



Lambda Beta Newsletter

Spring 2023

The National Honor Society for the Profession of Respiratory Care

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A Message from the President

by Nancy Latimer, PhD, RRT



As we welcome 2023, I am honored to serve the Lambda Beta Society as President. I would like to thank our past President Susan Blonshine and the NBRC Executive Secretary Debbie Farrow for their support during this transition in leadership.

I've been an educator for the past 20 years and a therapist for over 30 years. Currently, I serve as the Department Chair of the Respiratory Care Program and Bachelor's in Cardiopulmonary Sciences at Palm Beach State College. I began our Lambda Beta Chapter in 2009 and have had the pleasure of serving on the Board since 2019. As a profession, respiratory care has always been resilient.

Improvise, adapt, overcome was our mantra and the last couple of years have demonstrated that. A few years ago, many new students would say they chose respiratory care because they wanted to get into healthcare but weren't sure of exactly what it entailed. For a few, it was because either they or someone they knew was affected by lung disease. Now after all the publicity surrounding COVID-19, I'm getting a very different response. Our profession is a vital part of the healthcare team. As I head towards retirement, I look at my graduating class and review transcripts for Lambda Beta nominations and feel hopeful about the future of respiratory care.

One of my initiatives during my presidency is to focus on the marketing of the Lambda Beta Society. Only a third of CoARC-accredited respiratory therapy programs have Lambda Beta chapters and nominate their top students. Many program directors are unaware that we are the national honor society for Respiratory Care Students. Belonging to this organization offers so many benefits, such as the recognition of students' and faculties' achievements, graduating with honors, and listing Lambda Beta on curriculum vitae. Lambda Beta also offers four scholarship opportunities: Frederic Helmholtz, MD Scholarship, CoARC Stephen P. Mikles, EdD, RRT, FAARC Media Award, NBRC Leadership Award, and our newest Brad Leidich Memorial Scholarship. The Leidich scholarship will be presented to a first-generation student enrolled in an associate degree program in respiratory therapy, who has shown exemplary academic performance and has demonstrated a commitment to his/her career goals, and scholarly and community activities in respiratory care.

In closing, I would like to express my personal gratitude to our Board for their dedication, talent, and support. As we move forward, I would also like to thank you, fellow educators, for your continued dedication, talent, and support of the respiratory students and the future leaders of our profession.

