

Summer
2023 Issue

AlumniTimes

Celebrating alumni



Beginning a
New Chapter

Alumni President letter:

INSTALLING A NEW COLLEGE

president is a significant event for the entire institution. It marks the beginning of a new chapter in the college's history, and it is an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the previous administration and to welcome the new president with enthusiasm. The alumni board was happy to play a role in the installation of Dr. Andreia Nebel this spring. We have great admiration for Dr. Nebel's work at our institution to this point and look forward to her fresh ideas, perspectives, and drive to advance the Clarkson mission.

As we know, the future of health care education is rapidly changing. The health care industry is constantly evolving, and new technologies and practices are emerging all the time. As a result, health care professionals need to be constantly learning and adapting to provide the best possible care for their patients.

Here are some of the key trends that I see are shaping the future of health care education:

The rise of technology:

From electronic health records to telemedicine, technology is making it easier for health care professionals to access and share information, and it is also providing new ways to diagnose and treat diseases. As a result, health care education programs are increasingly incorporating technology into their curriculum.

The focus on interprofessional education:

In the past, health care professionals were trained in silos. However, the health care industry is moving towards a team-based approach to care. As a result, health care education programs are increasing their focus on interprofessional education, which teaches students from different health care disciplines how to work together effectively.

The emphasis on lifelong learning:

The health care industry is constantly changing, and new technologies and practices are emerging all the time. As a result, health care professionals need to be constantly learning and adapting in order to provide the best possible care for their patients.

The need for diversity:

The health care workforce needs to reflect the diversity of the population it serves. Health care education programs are working to increase diversity in their student body and faculty.

As the health care industry continues to evolve, health care education programs will need to adapt to prepare students for the challenges of the future. As alumni, we look to you to support the needs of this educational mission.

Please know that now is a great time to reconnect with the College, become active with your former classmates, engage with the alumni



association and help drive our current students' future in leading our industry. Your life and work experience help shape the future of health care education. Our alumni association can help you stay connected with your alma mater by providing you with news and updates about the school, as well as opportunities to attend events and reunions. Furthermore, we can help you network with other graduates who can provide you with career advice, job leads, and support. Becoming active allows you to give back to the school that helped you succeed. We are working hard to provide you with opportunities to volunteer, donate, and support scholarships—all for the betterment of the college and the health care industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Koile". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Bill Koile, MS, MBA

2	From the Alumni President		
	Alumni News		
4	Alumni Bowling Tournament 2023		
5	Connect with Us		
6	Student Earns Bachelor's Degree in PTA		
7	IPE Course for External Constituents		
	Features		
8	Welcome President Dr. Andreia Nebel		
11	Thank You to Dr. Pack		
	Campus News		
12	Radiography & Medical Imaging Program Launches New Certificates		
13	College Free Little Library		
14	Clarkson College Signs Partnership to Help Meet Needs of Health Care Workforce		
17	Launch of A.S. in General Studies		
19	Launch of Ed.D. in Interprofessional Leadership		
	Awards & Recognition		
21	Clarkson College Named One of Best in State		
22	U.S. News Grad Nursing Award		
24	BSN Option Ranked #1		
25	Fall Graduates		
26	Spring Graduates		
27	Class Notes		

PUBLICATION EDITORS: Kristin Camp, Alexandra Denton
DESIGNER: Sarah Vanderloo

The Alumni Times is a quarterly publication distributed by the Alumni Association of Clarkson College, 101 South 42nd Street, Omaha, NE 68131. Direct all story and photo submissions, changes of address or publication inquiries to alumni@clarksoncollege.edu.



On the Cover

Dr. Andreia Nebel, President of Clarkson College, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on May 18, 2023.

▶ Alumni Bowling Tournament 2023



JANUARY 28TH AT SCORZ SPORTS CENTER

11 teams participated:

Holy Bowlogna
The Super Bowlers
The Bowl Movements
Bowling with my Gnomies
Travel Buddies
Team 1
Living on a Spare
The Britney Spares
FireBalls
Smooth Obturators
Spare Change

Award winners:

Top male bowler: Matt Anderson
Top female bowler: Laura Tworek
Best team name: Bowling with my Gnomies
Best team costume: The Britney Spares

Highest team score:

Holy Bowlogna

Lowest team score:

Travel Buddies



Alumni and friends gather for a night of bowling and competition.








▶ Connect with Us


To make sure you stay informed, please visit ClarksonCollege.edu/alumni/alumni-contact-information to update your contact information.

Join Clarkson College Alumni Facebook Page and Clarkson College LinkedIn Page to stay connected with your classmates.

