

The Flame

MENNONITE COLLEGE OF NURSING AT ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

FALL 2001



A garden for contemplation

What started out as a large patch of dirt at the northwest corner of Edwards Hall has been transformed into a beautiful garden for Mennonite College of Nursing students, faculty, and visitors to enjoy. Included in the garden are medicinal plants and flowers, benches donated by the Classes of '91 and '97, a brick pathway, and a tree that

provides shade in the late afternoon. It is a beautiful sight. The bench given by the Class of '97 has written on it "What Small Comfort Might I Give Up For Today In Order For A Dream To Come True?" It is a beautiful spot in which one might stop to contemplate the beauty of nursing, how far we have come, and how far we will go.

Call for third-party comments

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University is preparing its self-study report for accreditation. The site visit is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3 through Friday, April 5, 2002. The college invites students, alumni, faculty, and the practice community to provide written input into the deliberation of the evaluation team. Written and signed comments concerning the nursing programs will be accepted by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education until March 2, 2002. Please mail your comments to:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
Attention: Mark Jenkins, Accreditation Coordinator
One Dupont Circle, NW
Suite 530
Washington, DC 20036-1120

Mennonite College of Nursing
and Alumni Association

Calendar of events

December 14, 2001
Fall semester ends

**December 23, 2001-
January 1, 2002**
University offices closed

January 14, 2002
Spring semester begins

January 21, 2002
Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

March 9-17, 2002
Spring break

April 5, 2002
Undergraduate Research
Symposium

April 26, 2002
Graduate Research Symposium

May 10, 2002
Spring semester ends

May 11, 2002
Commencement

May 20, 2002
Summer semester begins

May 27, 2002
Memorial Day*

July 4, 2002
Independence Day*

August 9, 2002
Summer session ends

August 19, 2002
Fall semester begins

September 2, 2002
Labor Day*

* University offices closed

Dean's message

Happy holidays!

As all of us reflect upon the challenges facing us this year, may we continue to celebrate our numerous blessings. Now more than ever, it is important for us to cherish our family and friends and to understand the significant importance of nursing to our community, the nation, and the world. I am so proud of our alumni, faculty, and students. All of you are making significant contributions to make this world a better place. Thank you!

This fall Mennonite has hosted and sponsored several events. In September Piriya Supparsi, a faculty member from Burapha University in Thailand, was here to attend various classes and clinicals. She also had the opportunity to meet one on one with several faculty members to discuss our programs. We are in the process of establishing an exchange program with Thailand and hope to have many more faculty and student exchanges.

On September 20 Mennonite cosponsored "Near- and Long-Term Changes in the Nursing Workforce: A Regional Nursing Conference" in Bloomington. Peter Buerhaus, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N., who is the Valere Potter Professor of Nursing and senior associate dean of research at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing was the speaker, and more than 450 people attended this event.

Mennonite College of Nursing is also very active in the technology series Leading Edge, sponsored by Illinois State University. Experts on telehealth and Web-based technology provide a glimpse

of the future of nursing. I hope that many of you have the opportunity to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities this series provides the community. You can find the full schedule at www.ilstu.edu/leadingedge.

You may recall reading an article in the last issue of *The Flame* about Mennonite College of Nursing adopting a grade school in Bloomington. The project with Irving School is off to a great start. Mennonite College of Nursing students assisted with giving backpacks to the elementary students, and several faculty are providing health-related classes for the elementary classes. In addition, several nursing students are working with the school nurse, Holly Beoletto '88, to learn the role of the school nurse.

The faculty at Mennonite College of Nursing has achieved many milestones. Dr. Brenda Jeffers will have an article related to the ethics of biotechnology published in *Advances in Nursing Science*. The Teaching Nursing Home is also in full swing. Two of our faculty, Camille Little and Dianne Clemens, are collecting data on attitudes related to aging. Dr. Sara Campbell and Dr. Brenda Jeffers are incorporating the John A. Hartford Foundation's Best Practices in Geriatric Nursing content in the curriculum.

We are also very proud of our student achievements at Mennonite College of Nursing. The president of the Illinois Student Nurses Association, Carole Eatock, is a Mennonite College of Nursing student.

I wish you a happy and safe holiday!



Nancy Ridenour

Alumni Administrative Board 2001-02

President: Alice Deavers '52

Secretary/Treasurer:
Amber Williams '99

Susan Catt '95, '97

Nancy McCullough '76

Romeyn Oyer '51

Renee Simons '97

Charlotte Leach '52

Sue McGinnes '72, '98

Judith Paxton '72, '84

Ex officio members

Nancy Ridenour, dean,
Mennonite College of Nursing

Liaison members

Julie Goodlick,
assistant director of
Alumni Services,
Illinois State University

Dorothy Witte,
director of Development,
Illinois State University

Student representatives

Kate Jajkowski,
Student Nurses Association

Rebecca Ferguson,
Mennonite Graduate
Student Organization



Focus on research growing among Mennonite faculty

Research is an expanding focus of the faculty of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

"We are growing in the research opportunities Illinois State University and Dean Nancy Ridenour are giving us," said Assistant Professor Eileen R. Fowles, college research coordinator since fall of 2000. In her position, Fowles is director of the new Office for Health Research at Mennonite College of Nursing, which fosters the research environment in the college in many ways.

The Office of Health Research is on the third floor of the newly renovated Edwards Hall, on the Illinois State University quad. The office provides faculty and students six computers, software to support quantitative and qualitative analysis, and books and manuals available for checkout. In addition, Fowles assists faculty and students with applications for obtaining external funding, which is a primary goal of the office. She works with faculty and students to develop ideas and proposals, and to prepare them for the institutional process at the University.

Obtaining external research grants is key to achieving the office's long-term goal of becoming a federally funded nursing research center through the National Institute of Nursing Research and the National Institutes for Health (NIH). The Mennonite College of Nursing faculty have been successful in obtaining University Research Grants (URGs) to "jump start" their projects, Fowles said.

The stated purpose of the Office for Health Research indicates a type and method of research: "The purpose of the office is to support collaborative research between faculty and students that will significantly improve the health of the public within both the hospital and community setting." More specifically, the activities of the office will contribute to the success of research in the area of health decision-making as it relates to health promotion and disease prevention. Research projects under this umbrella will examine health decision-making among various cultures and vulnerable populations and in rural communities.

Examples of that research are two proposals being submitted to NIH for funding. Assistant Professor Caroline Mallory is proposing a project addressing "Prevention of HIV Among Women at High Risk." Fowles is requesting funding for a project examining "Adequate Nutrition in Low-Income Pregnant Women."

More than half the faculty are involved in research. Some of those faculty and their research

interests are as follows: Associate Professor Brenda Jeffers, surrogate decision-making at end-of-life; Instructional Assistant Professor Donna Redding, critical thinking abilities among new nursing employees and the effects of new-staff orientation; Instructional Assistant Professor Dianne Clemens and Instructional Assistant Professor Camille Little, attitudes and beliefs toward the elderly among junior nursing students; Assistant Professor Donna Konradi, adherence to walking for exercise among the middle-aged; and Assistant Professor and Associate Dean Sara Campbell, use of empowerment to improve staff satisfaction and client outcomes.

Collaboration with other agencies and disciplines is an important emphasis of the Office for Health Research. Two current partnerships offer research possibilities. A partnership with Heritage Manor Corporation, a local company overseeing the operation of several area nursing homes, provides program opportunities as well as research opportunities in the area of geriatric care.

Also, Mennonite College of Nursing has a collaborative research project with Memorial Hospital in Springfield on the development of a student mentorship program. In addition, the college has formed a link with Bloomington's Irving Elementary School, which has a high percentage of minority and disadvantaged students, to implement programming with the goal of increasing student interest in science and math, and educating students and their parents about health careers. The interdisciplinary focus comes in as research projects in the college use consultants from areas including health sciences, nutrition and criminal justice.

