

# The Flame

MENNONITE COLLEGE OF NURSING AT ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2000

## Joslin Scholarship Fund established

With a major gift of \$250,000, Roger and Stevie Joslin of Bloomington have established the Joslin Scholarship Fund for Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. This permanently endowed scholarship will provide the resources necessary to attract outstanding undergraduate and graduate students to the college, offering full-tuition scholarships and fellowships for recipients to complete their nursing education.

The Joslins, longtime civic leaders in Bloomington-Normal, are committed to high-quality nursing education as exemplified by the teaching and clinical experiences at Mennonite College of Nursing.

The Joslin Scholarship Award recipient will be announced annually in the spring semester. The recipient must be an undergraduate or graduate student either accepted or enrolled in Mennonite College of Nursing and must have earned an overall grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

Currently vice chairman of the board and treasurer of State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, Roger Joslin has served as chairman of the boards of BroMenn Health Care,

Bloomington Board of Education, Western Avenue Community Center, Second Presbyterian Church Trustees, and the Taxpayers Federation of Illinois.

Stevie Joslin served as a member of the Mennonite College of Nursing Board of Trustees from 1991 to 1999, when the college became the sixth academic college and first professional school at Illinois State University. Since the early 1990s she has provided the leadership to reestablish and energize The Friends of Mennonite College of Nursing, who—from 1994 through 1999—raised nearly \$50,000 to improve clinical laboratories, provide new furnishings for the graduate program, increase Internet sites in the college library, purchase a baby grand piano, and underwrite academic scholarships for students with a high entering grade point average.

She received the Lewis J. Burger Outstanding Fund-raiser Award in 1998, was named a Woman of Distinction by the YWCA in 1995, and received the Harriet Rust Volunteer Award. The Exchange Club recognized her in 1994 with its Book of Golden Deeds Award.

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Roger and Stevie Joslin

Mennonite College of Nursing  
and Alumni Association

### Calendar of events 2000

**May 22, 2000**

Summer session classes begin

**August 11, 2000**

Summer session classes end

**August 18, 2000**

Mennonite College of Nursing  
orientation/Passages

**August 20, 2000**

Picnic on campus

**August 21, 2000**

Fall semester classes begin

**October 6, 2000**

Illinois State Alumni Day

**October 7, 2000**

Mennonite College  
of Nursing Homecoming  
Classes of 1930, 1940,  
1950, 1960, 1975, and 1990  
will be honored

**December 15, 2000**

Fall semester ends

**December 16, 2000**

Commencement

## Did you know?

**Cindy Murphy Ptasnik '81** is director of International Adoption Agency Americans Adopting Orphans.

After adopting their second child from China, she and her husband, David, decided they had to do more to help Asia's orphans, so they created a licensed adoption agency, which as of July 1999 had placed more than 200 Chinese children for adoption. In the summer of 1999 they opened a branch office of their agency in the Midwest and began helping families adopt Vietnamese children as well as Chinese.

Cindy does much of the administrative work but still uses her nursing skills in interpreting Chinese medical reports and explaining them to parents, teaching infant care and travel-medicine classes to parents-to-be and helping them manage stress and anxiety.

Cindy also writes parenting and child care articles, several of which have been published in national adoption magazines. The Ptasniks' two children are Katie Li, adopted at four months of age and now seven, and Joseph, adopted at eight months and now nearly six years old.



## Dean's message

Dear Mennonite Alumni,

This has been a very rich year for Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University and for me personally. I feel blessed to have the opportunity to work with such outstanding faculty, staff, students, and alumni. The transition to Illinois State University has been very positive. We are now located in Edwards Hall on the Quad. The labs, office space, and classrooms are state of the art and provide a very pleasant work space. I invite all of you to come and see us when you are in town. We are planning activities for Homecoming (October 6-7) and hope to see many of you.

There are so many wonderful accomplishments to share. Faculty are publishing and presenting papers and posters at regional and national meetings. Students are winning awards and presenting their research, and staff are involved in all operations of the college. The Donahue lectures were inspiring and provided the University community with an excellent perspective on nursing. This issue of *The Flame* is designed to highlight some of these outstanding events and accomplishments.

## December 1999 graduates

### Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Cynthia Kathleen Ash, Bloomington  
Rebecca Lynn Blair, Pontiac  
Barbara J. Danforth, Normal  
Jason Lynn Graff, Normal  
Colleen Ann Grammer, Bloomington  
Rachel Hope Gray, Bloomington  
Stephanie Jean Huskins, Lincoln  
Mikio Iguchi, Roscoe  
Jennifer Lynn Jacobs, Lindenhurst  
Andrea DeAnn Johnson, Peoria  
Sarah Diane Kanne, Morton  
Jennifer Ann Kehl, Mason City  
Janene Ruth Krall, Watseka  
Shannon Leigh Laesch, Lexington  
Kristin Michelle Meyer, Elk Grove  
Paula Nicole Mitchell, Depue  
Laura Marie Moroney, Springfield  
Deanna Kay Pfeil, Pontiac  
William Gordon Pholman, Champaign  
Eleanor Guzman Rigor, Bolingbrook  
Jennifer Jane Salrin, Bloomington  
Elena Louise Tallman, New Douglas  
Carrie Ann Walles, Morton  
Stephanie Lynn Wiegand, Goodfield  
Christy Jean Yetter, Austin, Texas  
Jessica Elizabeth Young, Lisle

Faculty are working to put selected courses on the Internet. We are planning to offer the R.N./B.S.N. program via distance learning technology. Use of the Internet and distance learning technology allows us to reach students in rural areas. The Mennonite College of Nursing home page is being revised to reflect the activities of faculty, staff, and students. Plans are under way to include alumni on the college Web pages as well.



The past for Mennonite College of Nursing provides a rich heritage from which to forge an innovative future. I have had the opportunity to meet with many of you at Mennonite College of Nursing events. I hope to meet more of you and to continue the grand tradition that is Mennonite College of Nursing. Please keep in touch.

