Designing the Nurse of the Future

CONH’s redesigned RN-to-BSN Program seeks to transform nurses into leaders
Horrible weather in the Miami Valley has come to a conclusion and I am thrilled to see the flowers blooming and the trees leafing out. As we come out of hibernation, much has been accomplished within the college in the last several months. First, we successfully celebrated the 40th anniversary of the college and the 30th anniversary of the Zeta Phi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. From the excellent presentation by Dr. Lorraine Wright, the great lunch provided by Premier Health, the introduction of the new college coin, the outstanding research symposium, a great reception with the introduction of the latest wall of fame alums inductee Mary Murphy, and the culminating event at the production of Les Misérables, overall it was a fabulous day. Special thanks to Dr. Donna Carty for the display on the history of the college and the hard work of all the staff, especially Theresa Haghnazarian. We had a great turnout at every event and are looking forward to our 50th anniversary in 2023, which will come sooner than we all think.

We have been hard at work preparing our self-study for our upcoming accreditation visit by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education in November 2014. We will be asking for comments from our communities of interest soon. We are also preparing intensely for the opening of a new interprofessional dedicated education unit, the first in the nation, at Kettering Medical Center. This unit will open January 2, 2015, and will have nursing, medical, and pharmacy students working and learning together in an interprofessional teaching/learning environment. Overseeing this endeavor from Kettering will be newly minted Dr. Melody Campbell, trauma program manager, and her great team.

We recently hosted a reception for Dayton Children’s Hospital celebrating their Magnet status, a wonderful achievement and well deserved. Congratulations to Ms. Remi Phillips, vice president for patient care and chief nurse executive, and her team on this accomplishment. I also want to thank Dr. Sjl Trepanier, vice president and system chief nursing officer at Premier Health, for making me a part of the inaugural Nursing Recognition Awards Ceremony at the Schuster Center. The leadership, innovation, and collaborative spirit of the chief nursing officers in this community are second to none.

I hope you enjoy the articles on our new NNP program, the National Health Disaster Consortium, and our RN-to-BSN Program. We are so proud and hope you feel the excitement as well.
When the College of Nursing and Health redesigned its RN-to-BSN Program, faculty and administrators wanted to create a program focused on the future of nursing.

To accomplish that goal, they set their sights on creating a new curriculum that could help mold the nurse of the future.

"There is one word to describe what that person looks like, and it is all around leadership," said Ann Stalter, PhD, associate professor of nursing and the director of the RN-to-BSN Program.

The RN-to-BSN Program is designed for Registered Nurses who have an associate degree or diploma in nursing to complete a BSN that accommodates their typical work schedules. Students may complete the program in as little as 15 months. All courses are held online. An agreement with CONH’s academic partners, including Sinclair Community College, allows students to take their first course at CONH before they are licensed.

"The nurse of tomorrow, in so many ways, is not the nurse of today," said CONH Dean Rosaline Mainous, PhD. "Our RN-to-BSN Program offers an incredible opportunity for practicing nurses, many of whom are experts in their field, to prepare themselves for leadership in the evolving healthcare landscape."

DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP SKILLS

The new RN-to-BSN Program is focused on developing students’ leadership skills, transitioning a licensed nurse into the professional world and giving nurses the tools and knowledge to help consumers navigate a complex healthcare system.

The curriculum includes courses concentrating on leadership, evidence-based practice, public and community health, and holistic health.

"We need nurses who can quickly access information, who can monitor people using state-of-the-art (technology), who can navigate healthcare systems because it’s going to be very, very complex," Stalter said. "Whether it is knowledge required based on QSEN, Magnet status, or the Future of Nursing report, graduates from our RN-to-BSN Program will be prepared to shape the healthcare environments in which they work," Mainous said. "They will be highly desirable in the marketplace as the knowledge, skills, and competencies required in contemporary practice will become ingrained and ready for application."

Emphasizing leadership in nursing in the curriculum is also vital when you combine a nationwide nursing shortage with looming Baby Boomer retirements.

