

FALL 2009

# CREIGHTON

SCHOOL OF NURSING PROGRESS REPORT



**On the Forefront of Integrating  
Simulators in Clinical Education  
Nursing's Imprint on University  
Leadership and Collaboration**

## DEAN'S REPORT

The news media is rich with discussions of economic challenges and general uncertainty regarding the correct course for our nation. Even in the face of these difficult economic times, Creighton University School of Nursing welcomed one of its largest freshman classes.

We continue to monitor the employment opportunities for our graduates and are finding that the majority of newly-licensed BSN graduates have obtained positions in the geographic and clinical areas where they desire to work. However, you can help us connect new graduates with open positions, and I encourage you to review the information on Jobs4Jays in this publication. Helping to build the connections to career opportunities would be a blessing to us and our newest Creighton Nursing alumni.

The Alumni Reunion Weekend in October was a delightful opportunity to visit with so many returning nursing graduates, and an outstanding time of learning and development with our second year of continuing education programming. The Nursing Alumni Advisory Board selected the topic "Nursing Perspectives on Health Care Reform," and transformation was a key theme. Nursing educators, administrators, and practitioners of nursing described proposed federal legislation and shared how organizations, curricula, and nursing positions are changing in advance of legislation and in response to the needs for healthcare reform. Alumni speakers included Marie Knedler, Nancy Lakier, Bridget Young, Linda Stones, Katie O'Keefe, Nancy Bredenkamp, and Suzanne VanBoening. Faculty speakers and moderators were Linda Miers, Cindy Costanzo, and Linda Lazure. Our alumni donated their expertise, time, and travel in order to provide this free program to our alumni and I thank each of them for their commitment to our

profession and support of this event and Creighton University.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program was launched in fall of 2008, and currently 49 students are enrolled. The DNP program offers specialty tracks for nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists, as well as tracks in Global Public Health and Clinical Systems Administration. DNP graduates are prepared

to participate as advanced clinicians, nurse managers, executives, consultants, collaborators, and change agents in health care systems and communities. We are honored that so many nurses, including many of our alumni, are interested in our DNP program.

In August, one of our newest majors, the Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner program received national approval from the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board. Also, faculty member Dr. Merry Foyt and graduate student Erin Schildt recently returned from Shi Jia Zhuang, China, where they served on the China Honors Interprofessional Program team with faculty and students from Creighton's occupational therapy and physical therapy programs. Dr. Foyt and Ms. Schildt provided lectures and consultation on critical and emergency care at the Third Hospital of Hebei Medical University.

Throughout the year, our students, faculty and alumni are active in the university and community. In this



Dean Howell is a regular visitor on patient care units at the Creighton University Medical Center. She is accompanied by CUMC Chief Nursing Officer Mary Ann McCrea, RN, MSN, ACHE. Dean Howell and Mrs. McCrea are shown with Katie Phillippi, a Creighton nursing student.

### ON THE COVER

Accelerated nursing students Christopher Houser and Robyn Patton demonstrate health assessment skills on "Criss the Simulation Mannequin" for faculty member Dr. Maribeth Hercinger.

### ENROLLMENT FACTS September 2009

SCHOOL OF NURSING	OMAHA	HASTINGS	TOTALS
Traditional	392	20	412
Accelerated Nursing	105	15	120
RN to BSN	—	—	12
MS Program	—	—	63
DNP Program	—	—	49

issue of the Progress Report, the commitment of our alumni and faculty through leadership on the Creighton University campus is highlighted. The diversity and scope of leadership is evident through the contributions and service in positions such as co-chairing the Creighton University Institutional Review Board, leading the Center for Health Policy and Ethics, and serving on committees essential to the governance of the university. I also want to acknowledge the continuing leadership Dr. Barbara Braden provides to the University in her position as Dean of University College, and to the nursing profession through her scholarly activities in reducing pressure ulcer related mortality and morbidity. In October, Dr. Braden was inducted into the Nebraska Nurses Hall of Fame.

The versatility of a career in nursing and the dedication of our alumni and faculty continue to yield results that are changing lives, altering the future of healthcare, and enhancing the quality of services at Creighton University and across the globe. I extend my best wishes to you as we enter this Holy Season, and thank you for the support you provide Creighton University School of Nursing—through your service to others and commitment to excellence in nursing.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Howell, PHD, RN



## CREIGHTON FACULTY PUBLISH STUDY ON USING SIMULATORS IN NURSING EDUCATION



Professors Kim Hawkins, Dr. Maribeth Hercinger, and Julie Manz with “Criss,” one of Creighton’s patient simulators.

In 2004, the School of Nursing acquired its first complex simulation mannequin. The human patient simulator consists of a mannequin and a control rack. The mannequin is a full sized life-like adult whose pulmonary, cardiovascular and other systems respond automatically to a user’s interventions and the environment. The control rack contains the physiologic and pharmacologic modeling programs and some of the simulated components.

Since 2004, the simulator has been nicknamed Criss (in honor of the building where the nursing school is housed) and has become a valued member of the teaching team.

Nurse educators are challenged to prepare students for safe practice in a complex health care environment. This challenge is made even more difficult when today’s nursing faculty are confronted with increasing enrollment and a reduced number of clinical sites. A survey by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) (2005) predicted that simulation will be increasingly used as an alternative to clinical experiences. According to the NCSBN, “Simulations are activities that mimic the reality of a clinical environment and are designed to demonstrate procedures, decision-making and critical thinking through techniques such as role-playing and the use of devices such as interactive videos or mannequins.”

Many nursing educators have identified that simulations are used with the hope of achieving multiple outcomes. These outcomes include improved skill performance, self-confidence, the acquisition of teamwork and communication skills, the opportunity to observe the consequences of incorrect decisions, achievement of competencies, and the effects of medication administration.

