Despite the fact that much is written and it is generally understood how intricately quality and rigor impact nursing education, we continue to hear about issues that may jeopardize educational integrity of academic programs in many settings and across professions. Regulatory responsiveness is a huge factor in public safety and protection. As the media continues to portray many factors that may have contributed to the sudden closure of ITT Technical Institute campuses across the country, it is important to consider how students enrolled in such schools have been impacted as they face their inability to complete desired academic paths and potentially attain licensure in their fields. Aside from major financial burdens, such students struggle to find educational opportunities to help them reach their goals. Nursing students are no different.

Review of Missouri State Board of Nursing (Board) pre-licensure nursing education program approval processes indicates that ITT Technical Institute-Earth City began to petition the Board for approval to establish an associate degree in nursing program in 2008. The proposal met rule requirements in place at that time and the Board granted approval. The nursing program at the ITT Technical Institute-Earth City campus started in 2010.

Board records further indicate that proposal processes by ITT Technical Institute to establish a second pre-licensure associate degree in nursing program in Springfield began in 2010. Proposals for the potential program came before the Board three different times, did not meet rule requirements, and were therefore never approved.

The ITT Technical Institute-Earth City nursing program started out strong, but soon program issues began to majorly impact program outcomes. After multiple site visits and ample opportunity for the program to address issues of which many had been repeatedly identified and pointed out to school and program administrators and faculty, several plans of correction and presentations by program administrators to the Board, the Board initiated proceedings to withdraw nursing program approval in 2015. A comprehensive teach-out plan was accepted by the Board in 2015. During proceedings to withdraw program approval and negotiation of the plan of program closure the nursing program continued to admit students, which delayed the final closure date of the program to December 2017. Admissions to the program were halted in 2015. At the time of abrupt closure of all ITT Technical Institute campus sites across the country on September 6th, 2016 the Earth City nursing program had a total of 51 nursing students still enrolled.

While displaced ITT Technical Institute nursing students all over the country continued to struggle to figure out options, the Missouri State Board of Nursing reached out to several pre-licensure nursing programs located within reasonable travel distance to the now closed school. While several colleges offered various options for acceptance of selected general education credits by transfer, options to achieve some credit for completed nursing course work were slim. Jefferson College in Hillsboro, Missouri quickly indicated high level of interest and dedication to assist displaced ITT Technical Institute students in general and had already checked into options to transfer in/accept credits through utilization of a rather robust system to award Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) that was already in place at Jefferson College.
To collaborate and develop paths for displaced nursing students came as a natural progression to Jefferson College’s administrative direction to explore options.

Jefferson College’s Board of Trustees, Career & Technical Education and Science Department administrators, deans and representatives of student services quickly came together and developed a plan. Jefferson College’s dedication to assist students while upholding standards of quality is to be commended. CLEP and Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) test-out options for general education as well as nursing course work were determined. To further support efforts, the Jefferson College Foundation set aside funds to help offset the cost of CLEP testing for students. Jefferson College Board of Trustees then waived internal testing and posting fees for CPL testing. Career & Technical Education staff worked closely with enrollment services and MoSTEMWINs teams to provide individual advisement for each student and to design individual pathways for students to complete preparation to enter and complete required nursing course work. All this work was completed in record time. The extraordinary level of dedication of Jefferson College administrators and faculty to assist displaced students was and continues to be reflected.

Jefferson College nurse educators in collaboration with administrators worked diligently to design proposed teach-out plans for displaced ITT Technical Institute nursing students. In order for students to earn Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) for science and nursing course work extensive processes to verify knowledge and skills were put in place. Responsibility to ensure that students are academically prepared to meet the challenges of senior level nursing course work was at the forefront of decision making. Remediation support was put in place to assist students with preparation for CLEP and CPL testing. A crosswalk of Jefferson College nursing courses and courses required at ITT Technical Institute was utilized to determine which test-outs, courses, lab and clinical experiences students would have to complete and pass at Jefferson College in order to progress. The initial teachout plan, presented to the full Missouri State Board of Nursing during a special meeting on September 22, addressed options for displaced ITT Technical Institute nursing students that had been projected to graduate in November 2016. These students had successfully completed at least seven of nine quarters of the nursing program at ITT Technical Institute and would now have the opportunity, borrowing that all stated requirements be met, have to graduate as early as May 2017.

