alumni Coordinator, Clarkson College, 101 South 42 Street, Omaha, Neb. 68131.

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The massive C-17 transport aircraft shuddered as the pilots changed the aircraft’s aerodynamic configuration for a tactical landing into a rugged region of Afghanistan. The loadmaster gave the verbal five-minute warning for lights out. My crew of two flight nurses (FNs) and three aeromedical evacuation technicians (AETs) leapt into action, preparing for landing and running our checklists. My weapons AET passed out nine handguards that we placed into our holsters. We then draped our seats with our body armor to protect our vital organs and arteries from bullets that could come up through the bottom of the aircraft. I took my seat, glancing at my checklist one last time to ensure completion, and secured my safety harness. The interior lights went from white to a dull oomph red. I felt the aircraft rapidly sink.

During descent, I reflected on the mission because this one was certainly out of my routine mission profile. My original mission was to take 13 patients from my base in Southwest Asia to definitive care at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Ramstein Air Base, Germany. During my initial mission brief, I was notified by Command and Control (C2) that we were being additionally tasked on an urgent mission to Afghanistan to pick up a critical patient that had suffered crush injuries and was in coma. My team was to be augmented with a Critical Care Air Transport Team (CCATT) that consisted of a critical care physician, critical care nurse and respiratory therapist. Their role was to provide one-on-one care to the critical patient.

Upon arrival to our aircraft, I immediately briefed the pilots and loadmasters that the mission load had changed, and that we would need more space for patients and some cargo would have to be unloaded. Once the cargo was out of our way, we began turning the massive aircraft into a flying hospital. Litter stanchions were built from kits and bolted into the floor. Oxygen lines were plugged into the aircraft’s liquid oxygen system (SLO) with electrical outlets strung and connected to each stanchion. An ambulance bus pulled up to the aircraft as we finished the pilot’s emergency action review briefing. Once the patient report was received, we loaded our patients, tended their needs and secured everyone for takeoff. Some of my patients were extremely distressed when I updated them that we would have to first fly into Afghanistan to pick up more patients. They were expecting an eight-hour flight to the beautiful Deutschland, not a trip back to the war zone many of them had just left. I looked at my watch as the power of the C-17’s four turbine engines was released, and we climbed into the night sky. Four hours had already passed since our initial alert.

During the flight to Afghanistan, the CCATT physician was anxious about the status of his patient. I took him to the flight deck, and we phone-patched the Afghan hospital via the satellite radio. We found out the patient had received more than 100 units of blood, had no neurological activity and an open abdomen. Prognosis was poor. The goal was to get him to Germany so his family could be there for his last moments. My physician was worried about him surviving the flight, but we were his only hope.

My eyes had just adjusted to the red lights inside the aircraft when the feeling of a giant hand pressed on my stomach. The aft tail of the aircraft had touched the ground, and I felt our patient’s heart rate quicken. The aircraft thumped, we touched the runway. I watched my team prepare more than 35 patients for flight, paying special attention to pain management, in managing airway and circulation support. My team prepared more than 35 patients for flight, paying special attention to pain management, in managing airway and circulation support.

The eight-hour flight to Germany went by very quickly. There was a very large reception at Ramstein to receive our wounded warriors. It was up to me to manage the chaos and get everyone safely deplaned into the awaiting ambulances. It took approximately two hours from landing to deplaning patients, reconfiguring the aircraft, fax CC2 mission paperwork and turn in our weapons to the armory. We each settled into our aircrew quarters after eating a square meal. We had been awake and working hard for more than 24 hours.

As I walked to my bed, my emotions reflected back to the young CCATT patient whose hours were numbered. I thought about his family and if he had children like me. I was overwhelmed about the thoughts and feelings going through their heads. I hoped God was with them at this time. I started a prayer to Him but never got a word out. My body hit the bed, and I was suddenly seduced to exhaustion. I think that was His way of saying, “I got it from here, Airman.”

