COLLEGE OF NURSING

Administrative Officers

Dean - Nancy Fahrenwald, PhD, RN, PHNA-BC, FAAN

Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Nursing Education - Sharon Dormire, PhD, RN

Interim Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Assistant Dean for Graduate Nursing Education - Matthew Sorenson, PhD, APRN, ANP-C, FAAN

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs - Todd Stricherz, MS

Associate Dean for Finance and Administration - Shirley Davidson, MBA

Associate Dean for Research - Jane Bolin, PhD, JD, RN

Associate Dean for Clinical and Outreach Affairs - Cindy Weston, DNP, RN, CSN-CC, FNP-BC

Assistant Dean for Distant Site at Round Rock - Virginia Ann Utterback, PhD, RN, CNE

General Statement

Registered nurses have been called the backbone of our health care system. Working on the front lines of health care, they treat patients, monitor and record their condition, help establish a plan of care, educate patients or the public about a health condition and provide advice and emotional support to patients’ family members. Registered nurses are increasingly being recognized as leaders in transforming the health care system to meet the burgeoning demand for prevention, wellness, and primary care services with a focus on improving quality and managing costs. In addition to their clinical expertise, nurses are being sought out to serve in a variety of leadership posts on bodies developing policy recommendations related to a wide-range of health care policy issues.

Individuals who earn a nursing degree must first complete a national licensing examination in order to obtain a registered nurse license for practice. Further training or education can qualify nurses to work in specialty areas, such as emergency care, pediatrics, labor and delivery, mental health, oncology, surgery, school, or public health. Graduate education can increase advancement opportunities for nurses including administrative positions in health care, academic faculty positions, and health care delivery as advanced practice registered nurses.

The College of Nursing is committed to addressing the critical nursing shortage across Texas through exceptional graduate and undergraduate educational programs and advanced technologies in nursing. Students are educated through cutting-edge technologies and simulated experiences, which include standardized patients and virtual learning activities. As leaders, our graduates are taught to question traditional methods and continually seek the best practices based on relevant clinical research. Through community service and leadership opportunities, the College of Nursing fosters a sense of social responsibility and global citizenship.

History

Texas A&M College of Nursing received approval from the Texas Board of Nursing on July 17, 2008, and admitted its first class on July 21, 2008. The college has grown to approximately 450 nursing students enrolled at two campuses: Bryan and Round Rock as well as having many students in distance education programs. The college also has a resident recruiting presence in Lufkin and McAllen serving residents in East and South Texas, for prospective undergraduate and graduate nursing students.

Texas A&M College of Nursing graduates are among the best-prepared masters and baccalaureate nurses in the nation, and they are highly sought after by prospective employers. First-time passing rates on certification board exams for graduates of the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Master of Science in Nursing program are significantly above the national average. Additionally, the first-time National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses® (NCLEX-RN) pass rates for BSN graduates have ranked 10 percentage points higher than both the Texas and national average for the past ten years. The percent of graduates employed within the first month following graduation is consistently high compared to national averages.

In recognition of this standard of excellence, the college received the National League of Nursing’s prestigious designation as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education initially in 2016. The distinction recognizes schools of nursing that have achieved a high level of outstanding innovations, commitment, and sustainability.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Texas A&M College of Nursing offers three tracks leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (BSN). For more information about the BSN program, please reference the College of Nursing’s undergraduate catalog (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/nursing/) information.

Master of Science in Nursing

The College of Nursing offers the Master of Science degree in Nursing (MSN) with three specialty tracks. The MSN tracks are offered primarily online, with some required visits to the Bryan-College Station campus, based on the program.

Completion of the MSN Nursing Education program enables graduates to instruct future generations of the nursing profession with advanced teaching emphasis, preparing them for the national certification exam in nursing education.

Graduates of the MSN Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program are advanced practice registered nurses who provide primary health care to a wide range of patients from infants and children to older adults. MSN-FNP graduates are eligible to take the ANCC and AANP certification exams. With a focus on health promotion, risk reduction, disease prevention and illness management, FNPs help meet the escalating need for high-quality and accessible health care.