As the Office for Health Research builds the research program at Mennonite College of Nursing, it is using the consultation of the following nursing research experts, all of whom are internationally known nurse researchers: Nola Pender, University of Michigan; Margaret Miles, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; and Alexa Stuijbergen, University of Texas-Austin.

Dean Ridenour commented on the benefit to the college of the new research office: "We have learned from other very successful nursing programs that providing space for research and fostering collaboration are vital steps to take to insure successful grant-writing and scholarly productivity. This office provides focus and collaborative support. We plan to be very successful in obtaining external funding and increasing scholarly productivity."

Mennonite College of Nursing donor roll

April 1, 2001-September 30, 2001

Franceen Ackerman
Susan and Frank Ackerman
Ioma and Harold Adams
Theresa and Stephen Adelman
Richard and Barbara Aery
Jean and Johns Aeschliman
Karen and Andy Ahjievych
Linda and Stephen Ahrens
Tamara and Brett Ahrens
Carl and Elizabeth Akers
Richard and Candis Alford
Mary and David Althaus
Donna and Carl Anderson
Mary and Darrell Andris
Hollis Armstrong
Susan and Todd Arnold
Marcia and Joe Autry
E. Annalee and Joseph Ayers
Virginia and Robert Babcock
Karen and Donald Bailey
Jessica and Michael Baker
Scott and Loretta Baker
Jacqueline and Michael Balch
Daniel and Kathy Barber
Tina Barber
Wendy and Mark Bardwell
Christina and Timothy Barnett
Carolyn and Ronald Barnfield
Jed Beaupre
Teresa and Gary Beland
Holly and B. John Beoletto
Jane and Charles Berry
W. Richard and Constance Birkey
Joyce and Charles Bisbee
Rebecca and Marvin Blair
Bloomington-Normal
Employee Club Fund
Mary and Charles Blythe
Ella and George Bohrer
Erma and Warren Borchers
Judith Bourland
Kathy Bradle
Dorothy and Wilbert Brandon
Bromenn Healthcare
Douglas and Mary Brown
Dr. Michael and Mary Brunt
Burien Medical Care
Bonnie and Richard Burmood
Lana and Don Burson
Victoria and Dennis Butler
Debra Butts
Marcia and Mark Campbell
John and Virginia Capasso
Diedri and Gerald Carlin
Lisa Carp and Emil Yappert
Delores and William Carter
Yvonne and William Carter

Continued on next page



Advisory council collecting data for study on 'ideal graduate'

During the acquisition of Mennonite College of Nursing by Illinois State University an advisory council was formed. The Mennonite College of Nursing Advisory Council serves as an advisory body to the dean of Mennonite College of Nursing on aspects of the college, its mission, and its programs. The enrichment of nursing education, practice, research, and management opportunities for mutual benefits guide the functions of this council.

Members of the advisory council are collecting data for a study titled "What are the Ideal Qualities of a New Nurse Graduate?" Funded by Illinois State University's Center for the Advancement of Teaching, this focus group study of professional nurses in regional care centers will provide information on essential characteristics of a new graduate. This information will assist in insuring that Mennonite College of Nursing graduates remain the preferred graduates.

The first component was realizing the need for this research. The advisory council in collaboration with Mennonite faculty identified this need. Data are being collected and research done so that recommendations can be made. Information on this study will be published with each component.

The council includes six Central Illinois medical organizations along with Mennonite College of Nursing. The Mennonite College of Nursing Advisory Council was created and is maintained by a group of health care leaders from selected agencies who are committed to help Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University create a preeminent center for excellence in nursing education.

Marsha Prater, vice president for patient care services, represents Memorial Medical Center in Springfield. Mennonite College of Nursing works with Memorial on several programs, including student clinical practice and externships. Sara Campbell, associate dean, is also working with a member of the Memorial staff on a grant for empowering nurses through the LINE Fellowship.

Pat Thornton, chief nursing officer and vice president of family health, represents BroMenn Health Care of Normal. Students often use BroMenn's facilities for clinical experience, and nursing staff host students for externships.

Pam Biglar, director of nursing, represents Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana. Carle Hospital serves as a clinical site, works with second-year students doing externships, and has worked with Caroline Mallory on a research project involving outcome of student externships.

Rose Stadel, administrator, represents Heritage Manor in Normal, and Joe Warner, president, represents Heritage Enterprises in Bloomington. Mennonite is working with Heritage Enterprises to develop a teaching nursing home.

OSF St. Joseph's Hospital has just joined the advisory council and will become part of the ongoing activities.

All the advisory council members help in the development and evaluation of student outcome for present and proposed programs and activities of the college in areas such as administrative education, and long-range development. This includes identifying programs for nurse role development tailored to the educational needs of the local and regional health care community and ongoing assessment of workforce needs.

Many faculty members team up with these advisory council members to collaborate in areas of research and study where the expertise of the faculty can be combined with resources of the community to solve health care delivery problems dealing with best practices, patient outcomes, nursing roles, and business operations.

Mennonite College of Nursing also helps advisory council members to connect with other professional programs within Illinois State University. Members work with Mennonite to identify opportunities for faculty and staff and upgrade their skills in nursing practice, administration, and management.

This organization is a source of pride for Mennonite College of Nursing and has helped to promote the college, build its recognition and prestige, obtain new resources, and enhance opportunities for students, faculty, and Central Illinois health care organizations.

Carole Eatock president of student nurses group

Mennonite College of Nursing is proud to be the home of the Student Nurses Association of Illinois (SNAI) president, Carole Eatock. Carole enrolled in the R.N. to B.S.N. program at Mennonite and has served on the SNAI board for three years. She received a diploma of nursing at Methodist Medical Center in May 2001 and currently works in the cardiovascular intensive care unit. She first served as the director of marketing, then as secretary-treasurer, and currently as president of the Student Nurses Association of Illinois.

Her term as president started in October 2000, and since that time she has worked together with other board members to organize two statewide conventions. Last March the group held a leadership workshop with 90 attendees and different speakers, including Ann O'Sullivan, Illinois Nurses Association president. The Student Nurses Association of Illinois hosted a statewide convention October 13 and 14, highlighting international nursing. Elizabeth Swanson was the keynote speaker and discussed her experience in Russia. When asked what she feels is the most beneficial aspect of

being in SNAI, she responded, "Being with people, meeting new people, and learning to network." She has also enjoyed working as part of a team to accomplish a goal.

This is Carole's first year at Mennonite College of Nursing as an R.N. to B.S.N. student. Although the campus is much larger than Methodist, the atmosphere at Mennonite has proved to be a small-school feel. Being in the R.N. to B.S.N. program has allowed her to experience two Web-based classes. Once Carole has completed her B.S.N., she plans to continue in a master's program to receive a degree as a family nurse practitioner.

Carole has worked with the Student Nurses Association at Mennonite to help make statewide connections with other student and medical organizations. One of Carole's major jobs as president is to help other students see the benefits of joining Student Nurses Association. The benefits seem endless and include networking, finding different types of employment, organizational and communication skills, and, of course, creating enduring friendships.

Maxwell family supports college

The Maxwell family has long been a supporter of Mennonite College of Nursing, most recently with the establishment of the Lena Maxwell Endowed Scholarship. Established in 1998 as a living memorial in her honor, it promotes caring and compassionate nursing care. Her brother Glenn Maxwell noted, "Nursing was her life: I can remember Lena saying, 'I'll die helping somebody.'"

This past June 24 the family got together for its annual reunion at Maxwell Park in Bloomington. Ten family members took this opportunity to visit Mennonite College of Nursing for a tour of the new facilities. It is an honor for Mennonite College of Nursing to

have a relationship with this family that shares the vision and sees the importance of Mennonite College of Nursing's mission to provide premier graduates in nursing.



