

JAX STATE CHPW NEWSLETTER

Spring/Summer 2025

Message from the Dean: Tracey D. Matthews

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of the College of Health Professions & Wellness newsletter. This newsletter provides updates on the activities and recognition received by faculty and students over the past months.

There are various reports about student work and awards, reflecting their achievements. Additionally, CHPW employees have been acknowledged for their commitment to supporting student success. Learn about the contributions made by our students and faculty in the health professions, physical education, and sport fields. This newsletter can be shared with colleagues, prospective students, and anyone interested in our academic programs.



Be Well and Go Gamecocks!

Welcome New Faculty & Staff

Mallory Wells

We are excited to welcome Ms. Mallory Wells to the College of Health Professions and Wellness! Mallory is the Administrative Assistant for the Department of Kinesiology. Prior to coming to Jax State she worked in the trucking and logistics industry for over 13 years and has management and accounts payable experience.



Updates

College of Health Professions and Wellness (CHPW) Update:

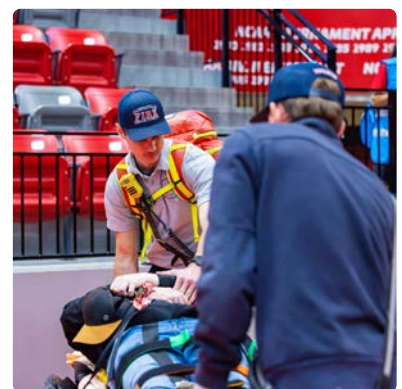
Dissemination Day 2025

Spreading Awareness, Sharing Hope. In January, the College of Health Professions and Wellness came together to shine a light on an important aspect of our lives—mental health. Thank you to Dr. Missy Duckett, Associate Professor of Nursing and Dr. Jennifer Burgett, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology for organizing the event. Julie Smith of the SAM Foundation and to JSU counseling services Lola Johnson, Kenesha Allen, Kendra Finley, Jessica Allen and Krysten Cuthrell presented on various topics concerning mental health. Whether you're battling anxiety, depression, or simply the stress of daily life, remember: You are not alone. By sharing knowledge, breaking down stigmas, and opening up honest conversations, we can create a safer, more supportive world for everyone. Let's continue to educate ourselves, support each other, and work towards better mental health for all. Together, we can make a difference!

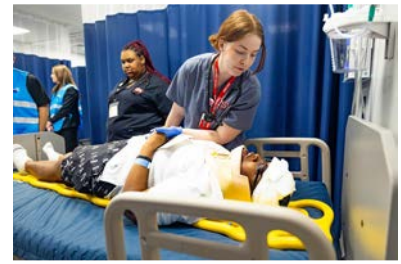


Active Shooter Simulation

In April, nine programs at Jax State took part in an Active Shooter simulation. This simulation aimed to prepare students in health care professions for potential mass casualty responses. The CHPW programs involved included Undergraduate Nursing, Athletic Training, Acute Care NP, and Respiratory Therapy. Other participating programs were Social Work, Criminal Justice, Forensics Investigation, and Theater. ABC 33/40 provided a 6-minute segment on the event. See link below to watch!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZCzXgiLiU>



School of Nursing Update:

Spring 2025 Semester

The Jax State School of Nursing experienced a productive and eventful Spring semester. Several new program options have been introduced, including a second admission entry point for the BSN-to-DNP program, revised admission criteria for the upper-division traditional track including an LPN entry point for those with an active, unencumbered LPN license that awards credit for the first semester of upper division coursework, and a collaborative initiative between the ROTC and Nursing programs. Additional offerings include an RT-to-RN pathway for graduates of our Respiratory Therapy program, a dual MSN/ Healthcare Administration certificate, and a testing option for LPNs who have completed the third semester of the upper-division nursing curriculum. These developments reflect our commitment to meeting students where they are in their academic journey and providing multiple pathways for entry into our programs. Check out all of our program options at [School of Nursing - School of Nursing](#)



Throughout the semester, the School of Nursing hosted the "Cocky Cares for Calhoun County" Health Fair in partnership with St. Michael's Clinic in Anniston, selected a new cohort of Nursing Ambassadors for the upcoming academic year, and launched the DAISY Award program to recognize outstanding nurse educators and students. As the spring semester concludes and we transition into summer, the Alabama Board of Nursing visited for their scheduled five-year on-site review.