 @ClarksonCollege

 ClarksonCollege

 @clarkson_college

 Clarkson College

New Jersey Student Earns Bachelor's Degree in PTA to Stand Out in the Field



MERIBETH BROOKMAN of New Jersey completed her Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) degree in December 2022. Brookman entered the program to advance her practice and leadership within the physical therapy field.

Brookman currently practices in Piscataway, N.J. and was able to continue her work as a PTA while completing the online program option through the College. Her education began with a degree in Exercise Science, after which she returned to school to earn an Associate's degree in PTA.

"Once I finished school, I was overwhelmed by the exciting start to my new career, but I felt like something was missing," she says. "I felt as though I still had so much left to learn to provide the best care for my patients. So, before I even held my official license in my hand, I had already applied and been accepted

to Clarkson College to begin to close those residual knowledge disparities."

As one of the few institutions in the nation to offer a Bachelor's degree option, Clarkson College can offer professionals like Brookman the opportunity to close the education gap between PTs and PTAs. "People have a preconceived idea when they hear the word 'assistant' and often assume I am just another aide," says Brookman. "Pursuing a degree at Clarkson College was an opportunity to set myself apart from the rest, and hopefully earn the respect we deserve in this profession."

Through the program option, Brookman completed theory coursework online and came to campus three times to complete hands-on training and skills checks. According to her, the knowledge she gained from faculty with experience in the field was invaluable. "The teachers make it a point to get to know you and try their best to help you succeed," she says. "It fosters a team environment and helps students to come along side and push each other to be their very best."

"Once I finished school, I was overwhelmed by the exciting start to my new career, but I felt like something was missing"

Now just a few days away from graduating, Brookman knows that adding the BSPTA credentials behind her name will set her apart from others in the field. "I tell every young student and new PTA that I encounter to start pursuing this Bachelor's degree goal, because it will only make you a better clinician."

Learn more about the Bachelor's degree in PTA option at clarksoncollege.edu/physical-therapist-assistant.



IPE Course for External Constituents

As a member of the Clarkson College Alumni Board of Directors and also a faculty member of the Doctor of Education (EdD) in Healthcare Education and Leadership program, I would like to share information about the following wonderful opportunities here at Clarkson College:

IPE Course for External Constituents

Our Interprofessional Education (IPE) team offers continuing education credits (CEUs) through our external IPE course. We offer up to 9.0 contact hours, 9.0 continuing education hours, and 10 continuing education hours

for a Physical Therapist/Physical Therapist Assistant home study course. The self-guided, online IPE course can be completed at one's own pace throughout the course of the calendar year, and the course modules are designed to provide excellent instruction of the pillars of IPE (Values/Ethics for Interprofessional Practice, Roles/Responsibilities, Interprofessional Communication, and Teams/Teamwork).

For more information, please reach out to Sally Stimson, MSN, RN, CPN, CHSE, at ipeservice@clarksoncollege.edu.

Jenette L. Smith, Ed.D., DipACLM, M.S., Clarkson College Alumni Board of Directors. Instructor, Doctor of Education (EdD) in Healthcare Education and Leadership

Welcome DR. ANDREIA NEBEL



D **DR. ANDREIA NEBEL,** Ed.D., PT, DPT, FNAP, joined the Clarkson College Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program in 2003. In 2015, she was appointed Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA). In this role she supported academic programming, accreditation, the center for teaching excellence, community advancement, institutional research, academic and clinical compliance, administrative support services, academic travel abroad, interprofessional education, and college finances. She is currently also an associate professor in the PTA program and Doctor of Education (EdD) in Healthcare Education and Leadership, and served from 2007-2015, as the director of the PTA program, at Clarkson College. Her teaching assignments have recently included: Professional Issues, Advanced Procedures in Physical Therapy, Advanced Multiple System Interventions and Care Through the Lifespan, and a Doctoral Seminar course.

Dr. Nebel grew up in Casper, Wyo. and in 1999 earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Human Development from Montana State University–Bozeman. In 2002, she earned her Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Creighton University, and in 2020, she received her Ed.D. in Interdisciplinary Leadership from Creighton University. Her dissertation topic explored the role of political skill in decision-making for resource allocation in higher education, and she continues to pursue scholarly opportunities related to this work. Her clinical background includes pediatrics, outpatient orthopedics, industrial wellness, and



geriatrics. During her career, she has had the opportunity to work with a wide range of patient populations and has always had a passion for teaching.