A second teach-out plan, presented by Jefferson College to the Missouri State Board of Nursing (Board) on October 21 during the Board’s Education Committee meeting, indicated similar teach-out plan and identified CLEP and CPL opportunities for a second cohort of displaced ITT Technical Institute nursing students which had a projected graduation date of May 2017. Completion of additional nursing course work at Jefferson College was indicated. This plan was approved by the full Board just a few days later by mail ballot. Once approved, this second option allows students in this cohort, borrowing all stated requirements be met, to graduate as early as December 2017. Jefferson College reports indicate that at minimum 34 displaced ITT Technical Institute nursing students may take advantage of these innovative options to complete their nursing education at Jefferson College. It is important to note that these pathways for students to continue and complete their nursing education at Jefferson College are options that require strong dedication and lots of hard work for students to meet requirements and is by no means a promise. While there was one additional ITT Technical Institute nursing student cohort that came after this group, Jefferson College carefully assessed options and chose to offer application to their regular nursing program to these students, but to refrain from developing an actual teach-out plan. The determination that this cohort of nursing students was not far enough along in their nursing program to truly benefit from CLEP and CPL testing and would therefore be required to complete all of Jefferson College’s nursing curriculum prompted this decision.

It is astonishing how quickly Jefferson College administrators, faculty and staff came together, collaborated with their Board of Trustees and innovatively developed individualized pathways to incorporate the College’s robust system to apply Credit for Prior Learning, developed a unique model for proficiency testing, designed teach-out plans for two cohorts of displaced IIT Technical Institute nursing students, and secured the Board’s approval for one-time enrollments and teach-out plans for both cohorts. Exceptional regulatory responsiveness by the Missouri State Board of Nursing to come together on such short notice to review and approve these innovative options is to be recognized as well. All this work was completed in time to implement teach-out plans which provide viable options for these nursing students to complete stated requirements and to potentially achieve their academic goals with projected delay of their original graduation dates of no more than one semester.
With all this said, Jefferson College is highly recognized for their innovative, timely approach to help address this difficult situation, for such passion to support student success and for willingness to assume the potential risks associated with any such endeavor. Since approval of the two teach-out plans by the Missouri State Board of Nursing (Board) the Jefferson College Model as well as Jefferson College collaboration with the Board and regulatory responsiveness of this Board has gained national attention. The U.S Department of Education as well as the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) has deemed the Jefferson College Model as a best practice in nursing education. During a national webinar conducted under the leadership of Dr. Nancy Spector, Director of Innovations in Nursing Education for the NCSBN, in conjunction with representatives from the U.S. Department of Education, Jefferson College and the Missouri State Board of Nursing were recognized for their progressive stance. The Jefferson College Model was recognized as one the most innovative, speedily developed and robust options to assist displaced IIT Technical Institute nursing students. Education staff from multiple boards of nursing across the United States and its territories attended the webinar. Presenters made sure that attendees across the country realized that while these options provide highly viable, solid opportunities for students, they also require lots of hard work and dedication by students, faculty and staff and that success fully depends on meeting of very specific outcome criteria. Innovative opportunities are an invitation and a gift, academic progress, hard work and dedication is essential for attain the goal. It is not an automatic promise for success.

It is to be noted that the Jefferson College Model has gained the attention of administrators and faculty on a more local level as well. Jefferson College is noted for stepping up and providing options for students that are not only cost-effective, but also show the high level of dedication and commitment of Jefferson College–Nursing to go the extra mile and to follow through with these challenging opportunities! Thank you to Jefferson College for taking the lead in this and to show how exploration of newly traveled academic pathways in collaboration with a Board of Nursing that exemplifies such high level of dedication to public protection and regulatory responsiveness can create win-win situations for students.

