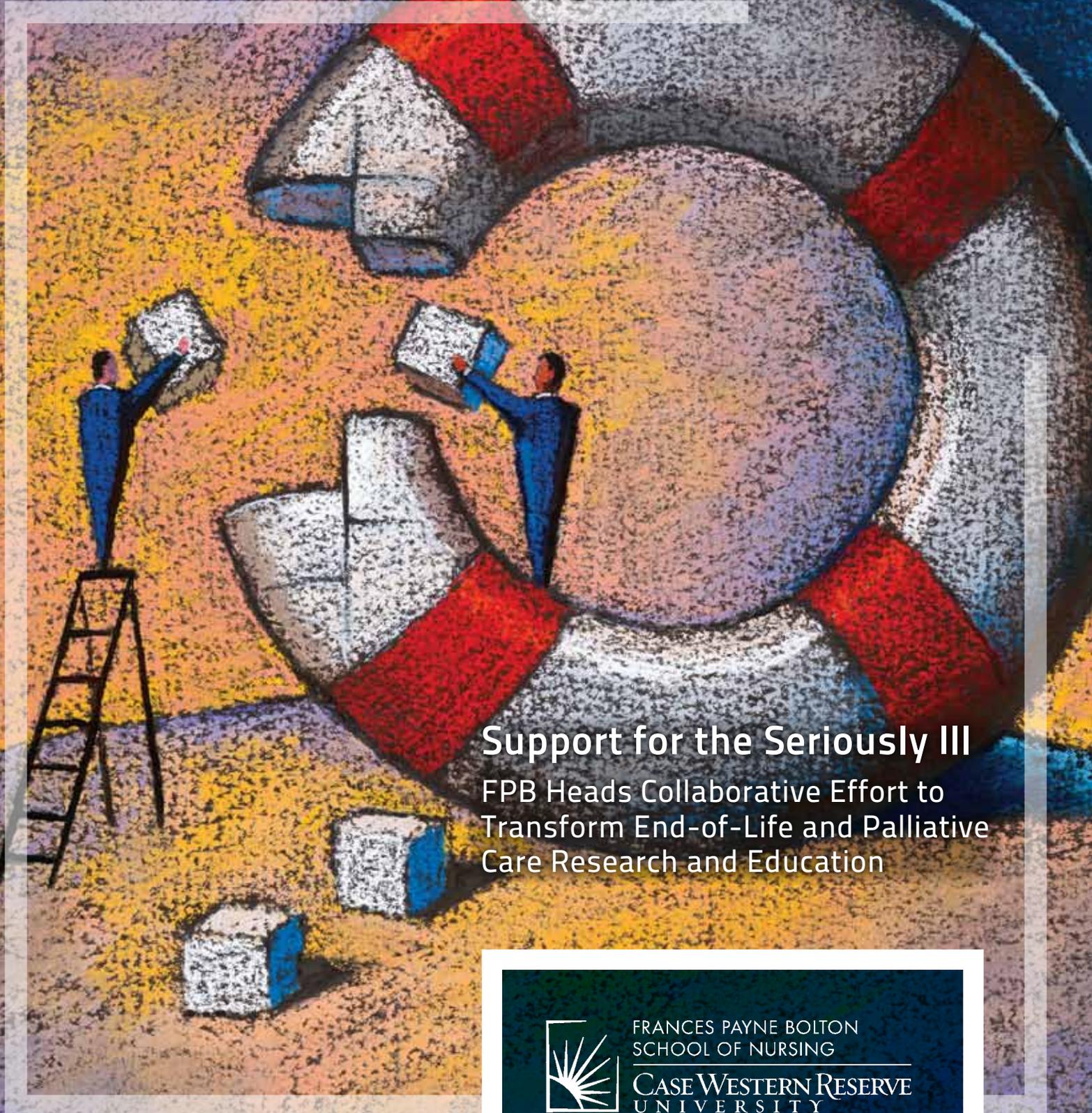


# FPB Nursing

A Publication for Alumni and Friends of The Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing : Spring 2012



**Support for the Seriously Ill**  
FPB Heads Collaborative Effort to Transform End-of-Life and Palliative Care Research and Education



FRANCES PAYNE BOLTON  
SCHOOL OF NURSING

CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

## FEATURES



# 13

**ALUMNI WEEKEND**  
Alumni returned to FPB in October to reunite and reconnect for Alumni Weekend 2011.



# 28

**COVER STORY**  
FPB leads collaborative effort to build better support for the seriously ill.

## DEPARTMENTS

- |                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Dean's Message         | 32 FPB Feats     |
| 2 FPB News               | 34 Class Notes   |
| 2 School News            | 36 In Memoriam   |
| 5 Student Happenings     | 40 Frontline/FPB |
| 8 Around the World       |                  |
| 11 Alumni & Friends News |                  |

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## CORRECTIONS

 In *FPB Nursing* Fall 2011 issue

Table of Contents: The cover photo and photo on page 14 were taken by Myles Nikolich.

Honor Roll, A-14: The Matching Gift Companies listed are companies who actually matched gifts from donors. The column should be titled Companies (Provided Matching Gifts).

Page 29: Donna M. Mahrenholz is incorrectly listed as having an "RN degree" from Johns Hopkins University.

Page 30: The Marilyn E. Brentlinger Scholarship Fund offers support for DNP students as well as PhD candidates.



*I have had the opportunity to travel to several states during my first year to meet with alumni. During a visit to New York City in January, I met with Bobbie Berkowitz, PhD '90, dean of the Columbia University School of Nursing. She is one of FPB's many alumni serving as deans at top nursing schools around the country.*



*In other travels, Rebecca Patton, MSN '98, FPB instructor and Lucy Jo Atkinson Scholar in Perioperative Nursing, and I attended the White House Champions of Change event, where the White House and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) honored individuals working to educate their community about the benefits of the Affordable Care Act. I had the chance to speak with Mary Wakefield, administrator for the Health Resources and Services Administration of the HHS, and Debra Toney, immediate past president of the National Black Nurses Association.*

## The Future of Nursing is Now

Dear Alumni and Friends,

With my first full school year behind me as dean, I am more honored than ever to be at the helm of FPB. From the moment I came back to Cleveland, I have felt welcomed by the school, our alumni, the university, and the community. In meeting alumni locally, around the country, and around the world throughout the past year, I have been continually inspired by the work both FPB and our alumni do to shape the outlook of nursing.

The future of nursing is dependent upon the decisions we make today. At FPB, we are working to ensure that our profession bonds together to enact change and reform so that those who matter most—our patients—can benefit. An important first step in elevating the professional status of nursing is to attract the finest students. Last fall, we enrolled a record number of undergraduate nursing students from 31 states and two countries, all with exceptional academic standing and high test scores.

At FPB, the Institute of Medicine's landmark report, "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change and Advancing Health," provides a model for our own curriculum, education, and research initiatives. The report focuses on the role of the nursing profession in health care reform and emphasizes quality, access, and value as the indicators to measure our progress toward improved health care for all.

