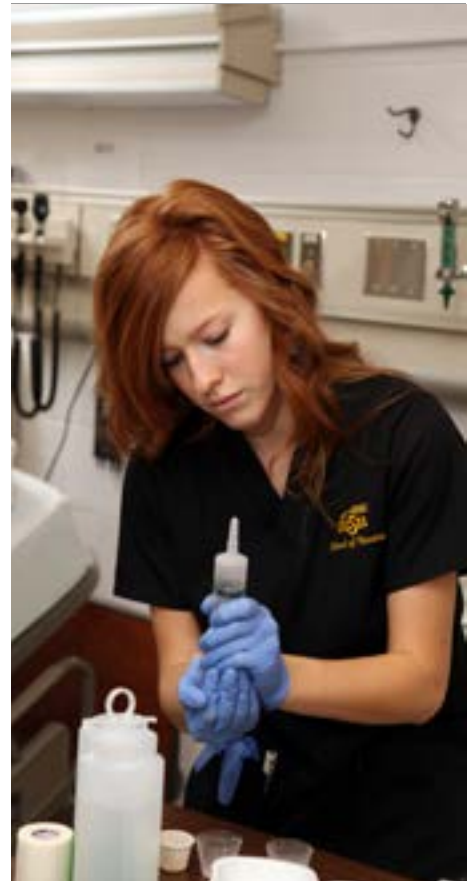


SCHOOL OF NURSING

Newsletter Fall 2017

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WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF
HEALTH PROFESSIONS

School of Nursing

Message from the Chair



Greetings from the School of Nursing at Wichita State!

As the year draws to a close and we celebrate the holiday season, I am pleased to bring you an update on the activities from the fall semester. We are committed to continually improving our programs and the highlights in this newsletter are just some examples of our accomplishments.

This semester our Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program moved from WSU South to the main campus, bringing all the School of Nursing programs together in the same building for the first time. We are thrilled to have all our students, faculty and staff in Ahlberg Hall and hope everyone in the Accelerated program is enjoying their new home.

In other news, plans are underway to expand our Applied Learning Center next year. Our lab is vital for developing students' knowledge, skills and confidence, and the increased space will allow us to better serve our students. Stay tuned for updates in 2018!

As we look forward to the coming year, we will continue to take advantage of opportunities to advance the School of Nursing. I am grateful to all of you who INSPIRE, INNOVATE and EXCEL to improve the health of our community and prepare our future health care leaders. Thank you making 2017 a very successful and fulfilling year and I look forward to the exciting work ahead in 2018!

Wishing you and your family a very happy and joyous holiday season!

Victoria Mosack
Department Chair and Associate Professor

School of Nursing Updates

ACCELERATED NURSING PROGRAM MOVES TO MAIN CAMPUS

The Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program has moved from WSU South to the main campus, bringing all the School of Nursing programs together in the same building. The program is now located on the third floor of Ahlberg Hall, occupying the Physician Assistant program's previous space after their move to WSU Old Town.

The program, Kansas' only accelerated nursing program at a state university, has been located at WSU South since its inception in 2008. This is the first time the entire School of Nursing has been in the same facility.

Brandy Jackson, director of undergraduate nursing programs, says the move is beneficial because all students and faculty are now in the same location, interacting and learning together.

"We value our students and faculty having a voice and active representation in the School of Nursing," says Jackson. "Now they can be more easily involved in campus committees and organizations."

The move also gives students more convenient access to the Applied Learning Center, which means no more driving back and forth between locations for simulations and lab time.

Associate Professor Debie Pile and her granddaughter welcomed the students to Ahlberg Hall on the first day of classes by decorating the classroom and lockers with nursing items, welcome messages and homemade name plates. They also stocked the area with supplies and stress relievers such as squeeze balls and bubbles. She says having all the programs together under one roof promotes a more collaborative environment and encourages community among students, faculty and staff.

"We appreciate all the support and advocacy in bringing the accelerated nursing students to the main campus," she says. "Having everyone in the same building is an exciting step for us and makes the School of Nursing more unified."



