

Kyle Black, RN

Registered Nurse at Oklahoma ER & Hospital in Oklahoma City.

story and photo by James Coburn, Staff Writer

Each day brings a new story for registered nurse Kyle Black's work at Oklahoma ER & Hospital in Oklahoma City. He must be prepared for every moment. Working in the ER allows him to make a difference in people's lives during critical moments, he said.

"We always have to think about what is going on before it can be ruled out," Black said.

Black said it's enriching to be able to provide immediate care and support for those in urgent need. The fast-paced environment keeps him engaged and ensures every day is meaningful, he said.

"Working in the ER can be really grim. I think when we can turn an unfortunate situation into a positive outcome, it's almost like bringing light into the darkness during those stressful times," Black

explained.

The cold weather has had an impact on some people. His patients with hypothermia are often homeless or elderly adults that have lost heat to their homes because they couldn't afford the energy bill. Patients generally present flu-like symptoms or have abdominal pain, shortness of breath. During the summer and icy days, the orthopedic complaints tend to rise, he added.

"This one time we had this guy that broke into a house and got cut up pretty good. He ran from the police, and they found him. There was snow on the ground in the woods. He was also hypothermic," Black said.

As soon as the man regained his awareness, he pulled out the tube from his nose and ran out of the hospital.

The ER patients can range from the sweetest grandma there ever was, to a man who had just shot his wife, Black said.

"But we've got to take care of them all the same," he added.

There are usually three ER nurses to handle the intake of patients. Patients are often adjusting to the reality of an unexpected ER visit when they arrive. His calm demeanor and kind, friendly manner helps to lower their fears. It's not helpful inpatient care for an ER nurse to appear stressed out before a patient who is already reaching the pitch of anxiety, he said. Being an ER nurse takes a special type of person like Black.

"You tell a good joke here and there," he said. "Explaining a lot of information helps to ease them, too," he said.

He informs patients step-bystep by answering any additional questions they have. With the necessary permission given by the patient he can answer other questions from family members or friends.

He understands as a dad

what an emergency means. One day Black was grilling outside. His 3-year-old son came outside. Black turned his head for a second and his son touched the hot grill.

"The next thing you know he got a blister on his hand and he's crying. It's hard stuff, especially when it happens to your kids," Black said. "I think when parents bring their kids in for the little things, I think they deserve a little extra leeway because it's different from when you, yourself get burned."

He became hooked on becoming a nurse when listening to his dad's stories of the various roles in nursing he experienced, such as cardiac, ICU, neurology, and now ER nursing. He was also motivated by all the nurses he met who inspired him along the way. Black was reared in Tampa, Fla., where his dad worked at a busy hospital. The family moved to Oklahoma after Black graduated from high school. He chose to follow his dad's footsteps.

In 2013, he began as an LPN after graduating at Mid-Del

See BLACK Page 3

INTERACTIVE AD - CLICK BELOW TO APPLY



INTERACTIVE AD - CLICK BELOW TO APPLY





Kyle Black, a registered nurse at Oklahoma ER & Hospital brings flexibility and comfort to patient care.

BLACK Continued from Page 2

Technology Center in Midwest City. During LPN school he supported himself as a lobotomist. He was a lab tech assistant during his last year in the lab.

Black completed his RN credentials in 2016 after graduating from Rose State College. And three years later he earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Governors State University, based in Chicago.

Black has always worked as an emergency room nurse and continues as an ER inpatient nurse. Whenever a patient enters inpatient status, he becomes their sole RN caretaker and contacts other hospitals when his patients continue having an inpatient need after two days.

"I think nursing definitely makes you a different person. I don't think everybody understands all the things we see — all the hurt, all the death, all the sadness." he said.

The team spirit and camaraderie among the healthcare professionals has shown him the real power of working together to save lives and provide patients the comfort they need, Black continued.

"I think we have a solid group of nurses here," he said of Oklahoma ER & Hospital. "Not one patient in the ER is a certain nurse's patient. We all take care of every single patient. It's teamwork," Black said.