Fondly,

Nancy Ridenour

### Master of Science in Nursing

Family nurse practitioner

Tana Diane Martin, Pleasant Plains

Project: "The Voice of the Adult Female Victim of Domestic Violence: Needing to Reveal"

Denise K. Mears, Auburn

Project: "Outcome Evaluation of a Patient Education Program on Treatment Options for End-Stage Renal Disease"

Melissa Sue Mundwiler, Oneida

Project: "The Effect of Denial on the Course of Recovery of Myocardial Infarctions Patients: A Proposed Study"

Cynthia C. Noll, Havana

Project: "Examination of the Ottawa Ankle Rules"

Daphne Louise Piercy, Bloomington

Project: "Adaptive Behavior in Young Adult College Students: A New Study"

Danna Elizabeth Powers, Wapella

Project: "Health-Seeking Behaviors of Rural Residents Actively Involved in Farming"

Krista M. Quillman, Normal

Project: "Family Health and the Process of Acculturation in the Hispanic Family: A Qualitative Study"

### Post-master's certificate

Family nurse practitioner

Mary Elizabeth Johnson, Galesburg

Sharon Louise Taylor, Forsyth

## President emerita honored at legacy event

A celebration of the legacy of Kathleen A. Hogan, president emerita of Mennonite College of Nursing, was held December 5 in the Ballroom at Bone Student Center. The event included a reception, dinner, and program and was planned to honor Dr. Hogan as she entered retirement on December 31, 1999. The event was hosted by Illinois State University, The Friends of Mennonite College of Nursing, and the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association.

Richard D. Johnson, president of Twin Cities Broadcasting and a former member of the Mennonite College of Nursing Board of Trustees, served as master of ceremonies. Congratulatory remarks were made by Victor John Boschini Jr., Illinois State University president, and by Nancy Ridenour, dean of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State. A highlight of the event was the presentation of a video, *Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Kathleen Hogan*.

Dr. Hogan began her career in nursing education in 1969 as an instructor in pediatric nursing at Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing. She assumed progressive leadership roles at Mennonite, including those of course chairperson and director of the School of Nursing. She was the founding dean, associate professor of nursing, and chief operating officer of Mennonite College of Nursing, subsequently becoming vice president and chief executive officer and, finally, professor of nursing and president.

On June 21, 1999, the former Mennonite College of Nursing Board of Trustees adopted a resolution to honor Dr. Hogan with the title president emerita of Mennonite College of Nursing. During the fall semester, she completed special projects related to the continuing accreditation for Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

Under her leadership, Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing evolved into Mennonite College of Nursing, the first upper-division independent college of nursing in the nation to become accredited by the National League for Nursing. In addition to leading the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program, Dr. Hogan led the initiatives to establish an advanced placement program for registered nurses to earn the B.S.N. She also directed the development and implementation of a Master of Science in Nursing degree program, which is also accredited by the National League for Nursing and offers two professional sequences, one for the family nurse practitioner and one for nursing systems administration.

She worked closely with Illinois State University and BroMenn Healthcare to facilitate the transition to Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. She commissioned the writing of

two commemorative history books: *Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing, 1919-1985: The Passing of the Flame*, authored by Robert Cassel and produced by Donna M. Faull, and *Mennonite College of Nursing, 1985-1995: The Flame Burns Brightly*, authored by Ralph Bellas and produced by Donna M. Faull.

Dr. Hogan has been a national nursing leader, frequently serving as a consultant in nursing education and as an evaluator of nursing education programs seeking accreditation by the National League for Nursing. She has directed nine institutional self-studies to achieve various accreditations and state approvals necessary for baccalaureate and graduate programs in nursing; and she has assisted 16 diploma schools of nursing with the transition to degree-granting institutions.

In the community, where she will continue to reside with her husband, Robert Hogan, professor emeritus of psychology at Illinois State University, she has served a variety of agencies, including the McLean County Health Department, Community Health Care Clinic, and the Margaret Esposito Scholarship. Among her honors is the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award for McLean County. She also is a charter member Xi Pi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

At the legacy event in her honor, the Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan Faculty Development Endowment Fund for Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University was established with an initial gift of \$40,000 from the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association. More than \$58,000 has been pledged to the fund thus far. Interest earned on the endowment will be used to provide Mennonite College of Nursing faculty with opportunities for additional learning, renewal, networking, and revitalization.

The Celebrating the Legacy of Kathleen Hogan Planning Committee included Dorothy DeVore, Gay Dolan, Stephany Joslin, Lynn Kennell, Janeen Mollenhauer, Karen Pachis, Mary Peterson, Carole Ringer, Mary Ann Watkins, and Gail Lamb (committee Chairperson).

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Continued on next page

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## Nursing: A reflection of social reality

Nursing historian Pat Donahue said the essence of nursing is constant change, but the beauty of the nursing profession is enduring.

Donahue, an R.N. who has a doctorate in social foundations of education with an emphasis on history and philosophy, presented three lectures in Bloomington-Normal on April 6, focusing on her book, *Nursing, The Finest Art*.

Nursing is “a reflection of social reality,” said Donahue, whose book and presentations use visual images to demonstrate that principle. *Nursing, The Finest Art*, a history of nursing, was published in 1985; a second edition was issued in 1995. Donahue is professor and associate dean at the College of Nursing of The University of Iowa. After she speaks and presents her program, Donahue invariably has nursing students and faculty approach her to tell her what an impact it has had on them. They tell her it makes them proud to be nurses, enables them to articulate what nursing is about, gives them good role models, and helps them appreciate the beauty of nursing.

The current social reality affecting nursing is one of managed care, cost containment, and a generation of college students who expect professional rewards at a level that nursing doesn't offer, Donahue said. Understaffing of nurses is a big issue across the country right now, and that concerns her. “I do worry that we're losing the humanitarian side of nursing, the artistic side. It's there, but we're unable to use it in many instances because we don't have the manpower we need.”

Alumni of nursing schools can play key roles in preserving an appreciation for the art of nursing by talking with nursing students and even prospective students, Donahue said. “They have stories about the fruits of their labors and what they have gained by caring for individuals.”

The aesthetic quality of nursing was impressed upon Donahue as a child in

Youngstown, Ohio. Her mother was a practical nurse who wasn't working outside the home, and everyone in the neighborhood called on her when they had sickness or accidents. “I was so impressed by how much she enjoyed it,” Donahue said. When Donahue was 14, her mother took a job in a hospital.



As a high school student, Donahue took a job as nurse's aide alongside her mother, “and I found I enjoyed it,” she said. She made a decision to abandon her study of piano in favor of a career in nursing, a decision that distressed her father because he thought nurses had to

take too much abuse in their daily work. Her father wasn't entirely wrong, Donahue said, but “the rewards I've gotten outweigh that. I think the profession has given me more than I've given it.” In tribute to her mother's influence on her career path, Donahue introduced her mother in person once when she spoke at a nursing school commencement at Kent State University.

Although Donahue has been teaching nursing since 1972, she continued to do clinical nursing work during her breaks until 1989. She gave it up then only in deference to other nurses who needed the available hours that were shrinking as a result of managed care. “I really miss it,” she said. “I love patients and families.”

Donahue said she has no crystal ball showing her the future of nursing, however, she does know the profession will have the elements of uncertainty, ambiguity, chaos, and complexity. “What we have to do,” she said, “is come together and determine what we believe the future of nursing can be. We're the only ones who can do that for ourselves. We can't sit back and let others do that for us.”

