

2009 Fall Events

September

Thursday September 10
MCN 90/10 Anniversary and
Welcome to Janet Wessel
Krejci Celebration
Alumni Center

October

Saturday, October 17
Homecoming Events
Open House at Edwards Hall,
Nursing Tailgate

November

Saturday, November 7
Family Weekend
Open House at Edwards Hall

December

Tuesday, December 8
MCN Holiday Celebration
Ewing Cultural Center

Friday, December 11

Accelerated BSN Ceremony
Alumni Center

Save the Date—Homecoming 2009



Plans are being made for Mennonite College of Nursing faculty, staff, students, and alumni to celebrate. More information will be announced in the fall.

This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting Mennonite College of Nursing at (309) 438-7418.

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Web site and e-newsletter

Check out our updated Web site! Visit it often to keep up-to-date on our programs, news, and events. Sign up to receive Mennonite College of Nursing's e-newsletter. IllinoisState.edu/nursing



MENNONITE
COLLEGE OF NURSING
Illinois State University

The Flame

SUMMER 2009

MCN Student's Clinical Connection with MCN Alumnus

By Amanda French, junior nursing student

When I think back to all that I expected from my first nursing school clinical, I could have never dreamed of the experience that was presented to me. Halfway through the semester I was assigned to a woman named Ada Rose Donaldson. As I walked in to introduce myself, I did not know the special bond that we shared. Ada Rose asked me what school I was from and I told her Mennonite College of Nursing. Her eyes lit up as she informed me that she had graduated from Mennonite College of Nursing in 1939!

Over the next couple of weeks, Ada Rose and I had several conversations about what nursing school was like for her and how it has changed. When she was a student the program lasted three years, whereas now it lasts two years. While Ada Rose was in school it cost only \$250.00 a year, which is a fraction of what current Mennonite students pay. Ada Rose told me that she was paid for her clinical while she was in school, whereas students enrolled today are not. In her time at Mennonite College of Nursing, all of the clinical locations were along the train route which the girls would take to their clinical. The last difference that we noted was the location of Mennonite College. When she was enrolled as a student, her campus was on Main Street where the Electrolux plant currently resides, whereas, my campus is Illinois State University.

It was amazing how both of our experiences in nursing school were different yet somehow the same. We had a common bond with each other that allowed us to trust

and share our stories freely. When the semester was over we exchanged contact information. It was a few weeks later that I got an envelope in the mail that was from Ada Rose. Inside were over fifty photos that she had collected from her time at MCN. It was amazing to be able to look at the history she had kept. The love she still carried for MCN was evident.



I could have never imagined forming such a bond with one of my patients. I looked forward to going to my clinical every Friday so that Ada Rose and I could talk and catch up. I learned much from her through our time together, and would not trade it for anything. I will always be thankful to Ada Rose for being so giving with her stories, for she taught me lessons that no one else could have.

I found out Ada Rose passed away on January 11, 2009. I will miss her, but will cherish what I learned from her in this clinical experience.

ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY
Illinois' first public university
Mennonite College of Nursing
Campus Box 5810
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Message from the dean

Greetings to alumni and friends,

The last sentence of the Mission Statement reads: "Mennonite College of Nursing is committed to being purposeful, open, just, caring, disciplined, and celebrative." This year is a big year for celebrations! Congratulations to the B.S.N. Class of 2008, who received

a 97 percent on the NCLEX exam; to the F.N.P. Class of 2008, who received a 100 percent on the certification exam; and to the Accelerated B.S.N. Class of December 2008, who received a 100 percent pass rate of the NCLEX exam. Congratulations to the Class of 2009—may you all be successful in your nursing careers. Congratulations to the 2009 Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization Award recipients—we are grateful for your commitment and passion to Mennonite College of Nursing.

We are also celebrating 90 years of nursing and 10 years at Illinois State University this year—you will see the

accomplishments the college has made this past decade. Congratulations to the faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends who helped make this possible. Please visit our new Web site at IllinoisState.edu/nursing. Congratulations to all of the staff who helped with this tremendous project. The college also welcomes Janet Wessel Krejci, who will begin her appointment as dean beginning August 1.

