

## From Canvas to Campus

Faculty member explores  
using artistic abilities to take  
teaching to a new level

By Irvin B. Harrell

When Deborah Krzyzaniak isn't teaching cytotechnology at the College of Health Sciences, she is bringing life to the canvas as a professional artist.

In fact, she was the featured artist in October of last year at the Charleston (S.C.) Artist Guild Gallery.



Krzyzaniak

Her exhibit, "Come as a Tourist, Leave as a Local," focused on things to see and do in Charleston from a native perspective.

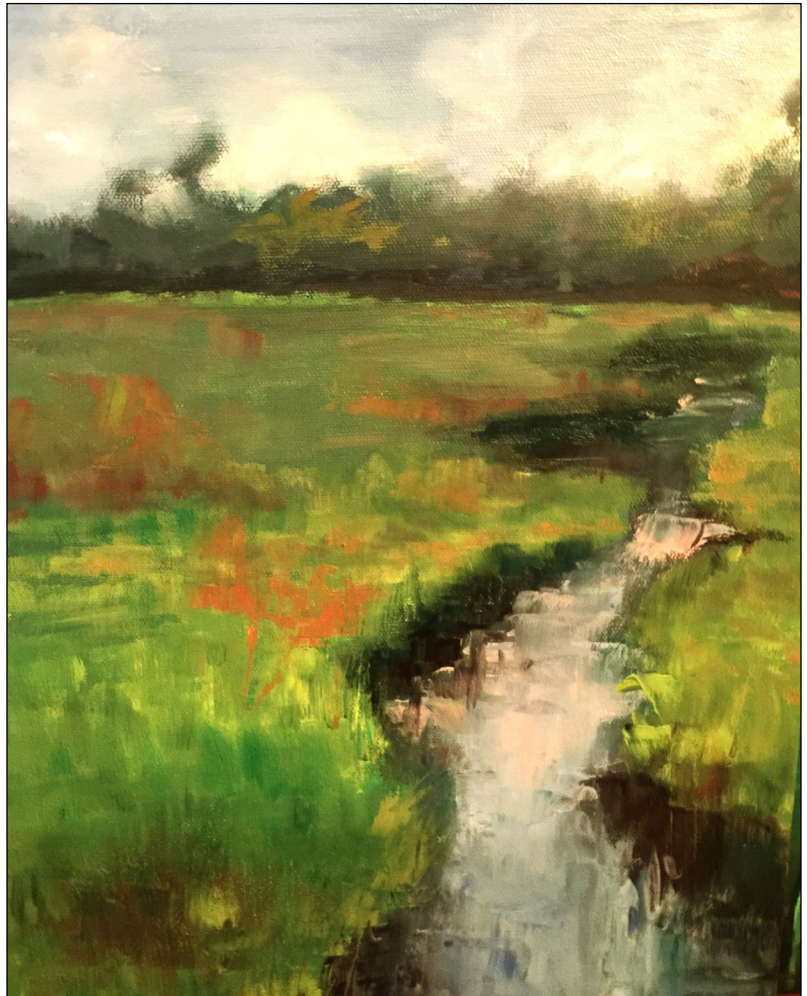
Krzyzaniak, who took the reins of the college's cytotechnology program this past fall, now is looking for ways to

merge her passion for teaching with her passion for painting.

"What if I start creating paintings of cells and target all the pathologists in the United States," she said. "I could sell them, they would want to hang them in their offices, and I would raise money for the program here."

Krzyzaniak says she is also pursuing the possibility of doing something with cancer patients and art

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**Dean's Message: Interim Dean Richardean Benjamin**

# Let's make caring for others our priority

A new year is upon us and it is sure to be filled with opportunities and challenges due to change. We will have new leadership at the national level, i.e. a new president, and we start the year with a change in the leadership in the College of Health Sciences.

Although I'm new at the position of interim dean of the COHS, I am not new to Old Dominion University. I joined the university in 1989 as an assistant professor of nursing. I assumed my role as interim dean of the college effective Jan. 1 and in taking on this new role it will offer us the opportunity to continue a tradition of exemplary programs, steadfast support of our faculty and students, and unyielding advocacy for the residents of the Commonwealth.



Richardean Benjamin

What should you expect in the months ahead? You can expect the same dedication and commitment to excellence for which our college is known. As our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration heads to a conclusion, we are poised to begin new initiatives that will include the expansion of undergraduate and graduate programs. We are encouraged by the continued interest in the healthcare profession. Yet, we are urged to consider our commitment to the health concerns of our constituents. The looming threat of changes to the Affordable Care Act brings to the forefront the role we play in advocacy.

