

FALL 2010

CREIGHTON

SCHOOL OF NURSING PROGRESS REPORT

DR. C. C. AND MABEL L. CRISS
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

SCHOOLS OF MEDICINE, NURSING, PHARMACY
AND ALLIED HEALTH

**From Graduate School to Faculty...
Creighton's Mission Continues.**

**Creighton Graduate Program
Celebrates 30 Years**

**Nursing Ethics Important Focus
at Destination Creighton**



Young Charlie Potthoff develops rapport with nursing students under the watchful eye of his mother, Meghan, and Dr. Anne Schoening.



LEADERSHIP TEAM

Front row, left to right: Associate Dean for Academic and Clinical Affairs Mary Kunes-Connell, Dean Eleanor Howell, Associate Dean for Research and Evaluation Joan Norris. Back row, left to right: Assistant Dean Amy Cosimano, Assistant Dean Cindy Adams, Associate Dean for External Affairs Linda Lazure, Assistant Dean Joyce Bunger.



PROGRAM CHAIRS

Master's Program Chair Cindy Costanzo, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Chair Mary Parsons (standing), Baccalaureate Program Chair Nancy Shirley.



ON THE COVER

From Graduate School to Faculty... Creighton's Mission Continues.

Front row, left to right: Dr. Katie O'Keefe, Cathy Carrico, Dr. Sue Tinley, Pat Nilsson
Second row: Martha Todd, Jill Isaacs, Dr. Dianne Travers-Gustafson, Dr. Ann Laughlin
Back row: Dr. Amy Abbott, Dr. Joan Lappe, Dr. Janet Graves, Julie Manz

ENROLLMENT FACTS October 2010

SCHOOL OF NURSING	OMAHA	HASTINGS	TOTALS
Undergraduate Program			
Traditional	405	18	423
Accelerated Nursing	95	20	115
RN to BSN	—	—	14
Graduate Program			
Master of Nursing	—	—	99
Doctor of Nursing Practice	—	—	65

DEAN'S REPORT



Vibrant — this is the perfect adjective to capture the times in our profession and our school. Enjoy a glimpse of the lively activities in the School of Nursing through the pages of this issue of the Progress Report as we celebrate accomplishments of our alumni, faculty, and students, and the 30th anniversary of Creighton's master's degree program in nursing, ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* in the top 100 graduate programs in nursing.

Excitement abounds in our profession with the October 2010 release of the landmark report: *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*®. Sponsored by the Institute of Medicine and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the *Future of Nursing* report is the outcome of a two-year study conducted by a panel of health care experts on nursing's capacity to respond to the needs of a reformed health care and public health system, and includes national recommendations for nursing roles, service delivery and education, and related changes in public and institutional policies. The four messages that underlie the recommendations in the report are:

- Nurses should practice to the full extent of their education and training.
- Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression.
- Nurses should be full partners, with physicians and other health professionals, in redesigning health care in the United States.
- Effective workforce planning and policy making require better data collection and an improved information infrastructure. (*Institute of Medicine, 2011, S-3*).

Creighton faculty members are engaging in discussions on implementation of the report's recommendations and addressing the challenges faculty shortages pose to transforming the educational system and health care delivery. For example, in addition to preparing nurses for advanced practice, the School of Nursing offers three graduate-level education courses to teach nurse practitioners, clinical specialists, and nurse managers the principles of learning and instruction, including the

processes, philosophies and supporting theories for designing and assessing curriculum and instruction, and evaluating learning, educational programs and offerings. We received federal funding through the Nurse Faculty Loan Program that pays up to 85 percent of tuition for students who plan to teach following graduation. Our faculty who are nurse practitioners are providers in area clinics and serve as exceptional models of nurses who practice to the full extent of their education. We also created a new position in the school, Faculty Development Coordinator, to plan and implement activities that support and enhance all dimensions of the faculty role—clinical practice, teaching, service, and research/scholarship. Dr. Anne Schoening is the School's first Faculty Development Coordinator, and she is working closely with the other members of the faculty and academic leadership team to promote excellence in clinical and nursing education, support the teacher-scholar model, assist faculty members with academic career development, and enhance retention of faculty members.

Throughout its history, your school and its faculty have demonstrated a sustained commitment to leading innovation in nursing education. I also want to acknowledge the many contributions our alumni make to the teaching mission of the school. The Alumni Advisory Board members provide input into the types, relevance, and quality of the school's educational offerings. Many of our alumni serve as clinical preceptors for graduate and undergraduate students, guest speakers in courses, and presenters at special educational events such as the recent alumni reunion continuing education program. Your ideas and participation are welcome as we examine the *Future of Nursing's* recommendations and work to redesign and transform health care and nursing practice and education.

Best wishes to all for a blessed holiday season and a wonderful 2011.

Sincerely,
Eleanor Howell, PHD, RN



Nebraska Nurses Association Recognizes Creighton.
Dean Howell earned the Outstanding Achievement in Nursing Award by District 2 for her pioneering efforts to establish a DNP program in Nebraska. Receiving statewide awards: (left to right) were DNP Program Chair Dr. Mary Parsons, NNA Outstanding Nurse Educator Award; Nursing Junior Abby Salton, recipient of the NNA Student Scholarship; and from the Hastings Campus, Sharon Hayek, NNA Distinguished Service Award.

