Better care for memory loss patients
Gaugler looks at using technology to help caregivers and patients

10  Spotting the signs of sex trafficking
16  Nursing and Pharmacy form unique partnership
28  Inspirational alum shines in top spot at community clinic
Marie Manthey, PhD (hon.), MNA, FRCN, FAAN, was named a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing this fall, which is the highest honor the organization bestows. Manthey is credited with creating the primary care nursing model. She earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing administration and a master’s degree in nursing administration from the University of Minnesota. Over the course of her career, she served as the associate director of nursing at the University of Minnesota Hospital, the assistant administrator and director of nursing at United Hospitals of St. Paul and the vice president of patient services at Yale New Haven Hospital. Manthey founded a consulting firm and currently leads a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting nurses who are struggling with addiction or in recovery.
Dear Friends and Colleagues:

One characteristic every nurse hones throughout his or her career is the ability to anticipate and transform amid challenging circumstances. Whether caring for patients, leading systems or discovering new interventions, the most effective nurses are continuously assessing the situation, scanning the environment and processing new data to act with care and confidence.

In recent years, the School of Nursing has responded decisively to new realities in health care and higher education in Minnesota, the nation and the world.

• In response to a dearth of primary care providers and a new state law authorizing advanced practice nurses to practice to the full scope of their education and license, the school opened a patient-centered nurse-led clinic in downtown Minneapolis.

• This school was among the first in the nation to replace its Master of Science program with the Doctor of Nursing Practice program to address the growing need for advanced practice nurses educated to the highest level. Today our DNP program is the largest in the nation with a face-to-face component.

• Our innovative offerings in integrative health and healing, nursing leadership and nursing informatics respond to consumer and marketplace demands for nurses with these areas of expertise.

In response to a major demographic shift in the United States, the school has placed an emphasis on healthy aging research.

In this issue, you will read about faculty who are continuously testing and discovering new interventions, technology and clinical models to help seniors live independently longer.

One study is testing the feasibility of new electronic monitoring technology in improving the quality of life for people living with Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of dementia. Another study underway looks at the impact of “mind, body, spirit” interventions such as yoga on the symptoms of Parkinson’s disease. You will also read about an innovative new memory loss clinic we opened in August to serve the holistic needs of patients and their families through an interprofessional team approach.

This fall we celebrate the redesign of Minnesota Nursing. The changes reflect the latest thinking in publication design, making the magazine and its online counterpart more accessible, visually appealing and concise—in response to your feedback.

Our eyes scan the horizon, as we anticipate and nimbly respond to transform health.

Connie White Delaney
Professor and Dean

FROM THE DEAN

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ADDiTiONAL DNP sPEciALTiEs
When Jean Snyder locked herself out of her suburban home and did not remember the spare key hidden a few feet from the door, the progression of her memory loss surprised and frightened her family. The former teacher with an advanced degree needed a new level of care.

This is not an uncommon scenario for memory loss patients and their families, according to School of Nursing Professor Joe Gaugler, PhD, who has conducted numerous research studies on Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia care. “Families often find themselves making major decisions in crisis,” he said. “Abrupt transitions in care can be traumatic, costly and sometimes run counter to the goals of the individual with memory loss and his or her family.”

One of Gaugler’s current studies is seeking answers about the efficacy of a sensor-based health monitoring system installed in the homes of memory loss patients. Designed to enable people with memory loss to live at home independently longer and relieve stress for family caregivers, the system is being installed in the homes of 100 randomly-selected people with memory loss. Family caregivers are then interviewed about their experience with the system over an 18-month period. The data will be compared with information about 100 people with memory loss who do not receive this technology.

Snyder, 86, and her family are now early participants in the study. Three of Snyder’s adult children, as well as her professional caregivers, can check on her wellbeing using their phones or iPads at any time. More importantly, the system is customized to send out alerts for events that seem out of the ordinary for Snyder.

The system of six to eight sensors and a base computer is programmed to recognize each participant’s home.

Jean is grateful to live independently to enjoy time with Jazz.

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**CHRONIC CONDITION INTERVENTIONS**

**Better care for memory loss patients**

Gaugler looks at using technology to help caregivers and patients

by Barb Schlaefer

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routines and living habits. Different types of sensors are placed in primary living spaces, as well as on exterior doors, refrigerator doors, toilets and other locations.

Once the system was calibrated appropriately for Jean, the Snyder family found the information it provided to be reassuring, according to Kelli Snyder, Jean's daughter-in-law. “The system can combine information from different sensors, so we will get customized alerts that really mean something,” said Kelli Snyder. “For example, we don’t need to know each time Jean gets up at night. But we do want to know if she is in and out of bed frequently at night, indicating a poor night’s sleep.”

Individualized programming of the application is key to its usefulness to the family, says Sharon Blume of the Lutheran Home Association and technology director for the study. Blume meets with families participating in the study and programs the system to issue alerts that are most appropriate to their situation. Some participants with memory loss live alone, while others live with a spouse, an adult child or professional caregiver.

“Many families initially ask to receive alerts each time an exterior door is opened. But after a few days they might realize that instead, they only need this alert at night, or they only want this alert when it is followed by a period of no activity detected in the home for 15 minutes, which could indicate their loved one left the home,” said Blume.

Kelli Snyder says that, for now, the monitoring system gives the family confidence and peace of mind, knowing that if patterns change they will know immediately. “This is not the permanent solution,” she said, referring to their family’s combination of professional care, frequent family visits and health monitoring technology. “But the technology has clearly given Jean more time to live happily at home with her dog, Jazz. And we now have more information that will help us know when the time is right to plan a move.”

Gaugler finds collaborative home at University of Minnesota

Gaugler’s interest in improving the lives of older adults dates back to his undergraduate years when he volunteered at a senior apartment complex and later secured an undergraduate summer research fellowship at the University of Minnesota. After earning a bachelor’s degree in psychology and history from Gustavus Adolphus College, he completed a master’s degree and a PhD degree in human development and family studies at the Pennsylvania State University. A post-doctoral opportunity at the Center on Aging at the University of Minnesota brought Gaugler back to Minnesota, where he later joined the faculty at the School of Nursing.

As home to numerous research studies on healthy aging and management of chronic health conditions, the School of Nursing at the University is a fitting academic home for Gaugler. “Nursing is at the forefront of significant changes in health care delivery,” said Gaugler. “It is incredibly exciting to work side by side with my nursing colleagues to tackle the challenges of chronic illness in the United States.”

“• • •

“The technology has clearly given Jean more time to live happily at home with her dog, Jazz. And we now have more information that will help us know when the time is right to plan a move.”
While many studies are emerging on the possible benefits of aerobic exercise for people with Alzheimer’s disease, findings are conflicting and inconclusive. A rigorous five-year study of 90 participants is underway at the School of Nursing that will determine with increased clarity, both the immediate and mid-term cognitive effects of a cycling program on people with Alzheimer’s disease. The $3 million study is funded by the National Institute on Aging.