The Capstone project provides each Master’s program student with the opportunity to investigate a question of practical importance by utilizing the critical thinking skills, knowledge, strategies, theories and principles learned throughout the course of study. The final outcome of this experience includes completion of a scholarly, evidence-based document that can be further revised for potential publication or an actual document that can be used by practitioners, educators, administrators or clients.

The August 2013 graduate Capstone projects were reviewed by the Alumni Association Board subcommittee. There were 20 submitted by the advisors for consideration. Of those 20, three were chosen utilizing the established rubric: Kathryn Triplet’s abstract, Developing a Nurse-Driven Algorithm to Facilitate Early Extubation after Open-Heart Surgery, placed first. Second place was awarded to Megan Ruffledge for her abstract, Increasing Follicle Awareness Informational Brochures Development for Adolescent Females. Third place winner was Bradley Pfleger for his abstract, MHA with Senior Care Specialization Business Plan.

Developing a Nurse-Driven Algorithm to Facilitate Early Extubation after Open-Heart Surgery by Kathryn Triplet Background Nurses (RNs) play a large role in managing airway and circulation support after open-heart surgery, particularly in regards to the extubation of a patient from the ventilator. By making this decision, the nurses display their physiological and psychological responses to open-heart surgery; the differing levels of patient stability influence their weaning and extubation times. De (2006) found RNs were the health care team members most likely to ensure timely and safe extubation.

Purpose: This capstone project developed a nurse-driven early extubation (EE) algorithm for the cardiovascular intensive care unit (CVICU) nurses at a 560-bed acute care hospital in Germany and had to make a decision. I went to the flight deck and made a call to request the Air Mobility Command General to waive my flight duty time (our pilots were augmented, so their flight duty period was 24 hours versus our 18). Meanwhile, the CCATT team arrived, and the cumbersome work of getting the 300lb litter safely onboard began. The patient was surrounded with equipment that included a ventilator, for pumps, fluid warmers, wound vacs and compression devices.

The CCATT physician gave me the thumbs up that his patient was ready for flight. The pilots started their takeoff checklist as my team prepared more than 35 patients for flight, paying special attention to pain and nausea management. The number four engine spun into life and the pilot gave me the General’s waiver approval and his blessing on our mission. The pilots maneuvered the aircraft to the end of the runway as the sun began to peak over the mountains. They needed to get us out of here quickly. We signaled our litter patients to hold on tight as the four powerful turbofans spun up to a devastating roar. I braced myself as we raced down the runway and the pilots pulled the C-17 into a sharp climbing turn.

The flight crew, from left to right, CAPT. MATTHEW BEEMAN, B.S.N., FN, CAPT. DANNY STUART, ACNP, FN, SENIOR AIRMAN JOSH LARWOOD, EMT, TECHNICAL SERGEANT CHRISTINA WSKOWSKI, EMT, & TECHNICAL SERGEANT ELLEN PORTER, EMT.

The flight crew, from left to right, CAPT. MATTHEW BEEMAN, B.S.N., FN, CAPT. DANNY STUART, ACNP, FN, SENIOR AIRMAN JOSH LARWOOD, EMТ, TECHNICAL SERGEANT CHRISTINA WSKOWSKI, EMТ, & TECHNICAL SERGEANT ELLEN PORTER, EMT.
From page 11

**Graduate Capstone Review**

**Purpose**
The purpose of this project was to review relevant literature regarding folic acid efficacy and recommendations. An educational brochure was developed, aimed specifically toward adolescent females aged 15–18 years in order to increase their awareness of the role of folic acid and the importance of taking folic acid daily during reproductive years.

**Methodology**
A review of literature through EBSCOhost, CINAHL, ProQuest, Medline, PubMed and various other internet search engines revealed information to support the purpose of this project. Recognition of barriers potentially preventing more women from taking folic acid is essential; therefore Nola J. Pender’s Health Belief Model was used as a theoretical framework for the development of the educational brochure.

