

VOLUME 18 ISSUE #1

AUGUST 2026

LIFELINE

STUDENT NURSES
ASSOCIATION AT
UCF

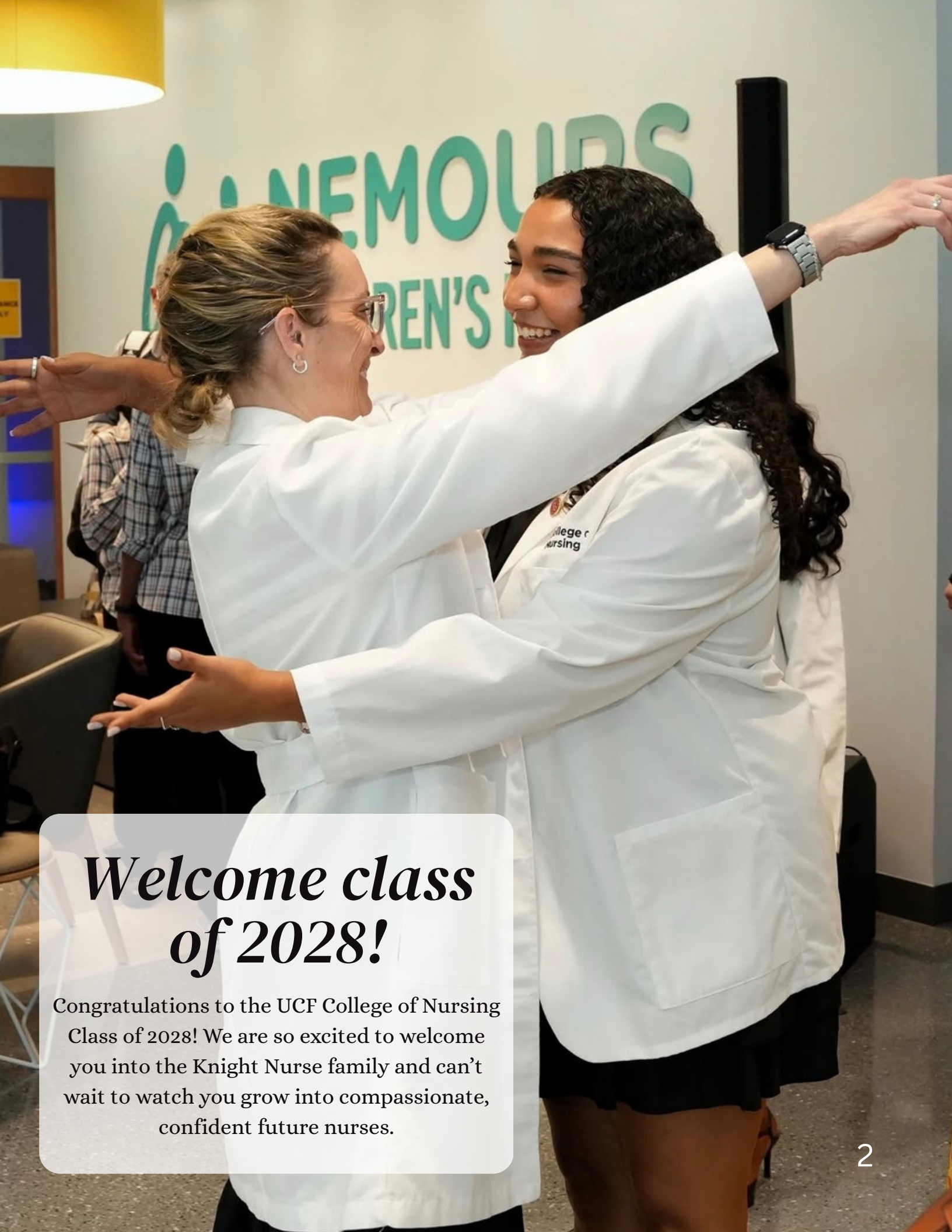
—NEWSLETTER

DR. PHILLIPS NURSING PAVILION

The Latest for UCF Nursing

By Samantha Boles,
SNA Media Director

Discover what's happening across UCF Nursing—from SNA events and service projects to leadership opportunities, member achievements, and helpful resources designed to keep you connected and inspired.



Welcome class of 2028!

Congratulations to the UCF College of Nursing Class of 2028! We are so excited to welcome you into the Knight Nurse family and can't wait to watch you grow into compassionate, confident future nurses.

