Greetings friends and colleagues! It is my pleasure and honor to serve as the new Associate Dean and School of Nursing Chair for the College of Health Professions. It has been a wonderful academic year and I appreciate all of your kindness and support during my transition to Wichita State University.

I am excited to join a vibrant community of educators and scholars at Wichita State, and to be part of such a rich, student-centered learning environment. I look forward to working more with faculty and staff, strengthening our programs and continuing to evolve the student experience and positive outcomes.

Our faculty, staff and students excel in teaching, scholarship and service, and many of their accomplishments are highlighted in this newsletter. We have expanded and upgraded our simulation lab to increase the quality of our students’ applied learning experience. These exciting activities and improvements to our infrastructure reinforce our reputation as a School of Nursing that delivers high-quality education for both undergraduate and graduate students.

I hope you enjoy reading about our department’s activities over the past semester. Wishing you and your families a wonderful holiday season and joyful new year!

Go Shockers!

Dr. Voncella McCleary-Jones, PhD, RN-BC, CNE, ANEF
Harvard Macy Scholar
Fellow, Academy of Nursing Education
Sights around the School of Nursing

There is always something happening in the School of Nursing. Thanks to everyone for making our college and department a wonderful place to be!
Applied Learning Center Expansion
This past summer brought big changes to the Applied Learning Center. Room 220 was expanded by knocking down a wall and adding room 222, creating a much larger space for simulation. A doorway was also added to allow students direct access from room 220. The extra space in room 222 is now used for the Pyxis medication station and as a central supply location. Future upgrades include a new central supply area and medication station. Also planned is adding a window in room 204 with a work station in the area that is now the central supply area. These upgrades will be beneficial for our students and increase the quality of their applied learning experience.

WSU TV In Focus Video
The School of Nursing was featured in the first episode of In Focus from Wichita State TV. The College of Health Professions was the first college to be featured in the series. Students and faculty share how applied learning in our College is positively impacting education and lives.

Jolynn Dowling Named to Janice M. Riordan Distinguished Professorship
Jolynn A. Dowling MSN, APRN, NNP-BC, IBCLC has been named to the Janice M. Riordan Distinguished Professorship in Maternal Child Health at Wichita State University after a national search. The professorship was established in 2007 to honor the work of Janice M. Riordan RN, EdD, FAAN noted author, lecturer, researcher, consultant on breastfeeding and lactation management, and former professor in the School of Nursing at Wichita State. We gratefully acknowledge the primary donor, Michael L. Riordan, M.D.

MSN Education program Classes Now Available Online
Beginning fall 2018, the School of Nursing’s MSN Education program is now available completely online. Most of the courses for the MSN Administration/Leadership track are currently online, and they are on track to be completely online in fall 2019.

Donor Visit
The College of Health Professions and School of Nursing were honored to welcome two special guests in October; former Nursing faculty member Phyllis Jacobs and her husband Lou. Phyllis and Lou established the Jacobs Scholars Program for students pursuing a Doctorate of Nursing degree. During the visit Dean Bibb presented the Jacobs’ with a College of Health Professions coin. We appreciate their passion and support for our College and students!

KWCH Channel 12 Story
The School of Nursing was featured in a KWCH story about kscareernav.gov, a website that lists thousands of job openings across Kansas. Nursing is one of the most in-demand jobs in Kansas.
Dr. Janice M. Riordan Passes Away
Janice “Jan” Mary Riordan (Brick), 83, of Southlake, Texas, died Sept. 17, 2018. Riordan was a longtime professor in the WSU School of Nursing. Riordan was a pioneering proponent for breastfeeding and a founding member of the Kansas chapter of La Leche League International. She was the founding editor and co-author of five editions of Breastfeeding and Human Lactation, the leading textbook on human lactation. In addition to authoring five other books, she was a founder of the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners and was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Riordan became a tenured professor in nursing at WSU, where she served on the faculty for 23 years before retiring in 2010. She was Professor Emerita of the School of Nursing at the time of her death. A professorship was endowed at WSU in 2007 to honor Riordan’s contributions to nursing education. The Janice M. Riordan Distinguished Professorship in Maternal Child Health, with its focus on breastfeeding education and research, was hailed by the university as the first of its kind in a school of nursing. For more information visit http://bit.ly/JanRiordan.