Best wishes,
Nancy Latimer, PhD, RRT
President, Lambda Beta Society



Welcome New Members

Abdullahi Hassan	Connie Pieper	Hanna Dutt	Kimberly Morales Orellana	Michell O'Shea
Abisola Olanrewaju	Danajia McGee	Hannah Baker	Kira Nogueira	Michelle Nguyen
Adrianna Pineda	Daniel Everett	Harli Chapman	Kristen Castellanoz	Mitchell O'Shea
Ahmed Albrahrani	Daniella Chan	Hope Geis	Kristi Hammond	My Diem Le
Alek Geho	Danielle Thompson	Jamecia Miller	Kristina Velez	Nadusib Haynes
Alex Nee	Demetria Johnson	James Nagel	Kristina Ramirez	Nehan Waseem
Alex Smith	Dennis Cline	Jamie Beer	Kristina Fertig	Noah Cline
Alexandra Swavel	Derek Coffman	Jared Bultemeyer	Krystal Rivera	Norma Pineda
Alexys Bell	Destiny Massey	Jason Moavero	Kyle Lamers	Oliva McAdams
Alyssa Bollard	Drew Landgrave	Jayde Stubbs	Laura Kreitzman	Patrick McGraw
Amaro Sunga	Dylan Lowrey	Jemima Harrington	Lisa Sutton	Paul Karabelas
Ameel Gajjo	Eduardo Rodriguez	Jenna Shelley	Logan Miller	Philip Defort
Amy Cofar	Elena Sierra	Jeremy Jackson	Louise Llamoso	Rachel Tamblyn
Angela Owenby	Elizabeth Pineda	Jerry Fluermé	Lyndsey Newman	Rafa Salsabil
Arzu Gilmanova	Elizabeth McDonald	Jessica Smith	Maria Quijano	Rafael Rabelo
Ashley Brewer	Emily Ferguson	Jesus Dominguez	Mario Cruz	Ramey Marietta
Audrianna Fitzwilliam	Emily Mullinnex	Jill Balsly	Marion Principe	Reagan Frantz
Ayana Gurel	Emma Williams	Joan Kreiger	Mark Jay Almazan	Rebecca Chen
Ayat Alsanawi	Erfan Heydari	Jodie Schoch	Martisha Greer	Reece Charles
Baylee St Pierre	Erika Ramon	John Sadlo	Martiza Flores	Remington Wade
Benjamin McQuiston	Erin Harrison	Jose Gonzalez Villegas	Mary Curtis	Reyes Villalovos
Benjamin Rondy	Ernestina Amankona	Joseph Baker	Mary Fe Lloyd	Reyna Vizcaino
Bethany Clemons	Esraa Al Ramadhan	Joshua Harbin	Maryann de Thomas de Labarthe	Reynaldo Montemayor
Brandy Weingartner	Fabiola Verrier	Joshua Jordan	Matthew Pepkowski	Rilyn DeRosa
Brianna Parker	Fai AlBuainain	Joshua Stevens	Matthieu Forh	Rina Noorani
Brianna Espinoza	Faith May	Julia Ellsworth	Mattie McGrath	Rizky Riyanto
Bruce Gunnoe	Falene Paul	Juliana Mancino	Mauricio Gonzalez	Rochele Goh
Caitlin Rutan	Francesca Bendas	Kacie Bailey	Mayra Trujillo	Roseann Rapa
Caleb Burgess	Gabriella Guevara	Kaih Cuatok	Meagan Hamm	Rosemary Diaz
Caroline Baxter	Genesis Thomas	Kaitlynn Trent	Megan Markwardt	Sadeem Almarshood
Chan Xi	Genesis Martinez	Kaleigh McClure	Meghan Smith	Samantha Burns
Charles Satterfield	Gisselle Salgado	Kandace Robinson	Melissa Ash	Samantha Garza
Charmaine Towns	Gracie Bonner	Karen Diaz	Melissa Gallegos	Sandra Quintero
Christella Rejour	Grant Peters	Kari Lance	Melody Kloepper	Sandy Barrios
Christopher Beaver	Gregory Grice	Karli Turner	Mena Metia	Scot Tupper
Christopher Wiloth	Guillian Dimalanta	Karrie Bluck Lauvray	Mercedes Martinez	Shawna Hauck
Christopher Gore	Hailey Davidson	Kathleen Knowles	Merna Youhanna	Sheeba Kalvin
Claire Lonsbury	Haley Jones	Katie Leon	Micheala Miller	Stella Hong
Clarissa Menchaca	Haley Adams	Kelly Garcia		Stephen Rubinosky



Welcome New Members (cont.)

Susana Gaumer
Talia Wadsworth
Taryn Henry
Taylor Homan
Taylor Wise

Tedson Beaubrun
Thelma Ortiz
Thephaphonh Lounbandith
Toni Tucker
Tracey Dillion

Travis Foster
Trinity McGlowen
Tyler Smith
Valeria LoRusso
Vanessa Gonzalez

Victoria Ayala
Yaser Alshareif
Zachary Cave
Zachary Stephens
Zachery Bailey

Zackery Garmon
Zurielys Medina

Welcome New Chapters

Welcome to all of our new chapters! Thank you for forming a new chapter at your institution and joining us.

NEW CHAPTERS

Carrington College - Phoenix, AZ
Carlow University - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Want to start your own chapter?
[Click here for more information.](#)

The Lambda Beta Society would love to pay tribute to chapters and inform the membership of ongoing programs and achievements by highlighting one or more noteworthy items from our chapters and its members. Please send us your news items, pictures, and accomplishments so we may recognize you.

Each year, the Lambda Beta Society honors one individual with National Honorary Membership. This honor is reserved for an individual who has made an outstanding contribution nationally to the progress and/or development of the art, science, literature or public understanding of respiratory care. National Honorary members can be nominated by any member or chapter. Watch for the Call for Nominations email which will be sent out in early August.