In 2010, Clarkson College awarded Dr. Nebel the Dr. Patricia Book Perry Faculty of the Year Award for her dedication to high standards of education at the College. In 2011, her alma mater, Creighton University, selected her for the Young Alumni Appreciation Award in recognition of her exceptional leadership and devoted service to the profession of physical therapy. She was the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association Achievement in Education Award recipient in 2012, and, in recognition of her dedication to health care-related community service activities, she received the Clarkson College Maltese Cross Award in 2014. In 2018, Dr. Nebel received the honor of a Distinguished Fellow in

Physical Therapy from the National Academies of Practice and in 2022 was selected into the Executive Leadership Academy class for the Council of Independent Colleges. Dr. Nebel is an active member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and the Education Section. Additionally, she has served as the Nebraska Student Special Interest Group faculty liaison for the Nebraska Physical Therapy Association (NPTA), a Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) site reviewer and a PTA Board Exam Preparation course instructor for Therapy Ed. She is also an accreditation site reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission. She is an active member with the Consortium

1. Dr. Nebel gives her Presidential address to the College during the Inauguration.
2. Dr. Nebel and the Board of Directors gather on the day of the Presidential Inauguration.
3. The Nebel family including (L-R) Mike (husband), Ryley (daughter) and Tye (son) watch as Dr. Nebel steps to the podium.



of Hospital-Affiliated Colleges and Universities (CHACU) nationally and the Omaha STEM Ecosystem locally. She served as board chair in 2022 for the Executive Committee for the Omaha STEM Ecosystem and is also a board member for the Council of Independent Nebraska Colleges.

Dr. Nebel has completed dozens of invited presentations at a variety of locations and continues to be an active presenter. She was integral in completing an interprofessional collaboration project with Creighton University to create an interprofessional education course for all Clarkson College students, including required interprofessional experiences. Dr. Nebel also recently completed a four-year study with colleagues from Clarkson College and the University of Nebraska Medical Center working to answer the question: "Does a Combined

Student Physical Therapist (PT) and Student Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) Lab Experience Impact Knowledge and Attitudes Toward Interprofessional Education and Team Training for Patient Safety?" She is continually involved with outreach programs to fight childhood obesity, improve the quality of life through exercise, balance assessment, and fall prevention with neurologically involved patients, and a variety of other community-based wellness and health interprofessional education programs. Combining her extensive experience and her heart for the institution, the College community is honored that Dr. Nebel has stepped into the role of College President.

1. College faculty and staff members gather for the inauguration, pose in celebration and support the new president and her vision.
2. Faculty and staff members including Ms. Mary Dishman, Dr. Layna Himmelburg, Ms. Jade Liles, Mr. Michael Ehrecke, and Ms. Margaret Lorimor gather before the processional.
3. College faculty, staff and student government president exits the ceremony.
4. Dr. Pack receiving a gift from employees—framed medal for his service to the College.
5. Dr. Pack on an ATA Trip with the group.

thank you



THE CLARKSON COLLEGE Community would like to thank Dr. Gary Pack, Interim President, for his unmatched service to the College from May 2021–May 2023. Dr. Pack joined the College with decades of experience in education and had recently completed an Interim President appointment at a health care college the year prior. During his time leading Clarkson College, his focus was to assist with securing new leadership and help guide the College during this transition. His accomplishments were plentiful including increasing student scholarships and funding for the second science lab capital project. Dr. Pack showed immediate commitment to the College and truly cared about the future success of students and employees. He successfully supported the College by improving Enrollment and Retention processes and resources, procured a new Student Information System (SIS), supported the preparation of the four-year Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Assurance Review, ensured

a successful presidential search and selection for the College, and supported strategic growth through increasing College partnership outreach.

Dr. Pack will be remembered for his contributions to Clarkson College and for his participation with the Academic & Travel Abroad and Mission program, including trips to Spain and Portugal in 2022 and Germany and Switzerland in 2023. On May 16, 2023, the College community honored Dr. Pack with a Maltese Cross Medal of gratitude thanking him for his dedication and service to the students, faculty, staff, and the future of Clarkson College. Dr. Pack completed his appointment on May 31st and will be missed. His professional guidance will be appreciated for many years to come, and we are proud to have him forever connected to the Clarkson College community. He believed in us and our bright future as much as we do, and every day worked diligently to keep us working to move forward.



▶ Radiography and Medical Imaging Program Launches New Certificate Options

The Clarkson College Radiography and Medical Imaging program recently launched four new certificate options for professionals in the medical imaging field. The 12-credit hour options can be completed 100% online in as few as two semesters.

Professionals can choose from four specialties.

- › Certificate in Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI): Allows for career advancement in the medical imaging profession through certificate in the MRI field.
- › Certificate in Computed Tomography (CT): Prepare to work or complete an externship in the CT field.
- › Certificate in Cardiac and Vascular Interventional: Provides foundational didactic knowledge of the advanced vascular and cardiac interventional radiography modalities.
- › Certificate in Leadership in Medical Imaging: Prepare for leadership and supervisory roles in a variety of health care and medical imaging settings.