Nursing professors Martha Todd, MS, APRN, Julie A. Manz, MS, APRN, Kim S. Hawkins, MS, APRN, Mary E. Parsons, PHD, RN, and Maribeth Hercinger, PHD, RNC, have had their work published in *The International Journal of Nursing*

*Continued on page 9*



# NURSING LEADERS MAKE THEIR MARK ON CAMPUS

## IN RESEARCH

Creighton University's commitment to research often involves an interdisciplinary approach. While researchers are visionaries, they are also teachers who are able to provide the best atmosphere for student learning while advancing health care. Identifying the disease, providing treatment, and gaining research insights that lead to better patient care within a University-based educational environment are just a few of the features of the work being done at Creighton University's Osteoporosis

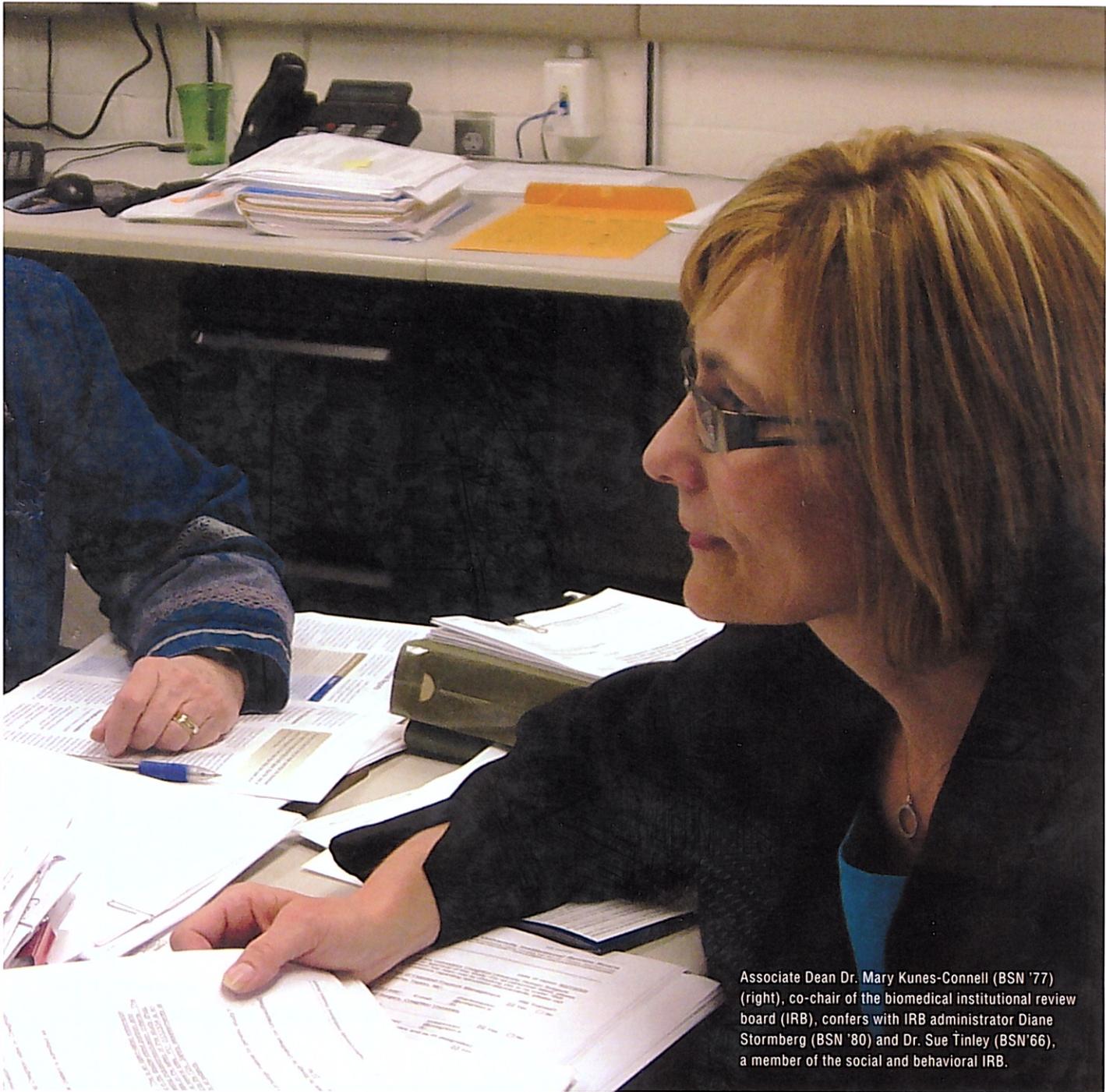
Research Center. Research teams include physician-scientists, molecular biologists and geneticists, nurse-scientists, biomechanical engineers, nutritionists and nurses.

Currently, Associate Professor Dr. Ann Laughlin is involved in a research study with world-renowned researcher Dr. Joan Lappe. Dr. Lappe holds the Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss and Drs. Gilbert and Clinton Beirne Endowed Chair in Nursing at the Creighton University School of Nursing. The study is a one-year randomized, controlled

clinical trial to determine if increasing intake of dairy foods to recommended levels in adolescent females with habitually low calcium intake will decrease body fat gain compared to similar females who continue their low calcium intake.

## IN LEADERSHIP

The Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution at Creighton teaches the skills to develop an organizational culture that welcomes conflict and uses it constructively to build collaborative



Associate Dean Dr. Mary Kunes-Connell (BSN '77) (right), co-chair of the biomedical institutional review board (IRB), confers with IRB administrator Diane Stormberg (BSN '80) and Dr. Sue Tinley (BSN'66), a member of the social and behavioral IRB.



Dr. Cindy Costanzo with Arthur Pearlstein, Director of the Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution solutions that reflect the rich diversity of an organization and its community. In today's rapidly changing global environment,

conflicts occur with increasing frequency. As a result, negotiation and dispute resolution is rapidly becoming a vital component of both successful businesses and healthcare organizations.

Dr. Cindy Costanzo comes to Creighton with a strong management background. She believes that it is imperative that nurse managers understand conflict and the negative and positive roles conflict can play within healthcare organizations.

"With concerns regarding preventable harm during treatment, looming labor shortages,

expanding consumer responsibility, and rapid technological advances, healthcare has become a breeding ground for poor communication, strained professional relationships, unsatisfied consumers, and complex public debates," Dr. Costanzo states. "Healthcare organizations, hospital administrators, patients, and clinical care providers are all seeking better options for working together."

"For years, nursing education operated as a silo," Dr. Costanzo said. "All major research indicates we need to value the expertise of other disciplines." Students

*Continued on page 6*

Continued from page 5

enjoy the lively discussion in their classes, as many different perspectives are shared and debated. It is quickly apparent that there are many reasonable outcomes and all have relevance and deserve to be heard.

## IN HEALTH CARE POLICY AND ETHICS

At Creighton's Center for Health Policy and Ethics (CHPE), nursing students enter into dialogue about health care ethics that clearly reflect the Jesuit value of concern for the



Dr. Amy Haddad (BSN'75), Director of the Center for Health Policy and Ethics and Chairholder of the Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss Endowed Chair in Health Sciences.

poor and marginalized. The courses offered by the Center are designed to educate nurses to become agents of change by integrating critical reflection on students' own attitudes, actions, and personal development.

In the coming decade, the health care industry will continue to grow, as will the need for health care professionals who can

understand and address the complex ethical issues faced in health care. The Center for Health Policy and Ethics is designed for those who desire a comprehensive understanding of the field of bioethics and who are seeking a deeper understanding of the impact of relevant historical, cultural, philosophical, political, economic and legal issues in health care practices and policies, and their impact on vulnerable populations.

