

Retired nurse, Red Cross volunteer creates scholarship fund

Vivian Stockdale has established a nursing scholarship fund through the Illinois State University Foundation to help pay the educational costs of students who are pursuing a nursing degree from Mennonite College of Nursing.

Stockdale is retired from the military and involved in Red Cross blood drives. She served in the Navy for four years in hospital settings, providing nursing services. She was called up as a reservist for another 18 months during the Korean War. She is a

longtime resident of the McLean County area and a dedicated volunteer for the local Red Cross chapter. She is aware of the nursing shortage and hopes that the scholarship will help a Mennonite student who needs financial assistance.

The Vivian Stockdale Nursing Scholarship Fund is an "open fund" 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) 438-3134.

Yes! I want to make a gift to the Vivian Stockdale Nursing Scholarship Fund.

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

Please make your check payable to Illinois State University Foundation and write "Vivian Stockdale Nursing Scholarship Fund" on the memo line to ensure its correct deposit. Mail your gift to Illinois State University, Dorothy Witte, Director of Development, Mennonite College of Nursing, Campus Box 3060, Normal, IL 61790-3060.

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The Flame

MENNONITE COLLEGE OF NURSING AT ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2002

Hartford Institute awards college \$90,000

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing in collaboration with The John A. Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing awarded the Mennonite College of Nursing a \$90,000 grant this spring to assist with incorporating more geriatric best-practice content into all the undergraduate clinical courses. Researchers at the Hartford Institute identified areas of need and have published a curriculum guide, which includes geriatric best-practice topics and information to include in the curriculum.

Four Mennonite College of Nursing faculty—Associate Professor Brenda Jeffers, Associate Dean and Assistant Professor Sara Campbell, Instructional Assistant Professor Dianne Clemens, and Instructional Assistant Professor Camille Little—will lead the faculty in developing modules for every undergraduate clinical course to assure the inclusion of best practices in geriatric nursing content. Jeffers and Little are working on an ethics module for the "Leadership/Management" class and plan to complete a module by May 2002. This module will serve as the prototype for course module development. As faculty develop course modules, those faculty with experience in the process will assist others as necessary to ensure that all modules are developed and infused into the current coursework. Collaboration among the faculty is a key element of the project.

The title of the project, "Creating Innovative Strategies in Nursing Education to Improve Care of the Older Adult," reflects the focus: assuring that Mennonite nursing students receive the best education regarding provision of quality nursing care to the elderly. The classroom experience for the students will be enhanced through the addition of the new curriculum modules and the use of state-of-the-art technology. As the modules are developed they will be placed on the World Wide Web for use by any interested school of nursing. In addition, stu-



dents may be more inclined to consider careers in nursing homes, which will make a difference in the current and future staffing projections of nurse shortages in such facilities across the country.

One interesting aspect of the design of the modules is the plan to incorporate the use of Illinois State University theatre students to provide visual medical scenarios for nursing students. Members of the Hartford team are collaborating with the Theatre Department to arrange for theatre students to act out case studies (provided in the Hartford best-practices curriculum) to be filmed on video and used in the modules. The filming of these clinical scenarios will occur in Mennonite's clinical nursing laboratory at Edwards Hall. The video clips will enhance learning and enrich the classroom experiences of nursing students.

A kickoff event for the Hartford project was held on Tuesday, April 16, 2002, in the Founders Suite at Edwards Hall. Beth Barba, Ph.D., R.N.C., an associate professor from the University of North Carolina in Greensboro, presented "Caring for the Geriatric Client: Generating Student Enthusiasm in the Classroom." Barba provided information about collaborative learning strategies, instructor resource manuals, nursing care of the older adult, and clinical strategies. Brenda Jeffers commented on Barba's

Continued on page 3

Mennonite College of Nursing
and Alumni Association
Calendar of events

July 4, 2002
Independence Day*

August 19, 2002
Fall classes begin

September 2, 2002
Labor Day*

September 12, 2002
Mary Lightfine presentations

October 4-6, 2002
Homecoming 2002

October 11, 2002
Fall break day

**November 28, 2002-
December 1, 2002**
Thanksgiving break*

December 13, 2002
Fall semester ends

December 14, 2002
Commencement

December 24-January 1
Christmas break*

January 13, 2003
Spring classes begin

January 20, 2003
Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

May 26, 2003
Memorial Day*

* University closed

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Dean's message

Many exciting things are happening at Mennonite College of Nursing. In the last issue of *The Flame* we reported that the Commission on Col-



legiate Nursing Education (CCNE) would be conducting the accreditation site visit April 3-5. I am pleased to announce that the CCNE site visitors during their verbal report indicated that they are forwarding to the accreditation board: "No recommendations; all standards have been met." This is unprecedented in that very rarely are there no recommendations. There are still a few steps of the process, so we will not have official notification until midway through the fall semester. I wish to extend thanks to everyone who has made this achievement possible. Thank you to alumni who continue to be ambassadors for the college. Your contributions to nursing have brought the college this success. Thank you to faculty and staff who have worked to continue the tradition of excellence. Thank you to the students who provide constant inspiration. Thank you to the advisory committee and to the employers of our graduates. All of you have contributed to the legacy that is Mennonite College of Nursing.

