Partnerships with Alegent Creighton Health
Student Summer Experiences
Four years after opening its doors, the Porto Clinic, serves as a co-instructor along with: Kim McCaghlan, M.S., A.P.R.N., F.N.P.; and Ann Ryan Haddad, Pharm.D. (Ph.D.); and Ann Laughlin, BSN ’76, MS ’94, PhD., R.N., associate professor of nursing. It is truly an interdisciplinary teaching experience,” said Todd, assistant professor of nursing, “and reflects the mission of Creighton University — caring for the uninsured, meeting the needs of the whole person and providing a unique learning environment for Creighton students.”

“The beginning, it was always our intent to offer an interdisciplinary class at the Porto Clinic,” said Ann Franco Laughlin, BSN ’76, MS ’94, PhD., R.N., associate professor of nursing. This fall, six Creighton professors collaborated to begin a course entitled “Developing Care for a Vulnerable Population: An Interprofessional Collaborative Approach for Health Promotion.” Laughlin is the instructor on record and Todd serves as a co-instructor along with Kim Blegy, Pharm.D.; Joy Doll, O.T.D.; OTR/L.; Barbara Harris, Ph.D., M.S.W.; Katie Parkard, Pharm.D., and Ann Ryan Haddad, Pharm.D. Students from pharmacy, nursing, occupational therapy, social work and exercise science collaborate to address community identified health needs. Their focus is to implement interprofessional collaborative care to a population in a community setting, which in this case is the Heart Ministry Center.

“Health professionals have an obligation to improve both the health of the individual and the public in a time of scarce resources. The Institute of Medicine, Healthy People Greetings and Happy New Year! As we begin this new year, there is much emphasis on new! This January, the College of Nursing welcomed a new class of 32 accelerated BSN students and 48 new students in the MSN and DNP programs for a total enrollment of 814 undergraduate and graduate students. In December, we celebrated pinning, hooding, and commencement activities with our new graduates of the BSN and DNP programs, and our new Provost, Ed O’Connor, officiated the ceremony. During the summer, we welcomed Francine Sparky, R.N., M.S., as the new Chief Nurse Executive for Alegent Creighton Health Creighton University Medical Center, and during the fall, celebrated the University’s affiliation with our newest clinical partner, Catholic Health Initiatives, and its 11-member hospitals in the Nebraska Network. This month, we are launching the search for the new College of Nursing dean and, with the retirement of the College of Nursing’s Chaplain, our dear friend and colleague Fr Thomas Bannantine, SJ, we will begin the search for a new Chaplain. Implementation of our new strategic plan also is underway, and the College is emphasizing increased collaboration with internal and external partners in expanding degree program offerings and certificate programs, increasing scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students, and growing faculty-student research and scholarship opportunities. Throughout the year, members of the Alumni Advisory Board are an essential part of the life of the CON, and they will be integral to the successful implementation of the strategic plan. The Alumni Reunion Weekend in September was a delightful opportunity to visit with many returning nursing graduates, and an outstanding time of learning and development with our annual alumni continuing education programming. This year’s program, “Caring in a Complex World: Leading through Health Information Technology”, included discussions of state-of-the-art technology applications to clinical practice and education. We are grateful to our alumni and faculty presenters Susan Lorkovic, MS ’97, Brenda Bergman-Evans, BSN ’60, MS ’83; Nancy Bredenkamp BSN ’92, MS ’93, Wendy Worthing BSN ’87, Amy Abbott BSN ’92, MS ’98; Mary Tracey BSN ’77; Diane Milne BSN ’77, DNP ’11; Dr. Cindy Costanzo, and Dr. Kimberly Galt, and to our colleagues, Kim Swick of Alegent Creighton Health’s ICU. The College’s 2013 Alumni Mentor Award recipient, Dede Meyer Johnson BSN ’74, will speak to our students at the annual “Call to Nursing” event during the 2014 Founder’s Week celebration. Dr. Ann Laughlin and Dr. Misty Schwartz who are CON faculty and alumni, will lead the Creighton University Alumni Association Book Club during the spring. The book selected is Eric Schlosser’s “Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal” (2001).

I want to take this opportunity to offer my appreciation to those of you who are investing in the teaching, service, and scholarship missions of the College. Thank you for providing clinical sites and preceptorship experiences for our students, for scholarships and other funds to support the preparation of exceptional professional and advanced practice nurses; and for teaching, mentoring, and guiding our wonderful students as they work to achieve their learning goals. The quality of work and service of Creighton University College of Nursing alumni, students, staff, and faculty reflects the commitment to Jesus values. It has been a privilege to be a part of this unique community, and I pray for the continued success of the College. Thank you for your support of the College of Nursing, our profession and for all those who depend on the highest quality of care. God bless you now and always. ■

Sincerely,
Eleanor Howell, Ph.D., R.N.