According to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 1.2 million new nurses will be needed in the United States by 2020 to replace those who will retire and to meet demands of our aging population.

Students in the newly conceptualized RN-to-BSN Program will learn about advocating for patients’ insurance and Medicaid reimbursements, working with local government agencies that affect public health, examining public policies, and helping improve environmental health.

Stalter describes the program’s approach as “holistic nursing” that includes addressing preventative care and environmental health. People often seek out care when they are in crisis, Stalter said, and “what we want to do is prevent that crisis from ever happening.”

“If we can spend our time and energy improving people’s lives and outcomes, as opposed to finding people in crisis and trying to rehabilitate them to a better life, then it’s a better use of resources overall for everybody,” she said.

The program also addresses problems in the nursing profession, including sleep deprivation, stress, obesity, substance abuse, and mental health. Stalter says it’s important to teach nurses to take better care of themselves.

INTERACTIVE LESSONS

CONH began redesigning the program a few years ago when Wright State University switched from quarters to semesters. As part of that transition, the college started introducing improvements to the program’s curriculum, including placing all courses online and ensuring the program was friendly toward working nurses.

"So that process, we discovered that we could even do a better job of meeting needs of working nurses as well as anticipating the region’s need to meet the healthcare consumer," Stalter said.

The new iteration of the RN-to-BSN Program includes a complete redesign and upgrade of online courses. Static, PowerPoint-based lectures are being replaced with video and interactive courses that students watch on an attractive, clean-looking website.

"Any way we can find to increase student engagement, increase student learning, those are things we want to do," said Stephanie Triplett, RN, CCIRN, clinical instructor of nursing.

Last semester, Triplett taught Pathophysiology, one of the first upgraded courses. She brought life to her PowerPoint lectures by turning them into video presentations and by creating features that encourage students to engage with the lessons.

"By making the visual component of the course more interesting and more interactive, it should engage the students more” than a traditional passive online course, Triplett said.

Jamie Kuhlman, a student in the RN-to-BSN Program, said the curriculum is pertinent and applicable to current nursing practice and appears to be evolving as nursing practice evolves. "I have already instituted what I have learned thus far in my nursing practice," said Kuhlman, an RN in Good Samaritan Hospital’s Emergency Department.

She described the course material as clearly research-based and evidence-based, with a goal of preparing students for the next step, not only in their careers, but also in their education. "This program already has me looking to the future for my MSN," she said.

CONH faculty know that adding interactive components to the online courses improves student learning outcomes. Preliminary data from studies by faculty show that students are applying lessons to clinical practice and that student satisfaction is very high, Stalter said.

Best practice examples and evidence-based practices have been integrated into courses by employing case studies based on real scenarios. The case studies also include plots that are written in a fun manner to make students want to know what will happen next.

"It meets the course objectives in a very unique and creative way," Stalter said.

More importantly, busy case studies on reality encourage students to solve problems that they can then use in their jobs.

"We’re not just teaching nurses to be nurses, not just transforming their lives with an education," Stalter said, "we’re teaching them to transform the lives of those they touch."

"Nursing education is in a rapid state of change," Mainous said. “We believe we have responded to the needs of the practicing RN with this redesign, which is cutting edge, transformative, and engaging.”
By Jim Hannah

When Hurricane Katrina slammed into the Gulf Coast in 2005, it would become one of the deadliest hurricanes in U.S. history, leaving more than 1,800 people dead.

Tens of thousands of volunteers and troops responded to the disaster, including a group of doctors and nurses from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. When they returned, they delivered a surprising message to Dan Kirkpatrick, chief nurse of the base hospital—they had trouble working with the civilian disaster relief workers.

“The two groups had different equipment, different leadership models, and basically spoke a different language,” Kirkpatrick recalled. “You would get a nurse from Idaho, a nurse from Florida, a nurse from New Jersey who all knew the basics, but they didn’t know how to put it together the same way.”