The IOM report offers four key ideas:

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

Our ability as nurses to move the future of our profession forward is dependent on these concepts, and the faculty and staff members at FPB are implementing these ideas through innovative approaches to education and research. For example, our DNP cohort program makes it easy for nurse leaders already working full-time to advance their education. This flexible program, offered in an executive format, attracts advanced practice nurses from all over the U.S. and has become the model for other DNP programs.

We've also made great strides this past year in nursing research and scholarship. A number of our faculty and students have earned prestigious research funding and awards from the National Institutes of Health, Midwest Nursing Research Society, Sigma Theta Tau International, and many others.

Our faculty and students, and alumni, are making the world not just a healthier place, but a better one—as you will read about in this issue of *FPB Nursing*. And with the generous support of our alumni and friends, the future of nursing is happening now at FPB, and the possibilities are endless.

Thank you,

Mary E. Kerr, PhD '91, RN, FAAN  
Dean & May L. Wykle Professor of Nursing

## FPB Project Manager Participates in Affordable Care Act Forum with U.S. Secretary of Health & Human Services



*Jeanne Hitch and U.S. Secretary of Health & Human Services Kathleen Sebelius.*

FPB Project Manager Jeanne Hitch recently met with U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, along with Cleveland-area health care representatives.

The February 23 meeting was hosted in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, by Barbara Rogers, president of the Cleveland Council of Black Nurses. Senator Sherrod Brown and health care organization representatives were also on hand to hear from local women about how the Affordable Care Act has already helped them.

"I enjoyed being with other community organizers who are dedicated to improving the health of the people of Cleveland," Jeanne Hitch said. "Being part of the meeting reinforced my desire to improve women's health through education and community outreach."

Ms. Hitch was invited to the meeting with Secretary Sebelius based on her role in directing Primary Care Partnerships to Prevent Heart Disease in Women (also known as Heart Truth® Ohio). Heart Truth® Ohio was funded by the Office on Women's Health, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Cleveland Council of Black Nurses was one of many health care and community partners engaged in outreach to health care providers and consumers as part of the project.

# Support the Future of Nursing—Today!

Your gift to the FPB Annual Fund attracts and supports students, funds academic innovation, and prepares our nurses to lead.

Make a gift today at [giving.cwru.edu](http://giving.cwru.edu).



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## Pediatric Nurse Shares Experiences with Technology-Dependent Children

For Assistant Professor Valerie Toly, PhD '09, MSN '90, RN, CPNP, pediatric nursing has included years of working in a hospital-based pediatric ICU, caring for pediatric home health patients, and passionately instructing pediatric nurse practitioner candidates and nursing students in the master's and pre-licensure programs at FPB.

"My whole goal is to be an ambassador and advocate for the patient population I serve, to give them a voice," said Dr. Toly. "I'd like my students to be advocates for the population they serve as well."

Dr. Toly is an advocate for technology-dependent children who are perpetually hospitalized or home-bound children who cannot survive without the aid of ventilators, oxygen, IVs or other vital medical equipment. Her extensive practice as a pediatric nurse caring for chronically critically ill children has had a profound impact on her life.

"That experience never left me," Dr. Toly said. "Eventually, I was compelled to determine why some families with technology-dependent children thrive and why some flounder."

This led her to conduct a long-term study of 82 mothers where she and her research colleagues followed families after their children were discharged home from the hospital to explore how their families functioned. The research, "A Longitudinal Study of Families with Technology-Dependent Children," was published in the journal of *Research in Nursing & Health*, and is one of the first longitudinal studies to examine how

families function and reach normalcy once children leave the hospital equipped with technology to keep them alive.

Dr. Toly, with Carol Musil, PhD '91, MSN '79, RN, FAAN, associate professor at FPB, and John Carl, MD (now a Cleveland Clinic pediatric pulmonologist), found that the families whose children eventually did not have to depend on technology reached normalcy more quickly.

"What struck me most about our research was the substantial need of mothers and families for encouragement and support," Dr. Toly said. "They need people to talk to and ask them how they're doing. I was constantly amazed by how willing these mothers were to share, and how much they supported this research. They really want to help others in similar situations."

"My whole goal is to be an ambassador and advocate for the patient population I serve, to give them a voice."

Dr. Toly currently is applying for a National Institutes of Health grant to study families with technology-dependent children on a larger scale. She continues to be a proponent for research both in her professional life and in the classroom.

She integrates her passion for research into her graduate classes, providing countless opportunities for students to experience investigative studies first hand. "We are so fortunate to be here at



Assistant Professor Valerie Toly.

FPB and Case Western Reserve where research is wholeheartedly embraced in such a myriad of ways," she said. "There are a staggering number of research opportunities here—lecture series, bag lunch discussions, SMART Center

conferences, the Center for Research and Scholarship at the School of Nursing, and many others."

Dr. Toly said she finds that enthusiasm is contagious. "My job is really to influence students to understand that they can be part of asking the questions and discovering the answers through research," she explained.

## Carrying On the FPB Research Tradition

A decade ago, Allison Webel, PhD, RN, did not realize where a budding interest in a major public health epidemic would eventually lead her. She began in a San Francisco public health clinic, working as a community health nurse/HIV educator. Today, she is a Clinical Research KL2 Scholar of the NIH-funded Clinical & Translational Science Collaborative and an FPB instructor, teaching research theory, methods, and critique to nursing graduate students—and she teaches from experience.

With her FPB colleague Patricia Higgins, PhD '96, MSN '89, RN, Dr. Webel is the lead author of a recent study of HIV-infected women in Northeast Ohio, published in *Women's Health Issues*. Women, says Dr. Webel, are an understudied HIV population, particularly in the Midwest.

The study suggests that the different roles HIV-positive women play in society can influence how they manage their disease. In particular, the findings indicate that women who define

themselves as faith believers, pet owners, or AIDS advocates—rather than just as mothers, daughters or working professionals—often cope better with HIV/AIDS.

"I hope the research that we've done impacts health care directly," said Dr. Webel. "It has already caused the clinicians with whom we work to think more about self-management, taking



FPB Instructor Allison Webel.

medications, and changing regimens. Eventually we'd like to see our work integrated into primary care HIV clinic protocols. I also see a need for more research to be done on self-management of this disease," she added.

Drs. Webel and Higgins are continuing the tradition of outstanding research at Case Western Reserve University

The research legacy continues with Dr. Webel's students, to whom she imparts her own research experiences—both the high points and challenges. "Certainly our students assist with our research, but it's my goal to encourage students to pursue their own research careers if they're interested," she said. "We can help them identify programs, mentors, grants, and opportunities."

"The nursing school has always made research resources available to us, helped foster creativity, and advanced nursing science."

(CWRU). It was that tradition, in fact, that first drew Dr. Webel to CWRU and FPB. "For more than 20 years Case was one of the leaders in HIV research, and the university is well known for research in that area. I feel the Center for AIDS Research is one of CWRU's strongest assets," Webel said. "The nursing school has always made research resources available to us, helped foster creativity, and advanced nursing science."

## New Graduates Ready to Meet Society's Health Needs

After successfully completing their FPB education in December, 62 new BSN, MSN, DNP, and Certificate graduates received nursing pins at FPB's Pinning Ceremony on December 9, 2011. The pins are presented each December and May to all new graduates as a symbol of academic achievement and readiness to meet the health needs of society.