Donors continued from previous page

Barbara and Charles Cashmer
Jennifer Casson

M. Andrea and Jason Childers
Peggy and Philip Chiles

James and Jennifer Churchey
Dawn Goni

Cynthia and Scott Clapp
Angela and David Coan

Denise and Theodore Coe
Karen and Floyd Cole

Linda and Daniel Cole
Kathleen Conner

Hallie and Eric Cook
Myrtella and Wendell Cook

Jeanne and Warren Cooke
Linda and Scott Cooper

Mary Copenhaver
Anne and Kenneth Crank

Shannon and Teri Sue Cutler
Chris Dailey and David Taner

John and Janice Dall
Dan Greene Construction, Inc.

Richard and Kathy Danda
Alice Deavers

Jacqueline and Jamie Deffenbaugh
Karen and John Dennis

Dorothy and Kenneth DeVore
Bonnie Dewey

Glenda Dexter-Brown and
Philip Brown

Geraldine and Robert DeYarman
Pamela and Alan Dick

Mary Diesel
Marilyn Dishinger

Gayle and Henry Dominics
Susan and Jeffrey Dowell

Marjorie and Bruce Duffield
Betty and Paul Duzan

Tanya and Hezekiah Early
Elizabeth and Edward Easley

Janice and Sterling Eby
Bernice Edwards

Robin and Christopher Eldredge
Cassandra and Charles Ellenbecker

Jeanne and Mark Elliott
Marilyn and Gary Elliott

Elizabeth and Bruce Endress
Wallace and Marian Etcheson

Anne Evanich
Holly and Chad Farley

Bonnie Farmer
Eva and James Feathergill

Kathryn and Merle Ferguson
Pauline and Daryl Ferguson

Rachel Feucht
Joan and William Fike

Warren D. and Aurelia Fisher
Lori Fitton

Janet and Robert Flageole
Dr. Eileen and Thomas Fowles

Continued on next page

Donors continued from previous page

Bonita and Bruce Frank
Jennifer and Gary Frank

Tamara and Joel Freeman
Tami and Scott Gadbury

Patricia and James Galbraith
Grace Ganieany

Andrea Gay-Saenz
Michael and Lucinda

Edgren Gebhardt
M. Dianne and Steven Gentes

Donald and Linda Gerig
Dawn and Jeff Geringer

Dolores and Eugene Giuffria
Marjorie Gordish

Mary and Gregory Gossmeier
Mary and Royce Gottschalk

Deborah and Gary Grady
Penny Greenwood

Beverly and Morris Grimes
Mary and Edgar Grizzle

Lori and Edward Grosse
Doris and C Robert Haas

Linda and Michael Haile
Gary and Farole Haluska

Gertrude Haluska
Betty and Richard Hamblin

Ann and Jeffrey Hamer
Jeanette and Claire Hammond

Mildred and Willis Harms
Kristy Harner

Judith and Mark Hartman
Diana and Greg Hasler

Marie Hastings
Frances and Roger Haughey

Todd and Laurie Haynes
Mary and Charles Heap

Dr. Thomas and Jane Heineke
Evelyn and Ervin Heiser

D. Jean Henderson
Betty and James Henson

Louise Henson
Heritage Enterprises, Inc.

Marie Hieser
Darlene and Nathaniel Hiatt

Karen and John Hildreth
Christiane and James Hines

Juanema and C. Wendell Hinesley
Samuel and Joyce Hofer

Lee and Alan Hoffman
Elizabeth Davis Holder Foundation

Laura and Philip Holverson
Betty and Michael Hope

Sheila and John Huber
Juanita and George Hulvey

Diana and Roger Hunter
Norma and Kenneth Imhoff

Phyllis and Carroll Imig
Shirley and Eugene Jackson

JoAnn and Kevin Jacobs

Continued on next page

Graduate Research Symposium

The Illinois State University Graduate Research Symposium was held April 27, 2001. Three Mennonite College of Nursing graduate students participated in this event. The Graduate Research Symposium provides students an opportunity to engage in a culminating experience of the research process, displaying, presenting, exhibiting, and demonstrating the results of the research. The symposium is an institutional celebration of the merger of active student learning and faculty mentorship.

Dr. Janie McCray served as the faculty advisor for Sandra Elliott and Karen Helfers. Sandra presented a poster presentation on "Access to Health Care for the Working Poor: A Qualitative Study to Describe the Experience." Karen presented on "The Hemodialysis Patient: A Qualitative Study of the Lived Experience." Dr. Eileen Fowles served as the faculty advisor for Ann Garey, who presented "A Nonexperimental Descriptive Study of Pregnant Adolescent's Knowledge of Preterm Birth."

Sandra Elliott's study was to help understand the lived experience of people who are employed in low-paying jobs but do not have health insurance. Van Manen's methodology was used to analyze the data and identify essential themes. "The phenomenon of Feeling Abandoned and Disillusioned: Living Without Health Insurance" was revealed from the data. Themes that supported this phenomenon were: being dropped and getting caught; trying to make sense of the situation; being judged, singled out, and put on display; and moving beyond. The best implication of this study is for health care providers to work toward a more equitable distribution of health care resources regardless of ability to pay."

Karen Helfers focused on patients diagnosed with end-stage renal disease who choose hemodialysis as treatment and "enter into a medical system of which they know little." The main phenomenon identified, accepting the fact that you are a dialysis patient and making the best of it, was supported by four subthemes: dealing with one's emotions, managing lifestyle changes, dealing with staff and peers, and deciding to not give in. "It was found that when a person is first diagnosed with renal failure they often perceive their future as being bleak and uncertain. Many times they grieve the loss of the life they have known in much the same way that they would grieve the death of a loved one. For them personal hardships become daily experiences as independence is forfeited, limitations are imposed, and simple tasks are no longer able to be accomplished." The implications for nursing: "As more people are diagnosed with renal failure, the need for health

care personnel increases. Nurses play an essential role in providing for the needs of hemodialysis patients. They have the education and the ability to recognize and identify potential or emerging health problems."

Ann Garey dealt with preterm birth in adolescents who are at an increased risk for preterm birth. "Findings indicate that history of preterm birth does not equip a pregnant adolescent with knowledge to identify symptoms of preterm labor and take actions to arrest preterm labor. The study also identifies the factors related to preterm birth, such as gestational age, that are least understood by pregnant adolescents and thus may hamper detection and effective treatment of preterm birth." Implications for nurses include health promotion and primary prevention to optimize the health of infant born to adolescent mothers. "This includes planning and implementing strategies to meet the pregnant adolescent's educational and communication needs surrounding preterm birth."

As faculty, staff, students, and alumni we can be proud of the diversity and excellence of scholarship at Illinois State University and of our graduate students at Mennonite College of Nursing for participating in events both on and off campus demonstrating our wealth of research and faculty mentorship.

Symposia set for April 2002

Each spring the Graduate School at Illinois State University—along with the Graduate Student Association and Research and Sponsored Programs—holds Undergraduate and Graduate Research Symposia. The Undergraduate Research Symposium will be held Friday, April 5, 2002, and the Graduate Research Symposium will be held Friday, April 26, 2002. Mennonite College of Nursing encourages students to participate in research in the form of poster presentation, oral presentation, media, or reading and performances.

Students interested in participating can obtain guidelines and application materials from their research faculty advisor in the Graduate School office (Hovey Hall 310) or on the Graduate School Web site at www.grad.ilstu.edu.

The symposia are open to all students enrolled at Illinois State University and engaged in research under the direction of a faculty advisor. In addition to recognizing and encouraging research at the undergraduate and graduate levels, these events provide professional advancement experience.