Following completion of the MRI, CT and cardiac and vascular interventional options, students will be equipped for the clinical components needed to fulfill the requirements of the American Registry of Registered Technologists (ARRT) post-primary certification.

Above: Radiography students practicing radiographic procedures in the energized radiography lab at Clarkson College.

If you or if someone you know is interested in learning more, please contact the Enrollment office at **402-552-3100** or **admissions@clarksoncollege.edu**.



College and Partners Create Free Little Library



Clarkson College is proud to give back to the children and families in the neighborhood with the installation of a Free Little Library located in the Clarkson Park at 42nd and Dodge Streets. The College worked with community partners including MCL Construction, RDG Planning and Design, and Renze to create and build a unique and sustainable Little Library to play a part in helping youth gain access to and own books at an early age. According to the National Commission on Reading in 1985, the single most significant factor influencing a child's early educational success is an introduction to books and being read to at home prior to beginning school. Clarkson College, along with its community partners, hopes this Little Library is the first of many so more children have the opportunity to begin their school year ready to learn.

"When we were deciding where we wanted to install our first Little Library, we instantly thought of the Clarkson Park. It bears the Clarkson name and is located across the street from the College, which makes it a perfect fit," shared Jina Paul, Vice President of Operations & Student Affairs at Clarkson College.

The installment includes a four-tiered box unit that house children's books for youth in the neighborhood to take home and enjoy. Clarkson College donates books by holding book drives and maintaining the unit to ensure it stays clean and safe. The installation also features a curved bench for children and family members to sit and read a book together. The College hopes the neighborhood enjoys not only the books, but also the addition of a beautiful Little Library to the Clarkson Park.

Little Library

Enjoy this Little Library as a place to explore, learn, escape and be inspired. Take a book home and invite your friends and neighbors to join you on the journey. Each time you pass by the Little Library, may it serve as a reminder to never stop learning, imagining, dreaming and reading.

This Little Library brought to you by these partners:

 Clarkson College

FOUNDING PARTNERS



Clarkson College Signs Partnerships to Help Meet Needs of the Health Care Workforce

Clarkson College is proud to be within a vast network of local organizations committed to serving the communities in which we live. As part of the strategic vision for the institution, Clarkson College is forging new relationships with community partners in the greater Omaha area while nurturing existing collaboration with founding partners. This innovative approach to cultivating educational opportunities and holistic wellbeing is reflected by designated themes for the partnerships, ensuring a sense of reciprocity is achieved that benefits the College and its partnership constituents.

Founding partners include Nebraska Medicine, with which Clarkson College has been its long-standing hospital-affiliated college; OrthoNebraska; Bellevue Medical Center; and Community Hospital-Fairfax in Missouri. As a Clarkson Regional Health Services (CRHS) affiliate, Think Whole Person Healthcare was added as a founding partner this past fall. The Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska has multiple ties to the College and recently became an official community partner in early 2023, extending the legacy of Bishop Robert H. Clarkson and

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

BROWN'S **DMI** **IMAGING**

VSL *Veter Senior Living*

BOYS TOWN
Saving Children Healing Families

OMAHA
Public Schools

Children's
HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER

Makovicka
PHYSICAL THERAPY
MakovickaPT.com

 **Mutual of Omaha**

 **fnbo**

"Clarkson College is excited to partner with Community Leaders to help fulfill a workforce need through a collaborative effort to better serve the community."

DR. ANDREIA NEBEL

his wife Meliora as the founders of the first nursing program in the state of Nebraska that would become Clarkson College. Employees of these organizations, Episcopal Church members, their spouses, and dependents up to 23 years of age receive 35 percent tuition savings while enrolled in academic programs at Clarkson College.

Community themes are in place to align in areas of significance as well as with the Clarkson College organizational Mission and Values.

Community Partnership Themes

- › Rehabilitation
- › Geriatrics
- › Technology
- › Spiritual
- › Research Hospital
- › Public School System
- › Pediatrics
- › Charitable
- › Legacy
- › Government (Federal & State)
- › Community (Health & Wellness)
- › Financial



Included within the Community Partnerships are Brown's Medical Imaging in the Technology theme, Vetter Senior Living for the Geriatrics theme, Boys Town in the Research Hospital theme, and Children's Hospital and Medical Center fulfills the Pediatrics theme. In addition, Makovicka Physical Therapy recently entered an agreement for the Rehabilitation theme, Mutual of Omaha in the Financial and Insurance theme, Omaha Public Schools for the Public School System theme, and First National Bank of Omaha (FNBO) for the Legacy theme. The relationship with FNBO honors the legacy of the Clarkson family thanking the Lauritzens of whom Bishop and Meliora Clarkson are ancestors and continue to support Clarkson College.