"Unlike some previous work in this area, our study requires participants to follow a closely supervised, carefully scheduled cycling regimen over six months," said Associate Professor Fang Yu, PhD, RN, GNP-BC, the principal investigator for the project. "By ensuring that participants maintain a prescribed heart rate during each of their 72 exercise sessions, we are setting a standard we anticipate will lead to more conclusive findings."

The clinical trial evaluates participants’ cognition every three months over a year and brain structural changes at three points in time: prior to starting the exercise program, at its conclusion and six months after conclusion. The two-part evaluation assesses participants’ memory, spatial function, language and executive function. Participants also undergo three scans using magnetic resonance imaging to measure the volume of the brain’s hippocampal, which is thought to be responsible for spatial memory, direction and navigation.

“When Alzheimer’s patients, regular exercise is often the first activity dropped from their lives,” said Yu. “This project is designed to determine whether a sustained exercise routine can slow the progression of the disease.”

“This project is designed to determine whether a sustained exercise routine can slow the progression of the disease.”
Why does Alzheimer’s disease progress rapidly in some people and slower in others? Assessing de-identified electronic health records of 1,600 patients with Alzheimer’s disease, School of Nursing scientists are building a predictive model to identify patterns of variability based on hundreds of patient characteristics ranging from physical and mental health, demographic and environmental data. Building upon this pilot, the model will then be taken to scale with longitudinal data on more than 30,000 patients. One goal of this multi-phase study is to predict individualized disease progression to inform early decision making for people with cognitive impairment. A second goal is to identify evidence that will help determine individualized treatments with the greatest potential to minimize rates of cognitive decline for patients, based on their individual characteristics.

**Project Lead:** Assistant Professor Chih-Lin Chi, PhD, MBA

**Funding:** $38,000 from the University of Minnesota, Grant-in-Aid

Can a culturally relevant approach to prevention reduce risks for cardiovascular disease among African American men? Cardiovascular disease is a leading killer of African American men, accounting for 32 percent of deaths annually. This feasibility study will test a new model for prevention and health promotion, delivering health information and fostering peer accountability and support among small groups of men ages 40 to 70 years old. The peer group model of six to eight members is based on a generations-old model found to sustain well-being in Okinawa, Japan. The one-year pilot study, which is being conducted in partnership with the National USA Foundation, Inc., will be conducted at two Baptist churches. The pilot will inform the development of a program to promote enduring lifestyle change. The model is designed to be replicated nationwide in an effort to reduce risks and deaths from cardiovascular disease among African American men.

**Project Lead:** Professor Ruth Lindquist, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, FAHA, FAAN

**Funding:** $83,500 from the University of Minnesota Center for Healthy African American Men through Partnerships

**SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT**

Is yoga an effective intervention for improving well-being for people with Parkinson’s disease? Parkinson’s disease is a progressive disorder of the neurological system that affects movement and for which there is no cure. An interprofessional research team with expertise in neurology, pharmacy, physical therapy, kinesiology and geriatric nursing is conducting a clinical trial to gather evidence on the effects of a semi-weekly Hatha yoga practice on symptoms of people with Parkinson’s disease, including oxidative stress. Physiological, biomechanical and additional data will be collected at baseline and completion of the program. The 12-week randomized control trial will inform the feasibility and design of a larger randomized controlled trial that examines the effects of yoga on Parkinson’s symptoms and other biomarkers.

**Project Lead:** Assistant Professor Corinna Cheung, PhD, RN, FGSAA

**Funding:** $29,000 from the University of Minnesota Grant-in-aid program

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**School celebrates arrival of birthing simulation manikin**

Emily and baby Emmett provide a new level of learning

by Brett Sturas

The School of Nursing celebrated the arrival of baby Emmett at 1:16 p.m. on July 15. Mother, Emily, and baby are resting comfortably in the school’s simulation center. The arrival of the new birthing simulation manikin, which portrays realistic birthing scenarios, was a welcomed addition to the array of simulated technology the school offers. “As a learner, I want to take every opportunity to practice so that I can provide my patients with the best care possible,” said Gina McBride, a midwifery student and baby in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program will be able to practice attending births with the manikin. The purchase of the new birthing simulation manikin was made possible due to a generous gift from Lynnette Thompson, a nurse whose husband served as a neonatologist at the University of Minnesota.

“There is a huge menu of new learning opportunities,” said Professor Melissa Avery, PhD, AFNRI, CNM, FACNM, FAAN. “Simulation offers the opportunity to practice realistic scenarios for both common situations and those that do not occur in the actual clinical setting as often. Students can practice realistic emergency clinical scenarios in real time and be more prepared in a real clinical setting.”

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Professional development events**

**Pediatric Trauma Nursing Conference – Tackling Trauma: Basics and Beyond**

Oct. 19, 2015

Minneapolis Airport Marriott

**Internal Medicine Review and Update 2015**

Nov. 11-13, 2015

The Commons Hotel, Minneapolis

**4th Annual Integrative Approach to Psychiatric Mental Health Care**

Nov. 13, 2015

Radinsson Blu, Bloomington

**Integrative Healthcare Symposium Annual Conference**


New York Hilton Midtown

**Florence Schorske Wald Lectureship on Palliative Care and Hospice Care**

April 10, 2016

Double Tree by Hilton, Bloomington

**2016 Minnesota Network of Hospice & Palliative Care Annual Conference**

April 11-12, 2016

Double Tree by Hilton, Bloomington

**School of Nursing Research Day**

April 22, 2016

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American Nurses Credential Center credits offered. See www.nursing.mn.edu/continuing-professional-development.

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**EDUCATION**
Spots the signs of sex trafficking

DNP student Kelsey Lessard is training providers

by Brett Stursa

Are providers equipped to recognize and help victims of sex trafficking in the moment? Nearly 90 percent of sex trafficking victims receive health care while they are being trafficked, according to a 2014 study. This means providers are well positioned to identify and provide resources to victims. Yet, providers, themselves, often admit they are not aware of the issue.

Doctor of Nursing Practice student Kelsey Lessard, MN, RN, WHNP-BC, is hoping to do something about the lack of awareness by offering educational programs to health care providers.

“Health care providers, we’re not really talking about sex trafficking, but there is such a need,” said Lessard, who is a post-partum nurse at a birth center as well as a DNP student in the women’s health nurse practitioner specialty. “It has all these other issues involved. We need to talk about trauma-informed care and patient-centered care. Nursing is a great realm for all of that.”