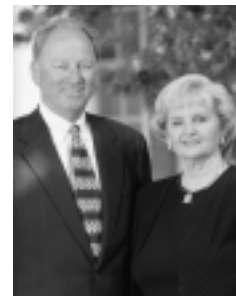
Sara Campbell empowering nurses

Associate Dean Sara Campbell and Cathy Schwartz from Springfield Memorial Medical Center are collecting data for their research on empowering nurses. They will spend two years collecting data focusing on what is important to student nurses, do they feel valued, what they like and dislike. Students participate in journal writing and interviewing leadership and preceptors at Memorial.

Mennonite College of Nursing students benefit by being allowed to participate in the clinical practice model, attend unit retreats, and see firsthand how the clinical ladder is managed so that nurses can advance within the system. Research shows that externships make students stronger.

Memorial Medical Center is rewarded by interaction with students. One preceptor said, "It was her first IV stick. She was so excited—I was excited for her. It's that little stuff you forget to enjoy." This also gives Memorial Medical Center insight into what future nurses are looking for when they become ready to practice.

Memorial became an advisory council member in July 1999 when Mennonite College of Nursing joined Illinois State University. Since that time students have held clinicals at Memorial and been hosted by preceptors. Memorial is at a level not all institutions have arrived at in the clinical practice model. The data collection by Sara and Cathy will give insight into the role the clinical practice model plays in empowering nurses and will benefit both Mennonite College of Nursing and Memorial Medical Center.



Johnson Scholarship Fund

Richard and Julia Johnson established the Johnson Scholarship Fund during the 2000 academic year through the Illinois State University Foundation. This scholarship is intended to support the education costs of ethnic minority students who are graduates of a secondary school in McLean County and are

pursuing a nursing degree from Mennonite College of Nursing.

Richard and Julia Johnson are longtime residents of Bloomington-Normal, and both are committed to improving the quality of life in their community. Mr. Johnson is a former member of the Mennonite College of Nursing Board of Trustees,

having served in that capacity for nine years. He and Mrs. Johnson have a strong belief that education is the answer to poverty and access to education creates opportunity for individual and societal advancement. To that end this fund provides the opportunity to pursue nursing education as a means to achieving a professional rank with status, prestige, stability, and service to others.

The Richard and Julia Johnson Scholarship Fund is an "open fund" in the Illinois State University Foundation that may be increased at any time through additional gifts. If you would like more information on planned giving please contact Dorothy Witte, director of Development, at (309) 438-8184.

Yes! I want to make a gift to the Richard and Julia Johnson Scholarship Fund.

\$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 Other \$ _____

Please make your check payable to *Illinois State University Foundation* and write "Richard and Julia Johnson Scholarship" on the memo line to ensure its correct deposit. Mail your gift to Illinois State University, Dorothy Witte, Director of Development, Campus Box 3060, Normal, IL 61790-3060.

NAME _____ GRADUATION YEAR _____
 DEGREE(S) _____
 POSITION _____
 MAILING ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Donors continued from previous page

Peggy and Randall Jacobs
 Denise and Charles James
 Susan and Brian Janke
 Sandra and Phillip Jarke
 Darlene and James Jensen
 Bradley Jesse
 Alice and Roy Jiles
 Diane and Randy Johner
 Amy and Kelly Johnson
 Arthur Johnson
 Geneva Johnson
 Holly and Randy Johnson
 Kathy and Harold Johnson
 Linda and Warren Johnson
 Marjorie and Bobby Johnson
 Tamra Johnson
 Rita and Martin Jordan
 Roger and Stephany Joslin
 Julie and Harry Jung
 Judith and Harvey Kaeb
 Norma and Kevin Kapper
 Linda and Harry Karle
 Sharon and Steven Kelleher
 Lynn and Thomas Kennell
 John Kerber
 Michelle and Jeffrey Kilcher
 Kathleen Kilmartin
 Mary Anne Kirchner
 James and Vicky Kirkton
 Beverley and Wes Klinkhammer
 Christine and Lynn Klopfenstein
 Patricia Klopfenstein
 Dianne and Gary Knapp
 Betty and Raymond Knuckles
 Sylvia Knuth
 Beryl and Richard Koch
 Sandra and Bruce Koerner
 Susan and William Kohler
 Lisa Kopnick
 Vicki and Michael Kropfle
 D. Lynn and Thomas Krumholz
 Diane and Dean Kunz
 Lynne and Christopher Kusnerick
 Nancy and John Kutzner
 LuAnn and Arnold Ladwig
 Carol and Charles Laible
 Dr. Gail and Dr. Douglas Lamb
 Margie and James Landrum
 Anita and Andrew Lankowicz
 Marjean and Mark Largent
 Forrest and Fern Lauher
 Janice Laux
 Jeanette and James Lavallier
 Martha and Glenn Lawler
 Charlotte and Delend Leach
 Oran and Syble Leffingwell
 Sandra and Rodney Lehman
 William and Jeanne Leman
 Dr. William and Jane Lesch

Continued on next page

Donors continued from previous page

Camille Little
 Cynthia and Delmar Litwiller
 Susette and Dan Litwiller
 Jayme and Kevin Lottinville
 Thomas and Meredith Lovelass
 Janet and Robert Lovell
 Lou Ann and Philip Lovell
 Rosemary and J Greg Lowell
 Jane and Jay Luthi
 Nancy and John Maches
 Janet and Edward Madden
 Ada and Delbert Magers
 Lynn and Terrence Manning
 Karen Manson
 Jeannine and Larry Mariani
 Marla Martin
 Beatrice and G. H. Louis Marting
 Kathryn and Michael Marvin
 Shannon and Michael Matteson
 Jean and Paul Mattingly
 Winifred and Glenn Maxwell
 Kristi and Terry McCarthy
 Lora and John McClelland
 Nancy McCullough
 Sue and Harold McGinnes
 Betty and William McHie
 Kimberly McIntire
 Rebecca and Thomas McMahan
 Cynthia and Richard Merritt
 Elaine and Alan Merritt
 Janet and Phillip Meyer
 Marguerite and Harold Mies
 Patricia and Steven Milashoski
 Evelyn and Richard Miller
 Sheryl and Marlin Miller
 Thelma and Richard Miller
 Pamela Miller-Appleton and
 Jeff Appleton
 Carol and Jerry Millican
 Connie and David Mohr
 Delores and Don Moore
 Mary and John Moore
 Rebecca and Lee Moore
 Rachel and Charles Moser
 C. Gail and Scott Mottershaw
 Melisa and Russell Mundwiler
 Ralph and Jean Munn
 Virginia and Melvin Murphy
 Ashley and James Neal
 Mary and Harold Necessary
 Laurel Neitling
 Lisa and Scott Nesler
 Joyce and Frank Nestor
 Helen and Larry Nixon
 Paula and Richard Nolte
 Ruth and Theodore Oesch
 Kathy and David Olson
 Romeyn Oyer
 Nancy Pacey-White

Continued on next page

College, honorary society sponsor conference

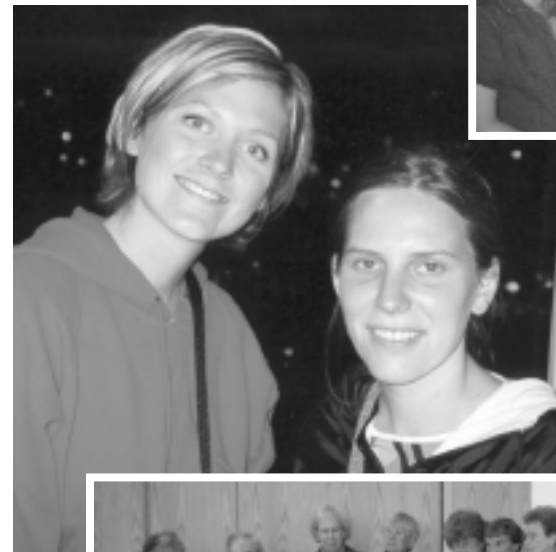
Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University and Xi Pi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International were among the nine cosponsors of a one-day nursing leadership conference titled "Near- and Long-Term Changes in the Nursing Workforce: A Regional Nursing Conference" on September 20 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center. Approximately 450 student nurses, nurses, and administrators participated in the conference that addressed the growing nursing shortage.