Kinesiology Department Update:

National Athletic Training Month (March)

This past March, Jacksonville State University's College of Health Professions and Wellness proudly celebrated National Athletic Training Month (NATM), aligning with the National Athletic Trainers' Association's (NATA) 2025 theme, "Champions in Health Care." The month-long observance highlighted the essential role athletic trainers play in ensuring the health and safety of athletes and active individuals. Throughout March, Jacksonville State University Masters in Athletic Training Program recognized the dedication and expertise of its athletic trainers, professors, preceptors, and mentors, who are integral to the university's program. Their responsibilities encompass injury prevention, evaluation, treatment, rehabilitation, and ensuring optimal performance for athletes/patients/students. Jax State Masters



in Athletic Training Program utilized various platforms to spotlight the significance of athletic trainers. Social media campaigns featured profiles of current athletic trainers and graduate students, providing insights into their roles and experiences. These efforts aimed to educate the campus community and the public about the multifaceted responsibilities of athletic trainers and their impact on health and wellness. As National Athletic Training Month concluded, Jax State & the College of Health Professions and Wellness reaffirmed its commitment to advancing the field of athletic training through education, community engagement, and support for its professionals. The university continues to prepare future leaders in health and wellness professions, ensuring that athletic trainers remain at the forefront of healthcare delivery in athletic settings. For more information about Jax State's College of Health Professions and Wellness and its programs, visit <https://www.jsu.edu/health/>. Please check out Jax State University's [Master's in Athletic Training - Kinesiology](#) and all of the Kinesiology Department's programs at [Kinesiology - Kinesiology](#).

Respiratory Therapy Department Update:

Jax State Respiratory Therapy Department Awarded a grant:

The Jax State RT Department was recently awarded a grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation to purchase ventilation simulators for the RT lab. This additional technology will allow the Jax State RT Faculty to better demonstrate ventilator scenarios in a lab environment. The additional training will help our graduates be better prepared prior to graduation. The simulators are non-tethered, which means that they are easy to relocate to the simulation center for interprofessional simulation. Check out the Jax State Respiratory Department:

[Respiratory Therapy - Respiratory Therapy](#)



Alumni Spotlight

Enjoy reading about Katie Hook's amazing story of her undergraduate journey in Respiratory Therapy

In 2020, I was a healthy normal 21 year old college student. I never thought that I would be affected by COVID that would shortly change the world around us. I was attending Jacksonville State University, working as a student athletic trainer for the university's football team. In August of 2020, I tested positive for COVID. I had minor symptoms, lost my sense of taste and smell, headaches, and body aches. I never experienced breathing problems, or any symptoms that were serious enough to be admitted in the hospital for. After I recovered, I went back to my normal schedule. As the new year came around the world had slightly returned back to normal. People were going out more and classes starting meeting in person again. Spring 2021, I was taking a full load of classes, working a part-time job, and preparing to apply for the nursing and respiratory program at my university. I shortly started to experience weird symptoms, such as,



facial swelling, fatigue, memory and digestive problems. I put it off until I become worried when it continued to worsen. I visited doctor after doctor and nobody knew what the source of the problem was. As time went by my symptoms started to become deadly. I shortly became immobile due to the swelling that ran throughout my body, couldn't eat due to the nausea and digestive problems and we still didn't have any answers. On May 5, 2021, I was admitted to the University of Alabama at Birmingham Hospital in Birmingham, AL for respiratory distress. I spent the next 6 months in UAB, trached and on the ventilatory for 4 months. During my time in the hospital I was diagnosed with 5 autoimmune diseases such as, Systemic Sclerosis Scleroderma, Polymyositis, Lupus, Hashimoto's, and Sjogren's Syndrome. Also, I was diagnosed with hypertension, severe Raynaud's syndrome, reversible encephalopathy and kidney failure. I relearned how to walk, talk, eat, and write and went back to school, not even a year after my discharge from UAB. During my time I realized that I had a love for respiratory therapy. I wanted to be a therapist to patients that my therapist were to me. In August 2022, I started the Respiratory Therapy program at JSU. Two years later in May of 2024, I graduated with my bachelor's degree. I now work in the ER at Children's of Alabama in Birmingham, AL. My doctors believe that the stress that COVID put on my body jumpstarted my autoimmune disease. I still deal with symptoms of my autoimmune diseases symptoms every day, but I am blessed to be able to work and live my life.