**Brief Description**
For easy distribution and maximum material space, a tri-fold brochure was created. The brochure was designed to be visually attractive, using large fonts, contrasting colors, pictures and bullet points. Information was presented in an easy to read format at an eighth grade reading level. Information presented within the brochure included the recommendation for folic acid daily, what folic acid helps to prevent and who specifically should be taking folic acid.

**Recommendations for Future Research**
Further quantitative research on the effectiveness of EE and its influence on open-heart patient ICU and hospital length of stay should be studied. Additional research should be completed to continue to refine the EE protocol criteria.

**Increasing Folic Acid Awareness:**

**Informational Brochure Development for Adolescent Females by Megan Rutledge Background:** Folic acid has been proven to decrease the risk of neural tube defects and miscarriage when taken by women prior to becoming pregnant. Despite this knowledge, more than half of women do not take folic acid prior to pregnancy. The majority of women are unaware of the importance of folic acid.

**Methodology**
Utilizing the search engines of CINAHL, EBSCOhost, MEDLINE and ProQuest, a review of scholarly literature was completed. Evidence-based articles relevant to open-heart surgery and ventilation extubation criteria were incorporated into the algorithm. The team manager, the Clinical Nurse Specialist and cardiovascular surgeons served as clinical and content experts for the final version of the EE algorithm.

**Brief Description**
A one-page algorithm was composed to guide the CVICU RN in weaning and extubating patients after cardiac surgery. The components of ventilator weaning and extubating patients after cardiac surgery were composed to guide the CVICU RN in weaning prior to pregnancy. The majority of women are more than half of women do not take folic acid.

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Ball Welcomed as New Director

Mary Ball became the new Center for Teaching Excellence Director this past summer.

Where are you originally from?
Takoma, N.C.

What is your educational background?
I have a Bachelor’s degree from UNL and a Master’s degree in Education from University of Phoenix. I am currently working on my Ed.D. in Higher Education and Adult Learning.

What is your professional background?
I taught high school for several years and then shifted over to higher education. I have been in higher education for the past eight years as faculty and staff. I have spent those years teaching in the classroom and then building numerous online courses for several different colleges. This foundation has helped in my past position and will help me in this current position. My most rewarding time is spent facilitating with tools to accomplish their goals in the classroom.

What interested you in applying at Clarkson College?
I was really excited about the "feel" of the College. Clarkson College is really respected, I was really excited about the "feel" of the College and I feel very comfortable and welcomed here.

What are you most looking forward to about your new position?
Meeting new people, learning with and from others and assisting the CTE with providing faculty with the resources to create optimal learning environments for students.

How do you enjoy spending your leisure time?
I love to read about new technologies and how they are being used in education.

What is something others may not know about you but you wouldn’t mind sharing?
I am a “closet” Duck Dynasty fan.

Ravel-Unravel with Project Interfaith: A Partnership Exploring Diversity

By Monica White, General Education Assistant Professor

Clarkson College has an ongoing partnership with community agency Project Interfaith. If you have not heard of this organization, Omaha is proud to boast of the amazing programming and outreach done to provide diversity education through the lens of religious/spirituality. As a project director, I don’t think I can begin to enjoy the programming that occurs all year long and can find updated information at projectinterfaith.org.

"Core 1: Effective Interventions in the World of Health Care" is the first of three Core classes now take at Clarkson College. Alumni might better recognize “HC 102 Health Care Communication” or previous seminar classes through General Education completed in their first year. Beginning Fall 2010, Clarkson College rolled out the newly redesigned and updated Core classes. Core 1 has a focus on cultural competency in health care, holistic assessment and becoming more aware of one’s own journey and worldview that can unintentionally impact patient care.