Peter Buerhaus, senior associate dean of research at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, was the featured speaker. He discussed the nursing shortage in America and what the future may hold. As society's demand for health care increases the number of registered nurses will increase. It is projected that by the year 2008 there will be 794,000 RN job openings. Education costs, nursing wages, age and supply of faculty, and a rapidly aging RN workforce are all factors in the shortage of registered nurses. Suggested courses of action include improv-

ing the image of nursing, reducing the cost of nursing education, eliminating stigmas and barriers for men and minorities, and increasing the supply of faculty. Ergonomic changes in the workplace are also needed to support the current workforce.

It is important for those in the nursing community to develop the nursing image by focusing on research that involves the nurse workforce and its impact on the quality of care, make officials in government aware of the problems a nursing shortage would create, and promote positive public opinion of nurses. Buerhaus's final thought: "What we do today to deal with existing shortages and problems in the nurse workforce will go a long way in determining the timing and severity of the projected shortage still to come."

Numerous vendors and displays from local hospitals, nursing homes, and nursing programs added to the day. This is the third annual nursing leadership conference with which Mennonite College of Nursing has been involved.



Donors continued from previous page

Myrna Park
Janice Parker
Rachel Patterson
Judith and Jack Paxton
Trudy and Sherman Peck
Rita Pell
Teresa and Jack Pence
Leesha and Brian Peoples
Dawn Perrin
Beth and Brian Petersen
Lois Philpott
Judith Pike
Maureen and William Pimley
A. Darlene and Joseph Poindexter
Jane and Terry Poppe
Jane and Michael Price
Coleen Rakers
Dr. Edmund Raycraft
Joyce Raycraft
Susan and Robert Read
Barbara and Donald Regan
Connie and Jay Reimer
Nadine Reining
Stuart and Zelda Reis
Nancy and William Reiter
Cheryl Rempel
Nachelle and Phil Richard
Michelle and Scott Rickel
Dr. Nancy Ridenour and Ed Mason
Jane Rieger
Marlisa and Brian Rieke
J. Robin and William Riley
Lois and Robert Ritchey
Barbara and Everett Ritchie
Bernice and Michael Robinson
Lynne and Antonie Romyn
Ruth and Schley Rudolph
Janice and Philip Rush
Carolyn Ruth
Evelyn and John Saal
Vada and Keith Saffer
Edith and Paul Sancken
Marjorie and Donald Sapp
Teresa and Doug Saxton
Rebecca and Lynn Schaffer
Joan and Laverne Schertz
Sharon and Richard Schertz
Alice and John Schieber
Deborah Schimmelpfenning
Julie and Kurt Schinzler
Judith and Eugene Schlueter
Yvonne and Richard Schmudde
Beth and Thomas Schreiner
Celeste and Michael Scimo
Mary and Robert Scott
Cheryl and Terry Seabold
Janet and Robert Sears
Carol and Paul Selman
Mary Shane-Cox

Continued on next page

Faculty news

Accomplishments

Dr. Sara Campbell's poster "Academic and Practice Partnerships: Use of an Empowerment Model to Meet the Demand of Professional Nurse Leaders" was accepted for a poster presentation at the ninth National Conference on Nursing Administration Research in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dr. Brenda Jeffers will have an article related to the ethics of biotechnology published in *Advances in Nursing Science*. The journal has a 90 percent rejection rate. Mennonite College of Nursing is very proud of Dr. Jeffers's accomplishment.

Dr. Donna Konradi's grant application to the Department of Health and Human Services's Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship Program was funded for more than \$37,000 to support the Mennonite College of Nursing family nurse practitioner (FNP) program and FNP students.

Pamela Lindsey received an advance practice nurse licensure as certified clinical nurse specialist.

Dr. Caroline Mallory had a manuscript based on her postdoctoral work accepted for publication.

Dr. Nancy Ridenour and Dr. Denise Wilson received advance practice nurse licensure as certified nurse practitioners.

Presentations

Astroth, Kim. "Effectiveness of Step Treadmill Exercise Training in Reducing Resting Blood Pressure in Women with Unmedicated Hypertension." Twenty-eighth annual Research Conference. October 2001

Campbell, Sara. "Leadership Strategies Designed to Improve Life." Midwest Nursing Research Conference. March 2001.

Fowles, Eileen. "Comparison of Pregnant Women's Nutritional Knowledge to Actual Dietary Intake." AWHONN 2001 Convention: A Nursing Odyssey. June 2001.

Jeffers, Brenda. "Nursing Home Residents Surrogates: Preferences for Involvement in Decision Making." Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference. March 2001.

Jeffers, Brenda. "Surrogate Autonomy and Appraisal of Uncertainty: Modification and Testing of the Autonomy Preference Index." International Collaboration in Nursing Ethics. October 2000.

Jeffers, Brenda. "Using Human Biological Material in Genetic Research: A Stewardship Model." Twenty-eighth annual Research Conference, 2001. October 2001.

Kossman, Susan. "Going On-line with R.N. to B.S.N. Students." Diversity in Nursing Education: Web of Challenges. June 2001.

Kossman, Susan. "How Welcoming is Nursing Education to Minorities?" Diversity in Nursing Education: Web of Challenges. June 2001.

Mallory, Caroline, "Conforming to Survival Sex and Women's Risk of HIV." Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference. March 2001.

Mallory, Caroline. "HIV Infection as a Catalyst for Changing Health." Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference. March 2001.

Publications

Jeffers, Brenda. Delegates Approve Revised Code of Ethics. Chart: *The Journal of the Illinois Nurses Association*. September/October 2001.

Jeffers, Brenda. Stewardship in the Age of Genetics: Ethical Issues. *Advances in Nursing Science, Nursing Ethics*, Vol. 24, No. 2. December 1, 2001.

Mallory, Caroline. Examining the Differences Between Researcher and Participant: An Intrinsic Element of Ground Theory. *Using Ground Theory in Nursing*. R. Schreiber and P. N. Stern. 2001.

Redding, Donna. Critical Thinking Disposition as It Relates to Academic Achievement. *Nurse Educator*. June-July 2001.

Donors continued from previous page

Stephanie and Timothy Shea
Ruth Shifflet
Janice and Don Sielaff
Christine and Allen Simms
Delores and Gerald Simpkins
Julie and Kenneth Sinnett
LaRue Sloan
Mary and Gary Slutz
Charles and Mary Smith
Jerry Smith
Judith and Charles Smith
Mary and Bernard Smith
Judith and Todd Somers
Sally and Rodger Sprague
Sandra and John Stanger
Donna and Ivan Stanwood
Glenn and Mary Stech
G. Luanne and Gary Steiner
Sarah Steiner
Deborah and Stephan Stenger
Carolyn Sities
Kelli Stoller
Jill Stoops
Loretta and Terry Strange
Patricia and Glade Stutzman
Esther and M. Willis Sutter
Janet and Dennis Sutter
Mary and Charles Sutton
Betty and James Swigart
Doris Teubel
Janette and Jeffrey Thompson
George and Patricia Tilton
Andrea and Robert Tirpak
Louise and Steve Todd
Laura and Daryl Tolan
Janette and Steve Toliver
Jennifer Toliver
Susan and David Towler
Mary and Donald Traglio
Lori and Bill Troyer
Janet and Frank Tuley
Teresa Ulrich
Jeanette and Dale Unzicker
Linda and Wesley Upchurch
Ruth and Richard Uphoff
Sue and William Valentine
Sonia and Tim Vercler
Kay and George Vincent
Sheila and Richard Voigt
Erin and Andrew Waite
Carolyn and Steve Walker
Shirley and William Walker
Shelley and Roderick Walters
Joseph Warner and Rose Stadel
Mary and Paul Watkins
Marlene Weichman
Daphne and John Wepprecht
Jerry and Sheila West
Sallie and Wendell Westfall

Continued on next page

Mennonite College of Nursing welcomes

Faculty

Mary Ryan Bailey began as a tenure-track faculty member at Mennonite College of Nursing this fall. Her education began at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she majored in biology and continued at St. Teresa in Winona, Minnesota, where she received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. In 1970 she graduated from Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center as a pediatric nurse practitioner. She has also received an M.S.N. in public health nursing, a post-master's degree for family nurse practitioner, and is working on her doctorate at Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Mary has an extensive background in both clinical experience and teaching experience. She has worked as a surgical RN, visiting nurse, community health nurse, pediatric nurse practitioner, public health nurse, and most recently as a family nursing practitioner for the Champaign-Urbana Health District. She has also been an LPN instructor, RN instructor, B.S.N. faculty at University of Illinois at Chicago, and an assistant professor of nursing at Lakeview College of Nursing.