That revelation followed by teamwork with regional and national partners ultimately led to the National Disaster Health Consortium at the College of Nursing and Health. This group developed a competency-based interprofessional program that is structured to prepare professionals for a national certification exam.

Discussion about starting such a program immediately sparked the interest of Sharon Stanley, Wright State alumna and former chief nurse of the American Red Cross. The Red Cross had been looking for competency-based coursework leading to nursing certification.

“Nurses are hungry to understand how they can make their disaster practice better,” said Stanley, Ph.D., RN, who joined the College of Nursing and Health last fall as a visiting professor and director of the program.

There are about 3 million nurses in the United States—the largest single group of healthcare workers in the country—and they are frequently involved in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery as the largest provider of care, as well.

“There are nurses virtually in just about every neighborhood,” Kirkpatrick said. “Most people know that a nurse lives across the street, if a disaster occurs—a tornado, an earthquake, explosion—they’re going to go grab that nurse.”

Stanley and Kirkpatrick, RN, deputy director of the program, say the program will strengthen disaster preparedness training and improve the quality of care.

The purpose of the program is to standardize disaster preparedness training to help meet the goal of Homeland Security Presidential Directive 21 of building resilient communities. The program enables nurses and other professionals to have a common core body of knowledge about disaster preparedness.

“If I’m working with you and we come from a common body of knowledge, we can work quicker and better together,” Kirkpatrick said. “If we’ve all been through a common educational process, then we go down the road together in step versus tripping over each other.”

The program is funded in part by the Dayton-based Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, named after the former public health nurse who was the widow of international patent attorney Harry A. Toulmin Jr.

In addition to Wright State and the American Red Cross, the program also has the support of the Air Force, the Medical Reserve Corps, and public health officials in Washington, D.C.

“This has been a large effort, with a number of people recognizing the need for this kind of a process,” Kirkpatrick said.

Nurses enrolled in the program will first take a series of online courses. They will then undergo intensive training at Wright State’s National Center for Medical Readiness at Calamityville, a 52-acre disaster training zone with concrete passageway-filled buildings, silos, tunnels, ponds, cliffs, and wooded areas.

“This training is going to give them a broad range of different bodies of knowledge and some hands-on experience of how to handle different disaster-related activity,” said Kirkpatrick.

The nurses and others will learn basic disaster life support; disaster leadership principles; first aid; how to provide psychological support; how to prioritize injuries; and how to handle legal and ethical issues.

“It’s not like we’re going to introduce something foreign to them, but we are going to enable them to gain confidence in their disaster skills and put it to work in their communities,” Stanley said.

While the program’s primary focus is on preparing Registered Nurses, including those with advanced nursing degrees, the model for delivery is one of interprofessionalism.

A total of 120 healthcare professionals will go through the program beginning this fall.

Stanley said the nurses will be trained not only how to respond in the immediate aftermath of a disaster, but also how to help communities recover in the long term.

“It’s not just about pulling the person from the car, although we will teach some of that,” she said. “It is absolutely about what do you do in a shelter for the next month? How do you work with that neighborhood? How do you help people get to their new normal in terms of mental health?”

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Masters of Disasters

College of Nursing and Health develops National Disaster Health Consortium

The nurses will learn basic disaster life support; disaster leadership principles; first aid; how to provide psychological support; how to prioritize injuries; and how to handle legal and ethical issues.
## Recognizing an Opportunity

**R**ecognizing an opportunity to meet a demand for advanced neonatal nursing care in the Dayton area, the College of Nursing and Health launched a new Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program.

The master’s-level program is designed for Registered Nurses who have experience in neonatal intensive care and want to build on that foundation to become neonatal nurse practitioners. 

“We’re trying to impact the health and well-being of babies in the Miami Valley region,” said CONH Dean Rosalie Mainous, Ph.D. “I’m preparing nurses to take care of the most vulnerable among us to better society, to make sure we meet the expanding need, that we’re healthy and happy.”