Dean Mary Kerr presided over her first pinning ceremony as dean that Friday evening at University Circle United Methodist Church. LaTonya Carroll, MSN '12, president of the Graduate Student Nurses Association, presented the new graduates to Heather Schober, BSN '96, 2011-2012 FPB Alumni Association Board president, who inducted them into the alumni association.

Christine Hudak, PhD, BSN '74, RN, MEd, CPHIMS, associate professor and director of NurseWeb at FPB, gave the pinning address. Dr. Hudak offered some advice for the new graduates, drawing from guidance she received from her mentors and advisors. She extolled them to know their limits and to ask for help when needed, as well as to "find a mentor or two or three."

She asked graduates to have faith in themselves. "Believe in yourself, 24/7/365. Look in the mirror and know that you are the best that there is. It has nothing to do with your degree, your license, nothing external. It has to do with your heart and your soul and your desire. You are important and every day, tell yourself that. Your validation as a person, as a professional, comes from within and no one can take it away," she said.

Dr. Hudak concluded her speech by asking graduates to remember an acronym—WWFD. "What would Frances do? The illustrious benefactress of our school thought outside the box, she defied convention and followed her own mind. Do the same. You will never let yourself down."

## FPB Student Leads Ohio Nursing Students' Association



The following excerpt is reprinted from the March 30 issue of "the daily," which is a digital publication featuring news of CWRU. The complete article can be found at: [www.bit.ly/HtuGIX](http://www.bit.ly/HtuGIX). As part of his work in the FPB Development and Alumni Relations Office, Brandon Pach helped revamp FPB's Facebook page. Please visit [fpb.case.edu](http://fpb.case.edu) for a link to the Facebook page.

It's no secret that nursing is a predominantly female field. But Brandon Pach wants to change that.

An FPB junior, Mr. Pach is president of the Ohio Nursing Students' Association, a pre-professional association for nursing students. In this role, he heads up all Nursing Student Association chapters at colleges and universities all over the state and presides over meetings throughout the year. Before he gained the presidency, he served as the Breakthrough to Nursing director, where he helped recruit minorities, such as African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, non-traditional students, disadvantaged persons and—yes—men, into the profession and the organization.

After he earns his bachelor's degree, Mr. Pach hopes to earn a master's in flight nursing so he can work for a critical care transport team or life flight program. After all, the nursing school's flight nursing program is one of the main reasons he came to Case Western Reserve from his hometown of Nashua, N.H., in the first place.

## Undergraduates Celebrate at Nurses' Ball

Dressed in cocktail attire, nursing students and their dates, professors and faculty, as well as medical and law students, enjoyed an evening of entertainment with a jazz band, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts at the Undergraduate Student Nurses Association (USNA) Nurses' Ball on February 18 at the Havorka Atrium on campus. The annual event is held to encourage camaraderie among nurses, faculty, and other students on campus.



*The 2011-2012 FPB USNA board members who put on the nurses' ball: (top row, left to right) Erika Cheung, Kevin Shui, Elana Satin, Laura Schubert, Allison Luoma; (middle row) Tracy Ruska, Clare Fagerholm, Nicole Cornelius, Nicole Minjares; (bottom row) Karishma Patel, Kasey Filiater, Kate Lupica, Emily Orchard.*





*BSN student Darren Ting plays the cello for eighth graders as part of the Music and Heart Program he and other BSN students designed for part of their hands-on service learning.*

## Nursing Students Bring Music and Heart Program to Cleveland Youth

Darren Ting studied the cello for 13 years growing up in Millbrae, Calif. As a first-year FPB nursing student, he's combining his passion for music and nursing through a unique program he and fellow nursing students designed as part of their hands-on service learning.

Through the Music and Heart Program, Mr. Ting and several FPB students visited an eighth-grade music class in February at Miles at Cranwood School in Cleveland. On this particular visit, he played "Sarabande" from Bach's Cello Suite #1. When he finished, his fellow FPB students sprung into action, helping the eighth graders count their pulse.

The exercise was just one activity the nursing students designed for the Music and Heart Program. With more young people experiencing high blood pressure and obesity, the lesson promotes ways

to stay healthy. FPB students teach kids how to take their pulse, taking it at rest and then after listening to Mr. Ting's music to monitor any changes. They then do jumping jacks to monitor how exercise raises their heart rate. The nursing students also teach about the different parts of the heart.

Across the city at other Cleveland schools, nursing students are designing and teaching health programs to young people. Programs include lessons on nutrition, oral hygiene, and basic physiology. FPB students volunteer approximately 20,000 hours annually in programs throughout the school district.

## Senior Nursing Student Makes a Difference in Alaska

Senior "capstone" projects have FPB students applying what they've learned in real-world settings close to campus or around the globe. Senior Erika Cheung stayed in the United States for her capstone project, but found herself far from FPB and her hometown in Massachusetts. She spent 10 weeks last fall in the remote Alaskan tundra spearheading community efforts to combat sexually transmitted infections (STI) in the area's youth.

Alaska leads the nation in cases of chlamydia and gonorrhea, with more than half of these STI cases affecting patients ages 15 to 24. Ms. Cheung served at the Bethel Regional Public Health Center in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta area of Alaska, a region roughly the size of Oregon. The health center

serves the indigenous Yup'ik Eskimos and Athabascan Indians, with about 24,500 people living in the area's 50 small villages. Treating and preventing STIs is a priority of the health center.

Ms. Cheung developed a community needs assessment and met 22 community leaders at nearly a dozen agencies to assess community perceptions about STIs. She then organized a community meeting where representatives discussed implementing community-based prevention efforts to lower STI rates.

While Ms. Cheung could not stay to see the program through, she hopes other FPB students take advantage of the opportunity to travel for their senior projects and continue the work she began.

"I believe that this opportunity to go 'abroad' is unique and incredibly valuable," she said. "I hope others can come and build on the project."



*Senior Erika Cheung in the Alaskan tundra, where she spearheaded efforts to combat sexually transmitted infections.*

## Dual Doctorate Student Focuses on Bringing Mobile Health Care to Haiti

Bringing mobile health care to people in Haiti is a dream graduate student Monique Balthazar has as part of her dual doctorate program. She is working to create a mobile health clinic to reach inhabitants of the remote, mountainous areas of Haiti, as well as people in tent cities.

A student in the dual doctorate DNP/PhD program and a family nurse practitioner from Okemos, Mich., Ms. Balthazar visited Haiti last year. She saw a need to bring health care to people, rather than sick or injured people traveling for days to get care.

She proposed the mobile clinic idea to Haiti's Adventist University, soon learning there were many obstacles to overcome to realize her goal.

Most importantly, she needed nurses with advanced skills to staff the mobile clinic. Practitioners qualified to diagnose conditions are rare in Haiti. She is working with Adventist University to create a local advanced nursing degree program to train nurses to staff the mobile clinics.

Ms. Balthazar will design the curriculum and Adventist University faculty will sustain and administer the program on an ongoing basis. While she knows that the mobile unit will not solve all of Haiti's health care access problems, Ms. Balthazar remains hopeful that it might someday develop into a fleet of units unrestrained by location.



