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## **College of Health Sciences e-Newsletter, October 2019**

Irvin B. Harrell (Editor)

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## Grant kickstarts telehealth robot



From left: Michael and Elizabeth Carey; Tina Gustin, director of ODU's Center for Telehealth Innovation, Education and Research; and Yiannis Papelis, a robotics expert who is a research professor with Virginia Modeling, Analysis & Simulation Center (VMASC). Gustin and Papelis are working together to develop a robot inspired by the Careys, who lost their son David to leukemia.

By Irvin B. Harrell

Old Dominion University, in a research collaboration with Virginia Tech, received a \$1.5 million grant from the Virginia Research Investment Fund to help launch the Commonwealth Center of Innovation for Autonomous Systems.

"This is a three-year grant that aims to co-fund two to three projects yearly whose goal is to develop en-

trepreneurship opportunities in the region," said Yiannis Papelis, a research professor with ODU's Virginia Modeling, Analysis & Simulation Center.

"The idea is that ODU and Virginia Tech professors will partner with industry to leverage their expertise and develop new products or assist a company with their existing product line."

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## Brassington, Tousignaut rise to top in advising



Brassington

Jacob Tousignaut and Charlene Brassington were recently selected as 2019-2020 Excellence in Advising Award winners. Brassington is a master lecturer and chief departmental advisor with the School of Community & Environmental Health

Tousignaut is an academic advisor for the College of Health Sciences

Award winners were selected based on evidence of qualities and practices that distinguish the nominee as an outstanding academic advisor, including interpersonal/human relations skills, professional practices, documented success, and documented advisor development.



Jacob Tousignaut, left, with Advising Director Leanne White.

## CENTER FOR TELEHEALTH INNOVATION, EDUCATION & RESEARCH

### ROBOT, FROM PAGE 1

ODU's first project will be the development of a robot capable of providing children with isolating illnesses the opportunity to communicate with others and gain experiences beyond their hospital room walls.

Virginia Tech's project will involve the use of Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) - a remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure distances - for mapping underwater quality levels.

"Virginia's colleges and universities enjoy a strong record of cutting-edge research, and we are proud to support the development of new technologies with promising commercial prospects, especially in the area of unmanned autonomous systems," Gov. Ralph Northam said in a statement.

"Innovative projects and public-private partnerships like these will help bolster the commonwealth's leading position in the unmanned autonomous systems industry, advance the application of these technologies and reinforce our continued work to expand and diversify the commonwealth's economy."

## School gets national recognition

By Irvin B. Harrell

Old Dominion University's School of Nursing, in conjunction with its collaboration with the Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia and Sentara Interprofessional Care Clinic, received the 2019 American Association of Colleges of Nursing Exemplary Academic-Practice Partnership Award on Monday, Oct. 21.

Assistant Professor Jamela Martin, Lecturer Beth Tremblay, and school Chair Karen Karlowicz were in Washington, D.C., to receive the award.

"We are excited to be among only three colleges and universities to receive this distinguished award that recognizes highly productive and model academic-practice partnerships," Martin said. "These types of intentional, formalized relationships with community partners help to shape the future of nursing and improve public health."

The population health-learning hub project built upon existing partnerships between the School of Nursing, the Food Bank, and Sentara in collaboration with Eastern Virginia Medical School.

To address community gaps in affordable healthcare, education, and food accessibility among Norfolk residents, the project leveraged existing academic-practice-community partnerships to expand on assessment and referral services by a student-driven interprofessional practice clinic.

The clinic is housed within the Sentara Ambulatory Care Clinic, which serves uninsured and under-insured individuals who live at 200% or below the poverty line.

The goals of the clinic were two-fold: to build the capacity of undergraduate and graduate nursing students to collaborate in an interprofessional care setting, and to bridge education gaps to leverage existing community resources to address social determinants of health and food insecurity.

These partnerships provided opportunities to work as part of an interdisciplinary professional and lay team of health care advocates in multiple settings. The overarching goals of the project were met through a series of interwoven projects designed to build the workforce capacity of nurses to work within inter- and intra-professional teams to address health disparities of the underserved population in southeastern Virginia.



From left, Lecturer Beth Tremblay, School Chair Karen Karlowicz, and Assistant Professor Jamela Martin receive the award in Washington, D.C.

AWARD, next page

# ‘Be the Match’ receives huge support

This fall, the Old Dominion University Student Nurses' Association partnered with “Be the Match,” which is an organization that recruits individuals to join the bone marrow registry.

Bone marrow is needed for patients with different types of lymphoma and leukemia, bone marrow diseases, and other illnesses. The association recruited ODU students in the Perry Library: Learning Commons, the Webb Center, and the Health Sciences Building.

There were event leaders at each location: Eliana S., Ki S., and Rachael A. They did a wonderful job arranging the volunteers and manning the tables at the event. This bone marrow drive was a huge success because of the event leaders and volunteers.

