Panther Print

Spotlight on UPT RN Alumnus 2008

Donald Swarmer RN, BSN, CDE
Certified Diabetic Educator
Children’s Hospital in Pittsburgh of UPMC

The UPT program would like to showcase some of the 150+ graduates of the past nine years and pay tribute to their hard work and dedication to the profession of nursing. This ongoing spotlight series will feature graduates that permit us to share their experiences as former students of UPT as well as their careers now as professional nurses in the field.

The University of Pittsburgh at Titusville campus associate degree nursing program has been graduating RN candidate nurses since 2007 with the ninth class about to graduate in April of 2015. The program officially began accepting the first nursing class on April 1, 2005 after approval by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing. It obtained initial full accreditation from the Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) in 2008 and recently achieved re-accreditation until 2020 upon further review. The NCLEX-RN pass rate has remained consistently above the 3 year average for ASN programs nationwide since inception. Our graduates are working all over the United States with many of them continuing their education and securing advanced positions in the clinical field, teaching, and/or management. The program has a solid reputation in the community as producing strong clinical based nurses that provide safe, effective evidence-based nursing care to all clients of all ages. The 5 main program objectives continue to be emphasized: professionalism, communication, organization, nursing process, and lifelong commitment to education. Admissions are still being accepted for the fall of 2015 class.

Our first spotlight on a graduate focuses on Mr. Donald Swarmer, RN, BSN. Donny is a 2008 graduate of the second class.
Spotlight on Donald Swarmer Continued

of the UPT Nursing program and the faculty is very proud of the advances he has made in his career. Donny came to UPT immediately after completing high school in Pittsburgh and shared his aspirations to obtain his associate degree in the hopes of eventually becoming a pediatric diabetic educator. Donny was a traditional student who lived on campus and met the challenges of the rugged life as a nursing student. In interviewing Donny, he spoke highly of the UPT program and stated,

“I attended UPT for my associate degree in nursing (ASN) between the fall of 2006 and the spring of 2008. I knew right away I had found a fantastic institution to begin my nursing career. I thoroughly enjoyed the small classes and clinical groups. This close knit learning environment allowed me to excel academically because I was strongly supported by my instructors and I never once felt lost in the shuffle, which can often be the case with bigger universities. I was able to practice my hands-on skills in the nursing lab and apply them in the real world during clinical with confidence. My instructors were there for every step along the way and I grew close with my classmates due to the small class sizes. This greatly helped my focus during the program.

By the spring of 2008, I had already secured a job at a Pittsburgh hospital even before I had officially graduated. Once I began to work as a nurse, I felt like I was able to acclimate myself quickly because I had built a strong base of nursing fundamentals thanks to the education I received at UPT. I honestly can say I felt absolutely prepared for the real world nursing experience because UPT replicated it both in theory and the lab. I would recommend UPT to anyone interested in making nursing a career because you will acquire all of the hands on skills and the mentality needed to succeed in any setting in the nursing field.”

After graduation, Donny began working immediately as a registered nurse at St. Margaret’s Hospital in Pittsburgh and enrolled in a BSN program. He graduated from Ohio University in 2012 with a BSN Degree and obtained his certification as a diabetic educator in 2014. Donny clearly learned the UPT Nursing program objective of life-long learning. Donny then achieved his original all time goal of becoming a diabetic educator at the Children’s Hospital in Pittsburgh of UPMC. Donny also has volunteered to come back to UPT in March and share his expertise on diabetes mellitus with the current class of nursing students. Thank you. Here is a picture of Donny at work...Having achieved his original goal and dream! Way to go Donny!

Article and photo by Louise Schwabenbauer

Men’s and Women’s Basketball Conference Results

The Panther Women’s Team played in the Conference Tournament against Penn Highlands on February 13. They then played CCAC South at West Mifflin and lost by 3 points in a close game. Samantha Marak scored 29 points and Makayla Newell scored 26 points in this game. Congratulations on a great season!

Samantha Marak was named to the all-conference team for 2014-2015. Lloyd Wheeler was also named to the All-Conference Team for 2014-2015. Congratulations to both students.
The UPT men’s basketball team won the Quarter-finals Game vs. Penn Highlands Community College at home on February 13th with a score of 83-61. Isaiah Perry scored 19 points and Lloyd Wheeler scored 17 points.

In the Semi-Final game against Boyce Community College on February 14th, UPT lost with a score of 86-95. Lloyd Wheeler scored 34 points, Isaiah Perry 27 points and Shaquille McCray 17 points.

Congratulations to the men’s team on a great season!
This past weekend, February 20th-22nd, members of Alpha Omega traveled to Pittsburgh, PA, to attend the Jubilee Conference.

Hosted by the Coalition for Christian Outreach (CCO) since 1978, Jubilee consists of 3,000 college students, most from mid-Atlantic colleges and universities, to come together to learn how to worship God in every aspect of their lives: family, friendships, academics, and vocation.

Over the weekend, more than 50 speakers, authors, artists and musicians conducted lectures and workshops to engage students and challenge them to think about the public implications of their personal faith, as they reveal Christ's love through their actions on and off campus.