Second-year graduate student Monique Balthazar.

## BSN Roundup

### Service Learning Culminates in BSN Capstone Projects

Hands-on service learning is a key part of the FPB undergraduate education, which culminates in senior "capstone" projects. Senior students work in small groups to design and implement community health projects in Northeast Ohio and around the world. BSN students displayed their research with undergraduates from throughout CWRU at a Support of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors (SOURCE) Poster Session in December.

FPB undergraduates recognized at the event for their research included:

- First place—Annie Bosche, Laryssa Hess, Yang Liu, Chan Suk Park, and Pan She: "Achieving Cultural Competency to Improve the Delivery of Care to Students in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District."

- Second place—Emily Jasina, Jessica Nuhfer, Erica Pizzolato, and Evalyn Zimpelmann: "What's on YOUR Plate? Improving Healthy Food Choices and Nutritional Knowledge at CWRU Squire Valleevue Farm."

**Top:** Alyssa Fledderjohn and Joelle Roy (right) traveled to a community health center in the Qingshan district of Wuhan, China, to analyze the effects of traditional Chinese medicine on patients with both chronic and acute pain. Pictured is Ms. Roy explaining their project at the SOURCE Poster Session.

**Bottom:** BSN seniors Shayanna Jones, Emily Witte, Angel Ramos, and Jaimie Jurkowski completed their capstone project at the Gila River Indian Community in Sacaton, Arizona. They focused on the growing rate of MRSA among Gila River Reservation residents and using a one-on-one intervention to increase the understanding of MRSA along with methods to reduce its transmission throughout the community.



# Dean Mary Kerr Travels Far and Wide to Reach Out to FPB Alumni

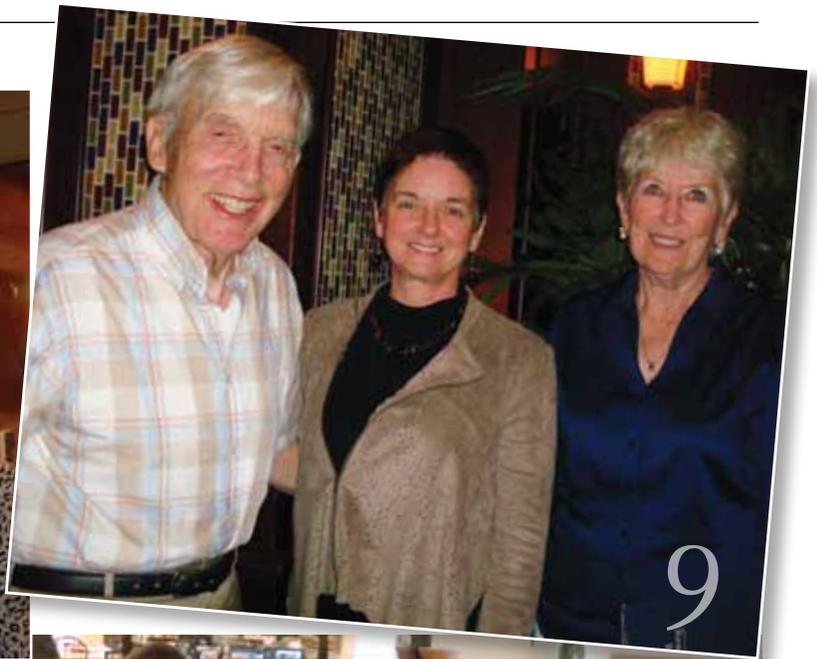
During her first year as dean, Mary Kerr, PhD '91, RN, FAAN, has made a point of meeting as many alumni around the world as she can. She has been racking up frequent flyer miles as she crisscrosses the country, from Florida to New York to California and places in between to meet with alumni to share her vision for FPB and invite alumni to be a part of making her vision a reality. She also traveled to Japan in February to present on the future of nursing at Aichi Medical University College of Nursing, where FPB helped establish the first graduate-level acute care nurse practitioner/flight nursing program in Asia. Pictured on these two pages are snapshots from some of Dean Kerr's far-reaching alumni visits.



**1.** Dean Kerr with Maureen Shekleton, MSN '73, near Chicago.  
**2.** Dean Kerr with Colette Pycha, MSN '84, in New York City.  
**3.** Ann Bernsdorf Andrew, BSN '57, and Dean Kerr near Chicago.

**4.** Alumni luncheon in St. Petersburg, Fla. From left are Patricia Gorzka, BSN '64; Nora Hennessy, FPB assistant dean for development & alumni relations; Andrea Efre, DNP '10; Cathy King, DNP '07; Dean Kerr; Paula Timoney, DNP '11; Arlene Guzik, DNP '08.  
**5.** Dean Kerr and Angeline Durso, MSN '56, near San Francisco.

**6.** Barbara Woodward Rahal, DN '49, Dean Kerr, and CWRU President Barbara Snyder in Chicago.  
**7.** Scott Ziehm, ND '87, hosted an alumni happy hour reception in San Francisco. Pictured left to right are Nora Hennessy, FPB assistant dean for development & alumni relations; Carolyn Bitner, BSN '74; Doug Stann; Dean Kerr; Patricia Hess, BSN '61; Susan Prion, BSN '79; Scott Ziehm.



**8.** Dean Kerr in New York City with Bill Garrison and George Ann Hughey-Garrison, MSN '65, BSN '63.

**9.** Dean Kerr with Tim and Joan Jenkins, BSN '56, near Naples, Florida.

**10.** Dean Kerr with Gloria Hilton, DNP '06, MSN '88, in Tampa, Florida.

**11.** Kristie Brandt, DNP '96, MSN '94, and her husband John hosted an alumni gathering at their home in Napa Valley, California. Pictured from left are Kristie Brandt; John Brandt; Betty Walther, BSN '50; Rosemarie Ousley, FPB assistant director of alumni relations; Nora Hennessy, FPB assistant dean for development & alumni relations.

**12.** Peggy Rafferty, DNP '09, and Dean Kerr in New York City.

**13.** Lori Neushotz, DNP '06, and Dean Kerr in New York City.

**14.** FPB friend Martha Jones and Dean Kerr in San Francisco.

## Reaching Out to Alumni Closer to Home



**Above:** FPB alumna Jean Fischer hosted the dean's reception on the west side of Cleveland at her home in Avon, Ohio, on January 19. Pictured are (front row) June Allen, MSN '75; Jean Fischer, DN '49; (back row) Judy Reeves, BSN '70; Karen Parker, MSN '84; Dean Kerr; Virginia Ward, BSN '70; Amy Raufman, FPB development director.

In addition to traveling around the country and internationally, Dean Mary Kerr has been meeting with FPB alumni in the Cleveland area every chance she can. In January, leadership alumni held three receptions around Cleveland to introduce her to Northeast Ohio alumni and other supporters, and learn how FPB is meeting national needs in nursing and preparing for the future. Dean Kerr told alumni, "FPB's legacy of leadership and innovation is more important than ever with the many challenges facing our health care system. In so many ways, FPB is already prepared for the challenge."