On average, a usual bone marrow drive brings in about 30 to 40 people added to the registry. The bone marrow drive at ODU recruited more than 130 students to be added to the registry.



The SNA members in the picture (from Left to Right) are the following: Ryan W., Victoria K., Meghan P., Sierra D., and Eliana S. These SNA members are recruiting students to join the bone marrow registry in the learning commons at the Perry Library.

## AWARD, FROM PAGE 3

“Receiving the AACN Exemplary Academic-Practice Partnership Award is a wonderful honor for the School of Nursing and the faculty involved in re- envisioning our partnerships to create the population health learning hub,” Karlowicz said. “The national recognition is particularly sweet since ODU School

of Nursing was one of three schools to received the award, including nationally ranked nursing programs, University of Cincinnati and Emory University.”

The project has led to strengthened partnerships, continued engagements, a pilot research project and additional support from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) funding to continue work in primary care and community settings.

## Bryd named Student of Year; Cetin, Wertman win scholarships

The Capital Section of the American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC) has named ODU medical laboratory science senior Kasey Byrd the Clinical Chemistry Student of the Year. The AACC is a global scientific and medical professional organization dedicated to clinical laboratory science and its application in health care. Each year the organization names one student nominated by the faculty for exceptional performance in chemistry-related coursework.

Esra Cetin, a senior in medical laboratory science (MLS), was elected to chair the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Ascending Professional Forum for the state of Virginia at the end of March. and later this summer she was appointed for a position of ASCLS Region II Developing Professional Representative. Region II houses laboratory science student organizations from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, D.C.

The Tidewater Chapter of Clinical Laboratory Management Association (CLMA) has selected two MLS seniors: Cetin and Joshua Wertman as the recipients of Clinical Laboratory Professional Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to recognize future medical laboratory professionals with demonstrated leadership abilities and the potential of success in the profession. Students must be enrolled in a MLS /Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) program in the Hampton Roads area.

In addition to winning the CLMA award, Cetin was also awarded:

- \$2000 scholarship from the Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science. The sole purpose of Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity, an honorary organization, is to raise funds for scholarships for students in undergraduate and graduate programs in Medical Laboratory Science.

- \$1000 Student Travel Grant by Beckman Coulter Foundation to attend the National Joint Meeting of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science(ASCLS)and Association of Genetic Technologists, (AGT) in Charlotte, NC at the end of June.



Kasey Byrd



Esra Cetin



Joshua Wertman



## Students share, learn at IPE Day

On Oct. 18, students from various disciplines within the College of Health Sciences participated in an inter-professional education event in the Big Blue Room of the Ted Constant Center and also online.

The goals of the event were to discuss interprofessional communication, roles and responsibilities, and reduce negative intergroup attitudes and stereotypes. During one session, students discussed their disciplines and some of the misconceptions surrounding them. In another, students took on a case activity where several groups discussed and presented on how their professions might handle the case.

# BSHS grad accepted in Yale program

**A**aron Sents, a graduate of our Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences, was recently accepted by Yale University's Physician Assistant Online Program. He is expected to graduate from the program in April 2022.

Sents leaves Old Dominion University with these positive words about the BSHS program:

"The BSHS program has given me context for the healthcare system that I hope to soon be a part of. The BSHS curriculum exposed me to a wide variety of subsectors within healthcare ranging from finance to epidemiology. Learning about the big picture of the healthcare system helps me see where I can fit in and how I can be a health activist outside of clinical care.

"I chose the public health concentration based on my desire to understand the structural contributors to health and systems in place to monitor and improve them. I feel like the program made me a competitive applicant to Yale's online PA program because the BSHS core curriculum is all online, so I was able to demonstrate success in the online learning environment. Of course, that time also afforded me a lot of academic and non-academic lessons at how-to be an online student."



Aaron Sents

# Special Recognition



The Chesapeake City County gave a special recognition to members of ODU's Center for Global Health and the Chesapeake Health Department for the BabyCare Program on Oct. 22. BabyCare is a free home visiting program through the Chesapeake Health Department. It has a team of registered nurses, outreach workers and support staff who provide pregnant women and their children with the tools needed for a healthy pregnancy and beyond. Dr. Nancy Welch, director of the Chesapeake Health Department spoke before the council. Among those on hand were Michele Kekeh and Dr. Muge Akpinar-Elci from the Center for Global Health and College of Health Sciences Dean Bonnie Van Lunen.



# CALENDAR

## November

Nov. 9	ODU @ University of Texas at San Antonio ,2 p.m.
Nov. 11	SON White Coat Ceremony, TBD
Nov. 11	IPE Education/Telehealth Day, TBD
Nov. 13	Nursing Q&A Session, TBD
Nov. 14	DH Information session, HSB 3113, 5-6 p.m.
Nov. 16	SORS Information Session, HSB 1118, 3:30-5 p.m.
Nov. 23	ODU @ Middle Tennessee 4:30 p.m.
Nov. 27-Dec. 1	Thanksgiving Holiday (no classes Wed-Sun)