It has been an honor for me to serve as the interim dean for the past two years. I wish Mennonite College of Nursing and Illinois State University continued success, and many more celebrations.

Best wishes,

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

Welcome new faculty and staff

Ezra Holston, assistant professor

Judy Somers, assistant lab coordinator

2009 Degree candidates

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.)

Tracy Abplanalp
Joanna Albee
Diane Alder
Stephanie Alessi
Collette Ansteth
Kristen Avara
Kaylee Babcock
Danielle Bartell
Kathleen Berkery
Lindsay Blair
Brittany Bogs
Lindsay Brais
Angela Braker
Whitney Brennan
Kristin Capone
Julia Cleveland
Danielle Davis
Kelsey Dent
Mary Doerfler
Kathleen Earnest
Laura Fischer
Sarah Fyfe
Dina Gabra
Megan Gaidos
Jenna Grider

Elizabeth Guth
Jennifer John
Margaret Johnson
Rachel Juskiewicz
Stacie Kempton
Elisha Kissee
Heidi Krueger
Katrina Krugger
Stephanie Lambie
Jessica Lasak
Allison Lehrke
Nicole Lesiak
Jeffery Maddox
Jennifer Mahaffey
Jena Malinowski
Kaitlyn Mangiaracina
Michele Maurer
Cassie McDermott
Kelly Mergens
Chelsea Merth
Melinda Montgomery
Allison Nissen
Robert Peel
Amanda Probasco
Jennifer Pugh
Jennifer Reck
Ashley Reeverts
Brooke Roberts

Courtney Roberts
Kayla Roberts
Jamie Rynearson
Lauren Samuel
Jeffrey Sawyer
Lauren Scheid
Kathryn Scheiding
Katie Schmidt
Amy Schwarting
Tara Sorrells
Kevin Spangler
Jennifer Starks
Aubrey Taylor
Emily Templeton
Katherine Thomas
Ashley Trudeau
Paris Tyler
Nicole Valasek
Courtney Vanderford
Kristina Vasnaik
Allison Warzecha
Ashley Wendt
Jamie Whitfield
Amanda Whitley
Devon Williams
Lauren Woodard
Casey Worthey
Amanda Yessa

Registered nurses receiving Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.)

Chantel Ellis
Teresa Ewins
Carmen Heberling
Michelle Johnson
Loralee Kelsey
Ashley Kil
Heather Knoblauch
Gayle Meyer
Kiyonna Mogbo
Karen Noffke
Shawna Rivera
Angela Salazar-Zupancic
Teshia Sanson
Jammie Vickers
Xuehua Zhang

Candidates for Clinical Nurse Leader Master's Degree

Karen DeLong
Brittany (Woolley) Lees

Christen (Bull) Vermeulen

Candidates for Family Nurse Practitioner (F.N.P.) Master's Degree

Terrah Cornell
Casey Marie (Swift) Frank
Miranda N. Funk-Garrett
Karen Anne Mellody
Jesika Moore
Megan Shelton
Patience Taber
Regina White
Jennifer Whitfill

Candidates for Nursing Systems Administration Master's Degree

Teresa K. Novy

Maggie O'Malley selected as a Bone Scholar

Maggie O'Malley has been named a Bone Student Scholar for the 2009–2010 academic year. Being designated a Bone Scholar is the highest honor an Illinois State University undergraduate student can receive. The scholarship is named in honor of the late Robert G. Bone, president of Illinois State from 1956–1967. Bone Scholars are selected through a rigorous campus-wide competition on the basis of their scholarly achievements, and their engagement and leadership in the university community and beyond. Invited finalists submit a comprehensive portfolio including several essays and statements, a project, and five letters of recommendation.