ON THE COVER
Demetria Pasqualino, B.S.N., Class of 2015, St. Louis

DEAN’S REPORT

The Porto Urgent Care Clinic at the Heart Ministry Center

Flu. From the beginning, it was always our intent to offer an interdisciplinary class at the Porto Clinic. Students have the opportunity to develop health promotion competencies in an authentic environment.”—Ann Laughlin, BSN ’76, MS ’94, PhD., R.N.

Curriculum Task Force and professional education standards indicate the need for healthcare professionals to demonstrate competencies related to community engagement, basic health promotion skills and the ability to work effectively in interprofessional teams.” Laughlin said. “Through the context of community engagement, students will have opportunities to develop health promotion competencies in an authentic environment. These skills are applicable across the health sciences.”

Four years after opening its doors, the Porto Urgent Care Clinic at the Heart Ministry Center (HMC) in Omaha continues to evolve. In order to see more patients, the clinic recently expanded to include more patient rooms.

Each Wednesday morning, College of Nursing faculty members Martha Todd, M.S., A.P.R.N. or Amy Yager, M.S.N., A.P.R.N., DNP ’11, see as many as 25 patients. The clients concerns range from high blood pressure and diabetes, to illnesses such as sinusitis, bronchitis, rashes, colds and flu.

Creighton nurse practitioner, medical and pharmacy students collaborate to provide care under the supervision of nurse practitioners and a licensed pharmacist. In addition to health sciences students, a social work intern is there each week to provide assistance with housing and other day-to-day challenges the clients face. Soon, the Creighton law school will provide free legal advice and advocacy to the clients of HMC. Dental care is a serious concern for patients served at the Porto Clinic. Soon, the Creighton Law School clients face. Urgent Care Clinic at the Heart Ministry Center (HMC) in Omaha continues to evolve.

University — caring for the uninsured, meeting the needs of the whole person and providing the public in a time of scarce resources. The Institute of Medicine, Healthy People...
CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY, ALEGENT CREIGHTON HEALTH
PARTNERSHIP FLOURISHES

“The Partnership Enriches Our Professionalism and Elevates the ACH Nursing Community Practice, Education and Research Focus.”
— JANE CARMODY, D.N.P., M.B.A., R.N., ALEGENT CREIGHTON HEALTH, CHIEF NURSING OFFICER

Shortly after the partnership between Creighton University and Alegent Creighton Health (ACH) formed in May 2012, nursing leadership from both institutions began discussing ways to improve patient care. “The partnership enriches our professionalism and elevates the ACH nursing community practice, education and research focus,” said Jane Carmody, D.N.P., M.B.A., R.N., Alegent Creighton Health’s chief nursing officer. The leadership group meets bimonthly and has successfully implemented two initiatives to date.

World Café
The first initiative was a series of World Cafés held in January 2013 at selected Alegent Creighton Health hospitals. Nursing staff members were invited to share their ideas and suggestions to improve nursing education and to enrich the areas of coaching and leadership. World Café conversations are an intentional way to create discussion around questions that matter and that lead to collaborative dialogue, sharing knowledge and creating possibilities for action. Information was collected and shared with nursing management and faculty. Areas identified for future discussion were conflict resolution, balancing work and personal life, and learning to prioritize.

Dedicated Education Units
With Nebraska State Board of Nursing approval, an alternative strategy for teaching medical-surgical clinical experiences is being piloted. The Creighton University College of Nursing, in partnership with ACH, implemented a Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) during the fall 2013 semester.

In the DEU model, ACH staff nurse instructors work directly with students. The faculty member is responsible for the overall clinical supervision of skills, medication administration, other treatments and supporting the staff nurse instructor. Students work 12-hour and 10-hour shifts. Patients appreciate that they have the same student caring for them instead of multiple students over the course of the day.

“This model creates a strategic partnership between selected ACH baccalaureate-prepared staff nurses and the College of Nursing faculty teaching traditional senior level students during their multiple-client rotation on selected units at ACH Creighton University Medical Center,” said Nancy Shirley, Ph.D., R.N., program chair for the baccalaureate program and co-chair of the DEU implementation committee. Marsha Allen, M.S.N., R.N., ACH advanced nurse administrator, co-chaired the implementation committee with Shirley.

Shirley chaired the team that researched, designed and implemented the DEU. Her team included representatives from ACH and the nursing college faculty. Anne Schoening, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor of nursing, led the comprehensive orientation for staff nurse instructors, which was designed to ease their comfort level by providing them with information about Creighton’s mission, curriculum, care management framework and strategies for teaching students in a clinical setting.

“It has been an overwhelming success,” said Pam Kayl, A.P.R.N., operations director for Alegent Creighton Health Creighton University Medical Center’s fifth floor. “The nurses have embraced the dedicated education unit wholeheartedly and are able to give consistent, individualized focus to students they supervise and teach.”