1. Dean Kerr with the host committee for the dean's reception in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. From left, Charlene Phelps, MSN '65; Dean Kerr; Nancy Gorenshek, MSN '69, BSN '65; Isabelle Boland, MSN '80.
2. Dean Kerr addresses alumni and other FPB supporters at a January 20 reception at Franklin Circle retirement community in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.
3. Bill Bolton (left) and Charles Bolton (grandsons of Frances Payne Bolton) with Dean Kerr at the dean's reception on campus January 18.
4. Alumni Board President Heather Schober, BSN '96, and the FPB Alumni Association Board hosted a reception for alumni to meet Dean Kerr on campus January 18.

*Guests enjoy live music and brief presentations from Dean Kerr, Provost Bud Baeslack, and Turning Point Society nursing student Leah Epstein, whose mother and grandmother are also FPB alumni (see page 35 for more information on legacy alumni and students).*



## Donors and Volunteers Enjoy Dean's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner Event

Dean Mary Kerr welcomed 67 leadership donors and volunteers on FPB's external committees to her and her husband Jack's home in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, on November 20, 2011 for the dean's annual Thanksgiving dinner. The special dinner is held to thank donors and volunteers for their invaluable service and support throughout the year.



*Dean Kerr visits with guests seated in three rooms on the first floor of her Cleveland Heights home.*



*Joyce Fitzpatrick, former dean and FPB honorary alumna, with Ellen Brzytwa, Nursing Capital Campaign co-chair, and Laura J. Nosek, PhD '86, MSN '81, BSN '61.*



*University Provost William "Bud" Baeslack addresses the crowd, explaining that FPB is an important part of CWRU's "Forward Thinking" strategic plan and campaign, which continue to be implemented.*



## Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends,

It has been a pleasure to serve as the president of the FPB Alumni Association for the 2011-2012 academic year. I have enjoyed being a part of the alumni association board for over four years. As I entered my year as president, the best way to describe the year was "The Year of Change." As Ralph Waldo Emerson stated, "For everything you have missed, you have gained something else, and for everything you gain, you lose something else." When some hear the word change, they may cringe, but I have truly embraced the changes that have occurred at the school over the last year.

The first change was that after more than 10 years, Dean May Wykle concluded her deanship. We are truly blessed to have had such a wonderful, strong, and renowned leader at FPB. With the departure of Dean Wykle, we had the pleasure of welcoming Mary Kerr back to her alma mater as the new dean and the inaugural holder of the May L. Wykle Endowed Professorship in Nursing. Dean Kerr has been a great supporter of the alumni association and has traveled all over the country this year to reach out to FPB alumni. With Dean Kerr's leadership, passion, and energy, she will continue to keep FPB among the elite nursing schools in the country.

The second change was that the traditional May nursing Alumni Celebration weekend was moved to October to coincide with CWRU's Alumni

Weekend. Although this was quite different than previous years, alumni enjoyed coming home to FPB in the fall. I want to encourage all classes to return for Alumni Weekend this September 27-30. And even if you are not celebrating a special reunion year, you don't have to miss out on a great weekend at your university.

Finally, the "change" that I want to suggest to my alumni friends is to change your involvement in our school of nursing. I know that not everyone can be a part of the alumni board, but I ask you to invest your time in encouraging a student to attend FPB or invest financially in giving a student an opportunity to attend such a great school of nursing. Also, please attend this year's Alumni Weekend to reconnect with FPB and with old friends.

I want to thank you for allowing me to give back by working to make positive changes for our alumni and students at the school of nursing. I am truly honored to be an alumna of FPB.

Sincerely and best wishes from your  
FPB Alumni Association Board,

Heather Bodnar Schober, BSN '96  
2011-12 Alumni Association Board  
President

## 2011 – 2012 FPB Alumni Association Board

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## Seven FPB Alumni Honored at American Academy of Nursing Conference

FPB is always well represented at the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) annual meeting and conference, and this year's 38th annual conference in Washington, D.C., in mid-October was no exception. During the conference, Dean Mary Kerr hosted the annual FPB luncheon for 44 alumni and friends to recognize seven alumni and one FPB partner who were honored by the AAN. May L. Wykle, MSN '69, BSN '62, FPB Distinguished Alumna '86, Marvin E. and Ruth Durr Denekas Professor, and former dean, was named an AAN Living Legend, which is the AAN's highest recognition of nursing lifetime achievement. She joins 11 other FPB alumni who have been named AAN Living Legends since the AAN established the recognition in 1994.

*Inducted as 2011 AAN fellows were (standing) Margaret Fitzgerald, DNP '06; Karen D'Apolito, MSN '81; Carol Thompson, PhD '89; Moreen Donahue, DNP '05, MSN '05; FPB partner Kathy Gallo; Ellen J. Hahn, BSN '75; and Teresa Kelechi, MSN '84. Also pictured (seated) is the newest AAN Living Legend May Wykle with Dean Mary Kerr.*



*50th reunion alumnae  
Prudence Cooper Holtman  
and Virginia Brendlan at  
Alumni Weekend 2011.*

# Alumni Weekend 2011

## **Alumni Return to Campus to Reunite and Reconnect**

For two days in October, alumni came back to campus to reunite and reconnect with old friends, and make new friends during FPB's Alumni Weekend 2011. The weekend was held in collaboration with the CWRU Alumni Weekend, which provided additional opportunities for campus-wide learning and engagement.

*On Friday evening, alumni and guests enjoyed a spread of hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and drinks at the Welcome Back reception.*





Campus events on Friday, October 14, included an all-CWRU alumni luncheon, a presentation by *New York Times* bestselling author and CWRU alumnus Richard North Patterson, and a forum on urban health with students who founded the CWRU Student-Run Free Clinic, including Alyssa Wagner, who is an FPB MN student and the clinical director of the free clinic.

Nursing events began on the evening of October 14 at FPB with an educational seminar on quality and safety in nursing, followed by a welcome back reception and tours. Saturday's campus-wide events included a CWRU alumni weekend breakfast, homecoming parade, and homecoming football game. Saturday's nursing events included tours and discussions of the collaborative work between FPB and the school of medicine at the Student-Run Free Clinic, and the highlight of the weekend—the FPB Alumni and Reunion Dinner.

**Left:** Class of 1961 alumnae Eloise Clawson, Marjorie Rott, and Sandra Fogel look at the FPB doll case, which shows the evolution of nursing uniforms since 1890.



### Continuing Education

Alumni not only came back to campus for the weekend, they also came back to school. More than 40 alumni and guests attended Friday evening's educational seminar, "Quality and Safety in Nursing," presented by FPB Assistant Professor Mary Dolansky, PhD '01, RN. Dr. Dolansky discussed nursing quality and safety, and the ways in which FPB prepares future nurses to continually improve quality and safety in health care systems. Dr. Dolansky is a senior fellow in the Veterans Affairs Quality Scholars Program, mentoring pre and post-doctoral students in quality and safety, and she is also a Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) consultant.

*Alumni went back to class at FPB for a continuing education seminar.*



**Above:** Reunion alumni, recipients of alumni awards, and alumni board members mingled during the Friday evening reception.