*Institute of Medicine. (2011). *The future of nursing: Leading change, advancing health*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. (Full report available at <http://www.nap.edu>).

CREIGHTON GRADUATE PROGRAM CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

FROM GRADUATE SCHOOL TO FACULTY...CREIGHTON'S MISSION CONTINUES.

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THE CREIGHTONIAN

Friday, March 21, 1980

Graduate nursing program slated for January '81

The groundwork is being prepared for a graduate program in nursing slated to begin in January of 1981, said Sheila Ciciulla, acting dean of nursing.

A feasibility study conducted in 1977 indicated there is a serious need in Nebraska and bordering states for nurses with masters degrees, Ciciulla said.

Of those people in nursing education and administration, only about 15 percent are educationally prepared for the position they hold, said Laura MacLachlan, associate dean of nursing. This demonstrates the need for a graduate program, she said.

"The master of science in nursing is designed to produce educators, researchers, primary care clinicians and advanced clinical specialists,"

MacLachlan said.

We expect our graduates to have the ability to do research in clinical, practical and administrative settings. They will have the ability to enter society and find their own role and function in the health care system," she said.

This role is not a nurse practitioner role, she said. Nurse practitioner skills are but a small piece of the knowledge that should be incorporated into a general masters program, she said.

A bachelor's in nursing is required before acceptance into the graduate program. Students can receive the BSN from one of three programs offered at Creighton.

The traditional "generic" program is geared toward high school graduates with no nursing background. This four-year program includes courses in biology, anatomy and biochemistry. The required clinical experience is acquired at St. Joseph Hospital, Ciciulla said.



The second route is sponsored by St. Joseph Hospital. Those graduates with some nursing background, but who did not receive college credit for nursing science courses, follow this program, she said.

The same courses as in the generic program are required, although those students meeting the freshman level requirements can earn up to 31 credit hours in a nursing major by passing a curriculum exam, Ciciulla said.

The third program is the Accelerated Curriculum in nursing. This is a one-year program for graduates with a baccalaureate degree who have also completed generic program prerequisites. This program condenses four years of nursing into one year-round program divided into three

terms, each of which is equal to one generic year of study, Ciciulla said.

In essence, the three programs are the



MacLachlan

Ciciulla

same curriculum at different paces. Ciciulla said, with students of each program gaining the same background and skills.

CALLED "HOME" BY MANY FACULTY

"Growing your own faculty!" is not a new concept for Creighton. When Creighton embarked on establishing a graduate program in the mid-1970s, the National League of Nursing mandated all graduate faculty had to have master's degrees or higher. A clever approach to recruit and retain faculty was devised and has worked well for the School of Nursing for 30 years.

A national search was conducted and Dr. Laura MacLachlan was hired to initiate and implement the new graduate program. Having both her master's and doctoral degrees from State University of New York, she was well-qualified to meet the challenge.

In order not to duplicate specialties offered at other nursing schools, Creighton explored unmet needs that could be addressed by nurses prepared for advance practice. Creighton noted that there was an emerging

need for nurses to work in rehabilitation, ambulatory care, and long-term care settings. A Department of Health and Human Services grant was secured to begin a program focusing on those needs, and Federal monies were made available to provide tuition assistance.

Mary Jo Sanders was the first person to receive her master's degree at Creighton. She received a fellowship that enabled her to go full time. All other members of the first class of 13 were part time.

"I learned so much in my undergraduate program at Creighton, graduate school at Creighton seemed a natural progression," said Sanders. "We had a great group in that first class—and we had a lot of fun together. Dr. MacLachlan was wonderful—she was a great mentor to us."

Sanders is semi-retired and lives in California. She recalled several of her classmates—most going on to distinguished careers: Dr. Roxanne Westendorf McDaniel

is an associate dean for the University of Missouri; Dr. Brenda Faith Bergman-Evans is an executive with Alegent Health in Omaha; Dr. Colleen Casey Goode is a professor at the University of Colorado; and Dr. Virginia Fulton Davidsaver, now retired.

A CHANCE TO BALANCE GRADUATE SCHOOL, WORK AND FAMILY — THE IDEA TOOK OFF.

Creighton offered yet another unique advantage. Graduate classes were taught part-time, evenings and weekends, enabling nurses to work, attend classes, and raise a family. The new graduate students were older, some well into their 40s. Some traveled a great distance to attend classes.

Pat Nilsson and Sue Tinley were in the first class. Both Pat and Sue had small children and were working full-time.



Sue Tinley (left) and Pat Nilsson were students in the first graduate class.

"Laura MacLachlan was wonderful. She really understood how difficult it was to work, raise a family and go to school," said Ms. Nilsson. "She intentionally structured the curriculum to enable us to gain excellent education, yet have energy left over for work and family."

Sue Tinley was rejected when she applied at another school. She was told, "You can't possibly be a student and have children!" Creighton accepted her and not only did she raise her family, she delivered her sixth baby during her first semester in graduate school.

Were they successful? Absolutely. Both Tinley and Nilsson are faculty members today at the nursing school. Tinley attained her doctorate and is well known in the field of genetics. Dr. Tinley has served as president of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics. Finding prepared faculty was a challenge.