For more information about Oklahoma ER & Hospital in Oklahoma City

visit https://okerhospital.com/career-opportunities/

TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH, 2024



Join us for the 2024 ONA Nurses Day at the Capitol taking place on Tuesday, March 5, at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. We look forward to seeing you! For more information click on this ad or email ona@oklahomanurses.org



6608 N Western, #627 | OKC, OK 73116 405-840-3476 | www.oklahomanurses.org

INTERACTIVE AD - CLICK BELOW TO APPLY

Come work with outstanding students at OCU's Kramer School of Nursing

OPEN POSITIONS

Program Specialist

Clinical Coordinator

BSN Full-time, Part-time and Adjunct Faculty

Go to
CAREERS.OKCU.EDU

or call 405.208.5900 for more information and to apply today!



College of Health Professions

CAREERS IN NURSING:

LOVE OF LIFE - SURGICAL NURSE MAKES EVERY SECOND COUNT

Surgery is Silvana Richardson's life calling. She has tried other departments, but surgery has always caught her attentive spirit the most.

"You become really connected with the people you work with," Richardson said.

Everybody has a role and understands their part in patient care in the operating room at OU Health Edmond Medical Center, said Richardson, a registered nurse serving in the OR.

"I've always loved surgery. I like to get the patients and help fix what we come to do. I know we make a difference," Richardson said. "In surgery we rely on each other. At any point anybody will chip in and help. It's a very good team and it's like a family."

She has made friendships among the staff, including the surgeons. Working with the same doctors and nurses affords her the opportunity of reading their minds, which makes the workflow very cohesive.

"This is what you want. I learn a lot," she said.

She may assist with 10 gallbladder surgeries in one day. Every day is different but it's the same pace in a synchronized environment.

Becoming a nurse was always her aspiration. At 10 years of age, Richardson immigrated from her native Columbia to New Jersey. Richardson and her sister would later go to surgical school together. Her sister was the first one to become a nurse. And she set her patients and it's very rewarding course toward becoming an RN.

She spent 12 years as a surgical tech in Oklahoma before graduating from nursing school at Western Oklahoma State College, located in Altus. She worked in med/surg for three years in a different hospital before working in surgery. She has been with OU Health Edmond Medical Center for two years.

"I've loved every minute of it," she said.

Richardson's workdays are set with precision. She gets all the supplies the surgeon needs according to the preference of the doctor, she said.

"Even though they're doing the

same surgery, they might want different stuff," she continued. "So, we always make sure we have everything we need. The scrub person will count, scrub in and sit at the table so we can get all the towels, instruments, charts, and everything. After we have it all done and we have everything we're going to need, I'll go see the patient, introduce myself, check to see if the consents are done."

Richardson will explain what the surgical team will be doing and answer their questions. The OR is cold so she will provide patients with more blankets. The patient will receive their anesthesia and be moved to recovery.

Due to their patients' sedation, a surgical nurse will have a short span of patient interaction before a patient is greeted by a recovery nurse. However, Richardson tends to share a joke with a patient when first meeting them.

"It makes them smile a little and become less stressful," she said. "It's always a little stressful to have surgery to begin with. So, we always try to be compassionate during the little bit of time we get to spend with them."

Richardson often learns of the progress patients have made following surgery. Throughout the years, opportunities have come for her to develop lasting friendships with patients. At times a patient will come back to thank her for being their nurse. They will chat for a while and at times decide to meet again.

"I have made friends with to know you helped make a difference," she said. "We've had some of our nurses have joint replacements. And you see them before and after. So that's meaningful to see."

She is paired with a group of surgeons who mainly do robotic surgery, orthopedics, surgery, ENT, urology, and general surgeries.

Her view of the world has become more acute by participating in hundreds of surgeries. Being a nurse can impact a nurse's philosophy of life and make them a stronger person.