### Welcome Back

Alumni and guests filled the first floor lounge at FPB for a casual Friday evening welcome back reception where they mingled with classmates, students, and FPB faculty. Jeanne Eesley Kamiab, BSN '66, who was celebrating her 45th reunion, said she came to Friday's events to see old friends and to learn what's new in nursing. Along with the social event, alumni and guests toured University Hospital's new Seidman Cancer Center. The tour was led by Wendy Rowehl Miano, MSN '93, ND '84, chief nursing officer of the cancer center. BSN students also led tours of the FPB Nursing Learning Resource Center lab.



*On Saturday evening, alumni and guests filled the Tudor Ball Room for the Alumni Reunion Dinner held at the Doubletree by Hilton Tudor Arms Hotel.*



**Class of 1961, 50th Reunion Attendees**

**Front row:** Sandra Fogel, Gladys Satterthwait Trzcinski, Adele McComas-White, Margaret Wills, Laura John Nosek

**Middle row:** Marjorie Cooper Geho, Grace Brenaman Znameroski, Kathleen Conwell Hughes, Marjorie Ann Rott, Sue Moore

**Back row:** Anne Hogren Woodson, Joan Sheridan Jameson, Suzanne C. Hullfish, Rosemary Hyslop, Sue Irvin, Eloise Beadles Clawson

## Together Again

The alumni reunion and dinner on Saturday, October 15, proved to be the highlight of the weekend, drawing attendees from 14 states to the ballroom of the newly renovated Doubletree by Hilton Tudor Arms Hotel near campus. Attendees enjoyed socializing, viewing their class photos from graduation, reminiscing, and catching up before dinner.

The class of 1961 drew 16 classmates to celebrate its milestone 50th reunion. Marjorie Cooper Geho, BSN '61, said every five years she looks forward to her reunion. "We lived together and

studied together. We were like a family. It is a blessing to visit with everyone who returned for our 50th."

Audrey Smith, MSN '72, BSN '60, attended her 50th reunion in 2010, but wanted to see friends from the class of 1961. "I had a wonderful time at my 50th reunion. I had many friends in the dorm who were a year younger, so I wanted to come back to see them."

Valeria Tursi, DN '49, had not been back to campus since graduating 62 years earlier. She came to FPB in 1945, just after the end of World War II. Her decision to attend FPB Alumni Weekend

influenced several of her classmates to also participate, including Barbara Rahal, DN '49, who came from Chicago to be with Mrs. Tursi, and Cleveland area classmates Jean Reese Fischer and Dorothy Sosinski.

Virginia Rust Brendlen, BSN '66, came from Durham, North Carolina, to attend her first reunion 45 years after graduation. She is retired now and has more free time, so she plans to come back to her 50th reunion in 2016. "Seeing the area again and seeing how people are has been fun," she said.



Following dinner, Dean Mary Kerr, PhD '91, greeted alumni and guests, and thanked them for attending. It was both her 20th reunion and her first FPB Alumni Weekend as dean. She said, "I am honored to be at the helm of FPB. Seeing all of you here today fills my heart with pride and gratitude for your loyalty as alumni, donors, and friends of our school."

The alumni and reunion dinner also featured the 2011 Alumni Association Awards, presented to three outstanding alumni (see pages 23-25). Several reunion classes gathered informally to celebrate on their own following dinner, as well as at local restaurants on Friday evening.

**Top:** Dean Kerr gave a special toast to the members of the Grand Classes (all alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago) after the Alumni Reunion Dinner.

**Bottom:** Alumni board member Julia (Judge) Golden, BSN '09, presided over the Alumni Reunion Dinner.



## Turning the Clock Back to 1961

When Marjorie Cooper Geho, BSN '61, graduated from FPB, Claud Foster was the name of a dormitory, not a park. John F. Kennedy had just become president, gas cost 30 cents per gallon, and general duty nurses earned about \$5,000 a year. Mrs. Geho and 15 others from the class of 1961 took a step back in time when they returned to campus in October 2011 to celebrate their 50th reunion, reconnecting and sharing warm memories from their years at FPB. Here are some other notable milestones from their graduation year:

- Average cost of a new home = \$12,500
- Average cost of a new car = \$2,850
- Cost of a first-class stamp = 4 cents
- Ticket to a movie = 50 cents
- *The Apartment* wins an Oscar for best picture
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* wins a Pulitzer Prize
- Alan Shepard becomes the first U.S. astronaut in space
- East Germany erects the Berlin Wall

*After graduating 62 years ago, Valeria Schoener Tursi returned to FPB with her daughters to spend time with some of her classmates. From left: Melora Gaber, Valeria Schoener Tursi, DN '49, Jean Rees Fischer, DN '49, and Kisi Thompson.*



"No distance of place or lapse of time can lessen the friendship of those who are thoroughly persuaded of each other's worth."

- Robert Southey



*Alumni Board members Patricia Marin, DNP '09, MSN '97, Deborah Pajer Rorick, MSN '89, BSN '80, and Audrey Smith, MSN '72, BSN '60, were part of the Alumni Weekend 2011 Committee.*



**Above:** Class of 1966, 45th Reunion Attendees  
 Prudence Cooper Holtman, Barbara Duda Zebo,  
 Jeanne Kamiab, Sally Maeder Finet, Gwen Etter  
 Chute, Linda Rittenour Burns, Virginia Rust  
 Brendlen, Janet Mandell Miller.

**Below:** Mary Ann Thurkettle and Mary Maxse  
 Bieber celebrated their 40th reunion as  
 members of the Class of 1971.



President's Award recipient Rachel A. Freeman, MSN '89 (front and center), was joined by many family members, fellow alumni, and friends as she received her 2012 Alumni Association President's Award on Saturday evening.

## ALUMNI WEEKEND

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*A group of 1986 25th reunion alumni: Barbara Vigh Lowery, Phyllis Gaspar, and Laura John Nosek.*



*Class of 1981 30th reunion alumni included Ann Farmer, Laura John Nosek, and Marie Namey.*



**Above:** Kathy Wright and Dean Kerr were Class of 1991 20th reunion alumni.



**Above:** Victoria Daus, ND '96 (right), returned to FPB from Joplin, Missouri, with daughter Haley Daus (left) to celebrate her 15th reunion.



**Left:** BSN 2012 seniors Elisabeth Maher and Sarah Christman enjoyed the festivities with alumni.

## Distinguished Alumna

### Mary Beth Happ, PhD, MSN '88, RN, FAAN

**The Distinguished Alumna Award is the highest honor given by the FPB Alumni Association to an alumna/us who has demonstrated continuous, outstanding, creative, and exemplary contributions to the discipline of nursing or to health care.**

Dr. Mary Beth Happ is a professor of nursing in Critical Care Medicine and in the Center for Bioethics and Health Law at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Health System Chair in Nursing Science. She received a BSN at Ursuline College (1981) and an MSN from FPB (1988). She completed a PhD (1998) and a post-doctoral research fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania. She has been on the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh since 2000.