Emily Schlenker began this past fall as a tenure-track faculty member. She received her basic nursing education from Lutheran Hospital School for Nurses in Moline. She also holds a B.A. in psychology from Augustana College, a B.S.N. from Marycrest College, a master's degree in community health nursing from Northern Illinois University,

and a doctorate in clinical psychology from Southern California University for Professional Studies. She has been a nurse and nurse educator, and loves what she does. "The students keep me on my toes, and I always learn from them."

She has had clinical practice experience in orthopedics, medical/surgical, and community health. She started and administered a family planning clinic for the Rock Island County Health Department and is finishing up a post-master's certificate in holistic nursing from Bethel College of Nursing, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

She is a reiki master teacher/practitioner and is also certified at level II-B in healing touch. In her spare times she practices in holistic nursing skills, designs outdoor healing spaces for clients, and has done presentations on holistic nursing for Michigan State University and other organizations.

She is now beginning a new project with Heritage Manor, where she hopes to teach some of Heritage's staff the techniques of reiki for them to use with Alzheimer's patients. This will be a very exciting endeavor for both Mennonite College of Nursing and Heritage Enterprises.

Staff

Kathleen Burger started working as the frontline secretary at Mennonite College of Nursing on August 27, 2001. She is a graduate of Normal Community High School and has worked on special projects at Mennonite in the past.

Donors continued from previous page

Linda Westfall-Hunt and William Hunt
Regina and Michael Wey
Kathleen and Roger Wiegand
Myra and Joseph Wiegand
Gary and Rita Wilkins
Glen and Elizabeth Wilkins
Kristi and Charles Williams
Verla and Donald Williams
Dr. Michelle and Leon Wipperfurth
Dr. Herbert and Janet Wisner
Dr. Craig and Dorothy Witte
Kathryn and Christopher Wood
DeAnn and Richard Worth
Doris and Robert Wortinger
Rosalee and Robert Wright
Ellen and Mark Wylie
Linda and Mario Yap
Marilou and Glen Yarbrough
Donna and Danny Yoder
Joan and John Yoder
Zetta Yoder
Charlene Young
Jeanice and Hank Young
Sally and Lynn Young
Sandra and David Young
Mary and Gregory Zappa
Christine Zimmerman
Peggy and Steven Zimmerman
Ann and Dave Zobrist
Mary and John Zonfrilli

With sympathy

- '52 Darlene (Oyer) Brooks lost her husband of 48-1/2 years, Herbert, to lung cancer on April 19, 2001. She has moved to 1 West Buchanan Avenue, Apartment 1, Charleston, Illinois 61920-2521, but will continue to spend mid-October to mid-April in Bradenton, Florida.
- '67 Jerold "Jerry" Reis, 56, of Lone Wolf, Oklahoma, died February 5, 2001, at his residence. He was born December 1, 1944, in Santa Monica, California, a son of Hugo Robert and Evelyn Miller Reis. He came to Chenoa with his parents at an early age. He joined the Army and studied at Fitzsimmons Hospital in Colorado before being sent to Vietnam, serving at a base hospital in Vung Tau. Upon returning from Vietnam he was sent to Medigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington, where he became a certified registered nurse anesthetist, earning the rank of captain. He followed that profession later in Illinois, Kentucky, Ohio, and California before going to Elkview Hospital in Hobart, Oklahoma, where he had worked for 10 years before his death.
- '80 Jeanette Gorecki, 52, of Bloomington died July 25, 2001, at BroMenn Regional Medical Center, Normal. She was born July 6, 1949, and was a 1967 graduate of Thornton Fractional North High School, Calumet City. She graduated in 1973 from Illinois State University with a B.A. in psychology. She received her registered nurse's license in 1980. She graduated in 1989 from Mennonite College of Nursing with a B.A. in nursing. She obtained her master's degree in nursing from University of Illinois at Chicago in 1995. Jeanette was employed as a registered nurse at BroMenn Regional Medical Center for 20 years, first in the medical unit and then as a charge nurse in the obstetrics unit. Jeanette was also employed by Carle Clinic, Bloomington, where she was nurse practitioner. In addition, Jeanette was a clinical instructor in obstetrics and pediatrics at Mennonite College of Nursing.

Educating Illinois

Mennonite College of Nursing is a leader in nursing education, and through the service commitments of faculty and students we will become a leader in public service and wellness promotion for communities surrounding Illinois State University. The Illinois State University Educating Illinois action plan encourages connections between faculty and students outside of the classroom in order to better educate students. Several projects have kept students and faculty busy with service activities, including participation in the Wellness program for faculty and staff at Illinois State, and the "adoption" of a local public grade school.

Several faculty members formed a team headed by Eileen Fowles to participate in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. This event raises money to fight cancer. It also increases community awareness of cancer and stimulates a real sense of relationship among the participants.

Mennonite College of Nursing students participated in blood pressure screenings for Illinois State faculty and staff throughout the year. Students take blood pressures and discuss preventive care. In the past, students have also participated in flu shot clinics and cholesterol screenings. This not only benefits the students, it helps the Illinois State University Wellness program provide service to faculty, staff, and students.

Faculty and students are continuing their work at Irving School, a public school in Bloomington District 87. Irving has been noted for its high percentage of disadvantaged students and works to meet the health care needs of the children with one nurse working at two schools. Holly Beoletto, school nurse and Mennonite alumna, is working with nursing students to educate them on the role of the school nurse. Last year Mennonite College of Nursing began working with Principal Mary Kaye Scharff to start a program to educate students on wellness promotion and illness prevention. In August backpacks with school supplies sponsored by Mennonite College of Nursing were distributed to all elementary students. On September 21 students and faculty hosted an assembly and were able to visit with students in the classrooms. This promises to be a positive experience for all involved. This experience will benefit Mennonite College of Nursing students through out-of-class experiences that connect and complement in-class curriculum. Irving students will benefit through wellness events and possible health career ideals.

Externship program initiated

Mennonite College of Nursing initiated an externship program this year to provide academic credit to students working full time in health-related jobs during the summer. This program is designed to provide nursing students the opportunity to become socialized into the professional nursing role and to observe and participate in the full continuum of patient care via daily collaboration with a nurse preceptor in a health care setting. The student, the preceptor, and the College of Nursing professional practice coordinator develop an individualized written learning contract. Students took advantage of the opportunities at several sites this summer.

Students spent eight weeks during the summer working 32 hours a week in different units at BroMenn. Students were assigned to preceptors in the emergency room, the cardiac critical care unit, and the general surgery area. Externships give students the opportunity to gain skills and knowledge in a specific area of the hospital as well as chance to experience nursing at its best. By working with preceptors, students have the opportunity to learn one-on-one. Preceptors are able to take the time to explain what is being done and why. Students are allowed to do assessments and see procedures they may not have the opportunity to experience during clinicals.

