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Class of ’19 encouraged to be agents of change for planetary health

“Addressing planetary health will require breaking down silos, moving upstream in our thinking and collaborating across disciplines to help deliver a sustainable society,” said Myers. “And who better to lead that change than nurses?”

Sam Myers, MD, MPH, director of the Planetary Health Alliance and principal research scientist at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, delivered the commencement address in May. He encouraged the graduates to be agents of change for planetary health.

Read Minnesota Nursing online at www.nursing.umn.edu/magazine

To receive a notice when the current issue is posted on the school’s website, send an email to nursesnews@umn.edu.

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FROM THE DEAN

Commemorating our history and affirming our future

Dear Friends,

Since our last issue, the School of Nursing celebrated its 110th anniversary with a magnificent gathering at McNamara Alumni Center of alumni, faculty, students and special guests. It was such a vibrant combination of commemorating our rich history and affirming our bright future.

Among the speakers that night was retired U.S. Army Lt. Gen. and OptumServe CEO Patricia Horoho. Lt. Gen. Horoho, who was the first woman and first Nurse Corps Officer to hold the appointment of U.S. Army Surgeon General and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Medical Command, highlighted the School of Nursing’s longstanding connection with the military and of serving veterans. And in discussing the school’s role of training the most military nurses of any university during World War II, she thanked the school for having “the moral courage, the resiliency and what it takes when a nation is watching to be able to stand up and have an impact.”

This issue of Minnesota Nursing takes a look back at the school’s history of military collaboration, our 40-plus year relationship with the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Health Care System, and most importantly, shows how our partnership with the VA has enabled the school to integrate veteran-centered health curriculum into the health education of our Bachelor of Science in Nursing students.

In these pages to follow, we also explore the work our faculty are doing to improve the lives of citizens both in our backyard and around the world. The cover story shares Assistant Professor Melissa Horning’s research on how a mobile market can improve the management of weight, blood pressure, diabetes and mental health in underserved communities and reduce health disparities. Another article sheds light on the potential for big data and the school’s partnership with OptumLabs to deliver precision medicine for the millions who take statins to reduce their LDL cholesterol. We highlight yet another example of how the health of our planet is intricately linked to the health of people. Our nursing research creates interventions to mitigate effects of climate-driven displacement in the Horn of Africa.

This Fall/Winter issue formally introduces Empowering Health, the School of Nursing’s $45 million philanthropic campaign, illustrating the impact strategic investment today will have on advancing nursing education and research in the years to come.

We invite you to enjoy reading Minnesota Nursing and look forward to your thoughts and comments.

Connie White Delaney
Professor and Dean

The feeling is mutual

by Meliah Maynard

You don’t have to work side by side with someone to consider them an invaluable collaborator.

Brian Sick, MD, associate professor and director of the Division of General Internal Medicine at the University of Minnesota, and Jane Anderson, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, ANP-C, clinical assistant professor and director of the M Health Nurse Practitioner Clinics, consider themselves lucky to have had that kind of relationship for nearly a decade.

The two colleagues met when Anderson began clinical practice at the University and, at that time, nurse practitioners were required to partner with a collaborative physician. “I had been doing a lot of work in the community, so I already had a reputation as a practitioner, but what he did was really just very generous,” she said.

Four years later, in 2015, the APRN Scope of Practice bill was signed into law eliminating the collaborative physician requirement. However, Sick and Anderson continued to stay connected. These days, they work in the Clinics and Surgery Center, Anderson in the Nurse Practitioner Clinic and Sick in the Primary Care Center. “The first word that comes to my mind when I think about Jane is collaboration,” Sick said. “She always brings an open mind to meetings and is always happy to talk about ideas that allow our two clinics to work better together.”

In addition to supporting each other as colleagues, Anderson and Sick also collaborate as practitioners, seeing some of the same patients who visit both clinics. The experience has only increased Anderson’s appreciation for Sick’s way of working with patients and colleagues. “Brian’s reputation with patients that we share is incomparable because he sees everybody as a whole person and it shows,” she said, adding that he interacts with nurse practitioners and other professionals the same way. “It’s clear that Brian thinks of us as equals,” Anderson said. “He sees that each type of provider brings something unique and good to patient care. And when you reach out to colleagues in a safe and respectful environment, that allows everyone to ask questions and feel confident in ways that provide patients with the best care possible.”
Driven to deliver food ACCESS

Twin Cities Mobile Market brings affordable, healthy food to neighborhoods without easy access to grocery stores

by Brett Stursa

Roger Brandon doesn’t drive or ride the bus, so he relies on friends to give him rides from his St. Paul apartment to run errands. On a recent summer afternoon, he was grateful he didn’t need to lean on friends to pick up some bread and fruit. Instead, he used the Twin Cities Mobile Market, a retrofitted city bus that makes 24 weekly stops in communities with residents who experience difficulty accessing healthy and affordable food. The one-aisle mobile grocery store sells a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy, meats and staple dry goods but does not sell unhealthy foods, like chips or soda. The goal of the market when it launched in 2014 was to improve access to healthy, affordable food by bringing it directly to peoples’ doorsteps. Partnerships with SuperValu and Hormel allow the mobile market to provide the same high-quality food with prices competitive with supermarkets. “As you can imagine, if you are someone who lives in a neighborhood that doesn’t have a grocery store and you have nowhere to purchase healthy affordable food, it’s really hard to have a healthy diet,” said Leah Porter, MA, founder and director of the Twin Cities Mobile Market, a program within the Wilder Foundation. With 12% of Minnesotans currently experiencing limited incomes and limited access to food every day, the Twin Cities Mobile Market provides people like Brandon easier access to staple foods and produce. “I didn’t have any transportation to get to the store,” said Brandon. “I just saw a bus parked here that said market. I figured it would have most of the things that I needed. It was easy.”

Experiencing poor food access and a low income can lead to higher...
Assistant Professor Melissa Horning, left, and Leah Porter, founder and director of the Twin Cities Mobile Market, are motivated by research that shows how invaluable the mobile market is to the customers using it.

risks for poorer nutrition, increased obesity and more barriers — like lack of transportation and price — that make buying healthy food challenging, according to Assistant Professor and Mobile Market research partner Melissa Horning, PhD, RN, PHN.

“What we eat impacts how we grow, how we learn, how we manage our health and health outcomes down the road,” said Horning. “Having affordable, healthy food access is critical. It’s one of those things that’s also very hard to change, but that’s our mission.”

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

From the beginning, community engagement and input has been the guiding force behind the mobile market’s development.

So far, the evidence is encouraging. Porter recalled the story of a regular customer who had limited mobility and a limited budget, which made grocery shopping difficult. Prior to shopping at the mobile market, she purchased food almost entirely out of the vending machine in her apartment building.

“It was about a year later when she was talking to some of our staff and she was saying, ‘Yeah, have you noticed how much weight I’ve lost? I lost 70 pounds in the last year,’” said Porter.

“She said it was due to being able to buy food from the mobile market, instead of having to eat out of the vending machine.”

For Porter, it was important to know if the market was having the intended impact beyond just the anecdotes.

“You don’t know what type of impact you are having without working with a researcher like Horning,” said Porter. “This is still a fairly innovative type of program and there isn’t a lot of data on it. So it’s really exciting to be on the cutting edge of collecting data to demonstrate the potential impact that this program has for improving healthy food consumption and access.”

As part of the research, they have assessed sales data, conducted surveys and focus groups, and captured measurement of dietary intake, height, weight and blood pressure for a more comprehensive understanding of how the mobile market impacts customers and the barriers they face in obtaining healthy food.

PROMISING RESULTS

The research shows that fruits and vegetables make up more than 50% of mobile market sales and that frequent mobile market customers are more likely to report they are eating more fruits and vegetables as a result of mobile market shopping when compared to infrequent mobile market customers.

Horning noted early focus group data suggest promising results, like better management of weight, diabetes, blood pressure, and mental health and reductions in social isolation.

Given the impact these conditions and social isolation can have on health — especially for those within underserved communities — these discoveries are important.

A four-year, United States Department of Agriculture grant will allow Horning to work with Porter to expand research evaluation of the mobile market, with an eye on customer satisfaction, barriers that still remain to accessing healthy foods and the reach of the program.

“Having affordable, healthy food access is critical. It’s one of those things that’s also very hard to change, but that’s our mission.”

– Assistant Professor and Mobile Market research partner Melissa Horning

READ MORE

Twin Cities Mobile Market Food Delivery Model: A Preliminary Study Describing Results of a Customer Intercept Survey and Point of Sale Data for 2016

RESEARCH

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Associate Professor Chih-Lin Chi, PhD, MBA, was awarded a multi-year RO1 grant from the National Institutes of Health/National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to use big data science and artificial intelligence (AI) to determine an individualized statin treatment plan for people seeking to lower their cholesterol.

The research utilizes data from the OptumLabs Data Warehouse, which includes de-identified insurance claims and electronic health records data from more than 200 million patients across the United States. The School of Nursing was one of the first members of the OptumLabs research collaborative, an academic/corporate partnership.

Chi’s study will produce a precision-medicine tool to give health professionals the ability to make proactive clinical decisions regarding statin treatment planning, like selecting the specific statin drug and dosage optimized for a particular patient to maximize low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol reduction and minimize statin discontinuation. While an estimated 47% of Americans 65 years old and older take statins to reduce their LDL cholesterol, more than half of patients prescribed statins do not obtain these critical benefits because they discontinue use within one year of treatment initiation.

“Precision medicine, which takes into account an individual’s unique characteristics, such as genes, environment, social-economic factors and lifestyle, has the potential to dramatically alter the way we treat chronic conditions, like high cholesterol,” said Chi. “This research uses big data science to empower health professionals to better align statin treatment plans to a specific patient, which in turn will result in better health for that patient.”