"An area receiving considerable discussion pertains to end of life issues," shared Karen Boardman, assistant professor of nursing and an affiliate member of the CHPE.

"Historically we have aggressively treated dying patients. Now there is a major shift to compassionate care for the dying patient and his family. This is particularly evident in the ICU where a team of physicians and nurses ideally would work together towards the best interests of the patient."

Boardman also serves on the education subcommittee at the Creighton University Medical Center, where cultural diversity and values are key topics. "When a patient and a care provider differ, it is often the result of cultural or value differences. At Creighton, we want our nursing students to understand and respect individual differences as they relate to patients."

The Center for Health Policy and Ethics launched a Master of Science in Health Care Ethics (MSHCE) program this fall. The program offers an opportunity for health professionals to seek advanced education in health care ethics, obtaining a values-centered Creighton education online. Dr. Amy Haddad (BSN'75) is the director of the Center for Health Policy and Ethics. "It is extremely satisfying to offer a master's program with the flexibility to meet the needs of fellow professionals in the nursing field," she said. In addition to joint faculty positions within the Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy and Health Professions, she holds the Dr. C.C. and Mabel Criss Endowed Chair in Health Sciences.

## IN RESEARCH AND COMPLIANCE

The nursing school is prominently represented within the Office of Research and Compliance Services. The Biomedical Review and Social and Behavioral Institutional Review Boards are appointed by Creighton President the Rev. John Schlegel, S.J. and are comprised of individuals representing many disciplines throughout the university. The boards review for approval, and monitor for progress, all research protocols in which human subjects are involved. ■

## CREIGHTON TO CONTINUE LANDMARK STUDY ON VITAMIN D AND CANCER RISK

The National Institutes of Health has awarded Creighton University \$4 million to continue its landmark study linking vitamin D to a reduction in cancer risk.

The study's findings, reported in June 2007, showed for the first time in a clinical trial that postmenopausal women consuming calcium as well as vitamin D3 supplements at nearly three times U.S. government recommended levels could reduce their risk of cancer by 60 to 77 percent.

"The vitamin D3 finding was a secondary goal in the original study," said Creighton researcher Joan Lappe, PHD. "We must now confirm these findings with a clinical trial specifically designed to look

at calcium, vitamin D and cancer. Confirmation is necessary in order to have evidence solid enough to change public policy regarding intake levels for vitamin D."

Lappe, holder of the Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss and Drs. Gilbert and Clinton Beirne Endowed Chair in Nursing at Creighton and a professor of medicine, was the principal investigator for the landmark study. She will also head the new study. ■



Hastings faculty member Aris Andrews demonstrates health assessment for the campers.

## NURSING CAREER CAMP IN HASTINGS

“IT IS A FUN TIME FOR ALL OF US. OUR NURSING STUDENTS LOVE RECRUITING THE TEENS TO CREIGHTON AND THE CAMP GIVES FUTURE NURSES A GOOD IDEA OF WHAT TO EXPECT IN A NURSING CAREER,” SAID SOWL. AND THE CONCEPT MUST WORK...EIGHT YEARS LATER, LINDSEY HAS GONE FROM CAMPER TO CREIGHTON NURSING STUDENT!”

Jodi Sowl, RN, Recruiter/ Admissions Coordinator for the Creighton University/ Hastings-Mary Lanning Campus, hosted the Nursing Career Camp on June 2-4, 2009. The camp is typically held the first week of June and is held in conjunction with Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital. Ten high school students are selected to attend each year.

The three-day camp includes visiting the Creighton nursing skills lab and meeting nursing students. Campers also shadow nurses in various hospital departments, do hands-on activities with the surgery nurses, listen to guest speakers, and play games like nursing bingo. ■



This year was especially fun for Creighton accelerated nursing student Lindsey Meirau (on the right). She attended the very first nurse camp in 2001. Lindsey is pictured here with camper Sierra Hinrichs.



## PROJECT HOMELESS

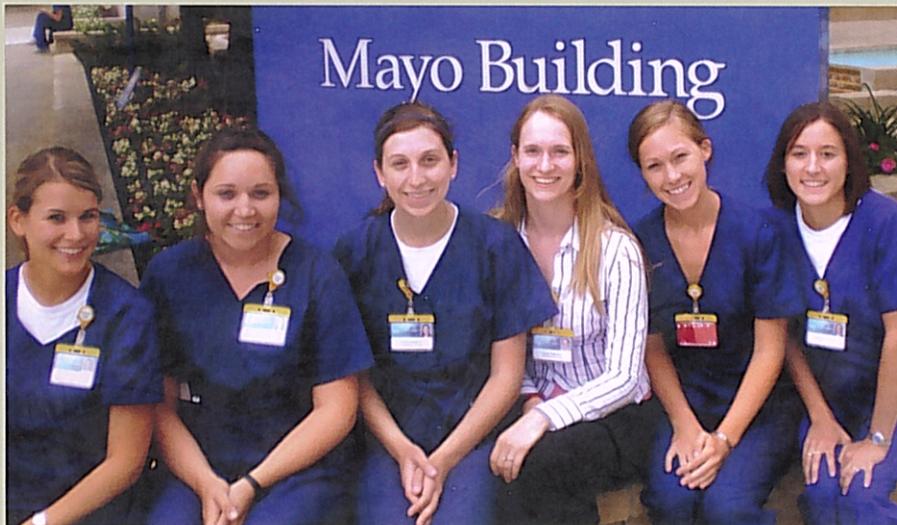
More than 500 of Omaha's homeless gathered at Creighton University's Kiewit Center, Friday, March 27, 2009, to receive medical help, clothing and information on permanent housing and employment opportunities.

The services were provided by Project Homeless, a national initiative which began in San Francisco in 2004 and has grown to 120 cities.

In addition to forty service providers, several hundred volunteered their time, including

Creighton University nursing students. May 2009 graduate Katie Berdelle is drawing blood from a Project Homeless client, under the supervision of nursing faculty member Meghan Potthoff. ■

## CREIGHTON NURSING STUDENTS INTERN AT MAYO CLINIC



With nearly 800 applications submitted by nursing students nationwide, six Creighton nursing students were among the 138 internships granted by the Mayo Clinic. Spending their summer at the Mayo Clinic were: Samantha Arndorfer, Dessa Cosbruck, Nicole Pedersen, Mary Pomeranke, Sara Redlin and Natalie Weighner. All plan to graduate in May 2010. ■

# DEAN'S AWARD FOR FACULTY EXCELLENCE

**Maribeth Hercinger, PHD, RN**

*"This award recognizes individuals who demonstrate sustained excellence in some aspect of the School of Nursing's mission."*—Dean Eleanor Howell

Dr. Maribeth Hercinger was the recipient of the 2009 Dean's Award for Faculty Excellence. She is commended for her leadership of two senior clinical courses, successfully chairing the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and actively helping the School of Nursing transition to the 2008 BSN Essentials, and, finally, for her constant willingness to mentor new faculty members.