Core 1 integrates service hours in the class and began partnering with Project Interfaith in fall 2010 as one of many possible community agencies where students could complete their hours. The seed for the now internationally known and utilized Ravel-Unravel program began from a project that fall where students used flip cameras to video-record volunteers from community agency Project Interfaith. The amazing response that grew from this project sparked the idea to begin the Ravel-Unravel program and began partnering with Project Interfaith in fall 2010 as one of many possible community agencies to serve the Omaha metro area—to serve the country and provide a safe forum to discuss a deeply held value topic without the need to become defensive. "I've really enjoyed the group conversations that we've had, and it's such a pleasure to try to look at the world through someone else's words and experiences—not only through the discussions but through the Ravel-Unravel videos that I've watched." Jennifer Cupak noted.
August 2013 Clarkson College Graduates

Academic Excellence Awards
Presented to the graduate in each program with the highest grade point average.

Marietta Mae Baotzhker
Diploma in Practical Nursing

Megan Lynne Stuhr & Deborah Joy VanDerHart
Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

Cheyler Morgan Cech & David Aron Roth
Associate of Science in Radiologic Technology

Cheyler Morgan Cech
Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging

Cathy Kay Lowrey
Bachelor of Science in Health Care Business

Mindy Kay Royster
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Bradley D. Pfeifer
Master in Health Care Administration

Jane Elizabeth Miller
Master of Science in Nursing

Certificate in Imaging Informatics
McKinzie Marie Anstey
Andre Sean Bentley ***
William Austin Garbers
Diane L. Lowe ***

Diploma in Practical Nursing
Marietta Mae Baotzhker ***
Jonnell Dominique Brewer
Eboni Imran Brooks
Jacqueline Renee Clerc **
Jamie Michelle Lorraine Flores **
Rayna Geraldine Johnson
Kristen L. Lawton *
Kelsey Michelle Lulres **
Elizabeth Ann Mitchell
Elizabeth Marie Schonder
Sereene C. Talkington
Howard Taylor, Jr
Nicole Marie Waters
Amy Paige Wilde

Associate of Science in Radiologic Technology
Deborah Anderson Sigma **
McKinzie Marie Anstey
Taylor Trimble-Ashmore \*
Dylan Boyle
Nicole Leigh Carroll *
Cheyler Morgan Cech **
Abby Rose Davis
Melissa Kay Elkins
Tara R. Forsyth
Kyla Harting
Michael Brandon Hibbs **
Samantha R. Hibbi *
Brian R. Juhi
Elizabeth Jane Knoeger *
Ahmed Naciri ***
Mikaela Lee Naved
Tanya C. Patterson
Ashley M. Pecoraro
Rebecca J. Pickett
David Aron Roth ***
Laura Louise Rutten ***
Lauren Marie Shirk **
Alyssa Elizabeth Steele **
Abby Thompson **
Abbie Marie Tunning

Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging
Deborah Anderson Sigma **
McKinzie Marie Anstey
Taylor Trimble-Ashmore \*
Cheyler Morgan Cech **
Diane L. Lowe **
Alyssa Elizabeth Steele \*
Blair Thompson \*

Bachelor of Science in Health Care Business in Health Information Management
Melinda M. Husman
Megan Amanda Kenneback **
Summer Joy Shula Sigma
Charlene Diane Waresko

Bachelor of Science in Health Care Business Management
Cathy Kay Lowrey **
Alexis Alisah Rathjen

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Kerr Lynnd Adkins
Sara Jo Biehl
Derek Ryan Brester
Rebecca Marie Coffey
Jennifer Margaret Dawson
Clare Hung Drake
Melinda M. Floresich
Talitha Rae Fritz
Elizabeth Garcia
Brittany Anna Gaytan
Abby Groene ***
Katerine Ann Hartig Sigma
Dawn Elizabeth Hoskins Sigma
Mary Anne Iannucci
Seithon Kipoko Sigma
Brandon Travis Laverne
Jennifer Maehler
Stacy Renee Miltsakhs
Mark Palacio
Nicole Marie Privatera ***
Shay Nicole Prochaska
Stephanie D. Qahhaar
Connie Sue Radke Sigma
Dana Marie Ratigas ***
Ashley Renea Rawlings Sigma
Mindy Kay Royster Sigma
Whitney Jean Ruffcorn
Laura G. Schott
Brandi Michelle Scott
Alaina Rae Wiebelhaus