"I am thrilled and honored to have been selected as a Bone Scholar," said O'Malley. "This summer I will be completing an internship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. The nursing profession has so many opportunities, and I plan to continue my education and apply for graduate school. Right now I'm interested in pursuing an advanced degree to become a nurse practitioner."



Nursing student receives Future Alumni Leader of the Year Award



On April 19, 2009, Elizabeth Guth received the Future Alumni Leader of the Year Award at the Student Involvement Recognition Ceremony. The Future Alumni Leader of the Year Award was established in 1998 to give academic departments and schools the opportunity to recognize one student for outstanding service and demonstration of potential as an alumni

leader to Illinois State University. The award is premised on the idea that students who are highly involved in service efforts will continue their commitment to service after graduation and become alumni leaders.

Elizabeth was the 2008–2009 Student Nurses Association president, and participated in several community service activities throughout the year. She graduated in May, and will be working as a RN in the ICU Stepdown unit at BroMenn in Normal.

"I was completely and utterly surprised when my name was announced for winning this award," Guth said.

"I did not expect it at all. It is a great honor and I will always keep this title close to my heart as I plan to continue to support Illinois State University and Mennonite College of Nursing the rest of my life."

Guth added that she could not have received this award without the support of the entire Mennonite College of Nursing faculty and staff. "They were behind me 100 percent this past year, and I really appreciated working with each of them."

Mennonite College of Nursing Student Awards

The following student awards were announced during the 2009 Commencement ceremony:

Geriatric Nursing Excellence Award

Amy Schwarting

Tiedeman Memorial Award

Lauren Woodard

Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Karen Delong

Senior Excellence Award

Jessica Lasak

Alumni Clinical Excellence Award

Joanna Albee

Dr. Janet Wessel Krejci, appointed dean

After a national search, Janet Wessel Krejci was appointed to serve as the dean of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. Her appointment begins on August 1, 2009.

Krejci has a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, is a Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow, and held an American Council on Education (ACE) Leadership Fellowship. She received a post graduate certificate from the University of Maryland, and her M.S.N. and B.S.N. are from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Krejci's first nursing job was as a staff nurse/charge nurse at Highland Park Hospital in Highland Park. After a few years, she moved back to Milwaukee to pursue her M.S.N. In 1988, she joined Marquette University's College of Nursing as a research assistant to the dean. Through the years she held various appointments within the college, and in 2004 she was appointed to serve as associ-

ate dean for undergraduate programs for Marquette University College of Nursing until she accepted ACE Leadership Fellowship in 2007. Her honors include the UW-Milwaukee School of Nursing Alumnus Award, the Wisconsin Teaching Excellence Award from WNA, the Sigma Theta Tau International, Delta Gamma Outstanding Nurse Scholar Award, and the Marquette All-University Teaching Excellence Award.

Krejci's passion is for nursing education and leadership development so nurses at all levels may be equipped to redesign and improve the health care system, allowing vulnerable humans to better access quality care.



2009 MCN Transcultural Experience

In May, 32 students and five faculty members participated in the Transcultural Experience:

- Three students participated in the Eastborne, England (University of Brighton) exchange.
- Five students traveled to Austin, Texas, to work at the Children's Wellness Clinic with Karrie Ingalsbe. This clinic serves primarily Hispanic families.
- Twelve students traveled to Hyden, Kentucky, to work in a community and clinic setting with Rachael Hudgins and Ashlee Sloman, instructional assistant professors. The establishment of this site was initiated by an MCN graduate, Linda Ahrens, RN, FNP.
- Ten students traveled to Little Village in Chicago with Lynn Kennell, instructional assistant professor.
- Two students traveled to Vladimir, Russia, with Wendy Woith, assistant professor.

2009 MNAO Awards and Reunion Banquet

In May, the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization held an Awards and Reunion Banquet at the Alumni Center. After the banquet, alumni and friends toured Edwards Hall. Nursing students and faculty were on hand to demonstrate the lab equipment. Classes that celebrated a reunion included 1949, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989, 1999, and 2004.

