

The Flame



WINTER 2007-08

Mennonite College of Nursing

Illinois State University

Sara L. Campbell appointed interim dean

Sara Campbell, DNS, RN, CNAA, BC, has been appointed to serve as interim dean at Mennonite College of Nursing for a two year term beginning July 1, 2007.

Campbell received her Doctor of Nursing Science from Indiana University, her Master of Science degree from Illinois State University, and her B.S.N. from Mennonite College of Nursing. She began her professional career at Mennonite College of Nursing in 1991. She served as a laboratory assistant, coordinator for student development and assistant professor. When MCN joined Illinois State University in 1999, Campbell was appointed interim director for the undergraduate program. In 2000, she was appointed as associate dean and was then promoted to associate professor in 2003. Most recently, Campbell was promoted to full professor.

Campbell's research interests include quality care initiatives aimed at improving care and outcome of nursing home residents, as well as exploring the influence of attractiveness in long-term care. She is the principal investigator for the Teaching-Nursing Home project.

Campbell has been published in prominent nursing journals, including *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*, *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services*, *Journal of Nursing Education*, *Advances in Nursing Science*, *Geriatric Nursing*, *Nurse Educator*, and *Nursing Administration Quarterly*. She is a review panel member for the *Journal of Gerontological*

Nursing, and has received over \$1.9 million in grant funding as lead and/or co-investigator.

Campbell has been selected as a recipient of competitive awards/appointments such as; the William E. and Nancy Froelich Endowment for Long Term Care award, Director's Council of Public Representatives for the National Institute of Health, Nominations Committee for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, Sigma Theta Tau International Omada Board Leadership Program, American Association of Colleges of Nursing Leadership for Academic Nursing Program Fellowship, and Helene Fuld Trust Leadership Initiative for Nursing Education Fellowship.

She received a Postdoctoral Fellow Training in Nursing Effectiveness Research at the University of Iowa College of Nursing in 2003. Campbell is a member of the National Geriatric Nurses Association, Long Term Care Nurses Association, The Gerontological Society of America and Sigma Theta Tau International, Xi Pi Chapter.



Sara L. Campbell

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University receives Reaccreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) was granted accreditation of the baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing at Illinois State University for the maximum term of 10 years from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). CCNE is officially recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accreditation agency, and ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate and graduate education programs preparing effective nurses.

Message from the dean



I would like to wish all of you a “Happy New Year”.

Since being appointed as MCN’s interim dean in July of 2007, the college has been busy with many exciting activities! First, I’m pleased to announce our reaccreditation with CCNE. Receiving the maximum ten year accreditation with no concerns noted, reflects the quality and commitment of faculty, staff,

students, and alumni.

This year there will be an added emphasis on connecting with alumni and friends of the College. Please watch for upcoming ways to be involved with the College. MCN alumni can offer so much to students, faculty, and the College as a whole. A few of our outstanding alumni were recognized in our Homecoming 2007 award winners - Sue Mendez, Distinguished Alum, Lori Gibbs, Young Alum and Carole Ringer, MNAO Service Award.

This year, we also will be focusing on highlighting transcultural experiences for our students and bringing the history of MCN’s work in transcultural to the forefront. In addition to typical transcultural summer experiences, this past year MCN had some wonderful visitors such as students from Russia and England, and Donelle Rivett, Winston Churchill Fellowship Award recipient, from Australia. We also had great speakers such as Naomi Judd (ISU 150th Sesquicentennial Speaker Series), Dr. Gail Wyatt, associate director of the UCLA AIDS Institute, and Dr. Marquis Foreman, professor and associate dean for Nursing Science Studies at the University of Illinois-Chicago.

With the right resources, I have no doubt that MCN can vault to the top tier of nursing education. Our mission of serving “vulnerable and underserved” populations is very meaningful and with the work and expertise we have invested in older adults up to this point, I envision a possible center focused in these areas. Our college has always been committed to our mission and it is time to reflect on what makes MCN unique and showcase this as our niche.