According to the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, Ohio ranks 13th in the United States in infant mortality, with 7.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. The national infant mortality rate is 6.6.

“There’s a public health need for nurses who are trained to care of very high-risk infants and to help get this infant mortality rate down,” Mainous said.

The program will also meet local and national needs. For every neonatal nurse practitioner who graduates there are an estimated eight open positions.

For every neonatal nurse practitioner who graduates there are an estimated eight open positions.

Students will take clinical courses in the NICUs at Dayton Children’s Hospital, Miami Valley Hospital, and Kettering Hospital.

The program seeks to meet demand, improve healthcare in region.

**By Bob Mihalek**

The program is sponsored by Dayton Children’s Hospital, a local partner that identified a need and has worked collaboratively with Mainous to make this a reality. Lisa Jason, a neonatal nurse practitioner from Dayton Children’s, will teach the program content and run the clinical courses. Students will also have rotations at the hospital’s neonatal follow-up clinic, where they can work with specialists and children who were preterm infants.

Renae Phillips, RN, the vice president for patient care services and chief nurse executive at Dayton Children’s, said that as the oldest NICU in the community, Dayton Children’s is a natural partner for the NNP program.

“It will be great opportunity for nurses in their graduate program to get exposure both here and at other sites across the city to see what really is required to practice in a neonatal nursery,” Phillips said.

“The nurse practitioner is an excellent provider of neonatal care,” she said. “We also know there are other NICUs in our communities and producing more locally focused nurses in this role is really important to us.”

Launching the program is a natural fit for Mainous. A board-certified neonatal nurse practitioner, she ran the NNP program at the University of Louisville School of Nursing for a number of years before joining Wright State.

The neonatal nurse practitioner specialty was formalized in the early 1980s by the National Certification Corporation, a not-for-profit organization that provides a national credentialing program for nurses, physicians, and other licensed healthcare personnel.

As advanced-practice nurses, neonatal nurse practitioners prepare academically at the master’s level and receive additional specialized training. They can prescribe drugs, offer treatments, and diagnose patients. They also usually manage several patients at a time. It’s often more cost-effective for a hospital to have a group of NNPs working alongside a doctor, Mainous said.

Neonatal nurse practitioners are cost-efficient and can provide a high level of care, she said.

Wright State and the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing are collaborating on the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program, sharing courses that students at both colleges are required to take.

Mainous expects the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program to strengthen CONH’s highly respected advanced-practice graduate offerings. “We already have a very positive reputation in graduate education, and we have a portfolio of several nurse practitioner concentrations as part of our master’s degree,” she said.

“This (NNP) was a hole in that spectrum that I was able to fill because of my background and experiences. It’s a good fit into an existing mold that was already successful.”

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**Heart & Hand**

**Caring for the Most Vulnerable Patients**

New Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program seeks to meet demand, improve healthcare in region.
In addition to working in the ER, Reichman serves as the program coordinator of Miami Valley Hospital’s Hazmat/Weapons of Mass Destruction Program, which trains ER staff to care for patients and have basic understanding of WMD, including biological, chemical, and radiological substances. He also is certified as a hazardous materials technician and in radiological/nuclear operations by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office for Domestic Preparedness. He has designed and offered training programs for his colleagues on caring for someone who has been exposed to hazardous materials or WMD.

“If you have the correct knowledge, hopefully that calms down some of your fears,” he said. “Now you have the knowledge to care for those patients and not be so fearful, and be able to protect yourself so you don’t get hurt.”

Most of the hospital’s hazmat incidents have been industrial accidents or have involved individuals using chemicals, including acid and cyanide. “There are chemicals in this area that if they get into the wrong hands could cause harm to lots of people, and we have to be ready to take care of that,” he said. “And that’s part of the training that we do.” Reichman almost didn’t become a nurse.

When he arrived at Wright State he had no idea what he wanted to do, but nursing wasn’t something he even considered. During his freshman year, he worked with a guidance counselor to help him determine his major and find a career path. He took some tests that said Reichman should go into nursing. “And I’ll have to say that they were right,” he said.