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, District Six Nurses Association, and the Alice and Fannie Fell Trust sponsored Donahue's lectures. Additional sponsors were the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Departments of History, Health Sciences, and Philosophy.

### Mennonite faculty member, alumna on nursing board

A faculty member at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University and a Mennonite alumna have been elected to the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) Board of Directors.

Eileen Fowles, a professor at Mennonite, and Ruth Oesch, a 1961 graduate and occupational health nurse for the city of Bloomington, were elected to two-year terms on the board. As board members they will help determine INA policies and procedures that influence nursing practice and health care throughout Illinois.

“As a state affiliate of the American Nurses Association, the INA works to set state health policy and improve health care in Illinois,” said Nancy Ridenour, dean of Mennonite College of Nursing. “The election of Eileen Fowles and Ruth Oesch demonstrate the statewide recognition of their leadership. Mennonite College is well represented at the state level.”

## Faculty presentations for Consider the Children

During “Consider the Children: A Campus Reflection on Childhood and Adolescence,” Mennonite College of Nursing faculty made presentations on parent-child interactions, breast feeding, lead poisoning, and job safety for teens during brown-bag events at the University Club in Bone Student Center.

On February 3, Lynn Kennell and Karrie Ingalsbe, instructional assistant professors, presented “Parent-Child Interactions: How to Better Nurture Your Child During Feedings and Teachings.” They discussed how to read children's cues and respond supportively.

On March 2, Ingalsbe and Eileen Fowles, assistant professor of nursing, presented “Breast Feeding and Bottle Feeding: What is Best for Mothers and Babies.” The presentation focused on pros and cons of breast feeding and bottle feeding, considering both mother and children.

On March 22, Gay Dolan, instructional assistant professor, presented “Lead Poisoning

and Recognition: What Adults Should Be Aware Of.” The presentation focused on the dangers to children of even small amounts of lead, including serious physical, learning, and behavioral disorders.

On April 14, Karen Pachis, instructional assistant professor, presented “Preventing Occupational Injuries in Teenagers Who Work: Employment Can Be Dangerous and Deadly for Students.” The presentation focused on steps that can be taken to ensure job safety for teens.

Dianne Clemens, instructional assistant professor, who coordinated the brown bag series, said: “It is exciting when faculty willingly offer to share their expertise with others. This participation within our first year at Illinois State University shows the professionalism and quality of faculty we have at Mennonite College of Nursing.”



## Helping shape nursing leadership education

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University is one of a select few institutions nationwide helping to shape the future of nursing leadership through the Leadership Initiative for Nursing Education (LINE) fellowship.

Under the LINE fellowship, Mennonite College of Nursing, along with nursing staff at Springfield's Memorial Medical Center, will update Mennonite's nursing leadership curriculum to reflect current professional practices. A major emphasis will be placed on the growing trend of shared governance in nursing leadership, a style that emphasizes shared responsibility and greater accountability among nursing staff. A growing number of hospitals nationwide are replacing the traditional hierarchical nursing leadership structure with the shared governance model.

Sara Campbell, an assistant professor of nursing administration and interim director of the undergraduate program at Mennonite, along with the director of professional nursing practice and research from Memorial Medical Center, were selected as LINE fellows. They began working in new leadership curriculum at a conference of

LINE fellowship recipients in San Francisco last November.

The LINE program, administered through the Center for the Health Professions at the University of California, San Francisco, was created to promote educational change and responsiveness to the new leadership challenges in nursing. A goal of the program is to create and disseminate innovative leadership curricula and other learning experiences for baccalaureate-level nursing programs. The LINE fellowship is funded by the Helene Fuld Trust, a major provider of grant and research money for the advancement of the nursing profession.

“The LINE fellowship helps Mennonite College of Nursing develop its own innovative leadership curriculum and helps change nursing leadership education nationwide,” said Campbell. “Working with Memorial Medical Center under the LINE fellowship is an exciting opportunity for both of our institutions. Through a combination of academic and practical input we can build a curriculum that will better prepare students for the constantly changing work environment currently found in health care.”

Donors continued from previous page

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Continued on next page

## Welcome home to Edwards Hall

When Illinois State University welcomed Mennonite College of Nursing as its sixth college last year, one of the big decisions was where to house the college on campus.

Edwards Hall, a 1909 structure that originally was the Industrial Arts Building, met the need well, said Richard Runner, assistant vice president, physical planning and operations. The University wanted the new home for the nursing college to have a visible presence on campus, and Edwards, renamed in the early 1960s in honor of Richard Edwards, a former Illinois State president, sits prominently on the corner of the Quad. The size was right, meaning the nursing college could take up most of the building with the exception of Capen Auditorium. "It creates an image of professional stature for their college and gives them a visible presence on campus by having much of the building devoted to them," Runner said. Finally, Edwards Hall was dark, outdated, and needed to be renovated anyway.

In what might be described as a carefully planned and orchestrated blitz, the University turned the old building into a bright, pleasant space for Mennonite with laboratory, discussion, and classroom space on the first floor; faculty offices on the second floor; and administrative offices, a conference room of approximately 1,000 square feet, and classroom space on the third floor. The college moved into the first floor before classes started in August 1999 and into the second and third floors in December. The college's laboratory space has more than doubled from when it was located in Bloomington. However, the college has gone from having seven classrooms there to three at Illinois State, so many classes are held in other buildings on campus.

Runner described a few of the things that had to fall into place before Mennonite could move into Edwards Hall.

First, the University set the goals for renovation of the building. Runner worked with Kathleen Hogan, former Mennonite College of Nursing president, to identify space needs, explore how Mennonite's former building had been adapted to the nursing school's uses, and learn about emerging trends in nursing education that would suggest special features for the building. The University's plan was to preserve the architectural identity of the old building as much as possible.

Another goal was to have the first-floor laboratories ready to use by the first day of fall semester 1999 and to have the remaining space ready to move into by Christmas, which was the most challenging aspect of the plan. The University had less than a year from the time the decision was made to move Mennonite College of Nursing to campus to have a building ready for it.

Whenever something as big as a college moves on campus there is "a giant domino effect," Runner said. To vacate Edwards for renovation, he

and his staff found locations in Schroeder and Felmley Halls for the Anthropology and Geography-Geology faculty who had been occupying Edwards Hall, and they moved a Curriculum and Instruction laboratory from Edwards to Felmley. Then there was the question of where to put the nursing faculty while Edwards was being renovated. Runner found offices for them in Moulton Hall.

Because Edwards Hall could not be vacated by Anthropology and Geography-Geology until the end of spring semester 1999, Runner and his operation had "a very restricted time frame." He said, "We had 54 construction days to get the lab ready" before the beginning of the fall semester.