Approximately 40 students were placed in the dedicated education unit. The remaining 50 students are using the current model of clinical instruction. In both environments, students gain experience in care management of multiple clients with complex episode and chronic health alterations and managing the care for two to three patients with an emphasis on the continuum of care. The care management activities include communication with interdisciplinary teams; end of shift reporting; completion of end of shift tasks, such as intake and output; delegation of appropriate tasks; documentation to care planning standards; and discharge planning.

In the DEU model, staff nurse instructors supervise two students at a time. College of Nursing faculty members maintain a critical presence on the unit, providing opportunities for focused faculty-student interactions as well as support for staff nurse instructors. The role of clinical faculty is to work with the staff nurses to support their clinical teaching, facilitate transfer of classroom learning and assure students’ achievement of expected learning outcomes.

“Faculty assume a different role by fostering clinical decision-making, integration of evidence into practice, the synthesis of theories and concepts and reflection,” said Lori Rusch, Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor of nursing and one of the key faculty members behind the DEU implementation. “Nurses change their normal pace, taking time to narrate their care to students and share their thinking.”

DEUs produce a favorable learning environment for nursing. Students report that they enjoy their DEU experiences. They especially appreciate the aspect of taking care of their patients for a longer, continued period of time. Building a safe and trusted relationship with their supervising nurse enables students to be more candid when questions or concerns arise. And with the DEU partnership, faculty have an opportunity to provide timely feedback to students and staff nurses.

While students were apprehensive the first week, wondering if learning within a DEU would be more stressful for them, one student said, “Working with the same nurse for two days was very beneficial. I am already feeling comfortable with her and really like the fact that she has a more thorough understanding of where I am in my learning. Additionally, even though the 12-hour shift is longer than what we are used to, I like being part of the nurse’s entire shift which allows me to see everything a day of work encompasses.”

Francine Sparty, M.S.N., chief nursing executive at ACH Creighton University Medical Center, offered her perspective. “The management here is very pleased. From all sides, this is a win-win opportunity for patients and students,” Sparty said.

Other Initiatives Under Study
Discussions continue at leadership meetings to discover better ways to deliver patient care and methods to retain a strong, educated nursing staff. Work groups are studying ways to transition recently graduated nurses into the workplace and identifying and positioning advanced practice nurses opportunities. In addition, incorporating and utilizing simulation mannequins as teaching tools and for competency evaluations is a high priority.
Nursing students rarely rest during the summer and Demetria Panopoulos is no exception. Well on her way to becoming a pediatric nurse, Panopoulos spent her summer like many nursing students — as a nanny. She cared for two children, a seven-year-old and a toddler, who both required special care and therapy. While caring for these children, she was able to incorporate what she had learned the previous summer volunteering in Guatemala.

Last summer, Panopoulos went on a mission trip to Guatemala through the Orthodox Christian Mission Center, spending 10 days at Hogar Rafael Ayau Orphanage in Guatemala City. She interacted with children at the orphanage — helping them with crafts, facilitating activities and exercises, as well as participating in Orthodox prayer. Panopoulos described it as an “overwhelming experience of love, joy and happiness.”

While most of the children she cared for in Guatemala were relatively healthy and capable of taking care of themselves, there was one little boy who had a severe hearing impairment. Panopoulos had to make sure to implement activities in a way that was easy for him to understand. She worked on his basic language skills, vocabulary and other interventions that would help him.

Like Panopoulos, Creighton College of Nursing students spend time during their summers in a variety of ways. Jordan Lisowy, Class of 2016, White Bear Lake, Minn., surrounded by children she met in Tanzania.

Jordan Lisowy, Class of 2016
This past summer, I went to Tanzania, Africa, with Creighton’s Faculty-Led Program Abroad (FLPA). While there I completed two classes: African Christology and Multicultural Psychology.

My trip to Africa was for the best experience of my life. Walking the streets of Dar es Salaam, with cars and people flying past me, was intoxicating. Having half of our group stepping on sea urchins while swimming in the waters off the beaches of Zanzibar Island (and locals running to our aid with papayas and pointy twigs in hand to heal them) will never be forgotten. Renting a boat on Lake Victoria for the Fourth of July celebration will never be topped. Visiting orphanages and centers for street boys and girls in Mwanza was life changing. These kids had nothing, except for each other, and yet the joy in their eyes and the love in their hearts were like nothing I had ever seen. There was a language barrier with many of the people we encountered, but it made me realize that words do not always matter. A simple smile, high five, fist bump or complicated foot-game (as we learned from the street boys) can go such a long way.