Last January, the focus of the dean's message was caring for self. This year my focus is on caring for others, which is so essential to the role of a healthcare provider. We must advocate for others whose voices are often not heard. Inherent in the act of caring for others is the need to nurture and care for all aspects of self, which includes, physical, emotional, spiritual, and creative.

This month's newsletter is an excellent example of the wealth of talent in our College. It illustrates the creative aspects of a very capable clinician. Dr. Deborah Krzyzaniak's work and her willingness to share helps build new bonds that link us in ways that extend beyond our professional titles. Are you willing to share your best self with the College of Health Sciences? Let us hear your voice.

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**From the Editor**

## Health communication has its hurdles

This semester, I'm taking a Health Communication course. Two classes in, and the readings are already having an impact on my thought processes when it comes to health care and equity.

This past class, we read about a research project that focused on what happens to a person when they learn they have cancer. How, in addition to the work they do day to day, do they manage the work of telling others about their condition? What platforms do they use, e.g., in person, by phone, by email? How do they vary the message? Who do they tell?

There was a section in the reading on research "limitations," but I noted that something was missing in it. "Others whose voices are often not heard" (to use a phrase from the dean's message) were not considered as a limitation of the research project.

What happens to those who face cultural, socioeconomic, and medical access barriers? How do they cope? Clearly, many of them are not the easiest to track down for research (and some may be suspicious when it comes to people tracking them), but if we are to have any hope of changing policy to be more inclusive, such efforts to detail their struggles must be considered.



Irvin B. Harrell

# Cytotechnology program director moonlights as artist

## KRZYZANIAK, from Page 1

therapy. Right now, though, she's still settling in at Old Dominion University, where she first tried her hand at teaching.

Born in rural South Carolina, Krzyzaniak grew up in a family that lived from paycheck to paycheck. Her parents were more focused on making ends meet than pushing higher education.

"One time we had chicken necks for dinner," she said. "I asked my mom, 'What is that?' She said, 'It's chicken necks; there's a little bit of meat on there."

"I never remembered being hungry," she said, "but I said to myself that I didn't want to be in such a situation down the road. I wanted to get an education and have options."

And so, the first-generation college student scrambled to find a way. To cover bills, she sometimes worked two or three jobs. First she attended the College of Charleston. In 1984 she transferred to the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston, where she graduated the following year with a Bachelor of Science in Cytotechnology. Upon graduation, Krzyzaniak worked at MUSC as a full-time cytotechnologist in its Department of Pathology for several years.

"I was fascinated with cells, and wanted to do something to help people," she said of her choice in major. "I love science, but I was also looking for something stable."

Krzyzaniak moved to Norfolk in 1990, working at Sentara Healthcare while studying for her master's at ODU. While at ODU, she spoke to cytotechnology program director Kay Wells and inquired about teaching. Wells told her there wasn't any extra money for adjuncts.

"I told Kay she didn't have to pay me; I'd do it for free," she said. "I told her that if you like me, and next year if you have some money, then you can hire me."

Wells allowed her to teach a thyroid class. In the fall of

1992, Krzyzaniak left Sentara to teach full time and take over the job as Cytotechnology Program Director and Educational Coordinator at ODU.

Krzyzaniak received a Master's of Science in Medical Laboratory Science in 1994 and moved to Louisiana in 1995 where she started the first cytotech-



nology program in the state at Terrebonne General Medical Center in Houma. Also while in Louisiana she and her husband started a family, and she had two children. Krzyzaniak decided to take several years off to raise them and started painting in 2000, when her children started school. She has been painting ever since.

"I absolutely love being outdoors, especially hiking in the mountains or being on the ocean," she said. "Painting gave me a way to capture the relaxing feeling I got from being close to nature."

In the mid-2000s, Krzyzaniak moved to Charlotte, N.C., and taught cytotechnology part-time at Central Piedmont Community College. In 2007, the Medical University of South

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## Awards Dinner



From left, Old Dominion University President John Broderick, former faculty member Pamela Hilke, cyotechnology student Andrew Haskell and ODU Alumni Association President John Duy pose for a photo at December's Student Honors Awards Dinner. Professor Hilke received the Most Inspiring Faculty Award and Haskell received the ODU College of Health Sciences Outstanding Scholar Award.

## Cytotechnology program director moonlights as artist

**KRZYZANIAK**, from Page 1

Carolina offered her a full-time job as a technologist and she worked there for eight years.

Krzyzaniak received a call from ODU in May 2016 about the cytotechnology program director position.

"I felt like I had a calling," she said. "And my kids said, 'You have to do this.'"

