

Beth Fentress Hallmark, RN, MSN, PhD(C)

Director of Simulation, College of Health Sciences at Belmont



Beth is a native of Nashville, Tennessee. Beth graduated from Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama with her Associates Degree in December of 1986. She returned home to work at Baptist Hospital on a pediatric floor and continue her education. In 1989 she graduated with her BSN from Belmont College.

Subsequent to her graduation she went to work at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital on a pediatric surgical floor. She returned to school in 1992 to pursue her Master's in Child and Family Nursing at Vanderbilt. Working weekends in Children's Hospital she completed her course work in December of 1994. In the 1994, she took the position as Clinical Nurse Specialist for Pediatric Surgery at Vanderbilt where she worked full time until her first child was born in September of 1995, after returning from maternity leave she job shared until August of 1996. At that time she began as an Instructor of Child and Family Nursing at Belmont University. She held this position until the fall of 2006 when she was named Lab Director at Belmont. In the Fall of 2009 she was named Director of Simulation for the College of Health Sciences at Belmont.

Beth has been married to Brian Hallmark for 20 years and has two wonderful children; Allison who is 14 years old and Mack who is 11 years old. She is very involved in their school with the mom's prayer ministry there as well as room mother and other duties as assigned!

At Belmont Beth has been very involved in technology integration in the curriculum serving as chair of the Educational Resources committee, College Simulation group, School of Nursing Lab Committee and serves on the curriculum committee. At the College level she serves on the Engaged Scholars Committee, and has served as Faculty Representative to the Honor Court.

She has helped integrate simulation into the College where currently she is working with Pharmacy, OT, PT, Nursing and Social Work to develop a vision for simulation education at the college level. In 2009 Beth received the Debra Spunt INACSL Research Mini grant. She is currently completing her dissertation entitled: The Effect of Faculty Debriefing Training on the Achievement and Satisfaction of Pre-licensure Nursing Students Participating in Simulation. She will present her research findings this summer at INACSL. In 2008-2009 she was project director for the NLN AHA Laerdal Heart Code Study. Some unique simulation events she has helped implement at Belmont include using high fidelity simulation to replace 3 clinical rotations in psychiatric nursing, ELNEC based death and dying simulations, and the use of QSEN in debriefing and simulation. Currently Belmont has 2-8 bed labs, 1-7 bed acute care lab, and an OB PEDS lab. In the fall we will have two additional spaces expanding our Peds/OB space to an 8 bed unit, adding a health assessment 8 bed lab, and 4 interdisciplinary simulation rooms that will be used for both mannequin based simulation and standardized patients.

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