School of Nursing

Graduation and Pinning Ceremony
Saturday, December 12, 2015
Letter from the Dean

Dear Nursing Graduates,

You are the first nursing graduates from the University of Houston! You have earned the BSN or MSN degree, and you are the first UH Nurses to be pinned with the new UH Nursing pin. You mark an historic moment for the University of Houston by your presence here today – both for graduation and pinning! Thank you for being “the first,” and thank you for choosing to be a nurse!

Your education at the School of Nursing has equipped you to embark upon your career as a nurse leader and nurse clinician. During your time at the University of Houston as a nursing student, you have collectively spent thousands of hours in clinical, classroom, simulation labs, and volunteering, thus adding to the strength and vibrancy of our community and our profession.

I look forward to seeing the impact your careers and professional contributions will have on the future of healthcare and nursing. You will have many more “firsts” in your career, and I look forward to hearing about them all as you practice nursing in the City of Houston, our State, the nation, and around the world.

As lifelong learners, I invite you to stay connected with your School of Nursing. We welcome you and invite you to become “life members” of the UH alumni association. You will always have the special honor of being the first. You will be reminded of this distinct place in history each time you wear your nursing pin, engage with the School of Nursing and the University of Houston.

Congratulations Nursing Cougars!

Sincerely,

Kathryn M. Tart, EdD, MSN, RN
Founding Dean and Professor
Speaker

Katherine Thomas, MN, RN, FAAN

Katherine Thomas has served as the Executive Director for the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) since November 1995. Prior to her appointment to the ED position, Ms. Thomas served in several other education and advanced practice positions for the BON. She has a BSN from the University of Virginia; a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) Certificate, US Army, Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, and a Masters Degree in Nursing from the University of Kansas. Prior to joining the BON, Ms. Thomas taught nursing as an Instructor and Assistant Professor at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in baccalaureate and graduate degree programs and practiced as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. She serves as a Nurse Licensure Compact Administrator and formerly served as a member of the Executive Committee. She served as the Chair of the Texas Health Professions Council, a council of agencies who regulate health care professionals in Texas from 2000-2012. Ms. Thomas served on several Advanced Practice committees of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), chairing the APRN Advisory Committee from 1995-2007. She was a member of the Joint Dialogue Group that developed the APRN Consensus Model. She currently serves as President Elect and has previously served as Director at Large on the NCSBN Board of Directors. Ms. Thomas has received the top two awards from NCSBN: the R. Louise McManus Award for significant contributions through the highest commitment and dedication (August 2002) and the Meritorious Service Award for significant contributions to the purposes of NCSBN, (August 1999). She was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi honor society in 1983 and into Sigma Theta Tau, Delta Alpha Chapter, International Honor Society of Nursing in 1985 and was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2011.
Florence Nightingale Pledge

“I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly to faithfully practice my profession of nursing. I will do all in my power to make and maintain the highest standards and practices of my profession.

I will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping in the practice of my calling. I will assist other healthcare providers and will devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care.

I will endeavor to fulfill my rights and privileges as a good citizen and take my share of responsibility in promoting the health and welfare of the community.

I will constantly endeavor to increase my knowledge and skills in nursing and to use them wisely. I will zealously seek to nurse those who are ill wherever they may be and whenever they are in need.

I will be active in assisting others in safeguarding and promoting the health and happiness of humankind.”

— Author Unknown
University of Houston
School of Nursing

Graduation and Pinning Ceremony
Saturday, December 12, 2015, 10 a.m.
Cullen Performance Hall

PROCESSIONAL
The Four Seasons
Vivaldi

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Dr. Kathryn Tart
Founding Dean and Professor

SPEAKER
Katherine Thomas, MSN, RN, FAAN

DESCRIPTION OF PIN
Dean Tart

PRESENTATION AND PINNING
OF BACHELOR’S CANDIDATES
Dean Tart and School of Nursing Faculty

PRESENTATION, HOODING AND
PINNING OF MASTERS CANDIDATE
Dean Tart and School of Nursing Faculty