Reichman takes pride in the care he provides for his patients. Your challenge as a nurse, he says, is to complete your task in a way that makes the patient see that you care. “I’m used to being with my patients for under four hours,” he said. “The quicker I get them home, the quicker I get them upstairs, the happier the patients are.”

“It takes nurses and doctors working as a team to give a patient the care that they need,” he says. “That’s very rewarding,” he said.

“There’s not many jobs that I know of,” he said, “where at the end of the day you really feel like you’ve done something good.”
From its first class of 61 nursing students in 1973 to 975 students enrolled today, the Wright State University-Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health has played a vital role in improving healthcare in our region, state, and beyond. During its first 40 years, 6,874 graduates have earned a total of 7,335 nursing degrees. From spiral notebooks to iPads and high-tech patient simulators, course delivery and technologies have changed over the years, but one thing has remained constant: a commitment to excellence in nursing education.

While CONH’s graduates no longer wear the traditional white nursing cap, they wear many hats in all levels of nursing today: caregiver, practitioner, advocate, educator, leader, and researcher. From community healthcare administrators and nurse educators to master’s programs received from NLN. A testament to the success of CONH’s graduates.

1973 Wright State University started first baccalaureate nursing program. The College launched its first baccalaureate nursing program. The first baccalaureate nursing program in the Dayton area with 61 students enrolled.

1975 Eleven students became first graduates of BSN program.

1976 Accreditation from the National League for Nursing (NLN) received.

1978 Master’s in nursing program launched. First master’s degree awarded. NLN accreditation for master’s and baccalaureate programs received. Mobile health unit provided hands-on learning and healthcare to the community.

1982 Accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education received.

1983 First master’s degree awarded. NLN accreditation for master’s and baccalaureate programs received.

1984 College launched first baccalaureate nursing program in the Dayton area with 61 students enrolled.

1985 Child and Adolescent Health track began with federal support.

1988 Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program initiated with federal funding.

1993 Family Nurse Practitioner track added to master’s program.

1995 Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program begun, in collaboration with the University of Cincinnati and Dayton Children’s Hospital. The Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program began, in collaboration with the University of Cincinnati and Dayton Children’s Hospital. The National Disaster Health Consortium launches disaster training program.

1997 Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program launched. The Nursing Institute of West Central Ohio, a collaboration among nursing education programs, healthcare agencies, and administrators in a 16-county region, established. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization.

2000 College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization.

2004 Baccalaureate Education Accelerates Career Opportunities in Nursing (BEACON) program launched. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization.

2005 Accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education received. The Nursing Institute of West Central Ohio, a collaboration among nursing education programs, healthcare agencies, and administrators in a 16-county region, established. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization.

2007 An online Doctor of Nursing Practice degree launched in collaboration with the University of Toledo. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization.

2010 College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization.

2011 Students study Global Health in the United Kingdom. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization.

2013 Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner concentration added to master’s program. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization. The College launches the nation’s first master’s program with a flight and disaster nursing specialization.

2014 Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program begun, in collaboration with the University of Cincinnati and Dayton Children’s Hospital. The neonatal nurse practitioner program began, in collaboration with the University of Cincinnati and Dayton Children’s Hospital. The National Disaster Health Consortium launches disaster training program.
The Wright State University–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health held its 13th annual Cameos of Caring gala on September 14, 2013. The event recognizes outstanding bedside nurses for their contributions to the health and well-being of the community, while raising funds for student scholarships.

This year’s event honored 18 Registered Nurses from Miami Valley healthcare agencies who exemplify wisdom, advocacy, and caring in professional nursing.

Since its inception in 2001, the event has honored more than 200 nurses and provided more than $400,000 to support scholarships.

The next event will be held February 28, 2015, at the Benjamin and Marian Schuster Performing Arts Center.