Updates – continued

SPIRIT WEEK/CLASH OF THE COLLEGES

The School of Nursing began the semester by getting in the spirit for Clash of the Colleges! The office door was decked out in Mardi Gras decorations, and even Clara Barton and Florence Nightingale got into the spirit! Kelly Eden also used her artistic talents to paint decorations on the Ahlberg Hall second floor lobby windows.



INTEGRATION OF PHN ESSENTIALS INTO THE CURRICULUM

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) recently reached out to faculty member Jolynn Dowling to provide testimony on how the Population Health Supplement to the Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice have been incorporated into the Care of Populations course offered across all Baccalaureate nursing programs at Wichita State. In 2015, the CDC partnered with national organizations that represent colleges and universities to establish Academic Partnerships to Improve Health (APIH) as a channel to enhance population health education for medical, nursing and public health students. Jolynn says through applied learning activities such as a Community Health Assessment, Healthy People 2020 Program Development Project; as well as Interprofessional Education simulations through HealthSim United, the School of Nursing is helping students achieve nursing competency from a proactive health promotion and disease prevention perspective, rather than only an illness care perspective. Jolynn says she is honored the CDC and AACN reached out to her and believes the curriculum revisions are essential to meet the expanding public health needs of our community.

HELEN HALSTEAD

Helen Halstead, longtime faculty member in the School of Nursing for 26 years, passed away on Oct. 31. Helen was a dedicated professional who loved teaching. Her research specialty was in aging health and she paved the way for the Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program. Her devotion and compassion influenced countless lives and the School of Nursing is grateful for her service.



PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Two School of Nursing colleagues were featured in the People You Should Know section of the Wichita Eagle. Via Christi Health named Matt French-Bravo its system director of risk management and Melissa Evraets its system director of quality. Matt French is a graduate of the MSN degree program (nursing administration focus) and Melissa Evraets taught in the graduate nursing program.



Updates – continued

INDUSTRY PARTNER MIXER

The College of Health Professions hosted an Industry Partner Mixer for the School of Nursing, Dental Hygiene and Medical Laboratory Sciences departments. The mixer featured tours of the Applied Learning Center and student speakers from each program. Graduate students Caleb Smith and Amanda Neuenswander represented the School of Nursing by telling their stories about why they got into the profession.



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Karen Hayes and Dr. Alicia Huckstadt published “Using Information Technology to Tailor Diabetes Care” in Clinical Advisor, April 2017. Their publication was the lead [online article](#) and is also available in print.

Elaine Steinke was one of several experts cited in the article, “How to get your sex life back after a heart attack,” published on Men’s Health online. To read the full article visit bit.ly/2jMdWPb.

FACULTY AND STAFF HONORED WITH YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following School of Nursing faculty and staff members for their years of service at Wichita State! We appreciate your dedication and are fortunate to have your talents in the School of Nursing!

25 Years – “Bender of Twigs”

Betty Smith-Campbell

10 Years

Theresa Cooper

Pam Martin

Stephanie Nicks

5 Years

Patty Beamer

Jolynn Dowling

Pat Dwyer

Veronica Ramos-Blanford

Jennifer Rodgers



BULLYING AND LATERAL VIOLENCE RESEARCH PRESENTATION

Brandy Jackson collaborated with colleagues at Newman University and Southwestern College to present a research poster at the AACN/BSN conference in November. The group presented an online virtual simulation tool designed to teach students the actions to take when witnessing bullying and lateral violence in the workplace. Bullying and lateral violence continues to be a problem in health care, and implementing this new tool in nursing education can help students respond effectively.

CHP WEEK

CHP spirit was strong in the School of Nursing during the annual CHP Week celebration! The week was full of activities and celebration to show appreciation for students, faculty and staff. The School of Nursing decorated the front office door with useful health tips and staff members volunteered at the Kansas Food Bank, helping create over 1,000 packages for Backpacks for Kids. Thanks to everyone for making CHP Week an enormous success!



Student Activities

NURSING STUDENT STUDIES ABROAD

Courtney Mellinger was featured in The Sunflower sharing about her experience studying abroad in Guadalajara, Mexico during the fall semester. Courtney wants to become a pediatric nurse and the classes will help her complete her Spanish minor.