Her work on raising awareness about sex trafficking meets the DNP program requirement to develop and implement an evidence-based project to advance systems level change. Her efforts gained the attention of her peers, who recently awarded her with the School of Nursing Excellence in Innovation Award.

DEFINING THE ISSUE

The issue of sex trafficking, defined as a situation where a commercial sex act is induced by using force or fraud, can conjure notions of foreign women being kidnapped and locked in chains. “Really, the truth is that it’s girls in our own communities who are being coerced and manipulated into trafficking. They are coming from these places where they have been neglected and abused, and they are very vulnerable. The cycle begins,” said Lessard.

She’s learning first-hand about the realities of sex trafficking from women at Breaking Free, a non-profit organization that assists women who are victims of sex trafficking. The topic was also discussed in class with women’s health nurse practitioner students. “We encourage students in the program to look at how public policy, politics, access and economics affect health care for women. The sex trafficking issue touches on all of those issues,” said Diana Drake, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, WHNP specialty coordinator and Lessard’s advisor.

Morgan Peters, another WHNP student, is working with nurses at a women’s correctional facility to increase their awareness of prisoners who were victims of sex trafficking and their increased risk for prison rape.

Drake said these projects highlight the work being done to provide health care in context. “For us to stay relevant and competitive in our education we have to look beyond the brick and mortar clinics we all know,” said Drake. “We need to look at the other ways we can be serving people in the community and bring health care to them.”

EDUCATING PROVIDERS

The training that Lessard created will help health care providers identify victims of sex trafficking and recognize their specific health care needs. Asking questions like, “tell me about that tattoo” or “can you come and go as you please?” can yield telling answers.

Another key component to the training will be teaching culturally appropriate and effective communication. That can mean making sure providers see patients alone, without the trafficker, and avoiding words like prostitute and hooker, as many survivors say they don’t identify with those words. Lessard will also provide resources that providers can share with victims.

The education sessions are being offered at a public health clinic, a reproductive health care clinic and in a DNP student training setting. She expects to train about 40-50 providers, and the program will be evaluated with pre- and post-testing.

After graduating, Lessard hopes to continue working with sex trafficking victims. “The only way we’re going to make changes in sex trafficking is by working with social workers, law enforcement agencies and with other entities to really combat it. My hope is that eventually I will be able to work at a place where I can spread that awareness.”

Drake is confident Lessard will succeed. “She’s riding a zeitgeist, so to speak, of how we look at sex trafficking as health care providers,” said Drake. “She’s doing wonderful work, more than wonderful.”

Screening leads to detection

Student addresses health disparities

By Brett Stursa

Angelina Silko is acutely aware of the barriers that prevent many women in the Russian immigrant community from accessing health care. As a member of the community, she was taught long ago that the health care system should be used as a last resort. She has seen how lack of insurance and lack of trust in health care providers discourage women from seeking care.

But as a Doctor of Nursing Practice student, Silko also is aware of the importance of preventative care. For her scholarly project, she organized breast cancer screenings for women at her Russian Baptist church.

The project proved particularly valuable for one woman, who tested positive for breast cancer. She has since had a mastectomy and will be receiving genetic testing. The woman continues to share her story with other members of the church in hopes of promoting breast cancer screenings.

“I was encouraged to find out that we caught this cancer in its earliest stages,” said Silko. “I think that it served as an awakening for many of the women in this church and other Russian Baptist churches in the Twin Cities that this could happen to them and that mammography can and does save lives.”

Before organizing the screening, Silko first sought to better identify the barriers that prevent women from seeking out care. Then, she looked at how to eliminate them through education and access. Her work culminated in the breast cancer screening, including mammography, at the church. “It was important it was in their community, in an environment that they felt comfortable navigating,” said Silko. Nineteen women received breast cancer screenings.

“Angelina observed health disparities in her community regarding breast cancer screening and she was determined to correct that,” said Clinical Assistant Professor Maria Ruud, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC, who is Silko’s adviser. “Angelina did a beautiful job of blending the knowledge she gained about the scientific evidence with the knowledge she has about the community. She is in a unique position to deliver vital health care information in a manner that will be received and has the potential to save lives.”
First-of-its-kind partnership with College of Pharmacy benefits students, patients

Clinical pharmacists have office hours at nurse-led clinic

by Brett Stursa

Students and patients alike are benefiting from a first-of-its-kind partnership between the School of Nursing and College of Pharmacy at the new University of Minnesota Health Nurse Practitioners Clinic in Minneapolis. The School of Nursing opened the nurse-led clinic in April.

In July, the clinic’s services were expanded when a clinical pharmacist joined the provider team. The clinical pharmacist is not dispensing medications, which is typical of a retail pharmacy. Instead, the clinical pharmacist is providing her expertise in medication therapy management.

“We have always envisioned the Nurse Practitioners Clinic as being interprofessional,” said Thomas Clancy, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN, associate dean for faculty practice, partnerships and professional development. “At the same time the College of Pharmacy was interested in developing new models of care that were interprofessional.”

Patients benefit from this interprofessional approach. “Medications, even one, can require a deep and complex understanding of many aspects of the medication itself and the patient,” said Clinic Director Jane Anderson, DNP, APRN, ANP-BC, FNP-BC. “Having a pharmacist partner will facilitate this process.”

Patients see a clinical pharmacist to review and optimize their medications. The pharmacist works to make sure those medications are appropriate, safe, convenient and working well for the patient.

As the number of people on multiple medications with complex needs increases, so does the need for clinical pharmacists who can work collaboratively with providers as a resource on medication management.

“Clinics in Minneapolis are very receptive to clinical pharmacy services and many major health systems are employing clinical pharmacists to provide services in their outpatient clinics,” said Kylee Funk, PharmD, BCPS, who works at the Nurse Practitioners Clinic. “In the six large health systems in the Minneapolis area, there are 70 full-time clinical pharmacists providing care in outpatient settings. While nursing students already complete clinical rotations at the clinic, their pharmacy peers will begin rotations next summer.

“I think the value to students is the real life experience of working in an interprofessional care practice,” said Clancy. “I think they will learn to respect how each profession can bring different perspectives to the overall plan of care, making it better.”

Jane Anderson, left, and Kylee Funk.
Partnership brings PAD expertise to rural Minnesota

Health and mobility of older adults expected to improve

By Barb Schlaefer

Approximately 20 percent of Americans over the age of 70 have peripheral artery disease. This chronic condition causes blockages in the arteries that feed the legs, depriving leg muscles of oxygen, which can lead to debilitating pain. People with the disease are at greater risk of heart attacks, strokes and amputations. The pain sensation gets worse with walking, which can limit patients' ability and desire to be active. Many believe the leg pain is an incurable symptom of growing older.

