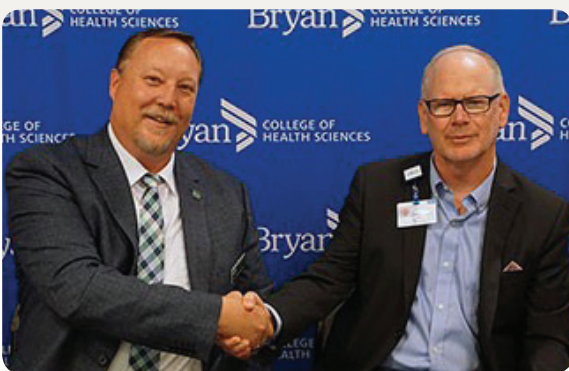


## New Partnerships for Pathways

Central Community College (CCC) and Bryan College of Health Sciences have formally signed a new dual admission agreement. The articulation agreement will allow students from Central Community College to seamlessly matriculate at Bryan to finish their four-year degree.

Students applying for and accepted under the dual admissions process will be admitted to both colleges upon acceptance into a science or health professions program at Central Community College. Students at CCC desiring dual admissions must apply for dual admissions status by the completion of their first year of enrollment at CCC. The agreement takes effect immediately with the start of the 2019-20 academic year.

“With Grand Island Regional Hospital nearly complete in partnership with Bryan Health we wanted to support the educational needs of trained health care professionals in the Grand Island community,” said Bryan College of Health Sciences Provost Dr. Kelsi Anderson. “With our RN-BSN completion program now being offered completely online, it made sense for us to connect with CCC to provide seamless opportunities for degree completion to their graduates who would certainly be seeking employment at the new hospital in addition to surrounding communities.”



Central Community College President Dr. Matt Gotschall with Bryan College of Health Sciences President Dr. Rich Lloyd

“What I am most excited about is that this agreement provides an opportunity for nurses, medical lab technicians, dental hygienists, pharmacy technicians, biomedical scientists, occupational therapy assistants and others to continue on for a bachelor’s degree without having to leave their current employment in over 80 communities that CCC serves,” said CCC President Dr. Matt Gotschall. “Continued education is essential for the sustainability and growth of our rural Nebraska health care providers.”

Beyond CCC, the College has finalized multiple partnerships with surrounding institutions to provide our students with unique pathways into careers in the health professions.

**For more information, students may visit [bryanhealthcollege.edu/transfer](http://bryanhealthcollege.edu/transfer) or contact Bryan College of Health Sciences directly at 402-481-8863.**

As a 14-year-old watching the TV show ER every Thursday night, I just knew that someday I was going to be a trauma physician. About 30 seconds into my shadowing experience as an 18-year-old pre-med student, I knew I was not going to be a doctor. Talk about a crisis! Now what was I supposed to do? I only liked science, it was the only subject that made sense to me. What I did not know and what no one could seem to tell me was that I had options outside of a medical degree.



Dr. Kelsi Anderson

Recently at Bryan College of Health Sciences, we established partnerships with local and regional colleges for both degree completion and graduate school pathways for our students. Clear pathways show students a direct, post-graduation route to build successful careers.

Through these partnerships, students have the opportunity to complete their bachelor of science in nursing or health professions degree with a concentration in respiratory therapy all online. Partnerships also have been established with local public and private colleges to ensure our students have pathways to master’s degrees in public health, social work or physician assistant studies. One of the many reasons I love working with college students is because I get to help them find their path. I am passionate about this because I felt so lost as an undecided biology major all the way until I discovered college teaching as a career - 12 years after that first (and only) shadowing experience. Those of us who are teaching and leading these students daily “know the way” so it is our privilege to “show the way.”



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# Healing HEROES



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- New Partnerships
- Students Travel to Costa Rica
- Employee Giving Campaign



[bryanhealthcollege.edu](http://bryanhealthcollege.edu)

## Students Travel to Costa Rica

Last summer, Bryan College of Health Sciences students spent one week in Costa Rica to experience how health care is administered in another country. They also had fun taking in the beauty and culture of this Central American country.

“We had a very full week,” said participant Maddie Frikke. “We visited homes, helped people at free clinics, did activities with an elder group from the community, went to a long term care facility, toured San José, went zip lining, tried new foods and took in the beauty of Jaco beach. I can’t wait to go back to this beautiful country again someday!”

This trip has had a lasting impact on students. “Sounds cliché but I feel like a totally different person because of this experience,” said Miranda Lenn. “It was unlike anything I could have dreamed it would be. It gets you out of your comfort zone in so many ways. It made you experience things that are unlike anything you can experience in the U.S. The people of Costa Rica were the kindest people I’ve ever met. Their gratitude for the services we provided was truly humbling.”

In the summer of 2020, Bryan students will venture to the Dominican Republic.



## Faculty Achievements and Awards

**Terri Raburn**, access services librarian, presented *When Disaster Strikes...Got a Plan?* at the National Library Association annual meeting in October.

