



Ph.D. Newsletter

An official publication of Northeastern University
Bouvé College of Health Sciences School of Nursing

Welcome New Huskies!



Veronica Bennett, BS, RN is a 2018 graduate from Simmons College and is currently a member of the following organizations, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association, and the American Academy of Developmental Medicine & Dentistry. She is pursuing her Ph.D. to help healthcare become more inclusive for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.



Hannah Fluhler, BS, RN is a May 2019 alumna of Ball State University in Indiana and is currently a nurse in Northeastern's vaccine clinic. Before moving to the Boston area, Hannah spent seven months in Melbourne, Australia, working on rare disease research thanks to a Fulbright Future Scholarship. She has a passion for advocating and caring for complexly ill children and hopes to become a nurse scientist at a children's hospital.

Congratulations to our 2021 Ph.D. Graduates!

Casey Garvey "An Exploration of the Influence of Stigma and Trauma in the Illness Representations of those Veterans who Decided to Initiate Treatment for Hepatitis C Virus."

Chris Gill "Utilization of the Pain Catastrophizing Scale for Postoperative Pain in Anesthesia."

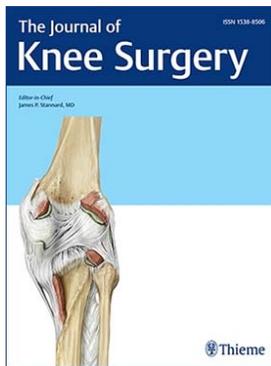
Evin Howard "Mold Exposure Levels in Inner-City Schools & Asthma Prevalence for Children Ages 4 to 15: A Study Comparison Between Mold Exposure Levels in Schools and An Independent Group of Inner-City Homes."

Congratulations to our 2021 Ph.D. Doctoral Candidates!

Maggie Eaton Dissertation Proposal title "Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Experiences with Providing Nutrition Counseling in Clinical Practice."

Vanessa Vath Dissertation Proposal title "The Role of Resiliency Factors and Environmental Context in Psychological Well-Being among College Students."

Honors and Awards



Veronica Bennett, BS, RN who published in The Journal of Knee Surgery titled "[The Effects of Patient Occupation, Hobbies, and Body Mass Index on Kneeling after Total Knee Arthroplasty](#)"



Congratulations **Hannah Fluhler, BS, RN** who presented "Physiological Safety of a Movement-and-Music Intervention for Hospitalized Infants with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome" at the the National Association for Neonatal Nurses annual conference and the Indiana Center for Nursing annual nursing research summit last Fall.

Congratulations to **Cynthia Orofo, BSN, RN** who was invited to speak at the [In Their Own Words: COVID-19 and the Future of the Health Care Workforce](#) event at Harvard Law School's Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics in March 2021. Cynthia's presentation centered on increasing nursing leadership capacity in research and clinical practice, as well as increasing representation to improve the workforce. Cynthia's perspective piece can be found [here](#).

Cynthia was also asked to speak at Northeastern's Interdisciplinary Women's Council. The Interdisciplinary



Women's Council is a student-led organization dedicated to female empowerment and advocacy for an event focused on highlighting women in healthcare during COVID-19.

Congratulations to **Dr. Rhonda Board** who was invited to speak at the St. Jude's Pediatric Onco-Critical Care Symposium 2021 in April. The goal of the symposium was to bring together experts in the field to stimulate discussion and grow new ideas for improving the care of critically ill pediatric oncology patients.



Ph.D. Facebook Live Event

Congratulations to Assistant Professor **Dr. Lisa Duffy**, Assistant Dean of Research **Dr. Rachel Jones**, and Nursing Ph.D. student **Jessica Wallar** who hosted the Facebook live event [The New Normal: The Impact of Telehealth in a Post-COVID World](#) on March 25th, 2021. Ph.D. Program Director **Dr. Rhonda Board** served as moderator. During the event, they discussed the impact of telehealth and how it has become a new normal in provider/patient care. Click the title to watch the event and learn more about Dr. Duffy's innovative research.

Farewell Dr. Rachel Jones

Rachel Jones PhD, RN, FAAN



Dr. Jones has made extraordinary contributions to the science of nursing. She has been awarded several NIH grants to support her research; she was funded by the National Institute for Nursing Research (NIRN) in an RO3 formative study, two RO1 clinical trials, and an information systems research grant (GO8) from the National Library of Medicine. Her research has followed a trajectory of exploring relationship-based concerns among women at high HIV risk, communicating HIV prevention through the drama of the soap opera web series video format, globally understood as entertainment education. Love, Sex, and Choices were used as an approach to reduce the HIV sex risk in urban women.

In recognition of her commitment to excellence in nursing science and public health, Dr. Jones was inducted as a Fellow at the American Academy of Nursing in 2010. She was appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH) at the National Institute of Health and served from 9/2016 to 9/2019 and is a former recipient of the Nurse Educator of the New York Times Tribute to Nurses award.

We all recognize Dr. Jones for her unconditional dedication, grace, and congeniality. It is for these outstanding qualities and the accomplishments that Dr. Jones was selected to be the inaugural School of Nursing Assistant Dean of Research. Her research and pioneering mentorship have served as a great inspiration to us all. During the past year, she has led the SON through growth and positive change. She has leveraged her prolific work and experiential wisdom to build a community of scholarship among our clinical and research scholars.

On behalf of the Ph.D. program and the School of Nursing community, we would like to acknowledge all of your efforts during this challenging year. We hope that you have a happy and healthy summer break and we look forward to connecting in the Fall.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Board, PhD, RN, CCRN-K

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