More than one person went above and beyond the call of duty to accomplish that feat. For example, Aubrey MacCannell, assistant director of Facilities Planning, and his crew were in Edwards Hall for nine hours on commencement day 1999 emptying the building of trash and debris, getting ready for the contractor to arrive Monday morning. "There was no room for error," he said. MacCannell, who had a major role in the move, said several factors made it particularly difficult for all involved. First, he said, Mennonite faculty and staff weren't familiar with the Illinois State campus. "The most challenging thing was that we didn't have a home for them" when it was time for them to move to campus," MacCannell said. "They lived out of boxes for six months." He marveled that "we're still speaking" and concluded that all has ended well.

The University was able to achieve its vision for Edwards Hall despite the challenges of relocation and time. The University engaged Russell Francois Associates, who were coarchitects on the renovation and addition to Fell Hall, another historic building on the Quad. After the design was completed, the University sought bids for the renovation. "The work that we did recaptures the character of the original Edwards Hall," Runner said. "We tried to use materials, color, and lighting to create a pleasant atmosphere." Also, following a current trend in university buildings, Edwards was

*Continued on next page*



Left to right above, Ann Ropp '31, Marie Heiser '38, and Charlotte Leach '52 enjoy Homecoming activities. Left to right below, Alice Deavers '52 and Dorothy Devore '54 enjoy Homecoming. Below them, from left, are Amber McCullough Williams '99 and her mother, Nancy McCullough '76, at Homecoming brunch.



Edwards Hall, home of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University

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altered from being the traditional building with classrooms and corridors to having a study area with comfortable seating and computer outlets that students may use between classes.

Runner recounted forward-looking elements of the renovation that he found most interesting. First are the two suites, each having a basic and advanced health assessment laboratory plus an area for lectures and discussion. The next feature Runner noted was the “apartment” on the first floor where nursing students could learn to do home health care (a fast-growing area) in a home that is not accessible to persons with disabilities.

The state-of-the-art laboratories will be a boon for preparing nursing students for the modern hospitals and clinics they will be working in, and they also will be good for recruiting faculty, students, and administrators. Dean Nancy Ridenour, who came to Illinois State from a position as associate dean of the College of Nursing at Texas Tech in Lubbock, was asked for input about the renovation when she visited campus for an interview in March 1999 when it was in the planning stage. “Certainly the fact that I was going to have a state-of-the-art facility was appealing to me,” she said. She accepted the position and came on board July 1.

One laboratory suite looks like two hospital wards and more than doubles the number of laboratory “beds” in the old Mennonite facility. That lab replicates a hospital down to the smallest detail, from a cardiac monitor to oxygen and suction outlets in the walls, a pain-control pump, IV pumps, wheelchairs, walkers, and nurse call buttons. It even has linens and storage space. Computer hookups by all the beds look toward the day when computers will be used for bedside documentation in all hospitals. This lab suite is used mainly for the practice of beginning skills in students’ junior years, with some use by senior students.

The other laboratory suite focuses on health assessment and simulates a doctor’s office or clinic, with 11 exam tables and equipment relating to physical exams, including a blood pressure simulator, heart and breath sounds simulator, scale, and thermometers. This suite, which also more than doubles the number of exam tables of the previous Mennonite facility, is heavily used by juniors studying health assessment and graduate students in the nurse practitioner program.

Cindy Malinowski, nursing laboratory coordinator, who has been with Mennonite College of Nursing eight years, has an office in the proficiency lab, which has two mannequins in hospital beds and is used principally for teaching and testing nursing skills, mostly using the human figures. The lab contains CathSim, a computer-based virtual reality program that simulates starting IVs and drawing blood and may be the most modern piece

of equipment in the college. “Not many colleges have it yet,” Malinowski said. The technology is two years old, and Mennonite has had it since January. The program is interactive, requiring the student to choose steps of the procedure in the correct order. For the actual needle insertion, the student uses a simulated needle attached to a machine hooked into the computer. The computer shows how the student is doing and then gives a detailed evaluation of the student’s performance. This is an improvement over learning the skills on human subjects, Malinowski said, because it allows unlimited repetition. “This is definitely better, because you can do it a lot. This is a much better way to practice.” The CathSim was purchased with funds from a grant to the Mennonite from the Credit Bureau of Bloomington when it dissolved last year and disbursed profits from the sale of its database to seven local organizations. More simulation software is being developed that can be used with the existing hardware, Malinowski said.

Ridenour said it is good that the new laboratories are “designed to adapt to new simulations that haven’t been invented yet.” Virtual reality simulations are becoming more important in nursing education, she said, because health care is advancing rapidly. It is also becoming more important because “patients in hospitals are much sicker and require more intense care than previously. Students have to be more proficient now before they ever set foot in a hospital because there is not the opportunity for a novice to operate in a hospital setting.” The ultimate wish list item in simulation learning is a \$300,000 mannequin that can be programmed to exhibit the characteristics of various diseases and on which students can perform many procedures, include operations. “That’s just an example of what’s possible,” Ridenour said.

One issue that accompanies the increasing use of virtual reality teaching, according to Ridenour, is that “when you adopt simulation materials, you have to be sure to incorporate them into the curriculum so that they are used effectively.” She said Mennonite is able to look at these educational issues “now that we have such good space.” The renovated Edwards Hall is wired for distance technologies, she said, which will permit Mennonite to eventually explore possibilities in that area.

Ridenour takes pride in the fact that Mennonite’s new home is “right up there” in terms of size, space, aesthetics, and technology among schools of nursing in the United States, according to her observations and feedback from nursing educators from outside the University.

She is eager to have Mennonite alumni see their alma mater’s new home. “Let us know when you’re coming,” she said. “We would love to show you around.”

**Faculty, students reflect on new home**

One Mennonite College of Nursing faculty member and two students had observations about their new home at Illinois State University.

**Denise Wilson, associate professor:** “I have been especially pleased with our laboratory facilities. I teach in the family nurse practitioner (FNP) sequence of our graduate program. It is very important to have dedicated space for the FNP students to practice advanced assessment skills. Previously we had a relatively small room divided into five small cubicles. For discussion, students pulled up chairs and stools and faculty sat on a desk since there was not enough room to stand, let alone walk about. However, we were pleased to have a separate graduate lab at that time.

“In Edwards Hall we have one large lab designated for the graduate students’ use. It contains six practice areas, each one quite realistic of what the students will encounter in the clinical setting. We have a separate area adjoining the practice area that has tables and chairs where both students and faculty can congregate and discuss practice issues. It is a much better situation for all!