Every day of my immersion experience was amazing. One day stands out to me — the day we simply walked through a neighborhood in Dar es Salaam. We entered this neighborhood not knowing what we would see and who we would encounter. We soon grew comfortable walking through the narrow path between houses (they looked more like a cement room with a curtain for the door!). The children of the neighborhood followed us in curiosity as we greeted everyone with a “Mambo!” while they excitedly responded with “Poa?” The children had a tightly bound, old T-shirt that they used as a soccer ball. One little boy handed it to me, and when I finally figured out what they use it for, I set it on the ground and passed it to him. All of the kids smiled and laughed in joy that we knew how to play soccer. This was the simplest day of the trip, but for most of us, the feeling of walking through that neighborhood, meeting many of the locals, and playing soccer with the kids will forever be etched into our memories.

This entire experience reminded me of Creighton’s mission. We are called to be men and women for and with others. We are not called to save Africa. We are asked to work alongside those people in the world who need it most.

My experience in Africa will make me a better nurse because I learned to immerse myself into an unfamiliar setting and succeed. I communicated with diverse and unique people, and along the way, gained confidence. I am excited to fulfill my potential of becoming a nurse and meeting new and inspiring people throughout my career.

I boarded the plane to Africa on June 12 thinking that I could save and change Africa. When I returned on July 13, I miraculously realized that Africa saved and changed me.

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Morgan Commodore, Class of 2014
I was a Summer III nurse extern at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. I was the only extern chosen to work in the Intermediate Special Care Nursery and I also rotated to Postpartum, the Neonatal Resuscitation Room, and Labor and Delivery. I worked with newborns who needed IV access, were premature, had possible infections, were “leaders and growers,” were withdrawing from maternal drug use and were born with multiple anomalies, to name a few. I loved working with the neonatal nurse practitioners (NNPs). By chance I was placed with two NNPs who graduated from Creighton, Megan Mieg, MSN’12, and Laura Schram, MSN’13. They taught me so much and convinced me to follow their lead and continue my education. I will never forget participating in neonatal codes, catching a baby and taking him over to the resuscitation room, seeing the look on the face of a new parent when their little one beat the odds, being amazed looking at a 1-pound baby alive and crying, getting a baby with a cleft lip and palate to breastfeed, and handing a baby to its mom and dad for the first time.

My experience at Mayo was truly a dream come true and it was an honor to be there. They taught me so much and tested my skills and knowledge in ways I never thought possible. Working with the NNPs who graduated from Creighton, Megan Mieg and Laura Schram, was the highlight of my experience. When I was 13, I was diagnosed with Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Ulcerative Colitis and started attending camps is that each camper can participate in every activity no matter what his or her illness or capacity is. The Jesuit value of justice is also seen in the way campers with chronic and life-threatening illnesses are treated: Campers with diseases such as cancer and cystic fibrosis are called “Medics” and are asked to take on leadership roles and responsibilities.

Theresa Maloney, Class of 2015
I participated in throughout those 28 days. I was able to help children realize that illness does not have to define who you are. It is very humbling to watch the campers laugh, play and not worry about their illness holding them back. My favorite memory involved a camper who was confined to a wheelchair. With the help of a special wheelchair, we told her that even she was able to go through the world. She ex claimed, “This is the best day of my life!” I will never forget that moment … a moment of pure happiness shown in her eyes which was truly magical.

These camps reflect Creighton’s mission in understanding the inalienable worth of each camper. I participated in throughout those 28 days. I was able to help children realize that illness does not have to define who you are. It is very humbling to watch the campers laugh, play and not worry about their illness holding them back. My favorite memory involved a camper who was confined to a wheelchair. With the help of a special wheelchair, we told her that even she was able to go through the world. She exclaimed, “This is the best day of my life!” I will never forget that moment … a moment of pure happiness shown in her eyes which was truly magical.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE COMES NATURALLY TO NURSING STUDENTS AT CREIGHTON’S HASTINGS MARY LANNING CAMPUS

All senior nursing students are required to complete a community project as a part of their community practicum. After identifying a community need and target vulnerable population, the students plan, design and implement a program to improve health outcomes.

Assistant professor Marilee Aufdenkamp, M.S., R.N., said the course enhances the student’s understanding of the Creighton College of Nursing care management model. “Our intent is for students to experience the Ignatian charismata of care personae,” she said. “We want them to witness faith that does justice, to find God in all things and to realize they are ‘men and women for and with others.’”

There are currently 25 nursing students enrolled in Hastings, 17 traditional students and eight accelerated nursing program students. Creighton continues to have a close partnership with Mary Lanning Healthcare, providing nursing students with a rich learning environment.

Maryland Living Center

Some will remember that Maryland was residential housing for nursing students for many years. Recently Maryland was repurposed into Maryland Living Center, a home for eight adolescent girls who would otherwise be homeless. The nursing students provided exercises and to educate them on healthier lifestyles. On the last day of class, the young women were presented gift bags that included journals, lotions, food items and other things that would remind them to take better care of themselves.