"Despite its high prevalence and often severe symptoms, peripheral artery disease is an underdiagnosed and undertreated condition, especially in rural communities," said Professor Diane Treut-Jacobson, PhD, RN, FAAN, project director and lead researcher on effective interventions for the disease.

Now, School of Nursing clinicians and researchers who have made groundbreaking discoveries in the diagnosis and treatment of this painful vascular disease are partnering with five health centers in greater Minnesota to improve outcomes for patients. A lead partnership with Fergus Falls-based Lake Region Health Care began this summer, with four more community sites in other parts of rural Minnesota to be named later this year.

Aimed at boosting the health and mobility of older adults in rural Minnesota, the PAD PRAIRIE Initiative enables the University to bring targeted expertise, including PAD expertise to PAD expertise to

School opens memory care clinic

Clinic serves patients with interprofessional care

By Barb Schlaefer

The School of Nursing memory care clinic helps people with the complex medical, psychological and environmental challenges often triggered by Alzheimer's disease and related conditions.

The overarching goal of the clinic, opened in August, is to foster the wellness and improve quality of life for people living with neurocognitive disorders, as well as their family caregivers. Personalized care plans are co-created to reflect client needs, priorities and preferences. Each client's care team will be based on individual needs and may include members such as counselors, nurses, pharmacists, physical therapists, physicians, occupational therapists, social workers and community-based services.

Siobhan McMahon, PhD, MPH, APRN, GNP-BC, a gerontological nurse practitioner and assistant professor, leads the clinic. She says this more protractive model of care aims to improve the quality of care for the person with memory loss while optimizing caregiver roles and facilitating access to relevant clinical and community-based services, often in one appointment.

"These aims are critical," said McMahon. "The quality of health care for people with neurocognitive disorders is – at best – inconsistent. This inconsistent quality often manifests as avoidable hospitalizations and associated complications such as delirium, cognitive decline and functional decline. These can lead to preventable personal, social and economic suffering."

Mark Reese, a licensed professional counselor who specializes in mental health care for families dealing with memory loss, is a member of the clinic’s care team.

Reese appreciates the value of serving families as an integrated and collaborative team in one location.

"We help entire families cope with the grief and stress that can come with changing roles and having to manage a family member’s life," said Reese. "Our team is able to help the family learn about the disease, make informed plans and better care for themselves."

The memory care clinic is a collaboration of the School of Nursing, University of Minnesota Health and Fairview Health Services. It is located in the Internal Medicine Care and Treatment Clinic in Burnsville, Minnesota.

Center boasts many achievements; re-envisioned center coming in 2016

The Hartford Center boasts a long list of accomplishments since it was funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation as one of nine national centers of nursing excellence. Over the past eight years, the center supported the career development of doctoral and pre-licensure students. Scholarships were awarded to 33 graduate students (PhD and DNP), and the Emerging Gerontological Nursing Scholars program provided funding to 18 pre-licensure students to involve them in faculty-mentored research. The center convened 24 journal clubs, providing opportunities for students, researchers and practitioners to discuss important gerontological research.

The center created a highly successful and innovative faculty development program called Facilitated Learning to Advance Geriatrics, which was ultimately adopted and disseminated by the National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence. FLAG equipped 328 faculty and graduate students from more than 100 nursing programs in 33 states with new skills and compelling classroom materials to engage students in learning about the care of older adults.

To strengthen the capacity of regional nursing programs, the Midwest Gerontological Nursing Education Alliance was established to encourage networking, leadership and support. Through its annual meetings, participants became leaders for gerontological nursing at their home institutions. We thank the John A. Hartford Foundation for its commitment to gerontological nursing education and care. We especially thank the students, staff, faculty and contributors from the wider School of Nursing community who made the center so successful. Look for a re-envisioned center to continue under a new name and an expanded mission in 2016.

Fang Yu is not pictured.
Partnering for healthy student outcomes

What if 20 minutes every week helping middle-school youth learn skills for managing oneself responsibly and getting along better with others could improve grades, school attendance and graduation rates? And, what if it would mean teachers felt more effective in managing their classrooms? Wouldn’t it be worth the classroom and professional development time?

A group of University of Minnesota researchers are asking these questions in a new study funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A team led by Barb McMorrison, PhD, associate professor and faculty in the Center for Adolescent Nursing, is working in two economically-disadvantaged schools in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, training and coaching teachers in a youth-development paradigm that helps young people reach their potential.

At the same time, McMorrison and her colleagues are guiding teachers on a curriculum that targets the social and emotional skills of young people. Called Positive Action, the curriculum can be taught in 20-minute classroom sessions every week.

Transitioning from elementary to middle school can have challenges that impact health and well-being into adulthood—one that can lead to poor academic achievement and increases in fighting, bullying and substance use. Fortunately, research suggests that improving social and emotional skills can have a wide-ranging positive impact. Moreover, students with better social and emotional skills will be more engaged and teachers can feel more effective in the classroom.

Watch for future results from this research called “Partnering for Healthy Student Outcomes,” funded through the UMN’s Healthy Youth Development • Prevention Research Center (Director: Renee Sieving, PhD, professor).

Dialogue Series advances

One of the goals of the Denford Center is to convene and connect communities of practice, learning and research to create a desired health care future. In service of this goal, the center’s Dialogue Series is moving ahead. In addition to topics on creativity and wisdom, the center added timely policy topics to its Dialogue Series. Policy dialogues were launched in the spring of 2015, providing opportunities for nurses, health care leaders and stakeholders to become engaged and aware of current health care policies likely to affect their professional practice. Clinical Assistant Professor Eileen Weber, DNP, JD, RN, PHN, is coordinating the policy dialogues.

The first policy topic was HIPAA 2.0: What’s New? with Alexandra Swanson from the Office of Civil Rights in Chicago, Illinois. The dialogue provided an informative discussion on the latest HIPAA rulings, the review of sanctions and best practices to avoid sanctions. The policy dialogue Medical Cannabis: Implications for Providers brought in Tom Arneson of the Office of Medical Cannabis at the Minnesota Department of Health to discuss new legislation. Another policy dialogue is planned to discuss current legislative efforts around the 2015 Compassionate Care Act.

In the future be on the lookout for the debut of the practice topics, too, which will be forums to discuss innovative models of nursing care and how advanced practice nurses are leading the way to create a desired 21st century health care system. Visit: http://z.umn.edu/yqc for further information.

Grant reviews assist members

The Center for Child and Family Health Promotion Research operates as a collegial think-tank. The center offers guidance to members in many ways, but primarily by providing manuscript and grant reviews. Center members participate in live mock reviews with other members. The center is pleased to welcome two new faculty members to the roster. Both have actively participated in grant reviews recently.

Barbara Peterson, PhD, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, is a clinical assistant professor who teaches as well as works as a clinical nurse specialist for Community University Health Care Center in Minneapolis. Peterson’s research interest in the field of child and adolescent mental health has also led to a variety of grant opportunities. Two of her grant proposals were recently peer reviewed by center members.

Anne Chevalier McKechnie, PhD, RN, IBCLC, is an assistant professor with research interest in understanding the needs of families who continue pregnancies after fatal diagnoses and who are preparing to care for their children with special health care needs. She is developing and testing family-centered interventions to enhance strengths and reduce risks for parents and their children during this early, formative time. During her brief time as a center member, McKechnie has submitted both a letter of intent and grant proposal that were peer reviewed by our center members.

Innovative nursing informatics education options

The Center for Nursing Informatics continues to innovate in education. In addition to offering the “Interprofessional Healthcare Informatics Course” as a regular graduate level course, a comparable course is offered through Coursera. The Coursera course is offered on demand, without charge, and with a certificate of completion if desired for a small fee. “Interprofessional Healthcare Informatics” is a graduate-level, hands-on interactive exploration of real informatics tools and techniques offered by the University of Minnesota and the University of Minnesota’s National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education. It incorporates technology-enabled educational innovations to bring the subject matter to life.

A similar course is offered for professional development through the AMIA 10 x 10 program. The course is offered four times per year and completion of this online course results in 56.25 ANCC contact hours. Students completing the AMIA 10 x 10 course and then later choosing a graduate degree in nursing can petition out of the required graduate level course without additional charge. Check out www.nursing.umn.edu/continuing-professional-development to learn more.

FALL EVENT

The center is hosting a community event to engage community members, students and faculty interested in nursing informatics on Oct. 13. The focus of the meeting is to share student practicum and career opportunities for nurse informaticians. Learn about the Big Data Science Expert Groups and how you can become involved. Health system and corporate partners also will share the exciting work they are doing and how that is relevant for students and graduates alike. Register at www.nursing.umn.edu/ icnp/index.htm.
Global connections

PhD student receives prestigious scholarship

PhD student Mary Whipple was selected to receive the prestigious Patricia G. Archbold Scholarship, which was awarded to only one student this year, by the National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence. The award provides $100,000 of scholarship support over a two-year period, along with funding to attend the national Hartford Nursing Leadership Conference.

Whipple holds undergraduate degrees in biology and psychology from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and in nursing from the University of Minnesota. She first became interested in gerontological nursing as an undergraduate student when she provided home care for an elderly family friend with dementia. Her passion to work with older adults was further shaped by a fall suffered by her grandmother. Due to poorly controlled Type 2 diabetes and a number of post-surgical complications, her grandmother transitioned to a skilled nursing facility. This influenced Whipple’s desire to pursue a nursing degree and conduct research to improve the health and quality of life of older adults.

Whipple will be working with her mentor, Professor Diane Treat-Jacobson, PhD, RN, FAAN, on a project related to peripheral arterial disease and with co-mentor Assistant Professor Kristine Talley, PhD, APRN, GNP-BC. For her dissertation research, she plans to study older adults who have both diabetes and peripheral artery disease in order to better understand the barriers these individuals experience with exercise. She will also study their falls, fear of falling, functional decline and quality of life.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Three faculty to be inducted as AAN Fellows

The American Academy of Nursing announced that three School of Nursing faculty will be inducted as Academy fellows. They are Clinical Associate Professor Joanne Pfeiffer, DNP, MPH, RN, CNP, Clinical Associate Professor Teddie Potter, PhD, RN, and Associate Professor Fang Yu, PhD, RN, GNP-BC. In addition, alumna Ngozi Mbibi, DNP, RN, will be inducted. Other Minnesota nurses leaders to be inducted include Rep. Erin Murphy and Pamela Johnson, Mayo Clinic’s chief nursing officer.

Clinical Associate Professor Mary Chesney, PhD, RN, CNP, FAAN, was appointed as the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners’ representative to the Institute of Medicine’s Care Culture and Decision-making Innovation Collaborative. The ongoing project will identify and advise best practices for disseminating evidence-based interventions related to patient-centered, team-based care and informed patient/family decision-making.

Assistant Professor Corjena Cheung, PhD, RN, FGSA, received the Midwest Nursing Research Society Self-Care Junior Research Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize a researcher whose research related to self-care progressed beyond the dissertation.

Clinical Associate Professor Lori Rhudy, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, CNRN, was elected president-elect of the American Board of Neuroscience Nursing, which is the certification board for certified neuroscience registered nurses and stroke certified registered nurses.

Associate Professor Cheryl Robertson, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, received the University of Minnesota Outstanding Community Service Award. This award is the highest honor the University gives to a faculty member for service to the community.
Associate Professor Fang Yu, PhD, RN, GNP-BC, was awarded fellow status in the Gerontological Society of America, the world’s oldest and largest interdisciplinary organization devoted to research, education and practice in the field of aging. She will be inducted as a fellow at the organization’s annual scientific meeting in November.

Informatics specialty ranked 2nd in the nation

The School of Nursing’s graduate program in nursing informatics was ranked second in the nation by U.S. News and World Report. The program prepares nurses to lead in the growing field of health information technology, linking the needs of clinicians, patients and researchers with real-time data and tools to improve health services and outcomes.

School receives Future of Nursing Scholars grant

PHD students Grace Gao and Helen Fu were named Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Future of Nursing Scholars and will receive $135,000 each to use over three years to complete their PhD degrees. The School of Nursing is one of 25 nursing schools nationwide to receive funding to increase the number of nurses with PhD degrees. Gao is a public health nurse with a background in integrative health. She is investigating the best nursing practices for population health maintenance and promotion through the generation of nursing data and knowledge using the Omaha System. Fu is a nurse practitioner who would like to use her clinical experience in research to help make improvements in health care delivery, particularly among underserved populations.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Barbara Beacham, PhD, RN, joined the school as an assistant professor. Beacham earned a PhD degree at the University of Pennsylvania and completed a post-doc fellowship in behavioral nursing research at Indiana University School of Nursing. She earned a master’s degree in nursing from Seton Hall University and a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Thomas Edison State College. Her research focuses on the interaction between family management and self-care in children with chronic health conditions.

Grace Gao and Helen Fu

Rozina Bhimani, PhD, DNP, RN, CNP, CNE, joined the school as an assistant professor. Bhimani earned a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree and a PhD in Nursing degree from the University of Minnesota. She was the first person to earn both degrees in Minnesota. She earned a master’s degree and bachelor’s degree from Metropolitan State University. Her research focuses on symptom experiences in movement disorders and disabilities. Previously, she was the DNP program director at St. Catherine University. She also works as a family nurse practitioner at North Point Health and Wellness Center.