Dean Emerita Sheila Ciciulla recalls the early days. "We knew we needed faculty members. It made perfect sense to offer a nurse educator option. With luck, they would enjoy their time at Creighton and stay on with us as faculty members. We prided ourselves on being 'student friendly.'"

Thus was the case with Dr. Janet Graves. She was working at Clarkson Hospital. Going to school part-time appealed to her. Shortly after graduating, she was recruited to Creighton to teach. In 1996, Dr. Graves turned her emphasis toward the implementation of technology. Technology offered the faculty new and better ways to teach. Today Dr. Graves is the director of eLearning for the school.

In 1986, Creighton opened the Hastings campus. Instructors were hired with the stipulation they would complete their master's degrees.

THE BAR IS RAISED.

In the late 90s, the bar was raised higher by national nursing leadership. Faculty members teaching in graduate schools were expected to hold doctoral degrees. Once again, Creighton offered students what few nursing schools did—flexibility and creativity.

"Over the years, Creighton has remained nimble and able to lead and respond quickly to changes in health care—modifying our curriculum to meet new challenges. Creighton was among the first schools piloting the Clinical Nurse Leader roles and curriculum, and offering the BSN to DNP program," observed Dean Eleanor Howell. "Creighton is able to provide premier nursing programs because of the faculty's vision and commitment to excellence in nursing and nursing education."

Dr. Cindy Costanzo is the program chair for the Master's programs at Creighton.

"We fully realize the pressure placed on nurses today. Going back for a master's degree or a doctoral degree can be daunting. The leadership at Creighton is committed to developing a curriculum that is cutting edge and still allows students to enjoy their families."

There are currently 99 students enrolled in Creighton's Master's program. Creighton School of Nursing's newest degree program,

the Doctorate of Nursing Practice has 65 students enrolled.

"We have a 'hybrid program' in many ways. Students come to campus for some classes; however many of our classes are on-line. A unique component to our graduate program is the courses offered through Creighton's Werner Institute of Negotiation and Dispute Resolution. Earlier in my career, I was a chief nursing officer. Settling conflict was a big focus of my job. Finding common ground enabled everyone to move on and take care of business for the greater good," Costanzo added.

This fall, the faculty welcomed Jill Isaacs. She graduated with her BSN in 1999 and her Masters from Creighton in 2006. While she enjoyed working as an adult nurse practitioner, becoming an instructor appealed to her. Jill is receiving tuition support and release time to pursue her doctorate.

"I am so excited to be back at Creighton as a faculty member! I find it an incredible honor and privilege to care for others. Creighton instilled that in me. What better way to give back than to share my passion for nursing



Hasting faculty members Nancy Bredenkamp and Marilee Aufdencamp received their master's degrees from Creighton.

here at Creighton University. This program, these wonderful people, and this community have had such a great influence in shaping not only the nurse I am today, but the person I am today. I am thrilled to be home!"

Evolution in nursing will continue. Creighton will remain well-positioned to accept the challenges of change. One thing remains constant. Just as Dr. Ciciulla reflected, "A great graduate program will draw them to Creighton. Once they were here, we hoped they would stay." And many did. ■



Over 280 nurses attended the event at the new Mike and Josie Harper Center for Student Life and Learning.

NURSING ETHICS IMPORTANT FOCUS AT DESTINATION CREIGHTON

INTUITION | RULES | FACTS: HOW NURSES MAKE ETHICAL DECISIONS

Intuition—Rules—Facts: How Nurses Make Ethical Decisions was the theme of the third annual continuing education event offered free to Creighton nursing alumni during Reunion Weekend, on October 1 at the Harper Center. Over to 280 alumni and students engaged in discussions of ethical dilemmas nurses address on a daily basis. All of the speakers and panelists were either Creighton nursing alumni, faculty members, or students. The schedule allowed for wdialogue between the speakers and the attendees.

Associate Professor Beth Furlong ended the event speaking on the topic Jesuit Values, Social Justice and Ethics. As she concluded her talk, she emphasized, with pride, that Jesuit values, social justice and ethics are incorporated throughout Creighton’s nursing curriculum—indeed setting Creighton apart from other nursing schools. ■



Creighton faculty members provide insight into their specialty areas. Left to right are: Dr. Lori Rubarth (Neonatal Nurse Practitioner), Dr. Maribeth Hercinger (Oncology), Dr. Sue Tinley (Genetics) and Dianne Travers-Gustafson (Geriatrics and Public Health).



Faculty member Dr. Beth Furlong.



Creighton nursing students attending the event.



Gary George shares the ethical dilemmas he encounters as the executive director of Hospice House in Omaha. Fellow panelist Eileen Van Tasell is to his right.



Nursing student Natalie Unger in Ireland.

SEEING THE WORLD IN A DIFFERENT WAY

Some people say that they know the exact moment when they decided nursing was the right choice for them. For Creighton nursing sophomore Natalie Unger, her dream to become a nurse was confirmed on a green Irish hillside, far from Creighton's campus.

Natalie spent her spring semester on an immersion trip in Limerick. Learning in Ireland confirmed that nursing is the right choice for her.