"It has made me appreciate life



A nursing career has made Silvana Richardson, RN, appreciate each new day as an opportunity to make life better for others.

and not take anything for granted," Richardson said. "I have seen patients come in and by the time it is too late, they have wasted so much time. When I see that, I live everyday as if it could be my last one. I live my life to the fullest, try to be as nice as I can, as helpful as I can."

Richardson tries being as definitely need nurses."

cordial as possible with new nursing students doing their rotations. She recalls when she was a new nurse. Richardson said she likes teaching and enjoys seeing how students learn.

"I like it because at one point, they're the ones that are going to take care of us," she said. "And we

For more information about OU Health Edmond Medical Center visit https://www.ouhealth.com/edmond



Registered Nurse - OB - PRN

Woodward, OK, United States . Posted on 01/15/2024

INTEGRIS Health, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system has a great opportunity for a Registered Nurse in Woodward, Oklahoma area. In this position, you will work Days with our ICU team providing exceptional care to those who have entrusted INTEGRIS Health with their healthcare needs. If our mission of partnering.

Nurse Tech - Orthopedics - Days

system has a great opportunity for a Nurse Tech in Oklahoma City, OK. In this sition, you'll work 7a-7p, Part-time, with our Orthopedics team providing exception care to those who have entrusted INTEGRIS Health with their healthcare needs. If .

Nuclear Medicine Technologist - PRN

NTEGRIS Health Cancer Institute, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system has a great opportunity for a Nuclear Medicine Technologist in Oklahoma City, OK. In this position, you'll be a part of our Nuclear Medicine team providing exceptional work supporting the INTEGRIS Health caregivers and the community at large. If our...

RN - Electrophysiology Lab- Days

Oklahoma City, OK, United States . Posted on 01/15/2024

INTEGRIS Health's Heart Hospital at Baptist Medical Center, Oklahoma's largest notfor-profit health system has a great opportunity for a Registered Nurse – Cath Lab in Oklahoma City, OK. In this position, you'll work day shift with our Cath Lab team providing exceptional care to those who have entrusted INTEGRIS Health with their

LPN - Medical/Surgical Intensive care unit (ICU) - Nights

Oklahoma City, OK, United States • Posted on 01/12/2024

for-profit health system has a great opportunity for a Licensed Practical Nurse in Oklahoma City, OK. In this position, you'll work FT Night Shifts with our

are Unit (ICU) team providing exceptional care to those.

Nurse Tech - ICU - Days PRN

Oklahoma City, OK, United States . Posted on 01/12/2024

INTEGRIS Health Southwest Medical Center, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system has a great opportunity for a Nurse Tech in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. In this position, you'll be a part of our ICU team working PRN Days, 7A - 7P, providing exceptional work supporting the INTEGRIS Health caregivers and the com-

RN - Intermediate Med Surg - Nights

Oklahoma City, OK, United States . Posted on 01/12/2024

INTEGRIS Health Baptist Medical Center, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system has a great opportunity for a Registered Nurse in Oklahoma City, OK. In this position, you'll work FT- Night Shift with our Intermediate Med/Surg team providing

MRI Technologist - Days

Oklahoma City, OK, United States . Posted on 01/12/2024

INTEGRIS Health Cancer Institute, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system has a great opportunity for an MRI Technologist in Oklahoma City, OK. In this position, you'll work days with our MRI team providing exceptional care to those who have entrusted INTEGRIS Health with their healthcare needs. If our mission of

Licensed Practical Nurse - IMC / Stepdown -Days

INTEGRIS Health Baptist Medical Center, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system has a great opportunity for a Licensed Practical Nurse in Oklahoma City, OK. In this position, you'll work 7a-7p, Full Time, with our Intermediate Care Stepdov

Nurse Tech - 601 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) -

OK, United States . Posted on 01/12/2024

system has a great opportunity for a Nurse Tech in Oklahoma City, OK. In this position, you'll work PRN - Weekend Shifts with our (601) Intens

to those who have entrusted INTEGRIS Health with their.