Between her new job at ODU, her art and her family, Krzyzaniak says she is still trying to find the perfect balance. Regardless, she says that her choice to return to ODU to teach was the right decision.

"When I think about the students and why I'm here, I love my job," she said. "Some students can be a bit immature and text me on Sunday morning at 9 o'clock, but I love it. I can't describe it. I feel like I have to be here."



## CENTER FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

# Center tackles drug addiction

By Noell Saunders

Virginia's opioid addiction crisis is getting worse. Three people die every day in Virginia from opioid overdoses, and more than two dozen are treated in emergency rooms. Recently, the state's health commissioner declared it a public emergency. To help tackle the issue, the Center for Global Health at Old Dominion University is doing early intervention projects at schools in Hampton Roads.

Dr. Muge Akpınar-Elci, director of the Center for Global Health, says opioid addiction is not just a public health concern.

"We see an individual problem that is really impacting an entire community," she said. "This crisis not only requires intervention from health agencies but government and law enforcement agencies as well."

For the second time, the Center for Global Health staff will talk to middle school students about the effect of drugs and the importance of smart decision-making.

The school visits will occur during National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week, from Jan. 23 to 29. Staff members and students will break into groups to answer questions and play a game.

"This is a great service learning project for our students. They need to communicate and connect with communities. This is something many of them will be doing in their future careers," Akpınar-Elci said.

Addiction is a complex disease, affecting the brain and body. Public health professionals look at it through two lenses -- genetics and the environment.

"We look at all factors that could be linked to the addiction, like family, education, social, mental or economic problems. We look to not only address the issue but to create a safer environment for chronic users," Akpınar-Elci said.



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## The time is ripe to enroll in certificate program

Happy New Year from the ODU Center for Global Health! The new year is often filled with motivation and inspiration to begin a new chapter and aspire to do great things. One viable option is the Global Health graduate certificate program. The program is in its third year and is growing. The 15-credit program gives students the knowledge and skills to address health disparities and difficulties on a global level. Global health is relevant in a number of ways and in several disciplines. This certificate is perfect for those seeking knowledge to impact their fields.

The program is offered completely online. Its curriculum includes in-demand courses such as epidemiology, health management and research. A recent change to the curriculum has added the Interprofessional Study Abroad course in global health (HLSC 705/805). One of the upcoming study abroad trips is the European Migration Crisis Service Learning Abroad trip this summer. Students will have the opportunity to travel to Munich, Germany, and assist organizations dedicated to integrating refugees. The next information session for this trip will take place on **Tuesday, Jan. 24 from 12:30-1:15 p.m. in Dragas 2117**. By completing the program, certificate holders will be able to apply the knowledge and training from the program to work in health-related governmental and non-governmental agencies, university research programs, international healthcare consultancies and multinational corporations. For more information about the program, please contact the program director, Dr. Muge Akpınar-Elci at [makpinar@odu.edu](mailto:makpinar@odu.edu) or (757) 683-6160. If you are ready to apply to the program, please visit <https://online.odu.edu/admissions/graduate>.

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

## 50th anniversary opens door to celebrations



Karen Karlowicz,  
Chair of the School of Nursing

During 2017, the School of Nursing will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary. In conjunction with this milestone year the school will host alumni events throughout Hampton Roads and abroad, connect with alumni at professional conferences, issue a commemorative news piece, host a spring Alumni Event and present the Nursing Monarch Milestone Awards.

At this time, the School of Nursing is accepting nominations for the Milestone Awards. Visit our website at <https://www.odu.edu/nursing> to complete and submit a nomination. Nominations are due by Friday, Feb. 17, and all nominations will be reviewed by a 50th Anniversary Committee. The Honorees will be recognized throughout the 50th Anniversary year and at a special recognition dinner in September 2017.

Attachments evidencing the nominee's qualifications are encouraged. Political candidates are not eligible for nomination. Nominations may be emailed, mailed, or delivered to Karen Karlowicz, Associate Professor and Chairperson for the School of Nursing at [kkarlowi@odu.edu](mailto:kkarlowi@odu.edu), 757-683-5253 (fax) or ODU School of Nursing, Health Sciences Building, 4608 Hampton Blvd., Norfolk, Va., 23529.

### KATHIE JAMES CLAGETT, 1951-2017

## Staff member remembered for 17 years of service

Kathie James Clagett, 65, died on Thursday, Jan. 5, in Virginia Beach. Kathie was born on Jan. 20, 1951, in Sutton, West Va.

Mrs. Clagett served as the administrative assistant for the College of Health Sciences' School of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training for 17 years. To commemorate her passing, Mrs. Clagett's family held a celebration of life for her on Jan. 15 at Suburban Christian Church in Virginia Beach.