"I have known for years that I have wanted to do something to help other people along the lines of medicine. Being abroad I have been exposed to all sorts of personalities and people and I have realized how much I like nursing. I enjoy meeting new people and learning from them," Natalie said.

"Going abroad allowed me to go out and see the world in a different way. I have gained greater insight," says Natalie.

Natalie traveled to several places throughout Ireland, but has also had the chance to see Florence and Rome.

Associate Dean Dr. Linda Lazure said Study Abroad program is an excellent learning component in the nursing curriculum.

"The Study Abroad experience teaches responsibility. It takes initiative to prepare for the experience. Study Abroad facilitates the integration of Jesuit charisms and a deeper understanding of vulnerable populations and the student's place in the world. I have seen students return from study abroad

experiences with a much deeper spirituality and spiritual centeredness."

"My experience abroad will supplement my education by giving me more hands-on experience," Natalie said. I have had the chance to learn from my Irish housemates in addition to learning from my classes at the University of Limerick. I have had to learn different things like converting the currency from U.S. dollars to Euros, how to get around in Ireland, and I have learned a lot about the different places that I have traveled."

"I will become a better nurse after this trip because I will have a greater understanding for people with different personalities and cultural backgrounds," Natalie said. ■

CREIGHTON STUDENTS TO FOCUS ON PATIENT SAFETY

Over 200 Creighton students from the fields of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, health administration and policy, social work and law came together on October 29 for an intensive, highly interactive day-long session on patient safety.

Fremont audiologist Evelyn McKnight, co-author of "A Never Event: Exposing the Largest Outbreak of Hepatitis C in American Health Care History," delivered the keynote address. Her book explores a 2000-2001 outbreak in Fremont, Nebraska, in which 99 cancer patients, including McKnight, contracted hepatitis C after an oncologist directed nurses to reuse syringes.

"Patient safety seems like it should be a simple thing, but it's not at all," said Cindy Costanzo, PhD, Creighton assistant professor of nursing and co-organizer of Interdisciplinary Patient Safety Day. The event provided students with a concentrated curriculum that introduced them to safety theory in a health care setting.

"We want to challenge our future health care professionals to think in new ways about patient safety. They need to understand that no one nurse, physician or pharmacist can guarantee a patient's safety; it takes a team of health professionals working together," Costanzo said.

About 30 Creighton faculty and community leaders, including Joann Schaeffer, MD, Nebraska's chief medical officer, and Dennis Berens, director of the Nebraska Office of Rural Health, participated.

A similar event will be held in spring 2011. Both events are sponsored by the Creighton Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety. ■



A YEAR OF ACCOLADES FOR NURSING RESEARCH



Creighton University researcher Joan Lappe, PhD, has earned a national award for her work from the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research (FNINR).

Lappe, the Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss and Drs. Gilbert and Clinton Beirne Endowed Chair in Nursing and professor of medicine, received the Ada Sue Hinshaw Award during FNINR's recent "2010 Scientific Symposium: Bringing Science to Life" in Bethesda, MD.

Hinshaw was the first permanent director of the National Institute of Nursing Research. The award recognizes the significance of nursing research and the contributions made by nurse scientists to improve health care. ■

DEAN'S AWARD FOR FACULTY EXCELLENCE

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

Martha Todd, APRN, was the recipient of the 2010 Dean's Award for Faculty Excellence for her leadership in developing a research trajectory in the area of simulation. Mrs. Todd had made significant improvements in how the health assessment course is delivered. In addition, she developed a new practice site at the Heart Ministry Center in Omaha, offering free health care to underserved and uninsured clients.

Previous Dean's Award honorees include Dr. Maribeth Hercinger for her constant willingness to mentor new faculty members; 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. Fr. Bannantine continues to contribute greatly to the climate and character of the school. ■



TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS WINNERS



Julie Manz, MS, APRN
Undergraduate Program
December 2009



Joyce Schilke, PhD, APRN
Graduate Program
May 2010



Lori Rusch, PhD, RN
Undergraduate Program
May 2010



Nancy Bredenkamp, MS, APRN
Hastings Campus
May 2010



Amy Abbott, PhD, RN
Accelerated Program
August 2010

CREIGHTON RESEARCHER AND STUDENT TO BE RECOGNIZED AT YWCA EVENT

A Creighton University researcher and a nursing student were among 11 area women honored at the 23rd Annual YWCA Omaha Tribute to Women luncheon on June 8 in Omaha.

Joan Lappe, Ph.D., the Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss and Drs. Gilbert and Clinton Beirne Endowed Chair in Nursing and professor of medicine, was recognized for her research and its impact on public health.

In recent years, Lappe, a researcher with Creighton's Osteoporosis Research Center, has been the recipient of major NIH grants to study the roles of calcium and/or vitamin D in cancer prevention,

stress fracture reduction, and obesity in young girls. She was the principal investigator of a landmark study linking vitamin D and calcium consumption to cancer prevention in 2007.

Creighton nursing student Monica Ibarra was also honored as a young leader. A Gates Millennium Scholar, Ibarra was born into a migrant farm-worker family; she plans to become the first in her family to earn a college degree. She has been an active volunteer with Campfire USA, Gates Millennium Scholarship mentoring program, Boys and Girls Club, Hand-in-Hand, Keep Omaha Beautiful and Creighton's Spring Break Service Trips program. ■

GATES SCHOLAR SHARES HER STORY

Monica Ibarra is special for many reasons. She is a Creighton nursing student, she is a first-generation college graduate, and she is also a Gates Scholar at Creighton. Here is her story.