Dr. Happ's program of research focuses on understanding and improving communication with seriously ill hospitalized adults who are unable to speak. She has conducted studies of prolonged mechanical ventilation in the ICU, interventions to improve patient communication, treatment decision making, and symptom communication in the ICU. She led a multi-disciplinary research team in the development and testing of the SPEACS intervention (Study of Patient-Nurse Effectiveness with Assisted Communication Strategies) to improve communication between nurses and mechanically ventilated ICU patients. And, she is currently leading the SPEACS-2 project, a translational study funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to test the impact of a quality improvement program delivered to ICUs on patient communication and care quality. A companion study funded by the Greenwall Foundation Kornfeld

Program on Bioethics and Patient Care is exploring the impact of the SPEACS-2 program on patient involvement in treatment decision making in the ICU. In addition, Dr. Happ is co-investigator on an NCI-sponsored study of Palliative Care for Hospitalized Cancer Patients.

She has received 15 years of continuous research funding from the National Institutes of Health, and from professional and philanthropic foundations. She has authored more than 100 journal articles and editorials, and published abstracts and book chapters on nurse-patient communication, treatment decision making, end-of-life care, family presence in the ICU, and geriatric critical care. She is an expert in qualitative and mixed methods research, and has published and presented internationally on research methodology.

Dr. Happ is a member of the American Academy of Nursing's Expert Panel on Critical Care, and she serves on the editorial board of *Heart and Lung: The Journal of Acute and Critical Care*, and as a feature contributor to *Geriatric Nursing's* "Acute Care of the Elderly" columns. She is also an active member of several other nursing and interdisciplinary professional associations, including the American

Association of Critical Care Nurses, the American Thoracic Society, and the Gerontological Society of America. At the University of Pittsburgh, she participates as faculty in the Institute to Enhance Palliative Care and serves on the board of directors for the University of Pittsburgh Institute on Aging.

Dr. Happ is an outstanding educator and scientist whose research focuses on improving decision-making in critically ill, non-speaking patients. She is internationally recognized for her expertise in the use of mixed methods design, incorporating both quantitative and qualitative approaches.

In accepting the award, Dr. Happ said, "I am truly honored and grateful for this award. It is the FPB faculty and alumni who shaped me as a nurse and

educator. It was not until I left FPB that I fully understood the importance of my education. FPB is in good hands with Dean Kerr and nursing has a bright future."



Mary Beth Happ, PhD, MSN '88, RN, FAAN

## Award for Excellence Abir Bekhet, PhD '07, RN, HSMI

The Award for Excellence recognizes an alumna/us who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and achievement in nursing, and has made significant contributions in nursing or related areas of health care.

Dr. Abir Bekhet is an assistant professor at Marquette University, College of Nursing. She received her BSN (1991) and MSN (1997) with honors from Alexandria University in Egypt, and her PhD from FPB in 2007. A psychiatric nurse, she has had extensive clinical experience with persons with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder,

and depressive disorder. After receiving her PhD, Dr. Bekhet returned to Alexandria University to serve as a nursing faculty member. She taught clinical and theoretical psychiatric mental health nursing to undergraduate students, before moving to Marquette University. She also continued to collaborate on various research projects and publications with her FPB mentor, Dr. Jaclene Zauszniewski, PhD '92, MSN '89, and with other faculty members of CWRU.

Dr. Bekhet's research focuses on the effects of positive cognitions and resourcefulness in overcoming adversity. She has worked with numerous populations, including older adults who relocated to retirement communities, caregivers of persons with mental illness, caregivers of persons with dementia, and more recently, caregivers of persons with autism. Her studies have consistently focused on "positive concepts," or strengths, resilience, and assets of individuals, rather than shortcomings, deficits, and disorders.

During the past few years, she has presented her research in more than 40 papers/posters at local, regional, national, and international nursing conferences. She has been recognized for her work with many prestigious research awards, both in the United States and overseas. While an FPB graduate student, she was awarded first place for two research presentations, one from the Midwest Nursing Research Society in 2003, and another from the International Society of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurses in 2005.

She was awarded first place at CWRU's Research Show Case in 2007 for her study, "Milieu Change and Relocation Adjustment in Elders." In 2008, her research received the *Western Journal of Nursing Research*/Midwest Nursing Research Society's Outstanding

Graduate Student Manuscript Award. Of her 29 publications (25 in print and four in press), two have been recognized as outstanding papers by the *Western Journal of Nursing Research*. Her research has been funded by Sigma Theta Tau International and the American Psychiatric Nursing Foundation.

Dr. Bekhet recently completed a pilot intervention study based on descriptive findings from her dissertation, which showed that learned resourcefulness moderated the effects of relocation controllability on relocation adjustment. In the pilot study, she measured the effects of a resourcefulness training intervention on relocation adjustment and adaptive functioning among relocated older adults. She plans to use the findings from this pilot as the foundation for a larger clinical trial. In addition, she is currently conducting studies that are testing interventions to teach resourcefulness skills and support positive cognitions in two other high-risk and vulnerable populations—caregivers of persons with dementia and caregivers of persons with autism. The two studies are funded by the American Psychiatric Nurses Foundation (APNF) and a Regular Research Grant (RRG) Award from Marquette University.

Dr. Bekhet received the Award for Excellence in recognition of her significant contributions to mental health nursing through research, dissemination of findings, and teaching focusing the use of positive cognitions, resourcefulness, and resilience in overcoming adversity in vulnerable populations.

In her acceptance speech, she said that she was honored to receive the award and looked back fondly on her time at FPB. "It is amazing to come back and see my friends. I had many amazing experiences and was so fortunate to be educated at FPB. I am so proud to be a nurse," she added.



Abir Bekhet, PhD '07, RN, HSMI

## President's Award Rachel Atkins Freeman, MSN '89, RN

The President's Award recognizes an alumna/us whom the president of the alumni association and awards committee have selected for exceptional service to nursing or various unique efforts, often at the grass-roots level, that benefit nursing.

After receiving her diploma in 1968 from Obion County General Hospital in Tennessee, Rachel Atkins Freeman began her nursing career as a licensed practical nurse. When she moved to Cleveland a few years later, she enrolled at Cuyahoga Community College and earned an associate degree in nursing (1973). Ms. Freeman then worked at St. Luke's Hospital in Cleveland on medical surgical units for six years and in the emergency department for 10 years. There, she helped write protocols for major accident cases, and has maintained Advanced Cardiac Life Support certification for many years.

Ms. Freeman received a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1983 from the University of Akron. She then returned to Cuyahoga Community College to work as a part-time nursing instructor while also holding a nursing supervisor position at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center.

Since 2003, Ms. Freeman has been a nurse consultant and educator. She is also the author of a proposal for a licensed practical nurse (LPN) program that was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor and the Cleveland Job Corps. The LPN program was aimed at assisting underprivileged young adult men and women who wanted a nursing career but could not afford college tuition. After much effort and several revisions of the proposal, her hard work paid off when the Ohio Board of Nursing approved the program in 2007. She then implemented the LPN program after accepting the position as its director of nursing. Because of Ms. Freeman's tireless dedication, several classes of LPN students have graduated and obtained LPN certifications since 2008.

