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COVID in our backyard: The lived experiences of RN to BSN students facing a pandemic

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THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF RN-BSN STUDENTS DURING A PANDEMIC

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WHY DID WE STUDY RN-BSN STUDENTS?

1ST COHORT ENROLLING AFTER COVID-19 EMERGED

CAPTIVE AUDIENCE

STRESSORS REPORTED WHEN COMPLETING
COURSES

INCREASE IN EXTENSION REQUESTS

DELAYS IN GRADUATION

CREATIVE INSTRUCTOR

LIT SEARCH GENERATED GAP IN KNOWLEDGE

PURPOSE:

Explore the experience of being a full-time RN-BSN student and working as a registered nurse during the COVID-19 pandemic

Make recommendations to staff development educators to help them support the educational needs and well-being of nurses



“TELL YOUR STORY ABOUT WORKING AND GOING TO SCHOOL DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.”

METHODS

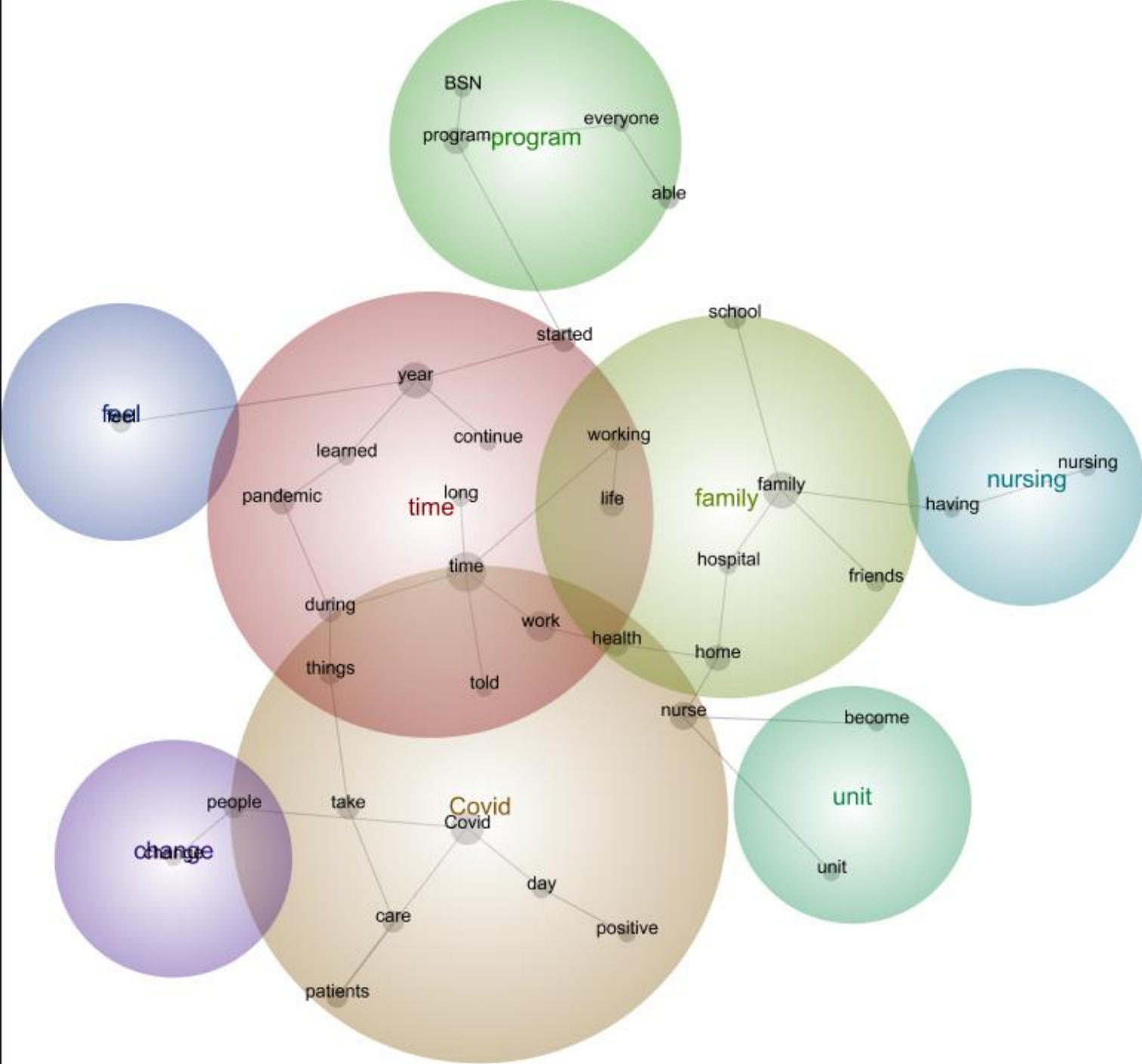
UNIVERSITY OF PROVIDENCE

35 RN-BSN STUDENTS

END OF PROGRAM SURVEY (OPEN WRITING)

