

## The Digital Stethoscope Newsletter July 2025

"Amplifying innovation, one heartbeat at a time."



### **“Sipping Iced Coffee & Stirring Up AI Curiosity”**

Hello, Nurse Educators!

While others are dipping their toes in the pool, we’re dipping ours into prompts, platforms, and possibilities! 🌞 As July heats up, so does the conversation around AI in nursing education—and I’m here for it (preferably with an iced latte in hand and ChatGPT humming in the background).

This month’s issue of *The Digital Stethoscope* is your sunhat-wearing, syllabus-tweaking sidekick. We’re bringing you practical tools, a little imagination, and a big scoop of inspiration to carry you into the fall refreshed and recharged, with AI by your side (and not secretly rewriting your discussion boards... yet).

So kick off your sandals, cue the playlist, and let’s get curious together. This month’s issue is bursting with ideas—from automating clinical scenarios to onboarding your newest AI-ready faculty. Let’s make the future a little less sci-fi and a lot more RN-friendly.

Stay cool and stay connected!

Dr. Susan Deane  
Online Education Consultant

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**Spotlight Feature: “AI at the Halfway Mark: What Nurse Educators Should Be Doing Now”**





It's July—sunshine, syllabus tweaks, and a perfect pause to reflect on how AI is reshaping nursing education. Whether you've been experimenting with prompt creation or still cautiously circling the AI waters, this is the moment to

recalibrate, recharge, and refocus.

Here's your mid-year pulse check on where AI meets pedagogy:

### What's Trending:

- **Prompt Libraries:** Educators are building personal prompt collections for case studies, grading rubrics, and feedback.
- **Simulation Support:** AI is now a behind-the-scenes assistant in crafting debriefing guides, patient dialogue, and clinical variations.
- **Micro-Content Creation:** Faculty are using AI to turn lectures into flashcards, summaries, or voiceovers for just-in-time learning.

### What You Can Do This Month:

- **Audit your fall courses.** Where could AI streamline your prep or deepen student learning?
- **Write 3 go-to prompts** you can reuse across lessons (think SOAP notes, priority patient scenarios, or critical thinking cues).
- **Update your syllabus language** to reflect AI expectations and usage boundaries.

### Why It Matters:

AI isn't here to do your job—it's here to make space *for the parts of teaching you love most*. By harnessing its potential now, you'll enter the fall term ready to engage students, innovate confidently, and model responsible tech use.

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## Trending Topics: "Sizzling Strategies: What AI Conversations Are Heating Up This Summer"



While your sunscreen may be SPF 50, your inbox is likely SPF—Seriously Packed Facultywork. So let's keep it short, sweet, and scorching: here are the AI-in-nursing-ed hot takes rising to the top this July.

### 1. AI Isn't Cheating—But Is It Cheating You Out of Critical Thinking?



Educators are navigating the fine line between a helpful tool and an intellectual shortcut. The big question: *Are we teaching students to think with AI or through it?*

🕒 **Tip:** Use AI to generate distractors for NCLEX-style questions. It sharpens both faculty focus and student discernment.

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## 📌 2. Everyone's Talking Syllabi: Is Yours AI-Ready?

There's a growing push to include explicit language about AI use and expectations in course policies. Academic integrity offices are listening—and watching.

📌 **Quick Fix:** Add a “Responsible Use of AI” section in your syllabus with examples of appropriate and inappropriate use.

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## 📌 3. Prompt Burnout Is Real.

Writing the perfect prompt can be surprisingly exhausting. This summer, educators are turning to prompt banks, collaborative libraries, and AI to improve AI.

🌟 **Try This:** Ask ChatGPT to critique and improve your own prompt.

“Review this prompt for clarity and alignment with nursing education: [insert prompt here].”

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## 📌 4. The New Skill: AI Literacy for Faculty

Programs are starting to embed AI literacy into faculty development, with sessions on bias, transparency, and tool integration. If you're not already offering this... your students might start asking why.