Reprinted from Missouri State Board of Nursing Newsletter
Author - Bibi Schultz, RN MSN CNE - Director of Education

Assistant Nursing Professor One of Only 650
Certified Healthcare Simulation Educators Worldwide

Louise Jadwisiak (CPNP, MSN, RN, CHSE), Jefferson College Assistant Nursing Professor/Clinical Simulation Lab Coordinator of the Nursing Educational Simulation Technologies Lab, recently became one of only 650 individuals worldwide to obtain Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE) certification.

Certification in simulation began in 2012 and at present there are less than 700 individuals from 17 countries who have successfully completed the examination. The achievement demonstrates professionalism and commitment to improving the educational development of students in healthcare simulation.

Only select health-care simulation professionals earn this advanced professional recognition of specialized knowledge, skills, abilities, longevity and accomplishments in simulation.
“Having staff with sophisticated simulation knowledge allows for the integration of simulation not only in the lab but into the classroom curriculum,” said Louise. “This teaching strategy allows students the opportunity for hands on learning with development of critical thinking skills which can be utilized in performing safe patient care.”

The College's bi-level Nursing program has undergone a revitalization in recent years with a revamped curriculum, an emphasis on skills development and academic needs of students, introduction of state-of-the-art patient simulation equipment, and the leadership of highly qualified faculty who are working together to bring a wide range of professional experiences to the classroom. The program also offers flexible advancement from PN to RN to BSN thanks to Jefferson College’s educational partnership with Central Methodist University.

Both of the Level I/PN and Level II/RN programs have full approval from the Missouri State Board of Nursing (MSBN).

**Occupational Therapy Assistant Graduate Pinning Ceremony Celebrates Student Success**

A class of 17 students from the Jefferson College Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program was recently honored during a pinning ceremony representing their completion of the nationally accredited two-year program.

Jefferson College OTA graduates can be found in many of the area's hospitals and care facilities.

Beyond the emphasis that Jefferson College has placed on healthcare-related academic programs, the College received the 2016 Active Minds Healthy Campus Award as one of the healthiest college campuses in the nation, marking the second consecutive year that it was honored for comprehensive health-conscious programming. Jefferson was the only community college in the United States and the only higher education institution in Missouri to be recognized.
In connection with the lifelong learning process, enrollment is underway for a wide range of Continuing Education and Workforce Development courses through Jefferson College for professional development, licensure certification, job skills improvement, and personal interest/enrichment. Costs vary by course.

**Career Training Institutes**

The Spring 2017 schedule includes a series of career training institutes that offer instructor-led and/or online learning options:

- Certified Nurse Assistant
- Certified Medication Technician
- Manufacturing Technician
- Industrial Safety and OSHA Training
- Microsoft Office Specialist

**Online Career Training**

Jefferson College also partners with CareerStep to provide online career training in a variety of fields including:

- Medical Coding and Billing
- Medical Transcription and Editing
- Medical Administrative Assistant with HER
- Pharmacy Technician
- Computer Technician
- Executive Assistant
- Medical Billing
- ICD-10 for ICD-9 Coders
- Microsoft 2010

**Maintain Professional Certification or Licensure**

Other Workforce Development courses provide education to maintain professional certification or professional development:

- EMT and Paramedic
- Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers
- Construction Trades
- Health Care Professional
- Food Service/Hospitality
- Teachers

**Online Courses Available Whenever/Wherever You Choose**

- Thousands of courses are available online 24-7 through 14 providers such as Ed2GO, American Management Association, U Got Class, Jade Learning, and PRO'Train.

**On-Site Opportunities Offer Experiences for All Ages**

- Over 90 on-site courses are also available at seven regional locations with a variety of start dates/times in subjects that include art, business, computers, dance, gardening, guidance, health, history, language, professional development, recreation, and swim.

**Courses Starting All the Time**

- A complete schedule of continuing education and workforce development courses is available on the Jefferson College website at www.jeffco.edu/jcce or by calling the Continuing Education Department at (636) 481-3144.
Law Enforcement Academy “Polar Plunge” Benefits Special Olympics Missouri

In a bone-chilling quest to support Special Olympics Missouri, a group of recruits and instructors from the Jefferson College Law Enforcement Academy (JCLEA) recently raised over $2,000 in the 2017 Polar Bear Plunge at Lake St. Louis.