“It is also rewarding to compare our facilities with those available at other colleges of nursing. I am currently involved in writing a nursing textbook with four other authors. This summer we will need to have a photo shoot in a simulated practice setting. When I described our new facilities, the other authors said we needed to have the photography done at Illinois State because their available facilities could not compare. Sometimes there is a tendency to not appreciate what you have until you see what others have. At Illinois State, however, we appreciate the excellent facilities we have been given by the University and by the state legislature.”

**Sherry Archer, senior nursing student and president of Student Nurses’ Association:** “We were in two separate buildings when it was a private college in Bloomington, but all of our classes were primarily in the one building. This was nice because everyone really got to know each other. We had a really quaint student lounge that allowed us to gather in between classes and vent some frustrations and best of all to share stories of our clinical experiences. Our lab was also in this building, but it was fairly small. Compared to Edwards Hall, it was a matchbox.

“Illinois State has really treated us well with Edwards Hall. The labs are remarkable. They offer just about anything you could imagine to practice clinical situations. This is very helpful as a nursing student. You want to make sure you are really prepared and as confident as possible before you try a new procedure on a live patient! It is nice to have the faculty all in one building too. It makes it much easier to search out instructors.

“I am currently using the labs to practice clinicals for my emergency nursing rotation. It helps us have close to real-life situations with the mannequins, beds, and equipment. Some students in my class have practiced starting IVs and drawing blood on each other as well as on mannequins. It offers great equipment for first- and second-semester students to learn to make beds, start Foley catheters, learn to use the local hospitals’ IV pumps, and learn the proper technique for giving shots. I think the new facility will be very helpful with recruitment of new students.”

**Susan Nelson, master’s student in the family nurse practitioner track and president of the Mennonite Graduate Student Organization:** “My experience at Mennonite College of Nursing had been a positive one. The one thing I miss about the former site is a place to get together as a group. I know this sounds funny, but the former site had a graduate lounge where we all could gather for studying and exchanging ideas about our experiences with the academic world. Hopefully there will be such a place in Edwards Hall to help our feeling of unity as a program and college.

“With everyone scattered into different buildings for classes, it’s hard to maintain ties with other graduate students. As graduate students coming from all over Central Illinois with established lives and responsibilities off campus, it’s important for the program to find ways to promote connections among the students and the college.”

**Note from Dean Nancy Ridenour:** “The students miss their lovely space, and we’re working to get it fixed in the new building, which requires some construction work not yet done.” She added that the graduate student lounge will be on the third floor of Edwards Hall with computers, computer carrels, and television. The Friends of Mennonite already have donated furniture for the lounge. “It’s next in line,” she said.



Forty-year honored reunion class, above left, front row from left, Sandra Smith, Wilma Strantz, Darlene Poindexter, Sandra Gibbs, and Frances Ulrich; back row from left, Phyllis Imig, Carol Jones, and Karen Hildreth. Fifty-year honored reunion class, above right, front row from left, Jody Boyle, Lorraine Stanwood, and Shirley Peeken; back row from left, Donna Stanwood, Catherine Ernst, Frances Haughey, Marge Keesley, and Florence Heiser. Sixty-year honored reunion class, bottom left, Sylvia K. Gerig Knuth. Twenty-five-year honored reunion class, bottom center from left, Mary Ellen Andris and Diane Johner. Ten-year honored reunion class, bottom right from left, Janet Lovell and Lisa Nesler.

## Xi Pi induction ceremony

Friends and members of the families of new inductees into Xi Pi chapter gathered to honor the inductees at a ceremony December 5 in Edwards Hall, the new home of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

The inductees came from the undergraduate baccalaureate program, R.N./B.S.N. program, graduate program in the family nurse practitioner and nursing service administration sequences, and community leadership.

Susan Catt, vice president and program chairperson, and her committee, Gay Dolan and Mary Peterson, planned a memorable inaugural induction on the Illinois State campus. Nancy Ridenour, dean of Mennonite College of Nursing and a new member of the Xi Pi chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, was the keynote speaker.

We welcome Dr. Ridenour to our chapter and appreciate her willingness to address the inductees and guests. She focused on three words—*love, courage, and honor*—the key words of Sigma Theta Tau International. She reflected on how rapidly the world is changing and how the health care environment needs love, courage, and honor to carry us into the new millennium to meet the needs of people throughout the world.

Kim Astroth, chapter president, reviewed Sigma Theta Tau International goals, emphasizing that membership reflects excellence in nursing through superior scholarly achievement, leadership, and practice. Faculty counselors Janie McCray and Cindy Sullivan pinned the new members and invited them to sign the Xi Pi *Book of History*.

The new inductees, listed below, were encouraged to become involved in the chapter and enjoy the benefits of networking and collaborating with other members.



Susan Catt, vice president of Sigma Theta Tau Xi Pi Chapter, gives welcome at Xi Pi induction ceremony on December 5, 1999.

### Undergraduate students

Sherry Archer	Sarah Lindsey
Cynthia Ash	Megan Martuzzo
Rebecca Blair	Deanna Pfeil
Melissa Borek	Jennifer Salrin
Colleen Doyle	Marie Thornton
Tiffany Engelken	Carrie Walles
David Kieser	Christy Yetter
Amy Lepper	Jessica Young

### R.N./B.S.N. students

Emily Davison	Coni Rinderknecht
Patricia J. Estep	Debra Thompson
Carrie Fanning	Gerri L. Whitcomb
Rebecca Ferguson	

### Graduate students

Laura Amidon	Geri Kirkbride
Judith M. Banning	Tana D. Martin
Tina Barber	Susan Nelson
Deborah Frownfelter	Crystal Smith
Ann Garey	

### Community leaders

Marcia Laesch	Sandi Scheidenhelm
Cindy Patterson	



Tiffany Engelken, new inductee, left, approaches table to sign the Xi Pi Book of History.

## Progress notes

### 1943

**Doris Brownlee Beetzl** and her husband, Ulmer, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 7, 1998. Congratulations! They are retired and living in an assisted living retirement home in Sherman.

### 1947

Condolences to **Beverly Richison Harms** of Lake Wales, Florida, on the loss of her husband, Glenn, on March 23, 2000.

### 1948

**Carolyn Claudon**, Bloomington, and her husband, Kenneth, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 30, 1999, at an open reception at Jumer's Chateau hosted by their children and their families. They were married on May 29,

1949, and are the parents of Marsha Anderson of Normal, David of Bloomington, and Alan of Pontiac. There are three grandchildren and five step-grandchildren. Congratulations!

### 1952

Our sympathies to **Charlotte J. Tiffin Leach**, Bloomington, on the loss of her husband, Deland, on February 23, 2000.