The MSN in Forensic Nursing prepares graduates to care for victims and perpetrators of traumatic events or criminal acts. While caring for patients, the forensic nurse is responsible for observing, recognizing, collecting and documenting forensic evidence.

Accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is an autonomous accrediting agency, contributing to the improvement of the public’s health. A specialized/professional accrediting agency, CCNE ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs and of post-baccalaureate nurse residency programs. The baccalaureate and master’s degree programs in nursing at Texas A&M University College
of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (http://www.ccneaccreditation.org/), 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

**Locations**

The Bryan/College Station campus serves as the headquarters of the Texas A&M University College of Nursing. The 200-acre campus is located along State Highway 47 approximately three miles west of the main campus of Texas A&M University. The College of Nursing campus in Round Rock, Texas provides a state-of-the-art 134,000-square-foot structure with classrooms, a simulation center, library, study lounge, student services and faculty offices. Additionally, the College of Nursing has two advising locations: Lufkin and McAllen, Texas.

Bryan/College Station Campus  
8447 State Highway 47  
Bryan, TX 77807-3260  
(979) 436-0110

Round Rock Campus  
3950 North A. W. Grimes Blvd.  
Round Rock, TX 78665  
(512) 341-4200

McAllen Advising Location  
2101 South McColl Road  
McAllen, TX 78503  
(956) 668-6328

Lufkin Advising Location  
Angelina College, Health Careers Building  
3500 South 1st Street, Room #H110  
Lufkin, TX 75904  
936-633-3293

https://nursing.tamu.edu/

**Faculty**

Akinlotan, Marvellous, Research Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2019

Bolin, Jane, Regents Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, Pennsylvania State University, 2002

Bonner, Rickie, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
DNP, Regis University, 2012

Bosenbark, Margaret J, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, 2020

Burns, Rebecca J, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
DNP, Loyola University New Orleans, 2015

Charles, Laurie A, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
MS, Western Governor’s University, 2015

Dormire, Sharon L, Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, University of Florida, 1992

Downing, Nancy, Associate Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, The University of Iowa, 2010

Drake, Stacy, Associate Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, Texas Woman's University, 2014

Ekroos, Rachell, Lecturer  
College of Nursing  
PHD, University of Washington, 2016

Fahrenwald, Nancy Lynn, Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 2002

Gary, Jodie C, Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, University of Texas at Tyler, 2012

Hare, Martha L, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
DNP, Texas Tech University Health Science Center, 2010

Hepfer, Katie L, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
DNP, The University of Iowa, 2016

Hoffman, Matt F, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
DNP, The University of Iowa, 2016

Marklund, Leroy, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
DNP, University of Alabama, 2015

Matthews, Debra, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, Washington State University, 2014

McKee, Susan J, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
MSN, University of Texas at Tyler, 2012

Mitchell, Stacey A, Clinical Professor  
College of Nursing  
DNP, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, 2006

Montalvo-Liendo, Nora, Associate Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 2009

Mulcahy, Angela M, Clinical Associate Professor  
College of Nursing  
PHD, University of Texas at Tyler, 2018

OBriant, Deborah L, Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Nursing  
DNP, Vanderbilt University, 2020
Page, Robin L, Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, The University of Texas, 2006

Pittman, Alison F, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, University of Texas at Tyler, 2017

Pullium, Cheryl L, Clinical Associate Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, The University of Alabama, 2018

Sorenson, Matthew, Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, Loyola University, 2002

Utterback, Virginia A, Associate Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, Texas Tech University, 2010

Vargas, Sylvia, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNUN, Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, 2013

Vela, Carmen G, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, American Sentinel University, 2018

Wells-Beede, Elizabeth R, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, Capella University, 2018

Weston, Cynthia G, Associate Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio, 2014

White-Corey, Shelley J, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, 2020

**Masters**

- Master of Science in Nursing in Family Nurse Practitioner (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn-family-practitioner/)
- Master of Science in Nursing in Forensic Nursing (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn-forensic-nursing/)
- Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing Education (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn/)

**Certificates**

- Forensic Healthcare Certificate (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/forensic-healthcare-certificate/)