Barbara Champlin, PhD, RN, joined the school as a clinical assistant professor. She earned a PhD degree in education from the University of Minnesota, a master’s degree in nursing from the University of Minnesota and a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Gustavus Adolphus College. Previously, she was an associate professor at St. Catherine University and an assistant professor at Minnesota State University, Mankato. She specializes in mental health nursing.
NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dereck Salisbury, PhD, joined the school as a clinical assistant professor. He earned a bachelor’s degree in exercise science from Southwest Minnesota State University, a master’s degree in health, physical education and recreation from South Dakota State University and a PhD in kinesiology from the University of Minnesota. Previously, he worked as a teaching and research assistant at the School of Nursing and, more recently, he was an assistant professor at Concordia University. His research interests include the study of exercise intervention for reduction of inflammation and oxidative stress in patients with cardiovascular and metabolic disease.

Marc Skjerven joined the school as the director of the Office of Student and Career Advancement Services. Previously, he was director of marketing and recruitment for Carlson School of Management and director of brand experience development for Hamline University. He earned a master’s degree in higher educational administration from Illinois State University and a bachelor’s degree from Concordia College.

Samantha Sommerness, DNP, RN, CNM, joined the school as a clinical assistant professor. She earned a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Minnesota, a master’s degree in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Portland. Sommerness served as an Army nurse from 1993 to 1998 and as an advanced practice perinatal leader at Fairview Southdale Hospital.

Diane Willer-Sly, DNP, RN, CNP-BC, joined the school as a clinical assistant professor. Willer-Sly earned a DNP degree from the University of Minnesota. Her research focuses on the health status of geriatric dementia patients in assisted living settings. For the past two years, she has been a School of Nursing teaching specialist. Willer-Sly holds a Level II certification in Reiki healing and works as a nurse practitioner with HealthPartners Geriatrics.

CURIOUS?

If you are the nurse who often asks

WHY?

WHAT IF?

then it’s time to ask yourself to consider the PhD in Nursing program at the University of Minnesota. The program prepares students for leading roles in research, academia, corporations and health systems. Our graduates discover innovative ways to improve clinical practice and health locally and globally.

Ranked 19th in NIH funding among schools of nursing nationally, the University of Minnesota School of Nursing is leading important discoveries in prevention science, health promotion, symptom management, nursing informatics and systems innovation.

Learn more about the PhD in Nursing

nursing.umn.edu

A MESSAGE FROM THE NURSING ALUMNI SOCIETY

Supporting the nurse leaders of tomorrow

Clarice Warme Ottoson, BSN ’54, had a special reason for attending May’s nursing commencement. Fifty-one years after obtaining her degree, she had the pleasure of watching her granddaughter, Stephanie Grogan, walk across the Northrop stage to receive her baccalaureate nursing degree.

Following her own graduation, Clarice was a nurse to pediatric patients at Dr. C. Walton Lillehei—who was performing the first open-heart surgeries. She cared for infants and children from all over the world. Later, she worked in public health, at the VA Hospital in St. Cloud and as a psychiatric nurse at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Brainerd.

Clarice shares that Stephanie enjoyed being in the School of Nursing and that it has been rewarding for them to share their nursing experiences. Clarice still meets regularly with her reunion class.

Now that’s the kind of endorsement that we appreciate hearing.

With more than 10,000 living alumni, the School of Nursing Alumni Society strives to support student success, enrich the lives of alumni and advance the work of the school.

This fall we have welcomed our incoming students on behalf of the alumni board at the BSN, MN, DNP and PhD orientations. We have gathered with alumni, friends and staff in the U of M Rochester campus to view and discuss The American Nurse documentary. We’ve celebrated September’s Homecoming festivities and have engaged students, alumni and staff in the U of M Day of Service by volunteering for the Hennepin County Medical Center’s food shelf program. Working with the School of Nursing Foundation board, we honored this year’s scholarship recipients, including the five students who are receiving the Nursing Alumni Scholarship.

Looking ahead, robust planning is underway for nursing’s annual Alumni Spring Celebration and Reunion on April 21, 2016. With a tradition that began last year, we will be presenting the 50 year BSN graduates with Golden Medallions. Honored reunion classes will include the 1966, 1974, 1991 and 2006 graduates. As usual, all alumni and friends are welcome to attend.

Whether you received your nursing degree last year, like Stephanie, or more than 50 years ago, like her grandmother Clarice, you have an important story to share. You can play a key role in encouraging and supporting the nurse leaders of tomorrow.

Please stay connected with our great University. Visit nursing.umn.edu to learn more about upcoming alumni events and volunteer opportunities.

Deborah Cathcart
President, Nursing Alumni Society

Alumni NewS

nursing.umn.edu

27
Nurse leader shines in top spot

Sahra Noor says she uses nursing education skills daily as CEO

By Brett Stursa

Sahra Noor’s rapid rise in health care leadership hasn’t gone unnoticed. After being named CEO of People’s Center Health Services, a federally qualified health center in South Minneapolis, she was honored with awards, including the 40 under 40 Award from the Minneapolis St. Paul Business Journal. Earlier this year she was appointed by Gov. Mark Dayton to the Task Force on Health Care Finance and elected co-chair. While the praise is appreciated, she says her work keeps her grounded. We asked her about the lasting impact of living in Kenyan refugee camps, what it takes to lead a clinic and how her nursing background helps her as a CEO.

Q How did spending your teenage years in Kenyan refugee camps impact your decision to pursue a career in health care?

During my years in the refugee camps, I realized that the ones in the camp who were making a difference and saving lives were people in healthcare. Most of the care was delivered by nurses and nurse-midwives. I remember watching a young midwife manage the care of multiple women in various stages of labor with limited supplies and medications. She was calm and in full control of the situation that was chaotic and desperate. It was then that I made a mental note to myself that if I ever escaped the camp and got an education, I wanted to be a nurse.

Q You earned a master’s degree in nursing and health systems administration from the University of Minnesota in 2017. Why did you seek out that degree?

I wanted to get a broader perspective of the issues I was facing as a bedside nurse. I liked that the program was interdisciplinary, offering advanced training in nursing, public health and health systems administration. Enrolling in the program was one of the best decisions I made. The course work was challenging but also flexible. I met wonderful colleagues, friends and mentors through the program.

Q How does your nursing background impact your current position as CEO of People’s Center Health Services?

I think that degree was one of the best decisions I made. The course work was challenging but also flexible. I met wonderful colleagues, friends and mentors through the program.

Q What are the top three characteristics that make an effective leader in health care? Why?