Law Enforcement Academy Director Diane Scanga and Office Specialist Denise Hawkins were dressed as convicts, while class members were decorated as OC Pepper Spray cans.

The JCLEA team raised over $2,000 dollars for Special Olympics Missouri by braving the frigid winter water. It was the second consecutive year that the Jefferson College Law Enforcement Academy won the Golden Plunger for the best costume and the third time since 2009 that the Academy has won the coveted prize.

Proceeds from the annual charity event benefit Special Olympics Missouri’s year-round program of sports training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

College President Named Honorary Member – Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Jefferson College’s Xi Zeta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society recently showed their appreciation to College President Dr. Raymond Cummiskey by inducting him as an honorary member of the organization. Dr. Cummiskey has been an active supporter of Phi Theta Kappa throughout his time at the College.

Phi Theta Kappa is the International Honor Society of two-year colleges and is based on the hallmarks of scholarship, leadership, service, and fellowship. Students are eligible to join once they have completed at least 12 hours of coursework toward an associate degree or certificate and have at least a 3.5 GPA.

For the past two years, the Xi Zeta chapter has been named a Five Star Chapter in addition to receiving the “Distinguished Theme” award for the chapter's Honors in Action Projects. Co-advisor Matthew Vaughn has also received the Horizon Award for advisor service for two consecutive years.

Phi Theta Kappa offers many benefits to students, including scholarships, leadership development opportunities, invitations to attend state and national conferences, and college and community service opportunities.
The college's baseball and softball teams have begun their respective seasons and the excitement is building for a chance to play in the NJCAA World Series. For season outlooks, player profiles, and up-to-date statistics, visit the Jefferson College website and click on the “Athletics” link.


The coaching staff includes Head Coach Patrick Evers and assistants Drew Stanton, Tony Underwood, and Dave Oster.

The team is led by Tony Cook and assistants Keri Schmidt and Jeris Moonier.
Did you know that high blood pressure is referred to as a silent killer? This is because most people do not have any symptoms and unless they check their blood pressure on a regular basis, they may not know that they are at risk for dangerous consequences such as a stroke or a heart attack.

Mercy Clinic at Jefferson College welcomes everyone who would like a free blood pressure check. If necessary, nurse practitioner Aida Trivic can also perform an exam, prescribe medications, order necessary blood work, and can connect you with a primary care physician in your community as well.

Take control and find out your blood pressure reading today!

The clinic operates the same as a medical office and all billing and medical records are integrated through the Mercy network. The facility provides walk-in access to a full spectrum of services including sick visits, personal wellness, and management of chronic diseases, vaccinations, travel medicine, mental health screenings, and much more. In addition, health and preventions programs and consultations are available.

Learn more about the Mercy Clinic at Jefferson College online.

Mercy Clinic at Jefferson College
802 Mel Carnahan Dr., Apt. 215
Hillsboro, MO 63050
(636) 543-2290

Open Mondays 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and Thursdays 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
December & January Reports

December agenda items included:

- Approval of Consent Agenda (Minutes, Financial Statements, Faculty Load, Curriculum Matters, and Continuing Education Course Offerings)
- Bi-Level Nursing Student Handbook (Second Reading)
- Video Surveillance System Upgrade Purchase
- VirTra System Annual Service Agreement Purchase - Law Enforcement Academy
- Employee Assistance Program
- Waiver of Internal Testing and Posting Fees

January items discussed/approved were:

- Approval of Consent Agenda Items (Minutes, Financial Statements, and Faculty Load)
- Beverage Sales Agreement - Bottling Group, LLC, Division of Pepsi Beverages
- LED Video Display Board Purchase for Field House
- Funding Agreement for LED Video Display Board Purchase
- Automotive Renovation Furnishings
- Board of Trustees Policy IV-010, Online and Hybrid Instructional Assignments (first reading)
- Board of Trustees Procedure IV-010, Online and Hybrid Instructional Assignments (first reading)
- Board of Trustees Policy IV-011, Classroom Cell Phone Use (first reading)
- Board of Trustees Procedure IV-011, Classroom Cell Phone Use (first reading)