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🧊 **Cool Down Thought:** AI may be fast, but transformation takes time. Let the trends guide you, but remember—you set the tone. Keep it curious. Keep it critical. Keep it human.

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## Practical Insights: “Planning Fall Courses? Let AI Lighten the Lift”

While July is a time to recharge, it's also prime time for prepping your fall content. Here's how AI can help—without taking away your pedagogical power.





### **Three Practical Ways to Use AI Before the Semester Starts:**

#### **1. Build Rubrics in Half the Time**

Prompt:

*“Create a 4-point analytic rubric for a reflective journal on cultural competence in nursing practice. Include criteria and performance descriptors.”*


#### **2. Generate Variations of Clinical Scenarios**

Use AI to create leveled versions of a single case, perfect for differentiated instruction.

#### **3. Draft Weekly Learning Objectives**

Prompt:

*“Write weekly course objectives for a 10-week undergraduate nursing pharmacology course, based on Bloom’s Taxonomy.”*

 **Pro Tip:** Pair your AI outputs with your course outcomes and accreditation requirements for alignment.

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### **Research/News Corner**



#### **“AI in Nursing Education: What the Literature Is (Actually) Saying”**

As faculty curiosity grows, so does the scholarship around AI in healthcare education. This month, we highlight three new pieces worth a skim while poolside—or between grading final makeups.

#### **1. A Framework for AI Literacy**

As artificial intelligence rapidly integrates into higher education, educators need more than just familiarity with tools—they need AI literacy. This article from EDUCAUSE outlines a comprehensive framework to help faculty, staff, and students develop the critical skills to use AI ethically, effectively, and equitably.

[A Framework for AI Literacy](#)



## 2. 🌐 WHO Highlights AI Workforce Readiness in Global Health Professions Report

The World Health Organization’s 2025 report on **Human Resources for Health** includes a new section on **AI readiness** in healthcare education, calling for countries to **train faculty, update curricula, and promote AI equity** across regions. The report warns that failing to build digital fluency could widen global care disparities.

Read the Report here: [WHO Global Strategy](#)

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### Educator’s Toolbox: “Three AI Tricks for Smarter Teaching (and Saner Summers)”



Whether you’re poolside or planning your fall course in a coffee shop, these quick AI tools can lighten your workload and help you start the semester ahead of the game. Let’s turn that syllabus fatigue into *syllaboost*.

#### ✂️ 🧠 1. Turn Lecture Notes into a Podcast

Try tools like CastMagic or Play.ht to convert your slide notes into a 5-minute audio summary your students can review between clinical shifts.

##### 🌱 Prompt:

“Summarize this 45-minute lecture on heart failure into a podcast script suitable for first-

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#### ✂️ 2. Build a Case Study in 60 Seconds

AI can help you generate complex clinical scenarios at any level—then tweak them to fit your learning objectives or exam blueprints.

##### 🌱 Prompt:

“Create a med-surg case study featuring a 67-year-old male with COPD exacerbation. Include assessment data, lab results, 2 nursing priorities, and 3 NCLEX-style questions.”

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### 3. Generate Assignment Feedback That Feels Personal

Use AI to speed up formative feedback while still sounding like *you*. Customize tone, focus areas, and reading level with a few clever prompts.

 **Prompt:**

**“Provide constructive feedback on this care plan written by a second-year nursing student. Focus on clinical reasoning and clarity, and maintain a supportive tone.”**

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### Closing Note



As the summer sun lingers and lesson plans quietly call, remember—innovation doesn’t have to wait for the first day of class. Whether you're refining your rubrics or just experimenting with a single prompt, every step you take with AI brings nursing education closer to the future it deserves: informed, inclusive, and undeniably human.

Here’s to sipping something cold, saving some prep time, and staying inspired.

See you next month!

*Feedback: Please share your feedback, experiences, questions, and ideas or articles for upcoming issues. Send email to: [susan@thedigitalstethoscope.com](mailto:susan@thedigitalstethoscope.com)*