Previous Dean's Award honorees include Dr. Joan Lappe for her nationally-acclaimed research in osteoporosis and her willingness to support new scientists; Dr. Ann Laughlin for her leadership in establishing and receiving funding for the school-health program; and Fr. Tom Bannantine, S.J., for his constant spiritual presence within the School of Nursing by providing daily support and availability to nursing students, faculty, staff and alumni. He continues to contribute greatly to the climate and character of the school. ■



## TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS



**Lori Rusch, MSN, RN, CNS**  
Undergraduate Program  
May 2008



**Julie Manz, MS, APRN**  
Undergraduate Program  
December 2008 and August 2009



**Stephanie Stockard-Spelic, MSN, APRN, C-PNP**  
Undergraduate Program  
May 2009



**Nancy Bredenkamp, MS, APRN**  
Hastings Campus  
May 2009



**Joyce Schilke, PhD, APRN**  
Graduate Program  
May 2009

*Continued from page 3*

## PUBLISHED STUDY ON USING SIMULATORS

*Education Scholarship* (Volume 5, Issue 1, 2008, Article 41) in an article entitled "The Development of a Quantitative Evaluation Tool for Simulations in Nursing Education." The purpose of this study was to develop and evaluate a quantitative instrument to assess student performance during simulated clinical experiences (SCE). As the use of high fidelity simulations increases, the ability

to evaluate students is essential. A valid, reliable tool to evaluate simulation experiences improves student assessment skills and ultimately clinical performance, the article indicates. Approval for the study was obtained from the institutional ethics review board. ■

# FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

## REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Cannell, J., Vieth, R., Willett, W., Zasloff, M., Hathcock, J., White, J., Tanumihardjo, S., Larson-Meyer, D., Bischoff-Ferrari, H., Lambert, C., **Lappe, J.**, Norman, A., Zitterman, A., Whiting, S., Grant, W., Hollis, B., Giovannucci, E. (2008) Cod liver oil, vitamin A toxicity, frequent respiratory infections and the vitamin D deficiency epidemic. *Annals of Otolaryngology & Laryngology* 117:864-870.

**Costanzo, C.** and Walker, S. (2008). Increasing self-efficacy and support for physical activity in older women. *Women and Health*, 47(4), 91-108.

**Hawkins, K., Todd, M., & Manz, J.** (2008) A unique method for teaching with simulation. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 47 (11): 524-527.

Kabes, A., **Graves, J. & Norris, J.** (2009). Further validation of the Non Verbal Pain Scale. *Critical Care Nurse*, 29 (1): 59-66.

LaFrambois, L.M., Woster, J. & **Yager, A.** (2009). A technological life buoy: Patient Perceptions of the Health Buddy. *Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, 245 (3): 216-224.

**Lappe, J.**, Cullen, D., Haynatzki, G., Recker, R., Ahlf, R. & Thompson, K. (2008). Vitamin D supplementation decreases incidence of stress fractures in female Navy recruits. *Journal of Bone and Mineral Health*, 23: 741-749.

**Norris, J., Stockard Spelic, S., Snyder, S., & Tinley, S.** (2009). Five families living with hereditary breast and ovarian cancer risk. *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 13(1):73-80.

**Todd, M., Manz, J., Hawkins, K., Parsons, M. & Hercinger, M.** (2008). The development of a quantitative evaluation tool for simulations in nursing education. *International Journal of Nursing Education Scholarship*, 5 (1). Article 41.

## NON REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Chatterjee, A. & **O'Keefe, C.** (2009). Escherichia Coli Infections in eMedicine. (<http://emedicine.medscape.com>) January 2009

Chatterjee, A. & **O'Keefe, C.** (2009). Salmonella Infections in eMedicine. (<http://emedicine.medscape.com>) January 2009

**O'Keefe, C.** (2008). Highlights of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP): 29th Annual Conference on Pediatric Health Care: Surgical Care in Pediatrics: *An Update* (A continuing education offering). *Medscape*, June 5, 2008.

**Travers Gustafson, D., Preston, K., & Hudson, J.** (2009, May). *Mental health: Overlooked and disregarded in rural America*. A Series Examining Health Care Issues in Rural America, no. 4, Center for Rural Affairs. [www.cfra.org](http://www.cfra.org).

**Schoening, A.** (2009). From bedside to classroom: Making the transition from nurse to nurse educator. *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 70, (02), (UNI No. AAT3344653.)

**Travers Gustafson, D., & Kuhr, J.** (2009, February). *School Health and Three Rivers Public Health District*. (SALBOH insert) NALBOH Newsbrief, [www.nalboh.org](http://www.nalboh.org).

## BOOKS OR BOOK CHAPTERS

**Chapple, H.S.** (2009). Hospice as a cultural good: In *Catholic Healthcare Ethics: A manual for ethics committees*, 2nd ed. Philadelphia: National Catholic Bioethics Center.

**Furlong, E.** (2008). Agenda setting. In Milstead, J.A. (Ed.). *Health Policy and Politics: A Nurses's Guide*. Sudbury, Mass, Jones & Bartlett Pub: 41-63.

**Harms, A.** (2009). Co-author of two chapters in Ward, S.L. & Hisley, S.M. (eds.). *Maternal-Child Nursing Care: Optimizing Outcomes for Mothers, Children, & Families*. Philadelphia, F.A. Davis Company. Chapter 20, Caring for the Developing Child. Chapter 23, Caring for the Child with a Psychosocial or Cognitive Condition.

**Lappe, J. M.** (2009). Osteoporosis. *Mosby's Nursing Consult Website*. Elsevier Health Sciences.

Roberts, D. & **Lappe, J.** (2008). Management of clients with musculoskeletal disorders. Chapter 26 in J. Black & J. Hokenson Hawks (eds.). *Medical – Surgical Nursing: Clinical Management for Positive Outcomes*, 8th Ed. Philadelphia: W B Saunders.

**White, B.** (2008). Chapter 13 Fluid Balance and Chapter 14 Electrolyte Balance In J. Black & J. Hokenson Hawks (eds.). *Medical-Surgical Nursing: Clinical Management for Positive Outcomes*, 8th Ed. Philadelphia: W B Saunders.

**Wilken MK, Doll J.** (2009). Health report card project: Building community capacity. In: Ryeon, C.B., Jensen J. M., & Harvan R. (eds.) *Leadership in Interprofessional Health Education and Practice*. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers: 413-426.

**Wilken MK.** (2008). Policy implementation. In: Milstead JA, (ed). *Health Policy and Politics: A Nurse's Guide*. 3rd ed. Sudbury, Mass: Jones and Bartlett Pub.:157-164.

