

More Valuable Than Riches

After graduating from the University of Georgia in 2003 with a degree in French and speech communication, I had a great opportunity to work in a rural physician's family practice. I was trained as a medical assistant by a very patient RN with over 50 years of nursing experience. The 71-year-old nurse ran circles around all of us in the office. Working beside her truly changed my life. Her guidance and expertise that she generously poured into me and watching her care every day for people who respected and trusted her was a pivotal inspiration.

During my employment at the doctor's office, I began to consider the field of public health. I was accepted into the MPH program at Tulane University and moved to New Orleans ... two weeks before Hurricane Katrina hit on the first day of classes.

The Johns Hopkins University graciously opened its doors to me and many other students who were displaced by the hurricane. After attending the Bloomberg School of Public Health for one quarter, I walked into the School of Nursing—and have not looked back. The people at the school were open, receptive, and encouraging. Nursing itself allows me a foundation to give compassionate and holistic care to patients, and to contribute to the change of an individual's life. I believe everything happens for a reason, and the School of Nursing is exactly where I am supposed to be.

After completing the accelerated baccalaureate nursing program in July, I will work as a nurse clinician in the ICU at Johns Hopkins Hospital while beginning the Johns Hopkins MSN program in Fall 2008. In my opinion, education is more valuable than many other riches because knowledge can travel with a person no matter the location or distance. I am excited about having this opportunity at one of the finest schools in the world and am doing my best to make the most out of this incredible experience.

I would eventually love to apply my nursing knowledge with my previous degree in French to serve French-speaking countries in Africa. The Accelerated Program has already provided an opportunity to combine my interests in French and nursing—as a student in the Public Health Nursing course conducted in Haiti, where French and Creole are spoken. Thanks in part to the Judith Franklin Campbell Scholarship, I am growing in my ability to contribute to people's lives and am striving to become a leader in the field of nursing.

—Jessa Pardue, Accelerated '07



The Judith Franklin Campbell Scholarship was established in 1998 by the Campbell Foundation, Mrs. Judith Campbell '60, SPSBE '68, and her husband, Mr. William Campbell. Ms. Campbell has worked as a home-health nurse in the Baltimore area and has served on the National Advisory Council for Johns Hopkins Nursing for the past 20 years.

JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

School of Nursing