Upcoming Board Meetings

February 9 – 4:30 p.m.  August 10 – 5:30 p.m.
March 9 – 5:30 p.m.    September 14 – 5:30 p.m.
April 13 – 6:30 p.m.    October 12 – 6:30 p.m.
May 11 – 5:30 p.m.     November 9 – 5:30 p.m.
June 8 – 8 a.m.         December 14 – 5:30 p.m.
July 13 – 8 a.m.
Upcoming events

**Spring Play**

**Antigone**

**February 16 - 19**
**February 16, 10 am**
**February 17 - 18, 8 pm**
**February 19, 2 pm**
**Fine Arts Theatre**

After a case of sibling rivalry culminates in civil war, King Creon of Thebes forbids anyone from burying the traitor who started it in this fresh and vibrant take on an ancient classic. When his niece Antigone, discontent to let her brother go without proper funeral rites, takes matters into her own hands, she sparks a family feud that pits father against son, sister against sister, and civil law against the gods.

$5 general admission • $2 students/seniors/matinees

**The Empathy Project**

**Humans of St. Louis**

**February 23**
**Event Time 7 pm**
**Fine Arts Theatre**

The people of St. Louis, one photo & story at a time. Since their founding two years ago, Humans of St. Louis have shared over 900 stories, inspired over 67,000 followers, sparked dialogue, facilitated civic engagement, connected followers to local needs, causes, and volunteer opportunities. HOSTL are committed to fostering a respectful online community where visual-virtual storytelling is the platform for discussion and civic engagement around local issues, including economic development, public health, social justice, and human rights.

$5 general admission • $2 students/seniors

**Casey Benjamin**

**Spring Jazz Showcase**

**March 3**
**Masterclass 4 pm**
**Performance 7:30 pm**
**Fine Arts Theatre**

Casey Benjamin is an American saxophonist, vocoderist, keyboardist, producer and songwriter. He is a member of the Robert Glasper Experiment, which won a Grammy Award for Best R&B Album for their album Black Radio. Benjamin will perform along with the Jefferson College Jazz Ensembles directed by Dr. Joel Vanderheyden.

$5 general admission • $2 students/seniors

**48 Hour Film Festival**

**FIlm Festival:**
**March 10 - 12**
**Film Screening:**
**April 7 7 pm**
**Fine Arts Theatre**

Form a team of 5 or less and write, film & edit your project in 48 hours! Specific guidelines will be given for your film. Present your creation and win fabulous prizes! Anyone can enter. For more information contact Nick Nihira: nnihira@jeffco.edu

$5 general admission • $2 students/seniors

Purchase tickets or season passes by calling (636) 481-3123
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Memorial Scholarship Established in Memory of Foundation Board Member Wes Griffith

In recognition of his longstanding support for Jefferson College and the impact that higher education serves in helping people succeed in life, the Wes Griffith Memorial Scholarship was recently established through the Jefferson College Foundation by the Arnold Chamber of Commerce, the Arnold Rotary Club, and his family.

Wes, who was the owner of Ponderosa restaurant in Arnold, joined the Foundation Board of Directors in 2009 and was a member until his death last year.

During their respective recent meetings, the Arnold Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club each contributed $1,250 toward the scholarship, along with $2,000 in contributions from Wes’ wife, Anna, and son-in-law, Dan Jones.

The scholarship will be awarded through the Jefferson College Foundation with a preference given to students who enroll in the Culinary Arts program.
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<td>Band Concert: “Songs of Humanity”</td>
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It is the policy of Jefferson College that no person shall, on the basis of age, ancestry, color, creed, disability, gender, information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, be subject to discrimination in employment or admission to any educational program or activity. Note: If accommodations for a disability are needed contact the Disability Support Services, Office – Library 136, phone 481-5100 ext 797, or ext. 1410 or dss@jeffco.edu.