### 1956

**Pat Lackey** of rural Melvin, and her husband, Gerald, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with an open house at Melvin United Methodist Church on June 27, 1999. They were married January 11, 1974, and are the parents of David Gerber of Marengo, Ann Hemphill of Phoenix,

Arizona, Brenda of Moscow, Idaho, Michael Gerber of Raleigh, North Carolina, Barbara of Naperville, and Amy Hill of Normal. Pat is employed as a registered nurse by Ford-Iroquois Public Health Department. Congratulations!

### 1969

**Charla Wyse Roth**, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, is employed as a staff nurse at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. She teaches in the home dialysis training and support program. She also teaches at Iowa Wesleyan College in Mt. Pleasant. Charla received her M.S.N. at University of Iowa College of Nursing and is planning to pursue a Ph.D. in education.

### 1976

**Loretta Bidner Strange** of rural Towanda and her husband, Terry, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to Hawaii in March 1999. They were married May 25, 1974, and are the parents of Matthew and Laura, at home. Congratulations! Loretta is employed as a registered nurse in home health care at BroMenn Healthcare.

### 1983

**Kim Peters Alberts**, Ashkum, received her master's degree in health professions from Governors State University in June 1999. She is working as a substance abuse counselor in an intensive outpatient center working with adults. She is also working as a consultant for the Iroquois County Probation Department, conducting evaluations and making referrals for at-risk juvenile offenders in an early intervention program. Kim has conducted in-house training for mental health and substance abuse treatment centers on dealing with aggressive and out-of-control clients. She has received certification as a certified addictions registered nurse, certified alcohol and other drug counselor, and certified mentally ill/substance abusing clients nurse. She has three children: Brian, 13, Jenna, 11, and Katie, 8.

### 1984

Our sympathy to **Sheila Ohligschlager Voigt**, Alpharetta, Georgia, on the loss of her husband, Richard, who was killed July 2, 1999, in a motorcycle accident. They have four children, ages 8-12. Sheila would love to hear from classmates.

### 1987

**Renee Matouski Norberg**, Elk Grove Village, completed a master's degree in public administration in June 1998 at Roosevelt University and is working for Advocate Healthcare System as a nurse recruiter at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge. She also has two sons, ages 4-1/2 and 18 months.

### 1988

**Emily Raycraft Dever**, Indianapolis, has been promoted from staff registered nurse to clinical manager in the postintensive care unit at Riley

Children's Hospital, Clarian Health. Emily and her husband, Tony, are the parents of three children: Elise, 9, Lindsey, 6, and Christopher, 4.

### 1988

**Kevin Kennell**, Bloomington, is director of environmental services at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center, Bloomington.

### 1989

**Angela Braner**, Springfield, is a medical assistant consultant with the Illinois Department of Public Aid in Springfield. She was previously employed as charge nurse on the renal/urology floor at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield.

### 1992

**Patricia K. Milashoski**, El Paso, and her husband, Steven, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on May 3, 1999. Their children are Jennifer Mollo of El Paso and Troy of Toluca, and they have three grandchildren. Patricia works in outpatient medical at BroMenn Healthcare. Daughter Jennifer Mool entered the nursing major at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University in the fall semester of 1999.

### 1992

**Laura N. Williams**, Albuquerque, New Mexico, is a registered nurse at the University of New Mexico Hospital. She obtained her certified emergency nurse (CEN) designation in July 1999 and works as a flight nurse for Lifeguard Air Emergency Service, the university's air transport service. Laura recently became a private pilot. She moved to Albuquerque as a travel nurse in April 1998 and stayed as a staff nurse.

### 1997

**Jeanene Payne**, Bloomington, is a staff nurse at the McLean County detention facility in Bloomington.

### 1998

**Shonda Lake**, Carmel, Indiana, is employed in the intensive care unit at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis.

### 1998

**Franni Ackerman**, Urbana, works in pediatrics at Carle Foundation Hospital.

### New arrivals

**Renee Drust Riley**, B.S.N. '85, and her husband, Patrick, of Schaumburg are the parents of Kevin Patrick Riley, born July 14, 1999. Renee is employed by Loyola University Medical Center.

**Jane Sprawls Berry** '88 and her husband, Charles, of St. Joseph welcomed their first child, Caleb Thomas Berry, on June 22, 1999. Jane is employed as an office nurse with Christie Clinic Urology in Champaign.

**Amber Blaser Jones** '90 and her husband, Kevin, of Normal are parents of their first child, Lauren Elisabeth, born February 11, 2000.

**Sharon Peterson-Kokkas '91** and her husband, Alexander Kokkas, announce two new arrivals: their twins, Baby Boy Kokkas and Baby Girl Kokkas, born February 10, 2000, in Athens, Greece, where the family lives. They are the first children for Sharon and her husband.

**Dana Burns Kownick '92** and her husband, David, of Bloomington welcomed a new baby girl, Hannah Faith Kownick, on May 21, 1999. She is the sister of Luke, 3-1/2.

**Michelle Plotner Fox '93** and her husband, Vince, of Milford welcomed a daughter, Hunter Briscoe Fox, into the family on May 20, 1999. She is the sister of Wade, 21 months.

**Laura Lockenvitz Miller '94** and her husband, Todd, of Bloomington celebrated the birth of a daughter, Cassidy, on May 21, 1999. She is the sister of Blake, 3-1/2.

**Elizabeth Klopfenstein Endress '95** and her husband, Bruce, of Galva and their son, Matthew, welcomed a new baby girl, Sarah Christine, on November 8, 1999.

**William Kilpatrick '95** and his wife, Tamara, of Danville welcomed their second child, Matthew William Kilpatrick, on December 31, 1998. He is the brother of Miranda, 3. Bill is employed as an emergency department registered nurse at Carle Hospital as an ACLS and a BLS instructor. He is also a flight nurse with Careforce 1 in Urbana.

**Kelly Puckett Berry '96** and her husband, Thomas, of Maroa have a new addition to their family, Maddison Elizabeth, born October 8, 1999. Her big brother is Zachary, 6, and big sister is Alexandria, 3-1/2.

**Kimberly Witheft Mau '96** and her husband, Dan, of Herscher welcomed their first child, Allison Rose, on September 29, 1998. Kim is employed as an office nurse at Provena St. Mary's Hospital.