"You don't get to choose how you're going to die. Or when. You can only decide how you're going to live. Now." Joan Baez.

When my family lived in Utah I was in desperate need of medical attention, but it was impossible because my parents could not afford the medical treatment. I did not receive the care I needed until we moved to Omaha. When we arrived in Omaha to meet Dr. Sanchez, he told my mom not to worry about the money—just bring me to his office. The look he gave me when I first saw him, I will never forget. Dr. Sanchez stared at me straight deep into my eyes, he carefully and tenderly examined my face with confidence as if he knew right away what I had; when he placed his warm and heroic hands I felt safe, as if touched by my hero or by God Himself.

The next day I was putting on my shoes and I could not put them on because my feet were really swollen. My parents decided to call Dr. Sanchez to see what he would say. He told us to go to the emergency room



because my blood level was too low. A couple hours later I stopped breathing, it was like a pause, no air, no feeling, no touch, and no nothing. I could see something, it was something similar as seeing my life pass in front of my young brown eyes. When the doctors pulled me away for surgery I saw my father—this is one of the moments that I will never forget, one of those memories that will reside in my long-term memory until the day God decides to call me. This was the first time, ever, that I have seen my father drop tears down his masculine cheeks;

those tears on his cheeks meant only one thing clear to me, pure love.

A set of specialists finally decided I have Lupus. Soon I learned about the physical limitations that would change my life and my health. Life can change in a flash and God has given me a second chance at life. It gives me the fuel to achieve more out of life.

My inspiration is Dr. Sanchez. Dr. Sanchez did not allow money, or my lack of it, to impact the quality of care he provided. Despite our poverty he still gave me the best warm-hearted care he could provide.

A nursing career best suits my personality because I think of others before myself. I do not let Lupus get in my way or use it as an excuse. Lupus is just something I have, not something that I am. But it has changed me and the way I look at life.

My family is another reason why I want to be a nurse. I want to be a role model for my cousins. So far none of them have gone to college. By going to college I would show them that there is more beyond high school. ■

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

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FUNDED GRANT AWARDS

Lappe, J. [Investigator], **Travers-Gustafson, D.** [Co-Investigator]. Heaney, R., Recker, R. & Garland, C. Clinical trial of vitamin D3 to reduce cancer risk in postmenopausal women. National Cancer Institute - \$4,070,059; supplement for \$41,000 obtained in 2010 – [2008-2013].

Lappe, J. & Zhao, J. Supplement to R01CA129488-01A2 Clinical trial of vitamin D3 to reduce cancer risk in postmenopausal women. National Cancer Institute (a Competing Revision for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds) - \$623,249 - [2009-2011].

Zemel, B., Kalkwarf, H., & **Lappe, J.** Genome wide association study of bone mineral accretion during childhood. The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) - \$108,855 for year 1 – [2010-2012].

Norris, J. [Program Director]. Advanced education nursing traineeship. Health and Human Services, Division of Nursing - \$25,481 - [1 July 2010-30 June 2011].

Rubarth, L. [Principal Investigator], **Sandhurst, H.**, **Schoening, A.**, & **Cosimano, A.** [Co Investigators]. Use of online support and NICU education to decrease stress for prenatal patients on bedrest: A pilot study. Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) Research Grant - \$9,500 – [1 June, 2010-31 May, 2011].

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Shirley, N. & Huggett, K. [Co-Principal Investigators]. HFF Faculty Development: Understanding faculty expectations for work-life balance: An exploratory study to improve faculty recruitment and retention in the health sciences - \$20,000 – [1 July 2009-30 June 2011].

Tinley, S. [Investigator], **Shirley, N.**, **Hercinger, M.** [Co-Investigators]. HFF Faculty Development: The meaning of spiritual care among registered nurses. Health Future Foundation - \$20,000 – [1 July 2008-30 June 2010].

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROJECTS

Foyt, M. (2009). CU Interprofessional Faculty-Student Health Care Team, Shijiazhuang, China.

Cosimano, A. and Hoy, S. (2010). Koutalia Hospital for Women and Children, Mali, Africa.

To review a complete listing of Faculty Scholarship, go to <http://www.creighton.edu/nursing/alumni/annualprogressreport/index.php>



Students at St. Stanislaus Elementary (Omaha, NE) receive a routine health assessment by Drs. Misty Schwartz and Ann Laughlin.

PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS COMBINING SERVICE-LEARNING AND RESEARCH

Creighton nursing students have helped fill a gap left by state and national budget cuts to schools by providing screening and prevention services to parochial schools. Omaha-area prochocial schools since 2001.

Through the school-health program, elementary and high schools were able to meet state health requirements and Creighton nursing students had an ideal environment to deliver health promotion and prevention to underserved populations.

A partnership was developed between Creighton University School of Nursing and 32 parochial schools. Faculty worked with elementary and high school principals to develop a clinical rotation to provide community-based, pediatric health promotion experiences, with the goal of serving the local community. The partnership provided a needed service for the schools, an opportunity for the School of Nursing to meet its mission of promoting service-learning experiences, and improved access to health promotion and prevention services for primary

and secondary school populations. A majority of the 32 schools are located in areas where households have reported incomes equal to or less than state and national poverty levels.