In previous years, these recognitions were part of the Homecoming activities. However, due to an increase in university activities, the alumni board moved the awards presentation and reunion recognition to a separate event in the spring.

"I am thrilled with the turnout for this event," said Donny Bounds, MNAO president. "This is a great start for a new tradition of celebrating award recipients and reunion classes."



Class of 1949—60th Reunion
Left to right: Fran (Willet) Haughey, Marjorie (Lawrence) Keasling, Juanita (Webb) Garrett, Lorraine (Glackin) Stanwood

2009 Reunion classes



(A) Class of 1959—50th Reunion
Front Row: Connie (Hammond) Mohr, Sandra (Virgiel) Gibbs, Phyllis (Oldham) Martin, A. Darlene (Allison) Poindexter, Wilma (Hunzicker) Strantz
Back Row: Phyllis (Kessinger) Imig, Frances (Garber) Ulrich, Louise (Keeran) Karr, Caro (Moser) Jones, Karen (Lux) Hildreth



(B) Class of 1969—40th, Class of 1984—25th, Class of 2004—5th Reunions

Front Row: Jean (Meeker) Aeschliman, Jenifer Patton
Back Row: Teri Saxton



(C) Class of 1979—30th Reunion
Front Row: Karen (Roop) Magers, C. Gail (Miller) Mottershaw
Back Row: Cindy (Thompson) Schaumburg



(D) Class of 1989—20th Reunion
Front Row: Karen (Monk) Dennis, Janet (Dravis) Lovell
Back Row: Mark Shives



(E) Class of 1999—MSN 10th Reunion
Left to right: Terri Stephens, Linda Meints Cooper



(F) Class of 1999—BSN 10th Reunion
Front Row: Angie (Nolan) Johnson, Amber (McCullough) Williams, Christie (Brady) Rocke, Kim (Weiland) Gordon, Valerie (Bachman) Wright
Back Row: Alex Johnson, Laura (Moroney) Ey, Rachael Hudgins, Shannon (Freichs) Laesch, Barb Danforth

2010 MNAO Awards and Reunion Banquet—Saturday, May 15, 2010

Plans are underway for the 2010 MNAO Awards and Reunion Banquet. If you are from the following classes, and would like to help contact classmates to celebrate a reunion, contact Amy Irving at (309) 438-7418 or amirvin@ilstu.edu.

1940—70th	1970—40th	1990—20th
1950—60th	1980—30th	2000—10th
1960—50th	1985—25th	2005—5th



Master of Science in Nursing



Menonite College of Nursing celebrates 10 years at Illinois State University

Menonite College of Nursing became Illinois State University's sixth academic college on July 1, 1999. Founded in a rich tradition of nursing education as a former private college that was established in 1919, Menonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University has maintained important traditions while transforming into an innovative, future-oriented program. For more than 90 years the primary mission has been to prepare professional nurses by providing a quality education.



Focus on Aging



Selected highlights from the past 10 years

- 1999**
- Menonite College of Nursing became Illinois State University's sixth academic college.
 - Nancy Ridenour appointed dean.

- 2002**
- Received accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) for its baccalaureate and master's programs for five years.

- 2003**
- First NIH funded grant was approved for Caroline Mallory's HIV project.

- 2004**
- Menonite College of Nursing partnered with four Heritage nursing homes in Bloomington, Normal, El Paso, and Colfax in the Joe Warner Teaching Nursing Home Project, which provided students nurses with advance

education on care for older adults and helped to recruit nursing graduates into nursing home care.

- Celebrated 85/5 Anniversary—85 years of nursing education, and five years at Illinois State.

- 2005**
- MCN and Heritage Enterprises collaborated on the project "Expanding Teaching Nursing Home Culture in the State of Illinois," and received funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) for a five-year, \$1.48 million grant. This project builds upon the Joe Warner Teaching Nursing Home Project, by allowing MCN to partner with approximately 20 Heritage nursing homes across Illinois. The experience gathered from the first project will be used to

develop job orientation materials for nurses newly hired into the Heritage system.