*Join SNA
during the
first week
of classes!*



DONATE BLOOD

UCF College Of Nursing
Wednesday, August 26
11:30 AM - 4:30 PM

All donors receive*:

- **\$20 eGift Card**
- **Big Red Bus T-shirt**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Fact: Small Act. Big Impact.



Appointments are encouraged,
please **scan the QR code** or visit
oneblood.org/donate-now and
use sponsor code **24791**.

Donors
Receive



- PLUS -



- PLUS -



SNA BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

Everyone is welcome! Come meet SNA and connect
with fellow nursing students! 🩺 SNA members eat
FREE, and non-members can enjoy food for just \$5



AUGUST 26TH, 2026

1:30-3:30

COLLEGE OF NURSING OUTDOOR PATIO

*Follow our social media to
stay up to date on events!*

@Instagram/snaucforlando

@Linktr.ee/UCFSNA

@Https://snaucforlando.com

@Facebook/The Student Nurses

Association: UCF - Orlando

UCF Nursing in Mexico

This summer, a group of UCF nursing students traveled to Chiapas, Mexico for a study abroad experience focused on global health. We worked alongside ISEEECH nursing students, participated in community health fairs, visited hospitals and clinics, learned from traditional midwives, and explored the local culture.



One of the coolest experiences was visiting a temazcal, a traditional steam bath where some Indigenous women choose to give birth because the warm, sauna like environment resembles the womb and provides comfort during labor. We also visited the community of San Juan Chamula, where we had to respect their tradition of not taking photos inside the church. Another interesting thing we learned was that the community has one of the highest rates of Coca-Cola consumption, with many people drinking it at every meal and even using it during cultural and religious rituals. This trip gave us a better understanding of how culture, beliefs, and available resources shape healthcare and reminded us of the importance of providing culturally respectful care.

Alexandra Duran

Former Accelerated Liaison c/o 2026





Meet our New Accel Liaison

Hi everyone! My name is Isabelle Azambuja, and I am so excited and honored to serve as your Accelerated Liaison for SNA!

A little bit about me... I started my college journey at the University of Florida as a Biology major because I was convinced, I wanted to go to medical school. But somewhere along the way, God started changing my heart. I realized medicine wasn't the path He was calling me to, and I found myself at a crossroads, deciding whether to stay in Gainesville or move back home to Orlando to finish my bachelor's degree at UCF.



After moving home, I took a job in healthcare, and that's when everything changed. The more time I spent caring for people, the more I realized that nursing was exactly where I was meant to be.

People often ask me, "Why nursing instead of medical school?"

The answer is simple. My heart has always been drawn to serving others. I wanted a career where I could build meaningful relationships with patients and their families and walk alongside them during some of life's hardest and most meaningful moments.

My faith has played a huge role in that journey. I truly believe God opened the right doors at the right time and used every step of my path to lead me exactly where I was meant to be. Looking back, I'm so thankful things didn't go according to my original plan because I can't imagine myself doing anything other than nursing.



As your liaison, my goal is to help create a cohort where everyone feels welcomed, supported, and connected. Nursing school is challenging, but I truly believe we're stronger when we encourage one another, celebrate each other's successes, and remind each other why we started this journey.

Thank you for trusting me with this role! I'm so excited for everything we'll accomplish together, and I hope you'll always feel comfortable reaching out with questions, ideas, or even just to say hi. I can't wait to get to know all of you. Go Knights!

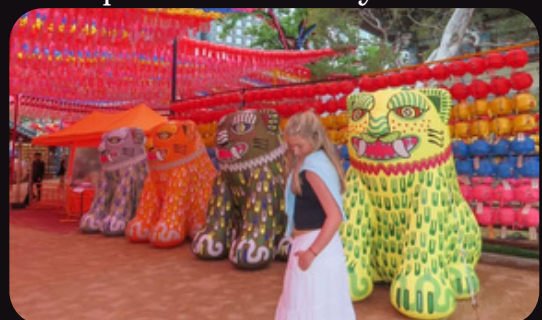
Sarah's Summer Travels

This summer, I had the opportunity to travel around Asia while taking summer nursing classes, and it ended up being one of my favorite experiences ever! I started my trip in Japan, where I explored Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka, before heading to Seoul, South Korea, and finishing in Taiwan. Each country was so different from the next, and I loved getting to experience so many new foods, traditions, and places all in one trip. Japan was definitely my favorite because every day felt so different. I loved walking through the fresh food markets, exploring the beautiful temples and gardens, and even seeing the famous deer in Nara that bow back as a sign of respect. I was also amazed by how clean, peaceful, and respectful everything felt, even in busy cities like Tokyo.

Sarah Braun



In South Korea, I visited the DMZ between North and South Korea, which was one of the most interesting parts of my trip because I learned so much about the country's history. Of course, the Korean BBQ and all of the other food lived up to the hype too! I wrapped up my travels in Taiwan, where I visited Taipei 101, ate at the original Din Tai Fung, wandered through night markets, and explored even more beautiful temples. Traveling through these three countries gave me such an appreciation for how unique every culture is, and I'm so thankful I was able to fit a trip like this into my summer!



TRAUMA CONFERENCE

At the Nicholas Dellamonico Trauma Conference, Miguel and I both learned so much! We took different tracts during the day so we each got as much learning exposure as we could. I attended speaker sessions about organ donation after trauma, flight nursing, and the importance that mobility plays after the trauma patient has been stabilized. I networked with other healthcare professionals and met lots of people in the field that I want to go into. We experienced both a pediatric and adult trauma success story and got to hear both patients' experiences and how OrlandoHealth saved their lives. Overall, it was a day full of learning, excitement, and socializing that made me excited to go into trauma once I become a registered nurse!

Hallie Schroeder
SNA President



Advent Health Internship

*With Kaya
Weinstein*

My nursing externship at AdventHealth has been one of the most transformative experiences of my nursing education. Working alongside registered nurses allowed me to connect classroom learning with real world patient care while developing confidence in my clinical skills. Every shift challenged me to strengthen my critical thinking, communication, and ability to provide compassionate, patient centered care in a fast paced environment. I assisted with activities of daily living, monitored patients, recognized changes in patient conditions, and collaborated with the interdisciplinary healthcare team. One of the most valuable aspects of my externship was the opportunity to rotate through several specialty units, including the intensive care units, which broadened my understanding of nursing and exposed me to a wide range of patient populations and levels of acuity.



This experience completely changed my perspective on what it truly means to be a nurse. It helped me discover the specialty that best aligns with my interests and strengths: the cardiovascular intensive care unit. Through the mentorship of experienced nurses and meaningful patient interactions, I developed greater confidence, stronger organizational skills, and a deeper appreciation for holistic, evidence-based care. My externship at AdventHealth has reinforced my passion for nursing and shaped the kind of nurse I aspire to become; one who delivers exceptional care with compassion, integrity, and a lifelong commitment to patients and their families.

Schedule

2026 Football

UCF	09/03	vs.	Bethune-Cookman
Pitt	09/12	at	Pitt
Georgia	09/19	vs.	Georgia State
TCU	09/26	vs.	TCU
UH	10/03	at	Houston
OSU	10/10	at	Oklahoma State
BYU	10/24	vs.	BYU
Baylor	10/31	vs.	Baylor
Kansas	11/07	at	Kansas
Arizona	11/14	vs.	Arizona State
Iowa	11/21	vs.	Iowa State
Colorado	11/28	at	Colorado

Knights
Out

TOP SECRET

Board Members



Hallie Schroeder

President



Lucy Bisceglia

Legislative
Director



Samantha Boles

Media Director



Angelia Salazar

Community
Health Director



Isabelle Azambuja

Accelerated
Liaison



Adriana Sullivan

Historian

Board Members



Miguel
Salgado Varela

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Nursing Director



Kathy Nguyen

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Director



Gabby Poulson-
Valdez

Secretary



Nick Maiorino

Vice President



Ivy Yego

Treasurer



Valeria Cruise

Merchandise
Director

Advisors



Brian Peach

Advisor



Kate Dormitory

Advisor

FALL ++++ ++++ GBM Schedule

Wednesday,
September 30th



Wednesday,
October 28th



Wednesday,
November 18th



EDITORS PIECE



As we begin a new semester, I've spent some time reflecting on a summer filled with meaningful experiences. From beginning my Honors Thesis and completing my nurse externship at Orlando Health to continuing my work at Orangetheory and collaborating with our SNA leadership team, each opportunity has contributed to my growth as both a student and future nurse. I'm excited to see what this year has in store for our chapter. As you read through this issue, don't forget to visit our newly redesigned website at www.snaucforlando.com for events, resources, and chapter updates.

Until next time,
Samantha Boles

Want to be featured in the next Newsletter? Send me an email at ucfsnaorlwebmaster@gmail.com