APRN PMHNP - Arcadia Trails Center for Addiction Recovery

Edmond, OK, United States . Posted on 01/12/2024

INTEGRIS Health Arcadia Trails Center for Addiction Recovery, part of Oklahoma's Edmond, Oklahoma. In this position, you'll be a part of our Addiction Recovery team pporting the INTEGRIS Health caregivers and the

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS INTERACTIVE. JUST CLICK THE POSITION FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY

Nurse Tech - Pediatrics - Nights PRN

OK, United States . Posted on 01/12/2024

INTEGRIS Health, Baptist Medical Center, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health position, you'll work nights with our pediatrics team providing exceptional care to

Nurse Tech - Labor & Delivery/Med Surg - PRN

Oklahoma City, OK, United States . Posted on 01/11/2024

INTEGRIS Health, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system, has a great opportunity for a Nurse Tech in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. In this position, you'll work PRN with our Lakeside Women's Hospital staff providing exceptional care to those

RN - Hospice House - PRN Nights

Oklahoma City, OK, United States and 1 more . Posted on 01/11/2024

INTEGRIS Health, Hospice House, Oklahoma's largest not-for-profit health system has a great opportunity for a Registered Nurse in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. In this position, you'll work PRN nights in our Hospice House providing exceptional care to those who have entrusted INTEGRIS Health with their healthcare needs. If our...











IN THE SECOND STREET OF THE SE

What do you like about Oklahoma City?

UHealth

Comprehensive

Stroke Center at

OU Health

University of

Oklahoma

Medical Center

"I think one of my favorite things about Oklahoma in general is the people that we have here."



Cheyenne Gutierrez, RN

" Living in Oklahoma City I live near a comprehensive stroke center and that's kind of my world."



Courtney Stark, RN

"Oklahoma is for me a place that offers enough pace where I can have a good work/life balance."



Grant Kinser, RN

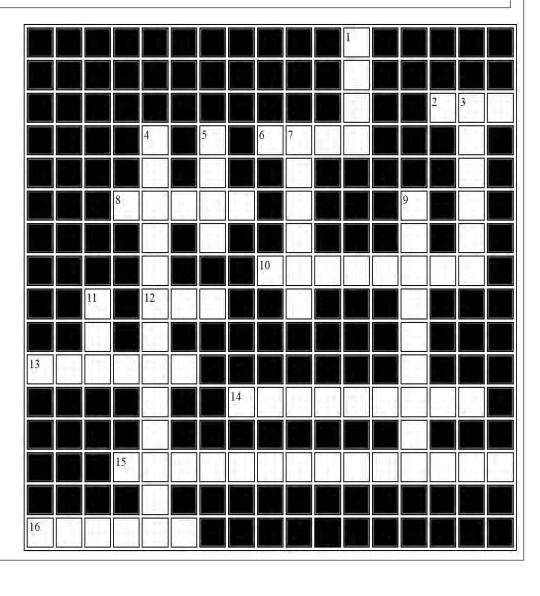
OKNT CROSSWORD: CPR

Across

- 2. Put near the victim's mouth to check for breathing.
- 6. Put this above the navel to perform the heimlich maneuver.
- 8. Possible indication of stroke is facial _____.
- 10. Body position for unresponsive, breathing victim.
- 12. Automated external defibrillator
- 13. Hands here indicate choking.
- 14. Refers to the lungs.
- 15. Check ____- tap and shout.
- 16. ____ compressions: two breaths

Down

- 1. Head tilt, chin _____
- 3. First step of a-b-c initial care
- 4. When the heart stops pumping.
- 5. ____, listen, feel for breathing.
- 7. Adult compression depth is 1 1/2-2 _____.
- 9. Most common sign of a heart attack.
- 11. Cardio pulmonary resuscitation.



ANSWERS ON PAGE 12

By Patty













THE MISSION IN OUR LIFE IS IMPROVING YOURS.

Make your life happy, healthy and more vibrant at Legend Senior Living®, a mission-driven senior living community operated by the experts in senior living. Here, nothing matters more than the happiness of the resident – new friends and new independence await. Live life well at Legend - it's not only a place to live. It's a place to thrive.