All community partner employees, their spouses, and dependents up to 23 years of age receive 30 percent tuition savings. As individuals and families make decisions regarding higher education and career advancement, the community

partnership benefit to employees and their families offer an unmatched opportunity of tuition savings and gives greater access to high-quality health care education at Clarkson College.

A few more community partnerships are already in motion, and the College looks forward to sharing these ongoing developments. Leaders at every level of the organization have contributed to connecting the Mission, Vision, and Values of the College to the multifaceted needs and dynamic opportunities of our current cultural moment. Anchored by a storied history of unyielding commitment to Caring and Excellence, Clarkson College and its partners welcome a future where health, healing, and happiness are enjoyed by all.

If you have family members following your footsteps into health care, consider employment at one of our partnerships and community leaders to encourage growth among our community.



Do You Know Someone Considering A Health Care Career But Are Unsure Which Field To Pursue?

Start with a Degree in General Studies

▶ Clarkson College has launched an Associate of Science in General Studies degree for students interested in gaining foundational knowledge in health care before committing to a designated career path. In addition to general education and core classes, students choose elective courses from a variety of health science disciplines to match their interests and professional goals.

Jeri List, Associate Professor and Director of General Education at Clarkson College, said the new degree program comes in response to the number of students eager to set their health care education in motion without feeling overwhelmed by declaring a specific focus. "Students passionate about helping others and interested in health care will create a path for their future and find success with this program," she said.



Community Welcomed at Open House

TO BOOST ENROLLMENT EFFORTS, Clarkson College hosted an open house the evening of Tuesday, April 4. It was a fantastic opportunity to showcase all Clarkson College has to offer aspiring health care professionals. The community was given the chance to see exciting classroom technology, take tours of campus renovation projects, and visit with staff, faculty and students. Friends, family and professional contacts attended.

During the annual Spirit Week celebration, an Open House will be held Tuesday, September 26 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. Special events will highlight the 135th anniversary of Clarkson College.

More details are forthcoming and will be posted to the College's social media platforms. Multiple opportunities for alumni involvement will be made available. Campus visits (virtual and in-person) are always encouraged and can be scheduled at your convenience.

Contact Ale Denton, Alumni & Advancement Coordinator, at dentonale@clarksoncollege.edu for more information. More details will be forthcoming and will be posted to the Clarkson College social media platforms.





▶ **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for New Science Lab**

On April 17th, an event was held to reveal the new science lab. The \$1.7 million project was funded by Clarkson Regional Health Services (CRHS) and provides students and faculty with a state-of-the-art facility for courses integral to preparing the best in health care. Dr.

James Canedy, CRHS Chair and Clarkson College Board of Directors member, had the honor of cutting the ribbon to officially open the lab.

Students began learning in the new space during the summer session. Contact Ms. Jeri List, Director of General Education, or any other science faculty member for more information on and/or to schedule a tour of the lab.

College Launches Doctoral Track in Interprofessional Leadership

▶ **JUST IN TIME FOR THE 10-YEAR** anniversaries of the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Healthcare Education & Leadership and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs, Clarkson College is excited to announce the launch of a new doctoral track—the Ed.D. in Interprofessional Leadership. This multidisciplinary option enhances the skill set of current and aspiring leaders in a variety of sectors, including but not limited to health care, higher education, business, non-profit, and community organization.

Coursework primarily focuses on boundary-spanning leadership to mend or prevent organizational divide and, instead, foster new ways of thinking, working, and collaborating. Cross-functional alliances and strategies, and leading through change and disruption, are other key pillars of the curriculum.



Dr. Regina Toman, Director



Ed.D. Track *(continued)*

“Offering the Ed.D. in Interprofessional Education meets the demand for a relevant doctoral program with a broader scope beyond health care education,” said Dr. Regina Toman, Director of the Clarkson College Healthcare and Education Leadership program. “Interprofessional leadership is becoming increasingly imperative as our world becomes more complex and interconnected,” she said.

The Ed.D. in Interprofessional Leadership aligns with the Clarkson College Interprofessional Education (IPE) initiatives built upon national standards and core competencies of the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC). The 52-credit hour program is fully online with dissertation work embedded in the curriculum. Courses are offered

in 7.5, 12, and 15-week sessions to support flexible and consistent student progression. In addition to coursework, students are required to pass a comprehensive exam, conduct an applied research study of their choice, and write and defend a dissertation.

Dr. Toman spoke on behalf of the Clarkson College faculty and staff who are eager to welcome their first group of students to the Ed.D. in Interprofessional Leadership program in fall 2023. “We are thrilled to offer this new doctoral program and look forward to helping students prepare to be the best leaders!”