The Healthy Living Project grew out of the school health clinical course during the first semester clinical practicum for accelerated nursing students. Nursing students conducted research and collected body mass indexes on all the children. The data showed an alarming trend of BMI percentages at or above the 95th percentile.

The Healthy Living Project was initiated in fall 2007. Groups of nursing students attended an orientation for the Healthy Living Project. Health classes were taught once a month to the children in the schools during the initial academic year. The nursing students were assigned a health education topic three to four weeks prior to presenting. A 10-minute physical activity exercise was also implemented at the end of each class. A final requirement of this clinical experience was

a reflective journal completed at the end of the teaching session.

Ann Laughlin, PHD, RN, Meghan Pothoff, MSN, APRN, Misty Schwartz, PHD, RN, Barbara Synowiecki, MSN, APRN, and Amy Yager, MSN, APRN, describe the program in an article titled “Combining Service-Learning and Research Partnering With Schools” published in the September/October 2010 volume of *Nurse Educator*. They chronicle how Creighton University School of Nursing identified the need for a new care delivery model.

The program provides excellent service-learning opportunities for the school. There are many benefits to incorporating service-learning concepts into nursing curricula. This Healthy Living Project provided a needed service for the schools and an opportunity for the School of Nursing to meet its mission of promoting service-learning experiences. This program has continued to grow in relation to both the number of school participating as well as the variety of experiences. ■

Be the first to hear news from the nursing school...

JAY2JAY. Do we have your e-mail address? Your most recent address or business information?

If not, please let us know. To update your home address, phone numbers and email addresses, please go to: www.alumni.creighton.edu/register.

JOBS4JAYS IS THE ONLINE CAREER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, ALUMNI AND EMPLOYERS.

Jobs4Jays streamlines student/alumni and employer registration, resume referrals, document management, placement tracking, job and internship postings, on-campus interview scheduling, career fair management, and other career resources. Students/alumni have 24/7 access to easily register, search jobs, send online inquiries, and manage multiple resumes, cover letters, and other employment related activities.

Login access to Jobs4Jays is found directly on the Creighton Career Center home page at www.creighton.edu/careercenter. This site helps students/alumni find a great job by enabling them to:

- Access Creighton University’s Employer Directory with more than 1,300+ employers nationally
- Maintain an online Personal Calendar for career events and activities
- Manage multiple resumes, cover letters, and other employment-related documents
- Search for and apply for job and internship opportunities online
- Schedule on-campus interviews
- Access Career Fairs at Creighton University
- View and RSVP for career events and much more!



THE COMMITMENT TO CREIGHTON NURSING CONTINUES



Diane and Molly Millea celebrate Molly's BSN at the Nursing Pinning and Hooding Ceremony last May.

Diane Millea received her baccalaureate degree from Creighton in 1977. Her daughter, Molly, graduated with her BSN last May. And now, Diane is back at Creighton working on her DNP. Diane is a member of the Alumni Advisory Board and a faithful contributor towards the Nursing Alumni Board Scholarship.

“Creighton University has played a very integral part in the educational process of our entire family. We have been very fortunate to have ourselves and children educated with Jesuit tradition and values. Contributing to the Nursing Board Alumni Scholarship gives us the opportunity to facilitate this same opportunity for future nurses and leaders in health care in our communities.”—Diane Millea

2009 ALUMNI MERIT AWARD



Col. Leland L. Jurgensmeier of Lakewood, Washington, is a 1977 graduate of the Creighton School of Nursing, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

Jurgensmeier, who grew up in Agnew, Nebraska, is a case manager for the

Traumatic Brain Injury Program at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington. While on active duty, he served in senior nurse leadership positions in military medical centers and community hospitals across the country. He also served with the 15th Evacuation Hospital in Saudi Arabia during Desert Shield/Storm.

He is recognized for championing changes to military health care that have maximized the efficient use of resources and improved access to care for literally thousands of members of the military and their dependents.

NURSING ALUMNI ADVISORY BOARD

President Eileen Van Tasell (BSN 1968), Parkville, Missouri
Advisor Diane Stormberg (BSN 1980), Omaha, Nebraska
Teresa Franco (BSN 1978), Omaha, Nebraska
Gary George (BSN 1996), Omaha, Nebraska
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Dede Johnson (BSN 1974), Omaha, Nebraska
Marie Knedler (BSN 1993), Council Bluffs, Iowa
Nancy Lakier (BSN 1975), Poway, California
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Diane Millea (BSN 1977), Omaha, Nebraska

Kathy Moragues (BSN 1978), Omaha, Nebraska
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Mary Sullivan (BSN 1983), Phoenix, Arizona
Maureen Turner (BSN 1974), Omaha, Nebraska
Ruth Van Gerpen (BSN 2001), Lincoln, Nebraska
Le Anne Vitito (BSN 1993, MS 2000), Omaha, Nebraska
Kathy Wolter (BSN 1983), Omaha, Nebraska
Wendy Worthing (BSN 1987), Omaha, Nebraska
Ann Zielinski (BSN 1964), Canon City, Colorado



Nursing Alumni Advisory Board Members photographed at the fall board meeting. First Row, left to right: Ann Zielinski, Diane Millea, President Eileen Van Tasell, Diane Stormberg, Judy Pritza, Le Anne Vitito. Second Row, left to right: Cathy Ravenstahl, Kathy Wolter, Millie Sampson, Michael McCabe, Gary George, Maureen Turner, Kathy Moragues, Dede Johnson, Wendy Worthing and Dean Eleanor Howell.