> To find Oklahoma locations, scan code or go to LegendSeniorLiving.com.







SCAN ME

Have Questions? New to Medicare? Start With Us

WE CAN HEL



Christina Sibley, EMT/RMA Medicare Product Specialist BS Health Studies - Gerontology 405-655-6098 call or text

Steven Sibley, US Army RET/DAV Medicare Product Specialist – Veterans MBA – Healthcare Administration 405-850-1569 call or text

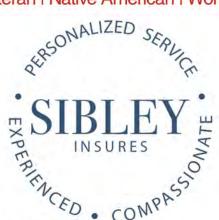
Together we'll find the right products for your needs

Contact us for information on our upcoming educational only events (or to request an event) covering general Medicare education, Medicare premium help programs, Medicare with other insurance (employer insurance, Tricare 4 Life, veteran's healthcare). Food provided. For accommodation of persons with special needs at meetings call (405) 655-6098, TTY 800-522-8506.

- Licensed Independent Brokers
- Medicare Education
- Medicare Insurance Products
- In-home or in-office appointments
- No charge to meet with us, no pressure, just help.

Your Trusted Medicare Resource

Disabled Veteran | Native American | Woman Owned



Visit us at www.sibleyinsures.com





(AS PUBLISHED IN THE 2023 EDUCATION GUIDE TO NURSING)



nursing's future

When Julie Hoff, PhD, MPH, RN, first stepped into her role as dean of the University of Oklahoma Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing, she understood the need for nurses in Oklahoma. "I needed to build relationships and understand priorities," Hoff said of her first order of business. "You can't address big complex problems alone. As the flagship college of nursing, I am responsible for nursing workforce development in Oklahoma and regionally.

So Hoff decided to take a three-pronged approach. The first was to build academic programs that aligned with the health sector's needs. From there, Hoff focused on building and strengthening the nurse workforce through enrollment and established academic pathways that advanced the education of practicing nurses.

Finally, she aligned the college with other sectors through strategic partnerships to drive change and influence policy.

The approach was dubbed OK-WINS, which stands for Workforce Innovation in Nursing, and healthcare entities and nursing students throughout the region are reaping the benefits.

"Addressing the nursing workforce shortage takes coordinated efforts of many with the goals of increasing the number of nurse faculty, supporting students through academic success programs and scholarships, and strengthen the nursing education infrastructure," Hoff said. "We have to collaborate across the state and work together with a unified vision of all that is necessary to strengthen the nursing workforce and how doing so will improve the quality of care and health outcomes for all patients." There is little doubt of the vital role nurses play in

keeping our families, friends, and communities safe and healthy. Nurses are indeed the oxygen of the healthcare system and the impact they have on society is significant.

"Often on the frontlines of crisis, it is nurses who provide unconquerable spirit, clinical expertise, revolutionary thinking, and healing needed to rally those around them," Hoff said. "We saw this during the pandemic when nurses were involved in changing how care was delivered; nurses created many new products and processes, and nurses found solutions to connect patients to their loved ones." That's the everyday focus for Hoff and OU. In the last few months, OU has announced a number of

exciting partnerships to reach that goal.

Most recently, USAO and Murray State partnered with OU to create a pathway to nursing through a direct entry program. Murray State Associate degree nursing graduates can now complete a baccalaureate degree in nursing online at OU.

OU also established a Nurse Intern Program that supports clinical education through paid internships. More than 400 nursing students have participated, and practice partners report a narrowing of the academic-practice gap and improved recruitment and retention post-licensure.

OU has also added new nurse practitioner programs to meet

specialty care needs in neonatology and mental health.

Just a few months ago, Hoff announced partnerships with Norman Regional Hospital and Duncan Regional Hospital to increase access to OU nursing education by opening programs at those locations.

The expansion adds to the college's existing locations that offer the traditional BSN – the OU Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, the OU-Tulsa Schusterman Center, and Cameron University in Lawton.