Some of you may be wondering about the current accreditation by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The college has decided to seek CCNE accreditation and not to seek reaccreditation by NLNAC. This decision was made after careful deliberation. In response to requests from baccalaureate and higher degree programs for an accrediting process that addressed B.S.N. and graduate program needs, CCNE was formed. Mennonite College of Nursing has chosen to achieve CCNE accreditation because it was deemed to more closely reflect our values. We have not lost NLNAC accreditation; rather, we have cho-

sen not to spend the financial and human resources necessary to maintain two separate accreditations.

Mennonite College of Nursing students continue to excel. Several of our students were elected to state offices in the Illinois Student Nurses Association: Cheryl Coleman, president; Jamie Schwarz, secretary-treasurer; Kate Jajkowski, director of publications; and Nicole Riley, director of marketing. At the recent national convention in Philadelphia, the college's chapter of the Student Nurses Association received the Membership Retention Award from the national organization.

Faculty achievements continue to bring recognition to the program. Sara Campbell has been selected for leadership fellowships with Sigma Theta Tau International and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Heather Reynolds, a certified nurse-midwife at Yale University, served as a visiting minority scholar at Illinois State University this spring.

As the state budget constricts, Mennonite College of Nursing is seeking funds to support our innovative projects. Brenda Jeffers and Sara Campbell have received a Hartford Institute grant to support geriatric curriculum innovation, and Susan Kossman has received a grant to expand the R.N. to B.S.N. program on-line. The University has announced a capital campaign to increase its endowment. We appreciate the support we are receiving from the community. For example, the BroMenn Auxiliary has contributed a significant amount toward the purchase of our second simulation robot, and BroMenn Health Care has pledged to establish a BroMenn Professorship in Nursing.

Homecoming is October 4-6. Hope to see you then!

Nancy Ridenour
nriden@ilstu.edu
(309) 438-7400

Associate dean active in professional circles

The past year was a busy one for Mennonite College of Nursing faculty, including Associate Dean Sara Campbell, who is no stranger to service and scholarship. Named a Chiron Fellow with Sigma Theta Tau and a University of Iowa 2002 Summer Scholar, she also was chosen this past March as an AACN Leadership for Academic Nursing Program Fellow.

Campbell was one of five Chiron Fellows worldwide to participate in Sigma Theta Tau's International Leadership Institute, which sponsors a fellow-mentor program centered on development leaders for healthy communities. This is a 12-month program in which she will develop a community project, working under the expertise of her mentor, Angela McBride, Ph.D.,



R.N., F.A.A.N., distinguished professor and university dean at Indiana School of Nursing. The project focuses on Mennonite College of Nursing's commitment to addressing the needs of the community in which it is embedded, particularly the community's nursing-workforce needs. The project will cul-

minate with the development of a three- to five-year plan for Mennonite College of Nursing that addresses the role of the college in leadership for a healthier community.

Campbell's selection for the University of Iowa's 2002 Summer Scholars seminar will be an asset to Mennonite College of Nursing's partnership with Heritage Enterprises. The seminar is focused in the area of gerontological nursing research. The University of Iowa is a leader in gerontological research. This program pairs the scholars with nursing gerontological research experts to further develop a program of research and prepare a grant proposal in the area of geriatrics. Campbell will stay at the University of Iowa for one week in June as part of this program.

In March she was selected as a fellow for the AACN Leadership for Academic Nursing Program, which is funded by the Helene Fuld Health Trust. This program is designed to prepare and move fellows toward achievement of an academic chief administrative nursing position. In the course of one year, fellows participate in two retreats and are paired with an academic mentor. Each fellow develops his/her goals related to leadership in academic nursing programs.

As associate dean at Mennonite College of Nursing, Campbell's ability to work with programs at national and international levels helps give the college a voice in the nursing community.

Hartford Institute continued from page 1

presentation: "Dr. Barba's work in the development of geriatric curriculum has received recognition by The John A. Hartford Institute, making her an ideal speaker to generate faculty enthusiasm for geriatric curricular revisions."

A newsletter, *Hartford Happenings*, is produced by the team as an avenue for disseminating information about the project to faculty and to keep them

posted on current and upcoming activities related to the project. A new volume of the newsletter will be distributed quarterly to keep faculty apprised of and involved in the module development process. "This grant provides an excellent opportunity for cross-discipline collaboration to improve geriatric care. It is exciting to work with the theatre students and to incorporate suggestions from nurses practicing in gerontology. Mennonite College of Nursing is developing learning materials that can be used nationwide," said Dean Nancy Ridenour.

Beth Barba, during her presentation "Caring for the Geriatric Client: Generating Student Enthusiasm in the Classroom."