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE PLEDGE
AND LIGHTING CEREMONY
Patricia Schrader
Assistant Clinical Professor,
Second Degree BSN Manager

FAREWELL FROM THE FACULTY
Dr. Kathleen Reeve
Associate Dean and Clinical Professor,
Master’s Program Manager

CLOSING REMARKS
Dean Tart

CLOSING
Alma Mater music

School of Nursing Faculty participation
Sandra McNeely
Assistant Clinical Professor / RN-BSN Manager
Danielle Quintana
Assistant Clinical Professor
Terry Kirk
Associate Clinical Professor
Lee Anne Lightfoot
Assistant Clinical Professor
Vivian Nowazek
Assistant Clinical Professor (PowerPoint Presentation)
Fall 2015

**SECOND DEGREE BSN GRADUATES**

Faiza Akhter  
Afaq Akbar Ali  
Brenda Angulo  
Brittney Barton  
Matthew Nuri Berke  
Shakeel Kumar Bhatti  
Kimberly Ann Breaux  
Kristen Currie  
Devon Lynn Debord  
Taylor Ann Demeny  
Amanda Nicole Dennler  
Carolina Cardoso Dorsett  
Lindsey Elizabeth Duncan  
Mercy M. Fosso  
Madeleine T. Fuller  
Nicole Elizabeth Gettings  
Emily Goris  
Heather Erin Gray  
Heather Marie Haug  
Danielle Michelle Hebert  
Crystal Lynn Herron  
Kelsey Elizabeth Holmes  
Kathryn Tara Jones  
Grace Chen Lau  
Ashleigh Renae Lens  
Alexis T. Liscum  
Cam N. Liu  
Jacqueline Christine Mathis  
Aneel Mohammed  
Naureen Momin  
Adrienne Lynn New  
Christine Nguyen  
Vrunda Patel  
Shannon Nicole Pearson  
Adryanne E. Rozo  
Julie Ingles Schrader  
Lindsey Beckett Sibel  
Tenitra Nicole Smith  
Tricia J. Smith  
Meagan Elizabeth Sonnefeld  
Kristen Nichole Tondera  
Catherine Valencia  
Liliana Jeannette Vasquez  
Silvia Milena Wise  
Xiaodong Zhai

**RN TO BSN GRADUATES**

Karla Yesenia Aldana  
Olaide Oluwaseun Aremo  
Olivia Marie Betts  
Sarina L. Deane  
Krystal Gale Dickerson  
Terri Figueroa  
Courtney Ann Harris  
Asad Shaukatali Hooda  
Whitney J. Johnson  
Edward Lang  
Sujin Lim  
Jenner Wayne Quashie  
Eve Suzanne Rainwater  
Abha Raju Shah  
Brittani Megan Spann  
Olga Stanford  
Stephanie Alyse Walleck  
Noah Williamson  
Carlinda Joyce Wimberly

**MASTERS GRADUATE**

Ruth Ndunge Makenzi

¹ Summa Cum Laude Honors - ² Magna Cum Laude Honors - ³ Cum Laude Honors - ⁴ Sigma Theta Tau International member
Administration

Kathryn Tart, EdD, MSN, RN
*Founding Dean and Professor*

Kathleen Reeve
DrPH, ANP-BC, FNP-C
*Associate Dean and Clinical Professor*

Staff

Joan Bauman, BS
*Secretary*

Crystal Hayward, BA
*Academic Advisor*

Natalie Hill, MSN, RN
*Clinical Facilitator*

Chelsea Price, BA
*Program Coordinator*

Samer Shammas, MSA
*College Business Administrator*

Leigh Ann Smith, BS
*Secretary*

Roberto Tonsul, BS
*Manager, Education Technology Information Services*

Tammy Whatley, BAAS
*Director, Student Affairs*

Chi Liang Yu, EdD
*Instructional Designer*
Faculty

Lisette Barton
PhD, RN, FNP-BC, CNE
Assistant Professor

Eugenia Martha Blomstrom (Ginger)
PhD, MSN, RN, CNS, P/MH
Assistant Clinical Professor