Master in Health Care Administration
Leslie Ann Fennell
Bradley D. Pfeifer Sigma

Master of Science in Nursing
Rebecca Leigh Anderson
Karen Bethjacob ***
Angela J Bankershap
Brooke M. Bynum
Wendy Lynn Chapin
Kristin Marie Christensen
Lisa Catherine Dooom-Anderson
Erika A. Dunn
Carly Kay Frost
Rebecca June Heits Sigma
Megan Marie Hoveichens
Paul Anthony Inserra
Patricia Gail Krippikat Sigma
Cassandra Lynn Luft
Stephanie M. Leader
Laura Ann Lombardo
Marla J. Melgoza Sigma
Jane Elizabeth Miller
Michelle Sue Mizell Sigma
Hailey Ann Mund Sigma
Sofia Sue Roberts Sigma
Megan Rulledge
Melanie L. Schmidt
Michele Leann Schult Sigma
Kathryn Truciano Triclett
Stacy A. Walker
Tara Suzanne Wenta
Sara Wilke **
April Sh Avery Williams Sigma
Alissa Marie Worthington

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, students must have completed the minimum number of required residency hours. Honor designations are:

** 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 at the College:
- 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
- Member of National Society of Leadership and Service Sigma Alpha Pi (Interdisciplinary Honor Society)

Please note: Honors designations were based upon most current information at press time. Clarkson College apologizes for any errors or omissions.

Building the Brand & Defining “The Best”

By Jina Paul, Director of Marketing

When people think about branding, they typically go straight to advertising, such as billboards and radio spots. Yes, external brand advertising is a key component to telling our story and conveying our message about what Clarkson College has to offer. However, we also recognize that environmental branding should take a front seat and be a part of the mix, too.

Incorporating your brand into a physical space is an opportunity to shape the overall mindset of all who enter its doors. It tells a visual story about who an organization is, what it stands for and why people want to be a part of it.

When you step foot onto the Clarkson College campus, without a doubt you feel you are a part of a close-knit community. You see pride and determination on the faces of students, faculty and staff. You know everyone is working hard to do their part for the result to equal success.

Over the past couple of years, the Clarkson College Student Center has evolved into an inviting environment to visit, study and work. It’s a space that now reflects who we are as a college and gives you a feeling of inspiration and a reminder of purpose.

This past summer, the final touches to brand the space were achieved by installing the Clarkson College Mission in vinyl letters on the wall outside of Howard Hall. In addition, new, large vertical banners highlighting the College Values now adorn the upper area of the lobby, accentuating the grandeur of the space. To round it off, at the top of the staircase you are now greeted by a feature wall with inspiring text describing how we (Clarkson College) define “the best.”

The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. If you haven’t had a chance to experience it yourself, please know you are invited and always welcome. Our alumni have shaped us into who we are today, and our future graduates will carry on this legacy. Thank you for being a part of “the best” and helping us feel confident to not only say it, but to display it in a way that demonstrates pride and success.
Donors Needed to Participate in Upcoming Blood Drive
Your generosity aids those in need

In fall 2012, general education course Core I: Effective Interactions in the World of Health Care, taught by Monica White, added another community agency to their long list of agencies the students work with during the semester. The students began recruiting and hosting American Red Cross blood drives as one of the group service projects. Students work in conjunction with the American Red Cross staff and have worked to steadily increase the number of donors and blood donations with each blood drive.

Clarkson College is proud of the Core I students’ continuing efforts to educate individuals about blood donation and support the blood drive staff at each event. Our June 2013 blood drive saw an all-time record at Clarkson College of 42 units donated.

Participate as a donor
It is not easy for everyone to donate and takes intentional choice and willingness to become a donor. The students and faculty would like to encourage Clarkson College Alumni to donate at the next blood drive. Consider marking your schedule for the drive held at Clarkson College on Nov. 26.

To register for an appointment, use sponsor code 009959 to schedule your appointment online or call 1.800.RED.CROSS (1.800.733.2767).