Chi worked with the University of Minnesota Office of Technology Commercialization to file a provisional patent on the intellectual property created in his preliminary study, which is the first patent application on the intellectual property created in his preliminary study, which is the first patent application filed by an OptumLabs research partner.

This interprofessional health informatics project involves nine key areas, including nursing, machine learning and artificial intelligence, preventative clinic, pharmacy, cloud and high-performance computing, biostatistics, operations research, clinical studies and clinical trial simulations.

Leveraging big data science to design PERSONALIZED statin treatment plans

Research utilizes data from OptumLabs Data Warehouse

by Brett Stursa

Associate Professor Chih-Lin Chi is using big data science to determine individualized statin treatment plans for people seeking to lower their cholesterol.
Understanding CLIMATE-DRIVEN displacement

Ethnographic research sheds light on pastoral communities in the Horn of Africa

by Brett Stursa

Over the decades that Professor Cheryl Robertson, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, has spent in Africa, she’s heard a growing number of stories about people and animals dying because of the increasing dryness, specifically in the Horn of Africa.

“Climate change disproportionately disrupts livelihoods and health in the global south, hurting ecosystems with adverse effects on humans, animals and the environment,” said Robertson, whose research relates to conflict, displacement, trauma and recovery.

“Communities in the Horn of Africa and lands that depend on climate affected resources, including water and pasture access, are particularly vulnerable.”

Robertson has long nurtured a multidisciplinary team of young African scholars from Makerere University in Uganda and the University of Minnesota to develop expertise in ethnographic research methods. The research team discerned that a focused ethnography was the ideal methodology to better understand the pastoralist community experience of climate variability, conflict and displacement, and the effects on animal and human health in the Horn of Africa’s arid land.

“We decided to look at climate-driven conflict and forced displacement to get a better picture of how communities are describing their experiences, how they’re interpreting what’s happening and how they are responding to that,” said Robertson.

Specifically, Robertson and the team of researchers went to the pastoral communities of Turkana, Kenya and Karamoja, Uganda to identify patterns that led to families being displaced and how displacement affected their livelihoods, cultural constructs and community support. “I think we expected more nuance and more examples of families who were thriving in spite of the challenges, and that just wasn’t the case,” said Robertson. “Communities were struggling in very harsh circumstances.”

While Robertson conducted ethnographic interviews with health care providers and government workers, researchers Jacinta Waila, Shamilah Namusisi and Michael Mahero conducted interviews with community members who were chiefs, cattle-keepers, farmers, fishermen and women, and small town migrants.

“I got to see the effects of climate change through the lens of the affected, a factor which opened my eyes to view climate change beyond unreliable or unpredictable rainfalls,” said Waila, MPH, BSN, a nurse who led the Turkana team. “Everything in a way is linked to the other and when one aspect of the ecosystem is affected, then all other aspects feel the impact.”

A COMPLEX STORY

Data analysis showed a complex story of debilitating drought, exposure to extreme violence, livelihood loss and migration to urban communities. “The effect of climate change among pastoral communities spans beyond livelihood loss, it also encompasses loss of socio-cultural systems, which hold a community together,” said Waila.

Recently, Waila and Robertson presented their findings at the Global Network of Public Health Nursing that was held in Nairobi to an audience of primarily African public health nurses. “I think that the surprise in the findings has been in the level of complexity,” said Robertson. “Everybody talks about climate, but there are other contributing factors as well in terms of the dissolution of a way of life that people have been living for a few thousand years.” Those factors include the discovery of oil and privatization of land, access to education and evolving roles for young women.

The research team’s focus has now turned to possible interventions and the development of academic and community demonstration sites. “These communities are going through a transition in their economic, social and even cultural life and need to be supported to mitigate against adverse effects as they go through this transition,” said Waila.

READ MORE


A duty to CARE

The school’s rich history of military collaboration, innovation

by Tom Ziemer and Brett Stursa

Kirk Butler has seen the indelible scars of military combat up close. As a nurse and officer in the United States Army, Butler oversaw post-deployment reassessment of more than 4,000 soldiers at Joint Base Lewis-McChord near Tacoma, Washington.

“I can’t tell you how many times I had to call the hospital about someone trying to take their life,” Butler said. “After that experience, that’s when I knew I needed to get back to soldier care and I needed to get back to the bedside. I needed to figure out a way to deal with these issues.”

Now Butler is pursuing a degree in the School of Nursing’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) nurse anesthesia program. As a certified registered nurse anesthetist, he plans to temper chronic pain that contributes to the higher prevalence of substance abuse disorders and mental health conditions among veterans.

Butler is grateful his journey led him to the University of Minnesota, where he’s leaned on support from the University Veterans Service office while gaining the education and experience to move into the next phase of his career. In the nurse anesthesia program, he’ll complete approximately 3,000 hours of clinical work by graduation, most of it at the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Health Care System as part of a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs scholarship program. It’s a setting that allows him to further his nursing skills while drawing on his military background.

“When I’m at the VA, I’m able to talk like, ‘Oh, what unit are you from? And where’d you come from? And what engagements have you served in?’” he said. “It’s easy to have that conversation, with almost immediate camaraderie.”

As a nurse and officer in the United States Army, Kirk Butler oversaw post-deployment reassessment of more than 4,000 soldiers at Joint Base Lewis-McChord near Tacoma, Washington. Now, he’s a student in the Doctor of Nursing Practice nurse anesthesia program.
continued from page 14

A HISTORY OF COLLABORATION, INNOVATION
Examples of this history of collaboration and innovation between the school and military are easy to identify, whether it was during World War I, when the school trained Navy Corpsmen, or in World War II, when the school trained the largest group of nurses in the nation — 1,215 nurses — for the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps.

“The school takes great pride in its history of preparing nurses for wartime duties,” said Christine Mueller, PhD, RN, FGSA, FAAN, senior executive associate dean for academic programs. “And we are grateful to have such a strong partner in the Minneapolis VA for clinical education.”

The partnership between the school and the VA to provide clinical education dates back to 1977 and continues today.

“The students are sharp as tacks and they know all of the latest literature and the latest medications and treatments. They help us to deliver world-class, cutting-edge care.” said Helen Pearlman, MS, RN, nurse executive for the Minneapolis VA Health Care System. “These partnerships with the School of Nursing are invaluable to the VA.”

The partnership to educate nurse anesthetists like Butler began in 1996, when the Minneapolis VA entered into an agreement with the school to offer a master’s level program. By 2004 the VA School of Anesthesia became the University of Minnesota School of Nursing’s nurse anesthesia program, and, eventually, the partnership led to the first Doctor of Nursing Practice program in nurse anesthesia in the United States.

Clinical education was further enriched with the VA Nursing Academic Partnership (VANAP), a five-year program that allowed the school to increase the number of students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, while providing specialized training about veterans’ health. As part of that program, the school strategically integrated veteran-centered health curriculum into the education that all Bachelor of Science in Nursing students receive. Health topics like PTSD, chemical exposure, amputation, traumatic brain injury and substance use disorder as they are experienced by veterans were integrated into the curriculum. “Everybody learned a great deal about veterans and their health care needs,” said Elaine Darst, PhD, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, LPC-C, co-director of the BSN program and co-director of VANAP, who’s become a leader in veteran-centered health care curriculum and presented on the topic nationally and internationally. “To incorporate veteran-centered curriculum well, it was important to have a strong partnership with the VANAP leadership.”

‘A DEEP HONOR’
Recently, the Minneapolis VA, in partnership with the school, was one of 11 sites nationally selected to educate leaders and scholars in health care improvement to lead change nationally and internationally as part of the VA Quality Scholars Program. It is a two-year doctoral fellowship, with an emphasis on interprofessional, veteran-focused health care improvement. “Being able to participate in the care of our veterans is a deep honor,” said Clinical Associate Professor Judy Pe cachek, DNP, CENP, RN, director of the DNP program, who is dedicating time at the VA as a senior quality scholar. “The common thread that you see and feel and hear when you’re at the VA is that everyone is there to serve veterans and they are humbled to be able to serve them. To participate with them in that mission is so aligned with the School of Nursing mission.”

For Butler, the longstanding partnership between the Minneapolis VA and School of Nursing has provided him with the foundation he needs to be a CRNA. “This is the path that I’ve always wanted to carve,” said Butler. “I wanted to do pain management, especially for veterans, and the University of Minnesota has such a strong emphasis on that. I’ve been incredibly fortunate to work with the staff of Minneapolis VA. So I’m excited to move into post-graduation and work as a nurse anesthetist in this field.”

Two students named Tillman Scholars
Two University of Minnesota School of Nursing students were named Tillman Scholars for the class of 2019 by the Pat Tillman Foundation. Army veteran Kirk Butler and military spouse Bridget Gehrz are among the 60 elite, national recipients selected this year. In recognition of their service, leadership and potential, the newly-selected class will collectively receive more than $1.2 million in scholarship funding to pursue higher education.

Butler, from Sikeston, Missouri, is applying his education and military experience to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist.

Gehrz, from Woodbury, Minnesota, is focused on integrative health and healing within her Doctor of Nursing Practice studies and hopes to help survivors of trauma and loss by taking a whole-person approach to healing that balances a healthy lifestyle and professional services. Gehrz, who lost her husband — a Navy veteran who died by suicide after suffering from a post-traumatic stress disorder — has found a passion in working to help others after experiencing her own loss.