We continue to need and rely on funding sources other than declining state resources. Our faculty and staff have identified areas of funding priorities that include developing a new state-of-the-art clinical lab that will provide our students with excellence in simulation and preparedness for top clinical practice and be competitive with other nursing programs. Other funding priorities include support for students, faculty, and staff in the PhD in Aging Program, support for faculty positions across all programs, support for faculty research, and technology personnel for distance education teaching-learning. Of course, a new building tops the list!

Finally, I would like to congratulate our first cohort of students who completed the B.S.N. Accelerated option in 2007. Best wishes for a great year!

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The Flame

Winter 2007-08
Published periodically

IllinoisState.edu/nursing

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Gerontological Nurse Practitioner (GNP) Graduate Sequence

The GNP sequence is targeted toward practicing nurses who hold a B.S.N. and who wish to expand their level of expertise in the care of aging patients. Classes within the sequence are offered online and students will complete their clinical practice experiences in various healthcare settings such as hospitals, outpatient settings, and long-term care facilities.

The first class of students will begin classes in the summer of 2008. For more information about the GNP sequence, please contact the MCN Graduate Program Office at (309) 438-2463.

The development of the GNP sequence and curriculum was made possible through grant funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Faculty and staff appointments

Mennonite College of Nursing welcomed several new faculty and staff in the fall of 2007. We also congratulate faculty and staff who received new appointments and fellowships.

Becky Altic Project RN

Altic joined MCN in the fall of 2007 as a part-time project RN for the Expanding Teaching Nursing Home Project.



Ellen Birky ETNH and PIN Project Secretary

Birky joined MCN in December of 2007 as the secretary for the Expanding Teaching Nursing Home and Partners in Nursing projects.



Dianne Clemens, MSN, RN Acting Undergraduate Program Director and Instructional Assistant Professor

In July of 2007, Clemens was appointed a two-year term as Acting Undergraduate Program Director. Clemens also teaches Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing.



Jean Ann Dargatz Administrative Aide

Dargatz joined MCN in the fall of 2007 as an administrative aide in the Dean's Office. Prior to MCN she worked in ISU Conference Services for 7 years.



Joanne De Roeck Secretary IV

De Roeck was upgraded from a Secretary III to a Secretary IV in the fall of 2007.



Kelli Hill Project Director, Partners in Nursing of Central Illinois

Hill was appointed as the project director for the Partners in Nursing of Central Illinois Project in the fall of 2007.



Colleen Kelley, MSN, RN Instructional Assistant Professor

Kelley joined MCN in the fall of 2007 as an instructional assistant professor. She teaches several classes and labs for the undergraduate program.



Pam Lindsey, DSNC, RN Claire M. Fagin Fellow and Assistant Professor

Lindsey was awarded the Claire M. Fagin Fellowship. This two-year Fellowship will develop her skills as a nurse researcher in gerontological nursing and developing leadership skills. She will work with her mentor, Dr. Kathleen Buckwalter from the University of Iowa.



Caroline Mallory, PhD, RN Interim Associate Dean and Associate Professor

Mallory was appointed interim associate dean in the fall of 2007. She is a tenured associate professor and has a program of research in HIV prevention.



Jennifer Mool, BSN, RN Clinical Nursing Lab Coordinator

Mool joined MCN in the fall of 2007 as the clinical nursing lab coordinator.



Dan Murphy Sponsored Project Program Assistant

Murphy joined MCN in the fall of 2007 as a part-time sponsored project program assistant for the B.S.N. Accelerated option.



Cheryl Nafziger, BSN, RN Clinical Practice Coordinator

Nafziger was appointed to the position of clinical practice coordinator in the fall of 2007.



2007 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipient: Sue (Sterkel) Mendez, MSN, APN, CFNP

Sue (Sterkel) Mendez received her B.S.N. at the University of Illinois, and in 1998 she received her M.S.N. at Mennonite College of Nursing. She is currently a nurse practitioner at the Family Medical Center in Lincoln, Illinois.

Mendez was formerly an instructional assistant professor with Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University from 2002-07, where she taught in the undergraduate program and pediatrics at the graduate level in the nurse practitioner program. While teaching, she also practiced as a nurse practitioner at ISU Student Health Services and at OSF PromptCare.

