

## EDITORIAL

---

Welcome to this inaugural issue of *The Journal of BSN Honors Research*. This journal is a compilation of original articles written by a select group of senior nursing students who participated in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Honors Program under the direction of their faculty mentor. The Nursing Honors Program offers enhanced educational opportunities for the most academically talented, promising, and motivated baccalaureate students.

Selection criteria for the Nursing Honors Program are as follows: full-time status, overall GPA of 3.25 or higher and contingent on attaining a nursing GPA of 3.5 or higher at the end of the Fall semester of the junior year and completion of the Nursing Honors Program Application. The Honors Program Admission Committee reviews applications and makes the final decision about acceptance into the Nursing Honors Program. Admission to the BSN Honors Program is selective, with only 5-8 students admitted each year.

The Nursing Honors Program is comprised of four courses. The first course, NURS 382, Honors Seminar, 1-credit seminar, introduces honors students to active School of Nursing researchers and enables students to begin exploring the research literature and issues about their individual topic of interest. The second course for Honors students is a honors section of NURS 460, Nursing Research, taught during the summer session. Then, during the senior year Honors students enroll in NURS 461, Honors Practicum, for 2 credits both fall and spring semesters. In this 2-semester course sequence, they develop and complete a research project under the guidance of an active School of Nursing faculty research mentor. The courses culminate in the preparation of an individual research manuscript and an oral presentation of their research project.

We are indebted and thankful for the work of the librarians at Dykes Library at the University of Kansas Medical Center namely, Jason Stirnaman, Kristin Whitehair, and Amy Ritterskamp who completed the technical work needed to produce this online journal.

Each year students in the BSN Honors Program have the opportunity to share their research projects at several professional forums through poster or oral presentations of their work. The *Journal of BSN Honors Research* provides a venue for wider dissemination of the results of the excellent research projects conducted by these honor students.

Geri B. Neuberger, RN, EdD, Professor and Coordinator BSN Honors Program