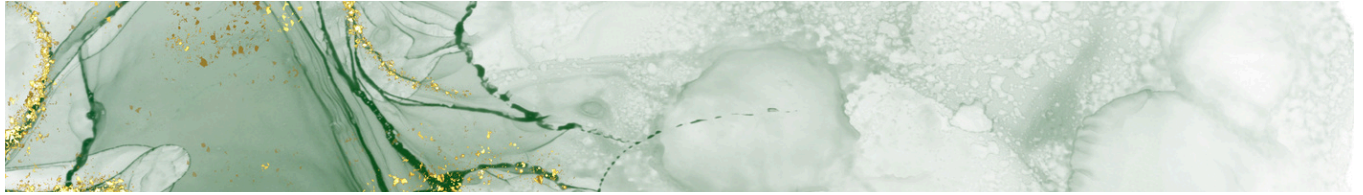




Health Sciences

NEWSLETTER



SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES GRADUATES BECOMING THE BEST IN THEIR FIELDS!

We are thrilled to announce that two of our 2025 Associate Degree in Nursing graduates, Rachel Pina-Paz (left) and Sarah Thomas (right), have recently received the prestigious DAISY Award! The DAISY Award is a national recognition program that honors nurses who provide exceptional, compassionate care to their patients and families. The award was created in memory of a young man who passed away from an illness affecting his immune system, with the aim of recognizing the outstanding nurses who cared for him during his journey.

Each DAISY Award recipient receives a special sculpture titled “A Healer’s Touch” and is often celebrated with a ceremony at their healthcare facility. Congratulations to these dedicated nurses for their remarkable contributions to patient care!

Submitted by: Kassie Felts, MSN, RN, CEN



VGCC Student Nurse's Association Blood Drive Recap

On February 18th, 2025, the VGCC Student Nurse's Association (SNA) hosted a successful blood drive in collaboration with the Red Cross at the Civic Center. With a goal of collecting 25 units, we came very close by collecting 23 units, a wonderful effort that will help save lives in our community. In addition to volunteering, many of our SNA students also rolled up their sleeves to donate blood. SNA student volunteers assisted with check-in and made sure donors received snacks and proper hydration after giving. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this event a success!

-Photos submitted by: Kassie Felts, MSN, RN, CEN



Dr. Kelly Eller Selected for Prestigious Bosnia and Herzegovina Program

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Kelly Eller, the Director of Nursing, has been selected by an esteemed panel at the University of North Carolina (UNC) to participate in an exclusive scholarship program in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This enriching experience, set to take place from June 5 to June 11, 2025, is organized by UNC's Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies (CSEES).

Dr. Eller, alongside other distinguished grantees, will explore the diverse cultural and historical landscape of Bosnia and Herzegovina, visiting iconic sites such as Sarajevo, Mostar, and the stunning Kravica waterfalls. The program offers a blend of educational and ecological exploration, with a focus on developing classroom activities that highlight the region's rich heritage.

This opportunity is a testament to Dr. Eller's dedication to educational excellence and her commitment to broadening her global perspective. We look forward to hearing about her experiences and insights upon her return.

-Photos submitted by: Kelly Eller, EdD, MSN, RN



RADIOGRAPHY

Radiography Faculty Attend ACERT Conference in Las Vegas

Tuesday, February 4th thru Friday, February 7th, Radiography faculty attended The Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiologic Technology (ACERT) conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada. Topics of the conference included JRCERT standards review, accreditation updates, exam writing tips, cultural competency, and radiology ethics. Faculty found the seminar to be very informative and impactful, and plan to utilize tools learned within the Radiography program.

-Submitted by: Jamisha Twitty, M.H.S. RT (R)



Radiography Faculty Explore Virtual Reality Training with VitaSim

On Wednesday, February 12th, Radiography faculty met with Christian Bollerup, a representative of VitaSim. VitaSim is a Danish company that develops comprehensive and realistic virtual simulations for medical skill training to enhance patient safety and educational quality. Radiography faculty has spent the past year researching virtual reality software that will benefit student success. Students and faculty had the opportunity to practice with the software and all agreed that this would be a beneficial tool for student success.

-Submitted by: Jamisha Twitty, M.H.S. RT (R)

