LINDSAY RENÉE BAUER*  
Advisor: Julie Weddle, MS, FNP, CNOR, clinical associate professor  
Helping Health Professionals Educate Parents About the Health Benefits of Reducing Trans Fat Intake  
I believe in promoting health, preventing illness and providing people with the knowledge and support they need to lead a healthier lifestyle. The nurse is in a unique position to provide people with both education and reinforcement to reach their health and lifestyle goals.

KATHRYN MARIE BAUK*  
Advisor: Valerie Lane-Lloyd, RN, PhD, assistant professor  
Barriers to Cardiovascular Health Promotion in Latina Women  
I chose to pursue nursing because it is an ever-changing field in which professional opportunities are virtually limitless. I find nursing challenging, rewarding, exciting and perfect for my personality. I can’t see myself doing anything else!

BRETTANY LYNNE BERGER  
Advisor: Jena L. Doughman, PhD, RN, assistant professor  
I chose to go into nursing because it is such a diverse field that will allow me to work with a variety of populations. One of my biggest passions is prevention health, and nurses have always been big components of the preventative health and health promotion field.

COREY BISHOP CHRISTIAN*  
Advisor: Christian Harlow, RN, MA, clinical assistant professor  
A Reflection on the Development of Cultural Competency: HIV/AIDS Education in Malawi  
I have always known that I wanted to work in the health care industry, but it was not until I lost my father to cancer in 2004 that I realized that my true calling was nursing. I found that giving others the care, attention, time and respect they deserve during the most critical times in their lives is the most incredible gift you can offer.

RENNATTA DIANE CRAVEN  
Advisor: Gayle Riegel, PhD, professor  
HIV/AIDS Risk in the Inarcerated Male Population: An Analysis of Policy and Research and a Proposed Plan for Prevention  
I chose to go into nursing for reasons both personal and academic. My mother died of Acute Myelogenous Leukemia when I was a young child, and throughout my youth my fear and fascination with blood cancers spurred my interest in science. Nursing’s concentration on palliation and holistic care attracted me to the profession and has further exposed me to the health disparities present in today’s society and the innovation and collaboration necessary to create change.

ANDREW L. Desser  
Advisor: Howard J. Eberts, PhD, RN, DNP, associate professor  
Improving Gender Diversity in Nursing Programs: An Evidence-Based Approach  
My view of nursing is that it is a very meaningful work, as the profession is based upon the ideal of improving the lives of others. Additionally, nursing provides an almost unparalleled number of career options and opportunities for professional advancement. I come from a family of many outstanding nurses who have influenced me greatly, so my decision to pursue nursing came naturally.

SALLA S. GREGORY  
Advisor: Cheryl L. Woods-Gislason, PhD, RN, assistant professor  
Self-Actualization and Purposefulness: An Empowering Approach to Health Promotion and Health Disparity Interventions for African-American Women  
As one of seven children, taking care of the ill and promoting healthy living was always my role. As a nurse, I will marry my love for science with my desire to enhance the quality of life of others. I chose nursing because I could not fulfill any other career path with so many twists and turns, beauty, longevity and uncharted territories that would lead to true inner fulfillment.

JENNA HOBBS*  
Advisor: Melanie Kelly, MS, RN, CNOR, clinical assistant professor  
The Development of an Inflammatory Bowel Disease Resource Notebook for Adolescent Transition into Adulthood  
Once I discovered nursing as a career option, I knew it was the one for me. I love being in a profession that provides holistic care through compassion, patient education, advocacy, autonomous thinking and thorough scientific knowledge. I find nursing to be an extremely rewarding career and am excited to have the opportunity to impact the lives of so many people as they make their transitions.

HEATHER ELIZABETH JOHNSTON  
Advisor: Diane York, MN, MBA, PhD, RN, CNOR, clinical assistant professor  
Family Needs in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit as Identified by Families and Nurses: How Do Nurses Meet These Needs?  
I went into nursing because I enjoy caring for others and doing for them what they cannot do for themselves. I love to interact and communicate with people and especially enjoy working with children. I feel that nursing is a career that will provide me with excellent job satisfaction and many opportunities for career advancement.

DARCI D. McCLARY  
Advisor: Terriyn Allen, MNS, RN, BSN, clinical associate professor  
A Quantitative Analysis of the Breastfeeding Attitudes and Knowledge of BSN Nursing Students Before and After Completing a Maternal-Newborn Nursing Course  
My interest in science and caring for people led me to nursing. It’s a great way to positively impact people’s lives, and there are a multitude of career trajectories in nursing.

CLAIRE LOUISE PHELPS  
Advisor: Diane York, MN, MBA, PhD, RN, CNOR, clinical assistant professor  
Development of a Pamphlet Addressing the Needs of Bereaved Parents  
Nursing appealed to me as a profession because of the diversity of the field. However, nursing school developed my love for nursing and passion for pediatrics. I am excited to become a nurse and have the opportunity to make an impact on families as well as my patients.

ELIZABETH RYAN  
Advisor: Joan Williams, RN, MN, PhD, ARNP-BC, clinical assistant professor  
How Bar-Coding Changes Medication Administration  
I chose nursing to satisfy my fascination with the human body, my love of learning and my desire for new experiences. I’ve always enjoyed helping others better their health, and a career in nursing will allow me to do this in a variety of ways.

JESSICA SAVIDGE  
Advisor: Joan Williams, RN, MN, ARNP-BC, clinical assistant professor  
Critical Incidents and the New Nurse: The Impact, the Experience, the Management  
Having been exposed to the health care system at an early age, volunteering at hospitals and nursing homes, I knew nursing was a perfect chance to advance my curiosity and knowledge and foster my passion to care for others. Nursing will not only provide me the opportunity to enhance my clinical skills, but also work closely with patients, families and coworkers in forming lasting relationships.

LESLIE C. WILLIAMS  
Advisor: Beth Polk, RN, MN, MPH, MA,E, clinical instructor  
Induced Hypothermia after Cardiac Arrest: A Literature Review with Implications for Patient and Family Teaching  
I chose to go into nursing to satisfy both my passion for working with people, as well as my passion for medical science. The health care profession is always changing, always producing new research, new techniques and new information that improves health. The science behind nursing is alluring, but the satisfaction that comes from helping those in need is substantially great.

* Denotes students receiving Highest Honors