- Received HRSA grant to implement a Collaborative Doctoral Program with the University of Iowa College of Nursing.
- First Endowed Professorship at Illinois State was installed to Sandra Burke as the BroMenn Endowed Clinical Assistant Professor.

- 2007**
- New option in the undergraduate program—Accelerated B.S.N.

- New master's sequence in the graduate program—Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL).

- First nursing student to receive Bone Scholarship.
- Sara L. Campbell appointed interim dean.
- Granted reaccreditation of the baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing for the maximum term of 10 years from CCNE.
- New master's sequence in the graduate program—Gerontological Nurse Practitioner (GNP).
- First Accelerated B.S.N. class graduates.

- 2008**
- New Ph.D. in nursing program approved.

- 2009**
- Janet Wessel Krejci, Ph.D., RN, appointed as dean.



2009 Distinguished Alum Award

Theresa Adelman is a two-time graduate of Mennonite College of Nursing. She received both her B.S.N. and M.S.N. degrees from MCN, and is currently working towards her Ph.D. During her career, she has worked as a clinical nurse at a nursing home, and for two years in the Army. She coordinated the medical

management, placement, recovery, and preservation of donor organs and tissues, and served as the lead nurse/clinical nurse in emergency. Although she is an instructor at Methodist College of Nursing in Peoria by profession, Adelman's passion is for leadership and mentorship. She is a mentor for new faculty, master's level students in nursing education, and high school students in the College Bound Nurse Excellence Program. She has earned

recognition for her leadership and mentoring including Xi Pi's Outstanding Graduate Student Practicum Leadership Award, Methodist College of Nursing's Outstanding New Clinical Assistant Professor Award (2005), and Excellence in Teaching Award (2008). In addition, she received the College Bound Nurse Excellence Program Mentor of the Year Award (2008). She was one of only five nurse educators nationally selected for the very prestigious NLN/Johnson & Johnson's 2008 Faculty Leadership Mentoring Program.

Adelman's family is very important to her. She has an 11-year-old daughter who was recently diagnosed with juvenile diabetes. She has met this new challenge head on, not only learning with her daughter about the disease, but becoming an advocate for the Juvenile Diabetes Association.

Adelman takes great pride in her alma mater. "I credit Mennonite College of Nursing faculty and staff for providing me with a solid foundation," said Adelman. "This gift has made me a better nurse, educator, and human being."



2009 MNAO Service Award

Ralph and Louise Bellas are longtime members of the Mennonite College of Nursing and Illinois State University families. Louise is a model lifelong learner. She received her diploma in nursing in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in 1946, and continued taking coursework throughout her life, earning her B.S. in public health nursing

in 1949, and her master's from Indiana University in 1984. Louise practiced nursing, raised a family, and traveled with her husband, Ralph. Wherever Louise travelled, she took the opportunity to learn from other cultures, their health care and educational systems.

From 1972–1985 Louise was a medical-surgical instructor at Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing. Louise was vital in establishing the International Transcultural Program. In 1974 she travelled to Brighton, England, meeting with nursing leaders and organizations, first to gain acceptance of our students in an exchange program, and then to find them housing. What a challenge that was!

Later the program needed to be expanded, and Louise established another program in Eastbourne England. Thirty-five years later, Mennonite College of Nursing is still sending students to England. Transcultural nursing remains a cornerstone of our college. Upon retirement Ralph and Louise served in the United States Peace Corps in Fiji. Louise wrote about her experiences in an article for *The Flame* in 1989.

Ralph Bellas is professor emeritus of English at Illinois State. He is also very dedicated and supportive of Mennonite College of Nursing and the nursing profession. In 1981, he was a writing consultant for Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing for the Baccalaureate Nursing Program Feasibility Study, which was presented to nurse examiners of the State of Illinois. He authored MCN's *The Flame Burns Brightly*, which records the history of Mennonite College of Nursing from 1985–1995. While in Fiji serving in the Peace Corps, he gave several workshops on writing to nursing students at the Fiji School of Nursing. In 2001, he published "Nurses and Personal Journal Writing" in *Creative Nursing*.