Cheryl Brohard
PhD, RN, AOCN, CHPCA, CNS-ONC
Assistant Professor

Terry D. Kirk, Ed.D., RN, NEA-BC
Associate Clinical Professor

Lee Anne Lightfoot, MSN, RN, NE-BC
Assistant Clinical Professor

Sandra McNeely, MSN, RN, CNE
Assistant Clinical Professor/RN to BSN Manager

Leslie Miles, PhD, MSN, RN
Lecturer

Earline Moreland, MSN, RN, FNP-BC
Assistant Clinical Professor

Vivian Nowazek
PhD, MSN, RN, FNP-BC, CNS-CC
Assistant Clinical Professor

Danielle Quintana, MSN, RN, CNOR
Assistant Clinical Professor

Patricia Schrader, MSN, RN, CMSRN
Assistant Clinical Professor/2nd Degree BSN Manager

Shainy Varghese
PhD, MSN, RN, CPNP
Associate Professor

Adjuncts

Deborah K. Arnold, RN, PhD(c)

Cynthia Cruz, MSN, BSN, RN

Lorraine Cull, MSN, RN

Christina Garza, MSN, RN

Sandra Kay Jenkins, PhD, R.N

Sofia A. John, MSN, RN

Barbara A. Lazor, MBA, BSN

Judy Jacob Mathew, MSN, RN

Faye Obey, MSN, RN

Wilhelmina L. Rich, MSN, RN

Esmy A. Samuel, MSN, RN

Annie Zachariah, MSN, RN
Scholarship Donors

The George Foundation
Fred and Mabel R. Parks Foundation
Gulf Coast Medical Foundation
Vivian L. Smith Foundation

Graduation and Pinning Committee

Kathryn Tart, EdD, MSN, RN
*Founding Dean and Professor*

Chelsea Price, BA
*Program Coordinator*

Crystal Hayward, BA
*Academic Advisor 1*

Joan Bauman, BS
*Senior Secretary (UH Sugar Land Campus)*

Leigh Ann Smith, BS
*Senior Secretary (UH System Cinco Ranch Campus)*

Tammy Whatley, BAAS
*Director, Student Affairs (College) (UH Victoria Campus)*
UH Nursing Pin Design Committee:

Dean Kathryn Tart (EdD ’99)
Tammy Whatley
Faiza Akhter (BSN ’15)
Taylor Demeny (BSN ’15)
Amanda Dennler (BSN ’15)
Heather Gray (BSN ’15)
Courtney Harris (BSN ’15)
Heather Haug (BSN ’15)
Teresa Hernandez
Adrienne New (BSN ’15)
Adryanne Rozo (BSN ’15)
Julie Schrader (BSN ’15)
Tricia Smith (BSN ’15)

The pin was created by the Pinning Committee in 2015. The pin was designed with thought, precision, and unity. The goals of the design were to represent the school, profession, and contribution to society. The interlocking UH in the center of the circle represents the student’s journey and partnership with the University of Houston and relationships formed along the way. The color red represents passion, advocacy, love, caring, and leadership which are values of UH nursing. The placement of the BSN or MSN on the banner represents the nursing profession and the culmination of the nursing student’s focus. The pin is a symbol of the student’s ultimate goal of earning their nursing degree.
Academic Regalia

School of Nursing

BACHELOR’S DEGREE  Tassel: Apricot
MASTER’S DEGREE  Hood: Apricot
Tassel: Black

Gold cords
Undergraduate students who complete the degree requirements with academic honors with the following grade point averages earned in the last fifty-four (54) hours completed at the University of Houston:

- **3.90 TO 4.0**  Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors)
- **3.70 TO 3.89**  Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors)
- **3.50 TO 3.69**  Cum Laude (with Honors)

Purple Cords
Sigma Theta Tau International, Phi Chi Chapter, the only international honor society in Nursing.

Red and White Cords
Spirit Cords indicating philanthropy to the School of Nursing.
The Alma Mater

All hail to thee,
Our Houston University.
Our hearts fill with gladness
When we think of thee.
We’ll always adore thee
Dear old varsity.
And to thy memory cherished,
True we’ll ever be.

Words and music by Harmony Class of 1942