“I am completely humbled to have been chosen as one of 60 Tillman Scholars,” said Gehrz. “The nursing profession is a serving profession and I was drawn to the story of Pat Tillman, his selflessness to give up a life he had planned for one of service and sacrifice to our country.”

Since the Tillman Scholars program began in 2008, four students from the School of Nursing have received this award.

SHOW YOUR SCHOOL OF NURSING PRIDE IN STYLE

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In the early days of the AIDS crisis, a diagnosis usually meant life would be dramatically shortened. But according to recent research, improvements in antiretroviral agents and access to treatment mean that people living with HIV in Europe and North America can now expect to live a normal life expectancy. The key to longevity, researchers say, is ensuring people take their medication and receive up-to-date, well-coordinated care for the side effects and other health conditions they often experience, particularly as they age. 

But providing that level of care is going to be challenging. Currently more than 1.1 million adults and adolescents in the U.S. have HIV and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that nearly 40,000 Americans are newly infected each year. At the same time, many longtime HIV clinicians are retiring or preparing to retire, prompting the American Academy of HIV Medicine and other institutions to warn that the country is facing a critical shortage of HIV/AIDS-focused providers.

To help address this anticipated workforce shortage, the Midwest AIDS Training + Education Center (MATEC), with funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), began piloting an Interprofessional Collaborative Practice in HIV Care course in 2017. The course is taught by University of Minnesota faculty and gives students from the School of Nursing, Medicine, Pharmacy and Social Work an opportunity to share knowledge and learn the latest team-based HIV care strategies. “This program is so important because HIV is not just an infectious disease anymore. It’s a chronic illness that requires people to engage with the health care system for their entire lives,” said Nicole Benson, a project associate with MATEC.

Benson coordinates the 10-week course in collaboration with faculty from each of the four disciplines, including School of Nursing Clinical Professor Melissa Saftner, PhD, CNM, APRN, as well as MATEC Site Director Sarah Rybicki, MSW, MPH. Students participate in classroom and online learning, clinical observation in HIV care settings and panel discussions—one with people currently living with HIV and another with a group of interprofessional practitioners. “Students like that they’re not only gaining knowledge about how to care for people with HIV/AIDS, they’re also learning about the complexities and challenges of HIV-related care and how a team-based, intercollaborative approach can benefit patients and practitioners,” said Benson.

Megan Danielson, who will graduate from the Doctor of Nursing Practice program with a specialty in adult gerontological primary care in 2020, recently completed the HIV Care course after working closely with HIV patients for the past two years as a registered nurse with the M Health Infectious Disease Clinic. “I really enjoy helping patients with HIV optimize their health and live their best lives, and the course was a great opportunity to enhance my knowledge of HIV care,” she said.

She appreciated the opportunity to interact with students from other disciplines. “We all had varying degrees of experience with HIV patients and HIV care, so the class felt like a big discussion and hearing other perspectives from students in pharmacy, medicine and social work helped me fill in the gaps where I needed help,” she said. Danielson also valued that the class challenged students to work interprofessionally as a team to create a plan of care for a hypothetical HIV patient. “It made it feel much more realistic to learn in a setting with students from other disciplines because those are the same professionals I will be working and interacting with as a nurse practitioner every day,” she said.

In addition to being an enriching learning experience for students interested in HIV care and other health-related fields, the course also offers needed insight into the barriers and challenges HIV patients face and promotes a better understanding of the health and government policies that impact HIV care. Currently at the end of its first four-year funding cycle, MATEC recently received a new five-year grant from HRSA and Benson expects the course will continue to expand and grow. “Whether they want to go into HIV care or not, students say the class shows them the value of interprofessional practice and they tell me, ‘That’s how I want to practice,’” she said.
After graduating from the School of Nursing’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, Grace Brooks was both excited and nervous about her first nursing position at Children’s Hospital on the critical care float team. So when she had the opportunity to be paired with an alum who also worked at Children’s through a mentorship program led by the School of Nursing Alumni Board, she was quick to sign up. “I’ve always been someone who wants to learn more and get involved, and I liked the idea of being able to talk to someone who has gone through very similar experiences and could offer me guidance,” said Brooks. “Knowing that I could turn to someone who brings that different level of understanding was reassuring.”

Brooks was paired with Yumi Izumi, who graduated from the Master of Nursing program in 2016 and helped launch the program in 2017. “During the first year as a nurse, there are a lot of things that you learn on the fly. I wanted to pass that along because those tidbits really did make quite a bit of difference,” said Izumi. “Nurses can be really hard on themselves, so it’s important that they have someone saying ‘you’re ok, you’re doing a good job, just keep at it.’”

Brooks said Izumi’s guidance and supportive ear was particularly meaningful after she experienced her first death of a patient. “It was very unexpected and very quick, and after it all happened it was nice to have Yumi to talk through it. I questioned if I should go back to work the next day or if I should take a day off. Having someone to talk through some of that self-care side of it was nice. Especially as a new nurse, I didn’t even know what would be appropriate.”

In the days after, she received texts and cards from other nurses who wanted her to know they were thinking about her. “I felt incredibly, incredibly supported,” said Brooks, who said that experience ultimately made her feel more invested in the profession.

When the Alumni Board launched the mentorship program, it was specifically designed to help new nurses stay connected to the profession. “There were a number of research papers that we discussed in school and one of things that really caught my eye was the attrition rate for new grads,” said Izumi. An estimated 30-50% of all new RNs choose to change positions or leave nursing entirely within the first three years of clinical practice. “I thought the idea that half of us won’t stick with this profession was so tragic,” said Izumi.

The mentorship program now pairs 50 new nurses with mentors each year, with a few structured events to help the pairs get to know each other. The Alumni Board also engaged the University of Minnesota Alumni Association resources for programming ideas. “We want new nurses to keep loving the profession and to see the Alumni Board as a resource for them,” said Director of Alumni Relations Barb Mullikin.

ENHANCED CAREER SERVICES
Simultaneously, as the momentum for the mentorship program grew, the Office of Student Advancement and Career Services began an effort to improve career services. “We assessed what students wanted and that helped speak to the services we enhanced,” said Marc Skjerven, director of the Office of Student and Career Advancement Services.

Career services offered include career coaching appointments with resume reviews and mock interviews, workshops and a career fair. Resume and cover letter reviews are the most requested service. “They start out wanting their resume reviewed but then it turns into coaching and how to leverage past experiences to demonstrate their preparedness for the position they are applying for,” said Skjerven.

The coaching reflects insight gained from research with recruiters from various health systems about what they look for in resumes of newly-graduated prelicensure students. “They gave us really helpful information, like the importance of clinical and practicum experience,” said Skjerven.

For Brooks, the support she received from the school helped her navigate the challenges of her first year as a nurse. Although the 11-month mentorship program with Izumi ended, they continue to stay in touch. And when Brooks was asked if she was willing to mentor a new nurse, she didn’t hesitate to help. “I know I’m going to get back what I put into it,” said Brooks. “It works really well.”

By Brett Stursa

“We want new nurses to keep loving the profession and to see the Alumni Board as a resource for them.”
– Director of Alumni Relations Barb Mullikin

MENTORING new nurses
School enhances career services after assessing students and health system recruiters
Strengthening global PARTNERSHIPS

The School of Nursing continues to expand its network of global relationships with recent visits that support new and renewed partnerships. This summer, Dean Connie White Delaney, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI, FNAP, and Director of Global Health Carolyn Porta, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, traveled to the University of Rwanda for an agreement signing. That signing comes after signings and additional relationship-building activities in Thailand, Taiwan and Vietnam earlier this year.

The global partnerships are critical to the success of the school’s overarching vision of a world where nurses lead collaborative efforts to attain optimal health for all people. The school’s global priorities include research collaboration, doctoral student recruitment, and strengthening student and faculty cultural appreciation through exchange.

“At the core of these partnerships are relationships. It is through relationships that we have potential to grow in our understanding and appreciation of diverse beliefs, behaviors, ideas and solutions,” said Porta. “Our global relationships remind us that the world is a small place, that desire for health and wellbeing is universal and that with privilege comes responsibility.”

In the last school year, five global experiences were offered to students with partners in Cuba, Guatemala Iceland, Ireland and Uganda. The school also hosted a visiting scholar from the University of Rwanda, Alice Nyraragama.

“Global experiences like these have the potential to encourage exchange of cultural knowledge, contextualize understanding of health and wellbeing, and build relationships among faculty and students,” said Porta.
In 2017, 68 million people were forcibly displaced due to conflict, persecution, violence and human rights violations. That same year, another nearly 19 million people in 135 countries were displaced by sudden onset disasters.

For a small group of vulnerable refugees with no other options (less than 1% of refugees worldwide), the United Nations facilitates relocation to a third country. Some of these refugees are relocated to the United States through the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program. As part of the process, refugees undergo thorough health screenings and preventative care to decrease the risk of transmissible infections, ensure a healthy resettlement and improve integration into local communities. As the population of displaced people has grown substantially in the past decade, so too has the demand for these screenings conducted by the United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM).

To increase its capacity to perform these assessments, IOM has partnered with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the University of Minnesota’s Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility. Assistant Professor Sarah Hoffman, PhD, MPH, RN, has led the nursing component of the IOM project and has facilitated train-the-trainer programs in Uganda and Thailand. These trainings have provided opportunities for nurses, public health and other health professionals from the
“Our focus is to partner with these nurses to advance clinical nursing practice by strengthening teaching skill sets and effective mentorship, and examining opportunities to develop nurses in expert and leadership roles.”

— Sarah Hoffman, assistant professor

University and Minnesota community to engage international partners in mutual benefit to understand the process of refugee resettlement, facilitate communication as refugees resettle and to learn from international colleagues.