Kelly VanEtten who worked in cardiac critical care was given the opportunity to see an open-heart surgery. "It was defiantly the most exciting time during my externship." While working in cardiac critical care she also floated to the intensive care unit, where she witnessed procedures such as a bone marrow aspiration and a chest tube insertion. It is often difficult to get an opportunity to see these types of procedures until you go into the workforce. Her preceptor, Kelly Tellstrom, was a great help. "She was always telling me what we were doing and why it was being done."

Rita McQuinn was in the general surgery area. She enjoyed working with patients and felt that the externship gave her an opportunity to see what happens from the time patients are admitted until they are discharged. She said, "I got to know patients, and they appreciated me." This is one of the reasons she went into nursing. She also gained valuable information from her preceptor, Becky Clemens, along with the other staff in the general surgery area. Rita enjoyed working at BroMenn as an extern so much she has continued in the general surgery area as a nurse technician.

Rita and Kelly used this opportunity for an independent study to earn credit hours. Both students feel they are more confident and competent when dealing with patients now.

Externship sites hosting students

BroMenn Regional Medical Center
Carle Foundation Hospital, Champaign
Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago
Hoopston Community Memorial Hospital, Hoopston
Hope Children's Hospital, Oak Lawn
Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota
McLean County Health Department, Bloomington
Memorial Medical Center, Springfield
Methodist Medical Center, Peoria
OSF St. Francis Medical Center, Peoria
OSF St. Joseph's Hospital, Bloomington
St. Francis Hospital and Health Center, Blue Island
St. John's Hospital, Springfield
St. Joseph Medical Center Prompt Care, Bloomington
West Suburban Hospital, Oak Park

Transcultural experiences are real eye-openers for students

Mennonite College of Nursing's transcultural program is growing and providing students a way to gain professional experience in nontraditional ways. It is important for nurses to create an atmosphere in which patients feel comfortable and safe. One way of making this happen is to experience different cultures. During the summer of 2001, 16 students participated in this program, traveling to Lame Deer, Montana; Eastborne, England; Vladimir Russia; and San Antonio, Texas. All felt they grew as nurses from their experiences and recommend that others student nurses participate in the transcultural nursing program. Although each student's experience was different, students who participated were changed.

Cheryl Coleman, Jamie Quirum, and Jamie Whitmer were three of the eight students who traveled to Lame Deer, Montana, to work with nurses at the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Cheryl noted, "The people at the clinic were the best part of the trip. There were a lot of Native Americans working there...they all took care of us and made sure we were able to share in different experiences." Nurses on site would watch and assist as the students participated in clinical experiences. Jamie Quirum was excited about the "hands-on experience...doing IVs, triaging patients at the clinic and the emergency room, and giving immunization at the high school." Although Jamie Whitmer's experience was very pos-



Clinic nurses in Lame Deer, Montana.

itive, she was surprised by the way educated people are looked down upon and called "white man." "This makes health care delivery difficult," she said. All three student nurses were excited about the home health care nurses. "They are great. They do more than they need to do. One nurse put a park together." The home health nurses work in towns without running water and few phones, but they were very involved with community development. Cheryl said, "We all had a great time in Montana. Several of us have talked about going back for a visit."

Lisa Lenger traveled to Eastborne, England, and stayed at a hospital campus. Lisa worked on the medical unit. The patient population tended to be elderly. Lisa pointed out that although clinical

practices in Eastborne were very similar to those practiced in U.S. hospitals, nurses are not trained to do in-depth inspection of patients. "Nurses do not use stethoscopes...or contribute to patient assessments. Doctors are the ones who do basic assessment." One of Lisa's biggest surprises was the fact that nurses do not take tests to work in the nursing field; instead they write papers. Students are paid to go to nursing school and work in a clinical setting while they are in school. Students are not required to attend classes that do not pertain to the type of nursing they will do. For instance, a nursing student who will work in cardiac is not required to attend classes about pediatric care. Lisa pointed out, "The nurses know the information, but they are not tested. You are a nurse if you graduate from school." Nurses in England are content to be traditional in their nursing role. Lisa questioned her preceptor about this. The nurses in Eastborne feel their most important job is basic care and comfort measures. Lisa came back from England appreciating the level of education she is exposed to and the opportunities nurses in the United State are given.

"There really is no fair way to compare the hospitals in Russia to the hospitals here in the United States" was Amy Crawford's first thought when asked to compare the health care system in Russia and the United States. The constant need for supplies and dated equipment make health care delivery

in Russia very difficult. Amy talked about her experience: "I worked in a wound-dressing ward for a day and was given one pair of disposable gloves to wear for that day. Masks for surgery are made from bandage material and reused. Needles are sharpened and reused. Syringes are all glass and are reused. In Russian society, working in health care is not necessarily a high-status position as it is here in the United States. The doctors at Sobinka make about \$30 to \$50 a month. A person can make a lot more money as a taxi driver than they can as a doctor." After arriving in Russia, Amy quickly realized that the most important thing to do is to build relationships. If you know people, things can get done. Although her trip to Russia was a "heartbreaking" one, Amy was pleased with her experiences and comes back to Mennonite with a new perspective. She came back with the a different outlook: "I think that the most valuable lesson for me was to learn to be patient and to be flexible. Life is very different in Russia."

Mennonite College of Nursing continues to challenge and enlighten students through its transcultural program. It is important for students to experience other cultures and health care systems. Students study cultural care diversity at Mennonite, but nothing compares to the actual experience of being in a place. These experiences forever change the lives of the student nurses who participate in them.

Oyer retires after almost half a century

Romeyn Oyer, Class of 1951, retired after 47 years in nursing. Romeyn always new she wanted to help people. She started school at Illinois State Normal University to become a teacher but decided to switch gears and go to Mennonite School of Nursing. She graduated in 1951 and went to work as an assistant nursing arts instructor at Mennonite School of Nursing and then in 1956 as a clinical instructor. After three years, she decided she needed more hands-on experience. She thought she would be a staff nurse but instead was appointed to head nurse. "That's my favorite job" Oyer said.

"Talk and comfort measures are so important. I still like feeding patients," she said. "It's so rewarding—if someone doesn't feel like eating and you can provide some encouragement, it's very important." Nursing has changed through the years to include more technical jobs and assessments. "I enjoy nursing today. We still have contact with patients and families. And, we can do so much with them—the techniques, materials, and medications. We can get people out so much quicker."

Romeyn has been volunteering at the Community Health Care Clinic and her church. She noted that she would miss friends in BroMenn's medical unit. She retired August 30. She has worked with students at Mennonite School of Nursing, at Mennonite Hospital in Bloomington, and then at BroMenn Regional Medical Center in Normal. She was recently recognized by district six of the Illinois Nurses Association for the work she had done with them as well as for being a role model for professional nursing behavior. Romeyn serves on the Board of Directors of the Mennonite College of Nursing Alumni Organization.

Student nurses group growing

Students who attend Mennonite College of Nursing are busy but have always managed to be active in student activities both at the college and in the community. The meeting attendance for the Student Nurses Association (SNA) has been between 50 and 70 students. SNA meetings are held twice monthly on Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. in Moulton Hall 214 because the group has become too large to meet in Edwards Hall.

From October 12 to 14, President Cheryl Coleman and two other SNA members attended the Student Nurses Association of Illinois convention in Peoria. Alice Deavers, president of the Mennonite College of Nursing Alumni Board spoke at the October 9 meeting. SNA member Kate Jajkowski is SNA's student delegate to the alumni board in hopes of fostering a stronger relationship with its members.

The students have a busy schedule for the coming months, including speakers, recruitment activities, and service projects.