Communication, integrity, and trust. The health care industry is changing rapidly and leaders have to effectively communicate to keep everyone informed about what these changes mean and how they affect our care delivery model, employees and communities we serve. Integrity is a very important characteristic. A leader has to walk the talk and keep his or her promises. Building trust with people is critical to health care leadership. Establishing close proximity to the people you lead, forming healthy relationships and setting expectations all help in establishing trust. I personally view leadership as a journey, not a destination. The key to success is self-awareness. Humility goes a long way. We make mistakes. We stumble. People are more forgiving of a leader who admits faults than one who projects an image of perfection.

Q What is the most pressing challenge in providing quality health care at the People’s Center Health Services?

The most pressing challenge is overcoming traumatic life experiences and socioeconomic needs of our patients, which directly impact their overall health and quality of life. The majority of patients and families we serve are resilient but they have limited access to basic necessities in life such as food, transportation, employment and affordable housing. People’s Center and its providers have a 45-year history of providing compassionate care to low income communities, but they are limited in their ability to address these complex issues in a 15 or 30-minute clinic visit. We rely on our colleagues in public health, economic development, housing and social services to collaborate with us so, together, we can keep our patients and our communities healthy.

Q How are you tackling that challenge?

We provide care coordination, health education, housing advocacy, legal services and navigation services but the demand for services continues to grow. We are continuing to seek collaborative partnerships with nonprofit organizations, advocacy groups and government agencies. We also do a fair amount of advocacy work with legislators and elected officials both locally and nationally.
Honoring nurse leaders

Alumni Society names award recipients

EXCELLENCE IN NURSING
This award honors a faculty member who is nominated by current nursing students. The recipient is recognized for creativity in teaching, a high interest in students as individuals, for demonstrating high levels of clinical knowledge and for being an influential role model.

Assistant Professor Erica Schorr, PhD, RN, was honored as an excellent educator who embodies the qualities of respect, patience and inquiry. Schorr began teaching at the school after earning a PhD degree here in 2013. She gained respect almost immediately from her students, who said she treats them as colleagues. Her students say she is illustrative, engaging, energetic and creative. Known for her prompt follow-up when questions arise during class, she provides best practices with evidence-based answers. Her personalized feedback helps shape the perspective of student nurses and future clinicians.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HUMANITARIAN AWARD
The award recognizes a graduate of the school for exceptional humanitarian service in a health care environment. The recipient provides distinguished service that brings honor to the nursing profession, the School of Nursing and to the University.

Rosemary Fister, MN, RN, has well over a decade of experience assisting homeless and precariously housed individuals in accessing health care or having a smoother transition upon discharge from the hospital. Her commitment to this population, and recognition of the health challenges faced by many of her clients, led her to a career in nursing. She graduated from the Master of Nursing program in 2010. Currently a Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate in the psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner specialty, her commitment to serving those most in need continues. She volunteers at a southern Minnesota clinic that serves Central American migrants on the border between Mexico and Guatemala.

RISING STAR AWARD
The award recognizes a recent graduate of the School of Nursing who is achieving noteworthy success. The recipient is recognized for career accomplishments, entrepreneurial endeavors and scholastic work.

Megan Voss, DNP, RN, was honored as an exemplary Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate, role model and health care provider. She has a passion for supporting sustainable and integrative nursing models of care, and she has a deep dedication to bridge the gaps between the research and the practice of integrative health. Voss was in the first DNP Integrative Health and Healing cohort and graduated from the program in 2013. She is an integrative therapies program manager at University of Minnesota Masonic Children’s Hospital’s bone marrow transplant program.

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE NURSING STUDENT AWARD
This award recognizes an exceptional graduate student who contributes knowledge to the profession of nursing through research and explicates nursing’s social mandate to respond to the health concerns of society.

Melissa Horning, PhD, RN, was honored for her strong advocacy for child and family health, her productive research focusing on nutrition education and obesity prevention and her skillful commitment to working with students and study participants from diverse cultural and economic backgrounds. Horning understands the moral and ethical issues of health care. She has had great success in the peer-review publishing arena and is contributing greatly to nursing science. After earning a PhD degree earlier this year, she began her appointment as an assistant professor this fall.

OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE NURSING STUDENT
This award recognizes an extraordinary undergraduate student who demonstrates leadership and commitment to service, competency in the delivery of nursing care that reflects sensitivity to diverse and underserved populations and consistent use of critical thinking skills to evaluate knowledge and advance nursing practice.

Katherine Harley, BSN, was honored for her effective leadership in creating a strong nursing presence at the free, student-run Phillips Neighborhood Clinic in Minneapolis. She was recognized for her dedication and enthusiasm for serving vulnerable populations. As an emerging nursing professional, she effectively responds to the need for creative innovations in health care delivery.
CLASS NOTES


Christopher K. Dietz, DNP, BSN ’82, received the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Dietz, who recently retired after 18 years as associate director of the Mayo Clinic’s anesthesia program, is one of eight 2015 alumni award winners. He helped to develop and implement master’s and doctorate of nurse anesthesia programs at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. He was named Graduate Educator of the Year from the Mayo School of Health Sciences and won the Outstanding Nurse Anesthesia Educator of the Year title three times.

Avis Johnson-Smith, DNP ’08, RN, CNS, CNFP-BC, FNP-BC, of the Angelo State University graduate nursing faculty received the 2015 Outstanding Faculty Practice Award from the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties. Johnson-Smith is a clinical professor and coordinator of the ASU Nursing Department’s online Family Nurse Practitioner graduate program.

Margaret (Peg) McCormick, MA, BSN ’77, RN, recently graduated from a counseling psychology program at Naropa University in Boulder, Colorado. She has opened a private practice in Denver, Listening to Cancer, where she works with people affected by cancer. She uses a holistic approach, considering body, mind and spirit.

Gretchen Mettler, PhD, MSN ’84, CNM, assistant professor and director of the midwifery program at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University, was named chair of the Board of Review for the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education.

Steven J. Mund, DNP ’11, CRNA, was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. FACHE is a professional certification sponsored by the American College of Healthcare Executives. Mund is the director of anesthesia for Sanford Health in Fargo and is active in the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

April Rowe-Neal, MSN ’08, received tenure and was promoted to associate professor at Luther College.

She has been on faculty since 2008, teaching in the medical/surgical courses and pathophysiology courses on the Rochester campus of the nursing department. Prior to teaching at Luther, Rowe-Neal served as the student nurse preceptor for the Hennepin County Medical Center and the Education Committee co-chair at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

Four alumni were honored by Mpls. St. Paul Magazine in July as 2015 Outstanding Nurse awardees. The public and the health community nominated nurses of excellence in the Twin Cities and surrounding areas. The nominations were then vetted and judged by nurses working in the profession. Winners of the 2015 Outstanding Nurse Awards include:

• Melissa Christensen, MSN ’04, Outstanding Nurse in Children’s Health
• Mary Kay Borgstrom, MSN ’08, Outstanding Nurse in Mental Health
• Renee Sieving, PhD ’96, Outstanding Nurse Researcher
• Linda Christiansen-Rangel, MSN ’09, Outstanding Nurse in Women’s Health

ALSO REMEMBERED

Frederick W. Rahr During his tenure as president of the Rahr Foundation, the board funded the Rahr Boardroom in the Katharine J. Dennisford International Center for Nursing Leadership and established the Rahr Fellowship in Nursing Research.