Crossroads Center

Crossroads Center in Hastings is a Christ-centered, four-phase program of recovery for homeless men, women and children, that provides food, shelter and clothing so they complete the four-phase program. Crossroads has been the site of many student community health projects over the years. This year’s project was especially appreciated.

Senior nursing students at Crossroads: Kari Engel, Fairfield, Neb.; Brittany Pfeifer, Hastings, Neb.; Brittany Myers, Minden, Neb.; Sarah Dicking, Broken Bow, Neb.

Students spearheaded the creation of a new playroom for the children living there. Play is an integral part of a child’s development and the students wanted the children to have a cheerful room, filled with educational toys and games. “What started with ‘let’s paint the walls’ evolved into a drive for donations from businesses to purchase new carpet. Students placed toy donation boxes in area businesses and the crossed streets and their smiling faces and excitement made everything worthwhile.

In my career and in many aspects of my life, I see myself not so much as a leader but more of an advocate. I’d like to give you a few examples of the amazing patients I’ve worked with over the years. They have inspired me with their courage, stamina and incredibly positive attitudes.

Jill, a young girl from Nebraska who lost part of her leg, received chemotherapy, learned how to walk with a prosthetic. Now, Jill is a beautiful woman, married, working and with two beautiful sons.

Jacob, an 11-year-old boy who calls himself “The Leukemia Slayer.” Jacob has created a website that he uses to fascinate, educate and entertain other young cancer patients. Through his website he has raised more than $1,500 each year to buy and deliver Christmas presents to other children with cancer.

Brandon, first diagnosed with cancer at age 8. It recurred at ages 12 and 16. Brandon continued fighting with chemotherapy sessions, radiation and surgery all while completing high school and going to college before eventually losing his courageous battle.

When I was in nursing school at Creighton, the overall survival rate for all childhood cancer was less than 50 percent. Now it is at 80 percent and for common childhood leukemia the survival rate is 95 percent.

I’m often asked, “How can you do this job?” I answer, “How could I not?”

Thanks to all of you who each lead in your own way. I greatly appreciate all that my Creighton experience did to help prepare me and thank you for allowing me to share my story with you today.

TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Jill Gradoville Simon, BSN’88, R.N., M.S.N., C.P.N.P., was a standout player for the Creighton Bluejays. Today, she is a standout nurse caring for the smallest cancer patients.

For the leadership she has demonstrated throughout her life, she was awarded the Leader for Life Award at Creighton University’s Leaders for Life Luncheon in May.

The Leader for Life Award honors women who have demonstrated outstanding and consistent support for women’s athletics at Creighton University and display high moral principles in their personal lives.

During her four years at Creighton, Gradoville Simon excelled in two sports, basketball and golf. She led the women’s basketball team to three 20-win seasons, including its first postseason appearance in the 1987 Women’s National Invitation Tournament (WNIT), at the same time earning both golfing and academic honors. In 1998, she was inducted in Creighton’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

She is currently a patient care manager at the Bass Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Diseases at Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford University.

In Simon’s remarks, she talked about her personal journey in caring for children with life-threatening diseases. Following are excerpts of her speech.

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— THOMAS MOORE, IRISH POET
In 2006, she completed an internship with Susan Kolli-Spald, Ph.D. C.R.N.P., at Graduate Hospital in Philadelphia. "This internship was life changing because it was my first introduction to evidence-based practice," Dahir said.

Dahir has demonstrated mastery of her specialty practice in pelvic pain and sexual medicine in a myriad of ways: precepting nurses enrolled in nurse practitioner graduate programs; educating other nurses in sexual health at both local and national conferences; publishing seven journal articles on the topic since 2007, and gaining recognition as a Fellow in the International Society for the Study of Women’s Sexual Health (ISSWSH).

In 2011, she entered Creighton’s Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Dahir described the experience as “icing on the cake” because I always wanted to conduct research and program the advancement that my skills to the next level.”

Dahir selected “Breast cancer aromatase inhibitors, and sexual functioning: A pilot study on the effects of vaginal testosterone cream” as her capstone scholarly project. Her intent is to collaborate interprofessionally to improve the quality of life for women who are diagnosed with breast cancer. For her research, Dahir was nominated by Creighton’s College of Nursing for the American College of Nurse (AAN) Excellence in Research Award. Dahir received the award on October 27, 2013.

Several physicians and other nurse practitioners in the area refer their oncology patients to Dahir because she has demonstrated success in reducing women’s vulvovaginal discomfort associated with cancer treatments. However, she was frustrated with the frequent omission of sexual health assessment by other oncologists and wanted to contribute to research evidence supporting effective treatment options. Her hypothesis is that if oncologists included sexual health assessments, they will be more likely to both assess women's sexual health and refer them for treatment, thus potentially improving their quality of life during a difficult time.