Student Spotlight

Jax State Senior Nursing Student Jenna Hardin Leading with Purpose and Serving with Passion by Brett Buckner

Jenna Hardin, a senior nursing student, has been named one of six students in the state chosen for the [Area Health Education Center \(AHEC\) Scholars Statewide Leadership Team](#). The AHEC

Leadership Team is a select group of healthcare students chosen to represent and advocate for community health initiatives across the state. Being one of only six individuals recognized is an incredible honor, and it means a great deal to me," said Hardin, a

Piedmont native. "It's an opportunity to engage in outreach efforts, address healthcare disparities, and collaborate with other future leaders in the field. We are also the driving force behind small acts that can have a ripple effect in our state. It is something that I hope I inspire others to be part of."



Hardin admits being surprised that she was part of such a distinguished group. "I was up against some amazing people," she said. "I was in utter awe at the skills and the people who are part of AHEC in general, let alone when you actually get to know everyone on a collaborative level." Receiving such an honor will have a powerful impact on Hardin's career, providing an opportunity to grow as both a nurse and a person. After graduation, Hardin intends to enroll in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program at UAB to focus on emergency and critical care. "I have this whole plan to become a flight nurse and instruct at FEMA to teach others to be someone's "calm in the storm," she said. Hardin has long been driven by a passion to help others, advocate for patients and make a real difference in healthcare, whether at the bedside, in emergency response or in a leadership role. "This experience will help me build the skills and connections needed to serve,"

she said. "More than anything, I see this as a way to give back and continue learning how to better serve the people who need it most."

As an active member of organizations including the Nurses Christian Fellowship and the National Student Nurses' Association, Hardin advocates for a more inclusive and accessible healthcare system. "Her passion for serving rural and underserved communities stems from growing up with limited resources and witnessing healthcare disparities firsthand," the official notification in the Alabama AHEC Network Newsletter stated. "These experiences drive her commitment to bridging the gap in access through outreach and education."

For Hardin, leadership is about service, encouragement, and empowering others to reach their full potential. She believes in leading by example, fostering teamwork, and creating an environment where everyone feels valued and supported. "I actively work to grow by seeking mentorship, learning from experiences, and refining my ability to uplift and inspire those around me," she said. "To me, leadership isn't about being in charge. It's about encouraging others to succeed and making a lasting impact together."

Hardin gives full credit to the staff and faculty shaping her into the type of nurse she aspires to be. "Their dedication and mentorship have reinforced my passion for serving others," she said. "I'm grateful for the foundation they've helped me build as I continue this journey."

Trinity Meadows Represents Jax State on Southeastern Greek Leadership Association Advisory Board Courtesy of the Red and White

Trinity Meadows, a senior at Jacksonville State University majoring in Respiratory Therapy, served on the Southeastern Greek Leadership Association (SGLA) Student Advisory Board for the 2024 academic year.

The Southeastern Greek Leadership Association (SGLA) is a regional organization dedicated to developing and inspiring fraternity and sorority leaders across the Southeast. Founded in 1976, SGLA provides leadership training, professional development, and networking opportunities to help students strengthen their Greek communities and make a positive impact on their campuses.

Trinity, who will graduate on May 1, has been an exemplary student and leader throughout her time at Jax State. From the beginning of her college journey, she has actively sought opportunities to make a meaningful impact on campus. As a member of the Kappa Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Trinity has held significant roles, such as Chaplain and Program Planning Chair, where she honed her leadership, communication, and event planning skills.

Her dedication to Greek life extended to the National Panhellenic Council (NPHC), where she served as Vice President of Public Relations. In this role, Trinity enhanced the council's social media presence and fostered connections both on campus and with external organizations.