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Nurse selected as resident minority scholar

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This past March the Illinois State University Office of Student Affairs sponsored Heather Reynolds as a minority scholar in residence. Mennonite College of Nursing was honored that a nurse was selected. Heather Reynolds, M.S.N., C.N.M., F.A.C.N.M., an associate professor at Yale



University School of Nursing, is the clinical director of nurse-midwifery and Yale School of Nursing faculty practice. While at Illinois State she was able to study relationships that exist between students and faculty, see the quality of student life,

glean some insight into research at an international level, and experience relationships Mennonite College of Nursing has with the community.

Reynolds shared her experiences with a diverse group of students, staff, and faculty across the Illinois State University campus. She talked with Mennonite College of Nursing students and students who might consider nursing as a profession. She noted that relationships that exist between students and faculty at Mennonite College are much like mentorship relationships. She also visited BroMenn Medical Center, one of Mennonite's student-clinical sites and attended several nursing classes, including "Parent Child Nursing," "Community Health Nursing," and "Family Nurse Practitioner."

Reynolds also was able to speak with the Irving Elementary School third grade about becoming a nurse. She thinks it's wonderful that Mennonite partners with the community in programs such as

the "adoption" of Irving Elementary School and the nursing home. She would like to see more colleges develop such relationships with their communities, saying, "These partnerships offer needed assistance to the community while providing nursing students with valuable learning experiences."

While here, Reynolds met with the international students program faculty and staff, and discussed research interests with graduate students. "I got a lot of useful information from the International Studies program faculty and staff regarding how to find resources to increase my cultural competence of the South African culture." Before leaving, she presented "Centering Pregnancy: A Model of Group Prenatal Care" at Bone Student Center for students, faculty/staff, and the public. This model may offer strategies that can be utilized in South Africa to promote risk reduction behaviors to decrease HIV transmission in that population.

This was a valuable experience for both Reynolds and Illinois State University. "Illinois State has an extraordinary campus with incredible support systems available for students," she said. Mennonite College of Nursing hopes that by having the opportunity to share our nursing school with minority scholars we are also able to learn more about others and how we can affect those around us.



St. Joseph's administrator joins Mennonite Advisory Council

Debra Smith, assistant administrator of patient services at St. Joseph's Medical Center, is the newest member of the Mennonite College of Nursing Advisory Council. St. Joseph's offer its facilities for nursing students' clinical experiences and provides nursing preceptors for student externships.

The council was established in 1999 to serve as an advisory body to the dean of Mennonite College of Nursing. Enhancing nursing education, practice, research, and management opportunities for the benefits of all advisory council members are the main goals of the council. An additional focus for Mennonite College of Nursing is to create a center for excellence in nursing education.

Member organizations represented on the council provide clinical opportunities and host preceptors for Mennonite nursing students. Representatives from six other health care organizations also serve on the council, including Marsha Prater of Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, Pat Thornton of BroMenn Health Care, Pam Bigler of Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana, Rose Stadel of Heritage Manor in Normal, and Joe Warner of Heritage Enterprises in Bloomington.

One previous activity of the advisory council was to complete a study titled "What are the Ideal Qualities of a New Nurse Graduate?" This study provided helpful information regarding essential

characteristics needed by new nursing graduates. This information is incorporated into Mennonite coursework to assure that Mennonite graduates are the preferred nursing staff of local and area medical organizations. Results of this study indicate that the ideal graduate is capable in every way possible. The ideal graduate is first and foremost an honest, self-aware, and compassionate human being. The ideal graduate is also an adaptable individual, able to prioritize and become a lifelong learner. Furthermore, the ideal graduate is accountable for his/her practice, able to connect with people, and exhibits a positive attitude. The study also identified areas of concern related to new graduates as a whole. These areas of concern will provide a springboard for determining how the college can improve its undergraduate curriculum.

Currently the council is focusing on disseminating the results of the focus-group study to benefit our regional partners and the discipline of nursing as a whole.

Dean Nancy Ridenour commented on the importance of the advisory council to the future development of Mennonite College of Nursing: "The advisory council provides invaluable support and linkages to the health care community. Welcome to Deb and OSF!"

Students learn about poverty

Thirty-seven Mennonite College of Nursing students participated in a role-playing program on September 7, 2001, with the University of Illinois Extension Office. The idea grew out of an experience students had at the Home Sweet Home Mission last year. Most students do not understand poverty, having come from families who have homes, cars, and health insurance.

Student nurse Amy Crawford participated in this poverty simulation last year while working with the John M. Scott Health Center through the local University of Illinois Extension. Faculty member Dianne Clemens heard about this opportunity and contacted Sandy McGhee with the U. of I. Extension Office to set up a poverty simulation at Mennonite College of Nursing for students enrolled in the psychiatric nursing clinical.

With little other information, psychiatric nursing students took on the roles of people living in poverty (for example, young, unwed mothers and senior citizens on fixed incomes). They were given an income and a list of expenses, including utilities, rent, and food. People in poverty are stigmatized, as are people who are mentally ill. So for those who are mentally ill and poor it is a "double whammy." Community leaders who had already been through this poverty simulation volunteered to represent welfare agents, police officers, social workers, and teachers.

This exercise gave psychiatric nursing students the opportunity to experience (rather than be lectured about) how much work it takes to get help and how those who give help are not always sympathetic. After this exercise, students will have more understanding of what poor patients face and as nurses will learn how they can be supportive when they encounter clients.

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Work with Irving School continues

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Mennonite College of Nursing students and faculty continue to work with Irving School, a public school in Bloomington District 87, to give the elementary students the opportunity to learn more about wellness and careers in nursing. This spring many events were hosted by Irving School, giving Mennonite students the opportunity to use their nursing skills.

Community health nursing students recently completed their second Health Fair. This is a great time for Irving students to learn about healthy eating, hygiene, and safety. During the last school year, six psychiatric nursing students did teaching projects with Irving students, covering topics such as self-esteem and conflict resolution. Two other psychiatric nursing students planned and facilitated a Health Fair during which they taught Irving students stress-management techniques. Periodically community health nursing and psychiatric health nursing students present lessons in Irving School classes.

Mennonite College of Nursing nurse practitioner students and professors completed school physicals on 15 Irving students at the school. Mennonite is hoping to make this an annual activity. Denise Wilson is working on plans to return in August to complete more physicals.

On March 20, 2002, Heather Reynolds, our visiting minority scholar from Yale School of Nursing, provided a 45-minute presentation/discussion to about 45 third grade Irving students regarding her educational experiences and work in nursing. She provided gifts of ink pens and a stuffed animal of Yale's mascot to the students. They enjoyed her vis-



its and asked a lot of questions about nursing and her background. Rita Chaney provided nursing recruitment posters to the principal, Mary Kay Scharf, to post in classrooms to encourage children of both sexes and all races to consider nursing as a career.

Chaney has also submitted a grant for an after-school program to encourage positive hygiene and educate Irving students about nursing careers. She is also in the final stages of completing two other grants to submit. One is for an anger-management program and the other is for a Dental Fair to provide preventative oral education to students.

The adoption of Irving School has proven to be a positive experience for both Mennonite College of Nursing and Irving School. The commitment of faculty and students to public service not only enhances the in-class curriculum, but also encourages learning outside of the classroom while providing a needed service to the Bloomington-Normal community.

New employees

Marilyn Mehl began work May 13, 2002. She comes to Mennonite College of Nursing from University Housing Services, where she worked for two years. Prior to joining the University staff, she worked at BroMenn for 18 years, most recently in the clinical education department and emergency/trauma services. She is secretary for the associate dean and directors.

Jeff Grabb is the new coordinator of software for Mennonite College of Nursing. He is finishing a thesis—which centers on critical

assessment of power structures, the Supreme Court, and digital technology—for his master's in the Department of Communication. His graduate coursework included research in communication technologies, ethics, and regulation and critical theory. Jeff also has a background in public relations and campaign design, having run a campus media event and special speaking occasion "The Doomsday Asteroid" in the fall of 1998 as a senior in speech communication. During his graduate career he had an assistantship with the College of Education and was a lab manager, computer technologist, and multimedia designer. He served as

Nurses' Week

Due to finals week Mennonite College of Nursing celebrated National Nurses' Week April 29-May 3, 2002. Mennonite alumni provided care packs and food for students and faculty.



technical consultant on a number of grant proposals and projects, and developed numerous CD-ROM instructional tools in partnership with Professors Jerry Jinks and Tony Lorsbach. From this assistantship, Jeff developed a skills in multimedia and digital video, which he has since pursued as his career path.

Since coming to Mennonite, Jeff has been involved with the Hartford grant as a multimedia designer and technical assistant, and serves as a general resource for multimedia and software support.

Rita Chaney is a coordinator for Mennonite College of Nursing, assisting faculty with grant writing and program development for Irving School. In addition, she assists Amy Irving with events planning and handles other duties as assigned. Rita has a master's degree in clinical psychology and formerly was the director of foster care at The Children's Foundation. She has several years of experience working in community and child welfare settings, providing supervision, case management, mental health assessment, counseling, and therapy.

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Students serve in several state association posts



Mennonite College of Nursing is home to several members of the Student Nurses' Association of Illinois (SNAI) Board. Cheryl Coleman, past Student Nursing Association (SNA) president at Mennonite, is SNAI president; Jamie Schwarz is secretary-treasurer; Kate Jajkowski is director of publications; and Nicole Riley is director of marketing. For several months they have been busy recruiting, planning for the annual SNAI convention, and traveling to the national convention.

As president of the Student Nurses' Association of Illinois, Coleman has worked toward recruiting new members. "I want each and every nursing student in Illinois to benefit from membership in NSNA and SNAI." She has been busy planning SNAI's 53rd annual convention to be held October 4-6, 2002, in Peoria at the Holiday Inn City Center. "This is one of the best ways I know to revitalize and renew your commitment to nursing," she said. SNA and SNAI are a beneficial way for students to become involved and begin to make a difference in the nursing profession.

Schwarz, past secretary for SNA at Mennonite, also has been working toward increasing membership in NSNA and SNAI as well as inspiring others to be a part of the nursing profession. As director of SNAI publications, Jajkowski is responsible for the publication of the SNAI newsletter, *Vital Issues*, twice per year. Riley has been director of marketing since November and is responsible for contacting and recruiting possible exhibitors, sponsors, and advertisers for the SNAI winter workshop, convention, and *Vital Issues*.

These students are not only involved at the local and state level, but recently had the opportunity to attend the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) 50th Anniversary Convention in Philadelphia. For one day during their trip they were also able to visit New York City. The NSNA convention brought together 5,000 nursing students from every state and Canada. While in attendance, members of the Student Nurses' Association of Illinois received an award for the SNAI/Illinois Nurses' Association (INA) mentorship program.

The SNAI/INA mentorship program is designed to help students become members of SNAI. Members of INA sponsor the membership of a nursing student in the Student Nurses' Association of Illinois. The INA member and student are then able to keep in contact throughout the year, giving students the opportunity to have a mentor in the nursing profession. Amanda Seidemann, past vice president of SNA at Mennonite, and Schwarz, both students at Mennonite, also traveled to Philadelphia. They are involved in the SNAI/INA program, and each was chosen recently to receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the District 7 (Peoria area) Illinois Nurses' Association for their active participation.

These Mennonite College of Nursing students have displayed leadership ability by serving on the Board of Directors of the Student Nurses' Association of Illinois. They are also promoting professional growth by working with nurses in the profession to create opportunities for students at Mennonite College of Nursing and other nursing students statewide.



May 2002 graduates

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Continued on page 10

Alumni award nominations wanted

The Mennonite Nurses Alumni Administrative Board is seeking nomination 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 been held in high regard by peers and the community.

Past recipients include Elva Carr '22 in 1981; Elaine Reynold '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; Shell 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 '82 in 1995, Mary Ann Watkins '62 in 1996; Elfrieda Ramseyer '58 in 1997; Romeyn Oyer '51 in 1998; Karen Hildreth '59 in 1999, Beverly Tipsord-Klinkhammer '81 in 2000, Sue McGinnes '72 and '98 in 2001, and Jeanne Malcom Widener '76 in 2001.

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 Ann Kirchner '82, '87, received the award in 1997. Mary Slutz '83 received the award in 1998, Diane L. Radmer Whipple '85 in 1999, and Sara Campbell '86 in 2000.

Nominations for either or both awards may be made by anyone and sent to the Alumni Administrative Board before July 30, 2002. 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

Return Nominations to Illinois State University, Mennonite College of Nursing, Campus box 5810, Normal, IL 61790-5810

Faculty News

Graduates continued from page 8

Christine Pfeffer
Ashley Price
Nicole Riley
Carolyn Sanders
Lisa Scanlon
Erika Schlatter
Angela Schmahl
Krista Schoeling
Allison Schroeder
Jamie Schwarz
Darcy Scott
Amanda Seidelmann
Mary Shannon
Rachel Sheets
Kristina Shindel
Keli Sidebottom
Karin Stahl
Kelci Steen
Lori Stoller
Maureen Stouffer
Mandi Strzesak
Rayna Swindle
Cassandra Vandersteen
Kelli VanEtten
Amy Voss
Larae Wagener
Elizabeth Weber
Christina Williams
Dawn Williams
Kathryn Wilson
Brenda Yeager

Continued on next page

Accomplishments

Sara Campbell passed the ANCC certification exam for advanced nursing administration.

Grant funding

Eileen Fowles received a \$3,500 award from the American Nurses Foundation for her study titled "Nutritional Adequacy in Low-Income Pregnant Women."

Brenda Jeffers and **Sara Campbell** received an AACN/John A. Hartford Institute grant of \$90,000 for "Creating Innovative Strategies in Nursing Education to Improve Care of the Older Adult."

Susan Kossman has been approved for a \$50,000 grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education for work with the on-line baccalaureate completion program.

Caroline Mallory's "Feasibility of Conduction an Intervention to Protect Women from HIV: Part One, A Record Search and Part Two, Participation Survey" were approved March 19, 2002. She also received a \$2,500 grant from the Illinois State University Center for Advancement of Teaching for a grant titled "Describing the Relationship between Professional Work Experience, Academic Performance, and Postgraduate Performance Among Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University Students."

Cindy Sullivan received a \$1,000 Mennonite College of Nursing New Investigator Award for her project titled "A Descriptive Study of Attitude Toward and Incidence of Gambling Among College Athletes."

The following faculty members received Illinois State University research grants:

Mary Bailey received \$2,721 for her proposal titled "Gender Differences in Patterns of Depressive Symptoms of School Age Children."

Sara Campbell received \$4,178 for her proposal titled "Best Practices in Nursing Care of Elderly in Long-Term Care Setting: A Needs Assessment."

Eileen Fowles received \$4,177 for her proposal "Development of the Perceived Barriers to Healthy Eating Scale: A Methodological Study."

Brenda Jeffers received \$4,178 for a proposal titled "Best Practices in Nursing Care of Elderly in Long-Term Care Settings: A Needs Assessment."

Emily Schlenker received \$2,721 for her research proposal "Use of Touch Therapy in the Care of Dementia Clients: A Pilot Study."