The theme for this year's conference was "Everything Matters" letting students know that everything matters to God. The conference takes students on the journey of faith from creation, to the fall, redemption, and finally restoration.

Students who attended Jubilee had the opportunity to participate in large and small group gatherings covering an array of topics including politics, culture, social justice, health care, engineering, science, poverty, sports and many other academic and humane issues.

The conference was broken into large group gatherings and smaller breakout sessions. In addition to the gatherings and workshops, students also had opportunities to visit the Hearts & Minds bookstore and speak to over 30 vendors who were promoting opportunities to work at summer camps, support social and human rights and causes, and explore opportunities at higher education institutions and seminaries.

“I really enjoyed Jubilee, especially the gatherings; the energy really lifted your spirit. I learned how to integrate my faith into my academics and the late night ops (opportunities) gave me a chance to dance and just have a great time,” said Kristina Faupel.

Some of this year's keynote speakers included: Saleem Ghubril, founder of the Pittsburgh Promise; Anthony Bradley, associate professor of Theology and Ethics at The King’s College in New York City; Bob Goff, lawyer, whimsical author, and founder of Restore International and Bryson Volgeltanz, supporter of the End It movement to end world slavery and the author (continued on page 10)
The Black Student Union members and guests visited the New Life Family Worship Center Church of God. BSU President, Tenasia Law, hosted a group at her home church in Franklin. Pictured from left to right, Parris Carter, Sonja Tercier, Antoinette Timberlake, Kali Murphy, Monica Makia, Samantha Marak, Krystal Sierra and Coivan Makia. Back row- Pastor Reverend Lora A. Adams-King and Tenasia Law.

**Alpha Omega Sunday Night Fellowship**

All students are welcome to join in a time and break from studies and hang out with Alpha Omega as we take part in a night of worship, singing, games, and activities.

**Who:** All are welcome  
**What:** Alpha Omega – Sunday Night Worship & Fellowship  
**When:** Every Sunday Night @ 6:00 PM  
**Where:** Haskell Auditorium

See Josie Sweitzer, AO President, or Mr. Ledebur, advisor, for more information or details. Alpha Omega meetings occur every Wednesday night at 8pm in the Learning Center. All students are welcome.
Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Give a Thread Campaign to recycle clothing and accessories to others in need. We are pleased to say our campus has collected 2,068 articles of clothing for the drive. The University is hoping to collect 150,000 items before the official count to break the world record for the most articles of clothing collected in one drive.

Haskell Memorial Library

Spring Recess Hours
March 8 & 9
Closed
March 10-13
9 am–5 pm
March 14 & 15
Closed
March 16
2 pm–10 pm

Give A Thread

SAB is Collecting Donations for the St. James House

The YWCA St. James House is an emergency shelter for women and children who are homeless. Eligible individuals and families can stay at St. James House for up to 90 days, giving them an opportunity to find transitional or permanent housing, jobs, child care, and other support services.

During Women’s History Month we are collecting non-perishable food and toiletry items for the St. James House. Please drop off your donations during the month of March at the Student Union Front Desk or bring the items to the Women’s History Wednesday Film Series at 7 pm Wednesday nights in SU 203.
March is Women’s History Month
Learn about HerStory

You are invited to University of Pittsburgh Titusville Campus
Women & History Wednesdays
Student Union Room 203
7:00 PM (Film & Discussion)

March 4:    Iron Jawed Angels: Votes For Women
An inspirational movie about women in America gaining suffrage.

March 18:   Makers: Women Who Make America
The story of how women have asserted their rights to a full and fair share of political power, economic opportunity and personal autonomy in the last 50 years.

March 25:   The Invisible War
A documentary about the epidemic of rape for women serving in the United States military.
WQLN TV Seeks Oil City Region Residents to Shape Original Documentary

WQLN is looking for Oil City region residents who are interested in contributing photos, videos, and stories to “Our Town: Stories from Oil City”, the second film in WQLN’s “Our Town” series, slated for broadcast and web June 25, 2015.

They would love to have student participation in this project. Those interested are invited to the community meeting on March 11th at the Oil City Library. Details are below.

Following the premiere of its original documentary film *Our Town: Stories from Meadville*, WQLN TV invites residents of Oil City, PA, and surrounding areas to help shape the next film in the Our Town series: *Our Town: Stories from Oil City* (premiering June 25 on WQLN TV and www.WQLN.org). Volunteers from Oil City and nearby communities are invited to a community meeting on Wednesday, March 11th at 6:00pm at the Oil City Library to learn how to submit their stories of Oil City through footage, photographs, and later participation in on-camera interviews conducted by WQLN.

Story topics are entirely the participants’ choice and are limited only by imagination and investigative ingenuity! Suggested topics – or starting points – include recreation like the Oil Region Indie Music Festival or nearby hiking, kayaking, etc.; local eats & drinks; arts and culture like the Community Playhouse restoration; noteworthy architecture and engineering projects; and historic events of the oil region or refineries.