Eileen Van Tasell, President (BSN 1968)

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 will support Creighton School of Nursing scholarships.

If you would like to purchase a plate, please contact Joyce Bunger at (402) 280-2029 or jbunger@creighton.edu.



2010-2011 NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Below is a listing of each recipients 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
Melissa Ann List

Bellinger, Frank Earl M.D. Scholarship
Winn Asay
Kathy Tram Daotay
Sarah Anne Erthal
Katherine Ann Girard
Abby Leigh Heistand
Jacob Kent Holland
Allison Rose Leikam

Bertoldi, Agnes Haller Endowed Scholarship
Marianne E. Black

Ciciulla, Dr. Sheila Donahue Scholarship
Kelly Marie Reilly

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
Elizabeth K. Abbott
Allison Rose Leikam

Gondringer, Jean H. Jerman Endowed Scholarship
Barbara Paige Dixon

Hannasch, Anna M. & Donald H. Endowed Scholarship
Erin Elizabeth Kennedy

Harper, Josie Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Alyssa Marie Bigelow
Audrey Ann Bradshaw
Kathy Tram Daotay

Hedequist, Jane A. & Susan S. Endowed Scholarship
Lauren Elizabeth Durie

Kitchens, Edeth K. Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Jessica Renee Moyle

Lamberto, Barbara A. Endowed Scholarship
Megan Denise Kooistra

Leighton, Michael E. & Mary Neppi Endowed Scholarship
Chelsea Ann Lubischer

McCabe, Diane Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Katherine Ann Girard

McCallan, J. Barry & Rita Endowed Scholarship
Danielle Marie Frericks
Dana K. Fuelberth
- McCarthy-Spielman, Margaret L. (Lucy) Endowed Scholarship in Nursing
Brittany Lane Myers

McGahan, Roma Nagengast Scholarship
Whitney N. Beller

Powers, Leonard & Madeline Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Danielle Marie Frericks

Quinlan, Thomas C. Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Amy Rebekah Spencer

Rauenhorst, Mark & Karen Scholarship
Daren Robert Baller
Jennifer Johanna Kropp

St. Joseph Hospital Service League Scholarship
Stephanie Michelle Aaron
Shama Bukhari
Laura M. Donovan
Eileen Elizabeth Kenny
Lauren Elizabeth Mulroy
Haley Allison Riggs-Gilman

Suzuki, Lois R., BSN'88 Memorial Scholarship
Michael C. Hansbrough

Vossen, Dorothy E. Nursing School Scholarship
Erika Anne Arkle
Mary Carolyn Dinsdale
Elizabeth Anne Hogan
-
- Dr. Linda Lazure shows the scholarship documentation to her parents, the late Lyle and Letha Armstrong, in whose name the scholarship was established.
- A LOVE OF NURSING SPURS SCHOLARSHIP
- “I AM SO GRATEFUL THEY LEARNED ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP DURING A MASS CELEBRATING THEIR 75TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN FEBRUARY 2009. THEY DIED TWO MONTHS APART LATER IN 2009.”
- Letha Armstrong always wanted to be a nurse. But times were such that a nursing education wasn’t possible. She and her husband, Lyle, raised six children near Griswold and Lewis, Iowa. Imagine her delight when four of her daughters became nurses!

In honor of her parents, Letha and Lyle Armstrong, Linda Lazure created a scholarship in their names. Dr. Lazure has been an associate professor in the nursing school for more than 30 years. With great pride, she will tell you her daughter, Dr. Lori Rusch, is also a nurse and teaches in the nursing school, as does her niece, Dr. Anne Schoening.

“Mom and Dad were so pleased when they heard about the scholarship named in their honor,” said Linda. “When I showed them the
- scholarship, Mom said, ‘Oh Lyle, we will be able to help the nurses!’” It meant so much to them that their names would be attached to something so meaningful and lasting.

“And I am so grateful they learned about the scholarship during a Mass celebrating their 75th Wedding Anniversary in February 2009. They died two months apart later in 2009,” Linda said.

“Creighton continues to hold a very special place in my heart. As associate dean, I have had the honor of watching scores of student nurses graduate and enter into successful careers. Unfortunately, I have also encountered students that struggled financially in order to attend Creighton. What better way to honor my parents than to provide a scholarship that will provide that boost for years to come.” ■
- | Year | Amount |
|---------|-----------|
| 2000-01 | \$61,343 |
| 2001-02 | \$68,050 |
| 2002-03 | \$84,397 |
| 2003-04 | \$99,304 |
| 2004-05 | \$107,878 |
| 2005-06 | \$115,951 |
| 2006-07 | \$122,154 |
| 2007-08 | \$142,446 |
| 2008-09 | \$115,536 |
| 2009-10 | \$135,013 |
- 16
- Creighton University School of Nursing
- 17
- Creighton University School of Nursing

ALL ABOARD TO HASTINGS!