Mrs. Clagett

## Old Dominion University College of Health Sciences turned 30 this year!



College of  
Health Sciences

30

1986-2016

Please join us in celebrating this important milestone of 30 years of academic excellence by showing your support for the College of Health Sciences' future and making your gift today. Every gift makes a difference and helps us achieve our vision of advancing healthcare education and research through interdisciplinary and global collaborations.

To make your gift online, please visit [www.odu.edu/efgive](http://www.odu.edu/efgive)

Share your anniversary pledge on Instagram (@oducohs) or Twitter! @COHS16 #COHS30

## ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

# Van Lunen, Adams Tufts tackle new responsibilities

With the departure of Dean Shelley Mishoe, the College of Health Sciences has undergone changes to its administrative team. Effective this month new roles and responsibilities have been given to Drs. Kimberly Adams Tufts and Bonnie Van Lunen.

Dr. Adams Tufts will perform the role of Interim Associate Dean for Interprofessional Education and Program Evaluation and Dr. Van Lunen will remain chair of the School of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training and assume the role of Interim Assistant Dean of Graduate Education. Congratulations to both on their service and unyielding commitment to the College of Health Sciences!



Dr. Van Lunen



Dr. Adams Tufts

## IPE CORNER

### IPE Awards 2017

Kudos to the 2017 IPE Award Winners. The awardees include representatives from the Schools of Dental Hygiene, Nursing, and Physical Therapy and Athletic Training as well as the College of Education. These faculty leaders are significantly contributing to advancing the vision of creating an interprofessional education and collaborative practice culture in the COHS! Thanks also to the COHS IPE Advisory Committee's Awards Sub-Committee for soliciting and reviewing applications. Here are the winners:

#### Title: Interprofessional Student Poster Presentation Conference

**Interpersonal faculty team:** Kaprea Hoquee, PhD, NCC, Department of Clinical Counseling, College of Education; Sharon Stull, BSDH, MS School of Dental Hygiene; Janice Hawkins, PhD, RN School of Nursing; and Jamela Martin, PhD, RN, School of Nursing

Interprofessional educational strategies will be used to facilitate a Interprofessional Student Poster Presentation Conference. The faculty will use this platform to create awareness of the roles and responsibilities of health care professionals promoting evidence-based practices and improving population health; enhance knowledge of interprofessional collaboration; and promote skills in interprofessional communication.

#### Title: Interprofessional Educational Immersion Experience at the Remote Area Medical & Mission of Mercy Dental Outreach Event in Wise County, Va.

**Interpersonal faculty team:** Sharon Stull, BSDH, MS School of Dental Hygiene; Christianne Fowler DNP, GNP School of Nursing; Janice Hawkins PhD, RN, School of Nursing; Karen Higgins, DNP, FNP, RN, School of Nursing; Tina Haney DNP, CNS, School of Nursing; and Karen Kott, PhD, PT, School of Physical Therapy and Athletic Training

The purpose of this learning activity is to immerse COHS students and faculty in a meaningful community focused event that will actively involve several professions. Faculty members and students will participate in two community events designed to impact oral health in addition to overall health. Remote Area Medical and the Mission of Mercy events are planned for Summer 2017.

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### IPE Day

IPE Day 2017 will be on Wednesday, March 29. The event will take place from 1-5 p.m. in the Ted Constant Center. The focus of the event will be the United States opioid crisis. This complex public health issue is fraught with health, sociological, justice and policy issues. Additional details will be announced in the COHS February 2017 newsletter.

**LEARNING TOGETHER. HEALING THE WORLD.**

# Upcoming Events

## February 2017

February 17-19	Winter Continuing Education Weekend, Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel, Virginia Beach
February 22	Dean's Student Advisory Committee Luncheon, 12:00 -1:00 p.m. Dean's Conference Room
February 25	Scholar's Day – COHS

## March 2017

March 6-11	Students Spring Break
March 7	Program Director's Luncheon, 12:00 -1:00 p.m. – COHS Computer Lab, Room 3014
March 15	SON, Culture of Safety Presentation
March 22 & 25	CE Course: Dental Radiation Safety Certification, HS Bldg.
March 25	Admitted Students Day Day of Giving
March 29	IPE Day, Ted Constant Convocation Center, Big Blue Room

## April 2017

April 10	Military Appreciation Luncheon, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Location: COHS, TBD
April 24	Spring Classes End
April 24	COHS Awards & Recognition Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Location: Ted Constant Convocation Center, Big Blue Room
April 25	Reading Day
April 26	Exams Begin