2023 Lambda Beta Society Scholarships and Awards

The Lambda Beta Society is pleased to announce the 2023 Scholarship and Awards Program. Any student currently matriculated in a respiratory care program at a CoARC-accredited school can apply for any of these awards. Students do not have to be a member of the Lambda Beta Society to apply for any of these scholarships. We currently offer four (4) scholarships/awards. Each has a different set of criteria and dollar amounts. Below is a link to the application and a brief explanation of each of these awards. Additional information on how to prepare a good application can also be found on our website under Scholarships and Awards.

H. Frederick Helmholtz, MD Scholarship - Up to \$2,500

This scholarship is presented on the merit of an independent, original narrative review of literature related to the practice of respiratory care and must comply with the application requirements and deadline.

[Click here to apply.](#)

CoARC Stephen P. Mikles, EdD, RRT, FAARC Media Award - Up to \$2,000

This award is sponsored by CoARC and is presented on the merits of an original presentation of electronic slides in PowerPoint or another presentation format, video presentation, or other presentation relevant to respiratory care and must comply with the application requirements and deadline.

[Click here to apply.](#)

NBRC Leadership Award - Up to \$2,000

This award will be presented to a student who has shown exemplary leadership in their educational career as well as volunteer and community service.

[Click here to apply.](#)

Brad Leidich Memorial Scholarship - Up to \$1,500

This award will be presented to a first-generation student enrolled in an associate degree program in respiratory therapy, who has shown exemplary academic performance, and has demonstrated a commitment to his/her career goals, and scholarly and community activities in respiratory care.

[Click here to apply.](#)

These awards also include \$750 in travel expenses and full registration to this year's International Congress. All awards will be presented at the International Congress. It is not necessary to be present to receive an award, however, you will need to attend the International Congress to receive the travel expenses and full registration.

All applications must be submitted no later than May 31, 2023. If you have questions, please contact the Executive Office at 913.440.4475 or lambdabeta@nbrc.org.



Chapter Feature: University of Michigan - Flint

by Nicholas A. Prush, PhD, MHA, RRT, RRT-ACCS
Program Director & Clinical Assistant Professor



The University of Michigan-Flint (UM-Flint), part of the world-renowned University of Michigan, is a regional comprehensive university located in the heart of Flint, Michigan. UM-Flint is a vibrant and diverse learning community consistently recognized for academic distinction and superb value. Named one of the “Best in the Midwest” by the Princeton Review for 16 consecutive years, UM-Flint offers more than 120 undergraduate and 35 graduate programs with a 13:1 faculty-student ratio. With flexible, personalized coursework enhanced by hands-on, engaged learning opportunities, UM-Flint students graduate ready to lead and succeed in all situations.

UM-Flint has a long, distinguished history with a first-class academic reputation, and the College of Health Sciences (CHS) reflects this long tradition of excellence. CHS is an active part of the community, with over \$9 million in external grant funding across various projects and the Cultural Competencies Project that promotes diversity in the health professions. In addition, the



UM-Flint offers a wide selection of off-campus healthcare resources giving students first-hand experience of the exciting challenges and rewarding opportunities that await. Students use modern tools and technology, and graduates enter the field with one of the most highly respected degrees in the nation - a University of Michigan diploma.

BSRT Program

The UM-Flint Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy (BSRT) program is a degree advancement program designed for individuals who have graduated from a CoARC-accredited respiratory therapy program with an associate’s degree. This



Chapter Feature: University of Michigan - Flint (cont.)

unique curriculum is entirely online and designed to provide a natural transition from an associate degree to a baccalaureate degree and reflects the commitment of the respiratory therapy profession to increase entry-level standards to the baccalaureate level. The BSRT Program at the UM-Flint allows therapists the opportunity to study advanced respiratory care in specialty areas, such as critical care, disease management and diagnostics. Additionally, graduates can gain employment as advanced clinicians, administrators and educators. The program helps prepare students to sit for the Neonatal Pediatric Specialty (NPS), Adult Critical Care Specialty (ACCS), Registered Pulmonary Function Technologist Specialty (RPFT), and Sleep Disorders Specialty (SDS) credentials, all awarded by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC). The 30-credit hour program includes didactic coursework (online) and a capstone project that can be completed in one year. Admission into the program is on a rolling basis, and students can start the program during fall, winter, or spring semesters.