“IOM nurses are doing incredibly effective mentorship, and examining opportunities to develop nurses in expert and leadership roles.” said Hoffman.

There are more than 500 IOM nurses and scores of physicians in these challenging settings. The settings are difficult because refugees may hide some of their medical conditions due to concerns that if they reveal them, they may not be allowed to resettle to the U.S. This places these nurses and physicians in an unusual role as they feel they are viewed as gatekeepers in the resettlement process — although this fear is somewhat unfounded since refugees with medical conditions, to date, are allowed to resettle.

Nonetheless, Hoffman said, “They are working to understand factors surrounding health that may be hidden as a result of stigma, shame or fear. IOM providers must establish rapport and interpersonal connections with refugee clients, despite these circumstances.”

Hoffman describes her involvement with the UN Migration Agency Project as the most complex public health work that she’s been involved with. “It’s hard to anticipate what the next wave of displacement or global forced migration will look like in terms of scale or area of the world. This translates into uncertainty about how you prepare for what you will encounter from a health standpoint, as well as culturally, ethnically or linguistically in the clinic,” said Hoffman. “Success for us is supporting the development of a health care system that can be flexible and adapt to those kinds of changes.”

In developing the trainings, Hoffman and Andrew Olson, MD, associate professor from the University’s Medical School, have modeled interprofessional collaboration to reinforce the value of what that means for successful outcomes. “IOM is working to build a culture where all professions are recognized equally for what they contribute to the patient experience,” said Hoffman. “We want to model that, it has come very naturally within the project team.”

While the future of the program remains uncertain because of the current administration, Hoffman and team continue to look at ways of improving the system. Hoffman will be mentoring Shanna Miko, a Doctor of Nursing Practice student in the health innovation and leadership specialty. Miko is embarking on a fellowship in Kampala, Uganda where she will work with the IOM to help plan the future direction of the nursing training.

Nurse and health care leaders convened in Minneapolis for the seventh Nursing Knowledge: Big Data Science Conference to advance a national action plan to ensure that nursing data are captured and available in sharable, comparable formats for clinicians, researchers, policy makers and others to advance person-centered care and improve health outcomes.

“The vision of this Big Data initiative has always been about how information systems, including the EHR and other sources of data, come together in a meaningful and synergistic way, with the goal of improving health,” said Connie White Delaney, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI, FNAP, University of Minnesota School of Nursing dean.

The three-day conference included reports from 11 work groups on their major achievements accomplished throughout the year and planning for the coming year. Speakers emphasized the importance of the flow of information across the continuum of care, interoperability and data analytics to support decisions, which are increasingly important for the coming year. Speakers emphasized the importance of the flow of information across the continuum of care, interoperability and data analytics to support decisions, which are increasingly important with the focus on value-based care.

Cyrus Batheja, EdD, MBA, PHN, BSN, RN, chief growth officer, myConnections and national Medicaid vice president United Healthcare Community and Data, shared examples of using big data to better understand complex care of Medicaid members.

CONNECTIONS MADE AT CONFERENCE ARE CREATING CHANGE

For Erin Maughan, PhD, RN, PHNA-BC, FNASN, FAAN, the director of research for the National Association of School Nurses (NASN), the relationships forged at the conference were instrumental in NASN being awarded a contract from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop a national platform to collect and analyze data pertaining to chronic conditions and their association with school absenteeism and withdrawal.

“I see here the possibilities of more partnerships as well as actually thinking about that systematic change,” said Maughan. “I glean information from who to talk to, who is the expert in documentation, or who’s the expert in this area as well as actually thinking about that systematic change.”

Connections were made at the conference.

The next Nursing Knowledge: Big Data Science Conference will be held June 3-5, 2020, in Minneapolis.
Exploring leadership, innovation in INTEGRATIVE NURSING

Bakken Center for Spirituality & Healing convenes symposium in Ireland

by Kit Breshears

Nearly 300 nurses and health professionals from 15 countries gathered in Ireland at the Third International Integrative Nursing Symposium in May. Convened by the Earl E. Bakken Center for Spirituality & Healing, the University of Minnesota School of Nursing and the University of Arizona College of Nursing, the symposium explored the themes of Leadership and Innovation in Integrative Nursing.

“Integrative nursing is an emerging focus of practice that is impacting nursing care worldwide across clinical settings and patient populations,” said Mary Jo Kreitzer, PhD, RN, FAAN, director of the Bakken Center for Spirituality & Healing, professor in the School of Nursing, and co-coordinator of the Doctor of Nursing Practice integrative health and healing specialization. “It is an exciting area of knowledge development that is completely aligned with the School of Nursing’s mission to generate knowledge and prepare nurse leaders who will improve the health and wellbeing of people and systems of care worldwide.”

An international cohort of keynote and plenary presenters covered topics that included person-centered care, the impact of integrative nursing on patient outcomes, integrative nursing research and leadership. An Irish nurse leader, Geraldine Murray, gave a presentation about the life and legacy of Irish nursing leader Peta Taaffe, who led many reforms in Ireland that transformed the profession. “It was a great honor to have Peta Taaffe in attendance, as well as other nurse leaders from across Ireland,” said Kreitzer. Many School of Nursing faculty led presentations and workshops during the symposium. In addition, faculty and alumni of the DNP program served on the Symposium Steering Committee.

“The most impactful aspect of the symposium was seeing how well represented Minnesota and the University of Minnesota were,” said Megan Voss, DNP, RN, integrative therapy program director for Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant at the University’s Masonic Children’s Hospital and assistant professor at the Bakken Center. “Our graduates are truly leading the charge.”

The Fourth International Nursing Symposium will be held in the United States in 2021. For more information, visit integrativenursingsymposium.com.

As the School of Nursing celebrates its 110th anniversary and the distinction of being the first school of nursing established in a university setting, there is so much to appreciate and value. Much of the history of the School of Nursing is memorialized on the Centennial Wall mural on the fourth floor of Weaver Denford Hall. Hovering above the images on the wall are the words of Katharine J. Densford from a 1948 speech she gave as president of the American Nurses Association.

“A profession in its thinking should be a generation or two ahead of the public. Keeping abreast of the world situation is not enough. At the same time, its position of leadership demands the nursing profession take on more and more responsibility for service, locally, nationally and even internationally. My job as President has permitted me to travel widely and associate with nurses all over the world. And this broad experience has borne out my conviction that what anyone of us does anywhere affects all of us everywhere, in nursing too, there is only one world.”

Densford embodied future consciousness. Researchers Alhvenharju, Minkkinen, & Latot (2018) note there are five dimensions to future consciousness:

- A perspective on time that involves an understanding of the past, present and future as well as the value of long-term thinking.
- Agency beliefs and trust in the ability of people to influence future events.
- Openness and critical questioning of established truths and seeing possibilities of change.
- A systems perspective with the ability to see interconnectedness between human and natural systems as well as the complex consequences of decisions.
- Concern for others’ aspirations for a better world for everyone.

The next century of nursing leadership

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The next century of nursing leadership

The next century of nursing leadership
Researchers help communities tell their story about opioids with data

Researchers from the Center for Nursing Informatics collaborated with communities throughout Minnesota, together with Clarence Jones from the Hua-MAN Partnership and Milton Eder from the Center for Translational Sciences Institute, partnered on a project to help communities decide what data they need to tell their story and to learn more about their needs in relationship to opioids.

State-of-the-science mobile health applications together with data visualization techniques are transforming the way communities gather and share information to influence policy and improve community resilience. Over the past year, together with nursing informatics Doctor of Nursing Practice students Carmen Ondarra and Irene Oghumah, the project group has collaborated with numerous communities throughout Minnesota as well as the state epidemiologists to encourage data-driven science for communities and policy makers.

Abusing and overdosing on opioids — the opioid epidemic — can be perceived as a crime in minority communities, while assumed to be a health issue when affecting the majority. The project Shifting Abusing and overdosing on opioids — the opioid epidemic — can be perceived as a crime in minority communities, while assumed to be a health issue when affecting the majority.

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Drake selected as AAN FELLOW
3 alumni, 1 student also join Academy

Clinical Associate Professor Diana Drake, DNP, APRN, WHNP, was selected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. The achievement is considered one of the highest honors in the nursing profession. Fellow selection criteria include evidence of significant contributions to nursing and health care. Selection is based, in part, on the extent the nominee’s nursing career has influenced health policies and the health and wellbeing of all.

Drake is a women’s health nurse practitioner and is the director of faculty practice at the Women’s Health Specialists Clinic at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. “She has provided exemplary leadership to shape Minnesota’s first integrative women’s health clinic coupled with an intentional interprofessional learning experience for students,” said Christine Mueller, PhD, RN, FGSA, FAAN, senior executive associate dean for academic programs.

Drake is the specialty coordinator of the women’s health nurse practitioner Doctor of Nursing Practice program at the School of Nursing. She serves as chair-elect to the Nurse Practitioners in Women’s Health board of directors. “She adamant about influencing policy to improve care for women,” said Mueller. Drake joins 33 faculty at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing who have been honored as AAN fellows.

3 ALUMNI, 1 STUDENT JOIN ACADEMY

Three alumni of the school’s PhD program will be inducted to the Academy this year. They are Susan Gross Forneris, PhD, RN, CNE, CHSE-A, Karen E. Johnson, PhD, RN, FSAHM; and Sarah A. Stoddard, PhD, RN, CNP, FSNAHM. Doctor of Nursing Practice student Katie Huffling, MS, RN, CNM, also will be inducted. Those selected to join the Academy will be inducted at a ceremony in October.