## PRESENTATIONS

*Regional/National/International*

**Abbott, A., Fuji, K., Norris, J. & Galt, K.** *Barriers and Consequences of Care Transitions: Who Dropped the Ball?* Poster presentation at the Academy of Health Annual Research meeting, Chicago, IL, June, 2009.

Armas, A., **Lappe, J.**, Recker, R. Changes in histomorphometric parameters *After menopause: A prospective study*. Abstract published in *J Bone Min Res*, 23, Supp.1, p S325.

**Boardman, K., Furlong, E., Schwartz, M., Laughlin, A.** *Web site development to meet school health needs*. Mosby Faculty Development Institute, San Francisco, California. October, 2008.

Bramble, J.D., Siracuse, M.V., Galt, K., Paschal, K., Drincic, A., **Abbott, A.A.**, Fuji, K. & Kasha, T. *Electronic health records: The gap between desirability and availability of functions*. Poster presentation at the Academy of Health Annual Research Meeting, Chicago, IL, June, 2009.

**Chapple, H.** *Using ritual to exonerate dying in the American Hospital*. American Society for Bioethics and Humanities, Cleveland, OH, October, 2008.

**Chapple, H.** Re-Membering and the disorder of dying in America. Panel presentation. *Remembering and relocating health within global perspectives*. American Anthropology Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, November, 2008.

**Chapple, H.** *Pricey or Priceless?* Codifying Value in the American Rescue Paradigm. Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Conference, Santa Fe, NM, March 18, 2009.

**Chapple, H.** *Pricey or Priceless?* Codifying Value in the American Rescue Paradigm, Association for Death Education and Counseling Annual Conference, Dallas, TX, April 16, 2009.

**Chapple, H.** *What Does Religious Coping Have to Do With Rescue at the End of Life?* Association for Death Education and Counseling Annual Conference, Dallas, TX, April 16, 2009.

Cohen, A., Recker, R., Dempster, D., Zhou, H., Wirth, A., Kohler, T., van Lenthe, G., Muller, R., LeMaster, J., **Lappe, J.**, Eisenberg, H., McMahon, D. & Shane, E. Marked abnormalities in cortical and trabecular microarchitecture and strength in premenopausal women with idiopathic osteoporosis. A bone biopsy study. Abstract in *J. Bone Min. Res.* 23, Supp 1. P S451.

**Cosimano, A. & Sandhurst, H.** *The positive pregnancy project: A nursing connection with poverty and pregnancy*. Poster presentation at the National AWHONN Convention, June, 2009.

Conway, T., **Wilken, M.**, Parker, D. & **Anderson, MK.** (2008). *Development of a School Health Report Card*. Presented at the Public Health Informatics Conference, September, 2008.

Fuji, K., **Abbott, A., Norris, J. & Galt, K.** *Processes in care transitions from patient and provider perspectives: A mixed methods study*. Poster presentation at the Academy of Health Annual Research meeting, Chicago, IL, June, 2009.

Fuji, K., Galt, K., Drincic, A., Siracuse, M.V., Paschal, K., **Abbott, A.**, Bramble, J. D. *How pharmacists and physicians perceive their patients' use of personal health records*. Poster presentation at the Academy Health Annual Research meeting, Chicago, IL, June, 2009.

**Furlong, B.** *Dramatic presentation: Miss Lavinia Dock*. Commitment to justice. Jesuit Higher Education Conference, Fairfield, CT, June, 2009.

**Graves, J.** *Leveraging cell phones and PDAs as a student response system*. Presentation at the AACN Baccalaureate Conference, San Antonio, TX, December, 2008.

**Hercinger, M. & Rusch, L.** *Educating beyond the clinical setting: A care management focus*. Poster presentation. 35th Annual Professional Nurse Educators Group Conference. Kansas City, MO, October, 2008.

**Kunes-Connell, M.** (2008): *American Nursing Education: An Overview*. Third Medical Hospital, Shijiazhuang, China

**Lappe, J.** (2009) Invited speaker. *The bone benefits of calcium and exercise in children*. 7th International Symposium on Nutritional Aspects of Osteoporosis. Lausanne Switzerland, May 7-9.

**Lappe, J.** (2009) *The voice of college health for 60 years.* Annual meeting of The Central College Health Association, Omaha NE, March 12.

**Lappe, J.** (2008) Invited speaker. *Dietary Interventions with Calcium and Vitamin D and the Prevention of Cancer.* III Brazilian Congress of Nutrition and Cancer. San Paulo Brazil, June 21.

**Lappe, J.** (2008) Invited speaker. *Evaluation and Management of Osteoporosis Encountered in Children and Adults With Developmental Disabilities.* Webinar presentation sponsored by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey – Center for Continuing and Outreach Education. December 17.

**Lappe, J.** (2008) Invited speaker. *Vitamin D and oncology.* Expert Panel Discussion. Satellite symposium at the annual meeting of the American Association of Clinical Chemists, Washington, DC, July 29.

**Lappe, J.** (2008) *Vitamin D supplementation reduces risk of cancer: A randomized controlled trial.* Oral presentation at the 2008 National State of the Science Congress in Nursing Research, Washington DC, Oct 3-4.

Liu, S., Yin, P., Cohen, A., Shane, E., **Lappe, J.**, Recker, R., Guo, E. (2009). *Relationships between stiffness of human distal tibia, distal radius, proximal femur and vertebral body assessed by hr-pQct and cQct-based finite element analysis.* Proceedings of the ASME 2009 Summer Bioengineering Conference.

Liu XS, Yin PT, Cohen A, Shane E, **Lappe JM**, Recker RR, Bilezikian JP, and Guo XE. *Relationships Between Stiffness of Peripheral and Central Skeletal Sites Assessed by HR-pQCT and cQCT Based Finite Element Analyses*, Selected for the New Investigator Recognition Award 55th Annual Meeting of the Orthopaedic Research Society, Las Vegas, NV, February 22-25, 2009.

Liu XS, Yin PT, Zhang XH, Cohen A, Shane E, **Lappe JM**, Recker RR, Bilezikian JP, and Guo XE. *HR-pQCT and Individual Trabeculae Segmentation Based Morphological Analyses Can Detect Abnormal Trabecular Microstructure in Premenopausal Women with Idiopathic Osteoporosis*, Submitted to 55th Annual Meeting of the Orthopaedic Research Society, Las Vegas, NV, February 22-25, 2009

**Meagher, M.K.** *The Lost Child: Pediatric Content in the FNP program.* Breakout session presentation, NONPF Conference, Louisville, KY, April 2008.

**Meagher, M.K.** *HIV.* Presentation to the Health Promoter Conference, Hehuuetenango, Guatemala, July, 2008.

**O'Keefe, C.** *Pediatric infectious diseases: Treat or refer.* Presented to the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, San Diego, March, 2009.