Faculty



Nicholas A. Prush, PhD, MHA, RRT, RRT-ACCS, is the founding Program Director and Clinical Assistant Professor for the UM-Flint Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy (BSRT) degree advancement program. Nicholas received his respiratory therapy training from Henry Ford Community College, where he graduated with an AAS in 2003. He obtained his Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) from Siena Heights University in 2008 and a Master of Health Administration (MHA) from Eastern Michigan University in 2014. He obtained his PhD in Healthcare Administration from Walden University in 2020. Nicholas began teaching at Oakland Community College with their respiratory therapy program as an Adjunct Professor. Most recently, he taught at Monroe County Community College for seven years, four years as the Director of Clinical Education, and three years as the Program Director. Nicholas is an active member of the Michigan Society for Respiratory Care (MSRC), serving as the AARC Delegate, the MSRC Conference Co-Chair, and the Sputum Bowl Committee Chair. His research interests include Interprofessional Education (IPE) and COPD readmission penalty reduction.

Shane J. Spaulding, MHPE, RRT, is a Leo Lecturer for the UM-Flint Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Therapy (BSRT) degree advancement program. He received respiratory therapy training at Monroe County Community College in Southeastern Michigan. Shane obtained his BA from the College of William and Mary and earned his MHPE (Health Professions Education) from Michigan State University. Before joining the UM-Flint, he taught for seven years at the Monroe County Community College, three of them as the DCE for the program. Shane brings a student-centered, community-engaged approach to his educational philosophy.





Chapter Feature: University of Michigan - Flint (cont.)

Student Admission Requirements

The UM-Flint BSRT Program is seeking students who meet the minimum requirements for admission. The following is necessary for acceptance into our program:

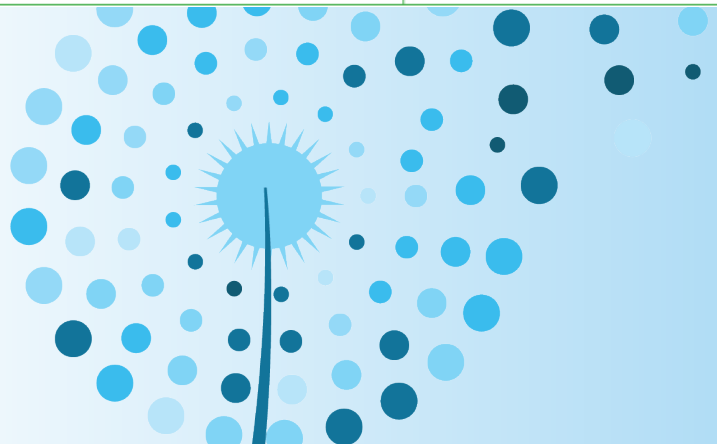
- Associate degree from a CoARC-accredited respiratory therapy program.
- Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) credential with the ability to matriculate to the Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential by the Capstone course awarded by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC).

Sample Part-Time Curriculum

	Fall	Winter	Spring/Summer
Year 1	WRSP 300 BSRT Seminar (3 credits)	RSP 320 Management & Leadership in Respiratory Care (3 credits)	HCR 304 Ethics of Health Care (3 credits)
	RSP 400 Advanced Adult Critical Care (3 credits)	PHS 247 Public Health Statistics (3 credits)	RSP 335 Research in Respiratory Care (3 credits)
Load	6 Credits	6 Credits	6 Credits
	Fall	Winter	Spring/Summer
Year 2	WRSP 300 BSRT Seminar (3 credits)	RSP 340 Quality Systems & Health Outcomes (3 credits)	
	RSP 330 Patient Education / Disease Management (3 credits)	RSP 435 Respiratory Capstone (3 credits)	
Load	6 Credits	6 Credits	

Contact Information

Nicholas A. Prush, PhD, MHA, RRT, RRT-ACCS
 Program Director & Clinical Assistant Professor
 Respiratory Therapy Program
 Email: naprush@umich.edu
 Phone: 734.915.7504





Where Are They Now?