NEPHEW'S EARLY BIRTH INSPIRES NURSING STUDENT

Rachael Taylor was featured in The Sunflower's 'Day in the Life' special issue. She says her nephew's early birth and seeing the passionate and genuine nurses who took care of him inspired her to pursue a career in nursing. Rachel's goal is to become a newborn intensive care unit nurse.

TEAMSTEPPS

More than 185 Nursing, PT, PA and CSD students participated in the TeamSTEPPS Interprofessional event with KU School of Medicine, KU School of Pharmacy and 40 faculty facilitators. Everyone worked together to develop a plan-of-care for a patient that suffered a stroke and learned how to use effective communication tools.

DECEMBER 2017 GRADUATES

Congratulations to the December 2017 graduating class! We are very proud of your accomplishments and can't wait to see you succeed in your careers!



DAISY AWARD RECIPIENT

Second semester student Devin Reese was awarded the prestigious DAISY in Training Award from the DAISY Foundation. Devin was nominated for his positive attitude, professional bedside manner and ability to foster meaningful patient-nurse relationships.



FORTY & EIGHT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Alyssa Higgins is the recipient of the Forty & Eight scholarship, an organization of veterans of the United States armed forces. The title "40 & 8" comes from the box cars that were used to transport troops to the front in France. Each car had the emblem 40/8 stenciled on the sides, which meant that it could carry 40 men or 8 horses.

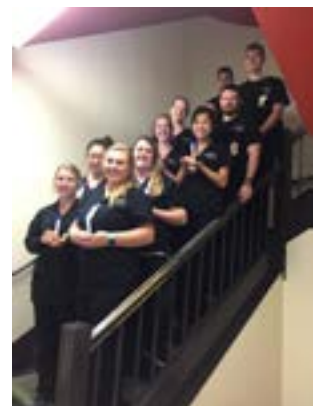


STUDENTS PROVIDE FLU VACCINES

Wendy Dusenbury and students from the undergraduate pediatrics class teamed up with the United Way of the Plains and the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy to provide free flu vaccines on Sept. 23 and Oct. 21 at various clinics in Wichita. The clinics were targeted toward people who are unemployed, uninsured or unable to pay. The clinics gave students real-world experience interacting with patients while providing a much-needed service to the community.

HISTORIC PHOTO RECREATION

As a thank you to the educator at Wesley, nursing students posed for a recreation of a historic photo from the 1940s on a staircase at Wesley hospital. The students in the original photo were celebrating the holiday season by singing Christmas carols.



New Faculty Members

We are excited to bring in new faculty who will contribute fresh perspectives and help define our future. Joining us in 2017 are four new faculty members. We would like to extend a warm welcome to the team!



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REBECCA CARTER
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Rebecca graduated from Wichita State in 2002 with her BSN and in 2005 with her MSN. She is currently working on her DNP at Wichita State. In spring 2018 she will be teaching/assisting with N724 Education Practicum, N702 Health Assessment Lab and N904 FNP Primary Care Practicum II. Rebecca says she has a passion for nursing and is excited to be a part of the WSU School of Nursing as an educator. Rebecca lives in Anthony and is married to her spouse, Brad. They have a stepdaughter named Kaitlin.



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MAGGIE LEIGHTON
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Maggie's background is in Nursing in the Emergency Department with a Doctorate in Family Nurse Practitioner. She will be teaching in the School of Nursing in the undergraduate department as a clinical instructor, as well as the graduate department for the Family Nurse Practitioner program. Maggie also practices in the Emergency Department at Via Christi as a nurse practitioner. Most importantly, she is a mother to five wonderful children!



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LAURA PRAHM
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Laura's practice background is in behavioral health/psychiatric nursing. She has worked on inpatient units in private hospitals and in the psychiatric assessment center. Through these experiences she has provided care for a variety of age groups, clinical presentations and severity of symptom for a multitude of mental illness. She also briefly worked in the Medical Intensive Care Unit, which helped strengthen her nursing skills even more diversely. Laura teaches Mental Health Nursing Care (didactic and clinical) and Nursing Care of the adult clinical group.