IRB-APPROVED QUALITATIVE
PHENOMENOLOGICAL STUDY

LEXIMANCER IDENTIFIED TRADITIONAL
THEMES AND CONCEPTS

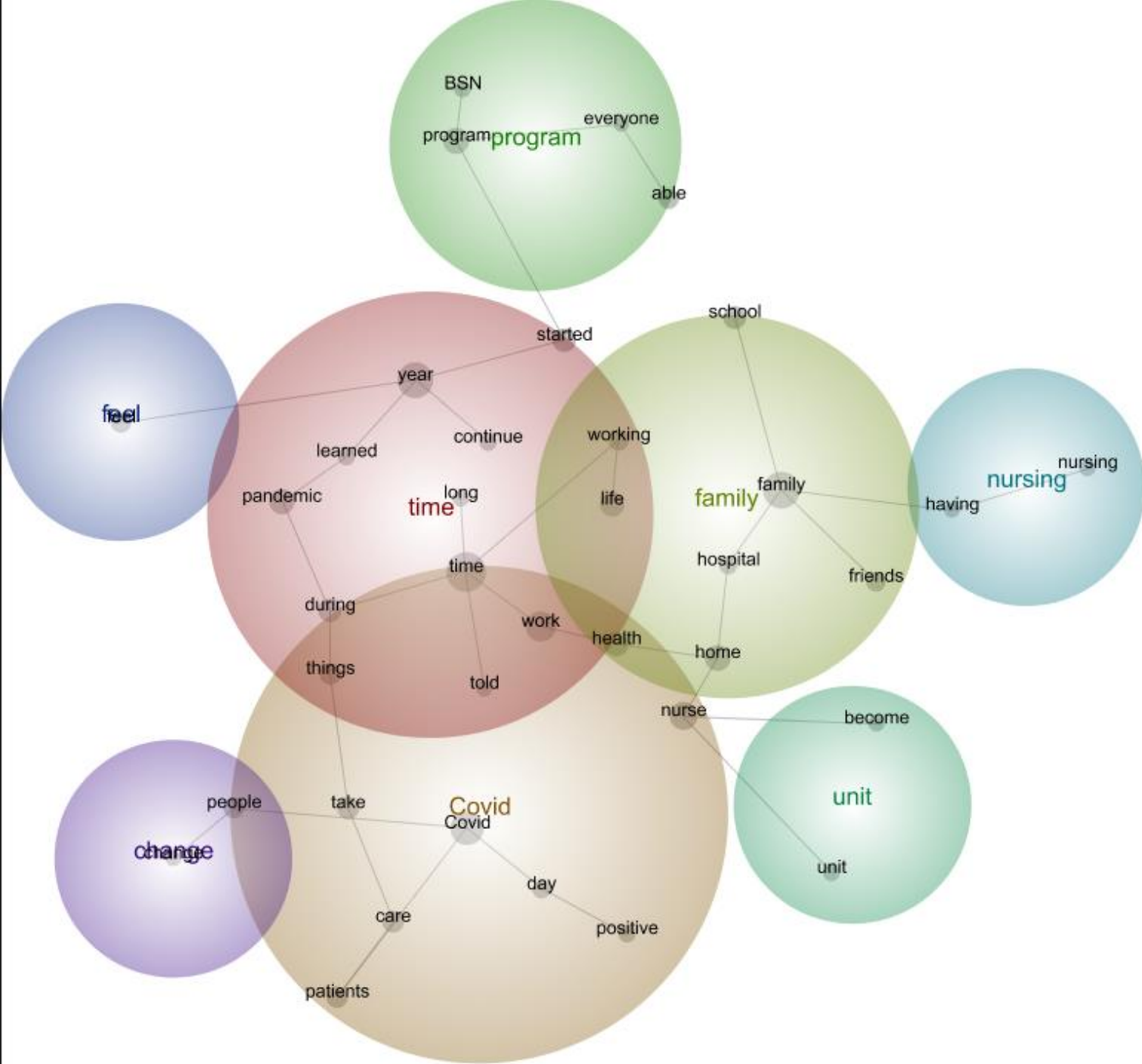


RESULTS

LEXIMANCER

AUTOMATED TEXTUAL ANALYSIS TECHNOLOGY

- COVID-19
- TIME
- FAMILY
- WHICH MINOR THEME WAS MENTIONED UNDER 3 MAJOR THEMES?



RESULTS

LEXIMANCER

AUTOMATED TEXTUAL ANALYSIS TECHNOLOGY

- COVID-19
- TIME
- FAMILY
 - Program
 - Nursing
 - Unit
 - Change
 - Feel



RESULTS

“...something I was looking forward to [was] our new arrival, but instead, my husband was wearing a mask the entire time I was in the hospital and my children were not allowed in...that moment will forever be gone. I kept looking at my newborn and would look up to my husband to view his features and compare who our bundle of joy looked like, just to see...our newborn staring at him in a mask.”