Every Gift.

Every Minute.

As we begin a new school year, we give thanks to those who have given of their time and resources to make our mission possible. Quite simply, we could not do what we do for our students, faculty and to advance research without the 1,055 donors who provided $3.8 million to the School of Nursing this past year. We also couldn’t be more grateful for the alums and friends who volunteered to support and mentor students and engage with others working to advance nursing education. Whether it’s donations of time or resources, we are humbled by the tremendous support that comes from our alumni, friends, faculty, staff and grateful patients.

Behind every gift and every minute is someone who wants to make a positive difference. While the motivation for giving to the school varies greatly, each person has chosen to be impactful beyond their tenure, their time of study or, for that matter, beyond their own lives. Consider these stories behind recent contributions.

• Over the past 22 years, more than 80 Jewelry Sale volunteers have raised $205,000 to support nursing scholarships. Plans are underway to host the final benefit sale on Dec. 9-10 and to honor its founding chair, the late Florence Ruhlman.
• In the spirit of preserving our school’s history to build our future, the Heritage Committee debuted a new webpage that will educate new generations on the impact the school and its graduates have made on the University and throughout the world.
• Honoring the memory of his beloved wife and her work as the School of Nursing Foundation’s first chair, John J. Spillane created the Elva Walker Spillane Endowed Leadership Fund.
• As a career nurse whose husband served as a neonatologist at the U of M for 42 years, Lynette Thompson provided funding for an advanced birthing simulator so our students learn to best assist mothers and babies during childbirth.

Each gift and every minute is important and helps create a new future for the school – thank you!

John Kilbride
Director of Development
Karin Alaniz says it’s been an honor to contribute to the next generation of nurses

By Brett Stursa

Karin Alaniz began teaching at the School of Nursing in 1977. Over the years, she’s gain a reputation for her inspirational influence on students. “I have been grateful throughout the years to have had the opportunity to work with undergraduate students,” said Alaniz. “Teaching and mentoring has been my passion. To me it isn’t work; it is my pleasure and honor to be able to contribute to the next generation.”

While her teaching days came to an end in 2014, after being diagnosed with a brain tumor, her impact on the school and its students continues. She recently established an endowed fund, the Dr. Karin L. Alaniz Scholarship, for students enrolled in the School of Nursing. Preference will be given to students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. Alaniz hopes the scholarships make it possible for students to continue their education with a little less financial burden. “I want to support our future nurses in the only way I know how and am fortunate to be able to do so,” said Alaniz.

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Scholarships available
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* Data provided by Minnesota Board of Nursing, May 2015, and Minnesota Office of Higher Education

Karin Alaniz was named Professor ad Honorem by the School of Nursing.
**SHAREHOLDERS REPORT YEAR 2015**

**Presidents Club**
Members are honored for lifetime giving to the University of Minnesota Nursing. Lifetime gifts of at least $1 million are recognized. (P)

**John Sargent Gillies Society**
Lifetime gifts of at least $10 million are recognized. (B)

**Builders Society**
Lifetime gifts of at least $1 million are recognized. (A)

**Sustaining Society**
Lifetime gifts of at least $250,000 are recognized. (C)

**Trustees Society**
Lifetime gifts of at least $100,000 are recognized. (T)

**Chancellors Society**
Lifetime gifts of at least $50,000 are recognized. (H)

**Heritage Society**
Members who joined the Presidents Club at the $10,000 to $99,999 level prior to their reorganization on July 1, 1998.*

*Indicates Donors Recognized

The Dean’s Circle recognizes donors who invest in the School of Nursing by making an annual gift of $1,000 or more.

Every gift is important, though space limitations only allow us to list donors who have made gifts of $1,000 or more. July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. Kindly consider the limitations only allow us to list donors who have made gifts of $1,000 or more. July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. Kindly consider the limitations only allow us to list donors who have made gifts of $1,000 or more.

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**DEVELOPMENT NEWS**

**Kathleen M. Ziegler**

**Susan J. Zahner**

**Marie K. Young**

**Ross J. & Alison B. Underdahl**

**Ruth A. Thurman**

**Scott J. Redicker**

**Margaret L. Wieder**

**Jeanne M. Schroth**

**Mary A. Schorn-Rhoda**

**Janet A. Riedesel**

**John M. Ryberg**

**Judith J. Snow**

**Karen A. Cruz**

**Jodi Billy**

**Debra A. Draper**

**Mary Ann McGuire**

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**MINNESOTA NURSING**

36 | nursing.umn.edu | 37
The first 20 students in the Veterans Administration Nurse Academic Partnership graduated in May. The partnership will educate another 80 students, skilled in tending to the health needs of veterans, over the next four years.

BSN student Kelly Goblirsch demonstrates safe lifting equipment to STEM students in the University Recreation and Wellness Program.

An audience member asks Pamela Hinds a question about her research related to pediatric cancer at Nursing Research Day.


Marti Kubik, director of global programming, right, welcomes Kareema Hussein, University of Kufa School of Nursing assistant professor and visiting scholar, who spoke about efforts to rebuild nursing in Iraq.

Students and faculty engaged in activities to advance the public’s understanding of the role of advanced practice nurses at the State Fair in August.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 13
Nursing Scholarship Reception
McNamara Alumni Center

Oct. 13
Center for Nursing Informatics
Fall Event
School of Nursing

Oct. 16
School of Nursing reception at the
American Academy of Nursing
conference

Oct. 19
Advance Your Nursing Career
with a Doctoral Degree
Bentson Center

Nov. 16
Advance Your Nursing Career
with a Doctoral Degree
Bentson Center

Dec. 9
Presidents Club Holiday Party
McNamara Alumni Center

Dec. 9-10
Nursing Scholarship Benefit
Jewelry Sale
Phillips-Wangensteen Building

Dec. 11
Fall Commencement
Northrop

Jan. 11
Advance Your Nursing Career
with a Doctoral Degree
Bentson Center

Feb. 6
Florida Minne-College
Naples

March 5
Arizona Minne-College
Scottsdale

April 21
Nursing Alumni Spring Celebration
and Reunion
Town and Country Club, St. Paul

April 22
Nursing Research Day
McNamara Alumni Center

May 13
Spring Commencement
Northrop

For more information
www.nursing.umn.edu