

## **Index of Interview #2 – Interviewed April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

00:00:02

Introduction, permission, and verbal consent from Jennifer Sipe to conduct and conclude interview. I recap the last interview session and explain that the goal for session two is to dig deeper into Jennifer's La Salle experience.

### **TEACHING AT LA SALLE**

00:00:52

Jennifer explains that when she first started teaching as an adjunct at La Salle, she began teaching medical surgery. She describes the shock in preparing for her class, and the rush to put everything together. At the same time, Jennifer had a full time job in New Jersey as an administrator.

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Jennifer goes into details about her first day teaching. She recalls students taking about her on the elevator which made her felt like an imposter the first night teaching at La Salle since she was a La Salle graduate student herself.

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Jennifer explains the challenges in leading students in the classroom. Jennifer says the students tried to influence her as an adjunct professor. She adds on by stating that she had to be firm with the students from day one in order for them not to influence her.

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Jennifer went to from being an adjunct to full time professor very quickly. She says she was offered a job (spring of 2004) because of a demand for more teachers in the nursing program. Jennifer took on 12 credits of teaching and attended weekly meetings.

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While teaching Jennifer began to take classes at Drexel University and wasn't sure if she was going to stay in academics. At the time Jennifer had a different mindset of where she was going to go. Jennifer described her time at Drexel as wonderful. She enjoyed the classes and the variety topics she studied. Jennifer valued that time but ultimately stayed at La Salle.

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Jennifer realized that she wanted to continue teaching and pursue a PHD that suited her career aspirations for nursing education.

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“The classes were small back then.....”, Jennifer describes her class’s back in 2004. Classroom sizes were about 20- 30. Jennifer describes the need for smaller classroom size and the demand in the Philadelphia region for them.

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Jennifer explains the common mistakes healthcare students make. She explains that students start late and do not engage the material early on. All the testing in health care studies is application based. Jennifer explains this distinction.

00:11:56

Jennifer explains the technology she uses in the classroom.

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Jennifer describes the Strategies for Success Grant and its impact on providing resources for nursing and health care students. Jennifer also stresses the importance of the nursing laboratory center on the third floor of the Benilde building. This floor houses all clinical resources on La Salle campus. Students have the opportunity to experience, perform, and practice nursing skills when in this laboratory center. Jennifer explains that training is done for safety reasons and is designed to better prepare the students.

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Jennifer remarks on the similarities and differences between her teaching style and her colleagues. A similarity in the staff as Jennifer describes, all of her colleagues use their own experiences to better prepare their students. One way Jennifer differs from her colleagues is that she uses practice questions weekly to enhance her classroom. Jennifer explains the affects her practice questions have on her students, and also her methodology behind using them in class to enhance learning.

00:19:09

Jennifer enlightens us on her favorite classes she likes to teach at La Salle. Jennifer loves pharmacology because it contains critical information needed for nurses in the field. Pharmacology to Jennifer is always something new. Seminar is also another favorite of Jennifer’s because she gets to see the progress her students have made during their time at La Salle.

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“I get impressed all the time....” Jennifer states that her students always find ways to impress her. Jennifer marvels at how her evening students who are adults are able to take on life (full-

time Job, etc.) and school at the same time. Jennifer also discusses when students are disappointed in themselves and their performances.

## **DIVERISTY**

00:24:14

Jennifer describes the role diversity plays in her classroom and on the La Salle campus. Jennifer feels that diversity enhances the classroom because it helps health care professionals and that nurse at La Salle recognizes their differences (race, gender, orientation, etc.). Jennifer also revisits her point from session one on how nursing is a female dominated profession. Jennifer stresses the importance of males in the classroom and how male students add to the diversity of the classroom. Jennifer also adds that the La Salle nursing program exposes students to different people and experiences.

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Jennifer addresses the difference the La Salle nursing and health care experience gives compared to its competition (other nursing programs in the Philadelphia area). Jennifer believes La Salle's mission statement is what makes it stand out. Jennifer also discusses the challenges the La Salle nursing school faces. The primary challenge that Jennifer explains which every year for students and staff is keeping up with materials and maintaining/balancing mind content.