RESULTS

“IT (COVID) IS...SUCKING THE LIFE OUT OF ME...”

“BEING QUARANTINED WITH AN ADULT FAMILY FOR SO LONG CAN TEST YOUR LIMITS.”

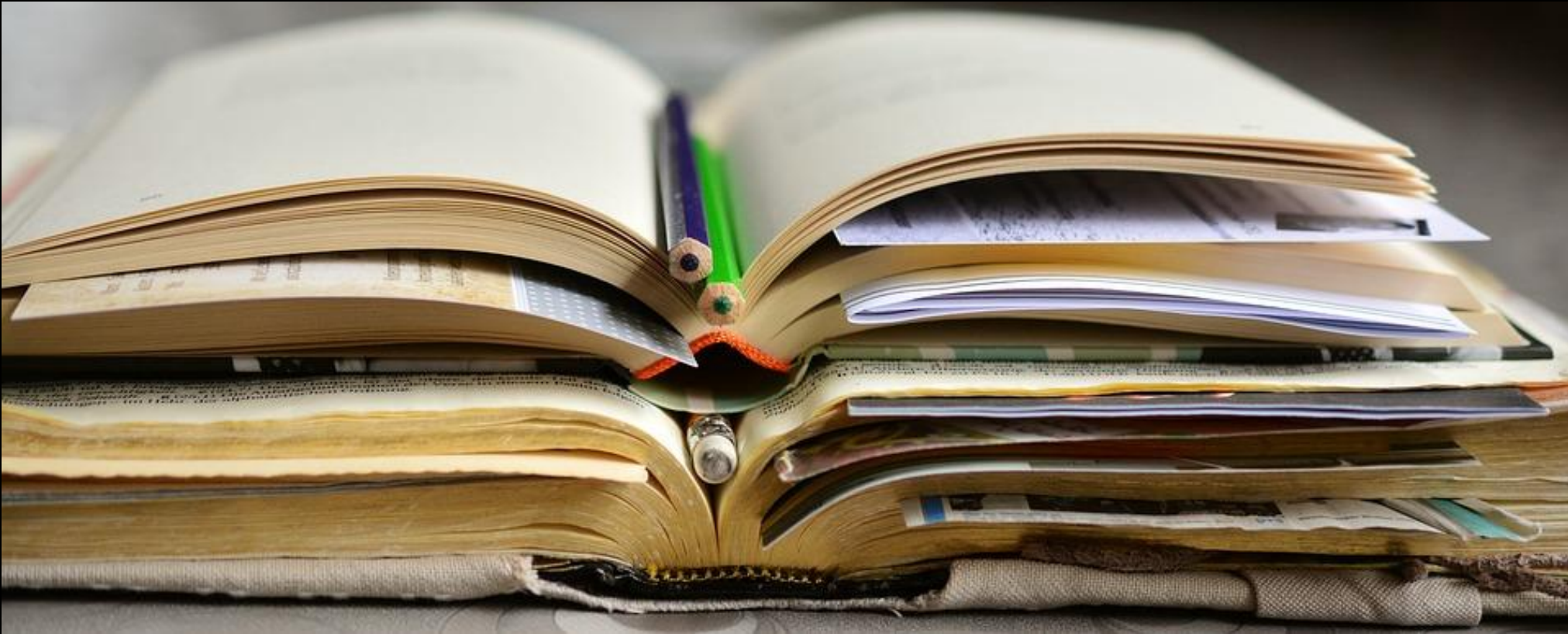
“IT WAS THIS PROGRAM THAT GAVE ME A SENSE OF NORMALCY AS THE REST OF LIFE WAS UPENDED.”

RESULTS



“WE WILL APPRECIATE THE VALUE OF LIFE AND HOW SACRED INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS ARE.”

“I HAVE REDISCOVERED HOW IMPORTANT HUMAN CONNECTION AND PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS ARE IN MY LIFE.”



DISCUSSION

- **Distinctions emerged between school and work, family, and COVID in this cohort**
- **School may provide a source of constancy in a fast-changing environment**
- **RN to BSN students may require additional support to cope and succeed in work, school, and at home**

IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

- HUDDLES
- HUMOR
- MENTORS
- EDUCATION ON IMPACT/STRESS MANAGEMENT
- STUDENT COHORTS
- LEADERSHIP SUPPORT FOR WORKING STUDENTS

-
- EVIDENCE-INFORMED INFRASTRUCTURE FOR FUTURE PANDEMIC SURGES
 - FUTURE QUALITATIVE RESEARCH POTENTIAL
 - WHAT IMPACTS CHANGE FOR STUDENTS OVER TIME?

IMPLICATIONS FOR FUTURE PRACTICE

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