In 2004, Mendez and Laura Baue, school nurse, presented "A Snapshot of ADD/ADHD in School," at the Marion McDowell Stafford Lectureship Series in Child and Family Health workshop at Illinois State University.

She was formerly employed by OSF St. Francis Medical Center as a family nurse practitioner for the In-School Health Clinics in Peoria's District 150. Prior to that she was the clinical educator for Behavioral Health at BroMenn Regional Medical Center and a clinical instructor at Heartland Community College. She was a staff nurse for many years in mental health

services at BroMenn Regional Medical Center, and was A.N.C.C. certified in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing (R.N., C.). Her early experiences in nursing were on medical/surgical units at Carle Foundation Hospital and as a charge nurse at Champaign County Nursing Home in Urbana.

Mendez is a member of Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society and the Illinois Society for Advanced Practice Nursing. She also received NCAST (Nursing Child Assessment Satellite Training) certification from the University of Washington School of Nursing.

When asked what her most important achievement has been as a nurse, Mendez said, "I believe my biggest achievement in nursing has been my ability to advance my practice and education in areas of nursing that are not high profile or highly funded (psych/mental health and school-based health), but have an impact on the clients I serve."

Mendez lives in Bloomington with her husband and two teenage sons.



2007 Young Alumni Award Recipient: Lori (Stoller) Gibbs, B.S.N., RN

Lori (Stoller) Gibbs received her B.S.N. degree in 2002 from Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, where she graduated Summa Cum Laude.

After graduation, Gibbs worked at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, in the Neuroscience ICU. She was on the ICU Procedural Guideline Committee and the mock code team for the Neuroscience ICU. Gibbs was also a preceptor for nursing students doing their summer internships and for ICU nurses cross-training to the Neuro ICU. She also participated in peer evaluations.

In 2004, Gibbs and her husband, Christopher, moved to Palo Alto, California. Gibbs worked at Stanford Hospital in the Medical/Surgical/Trauma/Neuro/Transplant ICU. She was on the ICU Nurse Retention Committee as a project leader for development of a Welcome Book for new staff. She was also part of the Stanford Nurse Recruitment and Retention Committee and was co-chair of a subcommittee developing a shadowing program for high school students, college students, and adults seeking a second career called SNOOP (Stanford Nurse

Observation Opportunity Program).

Gibbs was also a preceptor and mentor for new ICU nurses and travel nurses at Stanford. She was a float nurse in the ICU where she provided extra help to nurses at the bedside and responded to codes hospital-wide. She was also a member of the ICU Journal Club.

She received additional training for Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Trauma Nurse Core Course (TNCC).

Upon being asked why she went into nursing, Gibbs stated, "I went into nursing because of a desire to help others. I believe that it is an honor to care for people in their greatest time of need."

In 2007, the Gibbs moved to Bloomington, Illinois. She is currently working as a float pool nurse at BroMenn in the Intensive Care Unit, Cardiovascular Care Unit, and Step-down area.



2007 MNAO Service Award Recipient: Carole Ringer

Carole Ringer is a loyal supporter of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. Her relationship with MCN began when she was the director of development for BroMenn Foundations/Mennonite College of Nursing from 1995-98. Ringer developed the reunion classes Challenge Gift program, which increased the overall giving to MCN.

In 1998 she joined the Friends of Mennonite College of Nursing Steering Committee, and is still an active member in their fundraising projects. She also supports the college community programs, such as the Marion McDowell Stafford Lectureship Series in Child and Family Health.

Ringer has served on many community boards and has received several honors and awards including being the first McLean County YWCA Woman of Distinction in the Arts in May of 1990. She retired in 2005 after serving six years as the first Executive Director of the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation.

“Who? Me? Wow, I’m really flattered,” said Ringer, when she was told she was the recipient of the 2007 MNAO Service Award. “My part in the success of the College is so tiny compared to others – administration, faculty, staff, and students. I have been impressed with MCN from day one, and have watched with great interest and continued respect as it has grown and expanded over the years. I’m so glad to be a part of the support network for Mennonite College of Nursing.”

