

Welcome Mel Stutzman!

Hello everyone! My name is Mel Stutzman and I am the new professional development counselor at Bryan College of Health Sciences. Prior to this role, I was faculty and practicum coordinator for the human services program at Southeast Community College. I also work part-time at Bryan Health as a mental health practitioner.



What interested me about this position is that it combines both my passions of education and counseling. I love building relationships with others and assisting them with their educational and professional goals. Bryan is a successful and progressive educational leader in health professions for our community and surrounding communities. I am excited to be part of a team that believes in and promotes academic and professional excellence. I am very excited to meet all the great students and look forward to the year ahead!

Two New Services, Available Free to Students

Students are now able to get care anytime, anywhere with virtual urgent care through Bryan EzVisit. Care is available 24/7, year round for all students at Bryan College of Health Sciences. This service provides diagnosis and treatment from a board certified doctor in 14 minutes or less, and treats conditions such as colds, flu, allergies, sinus infection and more.

Additionally, students can receive both in-person and virtual care to support their mental health with Bryan Heartland Psychiatry. Students dealing with stress, depression, anxiety or other challenges can meet with a mental health professional to receive the care they need.



“These services will allow us to meet our students where they are, around the clock, by intervening in a timely way. Using a telemedicine platform, we can reach out to a broader number of students who desire mental health services,” says Dean of Students Alethea Stovall, PhD.

Both virtual urgent care and mental health counseling are offered as a free resource to all Bryan students to help them stay well, physically and mentally.

2020 has been a year full of memories! The most common memory for many of us is that of experiencing health care and health care education during a pandemic.

One thing that really stands out for us is how the Bryan College of Health Sciences team has continued to focus on high quality education for our students. Faculty and staff created innovative ways to deliver lectures and clinical education that looked a little different, but still provided a meaningful experience. Not only has academic excellence been at the forefront of what we do, but student, faculty and staff mental health and self-care has been a top priority, too.

We have always emulated the “one team, one purpose” core value, but during this time, it is quite clear that we genuinely do function in this manner, regardless of the situation. We continue to meet weekly with an inter-professional team to address short-term and long-term needs to maximize the education and holistic support for our entire Blue Healer family. Safety has been a priority long before a pandemic, and will continue thereafter. This is a challenging time for graduates entering the workforce, but we know that they are ready to rise to the challenge and will continue to make everyone here at “home” proud, just like the graduates who have gone before them.

Be safe, be vigilant, but most important, be proud to be a Blue Healer.



Robin Kappler, EdD, RN



Tiffany Hunt, EdD, RN

Robin Kappler *Tiffany Hunt*



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Bryan College of Health Sciences

Healing HEROES



ISSUE VIII

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bryanhealthcollege.edu

Lincoln Public Schools and Bryan College of Health Sciences announce their new partnership.



Theresa Delahoyde, EdD, RN



Ashley Kennedy, EdD, RN

Congratulations to Dr. Theresa Delahoyde on being named the March of Dimes Academic Educator Nurse of the Year! She was among more than 300 nominees in over 20 categories. She was nominated for her effective communication and collaboration during the COVID-19 remote learning transition. Dr. Ashley Kennedy, undergraduate nursing faculty, was a finalist in this category.



Jeff Schwehm, PhD

Dr. Jeff Schwehm, associate professor of humanities and sciences, had input in a special article in the October 2020 issue of *The Teaching Professor* titled Why I Offer Extra Credit and the Guidelines That Govern Its Use.



Sara Hanes, a student in our master of science in nursing program applied for, and was awarded the Nebraska Hospital Association Research and Scholarship Foundation Health Care Career Scholarship to be used for tuition, fees, books and educational supplies. Sara is a clinical resource nurse on the renal unit at Bryan East Campus.



Dr. Lesa Hoppe received the December DAISY Award. Lisa Vail, Bryan Medical Center chief nursing officer, presented the award to Dr. Hoppe for her excellence in serving students and patients.



Katelyn Higgins, recent alum of the diagnostic medical sonography program, was selected for the Emerging Leaders program by the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography Foundation. Katelyn was nominated for her excellent time management, kindness to all, and being an exemplary role model for the profession. Along with pursuing a degree in sonography, Katelyn is working on a master's degree in health care administration and balances all of her obligations with ease.