This commitment was the origin of Dahir’s quasi-experimental pilot study using a one-group pre/post-test design. The study tested the use of a compounded, topical treatment reduces uncomfortable symptoms typical with aromatase-inhibitor (AI) therapy and/or improves reported sexual health quality of life. She successfully achieved IRB approval for the study after a full-board review. Dahir initiated study enrollment in January 2013 and completed the pilot study in May 2013.

To review Dr. Dahir’s Abstract:

www.creighton.edu/nursing/news/pelvicrelief-

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2013-14 NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

College of Nursing Alumni Advisory Board
Endowed Scholarship
Sarath Senfer
Regina Burnett Andolsen Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Christine Cle
Thomas and Mary Ann Belford Scholarship
Molly McKenna
Heather Bernadette and April Lynn Beckman Nursing Scholarship in Memory of Jeanne Corinne and Donald J. Higgins
Amanda Nobel
Frank Earl Bellinger, M.D
Dr. Sheila Donahue Ciciulla Scholarship
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Dr. Sheila Donahue Ciciulla Scholarship
Scholarship
Emelia and Zeta Gaul Scholarship
Hazel Plucker
Colleen McHenry
Samuel Brul
Galadriel Jules
Sarah Brockmann
Jean H. Jerman-Gondringer Endowed Scholarship
Brittany Pfeifer
Anna M. Hannasch and Donald H. Hannasch Endowed Scholarship
Brianna Lacy
Josie Harper Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Taylor Bourgeois
Cashton Evans
Sherry Tang
Jane A. and Susan S. Hedequist Endowed Scholarship
Stephanie Urion
Edith K. Kitchen Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Michaela Parola
Melissa Lyons
Linda Armstrong Lazare Scholarship Fund
Alisha Poirier
Diane McCabe Memorial Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Michaela Parola
Ashley Loven
J. Barry and Rita McCollam Endowed Scholarship
Diana Kay Fuehrer
Hannah Oreskovich
Margaret L. (Lucy) McCarthy-Spielman Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Alyson George
Diana Fuehrer
Lindsey Sypherd
Roma Nagengast McGahan Scholarship
Ena Richel
Joan Gullifson Norris, Ph.D., Endowed Scholarship Fund
Erin Kreifels
Creighton Memorial St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Scholarship
Michele Meyers
Leonard and Madeline Powers Nursing Scholarship
Nicole McFerrer
Thomas C. Quinlan Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
James. Buhler
Mark and Karen Rauenhorst Scholarship
Sonye Alcovy
Jasen Novak
Shelby Ogle
Stafford Family Endowed Scholarship
Olga Patkovsky
Lois R. Suzuki Memorial Scholarship
Anna Novak
Margaret H. Thorough Scholarship
Laura Krynski
Pamela L. Turner Scholarship
Kathy Dautrey
Dorothy E. Vossen Endowed Nursing Scholarship
Sarah Cameron
Hannah Carlson
Mary Kate Loudner
Michelle Hammercheck
Sarah Baudehly
Diana Brugman
Stephanie Cox
Sebastian Edwards
Meghan Fink
Lydia Houghton
Rachel Leverd
Olga Patkovsky

PRESTIGIOUS GRANT FOR NURSING SCHOOL

For the third consecutive year, Creighton University College of Nursing has been selected as a grant recipient of the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program (NCIN). Creighton will receive $50,000 to support students who are traditionally underrepresented in the field of nursing and are pursuing second careers in the field through the Baccalaureate Accelerated Nursing Program.

“At this time when the nation’s need for highly educated nurses is growing, we are delighted to be able to support nursing students who will bring diverse and valuable perspectives to the field, and become capable, culturally-competent nurses,” said David Krol, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P., RWJF senior program officer.

The grant will fund five $10,000 scholarships for students who have already earned a bachelor’s degree in another field and are making a career switch to nursing through Creighton’s Baccalaureate Accelerated Nursing Program. This year, funding of 400 scholarships was granted to 52 schools of nursing.

Creighton University College of Nursing has graduated accelerated nursing students from across the nation since 1975. These students have consistently scored higher than the national average on the National Council Licensure Examination for registered nurses.

THE ILLUSTRIOUS ACCELERATED NURSING CLASS OF 1978

They have traveled far and wide and have varied career paths. They shared stories and reminisced during Alumni Homecoming Weekend in September.

First row: Jim Renneker, former CEO living in Chicago. Second row: Betty Busscherkeimer, Denia nurse practitioner and 2008 nursing Aztec Merit Award recipient; Karen Morson, on the faculty of the University of Minnesota. Third row: Anne Jensen is living in Scottsdale, Ariz.; Marge Sebastian works in real estate in Milwaukee; Chuck Herzog is a fire chief in Manitowoc, Wis.; Lucille Marchand is on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin and is a palliative care consultant in Madison, Wis.; Beth Furlong, ANC coordinator in 1978 and Creighton faculty member; Cindy Wright, traveled from Altamone, Calif., and Susan Jacobson, a nurse in a dental clinic in Bellevue, Wash.