One of the most transformative experiences for Trinity was attending the SGLA conference, where she learned about all the good that Greek Life can genuinely do. Trinity says her advisor, Kendal Garrett, inspired her to apply for the Student Advisory Board. Despite the competitive application process, Trinity's commitment and leadership qualities shone through, earning her a place on the board. This opportunity allowed her to further develop her skills and contribute to the broader Greek community.



Trinity's journey at Jax State has been marked by personal and professional growth, and she is immensely grateful for the opportunities she has had to serve and lead. We are proud of Trinity's accomplishments and look forward to seeing her continue to excel in her future endeavors.

Student Scholarship and Recognition Corner

Celebrating our Students' Success

We are incredibly proud of our College of Health Professions and Wellness students who presented their research at the Jax State Student Symposium! Their hard work, dedication, and passion for advancing knowledge in their fields were on full display.



- Mackensey Carter (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Efficacy of Multi-Ingredient Pre-Workout Supplementation: Insights into Strength, Power, and Exercise Performance in Resistance-Trained Individual*
- Katherine Carter (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Creatine Supplementation in Medical Rehabilitation: A Potential Catalyst for Recovery and Functional Improvement*
- Riley Lovell (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Energy Drinks: Safety, Efficacy, and Performance Implications*
- Mikah Morris (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Caffeine and Competitive Edge: The Impact of Acute Intake on Performance in Intermittent Sports*
- KatieSue Dole (UG) Poster (Allen Gilbert – Mentor) *NCAA's Policies on Conference Realignment: An Examination of Colleges and Universities Athletic Programs Transitioning to a New Level*
- Carter Dingler (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian, Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Creatine Supplementation*
- Camryn Bren (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian, Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Empowering Female Athletes: Optimized Nutritional Strategies for Health, Performance, and Recovery*
- Kaysen Bibb (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors)
- Jacob Walls (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Why Combat Athletes Lose Weight for Competition*
- Faith Bonness (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Synergistic Potential of Creatine Nitrate and Caffeine on Cognitive and Exercise Outcomes: A Randomized, Double-Blind Crossover Study*
- Elijah Hamilton (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Nutritional regulation of muscle protein synthesis with resistance exercise: strategies to enhance anabolism*
- Kalib Alexander (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *The Long-Term Effects of Chronic Static Stretching on Skeletal Muscle, Hypertrophy, Strength, and Flexibility in Healthy Individuals*

- Chloe Jones (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *The Role of Fiber in Athletic Performance: A Missing Link in Sports Nutrition*
- Mollee Walker (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Optimizing Nutritional Strategies for Physically Demanding Occupations: Enhancing Health and Performance in Tactical Athletes*
- Lillian Humphreys (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey – Mentors) *Beyond Muscle Growth: The Critical Role of Dietary Protein in Endurance Training, Recovery, and Adaptation*
- Michelle Jones (G) Poster (Allen Gilbert and Gregor Kay – Mentors) *Athlete Endorsements and Consumer Behavior*
- Meagan Chastain (G) Paper (Jennifer Savage and Chris Clark – Mentors) *Comparing Long-Term Outcomes in Fresh vs. Frozen Meniscal Allograft Transplants: A Critically Appraised Topic*
- Jacob Cole (G) Paper (Chris Clark and Jennifer Savage – Mentors) *Utilizing Diagnostic Ultrasound to Diagnose Stress Fractures in High School Athletes: A Critically Appraised Topic*
- Isabel Robles (G) Paper (Chris Clark and Jennifer Savage – Mentors) *Sway Medical vs. Sport Concussion Assessment Tool 5 Concussion Sideline Reliability: A Critically Appraised Topic*
- Aquriya Muller (G) Paper (Jennifer Savage and Chris Clark – Mentors) *Marijuana Pain Management Effects Among NCAA Athletes: A Critically Appraised Topic.*
- Luis Elizarraras (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey - Mentors) *The Effects of Combined Creatine and Caffeine Supplementation: Optimizing Exercise Performance*
- Abby Swearingen (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey - Mentors) *Effects of Pomegranate Supplementation on Strength, Endurance, and Post-Exercise Recovery*
- Cianni Rhodes (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey - Mentors) *Multi-Ingredient Pre-Workout Supplements: Synergistic Effects, Potential Risks, and Athletic Benefits*
- Mea Leffall (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey - Mentors) *The Role of Iron in Athletic Health and Performance: Challenges and Nutritional Approaches*
- Hugh Sullivan (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey - Mentors) *Roles of Carbohydrates, Protein, and Amino Acids for Athletic Performance and Recovery*
- Alicia Abner (G) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey - Mentors) *Iron Deficiency and Athletics Performance: Implication, interventions, and Strategies for Optimization*
- Lydia Marbut (UG) Paper (Majid Koozehchian and Gina Mabrey - Mentors) *The Impact of Tart Cherry on Strength, Soreness, and Inflammation Following Strenuous Exercise*