*Winner Spotlight Q&A With Jennifer Thompson, RRT
by Amanda Dexter, MS, RRT, RCP, CHSE*

Jennifer Thompson graduated from Kalamazoo Valley Community College in April 2020. Following graduation, she quickly began her respiratory therapy career during the global COVID-19 pandemic working for three wonderful hospitals: Bronson Methodist Hospital, Ascension Borgess Hospital, and University of Michigan Health-West, as an adult critical care respiratory therapist. Currently, Jennifer works as a respiratory therapist for Advent Home Medical. She spends quality time with mechanically ventilated patients in their homes or at local clinics providing comfort and ease of breathing to ALS & neuromuscular disease populations.



Why did you choose a respiratory therapy education/educational program?

I chose to join the respiratory therapy field because I enjoy helping others, and I knew this career choice was my calling. Respiratory therapy truly is an art, where we can use our multiple patient care skills and vast cardiopulmonary knowledge to assist a variety of patients to breathe easier.

What piece of advice would you give to current respiratory therapy students?

Remember to always take a moment when you start to feel overwhelmed and just breathe, you've got this! While you're currently in a challenging educational program and joining a demanding career field, it's very rewarding.

What was most memorable to you about your experiences in a respiratory therapy education program?

All the laughter and learning I shared with my classmates. There was a lot of blood, sweat and tears throughout our educational journey together, but the most memorable part was the bond created between all of us. On day one of the respiratory therapy program, we walked in as strangers, and 730 days (two years) later we walked out as a family. My classmates and I were confidently and competently ready to spread our wings and embrace the COVID-19 pandemic together.

How has your education impacted your professional life?

My respiratory therapy education has helped me to become a valuable member of the patient care team. My career choice allows me to help patients recover from their ailments or die with dignity.

What is the most valuable information you learned while you were in respiratory therapy school?

My education taught me to just breathe. When work gets busy and overwhelming, which it always does, respiratory therapists must be the ones who stay cool, calm and collected. RTs are like ducks peacefully floating on chaotic waters — from the surface it appears the ducks are relaxed and unaffected by the current, but beneath the surface little webbed feet are frantically paddling to maintain composure. RTs must be the ones who help sustain a calm atmosphere in the healthcare setting.

What do you enjoy the most about the respiratory therapy field?

I enjoy respiratory therapists' teamwork. While our profession is relatively small, we are an extremely necessary allied health field. One of my favorite quotes says, "Save 1 life — you're a hero, save 100 lives- you're a nurse, save 100 nurses- you're a respiratory therapist."



Associate of Applied Science
in Respiratory Care



Where Are They Now? (cont.)

Where has your job taken you? Describe your career path.

Following graduation, my job began in adult critical care. I became a comprehensive respiratory therapist working for three hospitals at the same time. I am so grateful for the knowledge and skills I gained from those experiences. The challenges I faced and lessons I learned during the global respiratory pandemic (COVID-19), led me to at-home mechanical ventilation. I now provide specialized care for pediatric through geriatric patients suffering with all respiratory ailments requiring NIV or trach care via a ventilator.

How did you hear about the Lambda Beta Society? In your opinion, what are the benefits of a Lambda Beta Society membership?

I learned about the Lambda Beta Society through my respiratory therapy educational program. It is beneficial for RTs to become members of the LB society because it's important for all of us to support our profession, as well as future learners joining in this amazing, allied health field. Thank you to the Lambda Beta Society for all that you do and your generous donations towards helping RT students achieve their academic and professional goals.

Lambda Beta Memorabilia

We offer two ways to proudly display your membership in the Lambda Beta Society.

Gold Plated Honor Pin (Lambda Beta Logo) - \$20

Honor Cords (Lambda Beta Colors) - \$20

Prices do not include shipping charges.

To order, [Click Here](https://www.lambdabeta.org) to go to [Lambdabeta.org](https://www.lambdabeta.org)





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Palm Beach Gardens, FL

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TBD

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