**Marriages**

**Michelle M. Mochalski '80** married James M. Bodok on January 27, 1999. They reside in Tampa, Florida.

**Cindy A. Prather '92** married Pat L. Mead on May 22, 1999. They reside in Eureka.

**Jill A. Ozga '94** married Daniel Stoops on September 25, 1999. They reside in Springfield.

**Kari Zarwell '95** married David Lampat on April 17, 1999. They reside in Rochester, Minnesota.

**Suzanne J. Davidson '96** married Wesley F. Davidson on July 24, 1999. They reside in Hammond.

**Barbara Snyder '87** married Brian T. Feely on May 15, 1999. They reside in Crystal, Minnesota.

**Kimberly Yaeger '98** married Daniel Heinisch on May 6, 2000. They reside in DeKalb.

**Jamie Marie Anderson '99** married Patrick Thomas Gibson on August 14, 1999. They reside in Normal.

**In memorium**

The following alumni have died since the last issue of *The Flame*.

- Gladys Washburn Hacker '27; 2/27/00
- Alice Amsbary Doshier '37; 4/16/00
- Frances Garrett Finch '37; 12/27/99
- Katherine Kent Mishler '37; 12/21/99
- Rachel Kron Richter Overman '39; 8/10/99
- Evelyn Barclay Gaskill '42; 4/1/00
- Phyllis Head Jacobssen '51; 12/29/99
- Terri Hardman Aldridge '87; 7/4/00

**Faculty present at Midwest Nursing Research Society conference**

Menonite College of Nursing faculty made presentations at the annual conference of the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) in Dearborn, Michigan, March 31-April 2.

Karrie Ingalsbe, instructional assistant professor, presented "Infant Feeding Practices in Japanese and Mexican Mothers Who Live in the United States"; Caroline Mallory, assistant professor, presented "Reciprocity in the Recruitment and Retention of African-American Women in a Longitudinal Study"; Sara Campbell, interim director of undergraduate studies and assistant professor of nursing administration, gave poster presentations on "Empowerment: A Tool of Influence in the Geriatric Setting" and "Empowering Nurses for Practice in the New Millennium"; and Eileen Fowles, assistant professor of nursing, gave a poster presentation on "Comparison of Pregnant Women's Nutritional Knowledge and Dietary Intake."

Donna Konradi, interim graduate director and assistant professor, serves as a section chairperson for the society's research division.

**Dean establishes professorship award**

Nancy Ridenour, dean of Menonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, has made an initial gift establishing the Menonite College of Nursing Endowed Professorship Award for Chronic Disease.

The endowment for this award, like that for the Joslin Scholarship, is an open account, which means that the fund administered by the Illinois State University Foundation may be increased through additional contributions of cash and proceeds from bequests, trusts, life insurance, real estate, and personal property. When the fund reaches an agreed-upon amount, the name will change to the Ridenour Endowed Professorship Award for Chronic Disease.

Dean Ridenour has established this award to help provide financial resources to attract

researchers and clinicians in the field of chronic disease to the college. The award will honor individuals who possess extraordinary teaching skills, professional commitment, and dedication to excellence.

The amount of awards will depend on the annual net investment earnings produced by the endowment's principal. A portion of the annual investment earnings may be used to support salary and professional development of the outstanding professor(s) at the discretion of the dean of Menonite College of Nursing. Guidelines for the selection and announcement of the award are being established.

**Nurses Alumni Association establishes endowment**

Working closely with Gail Lamb in Development and through the Illinois State University Foundation, the Menonite Nurses Alumni Association has voted to create the Menonite Nurses Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund from the former Alumni Scholarship Fund.

The purposes of the new fund are to promote academic excellence and eliminate financial barriers that might prevent the enrollment of highly qualified students. The fund will also assist students who participate in the college's transcultural educational studies.

The initial money for the fund has been transferred from the BroMenn Foundation as part of transfer agreements. All contributions made to the Alumni Scholarship Fund have been honored.

This new fund, like the Joslin Scholarship and the Menonite College of Nursing Endowed

Professorship Award, is an open fund that may be increased through additional gifts.

President Emerita Kathleen A. Hogan, former alumni director Dorothy Devore, and other volunteers were instrumental in the establishment of the Menonite Nurses Alumni Scholarship.

By action of the Menonite Nurses Alumni Association Board, the former Alumni Loan Fund, which maintains a substantial amount of money and to which several students are repaying loans, will be added to the principal of the Menonite Nurses Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund. Students and graduates repaying loans to this account have been directed to make payment to Diane Folken at Menonite College of Nursing.

**Progress notes**

We welcome updates from alumni for *The Flame* publication. We want to know about your activities, career news, family news, and other significant activities (weddings, births, honors and awards, promotions, changes in employment, personal accomplishments). Thank you for sharing your news with other alumni. Please fill out this form and return it so your news will be published in the next issue. Mail to Illinois State University, Menonite College of Nursing, Campus Box 5810, Normal, IL 61790-5810.

NAME	MAIDEN NAME (IF APPLICABLE)	DATE	CLASS YEAR
MAILING ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
TELEPHONE			
PRESENT OCCUPATION/EMPLOYER			
NEWS/COMMENTS			

## Scholarly activities

**Kim Astroth**, instructional assistant professor, attended the Sigma Theta Tau International biennial convention in November 1999 in San Diego. Kim has served as president of Xi Pi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International.

**Eileen R. Fowles**, assistant professor of nursing, has received a \$3,800 research grant from Illinois State University to support the writing of an Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) Grant to the National Institute of Health (NIH) on the topic "Facilitators and Barriers to Adequate Nutritional Intake in Low-Income Rural Pregnant Women." Fowles wrote an article titled "The Brazelton Neonatal Behavior Assessment Scale and Maternal Role Attainment," which appeared in *Maternal Child Nursing Journal*, 24 (6) 287-293.

**Brenda Jeffers**, associate professor of medical-surgical nursing, received a \$3,800 university research grant to explore surrogate decision-makers' preferences for information and desire for participation in treatment decision-making and to develop a tool to assess these preferences. It is anticipated that the tool could be used in both long-term and acute-care settings. Jeffers presented a poster titled "Integrating and Presenting Clinical Research: A Learning Activity for Baccalaureate Nursing Students" at the Northwest Indiana Sigma Theta Tau Consortium Research Conference on November 5, 1999. She also presented "Applying Pulmonary Research" on March 16, 2000, at the Memorial Medical Center research day in Springfield. Brenda also is one of two nurses in the nation to be selected as a fellow at ANA's Center for Ethics and Human Rights. She will be working on policy related to biotechnology and end-of-life decisions.

**Donna B. Konradi**, interim graduate director and assistant professor, coauthored a poster presentation titled "Behavior Specific Measures of Self-efficacy in Unique Populations" (Anglin and Konradi). It was presented at the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) convention in October 1999. Konradi also presented "The Development of Nursing Science" at the fall 1999 seminar series "Past Matters Rethinking the History of Science, Technology, and Health" sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Departments of History, Health Sciences, and Philosophy, and Mennonite College of Nursing. Konradi has coauthored an article titled "Measuring Adherence to a Self-care Fitness Walking Routine." It has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Community Health Nursing*.