13th annual Cameos of Caring honors bedside’s best

Portraits of Caring

2013 Cameos of Caring Recipients

Vicky Armstrong
Good Samaritan Hospital

Tonya Camden
Southview Medical Center

Maryam Carley
Dayton VA Medical Center

Cristi Clark
Greene Memorial Hospital

Ben Clement
Kindred Hospital

Cindy Dixon
Dayton Children’s Hospital

Sue Hammons
Atrium Medical Center

Marybeth Hannon
Springfield Regional Medical Center

Melissa Humphreys
Upper Valley Medical Center

Brent Mezger
Grandview Medical Center

Jan Nicol
Mercy Memorial Hospital

Mary Parrish
Sycamore Medical Center

Cheryl Peck
Kettering Medical Center

Laura Reddix
Fort Hamilton Hospital

Jon Reichman
Miami Valley Hospital

Nikki Rodriguez-Borasz
Soin Medical Center

Janet Shinkle
Hospice of Dayton

Cindy Wedding
VITAS Innovative Hospice
Paving the Way

Mission Statement

The Wright State University–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health provides excellence in innovative educational programs as the foundation for lifelong learning; serves our community locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally; performs scholarship that enriches and guides the profession of nursing; and empowers faculty, staff, students, and alumni to reach their full potential.

Vision

The Wright State University–Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health will be a leader in the transformation of the educational enterprise in Ohio and beyond through collaborative partnerships, civic engagement, and service, supported by scholarship to advance and empower nursing in an inclusive, respectful environment.

Academic Strategy and Planning Board

The College of Nursing and Health is grateful for the contributions of this prestigious group of business, healthcare, and regional leaders who serve on our Academic Strategy and Planning Board.

Joan Brammer, Administrative Director of Nursing, Kettering Health Network
Robin Carter, Director of eContent Solutions, Nursing, Health Sciences, Elsevier
Judith Church, Ph.D., President, Ohio Board of Nursing
Beverly Cobb, Ph.D., Dean for Assessment and Learning Support, Kettering College
Marquita Colbert, Wright State Physicians
Col. Marla De Jong, Dean, U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine
Christine Doughty, Vice President of Home Healthcare, Home Care by Black Stone
Tim Kernan, Director of Health Initiatives, Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association
Brenda Kuhn, Chief Nursing Officer, Kettering Network
Rebecca Lewis, Vice President of Patient Care, Grandview Medical Center
Anna Jones Monnet, Chief Nurse Executive, Dayton VA Medical Center
Benae Phillips, Chief Nurse Executive and Vice President for Patient Care Services, Dayton Children’s Hospital
Bena Sychay, Dean of Life and Health Sciences, Sinclair Community College
Trish Wacker, Director of Clinical Education, Premier Health System
Sharon Farr, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, College of Nursing and Health, Regional Nurse Leader, American Red Cross
Daniel Kirkpatrick, Clinical Instructor, College of Nursing and Health, Regional Nurse Leader, American Red Cross
Harriet Knowles, Director, The Nursing Institute of West Central Ohio, Wright State

Student Scholarship Recipients

Virginia Hamilton Adolf Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Donna Turner
American Legion Post 763 Howard Batdorf Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Grace Chandall
Elta Biles Memorial Scholarship
Kelli Minor
Ralph and Joan Campbell Nursing Scholarship
Kristen Johnston
College of Nursing and Health Scholarship
Alicia Hijo
Krisvin Pour
Heather Hofstetter
Dayton Business Club Education Foundation
Arbenita Derwaishilli
Dylan Richey
Sherry Freer Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Rachel Rees
Nancy P. Janssens Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Jessica Hughes
Bath Lehman Scholarship
Donna Turner
Louis Renzor Lucero Memorial Scholarship
Iva Ivanovitch
Madigan-Emelko Nursing Scholarship
Weasley Hannebaum
Jessie Mihlstick Scholarship
Meghan Paul
Montgomery County Medical Society Alliance
Alliia Scenters
Brittany Vore