School celebrates 110-YEAR legacy, affirms its future

University of Minnesota School of Nursing alumni, faculty, students and special guests filled McNamara Alumni Center May 1 to celebrate the School of Nursing’s 110-year legacy and affirm its future. Nursing education and the profession were forever changed when Richard Olding Beard led the first successful effort to establish nursing in an institution of higher learning at the University of Minnesota in 1909.

Speakers at the 110 celebration included retired U.S. Army Lt. Gen. and OptumServe CEO Patricia Horoho, who was introduced by retired U.S. Army Brig. Gen. and AAN Living Legend Clara Adams-Ender. Horoho spoke about the opportunity to carry the legacy of care forward and engage the next generation of nurses so that we arm them with the imperative of moral courage, resilience and agility, and she acknowledged her appreciation for the school’s legacy.

“Thank you, when the world was watching, that you all stepped forward in World War I and supported training military nurses. Thank you, when the world was watching, that you all stepped forward for World War II and you trained military nurses,” said Horoho. “You all have shown the moral courage, the resiliency and what it takes when a nation is watching to be able to stand up and have an impact.”

Executive Vice President and Provost Karen Hanson spoke about the importance of the school nationally and within the University. “When this school was founded in 1909 as the University of Minnesota School for Nurses it was the first out of more than 1,000 nursing schools in the country to be under a university umbrella. While the other nursing schools for the most part were part of a hospital, our school was focused on educating rather than simply training for duty,” said Hanson. “Then and now, the School of Nursing has been a key contributor to the University’s fulfillment of the fundamental land grant mission.”

Jakub Tolar, vice president of Academic Clinical Affairs and dean of the Medical School, congratulated the school on its anniversary. “I have a tremendous sense of gratitude to nursing, which, in my world, is absolutely fundamental,” said Tolar. “Nursing is the backbone of everything we do in health care.”

Alum and Northeast Middle School nurse Nathan Grumdahl, BSN, spoke of the role of nurses, evoking Florence Nightingale. “We as nurses carry a special burden or gift depending on how you look at it,” he said. “We all have a light that we can shine on the dark places.”

“At the University of Minnesota School of Nursing we can be tremendously proud of where we have come from over these past 110 years,” said Dean Connie White Delaney. “More importantly, we can dream and envision where we are headed.”
The state of Minnesota will begin licensing assisted living facilities, the last state in the country to do so, thanks in part to research conducted by Research Associate Eliun Caspi, PhD. Caspi’s research on deaths and hospitalizations at senior living facilities was included in an Elder Voice Family Advocates report, Inhumane and Deadly Neglect Revealed in State Assisted Living Facilities, that was presented to legislators. Licensure for assisted living facilities in Minnesota will be required as of August 2021.

The appointment shows the school’s growing commitment to planetary health and the environment and the health of the planet. Potter has been leading an interprofessional effort across the University to develop and incorporate education, outreach and activist efforts.

BRIEFLY

Research assists in new assisted living facility licensing

Joan T.A. Gabel, JD, took office as the 17th president of the University of Minnesota. Gabel most recently served as executive vice president and provost at the University of South Carolina. Previously, Gabel held faculty appointments at Georgia State University and served as the DeSeantos Professor and chair of the Department of Risk Management/Insurance, Real Estate and Legal Studies at Florida State University. She also served as dean of the College of Business at the University of Missouri's Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business. Her inauguration was held at Northrop Auditorium on Sept. 20.

School names first director of planetary health

The School of Nursing named Clinical Professor Teddie Potter, PhD, RN, FAAN, as its first director of planetary health. The appointment shows the school’s growing commitment to planetary health and addressing the relationship between human health, the environment and the health of the planet.

Collaboratory shows support for planetary health

The School of Nursing named Midori Green, PhD, as the school’s first director of planetary health. Green most recently served as the 17th president of the University of Missouri's Robert J. Trulaske, Sr. College of Business. Her inauguration was held at Northrop Auditorium on Sept. 20.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Leigh Bachman, MS, joined the school as the Population Health and Systems cooperative assistant. Bachman comes to school from the Bio-Medical Library. She earned a master’s degree in library and information science and a bachelor’s degree in linguistics from the University of Michigan.

Limea Benike, DNP, RN, PCCN, joined the school as a clinical assistant professor. She also serves as a nurse at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. She earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing and a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Minnesota.

Midori Green, PhD, joined the school as a program specialist, providing support to five of the school’s centers. Green earned a PhD in anthropology from the University of Minnesota. Previously, she has worked in the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Design.

Leahy Howard, MS, joined the school as the director of research for the Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach Center. Howard earned a bachelor’s degree in anthropology from Beloit College and a master’s degree and PhD in anthropology from the New School for Social Research in New York.

Lisa Moon, PhD, joined the school as a clinical assistant professor. Her research focus is consumer-mediated data management, data governance, public policy and legal regulation necessary for health data. Moon earned a PhD in Nursing from the University of Minnesota and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Michigan. She has held previous positions at UnitedHealth Group and the Minnesota Department of Health.

Kristina Ranney, BS, joined the school as a research professional on the Ready Steady Clinical Trial. She earned a bachelor’s degree in kinesiology from the University of Minnesota. Previously, she was a rehabilitation specialist at HealthSource Chiropractic.

Amanda Schub, PhD, APRN, PMHNP-BC, joined the school as clinical assistant professor. Schub has been a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner at Fairview Health Services in Burnsville since 2016. She earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and a master’s degree and PhD in Nursing from the University of Michigan.

Maggie Shea, BA, joined the school as an executive accounts specialist. She came from the accounting department of Northern Star Scouting. She earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Minnesota.

Maci Villavaincicncio, BA, joined the school as a program specialist for the Office of the Dean. She came to the school from HealthPartners, where she was a public health community relations program coordinator. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Minnesota State University Moorhead.
AWARDS AND HONORS

Professor Melissa Avery, PhD, APRN, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, was invited to participate in the National Academy of Sciences panel Innovative Practice Models to speak about interprofessional education and collaborative practice initiatives in maternity care.

Cultivating your inner Wonder Woman: Policy advocacy, written by Clinical Associate Professor Diana Drake, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, was selected among the favorite articles published in 2018 by Women’s Healthcare: A Clinical Journal for NPs.

Associate Professor Niloufar Haddadi, PhD, APRN, CNS-BC, FAHA, was appointed to the position of vice-chair of the Stroke Nursing Committee of the Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing. In addition, she was selected to attend the National Institute of Nursing Research Summer Genetics Institute.

The Journal of Vascular Nursing selected an article by Assistant Professor Laura Kirk, PhD, RN, as the winner of its 21st annual Writing Award.

Professor Joan Liaschenko, PhD, RN, HCEC-C, FAAN, is an American Society for Bioethics and Humanities certified healthcare ethics consultant. The Healthcare Ethics Consultant-Certified program is the first certification program that identifies and assesses a national standard for the professional practice of clinical health care ethics consulting.

The eighth edition of Complementary & Alternative Therapies in Nursing, edited by Professor Emeritus Ruth Lindquist, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN, Associate Professor Mary Fran Tracy, PhD, APRN, CNS, FAAN, and Professor Emeritus Mariah Snyder, PhD, won an American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award, placing third in the Adult Primary Care category.

Professor Wendy Looman, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC, received the 2019 Innovative Contribution to Family Nursing Award from the International Family Nursing Association.

Assistant Professor Ryan Mays, PhD, MPH, advanced to fellow status in the Society for Vascular Medicine. In addition, his abstract was chosen as a Best of SVI Science for the Society for Vascular Medicine 2019 Annual Scientific Sessions.

Professor Karen Monsen, PhD, RN, FAAN, was the recipient of two research awards at the Midwest Nursing Research Society’s conference, the Research Excellence Award from the Population Health Research Interest Group as well as the Senior Investigator Award from the Health Systems, Policy and Informatics Research Interest Group.

Christine Mueller, PhD, RN, FGSA, FAAN, professor and senior executive associate dean for academic programs, received the President’s Award for Outstanding Service. She also was elected vice chair of the Gerontological Society of America Health Sciences section.

Professor Susan O’Connor-Von, PhD, RN-BC, CHPPN, was named a recipient of the 2018-2019 Award for Outstanding Nursing by the University of Minnesota, and was named a member of the Academy of Distinguished Teachers. In addition, she was awarded the 2019 Award for Outstanding Nurse Educator by Mpls.St.Paul Magazine.

Professor Dan Paust, PhD, RN, FAAN, received a Visionary Leader Award from University of Texas Health San Antonio for his noteworthy contributions to the nursing profession, including his commitment to educating future nurse leaders, leadership on numerous boards and significant work in nursing education known around the world.

Clinical Associate Professor Barbara Peterson, PhD, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, Professor Merrie Kaa, PhD, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, FGSA, FAAN, and Clinical Assistant Professor Elena Geiger-Simpson, DNP, APRN, PMHN-BC, received first place poster recognition in the education/teaching pedagogy category at International Psychiatric Nurses Association for their poster, Translating Interprofessional Education into Psychiatric Practice Settings: Feedback from Graduates.

Professor Carolyn Porta, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, was named associate vice president in the Office of Academic Clinical Affairs. She also received the 2019 Janice Burgess Forensic Nursing Research Award from the International Association of Forensic Nurses and the Leadership Award from the Women’s Health Leadership Trust.

Clinical Professor Toddle Potter, PhD, RN, FAAN, spoke on the panel Climate Crisis or Opportunity? Nursing Actions for a Healthy Future during the United Nations Civil Society Conference.