“It was so rewarding to see the community’s response from the first film in WQLN’s Our Town series,” said Lisa Counasse, Executive Producer of *Our Town*. “The best people to tell the real stories of Pennsylvania communities are the residents themselves – people who really know what makes the towns tick, and who find everything there is to love about their hometown. The next film can be anything our volunteers choose to make it, including an anthology of personal stories, arts and culture, history, little-known facts, and unique slice-of-life accounts of Oil City. Everyone here at WQLN is excited to work with storytellers from Oil City to create a unique video scrapbook of this great Pennsylvania town!”

*Our Town: Stories from Oil City* is slated to premiere Thursday, June 25 at 8pm on WQLN-TV 54.1, with live streaming at www.WQLN.org, and it will be available on DVD with a WQLN Membership by contacting WQLN’s Jocelyn Taylor at 814-217-6055 or jtaylor@wqln.org.

About WQLN Public Media
WQLN Public Media serves to stimulate, enrich, educate, and entertain the public through communications. WQLN TV 54 is the Erie region’s prime connection to PBS and much more. WQLN-TV 54.1 is the Erie area's only PBS affiliate, featuring safe children's programming every day; PBS Primetime programming every Sunday through Friday evening; British comedies on Saturday nights; and How-To programming Saturday afternoons. WQLN-TV 54.2 is the Create channel. Create is a channel that showcases the best of how-to and do-it-yourself programs on public television. WQLN-TV 54.3 is the World channel, featuring public television's top documentary, public affairs, and nonfiction programming. WQLN Radio 91.3 FM is the region's news, classics & jazz public radio station, affiliated with National Public Radio, Public Radio International, and American Public Media, and airs more original hours of programming every week than any other radio station in the Erie market.
iPads and Chromebooks available soon from Haskell Library! Check back after Spring Break

What you get:
1 iPad
1 carrying case
1 power brick/charging cable

What can be installed on the iPad?
• Blackboard Mobile
• Dropbox
• Facebook
• Kindle
• Microsoft Office software
• Netflix
• Pinterest
• Twitter

and many others!

CHROMEBOOK USERS MUST HAVE A GMAIL ACCOUNT

What you get:
1 Dell Chromebook
1 carrying case
1 power brick/charging cable

Why use a Chromebook?

Fast startup. The Chromebooks take ~15 seconds to boot up
Access to your Google Drive. Once logged in with your Google account, you have access to all documents saved to your Google Drive.
Google Apps. There are many preinstalled apps including: Google Docs and Sheets, Google Play, and more that can be installed.
Secure. All of your work is tied to your Google account, so other users cannot see your files or activity.

Available for checkout—up to 8 hours—for all students, faculty, and staff of the University of Pittsburgh. Beginning in March
**Guitar Club News**

An organization meeting of the UPT Guitar Club was held on Friday evening, February 20, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 202 of the Student Union.

By a majority vote of those in attendance, those elected to offices are: Monica Makia, Director; Conor Craig, Assistant Director; and, Brandon Carter, Secretary/Treasurer. Other club members, to date, include Morgan Bowles, Domonik Daniels, Olivia Doverspike, Doug Foster, Anna Kafferlin, Kelsey Kocan, Shannon Sanden, and Jacob Rash. Mr. Shoup was named faculty advisor of the club.

Newly elected as the UPT Guitar Club’s Director, Monika Makia comments, “To me, this club is kind of a stress reliever. After a long week of classes, it’s refreshing to be a part of something fun that doesn’t get you stressed out. Our first meeting was really good. We got to hear Mr. Shoup play and he was amazing. So, if other interested students know how to play the guitar or are interested in learning, then you are more than welcome to join the club. If you have an interest, but play a different instrument apart from the guitar, that shouldn’t stop you … we already have a saxophone player and a pianist as well as a couple of singers as members.”

At the meeting, it was determined that the meetings for the remainder of the term will take place every Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. in Room 202 of the Student Union unless a guitar club activity is scheduled to take place elsewhere. Starting at 5:00 p.m. on each club meeting date, Mr. Shoup will conduct lessons for beginners. Additional instruction for beginners will occasionally take place after the formal conclusion of meetings.

Those interested in becoming members of the club may attend one of the Friday evening meetings and are also encouraged to notify Mr. Shoup of their interest by e-mailing him at: reshoup@pitt.edu.

*Article contributed by Ron Shoup.*

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**Jubilee Conference Cont. from Page 4**

and inspirer of the film and movement, “To Write Love on Her Arms”.

Ariel Jones said, “I loved the worship and the band and singers! They were awesome. The breakout sessions were really cool and inspiring. And I want to go back next year!”

The Jubilee Conference is open to all University of Pittsburgh-Titusville students who are interested.

The Jubilee Conference is part of the mission of the Coalition for Christian Outreach. The CCO is a campus ministry that partners with churches, colleges and other organizations to help transform college students to transform the world. The CCO is active at 104 college campuses. To discover more about Jubilee or the CCO, visit [http://www.jubileeconference.com/](http://www.jubileeconference.com/) and [http://www.ccojubilee.org/](http://www.ccojubilee.org/).

*Article and Photo contributed by Jeff Ledebur.*