Alumni Accepted Into Prestigious Fellowship
Alumni Jay Ballard was accepted into Carolina’s Health System Hospitalist Fellowship. Congratulations Jay on this remarkable accomplishment! Jay is an RN-to-BSN and DNP graduate and his doctoral project was published in the May/June issue of Urologic Nursing.

Alumni Wins AANP NP Excellence Award
Congratulations to DNP graduate Karen Lehman for winning the American Association of Nurse Practitioners 2018 State Award for Excellence.

New WSU Faculty Fellows
Faculty members Linda Moody and Rhonda Williams were selected as WSU Online Faculty Fellows. The Online Faculty Fellows are ambassadors for online learning at WSU and their purpose is to establish a culture of online education by helping their peers increase the quality and quantity of online courses offered at WSU. Linda and Rhonda were chosen last summer and completed online certification courses and online training throughout the 2017-2018 year.

Dorothy Woodin Award
Jolynn Dowling was the recipient of the prestigious 2018 Dorothy Woodin Award for Outstanding Public Health Nursing Service from the Kansas Public Health Association. This award is bestowed on a public health nurse for outstanding public health nursing services. Jolynn was presented with the award at the Kansas Public Health Association Conference.

Wichita Business Journal Nursing Roundtable
Last semester Alicia Huckstadt participated in Wichita Business Journals’ Nursing Roundtable last spring. The discussion was transcribed and is now available to view online. Topics included licensure, certification, advanced nursing practice, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, changing health care needs and what advanced practice nurses can do, the need for diversity in the workforce and the national opioid crisis and how it influences nursing practice.

Nurse Practitioner Advocate Award
Congratulations to faculty member Jennifer Sebes for being selected as the recipient of the 2019 AANP Advocate State Award for Excellence for Kansas. This award is given annually to a dedicated advocate in each state who has made a significant contribution toward increasing the awareness and recognition of nurse practitioners. Jennifer will honored for this achievement at the 2019 National Conference next year.
APRN CE Conference
The School of Nursing hosted its fifth annual Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Conference, Innovated Thinkers—Creating New Pathways, on Sept. 27 and 28. This conference is sponsored annually by the School of Nursing and is the only conference in this area just for nurse practitioners and other advanced practice nurses. Over 140 attendees from Kansas and beyond received an inspiring keynote presentation by Dr. Ruth Kleinpell, Assistant Dean for Clinical Scholarship, Independence Foundation Chair for Nursing Education and Professor at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Nashville, TN and Professor at Rush University College of Nursing. Dr. Kleinpell is an internationally recognized nurse researcher, scholar, author, educator and mentor. She is a nationally certified Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner and an expert in practice-based research. Her work with the Society of Critical Care Medicine as past president and current board member is remarkable as she is only the third nurse who has served in this capacity. Her work is extraordinary in creating new pathways and helping move nurses forward as leaders in healthcare systems. Over 50 attendees participated in pre-conference sessions including Evaluation and Treatment of Skin Injuries, Medical Spanish, Understanding the Mastery of the NIH Stroke Scale, ECGs and Heart Failure. Over 15 exhibitors also participated. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year’s conference a success! Save the date for next year’s sixth annual APRN Conference September 26 and 27, 2019.

Shocker Support Locker Donations
Nursing faculty and staff donated 140 food items to the Shocker Support Locker! The Student Government office was very grateful and they even needed a flatbed to transport all the donations. Thank you everyone who donated! The donations made it to the support locker just in time for Thanksgiving week.

Youth Camp Visits Applied Learning Lab
Nursing faculty and students spent a fun afternoon with kids from the Lynette Woodard Recreation Center Summer Activity Camp. The kids enjoyed learning about our high-tech simulation mannequins and the importance of proper hand washing. The activity was hosted by the Office of Diversity and Community Engagement.