"At OU, OK-WINs means we collaborate to build and strengthen the nursing workforce," Hoff said. "Last year OU committed to accept all qualified candidates to our baccalaureate nursing program, increasing prelicensure enrollment by 103 students and overall total enrollment by 185 students.

Hoff pointed out this year's incoming prelicensure nursing class — which has grown from 341 students in Fall 2021 to 439 students in Fall 2022 — is the largest it has ever been.

Tapping multiple resources, OU established the **Degree Accelerator Program**, a tuition-free, workforce investment program for practicing nurses to **earn a BSN**, **MSN**, **DNP or PhD degree**.

"This program dismantled financial, social, and attitudinal barriers to enable practicing nurses to advance academically and professionally, thus positioning them to exercise their knowledge and power to transform care and improve health outcomes for all Oklahomans," Hoff said.

That partnership across sectors is helping to drive synergistic change, influence policy to modernize nursing regulation, and foster collaboration to ensure sustained investment in nursing education.

"To ease the nursing shortage in Oklahoma it takes all of us working together innovating, integrating, and strengthening academic programming, workforce development, and policy," Hoff said. And it's all been a part of the plan.

For more information about the University of Oklahoma Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing, visit https://nursing.ouhsc.edu/.





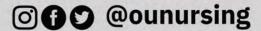
WHY OU?

- Nationally ranked as one of the Best Online Graduate Nursing Programs by *U.S. News and World Report*
- Nationally ranked as one of the Best Bachelor of Science in Nursing Programs by *U.S. News and World Report*
- Advanced Practice Registered
 Nurse Certifications pass rates exceed
 state and national averages
- Over \$500,000 in scholarships provided annually

- PhD scholarship opportunities up to \$150,000
- Clinical practice and research mentoring across bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs
- Post-graduate certificate programs geared to working professionals
- Expanded clinical simulation experiences with state-of-the-art lab – opening fall 2023
- Student Success Center
- And many more exciting opportunities

Learn more about our programs and apply now!







Oklahoma City • Tulsa Lawton • Duncan • Norman



FRAN AND EARL ZIEGLER
COLLEGE OF NURSING
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

EXPLORE LUXURY SENIOR LIVING IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Whether it's exceptional dining in our signature eateries, special events, or personalized care you're seeking, our luxury senior living community allows you to thrive.

This is HarborChase. Come celebrate with us.

SCAN TO EXPERIENCE HARBORCHASE





South Oklahoma City (405) 378-9768

Mercy Adds Outpatient Infusion Services



Mercy has expanded outpatient infusion services for patients who need intravenous treatments and medications. Mercy Infusion Services is now open in the McAuley building on the campus of Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City.

Infusion therapy may be needed when a patient's condition cannot be treated effectively by pills or other oral medications. Non-cancer infusion therapies are a fast-growing option to treat conditions related to gastroenterology, neurology, rheumatology, nephrology, endocrinology and more.

"In the last decade, there has been an explosion of new therapies to treat previously devastating neurological conditions like multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, and migraines, and almost all of these new treatments involve infusions," said Dr. Tyler Webb, neurologist at Mercy Clinic Neurology in Oklahoma City. "We are optimistic about the very real and near future of neurologic medicine. It's clear infusions will play a major role in the way we manage these conditions going forward, and more clinics will be needed to administer them safely and comfortably."

At Mercy's Gastroenterology and IBD Center, Dr. Hussein Bitar specializes in the treatment of inflammatory bowel diseases. The growing center helps patients with moderate to severe Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis access the latest biologic treatments.

"Patients with inflammatory bowel diseases often experience severe dehydration and need fluids and regular iron infusions, both of which need to be delivered intravenously," Dr. Bitar said.

As the treatment options have grown, so has the need for additional space to serve more patients.

Oncology patients will continue receiving IV infusions and chemotherapy at Mercy's cancer center inside the Coletta Building. With the new McAuley building location, Mercy is now able to offer a second infusion treatment center for non-oncology patients.