She is the wife of Jerry Ringer, M.D., mother of Andrew, Douglas and Kirsten, and grandmother of three. Ringer enjoys reading, traveling, organizing, planning and is one who likes to make a difference.



2007 Homecoming Photo Gallery



1) Alumni Breakfast Buffet; 2) Class of 1957 - 50th Reunion; 3) Class of 1967 - 40th Reunion; 4) Class of 1982 - 25th Reunion; 5) Class of 1997 - 10th Reunion; 6) Building/lab tour at Edwards Hall

Alumni notes

1967

Bonnie (Davis) Mitchell and husband Bob celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in June, 2007. Bonnie is employed in the Tri-Valley School District as a school nurse.

1981

Linda (Collins) Yap has been appointed as an Alumni Association board member at Illinois State University.

1996

Jamie Leigh Kraus married Jason Holman on April 28, 2007. Jamie is employed with open heart surgery by OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

1997 (B.S.N.), 2007 (M.S.N.)

Tami (Caplinger) Kennett was named a specialty physician services manager at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington. She also continues to hold a position as coordinator for the OSF Medical Group office in Clinton.

2000

Devon Moore married Jason Flammang on August 25, 2007. Devon is employed as a recovery room nurse at Eastland Surgicenter in Bloomington.

2001

Alicia (Brown) Brown-Vest and her husband Kevin welcomed their daughter, Macey Kay in July, 2007. Alicia is an RN at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield, Illinois.

2002

Kelli (Gordon) VanEtten and her husband Erik welcomed their first child, son Ian Mitchell, in July of 2007. Kelli is a Senior Occupational Health Nurse at State Farm Insurance.

2004

Megan Richardson married Aaron Birk on October 21, 2006. Megan is employed as a registered nurse.

2006

Marissa Emerson married Kevin Shotsberger on September 30, 2006. Marissa is employed by Vanderbilt University Medical Center as a cardiac ICU nurse in Nashville, Tennessee.

Alicia Smith is the new director of nursing at Heritage Manor of Bloomington. Alicia has

previously worked as a patient care facilitator at OSF St. Joseph Medical Center in Bloomington and with the Joe Warner Teaching Nursing Home Project.

2007

Bettianne Atkins was recognized as the LWIA 16 Individual Achievement Award Winner at the State of Illinois Awards Banquet in October.

Regina Miller married Sean O'Brian on May 26, 2007. Regina works as an RN in the surgical unit at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena, California.



In memory...

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

1936

Cleo (Cundiff) Hawley passed away on February 22, 2006.

1943

Betty (Jones) Schultz passed away on September 20, 2007.

Zetta (Shell) Yoder passed away on August 26, 2007.

1946

Pauline (Nafziger) Springer passed away on October 6, 2007.

1957

Faith (Sell) Figuera passed away on April 23, 2006.

1964

Janet (Thiel) Furrow passed away on May 10, 2006.

Nurse Practice Act

Be sure to check out the new
Nurse Practice Act at

<http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/WHO/nurs.asp>

There are changes such as a requirement for
RN's to obtain CEU's.

Save the Date

Mark your calendars now for
Homecoming 2008!

Saturday, October 18, 2008

The MNAO Homecoming brochure
will be mailed in September.

Get Involved

The Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization
Alumni Board is looking for volunteers to help with
planning, projects and events. You do not need to
live in central Illinois to participate - meetings can
be held via conference calls or e-mail.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact
Jean Ann Dargatz at (309) 438-2174 or
jadarga@ilstu.edu.

Attention Alumni

In April 2008, graduates of 2003 and
2007 will be mailed the Illinois State
University Annual Alumni Survey. If you
are contacted about taking the survey,
please participate!

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. Please fill out this form and return to: MCN at Illinois State University, Attn: The Flame, Campus Box 5810, Normal, IL 61790-5810, or e-mail Amy Irving at amirvin@ilstu.edu. Thank you for sharing your news!