**Janie McCray**, associate professor, presented a peer-reviewed paper titled "Learning for Meaning: The Lived Experience of Returning Registered Nurse Learners" at New Nursing: Converging Conversations of Education, Research, and Practice, the third biennial international nursing conference in Madison, Wisconsin, in July 1999. At

the same conference she and M. Idour presented "Nursing is a 'Whole Pile of Things': Testing and Challenging Our Thinking About the Nature of Nursing."

**Donna Redding**, instructional assistant professor, recently completed her doctoral dissertation titled "The Relationship Between Critical-Thinking Disposition and Academic Achievement in Baccalaureate Nursing Education." She graduated from Illinois State University on December 18, 1999, with a Ph.D. in educational administration and foundations. In addition, Redding was selected by the graduating class of December 1999 to receive the Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan Teaching Excellence Award. In February 2000, Redding's collaborative grant proposal with Jim Broadbear and Tom Bierma of the Health Sciences Department was funded by the Small Grant Proposal fund from Instructional Technology Services in the amount of \$1,822. The grant will fund the study on "Critical Thinking Disposition Assessment Among Nursing and Health Science Majors."

**Nancy Ridenour**, dean and professor, published "Challenges for Nurse Practitioners: Realistic Health Outcomes for Developmentally Disabled Individuals" in *Nurse Practitioner Forum* December 1999, 10(4), 191. Ridenour serves on the Expert Panels of Evidence Report of Complementary and Alternative Medicine in the use of garlic in prevention of cardiovascular disease and cancer, and the use of silybum marianum in treatment of liver disease and cirrhosis. She is also working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as an expert on DES exposure.

**Cynthia H. Sullivan**, instructional assistant professor, presented "Nursing Student Perspectives About Nursing History" at the spring 2000 seminar series "Past Matters Rethinking the History of Science, Technology, and Health" sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Departments of History, Health Sciences, and Philosophy, and Mennonite College of Nursing.

**Barbara Reed Walpole**, associate professor of nursing, attended Sigma Theta Tau International biennial convention in November 1999 in San Diego. She has served as president-elect of Xi Pi Chapter during the past year. Barbara also has been selected to participate in the Helene Fuld Summer Institute for Rural Health Community Nursing. She will be involved in an intensive program to develop curricula and clinical practica for rural community health.

**Denise Wilson**, associate professor of nursing, attended the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NONPF) 26th annual conference in Washington, D.C., April 13-16, 2000. She presented a poster titled "From History-Taking to Coding: A Process Tool." Wilson is working on a medical-surgical nursing text for Lippincott, Williams and Wilson.

## Alumni awards

In recognition of their work in the nursing profession, three graduates received awards from Mennonite Nurses Alumni during a Homecoming brunch October 2.

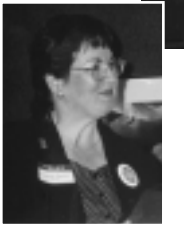
Karen Hildreth of Fairbury received the 1999 Distinguished Alumni Award. Hildreth, a 1959 graduate of Mennonite, is a certified nurse practitioner for the Livingston County Health Department. Her job involves managing the high school student health clinic and working in the department's family planning and STD clinics. She has served on the boards of numerous nursing and health organizations and does volunteer work for women's health clinics in McLean and Livingston Counties. Hildreth is also a life member of the Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing Alumni.

Dianne Gentes of Bloomington received Mennonite's 1999 Alumni Service Award. Gentes grad-

uated from Mennonite in 1970 and works in the orthopedic surgical unit at BroMenn Regional Medical Center. Gentes has served on the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Board for the past six years and has been active in working with Mennonite students.

Diane L. Whipple of Minneapolis, Minnesota, is the recipient of the 1999 Young Alumni Award. Whipple, a 1985 graduate of Mennonite, works for the International Diabetes Center in Minneapolis as a research clinician, studying the effectiveness of diabetes medications. She is a member of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals, Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society, and Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association.

Karen Hildreth, right, Diane Gentes, below left, Diane Whipple, below right



## Alumni award nominations wanted

The Mennonite Nurses Alumni Administrative Board is seeking nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Young Alumni Award.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated a dedication to the nursing profession, demonstrated leadership, shown outstanding professionalism, promoted and elevated the general nursing image, and who is held in high regard by peers and the community.

Past recipients include Elva Carr '22 in 1981; Elaine Reynolds '38 in 1982; Lena Maxwell '28 in 1983; Lois Philpott '40 in 1984; Lena Graber '35 in 1985; Ruth Oesch '61 in 1986; Dorothy DeVore '54 in 1987; Rebecca Sutter '68 in 1988; Ann Ropp '31 in 1989; Shelly Richard '77 in 1990; Jane Armer '76 in 1991; Beverly Grimes '60 in 1992; Karen Ahijevych '67 in 1993; Florence Simonson '34 in 1994; Mark Pelletier '81 in 1995; Mary Ann Watkins '62 in 1996; Elfrieda Ramseyer '58 in 1997; Romeyn Oyer '51 in 1998; and Karen Hildreth '59 in 1999.

The Young Alumni Award is presented to an alum who has graduated within the past 15 years and who has demonstrated continued interest in and support for the college, demonstrated professional achievement, participated in distinguished community service, and personified the values of the college.

The award was established in 1996, and Douglas Brown '81 was the first recipient. Mary Anne Kirchner '82, '87, received the award in 1997. Mary Slutz '83 received the award in 1998, and Diane L. Radmer Whipple '85 received the award in 1999.

Nominations for either or both awards may be made by anyone and sent to the Alumni Administrative Board before June 30, 2000. The board will review the résumés of nominees and select no more than one recipient for each award each year. The awards will be presented during Homecoming in October.

### Nomination form

Distinguished Alumni Award     Young Alumni Award

NOMINEE'S NAME _____		YEAR OF GRADUATION _____	
PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS _____			
REASONS YOU SUPPORT THIS NOMINEE _____			
YOUR NAME _____			
MAILING ADDRESS _____			
CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____	TELEPHONE _____

Mail to  
Illinois State University  
Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association  
Campus Box 5810  
Normal, IL 61790-5810



**Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University welcomes your support.**

Gifts are used to increase funding in

- Mennonite College of Nursing Endowment Fund
- Mennonite College of Nursing Endowed Scholarship Fund
- Mennonite College of Nursing Endowed Professorship Award for Chronic Disease
- Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan Faculty Development Endowed Fund
- General Fund

Every gift helps strengthen the college's ability to accomplish its mission of educating beginning and advanced practitioners of nursing.

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