SNA schedule

December 4, 2001

Lunch provided by extern speakers
Prize drawings
Faculty potluck (12/6)
Children's holiday party
Summer externship information

January 22, 2002

Gondolas provided/Prize drawings
Semester overview
Discuss:

- Spring banquet (3/29)
- Habitat for Humanity
- Homeless shelter
- Blood drive assistance
- Elections
- Blood pressure dates at the Rec Center

February 12 and 26, 2002

Bake sale
Health Career Fair with Placement Services (2/14)
Blood drive
Blood pressure clinic
Discuss:

- Spring banquet (3/29)
- Election nominations

March 5 and 26, 2002

Elections (3/26)
Bake sale
Habitat for Humanity
Spring banquet (3/29)
Blood pressure clinic
Blood drive

April 16 and 30, 2002

New officers (4/16)
Potluck/Door prizes (4/30)
Bake sale
SpringFest on the Quad
Blood pressure clinic

Giving thanks at year's end...

By Dorothy Witte
Director of Development
Mennonite College of
Nursing
dmwitte@ilstu.edu
(309) 438-3134



A thoughtful gift is always meaningful, whatever the time of year. However, as the last days of 2001 "tick away," don't forget to take advantage of the opportunity to make a charitable contribution and perhaps reduce your taxable income at the same time. Your year-end gift to Mennonite College of Nursing may reduce your income tax, while providing meaningful support for us.

Giving is, of course, more than tax brackets and charitable deductions. It is a message of appreciation...a "thank-you" for past blessings...a means of

sharing with others...a way to make a difference. Whatever your motivation, current tax laws provide incentives for you to express your charitable spirit.

Our federal government encourages charitable giving by providing significant tax benefits when a gift is made to a qualified organization. A gift may be made in a number of ways, including cash, securities, real estate, and personal property. Through careful planning, you can identify the option that best fits your situation

Looking to the future...

In addition to gifts made as part of a year-end review of finances, don't overlook the need to develop long-range estate and financial planning. Becoming a philanthropist, creating a lasting legacy for future generations, can be accomplished through your will, life insurance, and retirement plans. You have the power to make dreams come true.

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University welcomes your charitable support

Based on your wishes, your contribution can be used for general support or applied to specific areas of need such as scholarship, research, equipment and technology, faculty support, etc. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yes! I want to give. I am including a cash gift of \$_____

(Note: In order to qualify as a 2001 gift, make sure the mailing envelope is postmarked by December 31, 2001.

Mail your gift to Illinois State University, Dorothy Witte, Director of Development, Campus Box 3060, Normal, IL 61790-3060.)

Please designate my gift to the following:

- 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

Please make your check payable to *Illinois State University Foundation* and write "Mennonite College of Nursing" on the memo line to ensure correct deposit. Complete the form below and enclose it with your gift.

NAME	GRADUATION YEAR
DEGREE(S)	
POSITION	
MAILING ADDRESS	
CITY	STATE ZIP

Looking for unrestricted bequest language for your will?

"I give, devise, and bequeath (the sum of \$_____/_____ percentage, or the residue of my estate) to Illinois State University Foundation, its successors or assigns, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation, to further the objectives and purposes of the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University."

Progress notes

- '52 Darlene (Oyer) Brooks welcomed two grandchildren. Her son, David, and his wife, Linda, adopted two children from Guatemala.
- '65 Christine (Leman) Klopfenstien is the charge nurse at The Cedars Nursing Home in Grabill, Indiana.
- '69 Charla Wyse Roth is teaching at Iowa Wesleyan College in the R.N.-B.S.N. program. She is also a doctoral student at the University of Iowa with a focus on women's health research. She and her husband, Larry, live in Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Her daughter, Julie Miller, and granddaughter, Taylor, are in Sarasota, Florida. Her other daughter, Jennifer, is a recent graduate of University of Iowa Law School and lives in Littleton, Colorado.
- '81 Pamela Ward was married to Thomas Norris July 1, 2001, at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church. Pamela is a nurse practitioner employed by OSF Medical Group.
- '81 Cynthia Murphy Ptasnik is the director of Americans Adopting Orphans, an international adoption agency. She relies on her nursing education to help the families and children she serves. Americans Adopting Orphans has three international adoption programs in China, Vietnam, and Cambodia.
- '94 Andrea (Luebbering) Childers was married June 2, 2001, to Jason Childers. She is working as a pediatric intensive care nurse at Children's Hospital in Chicago.
- '95 Amy (Conroy) Fitzpatrick was married in June and started on master's PNP this fall.
- '95 Meg (LaForge) Stockings and husband Tom welcomed Benjamin James on March 17, 2001. Meg is a surgical nurse at Howard Young Medical Center.
- '96 Kelli Fink of Colorado Springs was married October 14, 2000, to Mark Peterson. She is working at Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs as an emergency room nurse.
- '97 Keri LaDuke-Miller gave birth to a baby girl, Audrey Lynn, March 5, 2001.
- '97 Angela (Dennis) Michael and her husband, Tom, along with big sister Megan welcomed Lauren Elaine on March 7, 2001. Angela is working as a pediatric nurse at Decatur Memorial Hospital.
- '98 Angela Watkins married Travis Birdsell.
- '98 Elizabeth Witmar married Nathan Scott.
- '99 Natalie Hawn married Ryan Beckley.
- '99 Angie (Nolan) Johnson married Alex Johnson '99 on July 14, 2001. Alex works at BroMenn Regional Medical Center in the intensive care unit, and Angie works at McLean County Orthopedics.
- '99 Melissa Mundwiler welcomed son Sumner Anthony Strom on June 19, 2001. She has been working as a family nurse practitioner for Kewanee Family Clinics (Kewanee Hospital) since October 2000.

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, Mennonite 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			

Thai university faculty member visits

Piriya Supparsri visited Mennonite College of Nursing this September. She is a faculty member in nursing in the maternal and child department at Burapha University in Chonburi, Thailand. Burapha offers a Bachelor of Nursing Science; a Master of Nursing Science with focuses in community nursing, adult nursing, family nursing, gerontological nursing, and nursing administration; and will have a Ph.D. program beginning in 2004. There are approximately 550 B.S.N. students, 150 R.N. to B.S.N. students, and 50 master's students (10 in each focus). They also have a part-time program on Friday and Saturday in Jantaburi, Thailand, with 50 students. The Thai Nursing Council will be eliminating two-year programs of nursing and require all nursing degrees to be four year B.S.N. degrees.

The Nursing College in Thailand is divided into several departments, including community nursing, maternal and child nursing, medical and surgical nursing, mental health and psychiatric nursing, basic science in nursing, and research evaluation and nursing administration. The college mission is to provide its community and other regions of Thailand with high-quality care services by putting the emphasis on health promotion. They promote academic excellence in research both nationally and internationally, and dis-

tribute results through national and international media.

While at Illinois State University, Piriya participated in several college events, including community activities, clinical experiences, and classes. She attended the "Near- and Long-Term Changes in the Nursing Workforce: A Regional Nursing Conference." She participated in an assembly and visited classes at Irving School, a local public school that Mennonite College of Nursing has "adopted." She went to a mother/child clinical at BroMenn Regional Center and to a community health clinical in Livingston County among others. She also attended undergraduate and graduate classes, including "Patho Basis," "Family Nurse Practitioner III," and "Diagnostic Reasoning." Although there are differences in culture and technology, the health care delivery system here is similar to that of Thailand.

A large part of Burapha University's mission is to strengthen the abilities of nurses nationally and internationally through cooperation with international nursing institutes. Mennonite College of Nursing is developing a transcultural program with Burapha. This will involve faculty and student exchanges. Burapha has international collaborations in Australia, the United States, Canada, China, and Vietnam.

Non-Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Illinois State
University

Mennonite College of Nursing
Campus Box 5810
Normal, IL 61790-5810



ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY