

Annual Report

College mission

The mission of Mennonite College of Nursing is to educate undergraduate and graduate nursing students to serve the citizens of Illinois, the nation, and the global community. Mennonite College of Nursing acknowledges a particular responsibility to address the nursing and health care needs of urban and rural populations, including those who are vulnerable and underserved. The College of Nursing builds upon the educational foundation previously acquired by students. The college creates a dynamic community of learning in which reflective thinking and ethical decision-making are valued. The college is committed to the promotion of nursing scholarship at the national and international level through research, service, and practice. Mennonite College of Nursing is committed to being purposeful, open, just, caring, disciplined, and celebrative.

About us

Mennonite College of Nursing became Illinois State University's sixth academic college on July 1, 1999. The rich heritage of Mennonite College of Nursing began in 1919. For more than 89 years, the primary mission has been to prepare professional nurses by providing a quality education. This mission continues at Illinois State. Mennonite College of Nursing is located in Edwards Hall.

Accreditation

Accredited degree programs: Baccalaureate and master's

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 887-6791
Fax: (202) 887-8476

Date of last review for both programs: April 2007
Both programs accredited through: December 31, 2017
Next review for both programs: Spring 2017

Contact us

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Website: IllinoisState.edu/nursing





A message from the dean

Mennonite College of Nursing's mission statement includes a focus on being celebrative. We have much to celebrate! In December 2007 the very first cohort of the Accelerated B.S.N. Option graduated. The Ph.D. in nursing at Illinois State was approved in the spring of 2008, and our first cohort of students began classes this fall. BabySim was delivered to the college and is now being actively used in teaching and learning scenarios with students. Our students and alumni are participating in college, university, and community events at an unprecedented high. Applications to the undergraduate prelicensure program were up to 831 for fall 2008 incoming freshmen wanting nursing as their major! While we cannot come close to accommodating all of the wonderful applicants to our programs, we are almost doubling student admissions in 2009-2010 in response to the professional need for more nurses, as well as student demand. Our graduate programs continue to thrive with FNP certification exam rates at 100 percent. Our faculty ranks are growing like never before as we welcomed seven new faculty members this fall. Faculty and student research endeavors are taking off and can be noted in the number of publications, grants, and presentations. Mennonite College of Nursing has a strong, consistent presence at the local, state, national, and international levels. That is definitely something to celebrate!

Support of the college is at an all time high. We held our annual scholarship luncheon in the spring where student recipients meet their scholarship donors. We continue to demonstrate good stewardship of our resources. Student scholarships are just one area that reflects efficient use of resources. The scholarship luncheon is a wonderful event that continues to grow.

This has been another incredible year for Mennonite College of Nursing and one might wonder what else we can prepare to celebrate. In 2009 Mennonite College of Nursing will be celebrating its 10 year anniversary at Illinois State and 90 years of nursing since its founding in 1919. This will be a very celebrative year for the college!

Thank you for your continued support for our college, students, faculty, staff, research, practice, and community service. I hope you enjoy reading about all of these accomplishments and continue to celebrate with us.

Sara L. Campbell, DNS, RN, NEA-BC
Interim dean and professor



Amee Adkins appointed interim associate dean

Amee Adkins, associate professor of social foundations of education, was appointed as the interim associate dean at Mennonite College of Nursing for the 2008-2009 academic year. She replaces Caroline Mallory, associate professor, who completed a one-year appointment from 2007-2008 in June.

Adkins is a colleague from the College of Education (educational administration and foundations). She received her master of education from Georgia Southern University and doctor of philosophy from University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Her areas of special interest include sociology of knowledge, social and cultural studies of education, politics of education, and qualitative research methodology. She is past recipient of the Illinois State University Teaching Initiative Award. Adkins has multiple publications, presentations, and grants, and has held leadership roles in the College of Education.



Wendy Woith

Learning and sharing abroad

By Kate Arthur

Tuberculosis sounds like a disease you don't have to worry about anymore. Maybe you have to get a skin test now and then but you don't think about the possibility of contracting the potentially fatal disease and being isolated in a hospital for two or more months.

Unless you live in a country such as Russia, which ranks ninth among countries with the highest incidence of TB, with about 158,000 new cases each year.

Health care workers in TB hospitals are at high risk—a 10 to 20 times greater risk than their counterparts of contracting the disease that typically chokes the lungs but may affect the brain, kidneys, or other organs.

Mennonite College of Nursing Assistant Professor of Nursing Wendy Woith recently made her ninth trip to Russia, where she worked with health care leaders in the Vladimir region to explore workers' knowledge of TB and infection control, research that will be used to develop a training program. Nurses work shifts as long as 24 hours in TB hospitals and might not always wear their respirators. Due to the expense, facilities aren't equipped with the technology U.S. facilities have such as negative pressure rooms that keep contaminated air from escaping into the hallways.

Until the collapse of the Soviet Union in '91, TB was contained in the country. When the infrastructure crumbled, there wasn't enough money to support health care. Poverty jumped and crowded living conditions, along with a rise in HIV and alcoholism, contributed to a spike in the disease.

"Tuberculosis is really a social illness," Woith said. "You see it associated with poverty and congregate living. Russia will often have two to three generations living together. Lots of people take public transportation. It's that close contact and poor nutrition that play a big role."

As part of Mennonite's Transcultural Nursing program, Woith started a student/faculty exchange with the Vladimir Medical College nursing program, which brought Russian nurses to MCN in the fall of 2007 and 2008.



Multi-drug resistant TB (MDR-TB) patient

Vladimir's hospitals have four- to eight-bed wards and Woith offered staff training in bedside nursing. Nurses there assist physicians with procedures, but patients' families often have to do supplemental care.

"Nurses who come here think our nurses are somewhat backward because of the greater amount of hands-on care we provide, including giving baths and changing beds," Woith said.

Although she speaks little Russian, Woith lived in Vladimir for a month in 2005 while doing her doctoral research on delays in seeking treatment for TB and adherence to medication therapy. Her interest in international nursing ties in with MCN's original mission in 1919 to provide a ministry through health care that would reach around the world. Founders believed that nurses could serve as Christian missionaries in all parts of the world and their skills and dedication would contribute to healing the suffering, not just "teach and preach."

Nearly 10 years ago she joined the Bloomington-Normal/Vladimir Sister Cities Program, which brought 10 Russian nurses here to improve their nursing education and practice. At that time, nurses weren't documenting anything other than vitals. Woith taught them assessment, pain management, and documentation skills. Salaries were about \$25 a month in U.S. dollars while physicians were making about \$100. That's increased to about \$150 to \$200 a month for nurses.

Woith, along with others, assisted in developing nursing curriculum with faculty of the Vladimir Medical College, which offers the equivalent of a three-year diploma nursing degree. In May 2007 she traveled there with the Bloomington-Normal/Vladimir Sister Cities Medical Exchange Committee to observe improvements in the health care system and how these are

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affecting patient outcomes. Further development of the family practice physician and development of the family nurse role, similar to the family nurse practitioner, are having positive impacts on care delivery.

“What we have been trying to do is advance education and practice together,” she said.

The professor has just returned from a month in Russia, where she conducted her study on health care workers’ knowledge of TB and infection control in the Vladimir region and Saint Petersburg. A standardized curriculum for TB and TB infection control education is being developed with the Joint Center for Central Research TB Institute of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences and Vladimir Oblast TB Dispensary, supported by the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This program will target appropriate levels of education to specific groups of health care workers, such as physicians, nurses, lab workers, drivers, cleaning services, and dietary workers.

She and Grigory Volchenkov, chief physician of the TB program for the Vladimir region, with support from the CDC and WHO, are developing this training program for health care workers in 27 regions of Russia using peer mentors.

“The intent is that modeling appropriate behaviors and techniques, along with education, will decrease the rate of hospital-acquired or occupational infection,” she said.

The training will provide another research opportunity for Woith as she measures practice and behavior changes following the program.

As part of Mennonite’s Transcultural Nursing program, Woith started a student/faculty exchange with the Vladimir Medical College nursing program that brought Russian nurses to MCN in the fall of 2007 and 2008. Students attended classes, visited clinical settings, toured health care facilities, and shadowed advanced practice nurses. Travel expenses and interpreters were paid for through the Russian Transcultural Student Exchange Fund, which Woith started. Alumni, faculty, and donors from the community have supported the fund. It’s hoped that a group of Mennonite students and faculty will travel to Russia in the spring.



Left to right, Russian physician in the village of Lesnoy; Wendy Woith; Galina Muraviova, Chief Nurse of Autopribor Hospital; Kathy Powell, RN, chair of the B-N/Vladimir Sister Cities Organization’s Medical Partners Committee, outside of Autopribor Hospital in Vladimir, Russia, in May 2007.

Faculty and staff

Fall 2008

Administration

Sara Campbell, D.N.S., RN, NEA-BC
Interim dean and professor

Amee Adkins, Ph.D.
Interim associate dean (July 1, 2008)

Dianne Clemens, M.S.N., RNC
Acting undergraduate program director
and instructional assistant professor

Brenda Recchia Jeffers, Ph.D., RN
Director of master’s/doctoral programs
and research, professor

Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN
Interim associate dean (July 1, 2007-
June 30, 2008)

Clinical lab office

Jennifer Mool
Clinical nursing lab coordinator

Cheryl Nafziger
Clinical practice coordinator

Development

Jenny Ward
Director of development

Expanding teaching nursing home project

Sara Campbell, D.N.S., RN, NEA-BC
Principal investigator

Charlene Aaron
Project coordinator

Isaac Akins (through August 2008)
Multimedia Web developer

Ellen Birky
Office support associate

Elizabeth Objartel (through
August 2008)
Project RN

Librarian

Diane Mather, MALS
Science reference librarian

Office of the Dean

Sara Campbell, D.N.S., RN, NEA-BC
Interim dean and professor

Lissa Bevins
Administrative clerk

Jean Ann Dargatz
Administrative aide
Diane Folken
Associate director, business and finance

Amy Irving
Associate director, public relations

Marilyn Mehl
Office support specialist

Office of Information Technology

Jeff Grabb
Associate director

Office of Research and Scholarly Activities, Graduate Program Office

Brenda Recchia Jeffers, Ph.D., RN
Director of master’s/doctoral programs
and research

Chris Bray (start date April 2008)
Program associate

Jennie Collings (through March 2008)
Program associate

Michelle Hopkins
Office support associate

Lisa Marinelli (through February 2008)
Project coordinator

Melissa Moody
Academic advisor

Student Services

Dianne Clemens, M.S.N., RNC
Acting undergraduate program director
and instructional assistant professor

Joanne DeRoeck
Office support specialist

Janeen Mollenhauer
Associate director, undergraduate program

Dan Murphy
Accelerated BSN coordinator,
academic advisor

Tenna Webb
Office support specialist

Partners in Nursing of Central Illinois

Kelli Hill
Project director

Ellen Birky
Office support associate

Transcultural experience

Karrie Ingalsbe, Ph.D., RN
Coordinator

Women First! Project

Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN
Principal investigator

Melissa Neely
Research coordinator

Faculty Professors

Sara Campbell, D.N.S., RN, NEA-BC
Brenda Recchia Jeffers, Ph.D., RN

Associate professors

Susan Kossman, Ph.D., RN
Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN
Denise Wilson, Ph.D., APN, CNP

Assistant professors

Kim Astroth, Ph.D., RN, MS
Elizabeth D. Carlson, Ph.D., MPH,
APRN, BC

Mary J. Dyck, Ph.D., RN, BC, LNHA
Marcena Gabrielson, M.S.N, RN, C
Sheryl Jenkins, Ph.D., RN, ACNP
Cindy Kerber, Ph.D., APRN, BC
Pam Lindsey, D.N.Sc., RN
Wendy Woith, Ph.D., RN

Full-time instructional assistant professors

Dianne Clemens, M.S.N., RNC
Mary Cranston, M.S., RN
Rachel Hudgins, M.S., RN
Dave Jansen, M.S.N., RN
Cathi Kaesberg, M.S.N., RN, CNS
Colleen Kelley, M.S.N., RN
Lynn Kennell, M.S.N., RN
Cindy Malinowski, M.S.N., RN
Jaime Penrod, M.S.N., RN
Elizabeth Objartel, GNP, RN
Gail Petro, M.S.N., RN, ANP
Teresa Saxton, M.S.N., RN
Ashlee Sloman, M.S.N., RN
Deb Stenger, M.S.N., RN

Part-time instructional assistant professors

Kate Abitogun, M.S.N., RN, FNP
Kimberly Buck, M.S.N., RN
Patricia Conte, M.S.N., RN, CNOR
Marcia Cooper, M.S.N., RN
Mark Dabbs, M.S.N., RN
Kathy Davis, M.S.N., CNP, FNP
Jackie Deffenbaugh, M.S.N., RNC, WHNP
Dana Deshon, APN
Pam Ferguson, Ph.D., CNE, RN-BC
Laura Graham, RN, APN, WHNP, CMN
Karrie Ingalsbe, Ph.D., RN
Diane Johner, M.S.N., RN
Shannon Laesch, M.S.N., RN
Sarah Lindsey, M.S.N., ACNS-BC
Camille Little, M.S., RN
Judy Maloney, M.S., RN, APN
Nanette Marx, M.S., RN
Mary Micklus, M.S.N., RN
Blanca Miller, M.S.N., RN
Shirley Moore, Ph.D., RN
Judy Ridinger, M.S., RN, BC
Aimee Sarchet, M.S.N., APN
Margaret Sauder, M.S.N., CPNP
Marianne Scannura, M.S., RN, CNS
Rita Schlomer, M.S., RN, APN, CNS, CNL
Deb Smith, M.S., M.B.A., RN, CNA
Cynthia Trainor, M.S., RN-C, LCCF, CD
(DONA)
Karen Vercellino, M.S.N., RN-BC
Betty Weber, M.S.N., RN, CNA, BC
Mai Wilhour, M.S.N., RN

Mennonite College of Nursing adjunct faculty

Angela Bentley, M.S., RN
St. John’s Hospital

Mary Jo Brown, M.S.N., RN
St. John’s Hospital

Kathleen Buckwalter, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
University of Iowa College of Nursing

Sheila Bunting, Ph.D., RN
Mennonite College of Nursing

Trish Cunningham, M.S.N., RN
St. John’s Hospital

Uday Deoskar, M.D.
Senior Health and Geriatric Medicine

Keela Herr, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, AGSF
University of Florida

Holly Jirka, M.S.N., RN
Memorial Medical Center

Sharon Miller, M.S.N., RN
St. John’s Home Health

Leslie Montgomery, M.S.N., RN, CCRN
Memorial Medical Center

Kristi Olson-Sitki, M.S.N., RN
Memorial Medical Center

Donna Redding, Ph.D., RN
Memorial Medical Center

Marsha Reeves, M.S.N., RN
OSF St. James Hospital

Nancy Semenza, Ph.D. RN
Memorial Medical Center

New full-time faculty profiles



Marcena Gabrielson, Ph.D.(C), RN

Marcena Gabrielson was appointed to assistant professor at Mennonite College of Nursing in the fall 2008. Prior to this appointment she was an instructional assistant professor with MCN since 2004. She received an M.S.N. and a B.S.N. from Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, and a diploma from Graham Hospital School of Nursing in Canton. She is currently a Collaborative Doctoral Program student and has also received a Hartford Pre-Doctoral Fellowship.

Rachael Hudgins, M.S.N., RN

Rachael Hudgins is an instructional assistant professor at Mennonite College of Nursing. She received a bachelor's in nursing from Mennonite College of Nursing and a master's in nursing from the University of Phoenix. Her specialty is labor and delivery. She currently teaches Peds/OB and a health assessment lab. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau.



David Jansen, M.S.N., B.S.N., RN

David Jansen is an instructional assistant professor at Mennonite College of Nursing. He received a bachelor's in nursing from the University of Illinois at Springfield and a master's in nursing science from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. His area of specialty is psychiatric nursing. He teaches Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing, and Health Assessment of the Adult Client lab.

Sheryl D. Jenkins, Ph.D., ACNP

Sheryl Jenkins is an assistant professor at Mennonite College of Nursing. She received a B.S.N. from Mennonite College of Nursing, a M.S. from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and her Ph.D. from Illinois State University. Her area of specialty includes acute and critical care. She teaches Adult Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning. Jenkins' research interests include critical thinking, transcultural nursing, rapid response teams, and patient safety. She received the Golden Lamp Award for teaching excellence from the University of Illinois.



Colleen Kelley, M.S.N., RN

Colleen Kelley joined Mennonite College of Nursing in the fall of 2007 as an instructional assistant professor. She received a master's of science in nursing from Indiana University in Indianapolis; a Baccalaureate in the Science of Nursing from Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana; and a Diploma of Nursing from Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in South Bend, Indiana. Her specialties include nursing fundamentals, medical-surgical gerontology, and nursing administration. She currently teaches

Adult I lecture, clinical, and health assessment lab. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society for Nursing. In 2007 she was in *Who's Who Among Teachers*. She is a member of the inaugural Ph.D. class and her research focus is aging and quality of care at the end-of-life.

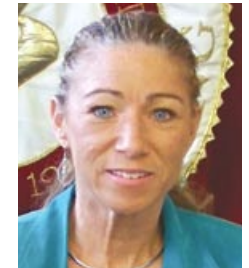


Cindy Kerber, Ph.D., APRN, BC

Cindy Kerber is an assistant professor at Mennonite College of Nursing. She received a B.S.N. from the University of Iowa, a M.S.N. from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, and a Ph.D. from Illinois State University. She also has a post-doctorate fellowship from the University of Iowa. Her specialty is gerontological mental health and her research interest is older adults with gambling problems and depression. Kerber teaches Gerontology, Psychiatric/Mental Health, and Public Health. In 2008 she received the APHA-gerontology section research award.

Jamie L. Penrod, M.S.N., RN

Jamie Penrod is an instructional assistant professor at Mennonite College of Nursing. She received a B.S.N. from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, and an M.S.N. from St. Louis University. Her specialty is psychiatric-mental health. She teaches Concepts and Practice of Professional Nursing and Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing clinicals. Her research interests include "caring" attributes in nurses, chronic mentally ill, and student nurse attitudes about mental illness.



Ashlee Sloman, M.S.N., RN

Ashlee Sloman is an instructional assistant professor at Mennonite College of Nursing. She received an A.D.N. from Lincoln Land Community College in Springfield and went through the RN-B.S.N. online sequence through Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State. She received an M.S.N. from SIUE in nursing education with a focus in gerontology. She teaches the Health Assessment lab for traditional nursing students and Adult Nursing III clinicals for the accelerated nursing students.

Her area of specialty is critical care. Sloman is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and co-chair of the Education Committee of the Central Illinois chapter of the AACN.

College growth

The following shows Mennonite College of Nursing's growth since joining Illinois State University in 1999.

Undergraduate program

1999

B.S.N. prelicensure
RN-B.S.N. completion

2008

B.S.N. prelicensure
RN-B.S.N. completion
Accelerated B.S.N. option

Graduate program

1999

Master's sequences
Family nurse practitioner
Nursing systems administration
Post-master's FNP certificate

2008

Master's sequences
Family nurse practitioner
Nursing systems administration
Clinical nurse leader
Gerontological nurse practitioner
Online nurse educator certificate
Post-master's FNP certificate
Ph.D. program focal area in aging

Alumni awards

2007 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient



Sue Mendez

Distinguished Alumni Award

The **Distinguished Alumni Award** is presented to a graduate of the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University (or formerly the Mennonite School/College of Nursing) who has demonstrated significant accomplishment and leadership in the field of nursing, as well as other civic, cultural, or charitable activities; demonstrated a dedication to nursing and shows outstanding professionalism, and by her/his example has promoted and elevated the general image of the profession of nursing; demonstrated continued interest in and support for the college; and personifies the values of the college in her/his life. This is the highest award the college bestows upon its graduates.

2007 Young Alumni Award recipient



Lori (Stoller) Gibbs

Young Alumni Award

The **Young Alumni Award** is presented to a graduate of the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University (or formerly the Mennonite School/College of Nursing) who is under the age of 35; has demonstrated significant accomplishment and leadership in the field of nursing, or in other civic, cultural, or charitable activities, as may be notable among those of the specified age group; and personifies the values of the college in her/his life.

2007 MNAO Service Award recipient



Carole Ringer

MNAO Service Award

The **MNAO Service Award** recognizes exceptional service to the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, to the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization, or to humanity inasmuch as such service reflects the values of the college. The recipient may or may not be a graduate of Mennonite College of Nursing.

Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization

Board of Directors July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

Donny Bounds '97 • President
 Karen (Roop) Magers '79 • Director and awards committee chair
 Sarah (Kaiser) Lindsey '00 • Director and Homecoming chair
 Sonia (Hetman) Wernsman '98 • Director and Nurses Week Chair
 Larae Wagener '02 • Director

Advisory Members

Sara Campbell • Interim dean, Mennonite College of Nursing
 Jamie Sennett • Assistant director, Alumni Relations
 Jenny Ward • Director of Development

SimBaby Update

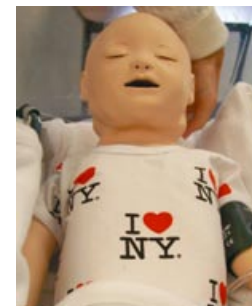
Lynn Kennell, instructional assistant professor, and Jennifer Mool, clinical nursing lab coordinator, attended two educational conferences to prepare them to develop clinical simulation scenarios using SimMan, VitaSim, and SimBaby.

The first was in December 2007, at Wappinger Falls, New York to learn about programming the Laerdal manikins. This was a two-day intense workshop where they each developed a scenario and learned the basics of programming from Laerdal Medical, the company that makes the manikins that MCN uses in the Clinical Simulation Center.

In June 2008 they went to Arizona State University's (ASU) College of Nursing and Healthcare Innovation, for a three-day workshop. This workshop was presented by the nursing faculty who are working day-to-day in the clinical simulation laboratory at ASU. Their facility is a state-of-the-art center with multiple simulation rooms and computer centers that allow for the realistic creation of simulations for student nurses at various levels of expertise. The persons who attended this conference were from schools of nursing across the United States. Attendees all shared common interest in learning to integrate simu-

“Students will spend time in the lab doing more specific skills focused on the infant/child that we have never been able to do before.”

lated clinical experiences into the student's learning. This follows the recommendation of the AACN that up to 25 percent of a student's clinical practicum should be in a simulated setting. At this conference of only 22 faculty members, they divided into small groups in various specialty areas, created scenarios, and then used the ASU manikins to demonstrate their scenarios. The faculty experts at ASU offered suggestions to better integrate a group of students into the learning process in simulations. They also discussed the value of “debriefing” after the scenario is over (discussing the strengths and weaknesses of the student's performance on a variety of levels including communication, decision-making, critical thinking, professionalism, and patient safety). Kennell and Mool returned with lots of ideas and inspiration of things they can do with the manikins at MCN.



The Parent Child Nursing class will be the primary course to use SimBaby. Other classes, such as the pediatric course in the Family Nurse Practitioner graduate program might also use SimBaby. “Having SimBaby in the lab will provide students with opportunities to participate in skills like a sterile central line dressing change or a gastrostomy feeding in a particular scenario with an infant, ‘parents,’ and other ‘family members,’ where students will have to communicate as they would in the hospital setting with the family while performing a skill,” Kennel said. “Students will spend time in the lab doing more specific skills focused on the infant/child that we have never been able to do before.”

Kennell and Mool stated that they both learned a great deal about making the clinical simulation scenarios “real” for the students by adding props and creating recipes for various body fluids that will make things very similar to the hospital environment. “We learned that we could use our VitaSim as a pregnant mother and create a variety of pregnancy complications that we had not done before,” said Kennell. “We got ideas about integrating cultural variations into our scenarios to include that piece of theory. The potential for creativity at all levels of acuity for students at various points in their education was emphasized. Our work is now before us to integrate more and more scenarios into our students' experiences.”



Lynn Kennell, instructional assistant professor and Jennifer Mool, clinical nursing lab coordinator with SimBaby



Development

Exceptional education is an everyday occurrence at Mennonite College of Nursing, and that education is reaching outstanding students who are following their dreams to become a nurse because of the scholarships they receive from our alumni and friends. Behind every Mennonite College of Nursing scholarship is a story. Scholarships might be named for someone whose life was made more comfortable and dignified because of a nurse. In other cases, a scholarship is named for an alum with a passion for nursing and helping others receive a MCN education.

A scholarship might also be created for community members or organizations who believe that our community and state are better places to live with a quality nursing workforce. A husband may honor his wife, a nursing alumnus, or a family member may honor several nursing family members.

In this issue of the annual report, we tell the story of two nurses, a mother and a daughter, Edna Francis-Zehr and Pam Lindsey. When Pam's mother retired from nursing, she never stopped being a nurse; it was her life, her passion. Pam, a nurse-educator, and her family will continue to honor their mother and her passion for nursing by helping others achieve their dreams. We are grateful to Pam and all of the MCN donors who reach out in this way. With the expansion of our programs, the need for scholarships will continue to grow. If you would like to fund a scholarship in your name or the name of a loved one, it's not hard to do. Please contact me and I can help you in making someone's dream of becoming a nurse come true.

Jenny Ward
Director of Development
(309) 438-7178

Advisory board

July 1, 2007–June 30 2008

BroMenn Health Care

Linda Johnson
Vice president, patient services/chief nurse executive

Carle Foundation Hospital

Pam Bigler
Director of nursing

Heritage Manor

Rose Stadel
Director of operations, central division

Memorial Medical Center

Marsha Prater, Ph.D., RN
Vice president, patient care services

OSF St. Joseph Medical Center

Deb Smith
Assistant administrator, patient services

Friends Steering Committee

July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

Janella Cooley
Barbara Efaw
Marilyn Freedlund
Nancy Froelich
Margaret Johnson
Stevie Joslin
Betty Knuckles
Harriet O'Daffer
Margaret Randolph
Carole Ringer

In memory

Our sympathies go to the family and friends of Georgette Shupe, a member of the Friends Steering Committee, who passed away on August 18, 2008.



Pamela Lindsey

Nursing a legacy

By Kate Arthur

Inside one of the kitchen cabinets was a chart where her three brothers kept track of their stitches. It was a contest, one Pamela Lindsey didn't have a chance of winning.

The only girl in the house never took a single stitch. But she watched her mother as she calmly blotted her boys' wounds and iced their sprains. Edna Francis-Zehr was the mom other neighborhood moms called when they worried about a fever that wouldn't break or a wound that wouldn't heal.

The former private duty nurse retired from her job after she married Robert Francis and started her family in Washington. But her skills as a registered nurse were quickly called on when her oldest son, Mike, developed polio. She cared for him at home, giving him daily physical therapy until he made an almost complete recovery.

Lindsey remembers her mom as always having dinner cooking when they walked in the door after school.

"The kids were really a priority for her," she said. "She was always trying to get me to eat my vegetables. I sat at the dinner table many a night with a whole plate of asparagus in front of me."

When her mother died November 26, 2004, Lindsey was amazed at the emotional tributes from the nursing home staff where she

"She stayed up with health care and what was happening in the industry. She would have liked giving to future nurses."

lived. Even at 86, in her own daily pain from respiratory problems and prosthetic hips, she was known for counseling and caring for others. Nurse's aides couldn't stop the rush of tears.

"I'd thought about how they took care of her but not really about the impact she had on them," her daughter said. "She obviously really connected with people wherever she was."

She was proud of her daughter for following in her footsteps in nursing. Lindsey received bachelor's degrees in psychology and sociology before graduating from the Mennonite College of Nursing in 1985. She worked as a psychiatric nurse for 10 years before returning to school, earning her master's and doctorate and becoming an assistant professor at MCN.

It didn't take her and her brothers long to decide how they would honor their mother, establishing the Edna Francis-Zehr Scholarship Fund for nursing students. Memorials were directed to the fund and Lindsey continues to work toward endowing it through a payroll deduction plan.

In spring 2008, the first scholarship was awarded to Lindy Drollinger of Tuscola, a registered nurse and non-traditional student who is taking online courses to get her bachelor's degree. The funds can be used for any educational expenses.

Edna and Robert Francis valued education as do their children. Mike Francis of Illiopolis taught and is a school superintendent. Paul Francis of Decatur is an attorney and circuit judge and John Francis of Louisville works for a child welfare agency. Their father died in 1980 and six years later, Edna married Paul Zehr, caring for him after he developed dementia.

"She stayed up with health care and what was happening in the industry," her daughter said. "She would have liked giving to future nurses."



Private scholarship recipients

July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

**Helen A. Bender
Endowed Scholarship**
Joanna Albee

**Ralph M. and Mary Esch
Endowed Scholarship**
Elyse Batka
Lindy Drollinger
Lisa Gillespie
Ashley Kil
Nicole Lesiak
Claire Singleton

**Jenny Lu Etcheson Endowed
Scholarship**
Lisa Gillespie

**Helen Tuxhorn Evans
Endowed Scholarship**
Jennifer Mahaffey

**Edna Francis-Zehr
Annual Scholarship**
Lindy Drollinger

**William E. and Nancy Froelich
Endowment for Long Term
Care Award**
Teresa Novy

**Clara E. Gerhart
Endowed Scholarship**
Ashley Darling
Brittany Lees
Megan Shelton
Carrie Tucker
Kathleen Yong

**M. Rudelle Goodwin
Endowed Scholarship**
Emily Dubrick
Kathryn Scheiding

**The Jeanette Gorecki
Endowed Scholarship**
Leslie Carmack

**Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan
Endowed Faculty
Development Award**
Lynn Kennell

**Elizabeth Davis Holder
Endowed Scholarship**
Kari Bruening

**Richard and Julia Johnson
Endowed Scholarship**
Blessing Gatson

**Roger and Stephany Joslin
Endowed Scholarship**
Kristen Avara
Heidi Krueger

**Meredith Lovelass
Annual Scholarship**
Allison Nissen

**Lena Maxwell
Endowed Scholarship**
Kathleen Yong

**MCN Alumni
Endowed Scholarship**
Kathryn Anderson
Lindsay Blair
Elizabeth Guth
Megan Lowry
Emily Templeton

**MCN Alumni Student
Transcultural Scholarship,
MCN Transcultural Endowed
Fund and Hallie Stenger
Memorial Fund**

Brittany Bogs
Sarah Fyfe
Dina Gabra
Megan Gaidos
Elizabeth Guth
Heidi Krueger
Katrina Krueger
Allison Lehrke
Megan Lowry
Cassie McDermott
Melinda Montgomery
Allison Nissen
Jennifer Pugh
Jeff Sawyer
Kathryn Scheiding
Amy Schwarting
Aubrey Taylor
Emily Templeton
Ashley Trudeau
Courtney Vanderford
Allison Warzecha
Angela Weber
Amanda Whitley
Amanda Yessa

**E. Dale Mellon
Annual Scholarship**
Diane Romito

**Curtis and Mary Ellen
Griggs and William Morlan
Annual Scholarship**
Brittney Hardin

**Virginia Mosbacher
Endowed Scholarship**
Leslie Carmack

**Anna Ropp
Endowed Scholarship**
Lindy Drollinger

Russian Exchange Travel Fund
Anna Anseeva and Tatiana
Ilyushkina, nursing students
Tatyana Zaychikova, assistant
director of the Medical College
in Vladimir, Russia
Olga Vladimirova, translator

**Rachel Rogers Schilling
Annual Scholarship**
Jessica Memmel

**The Jesse and Louise Schmied
Endowed Scholarship**
Sarah Nelson
Libby Wolf

**Seeley-Barton
Endowed Scholarship**
Ashley Kil

**Gertrude E. Skelly
Charitable Foundation**
Tanya Childs
Alma Embry
Kathleen Ferrell
Mattie Howard-Bey
Kevin Hutcheson
Debbie Novotney
Lyndsay Rardin
Nicole Rutter
Krishna Shah
Edward Wilcoski

**The LaRue Sloan Endowed
Scholarship in Nursing**
Alycia White

**The Vivian O. Stockdale
Endowed Scholarship**
Hayley Madigan

The Paul Stoddard Endowment
Kari Bruening
Leslie Carmack

**Clara Stutzman
Endowed Scholarship**
Diane Alder

**Marie Yoder Endowed
Scholarship Fund**
Kari Bruening

2008 Scholarship Luncheon

Mennonite College of Nursing appreciates all of the financial assistance provided by various scholarships to students pursuing a career in nursing. Individuals who endow private scholarships to Mennonite College of Nursing are invited to an annual scholarship luncheon to meet with the recipient(s) of their generous gift. In April of this past year, President Al Bowman and 46 private scholarship donors and scholarship recipients attended the luncheon.



Back Row: Dianne Clemens, E. Dale Mellon; Front Row: Roy Schilling, Jessica Memmel, Kathleen Yong



Back Row: Nicole Lesiak, Mary Kistner; Front Row: Diane Folken, Lissa Bevins, Emily Templeton



Jenny Ward, Dan Deneen, Mary Kistner



Back Row: Hayley Madigan, Joyce Morlan; Front Row: Vivian Stockdale, Larry Morlan, Brittney Hardin



Allison Nissen, Meredith Lovelass, Tom Lovelass



Tudy Schmied, Sarah Nelson



Back Row: Blessing Gatson, Sarah Nelson; Front Row: Linda Sorrells, Alma Stoddard, Wendy Woith



Back Row: Kathryn Anderson, Lindsay Blaire; Front Row: Ashley Trudeau, Brittany Bogs, Deb Stenger



Back Row: Dina Gabra, Allison Lehrke; Front Row: Elizabeth Guth, Amy Schwarting, Karrie Ingalsbe



Back Row: Carolyn Mallory, Lisa Gillespie; Front Row: Jan Murphy, Diane Alder



Back Row: Pam Lindsey, Kristen Avara, Ashley Darling; Front Row: Ron Ropp, Jo Ropp



Back Row: Kathleen Hogan, Kathryn Scheiding, Joanna Albee; Front Row: Lynn Kennell, Gary Haluska, Monte Fisher

Scholarships make a difference

We thank everyone who has supported student scholarships at Mennonite College of Nursing. As the demand for professional nurses increases, so do our needs for even more scholarships.

For the 2008–2009 academic year, 196 students applied for MCN scholarships. Of the 196 applications, 112 had noted unmet financial need. The college was able to award 62 private MCN scholarships out of the 112, and while the number of these scholarships has risen each year, the unmet needs of our students also continue to rise.

Honor roll of donors

July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University is grateful to the following alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations for their generous gifts and pledges received by the Illinois State University Foundation.

\$100,000+

Illinois Prairie
Community Foundation
Northwest Health
Foundation

\$50,000–\$99,999

Herschel and Esther
Brock Family

\$10,000–\$49,999

Gertrude E. Skelly
Foundation
Heritage Enterprises Inc.
OSF Healthcare System
Roy Schilling
State Farm Foundation
Alma Stoddard

\$5,000–\$9,999

Sigma Theta Tau
International

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Larry McCray
E. Dale Mellon
Joyce and Larry Morlan
John Parker
Phyllis Schieber
Keith and Julia Smith
Christopher and
Cynthia Wiant
Michael and
Grace Wiant
Wendy and
Kenneth Woith
Kathryn Wood

\$500–\$999

Anonymous (2)
Sara and Kyle Campbell

Herman and Evelyn
Harding
Kemp Foundation
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St. Matthew's
Episcopal Church
Jennifer and Dane Ward
Mary and Eric Wiant

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Shawn and
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Robert Hogan
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Karen and
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Lynn Klopfenstein
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Knuckles
Sarah and Todd Lindsey
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Sue Ann McGinnes
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Marjorie Brown
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Donald Burke
Elizabeth Calby
Anne and
Ross Campbell
Delores and
William Carter
Melinda and
Kirby Cheek
Jaemin Chon
Cynthia and Scott Clapp
Joenita and
Stanley Clemens

Ashley Coffin
Jennie Collings
Janella and
William Cooley
Catherine Cragoe
Katy Czuprynski
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Daryl Ferguson
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John Hammond
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Claire Hammond
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Glenn Harms
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Larry Mariani
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Stephen Roberts
Pauline and Keith Roth
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Thomas Ryszka
Linda Sampson
Teresa and Doug Saxton
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Schenkel
Elise Schroeder
Carol and Paul Selman
Bradley and
Jennifer Shaw
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Kenneth Sinnett
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Robert Wortinger
Pi-Ming Yeh
Shira Zider
Ann and Dave Zobrist

* Deceased

We have made every attempt to ensure accuracy. If your name has been omitted, misspelled, or incorrectly listed, please accept our apologies and contact Jenny Ward, director of development, at (309) 438-7178 or jsward@ilstu.edu.

Mennonite College of Nursing research mission

Mennonite College of Nursing faculty engages in research and scholarship to address the nursing and healthcare needs of urban and rural populations and to identify effective strategies to reduce health disparities in vulnerable and underserved populations. Faculty strive to engage the community through research in a reciprocal relationship to assure research practices are attentive to the special needs of vulnerable populations during all phases of the research process including study planning, recruitment, obtaining consent for research, data collection, and reporting findings.

Office of Research and Scholarly Activities (ORSA)

The purpose of ORSA is to facilitate faculty/student research in the area of decision-making in health promotion and disease prevention that will significantly improve the health of the public across health care settings.

The Office of Research and Scholarly Activities works closely with the University Research and Sponsored Programs Office at Illinois State University during proposal preparation, managing grant funding and ensuring high standards are followed in all phases of the research process. Additionally ORSA works closely with the University Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Mennonite College of Nursing Department IRB representatives to maintain a record of all research protocols to assure adherence to federal regulations and protection of human participants in research.

Interdisciplinary efforts in research and collaboration with community and service partners are supported by ORSA with the goal of improving the health of individuals, families, and communities.

The Office of Research and Scholarly Activities is managed by the director of the graduate program, research, and scholarly activities, Brenda Recchia Jeffers.



Research

The pursuit of learning and scholarship is central to the mission of Illinois State University. Both are flourishing at Mennonite College of Nursing! In this year's annual report you will learn more about how Mennonite College of Nursing faculty is contributing to the achievement of this mission. A highlight of the year, the final approval for Illinois State's Ph.D. in nursing demonstrates a solid commitment of the University and College to an environment that supports nationally and internationally recognized research.

You will be introduced in this year's annual report to several students learning research skills from faculty mentors. We also follow up on the progress of one of our first Collaborative Nursing Doctoral students, and you will learn more about the international work of assistant professor Wendy Woith, and her passion to decrease the transmission of tuberculosis in Russian communities. MCN's undergraduate and graduate nursing students benefit greatly by their experience and exposure to faculty conducting strong programs of research. Due to the dedication and hard work of our faculty, research is thriving at MCN!

Brenda Recchia Jeffers, Ph.D., RN
Director master's/doctoral programs and research

Presentations

July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

Charlene S. Aaron, M.S.N., RN

Aaron, C. S. (2008, February). Dementia. Paper presentation for the Caregiver Support Group at Fairview Haven Nursing Home, Fairbury.

Aaron, C. S. (2007, November). Preceptors in long-term care and the impact on recruitment and retention of registered nurses. Abstract accepted for a presentation as part of a symposium for the 2007 Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific meeting, San Francisco.

Sandra D. Burke, Ph.D., CNP, BC-ADM

Burke, S. D. (2008, February). Baccalaureate nursing students' self-assessment of research appraisal skills. Paper presentation with Elizabeth Carlson for the 9th Annual Evidence-Based Practice Conference, Glendale, Arizona.

Burke, S.D. (2008, February). Reducing the pain of venipuncture: Sacrificing comfort for cost? A poster presented with Sonia Vercler, RN, CGRN and P. Corinn Desmond, RN, CAPA at the 9th Annual Evidence Based Practice Conference, Glendale, Arizona.

Burke, S. D. (2008, January). A new spin on synchronous learning: F2F meets the 21st century. Paper presentation as an interdisciplinary panel presentation with Brenda R. Jeffers, Patricia Klass (COE: EFA), Stefanie McAllister (COE:EFA), Lisa Marinelli, Neil Sappington (COE: EFA) and Norman Durflinger (COE: EFA) on synchronous Web-based learning as part of the Illinois State University 8th Annual University-Wide Symposium on Teaching and Learning, Normal.

Burke, S. D. (2008, January). Journal clubs to teach nursing research. Presentation with Elizabeth Carlson at the 2008 Teaching and Learning Symposium, Bloomington.

Burke, S.D. (2008, January). Nontraditional instruction approaches: Blurring the lines between distance and on-campus students. Poster presentation with Brenda R. Jeffers and Lisa Marinelli at the AACN Doctoral Education Conference, Captiva, Florida.

Burke, S. D. (2007, November). Education and Practice: Collaborating to promote evidence based practice. A paper presentation for the Sigma Theta Tau International's 39th Biennial Convention, Baltimore.

Burke, S. D. (2007, October). Using evidence based practice to make a difference in nursing. A paper presentation at the 79th Illinois Nurses Association Biennial Convention, Lisle.

Burke, S. D. (2007, September). Diabetes and Endocrine disorders. A paper presentation to the BroMenn Healthcare Critical Care Nurses, Normal.

Burke, S. D. (2007, July). From CINAHL to Cochrane: The ABC's of EBP. A poster presentation with Esther Myers, Chief Science Officer of the American Diabetes Association for the American Association of Diabetic Educators 34th Annual Meeting, St. Louis.

Sara L. Campbell, D.N.S., RN, NEA-BC

Campbell, S.L. (2008, March). Partners in Nursing (PIN) of Central Illinois Project. A paper presentation with Kelli T. Hill, Partners in Nursing (PIN) of Central Illinois Project Project Director at the Bloomington-Normal Chapter of Philanthropic Education Organization, Normal.

Elizabeth D. Carlson, Ph.D., MPH, APRN, BC

Jenkins, D.J., **Carlson, E.D.**, Krueger, A.A., & Cohen, M.Z. (2008, May). The impact of health literacy on patients receiving hematopoietic stem cell transplantation. Poster presentation at the Cancer, Culture & Literacy 6th Biennial Conference, Tampa.

Carlson, E. D. (2008, March). Understanding distress during hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT). Poster presentation with Amanda Krueger (MCN undergraduate student) and M. Z. Cohen at the 32nd Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Research Conference, Indianapolis.

Carlson, E. D. (2008, March). Understanding distress during hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT). Podium presentation with Amanda Krueger and M. Z. Cohen presented to the Honors Council of the Illinois Region Spring Conference, Macomb. (Amanda Krueger is an undergraduate student at MCN, and was one of the four honors students selected to present a podium presentation as a representative of Illinois State University's Undergraduate Honor Students.)

Carlson, E. D. (2008, February). Baccalaureate nursing students' self-assessment of research appraisal skills. Paper presentation with Sandra D. Burke for the 9th Annual Evidence-Based Practice Conference, Glendale, Arizona.

Carlson, E. D. (2008, January). Journal clubs to teach nursing research. Presentation with Sandra D. Burke at the 2008 Teaching and Learning Symposium, Bloomington.

Carlson, E. D. (2007, August). Applying social capital theory to community practice: An empirically-based explanatory framework of trust and collective action. Poster presentation at the CDC 2007 Cancer Conference: Building Partnerships: Strategies to convene, sustain, and evaluate effective partnerships, Atlanta.

Jennie Collings, M.P.H.

Collings, J. (2008, March). "Thinking Outside the Box" creative funding for doctoral students. Presentation at the Graduate Nurse Admissions Professionals (GNAP), a professional networking group within AACN, Grapevine, Texas.

Collings, J. (2008, February). Developing Doctoral Faculty: A Mentoring Program. A poster presentation with Brenda Recchia Jeffers at the U.S. Department of Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Health Professions All Programs Meeting: Envisioning the Future of Health Professions, Washington, D.C.

Collings, J. (2008, January). Creative funding for doctoral education: Reaching out to the community. Poster presentation with Kelli Hill at the AACN Doctoral Education Conference, Captiva, Florida.

Mary Cranston, M.S., RN

Cranston, M. (2007, November). An Alternate Learning Experience in Elder Care: Summer Independent Study toward Elder Research. A paper presentation for the Sigma Theta Tau International's 39th Biennial Convention, Baltimore.

Mary J. Dyck, Ph.D., RN, BC, LNHA

Dyck, M. J. (2007, November). Administrative strategies to prevent weight loss in nursing home residents. Paper presentation at the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Annual Scientific meeting, San Francisco.

Kelli Hill

Hill, K. (2008, May). Partners in Nursing (PIN) Of Central Illinois Project. A panel presentation for the Regional Workforce Investment Board at the Illinois Employment and Training Center, Bloomington.

Hill, K. (2008, April). Partners in Nursing (PIN) Of Central Illinois Project. A webinar presentation for the Consortium of the Peoria Regional Health Care Educators and Providers, Portland, Oregon.

Hill, K. (2008, April). Partners in Nursing (PIN) Of Central Illinois Project. Keynote Speaker for the Sunset Rotary Club, Normal.

Hill, K. (2008, March). Partners in Nursing (PIN) Of Central Illinois Project. A paper presentation with Sara L. Campbell for the Bloomington-Normal Chapter of the Philanthropic Education Organization, Normal.

Hill, K. (2008, February). Partners in Nursing (PIN) Of Central Illinois Project. Keynote Speaker for the Expanding Teaching Nursing Home Advisory Committee in Edwards Hall at Illinois State University, Normal.

Hill, K. (2008, January). Creative funding for doctoral education: Reaching out to the community. Poster presentation with Jennie Collings at the AACN Doctoral Education Conference, Captiva, Florida.

Brenda Recchia Jeffers, Ph.D., RN

Jeffers, B.R. (2008, February). Developing Doctoral Faculty: A Mentoring Program. A poster presentation with Jennie Collings for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Health Professions all Programs Meeting: Envisioning the Future of Health Professions, Washington, D.C.

Jeffers, B. R. (2008, January). A new spin on synchronous learning: F2F meets the 21st century. Paper presentation as an interdisciplinary panel presentation with Sandra D. Burke (MCN), Patricia Klass (COE: EFA), Stefanie McAllister (COE:EFA), Lisa Marinelli (MCN), Neil Sappington (COE: EFA) and Norman Durlinger (COE: EFA) on synchronous web-based learning as part of the Illinois State University 8th Annual University-Wide Symposium on Teaching and Learning, Normal.

Jeffers, B. R. (2008, January). Nontraditional instruction approaches: Blurring the lines between distance and on-campus students. Poster presentation with Sandra D. Burke and Lisa Marinelli at the AACN Doctoral Education Conference, Captiva, Florida.

Lynn S. Kennell, MSN, RN

Kennell, L.S. (2008 February). The Art of Nursing: Transforming Practice. Keynote speaker presentation for the 2008 Mock Convention at Goshen College Division of Nursing, Goshen, Indiana.

Amanda Krueger

Krueger, A. (2008, March). Understanding distress during hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT). Poster presentation with Elizabeth Carlson and M. Z. Cohen at the 32nd Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Research Conference, Indianapolis.

Krueger, A. (2008, March). Understanding distress during hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT). Podium presentation with Elizabeth Carlson and M. Z. Cohen presented to the Honors Council of the Illinois Region Spring Conference, Macomb. (Amanda Krueger was one of the four honors students selected to present a podium presentation as a representative of Illinois State University's Undergraduate Honor Students.)

Susan P. Kossman, Ph.D., RN

Kossman, S.P. (2007, November). Tailoring online information retrieval to user's needs based on a logical semantic approach to natural language processing and UMLS mapping. A poster presentation for the AMIA Annual Conference, Chicago.

Kossman, S.P. (2007, July). Using logical semantic NLP and UMLS mapping to tailor online information retrieval. Poster presented at NLM Annual Training Conference, Palo Alto, California.

Caroline M. Mallory, Ph.D., RN

Mallory, C.M. (2008, March). Recruitment and retention of women at high risk for HIV. A poster presentation with Alycia White, RN, BSN, a RN to BSN Student at Mennonite College of Nursing, for 2008 Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) Conference, Omaha.

Mallory, C.M. (2007, December). Protective practices and risk taking related to HIV among midlife African American women. A paper presentation for the 2007 National HIV Prevention Conference, Atlanta.

Mallory, C.M. (2007, December). Midlife African American women at risk for the HIV due to the shortage of African American male sexual partners. A poster presentation with Gardenia Harris, Ph.D., assistant professor in the School of Social Work at Illinois State University, for the 2007 National HIV Prevention Conference, Atlanta.

Lisa Marinelli, M.P.A.

Marinelli, L. (2008, January). A new spin on synchronous learning: F2F meets the 21st century. Paper presentation as an interdisciplinary panel presentation with Sandra D. Burke (MCN), Brenda R. Jeffers (MCN), Patricia Klass (COE: EFA), Stefanie McAllister (COE:EFA), Neil Sappington (COE: EFA) and Norman Durlinger (COE: EFA) on synchronous Web-based learning as part of the Illinois State University 8th Annual University-Wide Symposium on Teaching and Learning, Normal.

Marinelli, L. (2008, January). Nontraditional instruction approaches: Blurring the lines between distance and on-campus students. Poster presentation with Brenda R. Jeffers and Sandra D. Burke at the AACN Doctoral Education Conference, Captiva, Florida.

Wendie C. Medina, D.N.P., RN, APN-CNS, CRRN

Medina, W. C. (2007, October). Student nurses as effective educators on a psychiatric in-patient unit and Akathisia or escalation? Nursing assessment matters. Poster presentations at the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) Annual Conference, Kissimmee, Florida.

Medina, W. C. (2007, October). Akathisia or Escalation? Nursing Assessment Matters. A poster presentation for the American Psychiatric Nursing Association (APNA) Annual National Conference, Kissimmee, Florida.

Deb A. Stenger, RN, MSN

Stenger, D.A. (2008, April). Reducing venous thromboembolism risks for hospitalized patients. A paper presentation with Cindy Schaumburg, RN, BSN; CPHQ and Doug Brown, RN for the Iowa EBP Conference, Iowa City, Iowa.

Stenger, D.A. (2008, March). Reducing venous thromboembolism risks for hospitalized patients. A paper presentation with Cindy Schaumburg, RN, BSN, CPHQ for the 2nd Annual Evidence-Based Practice Conference at Illinois State University for the Sigma Theta Tau International Xi Pi Chapter, Normal.

Publications

July 1, 2007–June30, 2008

Kim S. Astroth, Ph.D., RN

Fish, A.F., Frid, D.J., Fish, J.L., Christman, S.K., **Astroth, K.S.** (2007). "Readiness to Exercise: A Comparison of 3 instruments and an interview." *Progress in Cardiovascular Nursing*, 22(4), 201-206.

Sandra Burke, Ph.D., CNP, BC-ADM

Burke, S. D. and Cornell, S. A. (2008, March). "An evidence-based approach to medication management in type 2 diabetes mellitus." *Clinician Reviews*, 18(3), 28-34.

Sara L. Campbell, D.N.S., RN, NEA-BC

Jeffers, B. R. and **Campbell, S. L.** (2007, Summer). "Individualizing geriatric clinical resources to impact nursing home care." *Perspectives*, 31(2), 5-8.

Denise Wilson, Ph.D., APN, CNP

Wilson, D. (2008, June). Herpes Zoster: Overcoming the barriers to adult immunization. Presented with Michael N. Oxman, MD and Pierce Gardner, MD at the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners 23rd National Conference, National Harbor, Maryland.

Wendy L. Woith, Ph.D., RN

Woith, W. L. (2008, May). Exotic places, deadly cases. Presentation for the Illinois State University Senior Professional Adult Enrichment Programs, Bloomington.

Woith, W.L. (2008, March). Working Internationally: Tuberculosis in Russia. A paper presentation for the University of Illinois at Chicago, Alpha Lambda Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, Chicago.

Woith, W.L. (2007, August). Nursing Research Panel Participant. A paper presentation at the 6th U.S. Russian Nursing Conference in Russia on a cruise ship on the Volga River.

Woith, W. L. (2007, August). Conducting patient, family, and community education. Focus group discussion at the 6th U.S. Russian Nursing Conference in Russia on a cruise ship on the Volga River.

Woith, W. L. (2007, August). Delay in seeking treatment and adherence to tuberculosis medication therapy in Russia. Poster presentation at the 6th U.S. Russian Nursing Conference in Russia on a cruise ship on the Volga River.

Pi-Ming Yeh, Ph.D., RN

Yeh, P. (2008, March). Influences of spiritual well-being and coping on family caregiver mental health. Paper presentation at the Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Conference, Indianapolis.

Elizabeth D. Carlson, D.N.S., MPH, APRN, BC

Engelbreton, J.C., Mahoney, J.S., and **Carlson, E.D.** (2008). "Cultural competency in the era of evidence-based practice." *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 24, 172-178.

Mary J. Dyck, Ph.D., RN, BC, LNHA

Dyck, M.J. (2008, January). "Weight Loss Prevention in Nursing Home Residents: A Pilot Study to Determine Administrative Strategies." *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*, 34(1), 28-35.

Brenda Recchia Jeffers, Ph.D., RN

Stoelting, J., McKenna, L., Taggart, E., Mottar, R., Jeffers, B.R., Wendler, C. (2007, July/August). "Prevention of nosocomial pressure ulcers: A process improvement project." *Journal of Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing*, 34(4), 382-388.

Jeffers, B. R. and Campbell, S. L. (2007, Summer). "Individualizing geriatric clinical resources to impact nursing home care." *Perspectives*, 31, (2), 5-8.

Susan Kossman, Ph.D., RN

Kossman, S. and Scheidenhelm, S. (2008, March/April). "Nurses' Perceptions of the Impact of Electronic Health Records on Work and Patient Outcomes." *CIN:Computers, Informatics, Nursing*, 26(2), 69-77.

Brennan, P. F., Casper, G., Kossman, S. and Burke, L. (2007). "HeartCareII: Home care support for patients with chronic cardiac disease." *Medinfo*. 2007, 12(Pt 2):988-92.

Kossman, S. and Brennan, P. F. (2008). "Nursing Informatics." In Feldman, H. (Ed.) *Encyclopedia of Nursing Leadership*. New York: Springer.

Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN

Mallory, C.M. (2008, January/February). "African American women's experience of infection with HIV in the Rural Southeastern United States." *JANAC: Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*, 19(1), 25-36.

Byrns, G., Knoblauch, D., Mallory, C.M. (2007, Fall). "Are all 'No-lift' policies the same?" *Journal of Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare*, 22(2), 19-23.

Denise D. Wilson, Ph.D., APN, CNP

Wilson, D. D. (2008). Chapter 16: "Test Plan Category: Physiological Integrity; Sub-category: Reduction of Risk Potential: Part 1." In F.D. Monahan, *McGraw-Hill Review for the NCLEX-RN Exam*. (pp. 465-516). New York: McGraw-Hill.

Wilson, D. D. (2008). *McGraw-Hill Manual of Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests*. New York: McGraw-Hill. 608 pages.

Wilson, D. D. (2007, September). "Herpes zoster: Prevention, diagnosis, and treatment." *The Nurse Practitioner*, 32(9), 19-24.

Wilson, D. D. (2007, Winter). "Managing migraines." *BroMenn Healthy Outlook for Women*, p. 3.

Wendy L. Woith, Ph.D., RN

Woith, W. L. and Larson, J. L. (2008). "Delay in seeking treatment and adherence to tuberculosis medications in Russia: A survey of patients from two clinics." *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 45(8), 1163-74. Epub 2007 September.

(2008, January). Leveraging Gerontology Expertise to Reduce Health Disparities in Rural Elders. Grant submitted by Elizabeth Carlson, Mary Dyck and Susan Kossman. Research and Scholarship Development Program at Mennonite College of Nursing, Illinois State University, \$6,000.

(2008). FOCUS 2008 Fellowship. University Assessment Office, Illinois State University, \$5,000.

(2008). Evaluating the Pedagogy of Journal Clubs for Undergraduate Nursing Research. Teaching-Learning Development Grant submitted by Elizabeth Carlson and Sandra Burke. Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology (CTLT), Illinois State University, \$2,000.

(2008). Summer Faculty Development Fellowship, Faculty Excellence Initiative, Illinois State University, \$5,000.

(2008). Professional Development Travel Grant, 9th Annual Evidence-Based Practice Conference. Faculty Excellence Initiative, Illinois State University, \$750.

(2007-2008). Teaching Development Travel Grant, Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology, Illinois State University, \$300.

Mary J. Dyck, Ph.D., RN, BC, LNHA

(2008, May). University Research Grant. Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. \$1,000.

(2008, January). Leveraging Gerontology Expertise to Reduce Health Disparities in Rural Elders. Grant submitted by Elizabeth Carlson, Mary Dyck, and Susan Kossman. Research and Scholarship Development Program at Mennonite College of Nursing, Illinois State University, \$6,000.

(2007, December). 2007 Nurse Educator Fellowship. Illinois Board of Higher Education, \$10,000.

Kelli Hill

(August 2007). The Partners in Nursing of Central Illinois (PIN of CI). Kelli Hill, Principal Investigator, Illinois Prairie Community Foundation, Co-principal Investigator. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation, \$250,000 for two years. This grant was also matched by PIN of CI project partners in the amount of \$230,000.

Brenda R. Jeffers, Ph.D., RN

(2008, Spring). Expanding Distance Learning Opportunities for Graduate Students in Nursing. Extended University Learning Grant, Illinois State University, \$24,000.

(2007, July). 2007 Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), \$20,561.

(2007, July). Collaborative Doctoral Program—Caring for Older Adults. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, \$393,404 for year three of a three year grant award.

Susan Kossman, Ph.D., RN

(2008, February). Blue Skies: Developing Technology-Enhanced Chronic Care Management for Elders with Depression. Illinois State University, Partnership for Research Involving Vulnerable Populations, \$3,000.

(2008, January). Leveraging Gerontology Expertise to Reduce Health Disparities in Rural Elders. Grant submitted by Elizabeth Carlson, Mary Dyck, and Susan Kossman. Research and Scholarship Development Program at Mennonite College of Nursing, Illinois State University, \$6,000.

Panel and manuscript reviews

July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

Sandra D. Burke, Ph.D., CNP, BC-ADM

Book Chapter Reviewer for Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Elizabeth D. Carlson, Ph.D., MPH, APRN, BC

Invited Manuscript Reviewer for *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*. Ongoing Manuscript Reviewer for *Qualitative Health Research*. Abstract Reviewer for the 2007 CDC Cancer Conference: Meeting Future Challenges. Invited manuscript reviewer for *Public Health Nursing*. Ongoing manuscript reviewer for *Research in Nursing & Health*.

Mary J. Dyck, Ph.D., RN, BC, LNHA

Manuscript Reviewer for *Applied Nursing Research*, *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, and *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*.

Brenda Recchia Jeffers, Ph.D., RN

Manuscript Reviewer for *Nursing Research*, *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, and *Journal of Hospice and Palliative Care*.

Pamela L. Lindsey, D.N.Sc, RN

(2008, April). Evaluating Appropriate Use of Psychotropic Medications with Older Adults. Competitive pilot grant from the Gerontological Nursing Interventions Research Center and the Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence at Iowa, \$9,864.

(2007, July) Clair Fagin Fellow. John A. Hartford Foundation Atlantic Philanthropies, \$120,000.

(2007, July) Evaluating Appropriate Use of Psychotropic Medications with Older Adults in Acute Care Psychiatric Settings. John A. Hartford Foundation/The American Academy of Nursing, \$60,000.

Nancy Ridenour, Ph.D., RN, APRN, BC, FAAN

(2007, July). Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, \$155,000.

Wendy M. Woith, Ph.D., RN

(2008, May). University Research Grant. Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, \$1,000.

(2008, January). Training in Biobehavioral Nursing Research Postdoctoral Fellowship. University of Illinois at Chicago, supported by the National Institute of Health (NIH) and the National Institute of Nursing Research, \$43,276.

Pi-Ming Yeh, Ph.D., MSN, RN

(2007, August). University Research Grant. Mennonite College of Nursing Illinois State University, \$3,946.

(2007, July). Influences of Spiritual Well-being, Coping, and Care Continuity on Family Caregiver Burden and Mental Health. Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, \$3,500.

Susan Kossman, Ph.D., RN

Manuscript Reviewer for *CIN: Computers, Informatics, Nursing and Journal of Medical Internet Research*. Paper Reviewer for AMIA 2007 Annual symposium.

Abstract Reviewer for MNRS Psychiatric Mental Health Special Interest Group: 2007 Conference. Book Chapter Reviewer for Prentice Hall. Grant Reviewer for Mennonite College of Nursing, University Research Grant.

Caroline M. Mallory, Ph.D., RN

Manuscript Reviewer for *Research in Nursing and Health*, *AIDS, Health Care for Women International*, Taylor and Francis, Washington, DC. *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*, Thousand Oaks, CA. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia. Grant Review Panel for the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health. Special Emphasis Panel, Ad hoc Reviewer, and the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health Special Emphasis Panel, Ad hoc Reviewer.

Funded grants

July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

Kim. S. Astroth, Ph.D., RN

(2007, August). Training in Behavioral Nursing. Postdoctoral fellowship submitted by Kim Astroth. National Institute of Health (NIH) and the National Institute of Nursing Research, \$43,276.

(2007, July). Mennonite College Nursing Partnership for Research Involving Vulnerable Populations. Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, \$3,130.35.

Sandra D. Burke, Ph.D., CNP, BC-ADM

(2007, December). 2008 Nurse Educator Fellowship Program. Illinois Board of Higher Education, \$10,000.

(2008). Evaluating the Pedagogy of Journal Clubs for Undergraduate Nursing Research. Teaching-Learning Development Grant submitted by Elizabeth Carlson and Sandra Burke. Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology (CTLT), Illinois State University, \$2,000.

Sara L. Campbell, D.N.S, RN, NEA-BC

(2007, October). Expanding the Teaching-Nursing Home Culture in the State of Illinois. Illinois Department of Public Health, \$371,487 for year three of a three year grant award.

Elizabeth D. Carlson, Ph.D., MPH, APRN, BC

(Spring 2008) Faculty Aging Research Fellowship. Mennonite College of Nursing, Illinois State University, three credit hour release time for spring semester 2008.

(2008, February). Mennonite College of Nursing Partnership for Research Involving Vulnerable Populations. Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, \$2,000.

Awards and honors

July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008

Sandra Burke, Ph.D., CNP, BC-ADM

Podium presentation award with Elizabeth Carlson for baccalaureate nursing students' self-assessment of research appraisal skills at the 9th Annual Evidence-Based Practice Conference, Phoenix.

Received a \$10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship Award from the Illinois Board of Higher Education in December 2007. The purpose of the award is to ensure the retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at institutions of higher learning that award degrees in nursing.

Elizabeth D. Carlson, Ph.D., MPH, APRN, BC

Podium presentation award with Sandra Burke for baccalaureate nursing students' self-assessment of research appraisal skills, at the 9th Annual Evidence-Based Practice Conference, Phoenix.

Mary J. Dyck, Ph.D., RN, BC, LNHA

Received a \$10,000 Nurse Educator Fellowship Award from the Illinois Board of Higher Education, December 2007. The purpose of the award is to ensure the retention of well-qualified nursing faculty at institutions of higher learning that award degrees in nursing.

In October 2007 the College Research Committee announced that Mary J. Dyck was selected as the Outstanding College Researcher from Mennonite College of Nursing for the 2007–2008 academic year. Dyck's program of research focuses on nursing home quality with a special interest on the administrative aspects of the long-term health care system.

Dyck was invited to serve as an editor for Section IV of the Core, Legal and Ethical Issues of the new NGNA Core Curriculum on Gerontological Nursing. This is the book used to prepare for the ANCC certification exams in Gerontological nursing, i.e. basic, GNP, and GCNS.

Brenda Recchia Jeffers, Ph.D., RN

Was selected as a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Executive Fellowship Semifinalist in April 2008

Her co-authored manuscript; "Prevention of nosocomial pressure ulcers: A process improvement project." *Journal of Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing*, 34 (4), 382-388, was selected to receive the Journal's Clinical Manuscript Award, May 1, 2008.

Was an invited member of Team Illinois and competitively selected to participate in the Nursing Educational Capacity Summit, Arlington, VA, June 26 and 27, 2008. Sponsored by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Center to Champion Nursing. Eighteen teams selected from 49 applications nationwide.

Denise D. Wilson, Ph.D., APN, CNP

Received the Graduate Program Teaching Excellence Award in May 2008.

Wendy L. Woith, Ph.D., RN

Was invited to serve on the Sigma Theta Tau International, Global Advisory Council (GAC) for the 2007–2009 biennium. The primary goals for this advisory council are to brainstorm strategies for creating a global mindset and raising the consciousness about global nursing and health care issues at the chapter and regional level. In addition, the advisory council will examine global healthcare and nursing issues appropriate for policy advocacy by STTI and identify strategies, including the International Academic Nursing Alliance (IANA), for increasing visiting professorships, international student and clinician exchanges, and international travel.

First gerontological nurse practitioner (GNP) Suzette Rush-Drake

Suzette Rush-Drake enrolled at Mennonite College of Nursing Program at Illinois State University in May 2008. As the first student in the GNP program, she participated at a distance in a synchronous online course in Nursing Informatics. Suzette is attending school part-time and is pursuing Gerontological Nurse Practitioner certification.



Graduate Office program highlights

By Chris Bray, program associate

On May 29, 2008 Mennonite College of Nursing held an inaugural Ph.D. event to celebrate the beginning of Illinois State University's Ph.D. program in nursing with a focus on aging.

There were approximately 60 people in attendance including faculty, staff, students, community members, and visiting guests. The focus of the inaugural event was a reception including honored guests with featured speakers sharing accomplishments, future plans, and celebrating the growth of Mennonite College of Nursing doctor of philosophy in nursing program. The featured presenters at the celebratory event included: Brenda Jeffers, director of master's/doctoral programs and research and a professor of MCN; Sara Campbell, interim dean and professor of

Focus of the inaugural event was a reception including honored guests with featured speakers sharing accomplishments, future plans, and celebrating the growth of Mennonite College of Nursing doctor of philosophy in nursing program.

MCN; Kimberly Nance, director of the graduate school and a professor at Illinois State; Meridean Maas, University of Iowa Professor Emerita and co-director of the John A. Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence; and Geri Kirkbride, collaborative doctoral program student.

The doctor of Philosophy program in nursing is one of 10 Ph.D. programs offered at Illinois State University. The Ph.D. in nursing program will prepare nurses with the expertise to conduct research in patient care and outcomes, teach in baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs, demonstrate leadership in health policy development, and develop and evaluate models of care for vulnerable populations. Initially the program will focus on aging populations, but new focal areas will likely be added as faculty expertise develops and the program grows.

MCN recognizes the current nurse shortage and is supported by the university community and Illinois State administrators with efforts to educate nurse researchers and faculty scholars. MCN is one of a few programs throughout Illinois offering the Ph.D. in nursing. MCN is geographically located in central Illinois (Bloomington-Normal) making it accessible to a large group of learners. Other nursing Ph.D. programs in Illinois are located in the northern part of the state. MCN is the first to offer Ph.D.s to nurses with a focus on aging in central Illinois. The Ph.D. program accommodates student needs through synchronous, asynchronous, and

traditional classroom instruction. Students choose MCN at Illinois State over other Ph.D. programs because of affordability, geography, faculty and staff, and distance education opportunities.

MCN's first cohort of students officially begins with five Ph.D. students in August 2008 for the 2008–2009 cohort.



Colleen Kelley, Theresa Schwinhammer, Geri Kirkbride, Teri Saxton, Debra Jenkins



Collaborative doctoral program participant Geri Kirkbride

Geri Kirkbride is employed at Memorial Medical Center as a nursing research facilitator. Her credentials include a diploma from Decatur Memorial Hospital, School of Nursing (1979); a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville (1990); and a master's degree in nursing administration, Mennonite College of Nursing, Illinois State University (2001).

In response to the question, "Why do you want to pursue a Ph.D. in nursing?" Kirkbride replied, "I love nursing. I'm passionate about it and I'm concerned about the future of health care, specifically nursing. I want to better prepare myself to be a facilitator for the changes in health care. Earning a doctorate helps nurses develop the knowledge and expertise to understand our complex health care environment and to devise strategies to improve care and our working environments.

Earning a Ph.D. in nursing will give me the skills to conduct important research, and allow me to be a stronger nursing resource and leader. I am concerned about staffing shortages, safety, and clinical effectiveness."

"The Ph.D. program at the Mennonite College of Nursing is affiliated with the University of Iowa's nursing program, which is a strong program and it is well-recognized. My experience

"I love nursing. I'm passionate about it and I'm concerned about the future of health care, specifically nursing. I want to better prepare myself to be a facilitator for the changes in health care."

with the Mennonite College of Nursing program, where I earned a master's degree, is that it is a very high-quality program—and that's what attracted me to stay in this area to pursue my Ph.D."

"I think that it's important for nurses to have a voice in policy. I see a role for the bedside nurse in the management of patient care in the sense that patients travel through the health care system safely and with continuity, which is what I plan to do."

MCN graduate students selected as 2008 Paul Ambrose Scholars

Jessica Sullivan, master's student and her faculty mentor Caroline Mallory, as well as Debbie Jenkins, doctoral student, and her faculty mentor Elizabeth Carlson, have both been selected as 2008 Paul Ambrose Scholars.

The Paul Ambrose Scholars Program supports 49 health professionals across the country to participate in a prevention education and health leadership symposium in Washington, DC. This year the symposium was held in June. Monies from the program support student attendance at the symposium and help fund a community-based health education project of the student's design. Students work with their faculty mentors to submit an application outlining the proposed project.

Student research projects

Bachelor of Science in nursing program graduate Amanda Krueger



Amanda Krueger was in the 2008 cohort of graduates in the B.S.N. prelicensure sequence at MCN. Krueger remarks about her research experience: "Nursing school was overwhelming and challenging, yet the best thing I've ever done. My education has prepared me for the many situations that I come across not only in work, but in life. I participated in a trip to Texas and spent valuable clinical time sharing my nursing skills with underserved families and their children, and joined organizations such as SNA (Student Nursing Association) and STTI (Sigma Theta Tau International), which helped me network with students, faculty, and advance my nursing knowledge. I made sure to utilize all of the opportunities that MCN had available. One particular opportunity was a mentorship through the honors program in which I worked with Dr. Elizabeth Carlson on a research project titled 'Understanding Distress in Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation.' Through my work with her I developed posters and power points, presented at research conferences throughout the Midwest, and will be giving an oral presentation in Washington, D.C. this fall. With Dr. Carlson's guidance and mentoring I learned the value of nursing research and hope to pursue research further on in my nursing career. I am working at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota as a staff nurse on an orthopedic trauma floor taking care of a wide variety of patients, participating in research studies, and yes taking more classes. Pursuing an RN, B.S.N. has been a goal of mine since I could talk. It is a world full of challenges, happiness, rewards, and never-ending excitement and learning. When I walk into work every day and greet my patients, it reminds me why I decided to pursue a B.S.N.—to be the face that the sick turn to for holistic care and reassurance. MCN gave me the confidence to do that. Obtaining my B.S.N. gave me a building block for the rest of the goals I plan to pursue to advance nursing science."

Family nurse practitioner program participant Jesika Moore

Jesika is a master's student in the family nurse practitioner program. "In spring 2006, I started working towards my FNP at ISU-MCN. I decided that I wanted to advance my nursing education



and better serve my community as an FNP. The beginning classes were packed with information and I learned a lot in the course of the first 18 months. Being part-time in the program I was able to see others complete their degrees and become super FNs. In the spring semester 2008 I began working with Dr. Brenda Jeffers as a graduate assistant on a research project, Vascular Surgery Education Package (VSEP): study with memorial health systems. In this position I have worked on research projects, started my own personal research, and helped within the School of Nursing at various levels. In July 2008 I presented an individual research project poster on palliative care: make each life count. It will be a joy to complete my degree through ISU-MCN, and I look forward to helping those in the Bloomington/Normal and regional rural areas with a special interest in pediatrics. MCN—thanks for advancing nursing practice!"

Christina Garcia, Ph.D. program



Christina Garcia is an assistant professor at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing. "As a beginning Ph.D. student with MCN at ISU, I have been very pleased with the attention to each student's needs as the program begins. I decided to pursue a Ph.D. in nursing because of my desire to learn and integrate more research into my current position as a faculty member at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing. I started taking classes as a student-at-large last August and felt very welcomed by the faculty and staff at MCN. Last spring I had the opportunity to work closely with one of the faculty members, Dr. Sandra Burke. Dr. Burke was conducting a research study with the staff at BroMenn Healthcare titled "Examining the effectiveness of intradermal bacteriostatic saline in reducing the pain of intravenous cannulation: Evidence Based Practice in Action." I was able to enter the data into SPSS and assist with analyzing the data. This opportunity enabled me to be more familiar with the research process as well as learn more about how to enter the data into SPSS. Currently I am enrolled in two classes and working on solidifying my research question. This is definitely a learning process, but the coursework required helps each student focus on their research interest and how each course can assist them with the development of their dissertation. Again, I have been very pleased with the attention I have received with the program at MCN. I am looking forward to the challenge over the next few years."

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Annual Report

2007-2008



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