Congratulations to the following Student Athletes

- Male Rookie of the Year-Ouel'Ron House- Men's Basketball, Sports Management and Recreational Studies
- Female Rookie of the Year-Jaci Underwood- Softball, Exercise Science and Wellness (Clinical)
- Female Strength and Conditioning Award-Hailey Tucker, Track and Field, Exercise Science and Wellness (Human Performance) Graduated, May 2nd
- Female Student Support Manager-Lillian Humphries, Track and Field, Physical Education, MSE Nutrition, Graduated, May 2nd
- Athletic Trainer of the Year-Greta Romei, JSU Alumni, BS-Exercise Science and Master of Athletic Training
- Gamecock Spirit Award-Kaitlyn Willis, Cheer, Exercise Science and Wellness, (Human Performance) Graduated, May 2nd
- Comeback Player of the Year-Zuzana Pavelekova-Women's Tennis-Exercise Science and Wellness, (Human Performance) Graduated, May 2nd

- Performance of the Year- Katherine Carter, Softball, Physical Education, Master of Science Human Performance
- Track and Field MVP, Hailey Tucker, Track and Field, Exercise Science and Wellness (Human Performance) Graduated, May 2nd
- Softball MVP, Emma Elrod, Exercise Science and Wellness (Human Performance)
- Co MVP- Indoor/ Beach Volleyball-Ellie Garrett- Exercise Science and Wellness (Clinical)
- Co -MVP- Indoor/Beach Volleyball- Brooklyn Schiffli-Health and Physical Education (BSE) Graduated, May 2nd
- Men's Tennis MVP- Marko Milosavljevic, Exercise Science and Wellness (Human Performance)
- Women's Golf MVP- Rebekka Stutley, Sports Management and Recreational Studies
- Women's Cross Country MVP- Olivia King, Exercise Science and Wellness (Human Performance)
- Female Eagle Owl Award-Anna Warkel, Bowling, Sports Management and Recreational Studies

Student Symposium Winner: Graduate

Best of CHPW, Graduate:

- Jacob Walls, Majid Koozehchian, Gina Mabrey. Why Combat Athletes Lose Weight for Competition? Feb 18, 2025.



Student Symposium Winner: Undergraduate

Best of CHPW, Undergraduate:

- Abby Swearingner, Majid Koozehchian, Gina Mabrey. Effects of Pomegranate Supplementation on Strength, Endurance, and Post-exercise Recovery. Feb 19, 2025.



Congratulations Jacob Cole

We are thrilled to announce that Jacob Cole, one of our outstanding graduate athletic training students, has been honored with the Houston Cole Library Award for Research Excellence!



AGACNP Award Winners

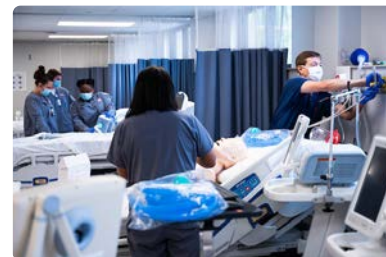
Scarlett Greene and Makena Dillashaw, stand proudly holding plaques awarded to them during the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) Awards presentation. Scarlett Greene

smiles as she showcases her award for Outstanding AGACNP student, while Makena Dillashaw beams with pride, holding her AGACNP Leadership Award. Both recipients are celebrating their exceptional achievements.