Kansas Food Bank volunteering
A group of nursing faculty and staff spent an afternoon volunteering at the Kansas Food Bank during CHP Week. Thanks to everyone for taking time out of your busy schedules to help our community!

Hooding & Pinning Ceremony
The School of Nursing’s semesterly Hooding & Pinning Ceremony was held Dec. 15 in the Lowe Auditorium at the Metropolitan Complex. This ceremony is an important event to recognize our students and their accomplishments.

Commencement
University Commencement was held Dec. 16 at Charles Koch Arena. We are extremely proud of our graduating students and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors!

WSU Tech Pinning Ceremony
Dr. Voncella McCleary-Jones delivered the keynote address at the WSU Tech nursing pinning ceremony on December 18. Wichita State University and WSU Tech recently entered a new affiliation together, opening many new opportunities for collaboration and Interprofessional education.
Nursing Student Featured Speaker at Academic Convocation

Nursing student Flor Maritza Mercado was chosen to speak at this year’s Academic Convocation. She shared her story of moving to the U.S. from Mexico, becoming a Dreamer and her experience with DACA. Flor is a member of the Future Health Care Professionals and she is involved in Kappa Delta Chi, the first Latina founded sorority at WSU, and was the first Miss Latina at WSU. Her future plans include working in the emergency room or in a critical care unit and then pursuing a doctorate in nursing practice to become a nurse practitioner in an underserved area.

Flor was also featured in a WSU News story sharing about her determination to succeed despite DACA uncertainty.

Interprofessional Activity with Interpreter Students

Wichita State Nursing and Interpreter students in the Advanced Spanish Grammar and Composition (SPAN 526) worked on their communication and interprofessional skills while providing care for a Spanish-speaking simulation mannequin. The interpreters translated the patient’s symptoms and requests for the nursing students and together they created a plan-of-care for the patient. The collaboration and interactions were wonderful learning experiences for everyone involved.

Student Class Presentations

The NURS460 Leadership and Clinical Decision Making class presented their Quality Projects on Oct. 29. The students worked as teams to complete research, use quality tools and integrate creative thinking in addressing a healthcare quality initiative. They explored the healthcare situation and applied their quality improvement process to provide recommendations for improving patient outcomes. We are proud of the great work these students have done!

Via Christi Quality Awards

Several students were recipients of Via Christi’s Quality Awards this semester. We’re proud of our student’s leadership and hard work!

Kelsey Austin and Dagny Castelli were the first recipients of the student nurse Quality Awards. Nurses at Via Christi Hospital St. Francis recognized these ladies for their excellence in promoting quality patient care that is aligned with their nursing goals.

Student Twitter Takeover

Sophomore nursing student Max Karst took over the CHP Twitter account for a day during CHP Week. Max entertained followers throughout the day as he went to classes, the Advising Open House and a Shocker men’s basketball game. Max is a Transition Mentor, member of Future Health Care Professionals and loves playing tennis. Max did a great job representing the School of Nursing!

Eric Torres was recognized for his rapid response being first on the scene.

Jennifer Gutierrez was recognized for her efforts on the Adolescent Behavioral Health Unit at Via Christi St. Joseph in identifying and taking the initiative to help de-escalate a patient.
Instructor Aids with Hurricane Relief

Nursing instructor Richard Nold spent two weeks in North Carolina earlier this fall providing medical assistance to victims of Hurricane Florence. Richard, clinical educator in the Accelerated Nursing Program, was deployed through his military service in the Air National Guard.

In September, Hurricane Florence had record-breaking rainfall and caused a flooding crisis throughout North Carolina and South Carolina. The storm caused billions of dollars in damage, road closures, power outages and emergency evacuations. More than 50 people died and thousands more were displaced.

Richard was stationed in Swansboro and Wilmington, and stayed at schools that were turned into temporary shelters. He and the other volunteers provided patients with first aid treatment, medical evaluations and blood pressure checks. They also distributed medications, food and supplies.

“Due to some rules and restrictions, we weren’t able to do quite as much as we wanted,” he says. “But we got to help people and make a difference, so that’s what mattered the most.”

One particularly rewarding situation for Richard was assisting with rescuing a mother and her four children stranded in their home by flood waters.