FIRST NAME	MAIDEN NAME	LAST NAME	CLASS YEAR	DATE
MAILING ADDRESS		CITY	ST	ZIP
PHONE	E-MAIL	PRESENT OCCUPATION/EMPLOYER		
NEWS/COMMENTS				

Un Verano Memorable (A Memorable Summer)

by Rebekah Hertz, Class of 2008

“Hola, soy una estudiante de enfermería de ‘Illinois State University’ y yo hablo MUY poco español.” (I am a nursing student from ISU and I speak VERY little Spanish.). This phrase became my staple during the week I spent observing, practicing, and helping at the Children Wellness Center (CWC) in Del Valle, Texas.



(L to R) Beka Hertz, Margo Smith, Stephanie Koester, Katie Levine a student and the nurse from a grade school in Del Valle

As a somewhat sheltered farm girl from Illinois, I was not sure if I was ready to be thrown into my first real experience with diversity that the Transcultural Nursing trip would bring in May of 2007. That said, I boarded the plane armed with a few years of forgotten high school Spanish class, a pair of bright pink scrubs, and a lot of anticipation.

I was not quite sure what to expect, but thoughts of shanty towns with no running water, doctors who spoke Spanish faster than I could think, and illegal immigrants who were taking advantage of our healthcare system ran through my head. As much as I tried to keep an open mind, it was hard to ignore my family’s, and even our society’s preconceived notions regarding our southern neighbors. Then, I met the staff and patients at the CWC.

Caring and compassion were present in every aspect of the clinic. The nurses and nurse practitioners knew each patient, parent, and sibling by name, communicated effortlessly in conversation and language the client could understand, and provided confident, exceptional care at a price that the family could afford. They took our small group and showed us what it really meant to provide culturally competent, empathetic care. For one week, we practiced charting, aided in wellness check-ups, took intake on sick visits, and gave immunization shots.

With each broken conversation, grateful look, and toothless smile, I felt my opinions changing. The people of Del Valle had very little resources. Many of the amenities that we take for granted such as grocery stores, pharmacies, and even public laws were not present. I found that what little stability the community had was centered around the CWC. Here, children and parents found the attention and education needed to lead a healthy lifestyle, and were so appreciative. Receiving adequate healthcare was no longer a worry.

Making a difference in someone’s life even if it is just for a moment is something that one cannot get out of a textbook or a classroom. Experiencing this feeling firsthand while at the clinic made me very excited for my summer internship at BroMenn Regional Medical Center. While I am not a “real nurse” yet, my internship during the summer of 2007 gave me the view of nursing that I do not get to see in clinical one day a week. I finally got to see actual progress being made by patients because I helped provide their care day after day. I have seen the importance of healing all aspects of the person- physically, mentally, and emotionally. My preceptor showed me that a “good nurse” can make all the difference. Whether it is a dose of Tylenol, a warm blanket, or just a reassuring smile, the nurse’s presence can be enough to give the patient and their family the comfort that they need to decrease their worry.

While I am not sure where graduation will take my nursing career, I am very grateful for the experiences that I have had through the transcultural trip. Never before have I been so sure that being a nurse is what is right for me.



(L to R): Amanda Wenthe, Stephanie Koester, Amanda Krueger, Jessica Wollenberg, Katie Levine, Beka Hertz, Danielle Dautel, Margo Smith, Karrie Ingalsbe at group supper.

ROTC Summer Experience

by Kristina Herriott, Class of 2008

Externships are something that every junior nursing student looks forward to. There is always the question about where to go and what floor you want to be on. Over the summer I had an internship through the United States Army, ROTC Program.

For my internship I went to Fort Bliss, Texas with nine other cadets. We all received an e-mail a few weeks before telling us what floor we were to be on and how we would be picked up from the airport. I was assigned to the Labor/Deliver/Recovery/Post Partum unit. Other cadets were on medical-surgical floors, emergency room, neurology or intensive care units.

I was paired one-on-one with an Army Nurse and worked the same hours that she worked. She expressed confidence in my abilities and cared about my opinions with regards to patient treatment. One of the best aspects about my internship was that I was seen as an equal to the other nurses. My experiences included being allowed to scrub in during a c-section,

and working with newborns for their first assessment.