2013 MSN ANNOUNCEMENT

The last cohort of advanced practice students for the MSN degree program will be admitted in fall 2014. No students will be admitted to the MSN degree program for the following NP and CNS tracks for any start date other than fall 2014: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Tracks (CNS or NP), including Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult Nurse Practitioner, Adult Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Neonatal Nurse Practitioner and Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. The CON will continue to offer MSN programs of study in the areas of clinical systems administration and clinical nurse leader, as well as the post-masters to DNP program of study for APRNs and nurse administrators.
BRADEN RECEIVES ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT CITATION

Barbara Braden

For her significant contributions to healthcare, Barbara Braden, Ph.D, SJN’66, BSN’73, was awarded the Alumni Achievement Citation at May 2013 commencement. Since her graduation from nursing school in 1966, Braden, through consistent, excellent and sustained scholarship, has established an international reputation as a researcher whose first rank, placing her among those who can say that their contributions to the field have improved the quality of life of literally millions of people.

Long before anyone coined the words “clinical translational research,” Braden developed a tool to assess the risk for skin breakdown in elderly and bedridden patients, to reduce the pain, suffering and expense associated with patient care. The assessment tool she introduced in 1987 was known for incorporating diverse risk factors under broad concepts that combined ease of use with accuracy in prediction in all levels of healthcare facilities. Its success was immediate and indisputable, and it was readily implemented in hospitals, home care agencies and nursing homes around the world.

Today, it is commonly recognized that preventing pressure ulcers is a significant strategy to lowering cost and suffering through prevention. Braden’s lifelong career of testing and measuring the success of her pioneering tool — now known the world over as the Braden Scale — has become a key measure of quality care in hospital and long-term care settings.

Recognition of Braden’s work abounds. As a doctoral student at the University of Texas in Austin, her dissertation won top honors among all dissertations; all graduates and all disciplines. The University of California San Francisco honored her as one of its all-time Top 100 alumni. The Wound Care and Ostomy Nursing Society named her keynote address the Braden Lecture. Cleveland Clinic, Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospitals, Duke University Hospitals, Hill-Rom Inc., and the countries of Canada, Japan and Singapore have sought her consultation. In 2001, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel in LeMans, France.

LAUGHLIN RECOGNIZED AS OUTSTANDING LEADER

Ann Franco Laughlin, BSN’76, MS’94, Ph.D., R.N., with her mother, Louise Franco.

Credited for her innovation, persistence and humor, Ann Franco Laughlin, BSN’76; MS’94, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor of nursing, was honored with the Mary Lucretia and Sarah Emily Creighton Award in February 2013.

Laughlin is an accomplished nurse, educator and researcher. She played a pivotal role in establishing the Portis Urgent Care Clinic at the Heart Ministry Center in 2009, and continues to spearhead the steering committee that oversees Creighton student programming at the free clinic in north Omaha. Laughlin took a leadership role in designing Creighton’s School Health Program, in which more than 9,000 students at area Catholic schools receive free health screenings and Creighton nursing students receive valuable clinical experience.

The Mary Lucretia and Sarah Emily Creighton Award is presented to a faculty, staff, administrator or student, who exemplifies the following criteria: has created an environment supportive of achievement for women; has encouraged women faculty, administrators, staff or students in the development of their talents; or has served as a role model of accomplishment for women.

Diane Millea

Diane Millea, BSN’77, DNP’11, president of the Nursing Advisory Board

Diane Milley, BSN’77, DNP’11, has implemented several positive initiatives, spurring the board into action. She has expanded the board to include nursing leaders from across the country, as well as members representing large and small health systems, the private sector and community volunteers. In an effort to engage with students, the board will host a reception for graduating seniors. Several board members volunteer with student organizations. One hundred percent of the board members have made sound financial commitments to the College of Nursing and have worked tirelessly to cultivate and encourage donor giving among the nursing alumni base.