For more information about the new Ed.D. program, visit clarksoncollege.edu/education-leadership/degree-options



Clarkson College Named One of Best in the State

INTELLIGENT.COM, a trusted resource for program rankings and higher education planning, has included Clarkson College on its list of the Best Online Colleges in Nebraska in 2023 as well as its list of the Best Colleges in Nebraska in 2023. The research identifies top schools in the state based on tuition costs, the number of credits required to graduate, and the online coursework delivery format.

Clarkson College was awarded Best Healthcare Institution on the final list of top colleges in the state. Intelligent.com implemented a unique methodology that ranks each institution on a scale from 0 to 100 across six categories. The

scoring system compares each school according to tuition costs, admission, retention and graduation rates, faculty, and reputation, as well as the student resources provided for online students.

Studies show that obtaining a degree increases income substantially, with graduates earning 84% more than those with only high school diplomas or those without a completed GED. The percentage difference in earnings continues to grow with higher learning degrees such as master's, doctoral or professional degrees, with the unemployment rate decreasing to as much as 1.6% for those with a doctorate.

U.S. News & World Report Ranks Clarkson College Online Graduate Nursing Program in Top 100



Program earns national recognition for the 12th year in a row

OMAHA, Neb.: U.S. News & World Report recently ranked Clarkson College in the top 100 Best Online Graduate Nursing Programs in the nation. The award marks the 12th year in a row that the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program has earned the distinction and speaks to the institution's continued tradition of excellence.

"We are proud to once again earn this honor from *U.S. News & World Report*," says Dr. Layna Himmelberg, Director of Graduate Nursing. "Each year, we strive to build upon a program that brings in committed students to work with dedicated faculty who are enthusiastic about building a health care workforce that will provide the best, most compassionate care to communities."

The MSN program allows working nurses the opportunity to earn their degree online and choose from flexible part- and full-time options. This allows students the option to build a course schedule that meets the needs of their professional and personal lives. The flexibility, along with the caring and dedicated faculty, is one of the main reasons why alumni choose to come back to Clarkson College to earn their advanced degree.

Stacey Poldervaart, MSN, RN, graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2018 and her MSN in 2020. She is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education (EdD) in Healthcare Education and Leadership with help from the Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) that provides students enrolled in the EdD and MSN in Nursing Education options up to 85% loan forgiveness.

“We are proud to once again earn this honor from U.S. News & World Report.”

DR. LAYNA HIMMELBERG
DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE NURSING



“Making the decision to return to school after almost 10 years, and over the age of 45, was not easy,” she says. “The time and financial commitment to further my education and career goals were things to consider as I have a family to care for as well. The NFLP offered through Clarkson College made this decision a bit easier. Being able to continue my education to reach my goals, knowing the financial burden of higher education would be lessened, motivated me to work harder and dream bigger.”

Along with Nursing Education, the Graduate Nursing program offers specialties in Nursing Healthcare Administration, Family Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. Students can also enroll in post-MSN certificate options.

The ranking by U.S. News & World Report is driven by data collection through statistical questionnaires sent to institutions offering online master’s degree programs.

Programs must be accredited by either the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and offer all required non-clinical coursework through internet-based distance education courses. The rankings recognize the best online graduate nursing programs based on five factors: engagement (30 percent), faculty credentials and training (20 percent), expert opinion (20 percent), services and technology (20 percent), and student excellence (10 percent).

Learn more at **ClarksonCollege.edu/Nursing**.



▶ **BSN Option Ranked #1 in Omaha**

RegisteredNursing.org recently ranked the Clarkson College Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) option as the third-best program in the state of Nebraska. It was also rated the highest BSN option in Omaha.

According to the rankings, "Clarkson College in Omaha is home to an exceptional BSN program for aspiring RNs. With class sizes kept to a minimum and the guidance of experienced instructors, students are given a solid foundation for nursing excellence. Hands-on experience via the on-campus skills lab and simulation lab, as well as area medical facilities, begin in the first year of the program."

Registered Nursing ranks programs by utilizing data from multiple sources including the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System and U.S. Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education. Individual programs are awarded points based on certain factors including whether or not the institution is accredited and if they offer online education options. The methodology also considers acceptance rate, graduation rate, diversity of options and other factors.