00:31:34

Jennifer describes how nursing students at La Salle apply to hospitals for work and to gain internship type experience. Jennifer adds on in follow-up that the lab experiences and technician roles give students real experience with patients and to prioritize their time.

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Jennifer describes key hospitals that play vital roles in developing the nursing students at La Salle. Einstein Hospital, as Jennifer explains has been an important partner in helping place students in the field. Other area hospitals include Abington, Holy Redeemer, Doylestown, St. Mary's, etc. All of the whom are critical for maintaining to La Salle's nursing program and Jennifer explains that these hospital partnerships are critical in developing La Salle nursing students.

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Jennifer discusses clinical and its importance is stressed heavily. Jennifer states that clinical is a time when health care and nursing students translate their classroom knowledge into the field. Clinical as Jennifer puts it is "critical". Jennifer explains that clinical is where students work their knowledge into real life experiences. She also adds that if students can't perform in clinical the student will receive an F and fail the course. Clinical shows Jennifer if a student is ready for field. Jennifer also discusses the outcomes and reasons why students fail clinical.

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Jennifer states that she is motivated by her students because like herself she holds them to very high standards.

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Jennifer has a subscription to the Journal of Nurse Practitioners and read constantly. Since the information of medicine change so fast Jennifer reads journals because unlike textbooks new information comes out more frequently. Jennifer also explains what website she follows. One website she follows and get emails alerts from The Institution of Safe Medical Alerts and the FDA. Jennifer explains that by following these websites and receiving email alerts it allows her to practice safer medicine and nursing.

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Jennifer likes going to medical conferences because they are topical based. Conferences in the medical field to Jennifer tend to be helpful because they are great networking areas and great places to be exposed to new information.

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Jennifer praises her colleagues at La Salle for inspiring her to continue her own education. Dr. Zane Wolf was one person at La Salle who played a critical part in inspiring Jennifer to pursue a PHD in Health Policy from the University of Sciences. Jennifer explains what health policy is and why she believes her teaching it at La Salle will play a critical role in the years to come.

00:45:01

Jennifer discusses ongoing partnerships with other department at La Salle to deliver interprofessionalism programs. Jennifer discusses the new opportunities interprofessionalism programs have brought to La Salle. Jennifer also describes new changes to simulation programs and how they are enhancing the nursing program at La Salle. Jennifer also mentions the recent hiring of a full-time member who now is at the simulation center daily. Nursing Students now have more opportunities to simulate and practice more on campus.

## **THOUGHTS ON NEW PRESIDENT**

00:46:55

Jennifer shares her thoughts on the new president (Colleen M. Hanycz, Ph.D). She interested that the president is a women and excited to work with her. Jennifer is excited to welcome her and see what she bring to La Salle in the future.

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Jennifer gives her thoughts on the legacy of women at La Salle. Jennifer doesn't see as different because 80 percent of her department is female. Jennifer explains that she has always been accustomed to working with women so she doesn't see a difference.

### **WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LA SALLIAN**

00:49:20

Jennifer describes what it means to be a La Sallian. As an educator, Jennifer believes it means meeting people where they are and delivering the education in way which they can understand. Jennifer also goes into different ways she plans to do more of the mission based programs at La Salle once she is finished with her PHD. Jennifer explains that the nursing program every year goes different parts of the world on missions to aid other country. Jennifer wants to go on these trips once she is done her PHD so she can fulfill this part of the La Salle mission.

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Jennifer adds on that one of the ways she applies the La Salle mission to her professional life is by serving as the chair person for Hands for Life. Hands for Life is a non-profit organization that provides medical services to women in Sierra Leone. Jennifer adds that that this group currently is aiding and fundraising in order to combat the Ebola crisis in Sierra Leone. In future Jennifer looks forward in future to perform more service and getting more involved with the community.

### **CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW**

00:53:04

I asked Jennifer if there was anything else she would like to add for the record, and she answers no I think that is it. I thanked for her time and for sharing her story for the record. I added we look forward to hearing from you soon. She replied, "Your Welcome"

### **END OF SECOND INTERVIEW SESSION AND RECORDING**

00:53:25