**O'Keefe, C.** *Salmonella infections: Enteritis and beyond.* Presentation to the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, San Diego, March, 2009.

**O'Keefe, C.** *Emerging pediatric infectious diseases: Some old, some new.* Presentation to American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, Nashville, TN, June, 2009.

**O'Keefe, C.** *IVIG: What you do not know can hurt your patient.* Presented at the Midwest Chapter of NAPNAP Annual Pharmacology Conference, Omaha, NE, June, 2009.

**Price, H. & Patzel, B.** *We have Essentials: Now what?* Panel Presentation at The APNA Education Council: American Psychiatric Nurses Association. 22nd Conference, Minneapolis, MN, October, 2008.

**Rusch, L. & Hercinger, M.** *Enhancing patient education with informatics: A clinical learning experience.* Podium presentation at the 355th National Conference on Professional Education and Development, Kansas City, October, 2008.

**Selde, S.** *On your mark, get set, study.* Workshop presentation at the 41st Annual College Reading & Learning Association Conference, Cleveland, OH, October, 2008.

**Selde, S., Wadas, K., & Becker, M.** *Developing a Strengths Quest program at Creighton University.* The Building a Strengths-Based Campus Conference: Getting at the core of student development, Gallup University Riverfront Campus, Omaha, NE, June, 2009.

**Shirley, N.** *Preparing health care leaders for the 21st century.* Paper presented at the NLN Education Summit, San Antonio, TX, September, 2008.

**Shirley, N.** (Panel responder as part of the Quad Council) American Public Health Association, San Diego, CA, October, 2008.

**Stockard Spelic, S., Boardman, K., & Furlong, E.** *When I was hungry... Integrating service and learning.* Mosby's Faculty Development Institute, San Francisco CA, January, 2008.

**Synowiecki, B., Yager, A., Potthoff, M., Laughlin, A., & Schwartz, M.** *Partnering With Schools-Combining Service Learning and Research* 35th Annual Professional Nurse Educators Group (PNEG) Conference. Kansas City, Missouri, October 17-19, 2008.

**Synowiecki, B.** *Treatment of common sexually transmitted infections in primary care.* Presentation to the Midwest Chapter of NAPNAP, Annual Pediatric Pharmacology Conference, June, 2009.

**Todd, M., Manz, J. & Hawkins, K., Parsons, M. & Hercinger, M.** *A comprehensive approach to simulation.* Presentation to the Nurse Education Tomorrow NET Conference in Cambridge, UK, September, 2008.

**Travers Gustafson, D.** *Collaborating with the Omaha Sudanese Community for Family Violence Prevention.* Presentation at the Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, Santa Fe, NM, March, 2008.

**Yager, A., Potthoff, M., Synowiecki, B., Schwartz, M., & Laughlin, A.** (2008). *Partnering with schools – Combining service learning and research.* Presentation, Professional Nurse Educators Group. Kansas City MO, October.

**VanBoening, S. & Costanzo, C.** *CNLs leading Microsystems improvement: The link to quality and safety.* Poster presentation to Clinical Nurse Leader Summit, New Orleans, LA, 2009.

**Zemel, B., Kalkwarf, H., Gilsanz, V., Lappe, J., Oberfield, S., Shepherd, J., Mahboubi, S., Frederick, M., Winer, K.** A clinical tool for adjusting BMS Z-scores for body size in growing children. Abstract published in *J. Bone Min Res.* 23, Supp 1, p. S30.

## FUNDED GRANT AWARDS

**Cosimano, A. (PI).** The experiences of new nursing graduates on labor and delivery units: A phenomenological approach. Winifred E Pinch Award By the Iota Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau.

**Lappe, J. (PI) Travers-Gustafson, D. (Co I)**, Heaney, RI, Recker, R., & Garland, C. (2008). A clinical trial of vitamin D3 to reduce cancer risk in post menopausal women. Funded by the National Cancer Institute.

**Lappe, J., Desmangles, J. Recker, R., & Heaney, R.** (2008). Efficacy of optimal levels of dietary dairy on modulation of adolescent weight. Funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research.

**Norris, J. (PD)** Advanced Education Nurse Traineeship grant, 2008-9 Funded by DHHS Division of Nursing.

**Rubarth, L. (PI), Schoening, Sandhurst, H., A Cosimano, A., Tow, J. (Co. Is)** Stress in the hospitalized antepartum patient. Funded for \$1,000 by the Dean's HFF research fund.

**Sandhurst, H. (PI) & Cosimano, A. (Co I).** The Positive Pregnancy project. Funded by the March of Dimes (3rd year renewal).

**TINLEY, S. (PI), HERCINGER, M. & SHIRLEY, N (CO IS).** The meaning of spiritual care among nurses. Funded by the Health Future Foundation, 2008-2010.

**Parsons, M., Hercinger, M., Todd, M., Manz, J. & Hawkins, K.** Pilot testing of the CU Simulation Evaluation Tool (SET). Funded by the Dean's Health Future Foundation Research grant.

**Schoening, A.** From bedside to classroom: Making the transition from nurse to nurse educator. Funded by a Gamma Pi and Iota Tau Winifred E Pinch Research Award.

**Shirley, N. & Huggett, K. (Co PIs).** Understanding faculty expectations for work life balance: An exploratory study to improve faculty recruitment and retention in the Health Sciences. Health Futures Foundation Faculty Development Award, 2009-2011.

## PEGGY KARR PLATES FOR SALE

This limited edition plate, which measures 11" in diameter, was designed by Peggy Karr for the School's Golden Jubilee. The suggested price is \$55 plus a \$10 shipping charge. Funds raised from the sales of these pieces will support Creighton School of Nursing scholarships. If you would like to purchase a plate, contact Joyce Bunger at 402-280-2029 or [jbunger@creighton.edu](mailto:jbunger@creighton.edu).





Creighton University Nursing Student Katy Brinegar and friends.

## SCARS ARE SOUVENIRS YOU NEVER LOSE.

by Katy Brinegar, BSN '09 *Katy wrote this reflection before she graduated in May 2009.*

I am 22 years old from Boise, Idaho, where I have lived my whole life. When I was two years old, I was burned on approximately 1/3 of my body from hot water. I was treated at the University of Utah's burn unit, where I received several debridement surgeries and two skin graft surgeries. I later underwent two more surgeries there.

In 7th grade, I did a research project on what I wanted to be when I grew up. I decided that it would be fun to be a burn nurse because of my experiences. When I interviewed one of the nurses in the University of Utah's burn unit, Brad Wiggins, he told me about a burn camp they put on every year and he invited me to be a part of it. I attended the University of Utah's river rafting burn camp for several

years following until I became too old to be a camper. Then I became a counselor in training at the 6-12 year old camp for two years and finally this year, I was a counselor for the first time at this camp.