RT Students Attend HOSA Leadership Conference:

On Thursday, February 27th, Jax State RT joined with the Alabama Society for Respiratory Care at the 2025 Alabama HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) Leadership Conference in Montgomery. Six JSU RT students joined Jax State RT Department Head, Ed Goodwin, in helping demonstrate intubations, mechanical ventilation, and high frequency chest wall oscillation to HOSA students from around the state. This allows us to introduce the option of Respiratory Therapy as a career choice for these students. It has also opened opportunities over the past several years to visit various area high schools to talk to their HOSA students about Respiratory Therapy.



HOSA Conference with MAT

Collaboration in Action! Jacksonville State University and the University of West Alabama Athletic Training programs joined forces to present at the HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) Conference in Montgomery, with over 1,000 high school students in attendance! Our students and faculty showcased the field of athletic training and the injury process from beginning to end with interactive stations, to inspire future healthcare professionals with hands-on learning and career insights. Proud to see JSU and UWA shaping the next generation of healthcare leaders!



RT Students Attend the 2025 ASRC Early Professionals Conference:

On Friday, February 21st, 26 Jax State RT Students, accompanied by JSU RT Department Director, Ed Goodwin, and Jax State RT Faculty, Tyler Garth, attended the 2025 ASRC (Alabama Society for Respiratory Care) Early Professionals Conference hosted at the Baptist Medical South Campus in Montgomery. This conference is hosted each year for RT students currently enrolled in all Alabama RT Programs. Topics of presentations are focused on subject matter aimed at helping students transition from student to professionals. Students are also given the opportunity to visit multiple recruiters that help support the conference. The recruiters share information about job opportunities available with their facilities, and many schedule interviews following the conference.



Wellness Checks

Our Jax State Undergraduate Exercise Science and Wellness and Master's in Athletic Training students teamed up to conduct wellness checks for our dedicated community police officers! These future health professionals provided essential screenings and shared wellness tips to help keep those who serve us strong, healthy, and ready for duty. Thank you to our students for putting their skills into action and to our officers for their service!



RT Scholarship Winners

Jax State RT Students Sam Kilgo and Tameia Armstead were announced as scholarship winners at the ASRC Annual Conference last week. They were not able to attend the conference held at Orange Beach, AL. Mr. Jerry King, ASRC HOD Rep and Scholarship Committee Chair, Tracey Matthews, Dean CHPW, and Ed Goodwin, JSU RT Department Head and ASRC Past President, were able to present the checks to the winners today. Congratulations!



Summa Cum Laude Graduates- Perfect 4.0

Congratulations to the following undergraduate students for graduating in Spring semester with a perfect 4.0:

Natalie Baker- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Gabrielle Diamond- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Ashley Phillips- Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science and Wellness



School of Nursing Recognizes New Ambassadors for Upcoming Academic Year

Jax State's School of Nursing has named its Nursing Ambassadors for the upcoming 2025-2026 academic year. The nine ambassadors are volunteer students who have completed at least one semester of upper-division nursing and have at least one year left in the program.

The Nursing Ambassadors are:

- Ivore' White
- Eymiah Ellington
- Danielle Williams
- Alivia French
- Katelyn Miller
- Savannah Helms
- Kiran Norton
- Chandler Postell, and



- Mimi Roland.

"These students serve as the examples of professionalism and leadership within our nursing program," said Betsy Gullledge, Chief Nursing Administrator and Associate Dean for the School of Nursing. "Their time is already so limited and compressed with nursing school, but they commit to serving their school at events such as the White Coat Ceremony, Preview Day, accreditation site visits, and new student orientation."

Faculty and Staff Recognition

Congratulations to these CHPW Faculty for their recognition at the University Faculty Awards Ceremony:



Dr. Chris Clark
University Service Award



Dr. Stacy Mikel
Provost Excellence in Teaching
College Winner, CHPW



Dr. Gina Mabrey
William A. Meehan Legacy
Award

The College of Health Professions and Wellness recognized the following individuals for their outstanding commitment to students during the academic year:



Dr. Gregor Kay,
Kinesiology
Faculty of the Year



Amber Law, CHPW
Staff of the Year



Rhonda Knight,
Kinesiology
Emerging Leader Award



**Dr. Jessica Lockhart,
DNP**

Community Engagement
Award



Mark Sanders
Collaborator Award

**Dr. Jennifer Frank,
Nursing**

Dr. Sarah V. Latham Award



Alvita Fomby, Nursing
Lamplighter Award

Jamie Hudgins, Nursing

Lamplighter Award



Jamie Hudgins, Nursing
Daisy Honoree

Faculty Research and Recognition

CASE 2025 District III Annual Conference

Dr. Tracey Matthews, Dean of the College of Health Professions and Wellness, and John-Bauer Graham, Dean of Library Services, recently presented at the CASE 2025 District III Annual Conference. The presentation was entitled Centralizing vs. Decentralizing Development: A Case Study.