Assistant Professor Lisiane Prunelli, PhD, RN, was the keynote speaker at the 30th Nursing Scientific Week of the Hospital de Clínicas of Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Clinical Professor Melissa Saftner, PhD, APRN, CNM, FACNM, was awarded the Kitty Ernst Award by the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

Clinical Professor Diane Treat-Jacobson, PhD, RN, MSVM, FAAN, was conferred as a Master of the Society for Vascular Medicine (SVM). She is the first nurse to receive the distinction. In addition, she was named the recipient of one of the 2019 colleagues/campus-wide Community Engaged Scholar Awards.

12 RECOGNIZED for service as preceptors

Preceptors are an integral part of nursing education. They help students apply new classroom knowledge in a clinical setting, serve as a role models, and improve the quality of health care by shaping the next generation of nurses.

In the 2018-19 academic year, the School of Nursing was fortunate to have 402 preceptors working with its graduate students in six states and Canada. At a ceremony during the Doctor of Nursing Practice Enhancement and Enrichment Programming (DEEP), each of the DNP specialties honored its preceptor of the year.

2018-19 PRECEPTOR AWARDS

Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty – Carie Thiner, DNP, APRN, CNP, Park Nicollet Clinic Shakopee

Adult Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Specialty – Michelle Christian, APRN, CNP, PHN, Dakota Child and Family Clinic

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialty – Alison Johnson, DNP, MBA, APRN, CNP, Hennepin County, Healthcare for the Homeless

Primary Care Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Specialty – Cynthia Hibbs, MA, APRN, CPNP-PC, Wayzata Children’s Hospital

Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner Specialty – Gina Liverson, DNP, APRN, WHNP-FN, Planned Parenthood

Adult Gerontological Clinical Nurse Practitioner Specialty – Michael Petty, PhD, APRN, CCNS, ACHS-BC, UMMC Fairview

Nurse Anesthesia Specialty – Dan Levine, MS, APRN, CRNA, Regions Hospital

Nurse Midwifery Specialty – Marsha Travis, APRN, CNM, UMP Women’s Health Specialists (retired)

Nursing Informatics Specialty – Kari Miller, DNP, RN, PHN, Optum

Health Innovation and Leadership Specialty – Stephanie Gingerich, DNP, RN, Fairview Health Services

Integrative Health and Healing Specialty – Denise Wills, RN, NC-BC, HNB-BC, CHT, Woodwinds Health Campus

Post-Master’s DNP – Debra Hurd, MN, MBA, RN, PHN, Fairview Health Services

For those interested in working with graduate nursing students, the School of Nursing created an introductory module. Visit https://umn.edu/4K83 to learn more and become a preceptor.
ROOTED TO RURAL anesthesia care

After graduating from the School of Nursing, Casey Wangen headed home to Crookston to be a CRNA

by Brett Stursa

Trauma is everywhere and Crookston, Minnesota — a town of 8,000 located 100 miles from the Canadian border — is no different. As a nurse anesthetist at the local hospital, Casey Wangen, DNP ‘16, APRN, CRNA, knows that means his days are often high-stress and fast-paced.

“It is a lot of adrenalin and requires fast-on-your-toes thinking. It is very dynamic and changes by the minute. Your day can go from nothing to a 17-hour shift,” said Wangen.

In one day he can see the full spectrum of life, resuscitating a premature newborn and then hours later be in surgery with a 99-year-old with a broken hip. “One day I am doing lots of regional anesthesia, or blocks, then I am doing lots of spinal anesthesia for knee or hip replacements,” said Wangen. “We get to do emergency cases, traumas, and we are in obstetrics helping with labor pains. Then 10 minutes later I can be in the ER stabilizing a person who just got crushed by a bull or got an arm taken off by a piece of farm equipment. Like, boom, just like that my day changed. I love the responsibility. No day is even close to the same. I like that.”

Across rural America, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) are the primary providers of anesthesia care. In Crookston, CRNAs are the only providers of anesthesia care. At the critical access hospital in town, RiverView Health, Wangen is one of four CRNAs that provide all the anesthesia services — including surgical anesthesia, pain management, vascular access and emergency services — for the 25-bed hospital with about a dozen surgeons.

His work varies compared to that of peers he graduated with at the University of Minnesota, who largely practice in metro areas. “Their scope of practice is different than mine. I’m responsible for providing a variety of services throughout the entire hospital, whereas larger facilities have separate staff for different areas,” said Wangen. “Most of them are not doing regional anesthesia, like placing epidurals and spinal anesthetics, which is more the practice of their physician colleagues.”

As a nurse anesthetist in rural Minnesota, he said he spends anywhere from 30 to 70 hours at the hospital each week. He leans on regional anesthesia, or blocks, which are easier to recover from and typically mean less opioids are prescribed in the end. “It is very personalized,” said Wangen.

Wangen says that practicing in a small town means that he knows many of his patients.

continued on page 40
“In all of my training at the University of Minnesota, I would rarely see a patient again after a procedure,” said Wangen. “Here, in Crookston, I see them at the grocery store, at the bank or a sporting event. I see them at social outings, at restaurants. It was strange at first, but not anymore, since it happens all the time.”

**BARN THERAPY**

Now a father of two, Wangen lives on a ranch just outside of town with his wife, children, cows, horses and baby chickens.

“The barn is my therapy,” said Wangen. “I can be as strained and busy as ever at the hospital, but I know when I get home, I have to check on the horses and cows. As soon as I start with that, everything else just dissipates. It all goes away once I am out there.”

Crookston, sitting in the fertile Red River Valley, is a community built on agriculture. His family events can be held in a shop on a farmyard or might involve competing in rodeos.

“I am just rooted here so deep,” said Wangen. “It is God’s country. The farm life, the culture here, it all just suits me.”

**METRO EDUCATION READIED HIM FOR RURAL PRACTICE**

Wangen, who already had a bachelor’s degree in exercise physiology from Minnesota State University Moorhead, came to the University of Minnesota School of Nursing to earn a master’s degree. After earning his master’s degree in 2011, he practiced as an ICU nurse in a North Dakota hospital for two years before returning to the University of Minnesota to earn a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

As a student in the DNP nurse anesthesia program, he knew he’d have a variety of clinical experiences that would prepare him for a Crookston practice. “The U of M did a good job of setting up multiple rotations at different sites that are CRNA only, which really prepared me to do the work I am doing at Crookston now,” said Wangen. “I got to experience being in the city and I interacted with so many anesthesia providers, saw so many different techniques and used so many different medications in different ways.”

Wangen knew when he applied to the nurse anesthesia program that he would return to Crookston to provide care. His family’s roots run deep in the area, with family who are farmers and others who are health care providers.

“As soon as I graduated, we were northbound and the cityscape was in our rear view mirror,” said Wangen. “And I’ve never been happier.”

**• • •**

“It is a lot of adrenalin and requires fast-on-your-toes thinking. It is very dynamic and changes by the minute. Your day can go from nothing to a 17-hour shift.”

— Casey Wangen, DNP ’16, APRN, CRNA
Before Amy Hoelscher, DNP, RN, CPXP, could inspire her fellow nurses about the future of the profession, she needed to ground herself in the past. So the two-time School of Nursing graduate returned to her alma mater in search of historical context for her presentation on cultivating creativity and innovation at this year’s Planting Seeds of Innovation Conference.

As she paged through volumes of the American Journal of Nursing from the early 1900s, she saw scores of inventions created by nurses, from a device for heating bathtubs to a specialized stretcher for transporting patients with typhoid fever.

“Innovation, it turns out, is nothing new in nursing. “They saw a patient need and they created something to fix it,” she said. “We have this really rich history of being innovators that I didn’t know about.”

As the first School of Nursing graduate to be selected into the Earl E. Bakken Medical Devices Center Innovation Fellows Program, Hoelscher is keen on carrying that legacy forward. The one-year, immersive Innovation Fellows Program brings together professionals from across health care, bioscience and engineering to create novel and needed medical devices and develop future leaders in the medical technology industry.

It’s a fresh challenge for Hoelscher, who previously spent a decade as a nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at Children’s Minnesota in Minneapolis.

“I’m interested in innovation and how we can do health care differently,” said Hoelscher, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 2008 and a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in 2017. “What are things that we can work on?”

**BEYOND BEDSIDE**

Hoelscher was perfectly content in the neonatal intensive care unit, where she loved witnessing the resilience of newborns and watching parents build confidence. But then a colleague encouraged her to participate in the hospital’s evidence-based practice scholars program, in which frontline staff explore issues that are relevant to their day-to-day work by researching academic literature.

For Hoelscher, who researched the effects of lighting on babies in neonatal intensive care units, the experience tapped into her natural curiosity and left her wanting more. Her quest eventually led her to the School of Nursing’s Doctor of Nursing Practice program, where she specialized in health innovation and leadership.

“There’s a lot that I gained over those three years. Obviously the skills, knowledge and experiences to help move from bedside into other practices and the confidence to better lead health care into the future,” said Hoelscher.

**SEEKING INNOVATION**

The thought of taking an idea for an innovation beyond a recommendation and into iterations of prototypes drew Hoelscher to the fellows program. She and the rest of her class — two biomedical engineers and two physicians — got a one-month crash course in the medical technology landscape, U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations, potential investors and more. Then they visited area clinics, operating rooms and hospital units to identify gaps and opportunities.

“Sometimes innovation might start with, ‘We have this cool new technology. How do we roll that out and where can it be useful?’”

— Amy Hoelscher, DNP, RN, CPXP

Follow her **LEAD**

Amy Hoelscher, DNP ’17, BSN ’08, is carrying the legacy of nursing innovation forward...
ALUMNI AWARDS

The School of Nursing Alumni Society named the recipients of its annual awards — Rising Star, Distinguished Alumni Humanitarian and Excellence in Innovation — at the All School Reunion in April.