Louise and Ralph remain active members of the college, university, and health care communities. Louise served as a volunteer through BroMenn Hospice and through aiding with the health care needs of friends. They are dedicated and supportive of the Mennonite College of Nursing, and attend various events that commemorate achievements within the College of Nursing.



2009 Young Alum Award

Amy Jo Turner received her B.S.N. in 2000 from Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State.

Turner is currently at Methodist Medical Center of Illinois where she has worked since 2000 as the lead nurse in child-adolescent behavioral health. She is a preceptor for new nurses, and remains their mentor

for three years. In 2002 she was certified by the Crisis Prevention Institute for Certified Non-Violent Crisis Interven-

tion and received advanced certification in 2009.

In 2005, she received board certification for psych nursing and was named Nurse of the Month for mental health. She is also a non-violent crisis intervention instructor, and is a member of the Central Illinois Psych Nurses Association. Turner has returned to MCN every semester since she graduated to speak to nursing students in Psych-Mental Health Nursing, and also mentors high school students. When asked about her most important achievement, Turner reflects on her patients and being a part of an active team in behavior health. "It's the small achievements with each set of patients each and every day that carry the most importance to me," said Turner.

Alumni notes

Laurel Neitling '78 was chosen as Cleveland Clinic Foundation Euclid Hospital's finalist for the 2009 Albert E. Dyckes Health Care Worker of the Year Award. Neitling is currently a clinical nurse education specialist at Euclid Hospital/Cleveland Clinic hospital in Euclid, Ohio.

Mark Pelletier '81 was appointed by The Joint Commission as the executive director for hospital programs, accreditation, and certification services. He will be responsible for working with accredited organizations seeking to be resurveyed and new organizations seeking to become accredited. He will also be responsible for business development in the hospital and critical access hospital accreditation programs.

Amy (Pond) Markgraf '94 completed the school nurse certificate program at the University of Illinois–Chicago, and passed the Illinois School Nurse Certification Examination in December 2008. She is the school nurse at Lincoln Elementary School in the Belvidere Community School District #100.

Judith Banning '00 is currently a nurse practitioner at Memorial Health System in Jacksonville. She previously worked at the Pana Community Hospital from 2007–

2008; Memorial Health Systems in Petersburg from 2006–2008; King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 2002–2006; and Memorial Health Systems in Taylorville from 2000–2001.

Beth (Holub) Reese '02 and her husband, Steven, welcomed twins in January 2009. Their names are Isaac and Jenna. Beth is an RN at the Children's Hospital of Illinois at OSF St. Francis Medical Center in the neonatal ICU. She is also enrolled in an M.S.N. program for child and faculty educator.

Betsy Bahr '08 is a nurse at Advocate Illinois Masonic, and received the Rookie of the Year Award during Nurses Week.

In memory...

Our sympathies go to the family and friends of the following alumni:

- '37 **Winifred (Parker) Maxwell** passed away on March 3, 2009
- '39 **Ada Rose (Myers) Donaldson** passed away on January 11, 2009
- '60 **Eva (Durham) Wood** passed away on June 29, 2009
- '63 **Audra (French) Toth** passed away on June 25, 2009

2009–2010 SNA officers

Congratulations to the following Student Nurses Association Officers for the 2009–2010 academic year.



Lauren Towler, president



Jacki Lill, vice president



Jenna Davis, secretary



Carrie Pope, treasurer

Student Nurses' Association

By Jessica Lasak, SNA-VP 2008-09

The Student Nurses' Association (SNA) of Mennonite College of Nursing provides nursing students with opportunities to become involved in activities within the college and the community that contribute to personal and professional development. The organization promotes integrity, leadership, and good citizenship.

