The Center for Children with Special Health Care Needs is a hub for cutting edge education, research and scholarship that aims to improve the health and quality of care for children with special health care needs (ages 0-21) and their family caregivers. In this newsletter we highlight examples of international collaborations and outreach by Center faculty and students.

Ann Garwick and Wendy Looman, Co-Directors.

International Reach
Center faculty showcased their research related to children with chronic conditions and family caregiving with six presentations at the 13th International Family Nursing Conference in Pamplona, Spain in June 2017. This conference provided an ideal forum for disseminating findings from our international research partnerships with faculty colleagues in Iceland and Japan. Two presentations focused on research collaborations with Erla Kolbrún Svavarsdóttir, PhD, and Gudny Berghora Tryggvadottir, PhD, from the University of Iceland and Professor Wendy Looman, PhD, APRN, CPHP, and Professor Ann Garwick, PhD, RN, LMFT, LP, FAAN, from the University of Minnesota on the International School Nurse Asthma and ADHD project. Building on her research as a visiting scholar from Japan, Akemi Matsuzawa, PhD, co-presented with Looman on The Practice and Challenge of Nurse Care Coordination for Children with Medical Complexity and Their Families. Looman also presented at the Social Media Primer for Family Nursing Scholars Workshop.

Center faculty also presented findings related to the development of two new family measures. Assistant Professor Anne Chevalier McKechnie, PhD, RN, and nursing student team members Kari Erickson and Sarah Miller focused on the development and testing of CANDIR, a new instrument to assess expectant parents' emotional and cognitive needs following a fetal anomaly diagnosis. Assistant Professor Barbara Beacham, PhD, presented findings from her mixed method study on Family Management Patterns: A Comparison of Parent and Child Perspectives. Beacham and McKechnie also made recommendations on how family participants should be defined and included in future studies based on results from their scoping review of reports of recent National Institutes of Health-funded family and family-related research studies.
At the IFNC13 conference in Spain.
(Left to Right) Janice Bell (Canada), Joel Anderson (USA), Wilma Schroeder (Canada), and Wendy Looman (USA)

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