“Seeing the looks in their eyes as we carried them out really hit close to home,” he says.

Richard says the area looked like a disaster zone with destroyed buildings, telephone poles down and 150-year-old trees plucked out of the ground like it was nothing.

“It was really eye-opening to see that,” he says. “It’s one thing to watch it on TV, but another to actually experience it in person.”

Richard and the other volunteers worked long hours, sleeping on cots and eating prepackaged food. The Red Cross and volunteers provided clean water to drink, and everyone worked hard to keep conditions sanitary to prevent illnesses from spreading.

Volunteers also offered emotional support and comfort to victims who had just lost everything.

“People just had their lives crumble beneath them. Many had lost their home, possessions and sometimes family members,” he says. “We tried to help them cope and remember the big picture, which was that they were still alive.”

Although he has been on call several times in the past, this was Nold’s first experience participating with disaster relief. He describes the experience as tough but rewarding.

“It was exhausting, but I’m glad I was able to do my part and help during this time of need,” he says. “This experience has changed me forever.”

Richard’s experience was featured in a WSU News story.
The School of Nursing is pleased to have two new faculty members join our community this year. We appreciate their contributions to our students and department. Welcome to the team!

**Pamela Goebel-Roberts**

Pamela graduated from Wichita State University with her BSN in 2001 and MSN in the Family Nurse Practitioner program in 2008. She has worked in a variety of areas as an RN, including Medical ICU, Medical Surgical Telemetry, Clinical Research and Primary Care Clinic. As a Nurse Practitioner, Pamela has taken care of patients in a Family Practice Clinic and at the Sedgwick County Health Department. Her most recent position was in the Family Planning, STI and EDW clinic of the Sedgwick County Health Department.

This is Pamela’s first year of teaching. She is teaching Care of Populations in the BSN and RN-to-BSN program, as well as the clinical for the traditional BSN class. Pamela has three kids: Haley (17), AJ (12) and Nathan (10). She has been married for 22 years and lives in Clearwater.

**Jamie Harrington**

Jamie is board certified as a nurse midwife and family nurse practitioner. She started as a CNA at age 18 and received her LPN shortly after from Wichita Area Technical College. She has her ADN from Butler County Community College, BSN from Southwestern College, MSN and post master’s degree from Frontier Nursing University and DNP from Wichita State University. She has practiced in a community health center, local health department and in several private OB/GYN practices. Jamie enjoys working with women and families from underserved communities. She is passionate about improving maternal mortality and increasing access to healthcare. Her research focus has been primarily on maternal and infant health, access to care, increasing knowledge of midwifery and removing scope of practice barriers for all APRNs. Jamie is currently the President of the Kansas Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives and is involved in APRN legislative issues and advocacy at the state level.

Jamie is an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, currently teaching graduate advanced practice nursing courses including Population and Social Determinants of Health, Evidence Based Nursing Project I and FNP Primary Care I.
2018 has been a busy year for nursing student Aly Dotson. She started the Accelerated program in the School of Nursing and also became a student entrepreneur with Aly’s Blooms, her own flower farm and business. Aly’s Blooms provides fresh-cut bouquets and delivery subscriptions and provides her flowers for special events and for purchase at local markets.

Aly is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Accelerated program - a compressed program that can be completed in 13 months. Originally from Corpus Christi, TX, she moved to Wichita when she was 14 and graduated from Independent High School. She was an engineering major at K-State for a year and a half and eventually decided that engineering wasn’t the right match for her. She has always had a passion for helping people, so she decided to give nursing a shot and fell in love with it.

Aly has also always loved flowers and experimenting with creating arrangements and flower pots. In spring 2017 she visited a farmers market where customers could build their own bouquets from buckets of tulips. She absolutely loved it and decided immediately that she wanted to start her own flower farm.

Despite her love for flowers and desire to start her own business, Aly didn’t know anything about growing and harvesting flowers. So she bought textbooks and spent months studying how to grow flowers. In January 2018 she decided that she was ready to try growing her own flowers.