The Omaha faculty boarded the bus to the Hastings, Nebraska campus on August 17 for the annual nursing retreat. Many of the Omaha faculty had not visited the Hastings, Nebraska, campus in quite some time. In addition to fellowship with the Hastings faculty, the group toured Hastings College and Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital.

Hastings enrollment includes 18 traditional undergraduate program students and 20 accelerated program students. Hastings College has been a good partner for over 20 years. Creighton students can take their “core education courses” at Hastings College and complete their nursing courses at Creighton. Other students complete their undergraduate degrees at Hastings College and then enroll in Creighton’s one-year accelerated nursing program on the Hastings campus. There are seven faculty members in Hastings. ■



Leota Rolls, Vice President of Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital, and Dean Eleanor Howell. Mrs. Rolls and former School of Nursing Associate Dean Sheila Ciciulla are credited with initiating the Mary Lanning/Creighton School of Nursing partnership 24 years ago.



Faculty members touring the hospital had the opportunity to talk with Suzanne Van Boening (right), who received her graduate degree from Creighton in 2009, and is currently a Clinical Nurse Leader within the psychiatric department at the hospital. Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital was one of the first hospitals in Nebraska to introduce the relatively new Clinical Nurse Leader role into their organization.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED TEACHING?



Kim Hawkins, assistant professor and nurse practitioner

Advancing your education? The Creighton School of Nursing has an option to consider. Teach part time and pursue a Master’s or doctoral degree. Clinical teaching assistant (CTA) positions combine the best of both worlds. Kim Hawkins was one of the first CTAs hired in 2003. “It was appealing to me because it allowed me to explore a teaching career while obtaining my master’s degree...in an environment that supported both worlds. I had always considered teaching as a career—and this provided me

the opportunity to see if teaching was a good fit for me—and obviously it was.” Kim finished her master’s degree in 2007 and is currently a nurse practitioner and teaching full time. She will complete her PhD. in 2013. Kim added, “It is possible to raise three daughters, have a career I love, be a student, and still enjoy life—and, get promoted to assistant professor!” To learn more about being a clinical teaching assistant, contact Associate Dean Mary Kunes-Connell at (402) 280-2024 or mkc@creighton.edu. ■

2010 FACULTY & STAFF

Dean Eleanor V. Howell, PHD	Ann Laughlin Julie Manz Tina Miller Patricia Nilsson Anna Nolette Catherine O’Keefe Jane Parks Meghan Potthoff Hilarie Price Lori Rubarth Lori Rusch Bernadette Satiroff Anne Schoening Misty Schwartz Stephanie Stockard Spelic Barbara Synowiecki Martha Todd Joyce Tow Alice Whittaker Sandra Woods MarySue Wydeven Amy Yager	PHD MS MSN MS MSN DNP MSN MSN MSN PHD PHD MSN PHD MSN MSN MS MSN MS MA MSN MSN	Amy Cosimano, EdD Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
Associate Deans Mary Kunes-Connell, PHD, <i>Dean for Academic and Clinical Affairs</i> Linda Lazure, PHD, <i>Associate Dean for External Relations</i> Joan Norris, PHD, <i>Associate Dean for Research and Evaluation</i>			
Program Chairs Cindy Costanzo, PHD, <i>Master’s Program</i> Mary Parsons, PHD, <i>DNP Program</i> Nancy Shirley, PHD, <i>BSN Program</i>			
Professor Emerita Winifred Ellenchild Pinch Sheila Ciciulla	EDD EDD		
Professor Joan Lappe	PHD		
Associate Professor Elizabeth Furlong Linda Miers Richard Reed Susan Tinley Dianne Travers-Gustafson Marlene Wilken	PHD, JD DSN EDD PHD PHD PHD		
Assistant Professors Amy Abbott Marilee Aufdenkamp Karen Boardman Nancy Bredenamp Helen Stanton Chapple Kelly Gonzales Janet Graves Cynthia Hadenfeldt Ann Harms Kimberly Hawkins Maribeth Hercinger Toni Laguzza	PHD MS MS MS PHD MSN PHD EDD EDD MS PHD MS		
		Instructors Catherine Carrico Susan Connelly Jill Isaacs Robyn Mendenhall Kathleen Morris	MS MN MS MSN MSN
		Clinical Teaching Assistants Heather Czywczynski Joely Goodman KC Pullen	BSN BSN BSN
		Lecturer Mary Watson	MS
		Assistant Deans Cindy Adams <i>Assistant Dean for Administration & Finance</i> Joyce Bunger <i>Assistant Dean for Community Relations</i>	



ON THE BACK COVER

Left to right are Megan Mullin, Omaha; Melissa Nassimbene, Parker, CO; Kelsey Holmes, Gothenburg, NE; Tara Smith, Omaha, NE; Annie Jasinski, Rocklin, CA; Sarah Brenneman, Leawood, KS; Cally Meyer, Eden Prairie MN; Kate Controneo, Leawood, CO; and Abby Heistand, Council Bluffs, IA.

ADMISSIONS

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Website nursing.creighton.edu

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.



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