Dayton Association of Orthopedic Nurses Scholarship
Courtney Deslinger
Patterson/Miller Nursing Scholarship
Julia Burns
Amy and Chris Prueger Memorial Scholarship
Melissa Kashar
Suzanne Ackel
St. Leonard Nursing Scholarship
Wesley Hannebaum
Jane Swart Memorial Scholarship
Brian Glover
Debbie Lehmen
Sweeney Family Scholarship for Nursing
Rebecca Wyens
Sax Thompson Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Andrea Meyer
William Brent Turner Scholarship
Johnna Markley
Sondra Zinser Nursing Scholarship
Pratibha Nigam
Nelson Fairbairn Scholarship
Reese Kleenze
Grace Cranezel
Asia Watera
Emily Parker
Brittany Vore
Carly Bushman
Meghan Stewart
Katie McCains
Wright State Foundation Board of Trustees Scholarship
Nicole Smith

About CONH
Sharon Stanley, Ph.D., RN
Visiting Professor

As visiting professor in the College of Nursing and Health, Sharon Stanley is assisting in the development of the National Disaster Health Consortium. Previously, she was the chief nurse of the Leadership Red Cross, providing the leadership, engagement, and direction for the Red Cross nursing network in partnership with the Red Cross National Chair of Nursing, the National Nursing Committee, and Regional Nurse Network. Before joining the Red Cross, Stanley was executive director for the Ohio Center for Public Health Preparedness in Ohio State University’s College of Public Health. She has also served as chief of staff planning at the Ohio Department of Health, associate professor of community health at Capital University, and local health commissioner. Stanley earned 36 years in the Army Nurse Corps, including 12 on active duty. She graduated from the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, received the Surgeon General’s ‘N’ designation and was a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit. She holds multiple graduate degrees, including a M.S. in community health nursing from Wright State University, a M.A. in security studies (homeland security and defense) from the Naval Postgraduate School, and a Ph.D. in health education from Ohio State University. She is a 2013 recipient of the International Red Cross Florence Nightingale Medal and a current Robert D. Nkadi, Ph.D., RN, received the Doctor of Nursing Practice program, received the 2014 Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Early Career Achievement. She is a life member of Sigma Theta Tau International’s 42nd Biennial Convention in Indianapolis. Curry also presented “Critical Models to Improve Healthcare for Children: Family-Centered Products, Patient Management, and A Global Nursing Education Strategy.”

Donna Miles Curry, Ph.D., RN, was elected the mayor of Athens, Ohio. In November, she presented the Ohio University Chapter of Eta Kappa Sigma, the national nursing honor society, to the American Nurses Association. As a new advisor at the American Academy of Nursing, she was recognized for her contributions to the field of nursing. She also received the 2014 Secretary’s Award for Evidence-Based Practice. The Nurse Practitioner, received the 2014 Secretary’s Award for Excellence in Early Career Achievement. Curry also presented “Critical Models to Improve Healthcare for Children: Family-Centered Products, Patient Management, and A Global Nursing Education Strategy.”

Sharon Farra, Ph.D., RN, Assistant Professor

As a new advisor at the College of Nursing and Health, Dan Kilpatrick, RN, was elected president of the Ohio Nurses Association. He previously served on the board of directors as first vice president. In November, Kilpatrick was also elected an officer of the American Nurses Association. His article was titled “Meeting the Health Care Needs of African-Americans: Challenges and Opportunities of the Affordable Health Care Act,” in the Journal of the National Black Nurses Association. Her article was titled “Meeting the Health Care Needs of African-Americans: Challenges and Opportunities of the Affordable Health Care Act,” in the Journal of the National Black Nurses Association.

Michelle Nixal Academic Advisor

Nursing Institute of West Central Ohio presents Interim Minor Procedure and Competency Training Seminar with Brenda B. Young, DNP, RN, FNP-C, Beverly J. Metze, MSN, FNP-C, and Nicole Loy, BSN, RN. The seminar will focus on the development of evidence-based practice in performance of procedures with a day of instruction and simulation of office and urgent care procedures. Nicole Loy was selected as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2014 for her contributions to the field of nursing. She also presented “Critical Models to Improve Healthcare for Children: Family-Centered Products, Patient Management, and A Global Nursing Education Strategy.”

