

# COLLEGE PROGRESS REPORT SNAPSHOT OF 20 YEARS

– 1995-2015 –



ARKANSAS STATE  
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

*Educating the Health Care Workforce*





## *Reflections from the Dean*



Twenty years seems like a long time but it is a mere snapshot in the life of an evolving health college on the campus of Arkansas State University in Jonesboro and its associated distant learning sites. It is so fun to reminisce and review some of the things we focused our efforts on during that period. Many of these are still in place, but certainly not in their original form. Others were appropriate for the time but then change happened.

As you look through the document, curriculum development was certainly a primary focus in 1995. We had eight accredited programs at that time with an expressed regional need for many more. We worked our way through one 10-year curriculum plan, followed by two five-year plans. That work has resulted in an expanded depth and breath of our offerings, concomitant student semester hour increases and graduation numbers.

With the program growth in the college, we had natural increases in numbers of faculty and staff. The building that once housed all of us (Nursing and Health Professions) morphed into also occupying the first floor of Smith Hall, followed by taking over half of the third floor in that same building, opening the Donald W. Reynolds Center for Health Sciences and finally using all floors in Smith. With the renovations we have made to the Nursing and Health Professions building and the continued upgrades to Smith Hall, we have three large buildings with state-of-the-art pieces that sit side-by-side to support our didactic, laboratory, research and service delivery operations.

We found extramural funding, outside of grants, was necessary to support enhancements and activities in the college not covered by the Arkansas state budget. The college has worked to increase the number of student scholarships available and endowments to support faculty education, student international travel, staff continuing education, excellence funds, an annual grief seminar and more through the Arkansas State University Foundation and the Craighead County Community Foundation. Private gifts have touched every program and department in our college. Without these “discretionary” funds, our operations would not be as impactful as they are today.

So many people over this time frame including students, faculty, staff and the clinical community, which encompasses our alumni, have influenced the direction and quality of our programs and services. Partnerships have been invaluable. It has been remarkable work that we should take time to celebrate over this “brief” 20-year period.

Cheers to all!

Susan Hanrahan, Dean  
College of Nursing and Health Professions





Our **MISSION** is to provide quality education to students, graduates and health care providers in a variety of health disciplines. Recognizing its unique position in the lower Mississippi Delta region, the college provides educational programs that are designed to promote lifelong learning based on the expressed needs of its varied constituencies. The college assesses the attainment of this mission in terms of the contributions its graduates make to health care in the Delta region and beyond.

The College of Nursing and Health Professions was established in 1982, after being an independent division (1968), Division of Nursing (1973), School of Nursing (1975) and College of Nursing (1979). NurseJournal.org ranked the School of Nursing #9 on America's Best Nursing Schools & Colleges in 2015 in the eastern region of the United States. It was the highest ranked school in the state of Arkansas.

**DEGREE PROGRAMS:**

**GRADUATE DEGREES**

- Master of Communication Disorders (MCD)
- Master of Science in Health Science (MSHS)
- Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)
- Adult Health (CNS, Education, Administration)
- Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Anesthesia
- Master of Social Work (MSW)
- Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management. (MS)
- Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- Occupational Therapy Doctorate (OTD)
- Certificate in Aging Studies
- Certificate in Health Sciences Education
- Certificate in Health Care Emergency Management
- Certificate in Health Care Management
- Certificate in Addiction Studies
- Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)

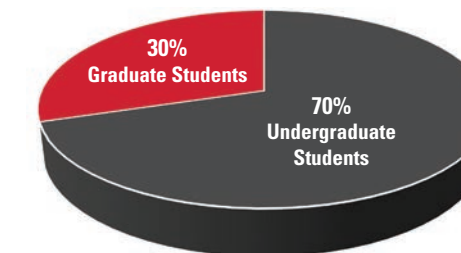
**UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES**

- Clinical Laboratory Sciences (AAS, BS)
- Communication Disorders (BS)
- Nursing (AASN, BSN)
- Physical Therapy (AAS)
- Social Work (BSW)
- Nutritional Science (BS Dietetics)
- Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Management (AAS, BS)
- Health Studies (BSHS)
- Radiologic Sciences( BSRS)
- Radiation Therapy (BSRS)
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography (BSRS)
- Nuclear Medicine (BSRS)
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (BSRS)
- Radiology Management (BSRS)
- Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA)
- Paramedic (Technical Certificate, AAS)
- Emergency Medical Technician - Certificate of Proficiency

More than 500 clinical sites contract with the college for experiences in a diverse array of settings.