Barbara Walpole and **Denise Wilson** received \$4,177 for their project titled "The Effect of Health Policy on Decision-Making Among Rural Advanced Practice Nurses."

Presentations

Astroth, Kim. "Exercise State of Change Classification Using Five Instruments and Interview." Midwest Nursing Research Society, Chicago. March 2002.

Campbell, Sara. "Evaluation of an Innovative Academic-Practice Partnership: One-Year Post-Implementation." Midwest Nursing Research Society, Chicago. March 2002.

Campbell, Sara. "Engaging Future Generations in the Vision for Global Nursing: A Nurse Recruitment Strategy." Sigma Theta Tau International Biennial Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana. November 2001.

Campbell, Sara. "Academic and Practice Partnerships: Use of an Empowerment Model to Meet the Demand for Professional Nurse Leaders." Ninth National Conference of Nursing Administration, Cincinnati, Ohio. October 2001.

Clemens, Dianne. "Developing a Teaching Nursing Home: A Nursing Home and College of Nursing Partnership." Ninth National Conference on Nursing Administration, Cincinnati, Ohio. October 2001.

Fowles, Eileen. "Assessing Learning in Web-Based Courses." Conference on Teaching with Technology, Illinois State University. March 2002.

Fowles, Eileen. "Development of the Perceived Barriers to Health Eating Scale." Midwest Nursing Research Society, Chicago. March 2002.

Fowles, Eileen. "Comparison of Pregnant Women's Nutritional Knowledge and Actual Intake." Sigma Theta Tau 36th Biennial Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana. November 2001.

Jeffers, Brenda. "Engaging Future Generations in the Vision for Global Nursing: A Nurse Recruitment Strategy." Sigma Theta Tau 36th Biennial Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana. November 2001.

Kennell, Lynn. "Developing an On-line Course on Cultural and Spiritual Dimensions in Health Care." Conference on Teaching with Technology, Illinois State University. March 2002.

Kossman, Susan. "On-line Courses for Health Care Professionals." Conference on Teaching with Technology, Illinois State University. March 2002.

Kossman, Susan. "Going On-line with R.N. to B.S.N. Students: Transforming a Traditional Classroom-Based Course to an On-line Format." Sixth National Conference for Nurse Educators, Indiana University. November 2001.

Little, Camille. "Developing a Teaching Nursing Home: A Nursing Home and College of Nursing Partnership." Ninth National Conference on Nursing Administration, Cincinnati, Ohio. October 2001.

Mollenhauer, Janeen. "Stress Management for the Holidays." Bloomington-Normal Women's Soroptomist Club. December 2001.

Ridenour, Nancy. "Global Health Issues for Women." Keynote speech for Illinois Society of Advanced Practice Nurses. March 2002.

Schlenker, Emily. "Use of Touch Therapy in the Care of Dementia Clients." Western Social Science Association/Chronic Disease, Albuquerque, New Mexico. April 2002.

Schlenker, Emily. "Nurse-Client Collaboration in Designing an Outdoor Healing Space." Sigma Theta Tau 36th Biennial Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana. November 2001.

Sullivan, Cynthia. "Seeing is Believing: Using Video to Enhance Learning." Conference on Teaching with Technology, Illinois State University. March 2002.

Walpole, Barbara. "The Effect of Health Policy on Decision-Making of Rural APNs." Illinois Rural Health Association 13th Annual Conference, Bloomington. April 2002.

Wilson, Denise. "Putting Your Best Self Forward: Marketing Portfolio Development." NONPF, Minneapolis, Minnesota. April 2002.

Publications

Campbell, Sara. "Psychological Adaptation to Mental Illness." *Mental Health Nursing* (281-295).

Campbell, Sara, and Ridenour, Nancy. "Building an Empowering Academic and Practice Partnership Model." *Nursing Administration Quarterly*, Vol. 26, No. 1 (35-44).

Campbell, Sara. "Academic and Service Collaboration: Meeting the Demand for Empowered Professional Nurse Leaders." *Leadership Initiative for Nursing Education*. UCFS Center for the Health Professions. Monograph (37-41).

Fowles, Eileen. "Comparing Pregnant Women's Nutritional Knowledge to their Actual Dietary Intake." *American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing*, Vol. 27, No. 3 (2-7).

Jeffers, Brenda. "Human Biological Materials in Research: Ethical Issues and the Role of Stewardship in Minimizing Research Risks." *Advance in Nursing Science, Nursing Ethics*, Vol. 24, No. 2 (32-46).

Mallory, Caroline. "Reciprocity and Retaining African-American Women With HIV in Research." *Applied Nursing Research*, Vol. 15, No. 1 (35-41).

Graduates continued from previous page

R.N.