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ANGIE STORRER
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Angie is a two-time alum of Wichita State and is very excited to have this opportunity to work with the School of Nursing as a clinical educator. Angie is teaching Critical Care Nursing in the fourth semester undergraduate program. Her teaching experience includes face-to-face, online, clinical instruction and use of AVID strategies. She also works part time as a Nurse Practitioner with a hospitalist group in Wichita.

Student Spotlight



Cody Forsberg

When Cody Forsberg walked across the stage at graduation he continued the legacy started by his grandfather, Frank Hopkins, who graduated from WSU with two nursing degrees more than 40 years ago.

Cody received his BSN from WSU in 2010 and graduated this semester from the Doctor of Nursing Practice program with a specialization in Family Nurse Practitioner. Hopkins, an Air Force major in Vietnam, received his BSN from WSU in 1973 and Master of Science in Nursing in the mid-70s. Hopkins then went on to work for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. After retiring from bedside nursing, he taught nursing classes in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Cody is from Rose Hill, Kansas, and has always had a passion for medicine

and helping people. Because of his grandfather and grandmother, a labor and delivery nurse, the nursing profession has always been part of his life. Although his grandfather passed away when he was young, Cody has some memories and considers him part of his inspiration for pursuing nursing.

Cody says one of his most memorable moments was receiving his grandfather's nursing pin from his grandmother when he graduated with his BSN degree.

"That was really a special moment," he says. "I'm honored to be able to carry on my grandfather's legacy and help others in need."

In addition to his studies, Cody works in the Burn/Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at Via Christi St. Francis hospital. He loves working with kids and says burn survivors are incredibly strong people.

Cody was the president of his undergraduate nursing class, an experience he enjoyed very much. He says WSU is a good fit for him because it feels like a small town school even though it's a larger university.

"The faculty truly care about students," he says. "They encourage you to push and motivate yourself

to do better while keeping yourself accountable."

He says his biggest challenge as a nursing student was going through graduate school while working full time and becoming a parent in the middle of the program. Juggling everything while being a full time graduate student was difficult, but the hard work paid off.

Cody says one skill every nurse should have is the ability to hold personal conversations with patients.

"A good nurse can really get the information they need just by talking to the patient," he says. "Being personable and friendly is the best way to make people feel comfortable and open up."

His advice to future nursing students is to just keep going.

"Nursing school can be very tough and time consuming, but keep thinking about the lives and people you're going to come into contact with," he says. "Everything you're doing is for a reason, which is preparing to take care of somebody and heal a person."

In his spare time, Cody loves to spend quality family time with his wife and 2-year-old daughter. They love to be outdoors and enjoy activities such as fishing and playing football.

Staff Spotlight



Connie Wells

Connie Wells is the Executive Administrative Assistant for the School of Nursing and provides day-to-day support through a variety of tasks, including accounts receivable, accounts payable, budget management, travel arrangements, new hire paperwork, office setups and more.

“One of the best things about my position is that I get to do so many different things,” says Connie. “A lot of my work helps solve student, faculty, staff and visitor questions, and that feels good.”

Connie was born in Coffeyville, KS. She moved to Wichita when she was twelve years old and graduated from Heights High School. After graduation, Connie went to business college and continued on

to a vocational-technical school. Afterwards she worked for the Urban League, a portion of the United Way agency, for 25 years.

Having worked in a social service agency for so many years, Connie was ready for a change. She applied at Wichita State in December 1999 and began her new position as Senior Administrative Assistant in January 2000.

Connie had no idea how being on a university campus would change her; but the hustle and bustle and new faces of the eager students gave her an idea. In spring 2011, she enrolled in classes at WSU. She began by taking a three credit-hour class, which led to enrolling in six credit hours, and soon afterwards nine credit hours. Connie knew she was pushing her limits, but it was working and she enjoyed being a student. She began taking online courses, which suited her busy schedule as a full-time employee, wife, mother and grandmother. In spring 2015, Connie graduated with her associate's degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

“Being on this campus is different than business college and vo-tech, which was made up of mostly women

and had a completely different feel,” she says. “At WSU there are many young people eager to learn, which is an inspiration and makes you feel young at heart.”