RISING STAR AWARD: RACHEL TRELSTAD-PORTER, DNP ’13

Trelstad-Porter serves as director of Integrative Health and Wellness at Woodbury Senior Living and is a Doctor of Nursing Practice student preceptor, a strong member of her facility’s leadership team and engaged promoter of integrative health services for residents and staff throughout Senior Care Communities. She is an accomplished scholar and co-author of a book chapter on integrative nursing in senior care. Trelstad-Porter’s work as a recent graduate exemplifies distinguished service to the profession of nursing and the community.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HUMANITARIAN AWARD: DONNA WRIGHT, MS ’93

Wright is a professional development specialist and consultant at Creative Healthcare Management and is an internationally recognized expert on competency assessment. She is also passionate about promoting the health and wellbeing of people living in impoverished nations. In 1987, Wright co-founded Global Health Ministries (GHM), a non-profit organization that provides financial support as well as medical supplies and equipment to people around the world. GHM serves several countries in Africa and the community.

EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION AWARD: COL. ADA COLLIER, DNP ’17

While a student in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program, Collier was the Commander of 452nd Aeromedical Staging Squadron at March Air Reserve Base in Riverside County, California. Her unit supported wartime and emergency operations. For her Doctor of Nursing Practice scholarly project in the health innovation and leadership specialty, Collier initiated an innovative approach for transforming the culture of a military unit by empowering frontline nurses to speak out, become clinical leaders and facilitate change. Collier’s work is innovative, culture-shifting and promotes optimal health through creating a culture of safety.

IN MEMORY

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CLASS NOTES

Oriana Beaudet, DNP ’17, spoke on the panel Climate Crisis or Opportunity? Nursing Actions for a Healthy Future during the United Nations Civil Society Conference. Col. Ada Collier, DNP ’17, was promoted to serve as the Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Readiness Policy and Oversight at the Office of the Secretary of Defense in the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. She works for the Department of Defense Military Health System with a specialty in the Reserves. This includes the system in the United States and in combat.

Maggie Leary, BSN ’17, accepted a position as charge nurse for Fresenius Kidney Care in Hayward, Wisconsin. Tina Bettin, DNP ’08, received the Clintonville Public School District’s distinguished Alumnus Honoris award. She graduated from Clintonville High School in 1981 and has been a nurse practitioner at ThedaCare Physicians since 2000. Bettin is currently a Wisconsin State Representative for the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and has been involved in the Rural Health Care Initiative that reaches outlying farm communities while giving back to her profession by teaching future students about the importance of excellent medical care.

Shane Garner, BSN ’08, was one of six recipients of the 2019 Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice given by University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Garner is a nurse anesthetist at Ripon Medical Center in Ripon, Wisconsin.

Kelly Stursa Suzan, MS ’08, was awarded a Geiger Gibson Health Policy Fellowship at the Milken Institute School of Public Health at The George Washington University. Brooke Geiselman Harle, BSN ’07, began serving as a family nurse practitioner at Fairview Range in Hibbing, Minnesota. Harle has previously worked at Essentia Health Clinics in Hibbing and Chisholm, and at the University of Minnesota-Fairview in the organ transplant unit, providing patient-centered care to organ recipients and organ donors.

Thomas Olson, PhD ’91, MS ’79, was named the director of the School of Nursing at Cal State University San Marcos. He has held administrative or teaching roles in nursing schools at universities since the early 1990s. His clinical focus is on psychiatric mental health nursing, with a special interest in mindfulness training, anxiety and addiction. He has conducted funded research on obsessive-compulsive disorder and the evolution of nursing education.

Cynthia Bultena, MS ’87, accepted the position as Chief Nursing and Patient Officer at St. Peter’s Health in Helena, Montana.

Margo Bachelor Karsten, BSN ’84, is the chief executive officer for Banner Health in northern Colorado, where she provides overall leadership for North Colorado Medical Center in Greeley, McKee Medical Center in Loveland, Banner Fort Collins Medical Center in Fort Collins, as well as area off-site facilities operated by the hospitals, and president of Banner Health’s Western Region where she oversees 11 acute and critical access hospitals in six states. Margo has recently been appointed co-leader of the women in leadership diversity and inclusion team for 50,000 employees.

Kathryn Davis Messerich, MS ’84, was selected by the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) to receive its 2019 Trial Judge of the Year Award. ABOTA is an organization of trial lawyers whose mission is to preserve the right to a civil jury trial guaranteed by the Seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and to elevate the standards of integrity, honor, ethics, civility and courtesy in the legal profession. Messerich’s chambers are located in the Dakota County Judicial Center in Hastings.

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 by visiting www.nursing.umn.edu/alumni.
ALUMNI BRIEF

Adams-Ender, MSN ’69, inducted into the Army Hall of Fame

Retired Brig. Gen. Clara Adams-Ender was inducted into the U.S. Army Hall of Fame by the Army Women’s Foundation. Adams-Ender, who earned a master’s degree in nursing from the University of Minnesota in 1969, rose from staff nurse in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps to chief of the Army Nurse Corps, commanding 22,000 nurses. She was the first Army nurse to command as a general officer when she assumed command of Fort Belvoir.

“Her career is legendary and her firsts are too many to mention,” said retired Command Sgt. Maj. Cindy Pritchett, Hall of Fame Committee chair, at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. Adams-Ender received an honorary doctoral degree from the University of Minnesota in 2009 and was named a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing in 2013. She currently serves on the School of Nursing Dean’s National Board of Visitors.

For the future of health care

Dear Friends of the School of Nursing,

On a warm autumn evening nearly two years ago, I had the pleasure of announcing Empowering Health, the School of Nursing’s $45 million philanthropic campaign to a gathering of our alumni and friends.

Only the second major fundraising campaign in our 110-year history, Empowering Health signifies our steadfast commitment to the communities that are depending on us to educate the health care leaders of tomorrow. We are adamant in our commitment to advance nursing education and research.

Since the kickoff, several have asked, “What does empowering health really mean?” The answer comes easily when you consider what the campaign will allow us to accomplish. When we reduce the average debt of a student to pursue their degree (currently more than $35,000 for BSN students and more than $87,000 for DNPs), we will be able to recruit students who are more representative of the communities they will serve. That is empowering health. When we address the decline in federal funding for research and discovery, we are empowering health. When we step up our efforts to recruit the best and brightest professors because we recognize the staggering number of nursing faculty who are approaching or at retirement age, we are empowering health.

The other question I have often received since we launched the campaign is, “why now?” My reply is that the health care needs of our communities has never been greater. Traditional funding sources cannot sustain our success. We need our philanthropic partners more than ever before. Our alumni and friends have answered the call and helped us raise over $36 million to date. We ask those who haven’t already joined us to help achieve our goal before the campaign closing date of June 30, 2021. The following pages will illustrate how your strategic investment today will empower our school to:

• Meet the financial needs of our students by increasing the number and size of scholarships to ensure that the most promising and passionate students are able to choose nursing

• Support research projects ranging from small-scale feasibility studies to predictive modeling that employs our school’s field shaping expertise in big data science

• Recruit and retain outstanding nurse educators who will teach hundreds of nursing students over their careers and strengthen our ability to attract funding for ground-breaking faculty-led research

If you have already made a gift to the campaign, you have our sincere gratitude. If you have not, we invite you to join us in this exciting opportunity.

Connie White Delaney
Professor and Dean
Preparation of Nurse Leaders

School of Nursing graduates are empowering health in Minnesota and around the world. Prepared to lead, discover and deliver compassionate care, our graduates are in high demand with a job placement rate of more than 95 percent.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

We aspire to increase the number and size of scholarships to remove the financial barriers that prevent promising students from applying and enrolling. Recruitment and retention of students of color and men in nursing are high priorities, and offering more scholarships to prelicensure students will support these goals.

Expanding our Doctor of Nursing Practice and PhD programs — both leading programs in the country — will ease dire shortages in primary care and address nursing faculty shortages. Scholarships for doctoral students will enable more nurses to choose graduate school, borrow and work less, and complete their degrees on time.

**STATE-OF-THE-ART LEARNING EXPERIENCES**

In order to prepare students for the future of health care delivery and nursing science, it is essential that the school provide state-of-the-art learning environments. The simulation opportunities need to reflect the continuum of care and provide for interprofessional, team-based opportunities.

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“I am proud of the school’s direction and its support of nursing at all levels.”

— Jeannine Rivet, UnitedHealth Group executive vice president, retired

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>62%</td>
<td>of students do not receive a School of Nursing scholarship</td>
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<table>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>$59,139</td>
<td>average student debt at graduation</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2.1M</td>
<td>in unmet financial need* for BSN students</td>
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<tr>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>funding minimum for named scholarship fund</td>
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*Unmet financial need is a financial aid calculation representing the gap between the cost of attendance and the student/family’s expected contribution (based on their financial circumstances) and all grants and scholarships that do not need to be paid back.*
Discovering what works in health

The School of Nursing is empowering health with the discovery of new approaches, interventions and prevention strategies. As the cost of health care continues to increase, and the disparities widen, nurse scientists are well positioned to find simple solutions to complex health problems.

Discovery always starts with a question. With their experience at the bedside, in clinics, home settings and in communities, nurses have the front-line perspective to ask the important questions:

- How could we prevent that?
- What if we tried this?
- Why did this work?

Their informed questions — combined with the scientific rigor gained from a PhD degree — prepare our faculty to ask and answer questions that can lead to less invasive, more effective and less costly care.