Jerry Alton
Karen Farr
Meena Feerasta
Trisha Gabehart
Sarah Klepk
Cheryl Prescott
Erin Redd
Peg Reid
Karen Simmons
Corrie Wisneski

May 2002 master's candidates

Patricia Decker
Angela Difanis
Patricia Estep
Jeanette Feucht
Jennifer Frank
Susan Koeppel
Kathleen Martin
Debra Oestreich
Beth Rogers
Kimberly Smith
Mary Stech
Patricia Todd

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

The philanthropist in the mirror



For the past 18 months I have enjoyed serving as Mennonite College of Nursing director of development. It is a pleasure and a privilege to spend every day working with philanthropists. What I find surprising (and

humbling) is that most people I encounter, particularly our alums, do not think of themselves as philanthropists. How surprising that is when you consider this definition: A philanthropist is an individual who extends goodwill toward others especially as expressed through active efforts to promote human welfare.

Choosing to be a nursing professional is a life dedicated to philanthropy. Choosing to be a financial supporter of nursing education is another form of philanthropy. Whether by devotion or donation, your form of giving is essential and is making a difference in the lives of others. This commitment can be transformed and extended to a magnificent legacy and living memorial through a bequest.

A bequest is specific language* included in your properly executed will or living trust that provides financial support to the college. A bequest has no effect during your lifetime when you may need the full use of your assets for family, health, and other concerns. Instead, you arrange now for some portion to be shared with Mennonite College of Nursing after your death.

Your gift in the form of a bequest can be restricted for a particular purpose or remain unrestricted for the highest-priority needs of the college. Your interests and intentions direct the distribution of funds. Through a bequest you may be able to establish a named endowment as a living memorial for you or an esteemed colleague or loved one. This assures that your gift remains in perpetuity.

As a philanthropist you have the power to extend your commitment to nursing education far beyond your lifetime. Planning now assures proper implementation of your legacy. I look forward to the possibility of meeting with you personally and discussing this opportunity to continue making a difference.

* An example of bequest language: "I give, devise, and bequeath (____ percentage, or the residue of my estate, or \$ ____) 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."

Philanthropists who've made a difference

Many philanthropists have made contributions to Mennonite College of Nursing through a bequest. Listed below is a representative list of funds established in whole or in part by these future-thinkers, each named in their honor. The generosity of these individuals continues to make a difference in the lives of our students, faculty, and the world of health care. These are considered "open funds" and may be increased at any time through additional gifts.

- The Ralph and Mary Esch Endowed Scholarship Fund
- The Clara E. Gerhart Endowed Scholarship Fund
- The Mildred Graff Imig and Fred Graff Endowment Fund
- The William and Alice McKnight Endowment Fund
- The Elaine, Jean, and Ruth Reynolds Endowment Fund
(Elaine Reynolds was a 1938 graduate of Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing.)
- The Bessie L. Roemersberger Endowment Fund
- The Earl and Clara Stutzman Endowment Fund
(Clara Stutzman was a 1923 graduate of Mennonite School of Nursing.)
- The Joash and Esther Stutzman Endowment Fund
- The Dr. Herman and Ruth Tiedeman Endowed Memorial Fund

Her weekdays are for study, weekends for music

Marcena Gabrielson always knew she had a therapeutic way with people. She originally thought about going into psychology, but then heard about psychiatric nursing and decided that was the road she would travel. From 1988 to 1991 she attended Graham Hospital School of Nursing in Canton, where she received her Diploma of Nursing. Last May she graduated with her B.S.N. from Mennonite College of Nursing and is currently enrolled as a graduate student in the nursing systems administration sequence at Mennonite. She hopes to begin work this fall toward a Nursing Educator Certificate through Mennonite College of Nursing and eventually hopes to teach psychiatric nursing.

Gabrielson said she believes one of her therapeutic tools is her music and songwriting. She is in a women's music duo called 2likeminds. This past December she and with her music partner, Tawnya Smith, released their first CD titled *Voice*, a rock-folk mixture of original songs. The songs talk about los-

ing, finding, reclaiming, and using one's voice. Others who find they can relate to her music and are working through issues that she writes and sings about have approached her regarding how the music has helped them.

Gabrielson spends weekends traveling with her music. This summer she and Smith will be in St. Louis, Missouri, Madison, Wisconsin, and Indianapolis, Indiana, playing in coffeehouses. During the Labor Day weekend, they will perform at the Midwest Womyn's Autumn Fest in Dekalb. Gabrielson plans to continue her nursing career in the teaching field while spending time during summers touring and promoting her music. She will graduate next May with her masters' in nursing and hopes to start her teaching career in the fall of 2003. For more information about Gabrielson and upcoming shows, or to listen to samples from the CD, visit her Web site at www.2likeminds.com.

The college welcomes your support

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University welcomes your financial contribution. Based on your wishes, your donation 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 now or arrange for a future gift:

- Please send information on arranging a bequest.
- Please send information on arranging for memorial contributions.
- Please send information on other planned giving opportunities.

I am including a cash gift of \$ _____. Please designate my gift to the following:

- BroMenn Endowed Professorship in Nursing
- 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 with your gift. Mail to Illinois State University, Dorothy Witte, Director of Development, Mennonite College of Nursing, Campus Box 3060, Normal, IL 61790-3060.

NAME	GRADUATION YEAR (IF APPLICABLE)		
MAILING ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP	TELEPHONE

Looking for unrestricted-bequest language for your will? Please read this month's article titled "The philanthropist in the mirror."