With retirement on the horizon, Connie plans to graduate in the near future with her Bachelors of General Studies in Women's Studies and Religion. Her goal is to retire and graduate at the same time.

Connie enjoys her job and the people she works with. She says everyone is independent, but can still easily work together to get things done. Her position has allowed her to gain new skills in Purchasing and other areas. She has also gained a deeper understanding of the College of Health Professions and other colleges across campus. She says that things are constantly changing and you have to be optimistic.

“Wichita State is a great school. I like the pride and dedication people have here.”

In her spare time, Connie spends time with her husband, children and grandchildren. She also enjoys going to the movies, eating out and is active in her church.



Alumni Spotlight



Linda Bayless

School of Nursing graduate Linda Bayless spent 13 days in Puerto Rico providing medical aid after Hurricane Maria caused widespread destruction on the island.

Linda, an advanced practice registered nurse, was part of a group of volunteer medical professionals who were stationed at a makeshift hospital in Manati, a disaster-stricken area near San Juan. They worked with several disaster relief organizations to provide free care and prescription medicine to residents affected by the hurricane.

The hospital had an emergency area where they treated patients with respiratory issues, lacerations, foreign object removal, head injuries and more. Part of the hospital was used for the general population that the local hospitals were unable to accept.

Linda and the volunteers worked long,

stressful days and slept in corridors on cots. They faced a number of challenges including a poor water supply, sanitation issues, substandard food, exhaustion, limited medical supplies, no electricity and unreliable cell phone service.

Although the conditions were tough, Linda says they were nothing compared to what many Puerto Ricans faced. She says many elderly people live alone and lost everything, including their medication. Most people have no running water, electricity, transportation or supplies.

“Even though things were rough, for me the situation was temporary, and I would be getting on an airplane to fly home soon,” she says. “But for so many people there is no end in sight and they have nowhere to go.”

Linda and her team provided care to 1,600 people, with over 50 patients receiving 24-hour care in the facility. They treated a range of people, from a 6-week-old baby to a 102-year-old.

She says despite the unfortunate circumstances, patients were appreciative of the help.

“The people of Puerto Rico are so kind and grateful,” Linda says. “Even when we had to turn people away, they still

smiled and said thank you.”

This was Linda’s first experience serving as a disaster relief nurse. She says the experience was difficult, but her strong faith helped her get through. Sadness, anger and other emotions from the trip have stuck with her after returning home, but the experience also revived her faith in humanity. She was particularly inspired by a fellow volunteer nurse who was recently diagnosed with terminal breast cancer and wanted to do one last service while she was still able.

She says she would be open to serving again, particularly if it was for a local disaster.

“I’m glad that I was able to do my part to help people affected by this storm,” she says.

Linda works in the Emergency Department at the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center in Wichita. Before that, she worked at Via Christi St. Francis hospital for over 30 years.

Linda received her master’s degree in family practice and will be starting the Doctor of Nursing Practice program in January. In her spare time, she enjoys watching movies, reading and spending time with her family and cats.



Message to Alumni & Friends

Alumni - we want to hear from you! There are many reasons to stay in touch and be involved. Keep your lifelong relationship with Wichita State and the School of Nursing a strong one. We encourage you to:

- ➔ **UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION.** We want to make sure you receive the latest news, invitations to events, department updates and more.
- ➔ **KEEP US UP-TO-DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS.** Send your achievements and news to chpcontent@wichita.edu for promotion on social media and in upcoming newsletters.
- ➔ **ATTEND UNIVERSITY AND ALUMNI EVENTS.** These events are a great opportunity to network and reconnect with fellow alumni.
- ➔ **CONNECT AND ENCOURAGE THE NEXT GENERATION OF WSU NURSES THROUGH YOUR EXPERIENCES.** This is an important way in which your leadership can help further the nursing profession and the School of Nursing at WSU.
- ➔ **CONTINUE YOUR EDUCATION WITH US.** Stand out and take your nursing career to the next level.

Let us know what's happening with you by emailing the following information to chpcontent@wichita.edu. Thank you for sharing!

Name:

Class:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Tell us about yourself. Where are you living, what are you doing in your career and what are your future plans?

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