There are many other stories that I would like to share about my experience at Fort Bliss, but the bottom line in all of them is that during my internship I was not just treated as a student who would leave soon, but as a part of the team. The doctors I worked with were always encouraging, and the nurses took the opportunity to educate and advise me on patient care and nursing practice. I would not have passed up the month I spent in Texas, working three 12-hour shifts a week and an 8-hour shift every other week, for anything.

My experience at Fort Bliss made me even more excited about graduating and starting my career as a 2nd lieutenant in the United States Army Nurse Corp.



Kristina Herriott

Nursing Students from Russia Visit MCN

In the fall of 2007, MCN hosted two nursing students from Russia, a chaperone from the Medical College and their translator for a two-week visit. The visitors included Tatiana Ilyushkina and Anna Anseeva, nursing students; Tatyana Zaychikova, assistant director of the Medical College in Vladimir, Russia; and Olga Vladimirova, translator.

During their visit, they attended various nursing classes, labs and clinicals. Clinical sites included BroMenn Regional Medical Center, Heritage Manor, St. Joseph's Medical Center, and a family practice office. The Student Nurses Association hosted a potluck lunch and gave them an overview of the activities SNA participates in throughout the year. Cathi Kaesberg, coordinator of the College Success Plan, met with them to discuss the licensure exam process, and how the college prepares students for this exam. They also attended a senior nursing seminar at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Zaychikova was inducted at the Sigma Theta Tau International, Xi Pi Chapter, Induction Ceremony. Several friends, faculty and staff hosted dinner parties during their visit, and they also enjoyed a day trip to Chicago.

Janeen Mollenhauer, Transcultural Program Coordinator commented, "Dr. Wendy Woith, who spearheaded the Russia initiative, put a considerable amount of time and effort into making this meaningful experience a reality. The students were a delight to work with and we look forward to further collaboration with the Medical College in Vladimir."

Student notes



Start Girls at HeartWalk
MCN nursing students, along with staff members participated in the Heart Walk in September of 2007.

They were the American Heart Association's "Start Girls", and warmed up the participants with stretches and then lead them in the walk at the Shoppes at College Hills in Normal.

Student-Athletes Academic Excellence

The following students were recognized at the State Farm Student-Athlete Academic Excellence Banquet in October of 2007 as part of the AFNI Honor Roll:

Anne Fjordholm - Women's Gymnastics
Jennifer Klicka - Women's Swimming
Rebeckah Layman - Women's Swimming
Courtney Vanderford - Women's Swimming
Devon Williams - Women's Cross Country/Track & Field

Accelerated B.S.N.

Congratulations to the first cohort of B.S.N. Accelerated students who graduated in December 2007!



2007 Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree candidates

Rose Baer	Joanna Nance
Andrea Edwards	Debra Pettie
Tara Lancaster	Kristen Schlink
Diane McGee	Margaret St. Peters

Partners Investing in Nursing of Central Illinois

by Kelli Hill, Project Director

Partners Investing in Nursing's Future is a nationwide collaborative effort of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation encouraging regions to address their local nursing shortages through community partnerships. Partners in Nursing of Central Illinois (PIN of CI) received a two year grant to oversee these regional efforts. The PIN of CI is led by the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation and Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

According to information from the 2004 Critical Skills Shortage Initiative (CSSI) from the North Central Economic Development Region (NCEDR), factors contributing to nursing needs in central Illinois include the following:

- A high percentage of new graduates from regional colleges of nursing gain employment as registered nurses in areas outside central Illinois.
- Regional colleges of nursing seeking PhD prepared

faculty experience a severe shortage of applicants to fill these positions.

- Regional long term care facilities experience the most acute nursing shortage.

With support from the PIN grant and regional partnerships, PIN of CI will continue to address three goals:

- Increase regional retention of BSN graduates from colleges of nursing in central Illinois.
- Increase PhD prepared nursing faculty at regional colleges of nursing.
- Create interest among regional nursing graduates in caring for aging adults.