Increasingly, we rely on philanthropy to conduct preliminary studies to test methodology and prove an approach is viable. Examples of privately-funded research currently underway at the School of Nursing includes:

- Preventing diabetes in children in rural Minnesota
- Improving diagnosis and treatment of peripheral artery disease
- Helping children thrive through their chemotherapy treatment
- Predicting adverse events using big data

“Diabetes, obesity, and heart disease have no age limits nor are children immune to challenging health crises affecting communities. As a nurse researcher, Assistant Professor Anne Chevalier McKechnie, PhD, RN, has conducted research on the psychological toll a prenatal diagnosis of a serious health condition, such as congenital heart disease, can have on expectant parents. To help families navigate this difficult journey, she is developing Preparing Heart and Mind: A Nurse-Guided Patient Engagement Care Program for Parents and Healthcare Providers. One of the unique aspects of the program is an app designed to provide parents with emotional and educational resources, and connect them to a nurse who can be a consistent, supportive guide from pregnancy through infant hospitalization. The goal is to reduce distress and increase infant caregiving confidence for parents beginning before birth.”

— Anne Chevalier McKechnie, assistant professor

““This project draws on what parents and health care professionals have shared with me, and can lead to the best ways for meeting parents’ needs during this intensely challenging time. The seed funding from the School of Nursing Foundation allowed me to further develop new and innovative content for the patient engagement care program, which puts me in a stronger position for the next step of seeking federal funding.”

— Anne Chevalier McKechnie, assistant professor

“As academics we understand that research is vital to any field, and, especially rapidly changing fields like nursing. To honor Gail’s 50+ year career as a nurse clinician and nurse educator, we chose to establish through our estate the Gail C. and D. Jack Davis Fund for Nursing Faculty Research Award. Proceeds from the endowment will provide support for the Gail C. Davis Nursing Research Award to be made to a faculty or faculty members in the school. We are honored to be a part of the Empowering Health Campaign.”

— Gail C., MEd, nursing ’65, and D. Jack Davis
Ensuring FORWARD-THINKING FACULTY

Endowed professorships and chairs ensure our competitive edge

Outstanding faculty at the School of Nursing lead the way with their field-shaping research and their ability to inspire students and colleagues alike. As leaders in the school, they set the tone, the pace and the standard for excellence. Forty-five percent of the school’s current faculty are eligible to retire in the next five years, while our programs continue to grow. This is requiring us to redouble our efforts to recruit and retain the very best. Recruiting and retaining top nursing and research talent is a highly competitive endeavor. Professorships and chairs are essential tools that enable academic institutions to attract and keep their most creative, driven and productive leaders.

PROFESSORSHIPS AND CHAIRS AT THE SCHOOL OF NURSING
An endowed professorship or chair is a faculty position enhanced with the investment earnings from an endowment fund specifically established by a donor for a defined purpose. Professorships and chairs at the School of Nursing are used to support faculty in pushing the boundaries of their work, providing them with the time, thinking space and resources to excel in their field and empower health. Individual faculty are named to each position, by the school, for a designated period of time.

“...I chose to give to the campaign because I know how health care and the School of Nursing can change people’s lives. I want to support faculty who improve the lives of kids with special health needs, which has been a passion of mine throughout my career, and I want to support our students because they will be on the front lines of changing health care. It’s been a blessing to do this during my lifetime so I can experience the impact of my gifts. Now is the time to give.”

– Eileen Kalow, BSN ‘71, Pediatric Nurse Associate Certificate ’73

45%
faculty eligible to retire in 5 years

84
faculty in teaching and research positions

4
established chairs

3
established professorships

$2M
to establish a named endowed chair

$1M
to establish a named endowed professorship
Empowering Health
The Campaign for the School of Nursing

It’s our time to lead – join us!

$23M Preparing nurse leaders
$45M Ensuring forward-thinking faculty
$6M Transforming research
$6M Overall goal by June 30, 2021

SCHOOL OF NURSING

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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UnitedHealth Group
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Professor and Dean,
University of Minnesota School of Nursing
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Maria McLemore
Barbara Mullikin
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612-624-0103
kilbride@umn.edu
mmclenor@umn.edu
westr073@umn.edu

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE SCHOOL OF NURSING TODAY?
Make a gift online with your credit card
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Give by phone
612-624-3333
800-775-2187 (toll-free)
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University of Minnesota Foundation
PO Box 860266
Minneapolis, MN 55486-0266

HOW CAN I IMPACT NURSING LEADERS, TEACHERS AND DISCOVERIES TOMORROW?
You can make a commitment to support the School of Nursing through a planned gift by including the school in your will or trust or by designating it as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or life insurance policy. Learn more about how you can benefit the school by visiting give.umn.edu/waystogive or contact anyone from the development team.

John Kilbride
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612-624-0103
kilbride@umn.edu
mmclenor@umn.edu
westr073@umn.edu

CAMPAIGN PROGRESS
For up to date Empowering Health Campaign progress and inspirational stories, visit https://z.umn.edu/empoweringhealth.

June 2019 Campaign Progress:
$36,302,944 from 7,269 donors

Current gifts
$20,833,643
57%
Future commitments
$15,469,301
43%

All gifts and commitments made to the School of Nursing on or after June 1, 2012, will be included in the campaign totals.

TAKE YOUR NURSING CAREER TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL

Discover your potential as leader in nursing practice or nursing science at the University of Minnesota.

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE
With 12 specialties and part of one of the most comprehensive academic health centers in the nation, you will gain the interprofessional experiences you need to provide patient-centered care and lead systems changes. Our DNP program can be completed in three years with the majority of work online. Applicants are considered for one of 50 $20,000 Bentson Scholarships.

PHD IN NURSING
Are you driven to improve lives through evidenced based research? At our tier-one institution, you will be mentored by renowned nursing researchers and address health issues across the lifespan in local, state, national and global contexts. Full-time PhD students receive full funding for their first two years of study.

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HONOR ROLL

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

Presidents Club

Foundation’s Circle recognized lifetime giving to the School of Nursing and includes the following recognition levels:

(5) $100 Society Lifetime gifts of $100 or more.

(5) John Sargent Pillsbury Society Lifetime gifts of $1 million or more.

(10) Allen Student Society Lifetime gifts of $10 million or more.

(5) Heritage Society Recognizes future gifts

(5) Charter Masons Donors who were enrolled previously at past entry points below $1,000,000.

The Honor Roll of giving recognizes those who made gifts of $100 or more to the School of Nursing in fiscal years 2016, 2017, 2018, or 2019. The Dunwoody Circle recognizes individuals, foundations, organizations, and corporations who have invested in the School of Nursing by making an annual gift of $100 or more. We are grateful for gifts of all amounts, and every effort has been made to process and list all donors. If there is an error in the listing of your name, or if you have missed a gift during this past year and are not listed, please accept our sincere apologies and contact Barbara Mullikin at wiley@umn.edu or 612-624-5773 as we would love to recognize your generosity.

The University of Minnesota recently made changes to our donor entry points and added a new level to recognize lifetime giving of $25 million or more.

$1 MILLION+

Benton Foundation (P, H, S)
Ann and Howard Donor

$100,000-$999,999

Lloyd A. and Barbara* Anderson (M)
Paul A. Crowell and Alexandra M. Stilman (M, H)
D. Jack & Gail C. Davis (H, P)
John A. & Elizabeth E. Davis (M, H)
K.A.H.R. Foundation (M, H)

$100,000-$999,999

Emily C. & Alan Koen (M, H)
Emily C. & Daniel J. Baik (M, H)
Mary B. Barkman (H)
Amy M. Bayne & Richard Bartsch (H, M, B)
Mary J. Pearson (M, H)
William R. & Barbara* Pearce (M, H)
Martha Pitell* (M)
Georgie & Millicent Rally (H)
Patricia A. & Jerome K. Robertson (H, M)
Elizabeth Ann & Cornelius W. Wrenn (M, H)

$100,000-$999,999

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Martha Pitell* (M)
Georgie & Millicent Rally (H)
Patricia A. & Jerome K. Robertson (H, M)
Elizabeth Ann & Cornelius W. Wrenn (M, H)
The school celebrated the graduation of 124 Bachelor of Science in Nursing students, 83 Doctor of Nursing Practice students, four post-graduate certificate students and five PhD candidates in May.

University of Minnesota School of Nursing DNP student Alissa Pool and BSN student John Rasmussen attended the AACN Student Policy Summit in Washington, D.C. to educate federal legislators on programs and legislation impacting nursing education, research and practice.

Research Associate Jiwoo Lee presents her research about the summer diets of kids who are food insecure at Nursing Research Day. Approximately 500 students, faculty and community partners participated.

During the 2019 Summer Institute, Professor Renee Sieving, director of the Center for Adolescent Nursing, led a conversation exploring current research, legislation and prevention strategies regarding adolescents’ use of e-cigarettes, marijuana and opioids.

The School of Nursing welcomed guest speaker Darlene St. Clair from St. Cloud State University to discuss an indigenous approach to dismantling racism.

The School of Nursing partnered with Fairview Health Services and M Health to host the fourth Planting Seeds of Innovation Conference. The event encouraged nurses to deepen their health care innovation skills and share their creativity.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 1-2, 2019
School Nurse Organization of Minnesota Annual Conference

November 15, 2019
Emerging Infections in Clinical Practice and Public Health

November 15-16, 2019
Minnesota Nurse Practitioners 2019 Annual Conference

December 13, 2019
Commencement

February 27, 2020
Planting Seeds of Innovation Conference

April 4, 2020
Code Blue for Patient Earth

April 16, 2020
All School Reunion

April 17, 2020
Research Day

May 15, 2020
Commencement

June 3-5, 2020
Nursing Knowledge: Big Data Science Conference

August 26-29, 2020
Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Medicine (AIME 2020)

For more information www.nursing.umn.edu/events