Fall 2022 Graduates

Certificate in Computed Tomography

Baylie Jean Shearer

Certificate in Medical 3D Printing Specialist

Becky Ann Dickinson
Bronwyn Gerritsen-Largen
Angela Havranek
Lily Frances Korytowski Σ λ
Katherine Marie Schneider λ
April P. Stimis
Hannah Marie Whiting

Certificate in Medical Imaging Informatics

Katherine Marie Schneider λ
Kelsey Waggoner

Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

Alexis Rae Anderson
Angela Elizabeth Doyen
Jake Joseph Hoover
Mark McGloin
Abby Rebecca Olberding Σ
Becky Lee Reardon
Mariah Marie Schroeder
Brennen Hunter Smith
Raef Steffen
Rachel Teten Σ
Jessica Vierke
Christina Visitacion

Bachelor of Science in Community Health

Cathy K. Lowrey
Susan S. Riggs Σ

Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Business

Megan Dougherty
Natalie Stuto

Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging

Claire Dorothy Flathers
Holly Lindsey Mesecher
Samantha Michelle Nevriy
Olivia O'Donnell
Paige Marie Osweiler
Taylor Pfeifer Σ
Claudia Ramos
Emily Recher
Katherine Marie Schneider λ
Baylie Jean Shearer
Kristie Steinmetz
Felicia Marie Taylor
Kelsey Waggoner

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Michelle Amin
Chloe Annette Baitey
Samantha Bak
Abigail R. Bess Σ
Cora Ann Besselman
Julie Ann Bodyfield
Nicole Renee Cook
Carter Jaeleen Crispin
McKenzie Drake
Jacquelyn Mae Gaworski
Elizabeth Abbey Gross
Jennifer Mae Hickey
Rebecca Jones
Paige Kramer
Jino Lee
Tayler Hyesun Lee
Adrienne Mahoney
Ryan Marquardt
Casey Marriott
Thao P. McAndrew
Abigail Moore
Jasmine Lee Poil Σ
Elise Putnam
Alyssa Robinson
Nyakhan Malual Ruot
Nicole R. Schindler
Alexandra M. M. Selig
Matthew Sorich

Janel Constance Sueper Σ
Bailey Elisabeth Swanson
Erin Swartzendruber
Hehea Taukitoku
Nhi Bach Linh Tran
Skylar Kay Christine Vak
Seth Willis
Keri Wolfe

Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

Taylor Boryca
Kelsey Kimes Boyer
Meribeth Thomason
Brookman
Molly Michelle Gubbels
Lillian Lackner

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Health Information Administration

Shakiru Ola Oludipe

Master in Healthcare Administration

Jason Allen DeLong
Alexandra Denton

Master of Science in Nursing

Brittany Lynn Bertram
Katie Ann Burns Σ
Elizabeth Byrd
Danielle Calvillo
Ashley Renee Carne Σ
Kaitlyn Corley
Rahel Asfaw Demessie
Lauren Dobson
Madeline Dong
Watta Virginia Foray Σ
Alesha L. Graves †
Olivia Hertel
Tori Hinderliter
Kase Jacobs
Caitlin Jensen
Janet Jephchirchir
Allison Breanne Jones

Dawn Marie Joynt
Kathryn McInerney
Kendra Elaine Mitteis
Amy Morton
Jacob Raymond Porter
Sheila Marie Rigo
Whitney Ann Schafer
Nicole Marie Shaffer Σ
Breann Lee Sims
Kerry Takeda
Matthew Thomas Wessling

Post-Graduate Certificate in Nursing

Mary Dishman †
Libby Lewandowski Σ
Stephen Francis Allen
Matthews
Rosemarie Neal
Kevin Shane Pruitt

Doctor of Healthcare Education and Leadership

Sarah Elizabeth Miller

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Michael Allen
Jayme Bristol
Ryan Joseph Clarke
Christine Marie Feltes Σ
Johnathan Gipson
Richard Lloyd Graves
Kirsten Sue Hollenbeck Σ
William Richard Kalhorn
Mary B. McCoy
Kilee Machelles Montgomery
Shay Nicole Prochaska Σ
Brigid Richter
Eli Rodriguez
Nicholas C. Schwedhelm
Samantha Anna Mae Sorenson
Danielle Weller

Spring 2023 Graduates

Certificate in Health Information Management

Lori A. Swenson

Certificate in Medical 3D Printing Specialist

Christopher Wayne Allen
Katherine N. Brunsting
Stephanie Marie Drees Σ
Annie Niewohner
Kylie Nicole Schnell
Erin Marie Wallace

Certificate in Medical Imaging Informatics

Brynnan D. Duba
Kevin Austin Eaton
Kacee Hansen
Christine Stephanie Harris
Christine Victoria Olvera
Kristen Poniatowski
Ashleigh Ralls

Associate of Science in Health Information Technology

Allison N. MacIntosh

Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Business

Lori Davis
Gabrielle Jo Larson
Steven Murphy

Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging

Tiffany Ann Baston
Brynnan D. Duba
Amber Gabbard
Christine Victoria Olvera
Leah Faye Roetman