To date, twenty-six partners from Bloomington-Normal, Decatur, Champaign, Peoria, Pontiac, and Springfield, have provided input and resources toward these goals. It is anticipated that continued progress toward innovative initiatives will result in long-standing community relationships and a model of collaboration.

From the director of development



To our alumni and friends, I wish I could thank each and every one of you in person for your gifts of support to Mennonite College of Nursing this past year. As I look to the past six months of activities and accomplishments, I see alumni, partners, friends and faculty and staff donors connections.

The Russian visitors were able to come due to the generosity of faculty and community members. Additionally, their trip was enhanced through the gratuitousness and generosity of many who pitched in to make it special. Many students benefited from generous giving to the MCN Transcultural Fund which provided scholarships to students choosing to take part in their experiences. Proceeds from a special reception with Naomi Judd will benefit the Dean's Scholarship Fund.

Your annual gifts are an investment in the future of MCN nursing. How? Through wise fund management by the ISU Foundation, we have realized returns of 18% this year on our endowment. Each year a percentage of the earnings go into MCN endowments, whose spending is directed by the founding donors of each endowment. The remainder is reinvested in that endowment so that future generations of students and faculty members will have the support they need.

When you make a gift to the annual fund, we are able to respond to immediate, expendable needs in each budget year, such as:

- Technology enhancements for clinical education
- Faculty leave to complete research for doctoral work
- Student support for annual scholarships
- Student awards to attend conferences and present with mentor faculty

Nursing schools are competing nationally to recruit and retain the very best faculty to combat shortages in nurse educators. MCN is tirelessly working to address the need to educate academic nursing leaders for Illinois. Your gifts make a difference in our ability to educate additional faculty to meet growing demands. Without them, we will be unable to educate the outstanding clinical nurses who provide care at the bedside.

As you think about what you can do to help Mennonite College of Nursing, consider these options: make a yearly gift to the annual fund, organize a class gift, or designate MCN as a beneficiary in your will (just be sure to let us know). We need you and appreciate your help in whatever form it takes.

Jenny Ward
Director of Development
(309) 438-7178
jsward@ilstu.edu

Illinois State's Sesquicentennial Speaker Series

In November, Mennonite College of Nursing was pleased to host Naomi Judd as part of Illinois State University's Sesquicentennial Speaker Series. A press conference was held in the clinical lab, and nursing students demonstrated lab skills to Ms. Judd and the press. "Many people did not realize that before becoming a country music superstar, Naomi Judd went to nursing school and is a registered nurse," said Sara Campbell, interim dean at MCN. "The students were thrilled to be able to show her the technology they use in the labs."

Her lecture, "Love Can Build a Bridge", was a motivational message about how she faced the challenges in her life, and gave the audience a sense of hope and empowerment for their own challenges.



"Naomi Judd can relate to so many people," said Campbell. "She was a caregiver for her family members which led her into a nursing career. She was a single parent, a domestic violence victim, retired from her country music career after being diagnosed with Hepatitis C, and is the author of several books, including Naomi's Guide to Aging Gratefully. She is an inspiration to everyone."



Mark your calendars!

Mennonite College of Nursing Events

Tuesday, January 22

4th Annual Long Term Care Career
Fair and Professional Seminars
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Brown Ballroom, Bone Student Center

Friday, March 7

2nd Annual EBP Conference
8 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Brown Ballroom, Bone Student Center

Thursday, April 3

Doctoral Program Open House
4-5:30 p.m.
Edwards Hall, 306

Tuesday, April 29

MCN Candlelighting Ceremony
1-3 p.m.
Old Main Room, Bone Student Center

Thursday, April 10

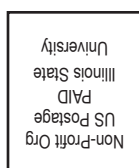
ETNH National Speaker Event
5 p.m.
Old Main Room, Bone Student Center

Friday, May 9

MCN Commencement
4 p.m.
Bone Student Center,
Braden Auditorium

*For more information about nursing events, please visit our Web site at www.mcn.ilstu.edu
or the University Calendar at www.calendar.ilstu.edu*

An equal opportunity/affirmative action university encouraging diversity



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