Since it was too cold to plant flowers at the time, she set up huge shelving units in her basement and started growing approximately 3,000 flowers from seed. She watered and cared for them every day and says it was exciting to watch them grow and flourish. In March she started gradually transferring the flowers from her basement and planting them in her field near Rose Hill.

Everything Aly grows is organic and from special seeds specifically for fresh cut flowers. She estimates she has approximately 40-50 varieties of flowers planted. She says some of the flowers can be challenging: dahlias have long, skinny stems and can break easily. Other varieties like roses are prone to bugs and disease and can be particularly difficult to raise. She says her favorite flowers are Snapdragons and Dahlias.

Aly isn’t taking any more flower orders this year, but will start taking orders again next year around March. Follow @AlysBlooms on Facebook and Instagram for updates.

Aly says running her own business and going to nursing school simultaneously has been an overwhelming but exciting experience. She has learned the importance of time management, sticking to a calendar and keeping up with not-so-fun tasks like bookkeeping. In addition to nursing school and Aly’s Blooms, she babysits and has applied to be a nurse technician. Aly says her natural go-getter attitude inspires her to go for what she wants, even if something seems challenging. In her spare time she loves to hang out with her dogs, take a walk and nap.

Aly says raising flowers have some similarities to being a nurse. With her flowers she gets to nurture something and see it blossom, which is what nurses do with patients nursing them back to health. She recommends future nursing students do CNA work before applying to nursing school to become comfortable with the tasks and to get as much experience as possible.

After graduation Aly hopes to be a nurse in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit and would love to eventually become a certified registered nurse anesthetist.
Amy McClintock is the Academic Program Specialist for the graduate programs in the School of Nursing. She was born and raised in Wichita and graduated from South High School. After high school graduation she enrolled in classes at Wichita State. College ended up not being a good fit for her at the time, so she spent two years at a ministry in Chicago. She was then a minister in the Salvation Army for five years, where she lived in several places throughout the Midwest. Her favorite place was Ypsilanti, MI, near Ann Arbor. She says it is a small city but there are lots of things to do and is close to Detroit and Canada.

In 2000 she started her career at WSU working as a Secretary in the department of Medical Laboratory Sciences. She then worked in the Dean’s Office in the College of Engineering as an Administrative Specialist for the Scholarship Coordinator/Assistant Dean. Then in 2008 she landed her current position in the School of Nursing and has been here ever since. She says she arrived to the School of Nursing at an interesting time - just as the Poster Masters DNP program was getting underway - and that it was really neat to see the program implemented because it was one of the first in Kansas.

Amy shared how the School of Nursing has grown and changed throughout the years. In addition to personnel changes and programs opening and closing, one of the biggest changes is how much technology has advanced, changing how many things work. Most communication is now done through email rather than mail or telephone, meet-and-greets can be held online and more programs are being offered fully online.

Amy says the best part of her job is getting to interact with students every day, answering questions and contributing to their education and experience at WSU. She says helping students makes you feel like you are part of a bigger community. One of her favorite events is the pinning and hooding ceremony each semester because it’s an opportunity for students to be recognized for their hard work and success in front of their family and friends. Seeing their accomplishments makes her proud and it’s very rewarding.

Amy says she has the upmost respect to those committed to becoming a nurse. Managing classes, clinicals and study time while balancing families and lives outside of school is not easy. In addition, students must have people skills and a genuine caring spirit. Amy believes it takes a special person to become a nurse and that students have a true calling for the nursing profession.

Amy’s dedication and great work have not gone unnoticed – she has won the Presidents Distinguished Award, CHP Administrative Staff Award and is a CHP Leadership Fellow. She has also been active in campus organizations such as Alpha Sigma Lambda and the USS Senate.

Amy is also a student at WSU; she is currently finishing her master’s degree in criminal justice. She has applied to the Doctor of Education program at WSU and eventually wants to teach criminal justice. When she’s not at work or studying she loves spending time with her four kids; ages 16, 17, 20 and 21. In her spare time Amy enjoys watching movies and bicycling.

Amy’s favorite thing about working at WSU is the sense of community. She treasures the friendships she made over the past 18 years and is thankful for her time here.
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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