

# Allied Health Heartbeat

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ALLIED HEALTH DIVISION

VOL. 1 | ISSUE 1

## Message from the Dean of Allied Health:

Welcome to the first ever publication of the Lackawanna College Allied Health Division Newsletter. This publication will help to educate the college and others about our amazing division. The division is comprised of the following programs, which benefit the healthcare of our local medical community in many different ways: Physical Therapist Assistant, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Vascular Sonography, Cardiac Sonography, Surgical Technology, EMT/Paramedic, Emergency Medical Services and Nurse Aide. Our goal of each publication is to feature an Instructor from one of the programs, a successful student from a program and any updates from each program including accreditation updates, new initiatives of the division, and contributions that faculty in the Allied Health Division are making in their professions. We will be open to suggestions so please READ ON!!!!!!

- *Lynn DeSanto, Dean of Allied Health*

## Life During Lackawanna Nurse Aid Program

"I appreciate all that you taught us. I love the hands on experience. It reinforced what we learned in theory. The program was great, I really learned a lot."

- Kristie, Class of 2018

Kristie is a student in the Nurse Aide Training Program who also works with a Home Health agency during the training program. Her day begins at 6:30 am where she provides personal care for a gentleman, assisting him with showering, dressing and grooming and then drives him to his place of employment. She then attends classes in the Nurse Aide Training Program beginning at 8am.

After 3 pm, Kristie works with her client, driving him home from work and assisting with any needs that may arise. In addition to this busy day, she cares for her grandchild twice a week and cares for her spouse who has medical needs also.

Kristie is a straight-A student who is dedicated to her profession and who demonstrates great compassion for those in her care. Kristie has been hired by Allied Skilled Nursing prior to her completing our class. She will be working every weekend from 7 pm to 7 am. Kristie is a true success!

## Instructor Highlight Sonography Program

Stephanie McDaniels BSRT(R), RDMS, RVT, RDCS, has been the Program Director for the Sonography Program for 13 years. Stephanie holds her ARDMS registry in all three of our specialty modalities. As our program director, Stephanie not only strengthened and enhanced the Vascular and DMS programs she created our third specialty, Cardiac, and received CAAHEP accreditation on her first submission of the program for evaluation.

Under her tutelage our Vascular and DMS specialties have received a 10-year accreditation status. Stephanie also teaches classes in all three modalities. She has also served many times as an officer for the local sonography association as well as partnering with other sonographers to write and advance important new legislation designed to protect and ensure the safety of patients and the integrity of the profession. Stephanie is a true asset to our College and the Sonography program!



Thank you for your continued support of our students throughout their journey. If you have any questions or would like additional information about the programs in the Allied Health Division, please contact: Lynn DeSanto, Dean of the Allied Health Division, [Desantol@lackawanna.edu](mailto:Desantol@lackawanna.edu), (570) 504-8110, or Leah Hamm, Admin. Asst., [Hamml@lackawanna.edu](mailto:Hamml@lackawanna.edu), (570) 955-1463.

**Aligned with the [mission of Lackawanna College](#), the mission of the Allied Health Division is to facilitate integrative healthcare to better serve the community, accomplished through high ethical standards and excellent, affordable education.**

## EMS Academy

The EMS Academy recently recertified our State DOH Accreditation for another two years as an ALS and BLS training center. The Academy has held three successful EMT courses since obtaining initial BLS accreditation last year. The next EMT class is set to start March 3 and enrollment has begun. Recruitment is going on for a Paramedic class set to start July 23, 2018. The EMS Academy is also looking to develop other programs in emergency services to support the community's needs.

## Nurse Aide

The Lackawanna College Nurse Aide Training Program began in July 2006 with 60 classes completing to date. Our program is approved and accredited by the Pennsylvania Department of Education for 128 total hours: 40 didactic hours, 44 laboratory hours and 44 clinical hours at a local nursing home. Upon fulfilling all program hours and requirements, students are eligible to sit for the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program Examination administered by Credentia. This program is an excellent opportunity for the student who needs more time adjusting to the college atmosphere or to test the waters in a Certificate Allied Health Program.

## Occupational Therapy Assistant

The OTA Program is a two-year program which prepares students to become Occupational Therapy Assistants. Occupational Therapy is a health profession whose goal is to enhance a person's participation in everyday activities, to promote health and wellness, and to help people achieve independence, meaning and satisfaction in all aspects of their lives. The OTA program launched its initial classes beginning Spring 2018. Granted Candidacy by their accrediting agency ACOTE, the American Council for Occupational Therapy Education, the OTA staff are currently preparing for the second stage in the accreditation process.

## Physical Therapist Assistant

Lackawanna College's PTA Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education. It is a two-year program which prepares students to become Physical Therapist Assistants who work closely with Physical Therapists. The LC PTA Program second-year students participated in an IPE in Oct. 2017 with the third-year DPT students from the University of Scranton. In addition to learning more about working as a PT-PTA team, students of both disciplines may see some familiar faces on clinicals as all of these students will be transitioning to clinic-based education in 2018!

## Sonography

The Sonography Programs at Lackawanna College are accredited by CAAHEP. Sonography (also known as ultrasound) is the use of sound waves to generate an image for the assessment and diagnosis of various medical conditions. Lackawanna College's Sonography Department offers a two-year associate degree in each of three specializations: Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Vascular Sonography and Cardiac Sonography.

## Surgical Technology

The Surgical Technology program at Lackawanna College is accredited by the (CAAHEP). The accreditation is upon the recommendation of the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (ARC/STSA). The program is designed to be completed over a two-year period. In February, Program Director, Kim Norton, and Clinical Coordinator, Mary Lou Purnell, will be presenting at the National Surgical Technology Instructors Conference in Charleston, S.C.



Commission on Accreditation  
of Allied Health Education Programs