NURSING ADVISORY BOARD

President Diane Millea (BSN’77, DNP’11), Omaha
Secretary Maureen Turner (BSN’74), Omaha
Ellie Brooks (BSN’81), Sioux Falls, S.D.
Madeleine Corbeil (BSN’70), Chicago
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Teresa Franco (BSN’78), Omaha
Anne Gard (BSN’93), Omaha
Kate Garret (BSN’94),Omaha, Iowa
Gary George (BSN’96), Omaha
Anne Hart (BSN’92, MS’00), Camerich, Calif.
Patti Higginbotham (BSN’86, MS’95), Council Bluffs, Iowa
Dede Johnson (BSN’74), Omaha
Jane Kavan (BSN’80), Omaha
Susan Lacy (BSN’78, BSN’92), Omaha
Nancy Laker (BSN’75), Poway, Calif.
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Pat Lenaghan (MS’86), President’s Council, Omaha
Jane Masterson (SJN’72), Centennial, Colo.
Michael McCabe (BSN’64), Omaha
Donna McCullough (SJN’47), Alumni Emerita, Omaha
Kathy Moragues (BSN’78), Omaha
Judy Pritz (BSN’82, MS’96), Omaha
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Millie Sampson (BSN’68), Lenexa, Kan.
Annette Sayers (BSN’74), Omaha
Kathy Sibbersen (BSN’82), Omaha
Kathy Soto (BSN’73, DNP’11), Lander, Texas
Diane Stormberg (BSN’80), President’s Council, Omaha
Eileen Van Tasert (BSN’68), President’s Council, Parkville, Mo.
LeAnne Viltto, (BSN’93, MS’00), President’s Council, Omaha
Kathy Wolter (BSN’83), Omaha
Wendy Worthing (BSN’87), Omaha
Bridge Young (BSN’75), Omaha
Ann Zielinski (BSN’84), Canion City, Colo.

Seated: President Diane Milley, Annette Sayers, Sue Dunn, Jane Masterson, Judy Pritz, Kate Garret, Mary Leighton, Standing: Dede Johnson, Parti Higginbotham, Teressa Franco, Kathy Sibbersen, Eileen Van Tasert, Cathy Raffennstahl, Diane Stormberg, Mikeil Sampson, Michael McCabe, Elidera Hennett, Kathy Wolter, Anna Gard.
Absent from the photo: Maureen Turner, Ellie Brooks, Madeleine Corbeil, Gary George, Nancy Laker, Pat Lenaghan, Donna McCullough, Kathy Moragues, Lekine Viltto, Wendy Worthing, Bridge Young and Ann Zielinski.
Nearly 400 nurses and nursing students attended the 6th Annual Continuing Education Conference, “Caring in a Complex World: Leading through Health Information Technology.” The conference, sponsored by the College of Nursing, was held in September at Creighton’s Harper Center. The event was offered free to Creighton nursing alumni, nurses affiliated with Alegent Creighton Health and Creighton nursing students. All speakers were Creighton faculty or alumni or affiliated with Alegent Creighton Health.

Keynote speaker Susan Lorkovic, MS’97, R.N., vice president and regional chief nursing information officer for Catholic Health Initiatives, concluded the program by sharing how the use of simulators is enhancing nursing education.

Two panels, comprised of nurse leaders and researchers from academia, as well as large and small hospital associations, discussed how technology applications are being used in their healthcare settings.

Mary Tracy, BSN’76, Ph.D., R.N., program chair for the DNP program, concluded the program by sharing how the use of simulators is enhancing nursing education.

The day’s presentations can be viewed at this link: creighton.edu/nursing/ceevent/2013continuingeducationevent/index.php

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Another free continuing education event will be offered Friday, Sept. 16, 2014, 8 a.m. to noon

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Kimberly Galt  Pharm.D., Ph.D.

\textit{Associate Dean for Research}
Linda Lazare  Ph.D.

\textit{Associate Dean for External Rotations}
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Mary Tracy  Ph.D.

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\textit{B.S.N. Program}

Professor Emerita
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Professor
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Karm Boadtman  M.S.

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Catherine Carrico  D.N.P.

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Susan Connelly  D.N.P.

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Juice Mane  M.S.

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Miriahn Polkthoff  M.S.N.

Hilark Price  M.S.N.

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Lori Rusch  Ph.D.

Anne Schoening  Ph.D.

Cindy Seig  D.N.P.

Cindy Stone  Ed.D.

Stephanie Stockard Specic  M.S.N.

Barbara Synewicki  M.S.N.

Martha Todd  M.S.

Joyce Tow  M.S.N.

Sandra Woods  D.N.P.

Jenna Weston  Ph.D.

Amy Yager  D.N.P.

\textit{Adjunct Assistant Professors}
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Alice Whittaker  M.S.

\textit{Instructors}
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Mandy Kripepatrick  M.S.N.

Kendis McCafferty  B.S.N.

M. Susan Selde  M.S.

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KC Pullen  B.S.N.

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Joyce Davis  Assistant Dean for Community Relations

Amy Cosimano  Ed.D.

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

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Jeanett McIarlone  Sarah Metzger

Christina Moczek  Jan Schnak, M.S.

c. Branna Simmons  Tisa Young

\textit{Admissions}
Toll-Free  800.544.5071
Phone  402.280.2000
Fax  402.280.2045
E-mail: nursing@creighton.edu
Website: nursing.creighton.edu
“The aspect of nursing that most appeals to me is being able to teach people about healthcare. I know I will be able to serve others with the education I have received at the College of Nursing.”

Demetria Panopoulous, Creighton University College of Nursing junior from St. Louis, pictured with Creighton College of Nursing instructor Kandis McCafferty.