The camp is really fun! We spent time helping the kids "feel normal" and realize their real potential in this world by playing games and giving them experiences they may not otherwise have. These included: rock climbing, canoeing, scuba diving, seeing magic shows, horseback riding, and having outdoor movies. It's wonderful to see their confidence grow and the development of these kids as they see beyond their scars and find value as human beings.

As I stated earlier, my personal burns and burn camp experiences are what made

me want to be a nurse. I have attended Creighton nursing school for the past 3.5 years because it offers a strong four-year degree in a new place. I was also intrigued by the idea of a Catholic education, as I have attended Catholic schools all of my life, and I heard Jesuit educations are truly one of a kind.

This spring, I am "completing my circle" by doing my preceptorship in the burn unit at the University of Utah, where I was treated. I am looking forward to a new experience where I know I will be challenged and inspired by surroundings. I look forward to bringing my own experience as a strong foundation for sympathy and leadership on my patients and as a rock from which to stand myself. ■

# NEW NURSING ROLES LAUNCHED

The first Clinical Nurse Leaders graduated in May. Pictured are Suzanne VanBoening, MS, RN, who is working as a Clinical Nurse Leader at Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital in Hastings, Nebraska, and Anenye Aloziem, MS, RN, is a Clinical Nurse Leader with Lasting Hope in Omaha. Not pictured, but also a May Clinical Nurse Leader graduate is Julianne Yost, MS, RN, who is affiliated with Mercy Medical in Des Moines, Iowa.



Pictured are Suzanne VanBoening, MS RN and Anenye Aloziem, MS RN



Joyce Sasse (BA '73, BSN '00, MS '02), Creighton's (and Nebraska's) first Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate

Joyce Sasse will become Creighton's first Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate in December of 2010. Creighton is the first nursing school in Nebraska to offer the DNP program. There are currently 49 students admitted in Creighton's DNP program.

Joyce has a private practice as a psychiatric nurse practitioner with Woodhaven Counseling Associates in Omaha and she

truly lives the Creighton mission. She provides free psychiatric services to the needy by always keeping two patient positions open at all times. Qualifying patients receive up to 12 months of free care. In addition, she assesses the patients' needs and connects them with social services, vocational rehabilitation, disability and other needed services to enable them to live as independently as possible. ■



Cindy Costanzo, PHD, Chair, Master's Program



Mary Parsons, PHD, Chair, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program



Nancy Shirley, PHD, Chair, Undergraduate Programs

# NEW PROGRAM CHAIR APPOINTMENTS

School of Nursing Dean Eleanor V. Howell announced three program chair appointments as a part of the reorganization of the School of Nursing. Dr. Mary Parsons has been named chair of the newly-implemented Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program; Dr. Cindy Costanzo is chair of the Master's program, and Dr. Nancy Shirley is the chair of the BSN program which

includes the Traditional, Accelerated, and RN-BSN tracks. "The re-organization of the School of Nursing and the appointment of these proven leaders to their new positions will enable the School of Nursing to continue its tradition of leadership in nursing education and responsiveness to the needs of its students and the health care industry," stated Dean Howell. ■

## A FAMILY AFFAIR

Nursing is a family traditon for the Greish Girls.



(left to right) Sara, age 12 (We are saving you a spot here in nursing!); Lisa, BSN-to-be '13; Emily, BSN '07, Lauren, BSBA'11 (Whoops...what happened?); and Liz, BSN '06. Dad, Jim, graduated from with a BSBA in 1980 and Mom, Anne, graduated in 1981 with a BPha.

Among those graduating from the accelerated nursing program in August, were two nurses whose mothers graduated from the School of Nursing in previous years.



Jenny Lamoureux and her mother, Lynn Furlong Lamoureux (BSN '80) from Omaha.



Erin Gambee and her mother, Maggie Ahlers Gambee (BSN '78) from Portland, Oregon.

## LAUNCH A CAREER, GAIN A LEADER

This May, over 1400 students will join the Creighton University Alumni Association. We are proud to welcome these men and women into our alumni family and believe that they, like you will make a difference in the world around them.

A number of our graduates plan to continue their education, while others will pursue service opportunities. The majority, however, will seek employment. As they face a challenging economy, now more than ever, they will need to draw on their networks as they begin their careers. That's where you may be of help.

If you or the organization you work with has a job or internship opening, or if you know of organizations hiring for entry level positions, we would like to make our graduates aware of these opportunities. The Creighton University Jobs4Jays website will put this information into the hands of students. Postings in Jobs4Jays are exclusively available to Creighton students and alumni. To share your information on Jobs4Jays, visit [www.creighton.edu/careercenter](http://www.creighton.edu/careercenter).

If you are a Creighton alum, you can join the Jay2Jay Network to:

- Search for Creighton alumni
- Make career connections
- Post/Search jobs and resumes
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- Communicate with friends

Login or register here: <http://alumni.creighton.edu>

Creighton continues to educate competent, compassionate and committed students who can become agents of change. Thank you in advance for any assistance you may be able to provide. If alumni have any questions, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumrel@creighton.edu](mailto:alumrel@creighton.edu); if you have questions as an employer, please contact the Creighton Career Center at [careercenter@creighton.edu](mailto:careercenter@creighton.edu).



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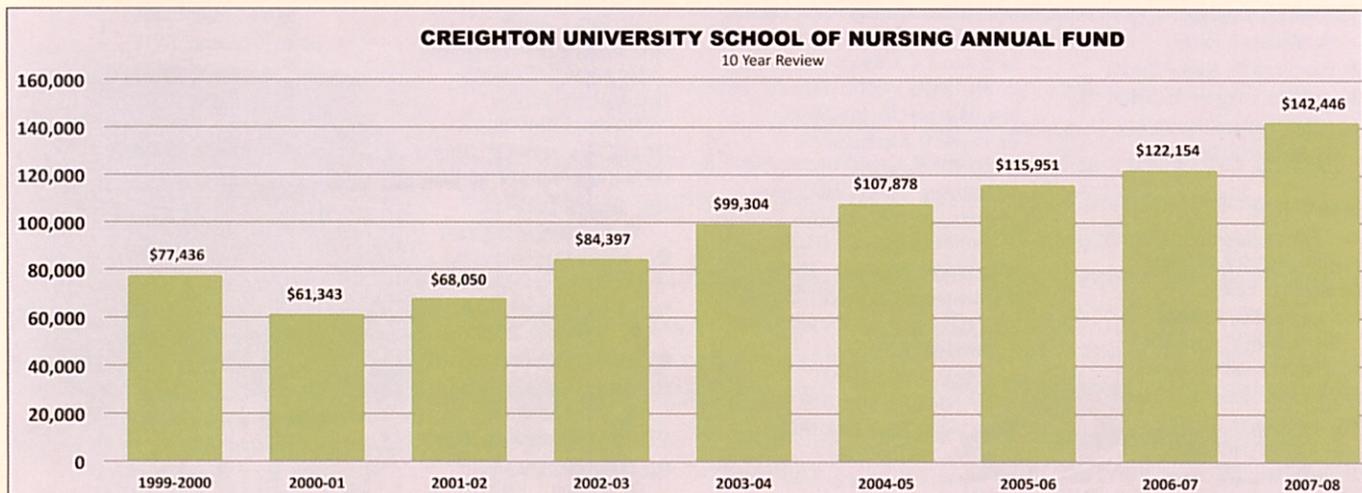


