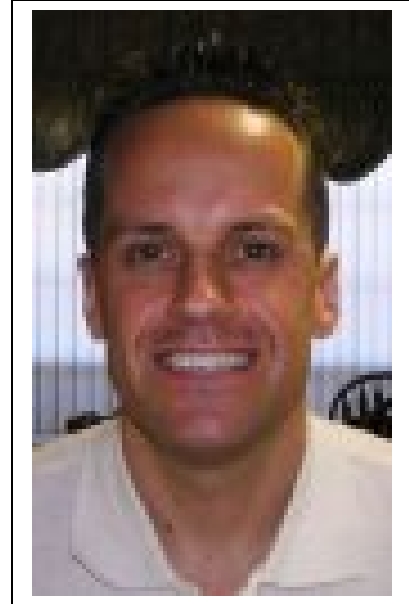


## Meet Jonathan Decker, MSN, APRN . . .

Jonathan Decker has always had a drive to help others. To fulfill this passion, he decided to become a nurse, a career that would continuously allow him to make a positive impact on the lives of others. However, after practicing for a number of years, Jonathan decided that he wanted to give back to the profession that has given so much to him. He decided to rededicate his life to the training of future generations of nurses as well as to the status of nursing as a scientific discipline, through research. With the help of the University of Central Florida's (UCF) Title VIII funded Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship grant, his dream is becoming a reality. Funding from the grant has allowed him to attend school full time, without worrying about how to fund his education. Jonathan is currently working full-time on his dissertation research as a doctoral candidate. In addition, he is working within the College of Nursing as a Graduate Teaching Assistant and a Graduate Research Assistant on an NIH funded research study.



*“In order to fully immerse myself in my doctoral program, I need to attend school full time. With the help of UCF’s Title VIII grant, I can do this without worrying about how to fund my studies.”*

### About the Program

- The Title VIII Nursing Education grants provide a federal focus to the supply and distribution of qualified nurses.
- UCF receives grant funding for Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships. This funding is used to help students fund their educations.
- Students participating in the Nursing Doctoral program must do significant coursework as well as internships and clinical work to receive their degree. In addition, all students are required to do extensive research for their dissertation.
- More information about the UCF Nursing PhD program can be found at:  
<http://www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/programs/Program.aspx?ID=1358>

### The Effect of Funding Cuts. . .

- Without Title VIII Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship grant funding, many nurses who are thinking about pursuing an advanced degree may decide that the financial burden is too great, and may postpone their further education, possibly indefinitely.
- Many potential nurse educators may realize that they cannot take courses full time, extending the length of time it takes to add more educators to the workforce.
- Our country has a critical shortage of nurses. A large problem for the nursing community is the lack of qualified and trained practitioners to serve as faculty for nursing programs. Without traineeship funding, many potential educators may be lost.



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