"We exist to serve patients in need, and we're so excited to be able to serve more people," said Lori Moore, manager of infusion services at Mercy. "Having more space means we can increase access to care for more patients in both of our infusion centers, creating more capacity for cancer patients and patients with a variety of needs."

The bright, newly renovated suite includes 14 chairs and the ability to treat 50 patients each day. Two private isolation rooms are available to accommodate patients with highly infectious GI or respiratory viruses.

Patients must have an order from a physician to receive infusion treatment at the new center.

Available therapies include:

- Iron infusions
- Blood infusions
- Phlebotomies
- Cortisol stimulation testing
- Port draws
- Antibiotics
- Injections
- IV fluids and hydration
- Electrolyte replacement
- Hydration for pregnant patients or patients experiencing nausea
- Neurology, rheumatology, nephrology, endocrinology medication services
- Immunotherapy
- Complex biologics
- Migraine protocols
- Plasmapheresis
- Blood exchanges
- PICC line placement

UCO RN to B.S., Nursing Track Ranks Among Top Programs in OK

The University of Central Oklahoma is ranked as a top institution in Oklahoma for its RN to B.S., Nursing track according to RNCareers in its eighth annual Nursing School Awards.

This ranking affirms the exceptional quality and prominence in nursing education at Central and reflects the unwavering commitment to excellence in nursing education and remarkable achievements in producing top-tier nursing professionals.

The evaluation processes encompassed more than 1,700

nursing schools nationwide, RNCareers assessed critical standards such as student outcomes, teaching effectiveness, nursing school reputation and program offerings. UCO's consistent dedication to these fundamental aspects has elevated its status to one of the top-ranking programs in Oklahoma.

Jeff Morrow, publisher at RNCareers, commended the institution, stating, "In a field distinguished by high-quality institutions, UCO has demonstrated exceptional prowess through its robust curriculum and outstanding graduate success. This recognition not only lauds the faculty's exemplary teaching skills but also underscores the remarkable potential and dedication of UCO students, who are integral to the program's success."

The RN to B.S., Nursing track at UCO is designed for registered nurses aspiring to elevate their education while managing professional and personal commitments. The 100% online program allows completion in as little as two semesters, accommodating both part- and full-time schedules.

"We are honored to receive this distinction," said Leann Laubach, Ph.D., UCO Department of Nursing chairperson.

"Our faculty work hard to ensure student success in all our programs and tracks. We recognize that students in the RN to B.S. track have many options when returning for their bachelor's degree, and we

405-974-5000



appreciate those who choose UCO."

Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), UCO stands as a beacon of excellence in nursing education with a legacy spanning more than fifty years. Renowned for producing highly skilled nurses, UCO's nursing programs epitomize innovation and embrace cutting-edge technology, catering to both traditional and non-traditional students. Offering bachelor's to master's degrees, these programs align with society's critical healthcare demands while nurturing future leaders in nursing. UCO's nursing programs proudly hold approval from the Oklahoma State Board of Nursing, further solidifying the institution's esteemed status.

For more information about the UCO'S nuring program visit

https://www.uco.edu/cms/academics/nursing/.

Dr. Helina Hoyt joins OU College of Nursing

The Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences welcomes Dr. Helina Hoyt, as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Hoyt brings over 16 years of experience serving San Diego State University Imperial Valley, where she played a pivotal role advancing nursing education, practice, research, and innovation in the rural, border region of Imperial County, California. As the Associate Director for the SDSU School of Nursing and Co-Founder of the SDSU Imperial Valley RISE (Research, Innovation, Student Engagement) Center, she has



Dr. Helina Hoyt.