*In 1995, the college had eight accredited programs.*

**GRADUATES:**

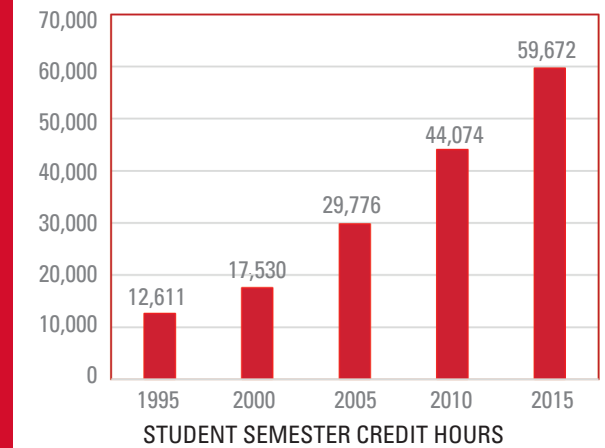


**TWO ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS**

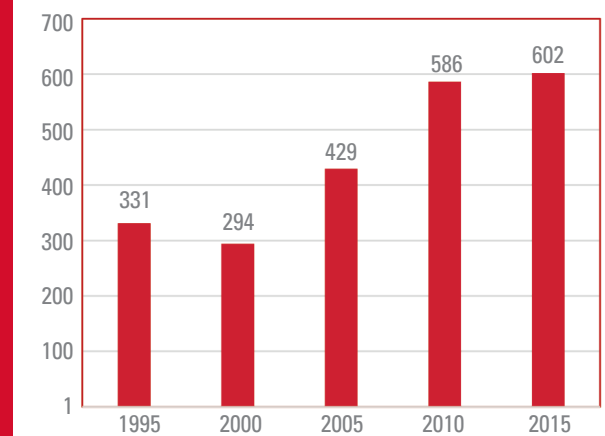
*Assisi Foundation Endowed Professorship in Nursing*

*Blue Cross Blue Shield Endowed Nursing Professorship in Rural Health*

**ENROLLMENT**



**GRADUATES**







## EDUCATION *Impacting tomorrow's leaders*

### ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

The college has continued to build on its associate and baccalaureate framework by adding numerous discipline-specific and needs-based undergraduate and graduate degrees, graduate certificates and entry level doctoral degrees. Off-campus programming continues to occur on our sister campuses in Mountain Home, Beebe and West Memphis. We have added a few degrees that are wholly online (RN to BSN and Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management programs). Our college houses state-of-the-art laboratories for these programs in addition to spaces for service delivery and research.

### INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Changes in healthcare necessitate a team of individuals providing prevention, assessment, treatment and follow-up care. What better way to learn about teams than to participate in interdisciplinary opportunities while in school. The college provides an array of programs that captures interprofessional experiences through teaching, scholarship and service delivery. Examples include our Healthy-Ager Program, Diabetes Self- Management Program, Beck PRIDE Center for America's Wounded Veterans and Hippotherapy (equine assisted) services.

### INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

The world is ever changing and cultural opportunities broaden our students perspectives and views. The college supports "exposure and immersion" activities in our curriculum including a "student passport" to document these experiences. Activities on campus, selected movie discussions, events in the community and trips to places like Peru, China, Israel and London impact students in ways that are often immeasurable.

### STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

We have seen an ever-growing number of these in our college. These student organizations have been found to enhance the academic, service and professional aspects of their future roles, including leadership development.

### COLLEGE ADDITIONS

- 1997 Relocation of Communication Disorders to the College of Nursing and Health Professions
- 2003 Relocation of Social Work to the College of Nursing and Health Professions

### STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Arkansas State University Red Cross Club
- BSW Student Organization
- International Association of Emergency Managers
- MSW Student Organization
- National Student Speech Language Hearing Association
- Physical Therapy Student Association
- Student Association for Clinical Laboratory Professionals
- Student Association of Black Social Workers
- Student Association of Radiologic and Imaging Sciences
- Student Association of Radiologic and Imaging Sciences - Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Student Association of Radiologic and Imaging Sciences - Radiation Therapy
- Student Nurses Association
- Student Nutrition and Dietetic Association
- Student Occupational Therapy Association

### PROFESSIONAL HONOR SOCIETIES

- Alpha Eta (Allied Health)
- Lambda Nu (Radiologic Sciences)
- Phi Alpha (Social Work)
- Sigma Theta Tau (Nursing)

### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

- 10 available in 1994
- 27 available in 2015





## SCHOLARSHIP *Seeking evidence for practice*

### PHOTOTHERAPY

An interdisciplinary team of researchers (Physical Therapy, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Rad Science and Nutritional Science) have joined together to form the A-State Phototherapy Institute. The Institute investigates the potential clinical applications for visible and near infrared light as treatment for disinfection, wound healing, neuropathies, joint degenerative conditions and pain.

