Welcome, new alumni!

Congratulations to the 62 Master of Nursing students, 17 Doctor of Nursing Practice students and four PhD candidates who graduated on Friday, Dec. 14 at Northrop. The commencement speaker was Kevin Smith, DNP, FNP, FAANP. Jean Carraher, president-elect of the School of Nursing Alumni Society board, welcomed our newest graduates to our community of nursing alumni. If you want to watch the ceremony, it can be streamed online.

Don’t miss the 2019 All-School Reunion

Join School of Nursing alumni, students, faculty and friends on Thursday, April 11, 2019, at Town and Country Club to reconnect with classmates and colleagues as we gather for the All-School Reunion. Graduating classes of 1949, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1994, 2009 and 2018 will be honored. Additionally, we will celebrate the Doctor of Nursing Practice program’s 10-year anniversary. Help us make this the best reunion yet! Please contact Barb Mullikin at westr073@umn.edu or 612-624-0103 if you have ideas for the reunion or would like to help with this event.

Nursing Research Day will be April 12

Nursing Research Day is scheduled for Friday, April 12, 2019, at McNamara Alumni Center. The theme will be Research Innovation and Technology. Registration will open in mid-March.
Consider volunteering for speed mentoring

Volunteers are needed for two speed mentoring events planned for the spring semester. The events will be Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019, in Minneapolis and Wednesday, March 6, 2019, in Rochester at 4:45-7 p.m. This is a great opportunity for both pre-licensure and graduate students to learn from your expertise and have one-on-one conversations with you about your experience in nursing. This is also a wonderful time to socialize and network with fellow alumni, talk with students and open doors to potential mentoring relationships. Email Barb Mullikin for more information or if you are interested in volunteering.

Alumni gathering in Rochester

Plans are underway for an alumni gathering in Rochester on Wednesday, April 24, 2019, with the theme of Past, Present, and Future. Please email Barb Mullikin or Kellie Kutzler for more information or if you would like to join in on the planning.

Planting Seeds of Innovation Conference

The Planting Seeds of Innovation Conference, on Feb. 27, provides nurses with tools and resources they need to bring their innovative ideas to reality. Whether a product, service or process, the conference provides nurses with a blueprint of how to think creatively, identify a target market, develop a value proposition, and test and evaluate an idea.

22 participate in nursing Day of Service

The School of Nursing Alumni Society Board organized a volunteer opportunity at the Alexandra House’s Hope Fest in Andover during the Day of Service, as part of homecoming week. There were 22 volunteers, including alumni, students, faculty and staff. This is an annual, international event, so consider participating near your home during next year’s Day of Service, which is Sept. 28, 2019.

Scholarship Reception celebrates students, benefactors

More than 450 scholarship recipients, benefactors and guests met at the annual Scholarship Reception held at McNamara Alumni Center Oct. 24. Over $2.28 million was awarded to nursing students for the 2018-2019 academic year, including $23,000 in scholarships from the Nursing Alumni Scholarship fund. A highlight of the evening was this video, featuring two recipients of the Elaine Esther Carlson Mansfield Nursing Scholarship. A special thank you to the many alumni volunteers who helped make this event so successful.

Give to the Max Day

Thank you to all who participated and gave to the School of Nursing, including 100 percent participation for giving by the School of Nursing Alumni Society Board, during Give to the Max Day on Nov. 15.

Year-end giving – there's still time!

As the year draws to an end, we are reminded of your many forms of generosity and appreciate the ways you help us keep the School of Nursing at the forefront of health care education and research. When you make a gift to the School of Nursing, you impact nursing education and promote healthy communities in Minnesota and around the world. Please consider making a contribution to the School of Nursing by Dec. 31 to receive your 2018 tax benefits. Help us help
Congrats!

**Amber Herdzina Halverson**, DNP ’18, accepted a position as a nurse practitioner at Consultative Health and Medicine.

**Amy Hoelscher**, DNP ’17, BSN ’08, was named an innovation fellow at Earl E. Bakken Medical Devices Center and is the first nurse to be selected for the fellows program. She has worked as a registered nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at Children’s Minnesota for more than 10 years.

**Kathryn Dopkins**, DNP ’16, recently accepted a position as a hospice nurse at Mayo Clinic Health System in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

**Sarah Guzinski Cascino**, DNP ’14, received the 2018 Northwestern Memorial Hospital Pinnacle Nurse Leader Award. She is one of two nurses recognized at Northwestern Memorial in Chicago.

**Roxanna Gapstur**, PhD ’10, MS ’97, was appointed president and CEO of WellSpan Health in Pennsylvania, which is the central Pennsylvania health system. Gapstur had been serving as president of Methodist Hospital and senior vice president of HealthPartners in Minnesota. She is the first female to be named president and CEO of WellSpan Health.

**Diane Thorson**, MS ’01, was awarded the 2018 Barbara O’Grady Excellence in Public Health Nursing Leadership Award by the Local Public Health Association of Minnesota.

**Ann Lumbar Bendson**, MS ’00, was named School Nurse of the Year by the School Nurse Organization of Minnesota. She is a longtime Minneapolis Public Schools nurse and is currently at Kenny Community School.

**Caroline Rosdahl**, BSN ’60, wasn’t allowed to be in the U of M Marching Band back in the 1950s because women weren’t allowed to march. Still, she knew she wanted to be in the marching band. Twenty years later, when she returned to the university for her master’s degree she marched in that band. Now, her legacy is three generations strong. Ten years after she marched, her son would join. Thirty years after that, her granddaughters are marching in the band. This is the story was highlighted at half time during the 2018 homecoming football game.

**Call for nominations – School of Nursing Alumni Society Board**

Dean Connie White Delaney and School of Nursing Alumni Society President Sheryl Ramstad invite nominations for the Alumni Society Board for the 2019–2020 academic year. Board members represent the school at various campus events, engage and connect with alumni, assist with the promotion and coordination of school programs and events, and encourage alumni to contribute their time, talent and support to their alma mater. To nominate someone (or yourself), contact Barb Mullikin.

**Call for nominations - School of Nursing Foundation Board**

Dean Connie White Delaney and School of Nursing Foundation Board Chair Jeannine Bayard invite nominations for the Foundation's Board of Trustees. Trustees represent the school at
various campus events and help shape the school's strategic direction and resource enrichment plans. To nominate someone (or yourself), contact John Kilbride.

Consider being a preceptor

As alumni of our school, you experienced first-hand the value of skilled, experienced preceptors and the impact they had in your transition to practice. We know you appreciate the importance of having preceptors who are willing to work with students. We welcome the opportunity to have our alumni serve as preceptors for our students in the Bachelor of Science, Master in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs.

Upcoming Events

Family Nurse Practitioners Gathering: Join family nurse practitioners having an Alumni Gathering on Wednesday, Jan. 9 from 6-8:30 p.m. in the Bentson Center in Weaver-Densford Hall, Minneapolis. For more information contact Sarah Wood.

Health Innovations and Leadership Resiliency and Workshop and Retreat: Alumni of the health innovations and leadership specialty in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program will be holding their first specialty alumni event May 3-4. The HIL Resiliency Workshop and Retreat will feature speakers, hands-on activities, networking and techniques for self-care to reignite the spark and build community with like-minded colleagues. This event will be open to all HIL alumni, current HIL students and any Post-Masters DNP alumni who would like to attend. For more information, check out this Facebook page.

School of Nursing events: Check out the school's events and opportunities.

University of Minnesota alumni events: There are a multitude of events university-wide that speak to many interests.

Keep us up to date

Have you recently received a promotion, been hired for a new position or been honored with a special award? Keep us up to date and let us know!