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Jerry Allen Adrian
Adriana Alvarado-Silva Σ

Katherine Marie Andrews
Samantha Bak

Lauren Benes
Nya Christmas Bol Σ
Kylan Busch
Amanda Marie Clites
Regina Cook
Bailey Hunter DiNucci Σ
Natalie Rene Dunham
Madeline Elder
Haley Ferris Σ
Cristina Yanel Franco
Alexus Fraser
Hannah Kaitlyn Gard
Kathryn Marie Goetz
Stephanie Nicole Gonzalez
Jessica Dianne Hall Σ
Haylie Ann Hansen
Paris Lynn Harper
Emily Hobza
Emily Ann Jackson
McKenzie Ann Jensen
Shikyra Kriegel
Matthew James Loberg
Katelyn Martenson
Bianca C. Mata Σ
McKenzi Montes
Shantol Passley
Jayden Pixler
Olivia Anne Renelt
Marie Sue Stone Σ
Tasha Swanson
Hunter Ashley Taylor
Shelby Tidemann
LeeAnna Wall
Ariana Wascher
Karley Noelle Webster

Master in Healthcare Administration

Alexia Faustina Sablan Ada
Michael Eesley

Master of Science in Nursing

Sadie Sue Bauer
Derek Ryan Brester

Allison Brinkman
Nick Christensen
Meghan Elizabeth Clemensen
Family Nurse Practitioner Σ
Floyd J. Colwell
Kimberly Ann Compton
Nursing Education Σ
Carisa Marie Cox
Jennifer Davis
Katherine A. Fricke
Christen Maria Goede
Paulina Kristan Gossman Σ
Anna Kathleen Hagenkord
Haley Huls
Kaytlin M. Johnson
Laura Rochelle Jones
Kelli Kooyman
Stacy Michelle Lister
Jennifer Lundgren
Asia M. McCoy
Chelsea Meyer
Emelia Nelson
Jordan Reeves
Kylie Rocca
Megan C. Rumbaugh
Healthcare Administration Σ
Jessica Morgan Rupp
Gerontology Acute Care Σ
Megan Shadden Σ
Bridgett Smith
Kelly Stephens
John Richard Tallerday
Lindsay Marie Van Dyke
Ashlea Wolf
Neissa Yacoubou-Coulibaly

Post-Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Administration

Vanessa Lynne Meinberg

Post-Graduate Certificate in Nursing

Bobbi Heffelfinger *Family*
Wendi Kristi-Ann James
Susan Mirembe Matovu

Elizabeth Stock
Misty Wahab

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Jeffrey Downs
Molly Greenwood
Jesse Anne Hamilton
Stacy Renee Militsakh
Wendy Lee Smith

Join us for the 2023 Graduation Ceremony:

DATE:
Saturday, August 5
10 a.m.

LOCATION:
Baxter Arena, 2425 South
67th Street, Omaha

PARKING:
Free parking is available
in the lots surrounding
Baxter Arena.

Academic Honors

Academic honors are conferred on Bachelor of Science and Associate of Science degree candidates who, upon graduation, distinguish themselves by maintaining a high cumulative grade point average. To qualify for academic honors, a student must have completed the minimum required residency hours. Honors are distinguished as follows:

- **** Summa Cum Laude: 3.85 and above
- *** Magna Cum Laude: 3.75 through 3.84
- ** Cum Laude: 3.65 through 3.74
- * With Distinction: 3.50 through 3.64

Honor Societies

Honor societies at Clarkson College include:

Σ Member of National Society of Leadership and Success Sigma Alpha Pi Interdisciplinary Honor Society

† Member of Omicron Epsilon Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

λ Member of Delta Chapter Lambda Nu National Honor Society for the Radiologic and Imaging Sciences

Note: Names and honors designations are based upon current information at press time. We apologize for any errors.

Correction

Cheryl Walburn donated to the Clarkson College Choose to Give Campaign and was not included on the list in the last Alumni Times magazine. We apologize for this error.

Class Notes

Class of 1967

Mary R. Krecek (Smestad). Passed away January 20, 2023.

Class of 2000

Jennifer Lee Etheredge (Wewel). Passed away January 21, 2023.

Class of 2020

Riley Scharper, MSN. Passed away January 13, 2023.

Celebrating 135 Years!



Save the Date: 2023 Alumni Weekend

SEPTEMBER 28–29

Alumni Brunch
Heritage Garden Walk
Alumni Dinner at the Cottonwood
Alumni Happy Hour
Alumni Campus Tour
Alumni Continuing Education
Register for events at
www.clarksoncollege.edu/alumni/alumni-weekend

Mark your calendars. Details to come!