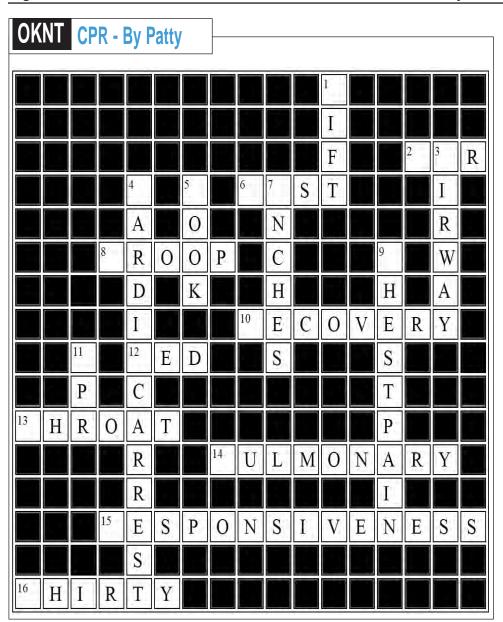
demonstrated her commitment to fostering novel academic nursing pathways, student engagement, and student success at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

Throughout her career, Dr. Hoyt has been dedicated to enhancing nursing student knowledge, skill, and empathy through immersive technologies, promoted health equity through multi-disciplinary scholarship, and was integral in facilitating her county's designation as a California Accountable Community for Health. Dr. Hoyt brings a deep understanding of acute and community-based nursing care having practiced across multiple settings. She completed a BSN at Azusa Pacific University, a MS in Community Health Nursing with School Nurse Specialization from San Diego State University, and a PhD in Education from Claremont Graduate University and San Diego State University.

"We are delighted to welcome Dr. Hoyt and confident that her experience and passion will greatly contribute to the continued growth and success of the Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing, said Julie Anne Hoff, dean of the college.



CENTRAL OKLAHOMA





Find out how Kramer School of Nursing can prepare you for each step of your nursing career.

LPN-BSN

• In as little as 12 months!

- In person or online
 No nursing exams, no prerequisites,
 competitive price
 Complete in two semesters

Master of Science in Nursing

- Available online
- Nursing Education, Nursing Leadership and Community Based Public Health
- Post Master's Certificates:
 Education and Leadership
- Post Master's Certificates: FNP, AGACNP, and PMHNP

Doctoral Programs

- Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN-DNP): FNP, AGACNP, and PMHNP
- Doctor of Nursing Practice Completion (MSN-DNP): Executive Leadership, Clinical, and Community-Based Public Health
- PhD and BSN-PhD





okcu.edu/nursing

UNDERGRAD

GRAD

405-208-5094 • gadmissions@okcu.edu

405-208-5000 • admissions@okcu.edu



advice to quit.

When it comes to your patients' health, you are in the driver's seat.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline offers FREE services to quit tobacco. Encourage your patients to sign up.

Call 1-800-QUIT NOW. Text READY to 34191. Visit **OKhelpline.com**.



া TSET SoonerCare



PRESENTS

THE

THE

OF

By L. Frank Baum

With Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg

> Background Music by Herbert Stothart

Dance and Vocal Arrangements by **Peter Howard**

Orchestration by Larry Wilcox Based upon the Classic Motion Picture owned by Turner Entertainment Co. and distributed in all media by Warner Bros.

Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company

THURSDAY

FEB 15 7:00 PM **FRIDAY**

FEB 16 7:00 PM SATURDAY

FEB 17 7:00 PM

Directed by Emily Farnham
Choreographed by Becca Walker
Musical Directors Sohailah Stout & Stephanie Easley

Reserved seating. Doors open at 6:15pm. Inclement weather dates: Feb. 19-22



NEUROPATHY PAIN AND MUNICIPAS GAN DE TREATED

Welcome to a New Medical Treatment covered by Medicare

- Diabetic Neuropathy
- Chemo-Induced Neuropathy
- General Peripheral Neuropathy



This FDA cleared treatment solution relieves pain & restores feeling without medications or surgery and is covered by Medicare, Medicaid, the VA and most private insurances. Call today.

View our testimonials at nerverenewalnow.com



405.422.9518

Over 80% of patients report a significant reduction in pain. So don't feel trapped by pain. Get back to moving and exercising with your family and friends!