2009 Creighton University Nursing Alumni Advisory Board.



Eileen Van Tasell (BSN 1968)

## DEVELOPMENT NEWS



# DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Donor Recognition Club Members *Fiscal year 2009*

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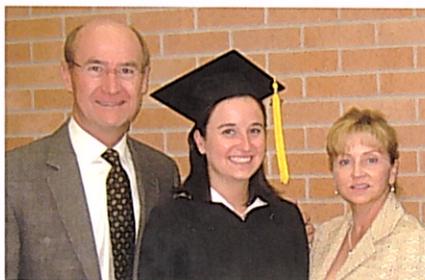
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# STAFFORD FAMILY ESTABLISHES ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP



Allison Stafford and her parents, William and Connie Stafford.

Dr. William (MD '71) and Connie Stafford have established an annual scholarship for students in the School of Nursing. Their

daughter, Allison, graduated from the accelerated nursing program in 2008, and is currently an emergency nurse in Washington State.

Dr. Stafford offered these comments, "Our contribution to the Creighton Nursing School scholarship fund is a small token of the appreciation we have for our Creighton University learning experience. I have been most fortunate in my medical career and owe a good portion of that to my years at Creighton as an undergraduate and medical

student. With Connie being an OR nurse and Allison a recent nursing graduate and starting her nursing career, we know first hand the importance of nursing as it forms the core of the medical care system. Creighton University has a long history of providing nursing students with superior training, and we hope our small donation will enable future students to benefit from that Creighton experience." ■

## 2009-2010 NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Below is a listing of each recipient and their scholarship.

### AMDG Rad. Endowed Scholarship

*Minh C. Nguyen*

### Andolsek, Regina Burnett Endowed Scholarship for Nursing

*Kathy Tram Daotay*

### Beckman, Heather Bernadette & April Lynn Annual Nursing Scholarship in Memory of Jeanne Corrine & Bernard J. Higgins

*Julia Katherine Hector*

### Bellinger, Frank Earl M.D. Scholarship

*Winn Asay*

*Kathy Tram Daotay*

*Sarah Anne Erthal*

*Jacob Kent Holland*

*Allison Rose Leikam*

*Jennifer A. Melton*

*Amber Lee Rosno*

### Bertoldi, Agnes Haller Endowed Scholarship

*Marianne E. Black*

### Ciciulla, Dr. Sheila Donahue Scholarship

*Alex C. Wilkie*

### Creighton Memorial St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Endowed Scholarship

*Andrew Thomas Clark*

*Hannah E. Dreas*

### Curley, Norma Link Endowed Scholarship for Nursing

*Winn Asay*

### Elizabeth Fund Scholarship

*Kelsey Marie Holmes*

### Gaul, Emalea & Zeta Scholarship

*Allison Rose Leikam*

*Mary C. Pomeranke*

### Gondringer, Jean H. Jerman Endowed Scholarship

*Barbara Paige Dixon*

### Hannasch, Anna M. & Donald H. Endowed Scholarship

*Danielle Marie Frericks*

### Harper, Josie Endowed Scholarship for Nursing

*Audrey Ann Bradshaw*

*Erin Whitney Dailey*

*Kathy Tram Daotay*

### Hedequist, Jane A. & Susan S. Endowed Scholarship

*Jordane B. Choquette*

### Kitchens, Edeth K. Endowed Scholarship for Nursing

*Mark Walz*

### Lamberto, Barbara A. Endowed Scholarship

*Justina Arlene Schipporeit*

### McCabe, Diane Memorial Endowed Scholarship

*Katherine Ann Girard*

### McCallan, J. Barry & Rita Endowed Scholarship

*Emily Ann Donovan*

*Danielle Marie Frericks*

### McCarthy-Spielman, Margaret L. (Lucy) Endowed Scholarship in Nursing

*Jennifer A. Melton*

### McGahan, Roma Nagengast Scholarship

*Whitney N. Beller*

### Powers, Leonard & Madeline Endowed Scholarship for Nursing

*Frannie N. Maier*

### Quinlan, Thomas C. Endowed Scholarship for Nursing

*Courtney Leigh Elliott*

*Amy Rebekah Spencer*

### Rauenhorst, Mark & Karen Scholarship

*Daren Robert Baller*

*Jennifer Johanna Kropp*

### St. Joseph Hospital Service League Scholarship

*Alexis M. Breitreutz*

*Emily Ann Donovan*

*Melissa Ann List*

*Frannie N. Maier*

*Amber K. Sholes*

### Suzuki, Lois R. Memorial Scholarship

*Veronica Vega Yoder*

### Vossen, Dorothy E. Nursing School Scholarship

*Bradley A. Paprocki*

## 2009 FACULTY & STAFF

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Linda Lazure, PHD, *Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Student Affairs*

Joan Norris, PHD, *Professor and Associate Dean for Research and Evaluation*

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Mary Parsons, PHD, *Associate Professor DNP Program*

Nancy Shirley, PHD, *Associate Professor BSN Program*

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Winifred Ellenchild Pinch EDD

### Professor

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Misty Schwartz PHD (c)

Stephanie Stockard Spelic MSN

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Shannon Manfull

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Jodi Sowl

Tina Young

### Chaplain

Fr. Thomas Bannantine, SJ

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### The Progress Report for the School of Nursing

The Progress Report for the School of Nursing is published annually. Its purpose is to provide alumni with information on current events within the school as well as insights into future directions. Address inquiries to Joyce Bunger, Assistant Dean and Editor, Creighton University School of Nursing, 2500 California, Omaha, Nebraska 68178.

Diverse opinions may be expressed. They do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editor nor do they represent official policy of Creighton University.

# Creighton UNIVERSITY

## SCHOOL OF NURSING

2500 California Plaza  
Omaha, Nebraska 68178



Among the speakers at this year's continuing education program, "Nursing Perspectives on Health Care Reform," were nurse executives Nancy Mehnert Lakier (BSN '75), Bridget Young (BSN '75) and Linda Stones (BSN '89).

**Mark your calendars for Friday, September 24, 2010**  
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