The Simulation Training and Applied Research (STAR) Center replicates a diverse realistic patient care setting for healthcare students to practice a cardiac arrest scenario.

Inter-professional Collaboration:
Jacksonville University and Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences (BRCHS) programs with simulation experiences in the STAR Center include:

- Keigwin School of Nursing: graduate and undergraduate programs
- Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Occupational Therapy
- Theater Arts, Nursing, CSD, MHC and OT inter-professional course: Acting for the Healthcare Sciences
- Biology

Who We Are

The Jacksonville University Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences STAR Center enhances critical thinking and psychomotor skills that are fundamental to health science students’ knowledge for the delivery of patient care in a simulated environment. The simulation experience creates a positive, safe learning environment that builds students’ confidence, communication techniques, assessment skills, clinical skills proficiency, and critical thinking abilities for varying levels of patient acuity that are representative of an actual healthcare delivery setting.

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Mission Statement

The Stimulation Training and Applied Research (STAR) Center at the Jacksonville University Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences provides students with invaluable experiential learning that complements our inter-disciplinary course curriculum. The STAR Center provides a safe and conducive learning environment that utilizes simulation to create a realistic learning experience for students that includes the incorporation of culturally diverse, interpersonal communication skills, teamwork, clinical assessment, and skill proficiency into increasing medically complex critical thinking scenarios that result in patient-centered care quality and safe care.

Standardized Patient Program

The STAR Center Standardized Patients (SPs) are individuals who are specially trained to provide consistency within the simulation experience using pre-set parameters that facilitate the learners’ mastery of course objectives.

SPs provide learners the opportunity to interact with specially trained actors who portray patients in simulation scenarios focused on:

- Interpersonal communication skills
- History taking
- Physical assessment
- Illness management
- Preventative care
- Patient education
- Prioritization of care
- Critical thinking

Communication Sciences & Disorders (CSD) Student practicing nasendoscopy procedure to improve patient safety outcomes.

Community Partnerships

The STAR Center partners with local community agencies and hospitals for the provision of simulation experiences, nurse training and hospital graduate nurse residency programs. Partnerships with healthcare community partners are highly valued and necessary for the seamless transition of continued learning and safe practice for the delivery of quality and safe care. Current partners include:

- Baptist Health Systems
- Ascension/St. Vincent’s Healthcare
- Brooks Rehabilitation

Industry Partnerships

The STAR Center, Nursing, CSD, and Engineering faculty received grant funding and have collaborated on the development of inter-professional simulation curriculum and prototype model development for simulation industry partners.

STAR Center team (left to right): Japhetia “Fettie” Blackwell MSN, RN; Ginger Grayson BSN, RN; Aimee Neeley BSN, RN; Barbara Tucker IT Support, and Dr. Kathleen Kavanagh, Director.