**Dr. Kristy Plander** presented *The Job You Never Thought You’d Have* at the Nebraska Women in Higher Education Leadership annual conference in October.

**Dr. Irakli Loladze** presented the keynote address at the 2019 Rural Development and Food Security Forum Asian Development Bank in Manila, Philippines in October.

**Drs. Melinda Bentjen** and **Sherry Koenigsman** will present at the 2020 National Nurse Educator Summit in April.

**Dr. Theresa Delahoyde** was selected to be an abstract reviewer for the National League for Nursing Education Summit for 2020.

**Dr. Michelle Summers** was selected to be an abstract reviewer for the American Association of Suicidology National Conference in 2020.



From left to right:  
Dr. Kristy Plander,  
Dr. Sherry Koenigsman,  
Dr. Theresa Delahoyde  
and Dr. Melinda Bentjen  
Not pictured:  
Dr. Michelle Summers,  
Dr. Irakli Loladze and Terri Raburn

## Expansion and New Innovations in Teaching at the Simulation Center

Patient simulation lets students and clinicians practice skills and procedures under highly realistic conditions to prepare for real-life challenges. In 2010, Bryan College of Health Sciences, Southeast Community College and Bryan Medical Center collaborated to create the Simulation Center, which has three adult mannequins, plus specialized individual mannequins for obstetric, pediatric and neonatal simulation training.

In the 10 years since the Simulation Center was established, more than 32,000 students and clinicians trained there, and nursing, anesthesia and sonography programs at the College incorporated simulation training into their courses. In addition, Bryan Health uses the Simulation Center in nurse residency and respiratory residency training programs, and obstetric, neonatal and emergency departments use simulation during continuing education. They also invite middle school and high school students for ‘hands on’ experiences with mannequins during career camps and group visits. A top student experience is to listen to the heartbeat of the simulated newborn, says Barbara Sittner, PhD, Simulation Center director.

### Simulation Center renovated, expanded

In August 2019, with generous support from Bryan Medical Center, the Simulation Center moved to Bryan East Campus, where it is now adjacent to the College. At over 5,400 square feet, the new center has eight simulation rooms, four control rooms, four debriefing rooms and a station for nurses.

“Each simulation room is equipped with audio-visual recording equipment so teachers and learners can review and discuss the simulation experience,” Dr. Sittner says. “During this debriefing we talk about the scenario, linking it to relevant course content and best practices. This is also a time to reflect on what went well, what needs to be improved upon and what the student gained from the experience.”

In this way, participants safely learn to master complex clinical skills. Sam Dirkschneider, who will graduate with a degree in nursing from Bryan in 2020, appreciates this teaching approach. “Like me, lots of people are hands-on learners. The Simulation Center is a great opportunity to practice scenarios that might not happen on the unit right away. It helps me feel confident and prepared for clinical challenges.”

### Learning to cope in high-stress situations

Simulation training has clear advantages for advanced nursing practice as well, says assistant professor of nurse anesthesia Holly Chandler, EdD.

“For students in the nurse anesthesia program, simulation training is a valuable opportunity to become familiar with anesthesia equipment and high-stress clinical situations prior to direct patient care. Students also practice team communication and leadership skills that are invaluable during critical events in patient care.”

### Training in rural communities

The Simulation Center also is unusual in that it offers training to rural health care providers. Staff currently travel to 12 rural hospitals every year to provide simulation training on high-risk obstetric and neonatal topics to physicians, nurses and other clinicians associated with Bryan Health and the Heartland Health Alliance. These are taught by maternal and fetal health physicians and specially trained neonatal nurse practitioners.

One of these physicians, Dr. Benjamin Byers, says, “We focus on simulations of high-acuity, low-frequency pregnancy complications like maternal hemorrhage and severe hypertension of pregnancy to help staff in smaller hospitals prepare for these rare, potentially catastrophic pregnancy complications.”

And the training has paid dividends. In Howard County, just one-week after training, the medical staff put their simulation training to work – successfully - in a real case of postpartum hemorrhage.

“The Simulation Center is a tremendously effective tool for students and clinicians,” says Dr. Sittner. “Our goal over the next few years is for the Simulation Center to be accredited by the Society of Simulation in Healthcare, and we are well on our way.”



## Donors Meet Bryan Students

The annual Donor Recognition Luncheon allows Bryan students to meet those who fund their scholarships, such as:



Carl Ander with student Jace Schliep



Elaine and Dr. David Dyke with student McKenna Volquardsen



Doug and Lois Wilson with student Caitlin Edzards



Helen Weber with student Brittany Robinson

## 2019 Employee Giving Campaign Success!

The 2019 Employee Giving Campaign raised over \$29,000 with 87% of employees participating. These funds will support needs across the College such as student scholarships, the Simulation Center and lab supplies, as well as efforts within Bryan Health. We are thankful to our employees who supported our organization and gave back in such a big way!

If you would like to support Bryan College of Health Sciences, make a gift online at [bryanhealthcollege.edu/healertohealer](http://bryanhealthcollege.edu/healertohealer).