SNA had another successful year with the direction of the organization's officers: Elizabeth Guth (president), Jessica Lasak (vice president), Amanda Whitley (treasurer), and Amanda Probasco (secretary). The officers exhibited strong leadership that encouraged SNA to contribute to the college and clinical sites in new ways.

Throughout the 2008–2009 academic year, SNA has been active in the promotion of health-related activities. SNA participated in many campus and community events including health-related walks, Homecoming activities, career and health fairs, fundraising activities, and welcoming transcultural students and faculty.

During the fall semester, SNA participated in the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk, the American Heart Association Start! Heart Walk, and the American Diabetes Association Step Out: Walk to Fight Diabetes. These events brought together local organizations and businesses and members of the community to raise money for research and health-related programs.

SNA participated in the 2008 Homecoming parade and other events to cheer on the Illinois State Redbird football team in their game against Missouri State. Mennonite College of Nursing and SNA participated for the first time in the building decoration contest. The remarkable efforts put forth by the faculty, staff, and students allowed MCN to take first place in the contest. SNA members also joined the faculty and staff for the first annual Alumni Homecoming Tailgate.

The organization held a formal at the Holiday Inn in April. Those present enjoyed a night of dancing and fun! SNA also participated in Relay for Life and raised



SNA at the Diabetes Walk

funds for the American Cancer Society. Relay for Life allowed students and members of the community to pay tribute to the lives lost in the fight against cancer, honor cancer survivors, and raise money to support cancer research.

The 6th Annual Candlelighting Ceremony was also held in April. The ceremony celebrates the nursing profession through the recognition of outstanding faculty members and students and the sharing of personal nursing experiences. SNA presented Associate Dean Adkins with a check in the amount of \$1301.05 on behalf of the senior class. The donation will fund a Class of 2009 \$1,000 scholarship and go towards new equipment for the clinical simulation lab.

SNA gave back to the community by collecting canned foods for the Clair House and donating gym shoes to the McFarland Zone Center, a psychiatric clinical site utilized by the College. SNA members also helped with two career fairs, volunteered for the Women's Health Night, and hosted a transcultural lunch for students and faculty from Russia.

The 2008–2009 academic year was a great success for SNA. The officers would like to thank everyone who has supported the organization. The time has come to formally turn over the SNA executive

office to a new set of student leaders. SNA would like to congratulate Lauren Towler (president), Jacki Lill (vice president), Carrie Pope (treasurer), and Jenna Davis (secretary) for being elected to serve as officers for the 2009–2010 academic year!



SNA at the Heart Walk

From the director of development



you missed your call from the telefund, or would like to explore creating a fund with a current or deferred gift, it's not too late.

Jenny Ward, Director of development

(309) 438-7178
jsward@ilstu.edu

As I write this article, the Mennonite College of Nursing's Annual Telefund is underway. Callers contact our alumni and ask for gifts of annual support to our students. The reports have been positive. Callers say, "MCN alumni are passionate and committed to their college." Others have commented how fortunate our alumni are to choose nursing, because compared with other new graduates, ours "can find good jobs with excellent starting salaries."

Getting to graduation isn't always easy, and this year was a particularly difficult one for many of our students and their families. We expect this year will be difficult as well. Thank you to all of our alumni and friends who together ease the burden. Thanks especially to the class of 2009 for raising over \$1,300 to create the class of 2009 scholarship and support the simulation labs!

This year, our enrollment will double. We expect over 300 applications for student support. Whether you find yourself in a position to make a small or large gift, we appreciate your help.

2008 NCLEX-RN pass rate

State—90 percent
National—87 percent
MCN—97 percent

2008 Family nurse practitioner pass rate

Mennonite College of Nursing is pleased to report a **100 percent** pass rate for graduates from the family nurse practitioner sequence.

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, and 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, or e-mail to amirvin@ilstu.edu.

Name _____		Date _____
Maiden Name (if applicable) _____		Class year _____
Mailing Address _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
() _____		
Telephone _____		E-mail _____
Present occupation/Employer _____		
News/Comments _____		