Donna Miles Curry, Ph.D., RN, was presented as a lifetime achievement in nursing. She also presented “Critical Models to Improve Healthcare for Children: Family-Centered Products, Patient Management, and A Global Nursing Education Strategy.”

Tessa Specter-Prague Academic Advisor

Tessa Specter-Prague joined the College of Nursing and Health as an academic advisor in September 2012. Last year, she worked for AmeriCorps providing college access advice for low-income and first-generation students and seniors in a Cincinnati public school. Previously, she served as a human services advisor intern at Northeastern University, where she advised mentors to secure field placements. Specter-Prague earned her B.A. from Roger Williams University in 2008 and her M.S. at Northeastern University in 2011.

Kristine Scordo, Ph.D., RN, was recognized for having the “Top cited and most downloaded article in 2012” by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Her article was titled “Defining Nurse Practitioner Scope of Practice and Associated Regulations: Focus on Acute Care.” Scordo received the 2013 Outstanding Nurse Educator Award from the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties. She is the guest editor for a symposium on differential diagnosis in critical care for the American Association of Critical Care Nursing. Her article “Teaching Graduate Nursing Practitioner Students Effective Learning, Teaching, and Coaching Strategies: A Guide to Good Teaching” is forthcoming in The Nurse Practitioner.

Nicole Loy, BSN, RN, was selected by the Army ROTC to attend the All-American Bowl on January 4 in Texas. Rosana Maissin, M.A., Ph.D., APPN, was inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in June 2014.

Tessa Specter-Prague joined the College of Nursing and Health as an academic advisor in September 2012. Last year, she worked for AmeriCorps providing college access advice for low-income and first-generation students and seniors in a Cincinnati public school. Previously, she served as a human services advisor intern at Northeastern University, where she advised mentors to secure field placements. Specter-Prague earned her B.A. from Roger Williams University in 2008 and her M.S. at Northeastern University in 2011.

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Sharon Stanley, Ph.D., RN
Visiting Professor

Sharon Farra, Ph.D., RN, Assistant Professor

Sharon ‘Sharry’ Farra completed her Ph.D. in nursing in 2012 at the University of Cincinnati. Her degree focus was on the scholarship of teaching and learning in nursing. She also studied virtual reality simulation and disaster training in her dissertation. She earned an M.S in nursing clinical nurse specialist–adult health from Wright State University and a B.S.N from Wayne State University. Farra has over 16 years of experience as a nurse educator in the classroom, clinical, and online settings. From 1998 to 2012, she taught at Sinclair Community College, where she received the Meritorious Teaching Award three times. She also taught at Miami University and Indiana Wesleyan University. Her research interests are in disaster, emergency preparedness and training methodologies. In 2011, she received a $50,000 grant from Sigma Theta Tau to evaluate knowledge retention after virtual simulation activities in disaster training. Prior to becoming a nurse educator, Farra worked as a staff nurse in the oncology departments of Harper Hospital in Detroit and Good Samaritan Hospital and as a patient information specialist at Dayton Children’s Hospital. She was also a nurse supervisor at Granview Hospital and a CNS/Infection control manager at Good Samaritan Hospital. Farra is active with the American Red Cross, serving as board member of the Clinton County Chapter and regional nurse leader for the Dayton and Cincinnati regions. She is also a volunteer for the West Central Ohio Medical Reserve Corps.

Curtis Stein Academic Advisor

As a new advisor at the College of Nursing and Health, Curtis Stein’s main priority is to increase the enrollment in the RN-to-BSN Program. With 13 years in higher education, he has helped launch a transfer office at Sinclair Community College and served as a recruiter for Sinclair Community College, assistant director of admissions at United Theological Seminary, and enrollment counselor/lead recruiter for Sinclair Community College.

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