Partnerships Moving Bryan Forward to Build Health Care Workforce

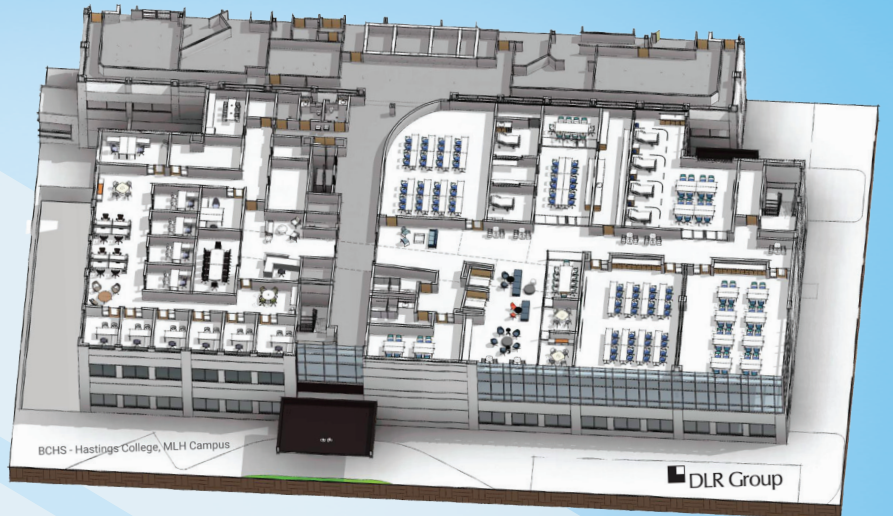
Bryan College of Health Sciences' four-year bachelor of science in nursing program plans to come to Hastings, Nebraska, thanks to a partnership between Hastings College, Bryan College of Health Sciences and Mary Lanning Healthcare (MLH).

Students who are interested in the program apply to Bryan College of Health Sciences and select Hastings as their site location. The inaugural class of students will begin taking classes at Hastings College in fall 2021. After their first year, students will take nursing courses from BCHS faculty at MLH, with clinical rotations occurring primarily at MLH and nearby facilities.

"This is an innovative way to offer opportunities to more students who wish to build a career in nursing and the health sciences, while also helping further develop a workforce to serve south central Nebraska," said Dr. Rich Lloyd, who serves as executive president of Hastings College and president of Bryan College of Health Sciences. "We are excited about the potential, and are looking forward to recruiting our first class of students."

Students accepted to Bryan's program in Hastings will be Bryan students, but live in Hastings College residence halls. They will have the opportunity to participate in Hastings College student activities. The program application is currently open, and students who applied previously will be able to select their preferred location as Lincoln or Hastings.

Additionally, a partnership between Lincoln Public Schools and Bryan College of Health Sciences will launch the Medical Science Focus Program set to open with the new high school located at Northwest 48th and West Holdrege streets in fall 2022. Through hands-on, immersive experiences and dual-credit classes, the program will prepare students for a variety of careers in the medical field. Students will begin course work their ninth and tenth grade years, as health science curriculum will be integrated into math, science and health classes. Juniors and seniors will be able to enroll in the dual-credit courses to earn early college credit. Several classes will be offered online and face to face through BCHS. More information will be shared leading up to the opening of the new high school.



A Bryan team developed plans with DLR group for the new Bryan College of Health Sciences location in Hastings.

Moving Forward

As the COVID-19 pandemic emerged, the college activated a pivot response team to track, plan and manage needs that surface as the pandemic continues. This team of faculty, staff and administrators meets weekly to discuss new positive cases and historical trends, and build consensus on how to adjust college operations if the need arises.

As we look toward the spring semester we are hopeful, as the COVID-19 vaccine will see wider distribution. We will start the spring semester much like we ended the fall term with a blend of remote and on-campus learning. BCHS will remain open to students including the availability of all student services.

Faculty will be available to students during currently scheduled class time even if delivering remote content. Students who need laptops, webcams or other remote learning devices have been given the resources needed to be successful. While we are optimistic that the vaccine will provide needed relief in this fight, we will ensure that clinical and academic excellence continues at the College and in virtual spaces.



Faculty members Dr. Jenna Dubas, RN; Dr. Ashley Kennedy, RN; Jordin Gorka, RN, and Tasha Pfenning, RN, are a part of the team administering COVID-19 vaccines at Bryan Medical Center. Vaccinations began Dec. 14, 2020.