2025 AACN Doctoral Conference

Dr. Betsy Gulledge, Chief Nursing Administrator and Associate Dean in the School of Nursing, recently presented at the 2025 AACN Doctoral Conference in Coronado, California. Her presentation, Reimagining Doctoral Education: Embracing Executive Summaries and Poster Presentations, was co-authored with H. Wallace, D. Stephens, and C. Emich and took place on January 16, 2025.



Congratulations Dr. Majid Koozehchian

Dr. Koozehchian, Associate Professor of Kinesiology, most recently published:

Naderi, A., Gharaat, M.A., Berjisian, E., Willems, M.E.T., Mojtahedi, S., Goli, A., & Koozehchian, M.S. (2025). *Effect of One-Week New Zealand Blackcurrant Extract on Rowing Performance and Cognitive Function in National Team Male Rowers. Research in Sports Medicine, 1–14.*



Annual American Kinesiology Association Leadership Conference

Dr. Tracey Matthews, Dean of the College of Health Professions & Wellness, was an invited presenter at the Annual American Kinesiology Association Leadership Conference in Newport Beach, CA. The presentation entitled "Redefining Faculty Excellence: Strategies for Faculty Success in a Changing Landscape" focused on faculty recruitment, evaluation, retention, and mentoring.



National Council for Mental Wellbeing

Dr. Lori Bobo and Dr. Stacy Mikel from the School of Nursing recently received recognition from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing as the Top Mental Health First Aid Instructors for 2024. They were recognized for Teaching the Most Mental Health First Aiders in the State of Alabama.



Congratulations to Dr. Allen Gilbert

Dr. Allen Gilbert, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology, was chosen as the Male Gamecock Professor of the Year. This award was voted on by the Jax State student athletes.



Congratulations Mrs. Andres Crawley

Mrs. Andres Crawley, Jax State RT Director of Clinical Education, recently earned the Certified Asthma Educator (AE-C) credential from the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC). This credential signifies her expertise in the field and her dedication to providing the highest level of quality education to our students. To earn an advanced practice credential, it requires the candidate to take and pass a national board exam, and then commit to ongoing continuing education for that specialty to keep the credential active. This is a great accomplishment and shows Andres's dedication to our field and to her students.



Congratulations Mrs. Jamie Hudgins

Congratulations, Jamie Hudgins on being selected as one of the 2025 Lamplighter Awardees! The Alabama League for Nursing ceremony was held on February 27th in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The lamplighter recognizes individuals who exemplify leadership qualities, deliver quality health care, and support the development and improvement of teaching, research and service in nursing.



Congratulations to the Following CHPW Faculty on Promotion and Tenure

To Professor: Dr. Franco Zengaro

To Associate Professor: Dr. Missy Duckett, Dr. Chris Clark, Dr. Jennifer Frank, Dr. Gregor Kay, Dr. Stacy Mikel, Dr. Tammy Morrow, and Dr. Rachel Wooten



Out of the Shadows Summit

Dr. Tracey Matthews and Dr. Gina Mabrey, Head of the Kinesiology Department, presented at the 2025 Out of the Shadows Summit in Oxford, AL. Their presentation was titled, "Exercise is Medicine: A Community-Based Approach to Mental Health and Wellness."



Jax State College of Health Professions and Wellness

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JSUHealthProfessionsandWellness/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/jsu_chpw/

LinkedIn: [JSU College of Health Professions and Wellness: Overview | LinkedIn](#)

Website: www.jsu.edu/health

Location: 700 Pelham Road North Jacksonville, AL 36265



TammyJohnson

Tamatha is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