### ARKANSAS BIOSCIENCES INSTITUTE LAB

A team of researchers, including undergraduate and graduate students, are studying connections within the brain. Currently, they are searching for connections that control the inhibition of the startle reflex. Another investigator is leading research into the normal development of the serotonin system in the gut. The long-term goal is to study the effects of anti-depressants (SSRIs) on this development.

### BALANCE

Studies have been done looking at the relationship between foot sensation loss and balance in persons with diabetes. Additionally, a study has been done looking at the relationship between hearing aid use and balance.

### AUTISM

An interprofessional team of behavioralists, occupational therapists and neuroscientists are investigating the feasibility of a comprehensive intervention to improve emotional regulation in naturalistic environments for children ages 10-18 diagnosed with autism.

### EXECUTIVE PROCESSING

A team of psychologists, neuroscientists and occupational therapists are investigating the effect of an executive coaching intervention to improve resilience during high-stress conditions in naturalistic settings.

### STUDENT LEARNING

Many studies are being conducted on improving student learning/experiences. Various topics include student perceptions of a culminating clinical experience, using course exam grades as a predictor of licensure success, peer instruction and so forth.

### CULTURE AND MINORITY POPULATIONS

Investigations on many aspects of diverse cultures, including work on disparities and select populations both nutritionally and internationally.

### GRANT IMPACT

*Title IV-E*

(Child welfare)

1993 - 2016 - \$9,069,943

*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*

(Delta Health Education Partnership)

1996 - 2002 - \$1,800,000

*Judd Hill Foundation*

(Education; Reynolds match)

1999 - 2004; 2008 - \$1,043,000

*Kellogg Foundation/American Association of Medical Colleges*

(Health Professions Partnership Initiative)

1999 - 2002 - \$387,082

*Department of Agriculture - U.S. Rural Utilities Grant*

(Distance Learning & Telemedicine)

1999 - \$350,000

*Arkansas Geriatric Education Center*

(Subcontractee)

2002 - 2016 - \$630,000

*Donald W. Reynolds Foundation*

(Building)

2007 - \$14,508,342

*Beck Family Foundation*

(Beck PRIDE)

2008 - \$1,000,000

*Department of Defense*

(Veterans)

2010 - 2016 - \$1,450,000





## SERVICE *Delivering education/treatment to those who need it*

### **SPEECH AND HEARING CENTER (ESTABLISHED 1974)**

The center provides high-quality professional services to individuals of all ages with needs in communication and hearing improvement. The facility provides diagnostic and treatment services for disorders related to articulation, fluency, voice, hearing, swallowing, language and literacy.

### **CLINICAL INSTRUCTORS/FIELD SEMINARS (ESTABLISHED 1998)**

A free, annual one-day program that addresses a current topic in the morning applicable to all health disciplines in the college (faculty, students and clinical/field instructors) and afternoon sessions broken out specific to each discipline.

### **BILLY JOE AND BETTY ANN EMERSON GRIEF SEMINARS (ESTABLISHED 2005)**

Annual seminar that is free to the participants through an endowment established through the Craighead County Community Foundation---Emerson Family Gift for Grief Education. National speakers with expertise in grief come to Jonesboro each year for a day of continuing education.

### **REGIONAL CENTER FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS EDUCATION (ESTABLISHED 2006)**

Provides core, basic and advanced Disaster Life Support courses, education and training in natural disasters as well as biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear and explosive events. The center is also an authorized Farmedic provider.

### **BECK PRIDE CENTER FOR AMERICA'S WOUNDED VETERANS (ESTABLISHED 2007)**

The mission of the award-winning center is to provide combat-wounded veterans with first-class educational programs and services, including resources to access higher education, counseling, personal rehabilitation and advocacy. PRIDE stands for Personal Rehabilitation, Individual Development and Education.

### **A-STATE CARE (ESTABLISHED 2011)**

A-State's Community Action Reinforcing Empowerment program is located off campus in north Jonesboro. The site is a one-stop shop for residents of the community who need to be linked to social and economic services including mental health, medical, educational, social welfare and employment opportunities. The goal is to focus on issues that are becoming much more common in our communities, such as substance abuse, crime, health disparities and social capital inequities.

## PAST INITIATIVES

Adopt-a-School

Art in Radiography

A-State Virtual Memorial Hospital

Based on a Promise (breast cancer exhibit)

Breast Photo Essay

Community Health Fair

Continuing Education Series

Focus on Health (KASU radio)

Healing Art Exhibit

Health & Wellness Series

Health Camp

Health in Your Hands (ASU TV)

Heart Walk

Ladies Night Out

Online Journal of Delta Health

Sports Injury Clinic

Stuttering Treatment Center

Therapeutic Riding Center



***AState.edu/CoNHP***



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