Educating Illinois

Welcome to the 21st century. The times are changing, and Mennonite College of Nursing continues to stand out in the leadership roles that students, faculty, and staff are taking and their creative responses to change. *Educating Illinois* states that as a university we are constantly “facilitating personal growth of students, faculty, and staff through innovative applications in undergraduate and graduate study, pedagogy, research, creative activities and public service.”

In the past year we have challenged students to grow by providing the premiere nursing education. This requires critical thinking and hard work from students who have been willing and ready to meet the challenge. Students have not only risen to the challenge, but have exceeded it by participating in leadership roles, both within the college and at the state level in the Student Nurses' Association of Illinois (SNAI). For the past two years the president of SNAI has been a student from Mennonite College of Nursing.

We have implemented ways of helping students learn both in the nursing labs and the computer labs, both essential for the 21st century. Through contributions from generous donors we have been able to purchase the latest in equipment for our nursing labs. Our technology staff have worked to provide our students and faculty with software that enables them to learn by taking a class via the Internet and research at levels not possible just a few short years ago. As we go deeper into the 21st century we will continue to provide the highest quality technology for our students to learn and our faculty to teach.

Working together with the Mennonite Advisory Council, Irving School, and other organizations, Mennonite College of Nursing is providing our students the opportunity to learn outside the classroom. We are building lifelong learners who are concerned about their communities and the impact of nursing globally.

Mennonite College of Nursing provides students with dedicated faculty members who have written grants and worked to excel in their leadership roles. In the past year Mennonite College of Nursing has received nearly \$200,000 in grants through the research, scholarship, and service of faculty and staff. Faculty members have participated in nursing leadership conferences locally and nationally. This not only builds on the strengths Mennonite has, but helps faculty to teach the next generation of nursing professionals how to be leaders in their field.

Mennonite College of Nursing challenges students, faculty, and staff to ask not only where can we go, but how far we can go. We will continue to go forward into the 21st century in the traditions of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, willing to find new and creative ways to push ahead to provide the premiere nursing education in Illinois.

Progress notes

Births

- '86 **Kjerstin Liljequist Decapua** along with Michael, 4, and Micah Jake, 3, have welcomed home a new baby brother, Maxx Jorge. Kjerstin is a registered nurse at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie, New York.
- '93 **Tamara Ahrens** and her husband, Brett, welcomed their first son August 31, 2001. Tamara has decided to stay home and raise him.
- '94 **Amy Pond Markgraf** and her husband, Brian, and son, Jake, have welcomed home, Ian, who was born October 8, 2001.
- '95 **Melissa Lemay** and her husband, Paul, and their two children, Mariah, 3-1/2, and Josiah, 2-1/2, have welcomed home baby Hannah Elizabeth, who was born October 22, 2001.
- '95 **Sarah Mason** and her husband, Jad, welcomed their third girl on August 4, 2001. She was welcomed by sisters Mattison, 4, and Bailey, 3. Sarah and her family live in Decatur, where she is a full-time mom.
- '98 **Cindy Huckins** along with her husband, David, and their son, Evan, celebrated the birth of Austin Myles Huckins on September 29, 2001. Cindy is a cardiac intensive care unit registered nurse at Sparrow Health System in Lansing, Michigan.
- '98 **Kim Heinisch** and her husband, Dan, celebrated the birth of triplets on November 4, 2001: two boys, Andrew Joseph and Cole Daniel, and one girl, Morgan Elizabeth.

Marriages

- '92 **Laura N. Gessel** married Harold J. Kruger on February 14, 2001. She is a certified flight instructor and full-time commercial pilot, and also works as a part-time emergency room nurse at Fort Walton Beach Medical Center.
- '93 **Michelle House** and Greg Smart were married September 29, 2001, at College Park Christian Church. Michelle is pursuing a master's degree in community health nursing from Lewis University and is employed as a registered nurse by Illinois Institute for Addiction Recovery. She also is a substitute teacher at Heartland Community College.
- '93 **Diane Psonka** married Jeff Warpehoski on April 21, 2001, in Chicago. Diane is a registered nurse in the Northwest Community Hospital emergency room, and her husband is an engineer with a Japanese laser company.
- '95 **Elizabeth Johnson** married Mark Atchason November 24, 2001, at Holy Trinity Church in Bloomington. Elizabeth is a cardiac nurse at Methodist Hospital in Peoria.
- '96 **Sarah Drumm** married James Fullerton on December 1, 2001. Sarah, who works as a nurse in the intensive care unit at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, is pursuing a master's in medical surgical nursing at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.
- '97 **Karen Kindred** married Greg King of Bloomington on October 6, 2001. Karen is a registered nurse at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center.
- '97 **Jennifer Rednour** and Michael Duhon were married October 20, 2001. Jennifer, a registered nurse at St. Francis Medical Center, is pursuing a master's degree at the University of Illinois.
- '98 **Sonya Stanton** who works as a labor and delivery nurse at BroMenn Regional Medical Center, married Doug Russo November 6, 2001.

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			