Ms. Freeman is a longtime member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, and is a past board



Rachel Atkins Freeman, MSN '89, RN

A nurse for 43 years, Ms. Freeman said she loves the profession that she has devoted her life to. She works tirelessly

**“The professors taught me that nothing comes easy, but it's worth it.”**

While in her part-time nursing positions, Ms. Freeman continued her nursing education, receiving an MSN from FPB in 1989, with a specialization in gerontology and mental health. She then became a clinical nurse specialist and met the requirements for a Certificate of Authority. Beginning in 1986, she served as a nurse manager and a nursing supervisor for the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VA) and she worked with the VA Quality Management Team for 13 years. She retired from the VA in 2001.

member of the FPB Alumni Association. She continues to serve as a board member for the Cleveland Council of Black Nurses, where she has held such leadership positions as president, vice president and secretary. She is a current member of Chi Eta Phi Professional Nursing Sorority Nu Chi Chapter, and is second vice president of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Gamma Delta Zeta Chapter. Ms. Freeman is a member of several community organizations, including First Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

at the grass-roots level to improve community health through leadership in nursing organizations and through efforts to promote nursing as a profession to underprivileged women and men. In accepting her honor, she said she was surprised to be chosen. “I let out a big, long yell.” She also praised both FPB and May Wykle, former FPB dean. “The professors taught me that nothing comes easy, but it's worth it. My nursing career was shaped by very talented people. May Wykle remains my mentor and friend. Many people say that we look alike, and that's a good thing.”



*The class of 1961 won the reunion challenge with the highest participation rate of any class. Pictured are several members of the class of 1961 with Dean Mary Kerr.*

## Class of 1961 Leads the Pack in Giving

Reuniting and having fun are the main focus of Alumni Weekend, but there's also room for some friendly competition. Each year, the FPB Reunion Challenge encourages classes to commemorate their special reunion year by making a class gift to FPB.

The class of 1961 commemorated its 50th reunion with the highest participation rate of any class in the Reunion Challenge at 59 percent. The class of 1951 came in second, commemorating its 60th reunion with a participation rate of 53 percent.

The class of 1966 finished in third place with 49 percent participation. The 2011 Reunion Challenge raised a total of \$131,172.52 from all classes.

All individual gifts made by classmates during the class reunion year are counted toward the class gift. Gifts can be made to the FPB Annual Fund or designated for any purpose that a person chooses. Contributions may be made outright, via pledges, or planned gifts. Congratulations to the class of 1961, and thank you to everyone who honored their class by contributing.



*Class of 1961 Reunion Representatives Marjorie Cooper Geho, Kathleen Conwell Hughes, and Sue Moore presented a check to Dean Kerr as their 50th reunion class gift to FPB.*

## The 2012 Reunion Challenge Is On!

Help your 2012 reunion class meet the challenge! All annual fund and special reunion gifts received or committed from July 1, 2011, through December 31, 2012, count toward your class' participation and total giving results. The classes in the lead will be announced at this year's Alumni Reunion Luncheon in September. Be a part of the success of your class. Call Amy Raufman in the FPB Development Office for more information at (216) 368-6324 or email [amy.raufman@cwru.edu](mailto:amy.raufman@cwru.edu).



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75	\$1,450	\$10,465
80	\$1,700	\$11,828
85	\$1,950	\$13,653

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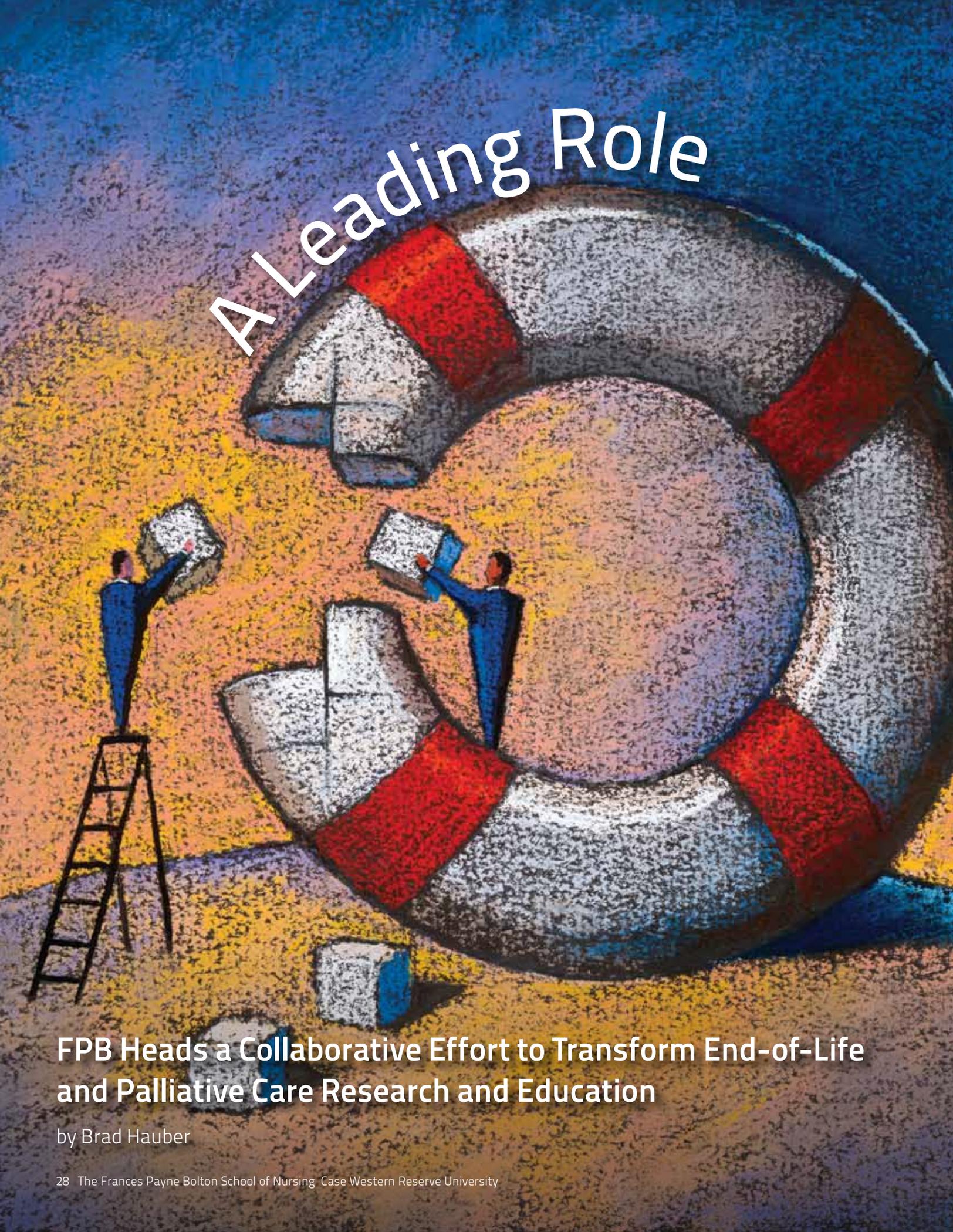
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# A Leading Role



**FPB Heads a Collaborative Effort to Transform End-of-Life and Palliative Care Research and Education**

by Brad Hauber

With an extensive background in hospice and palliative care, Assistant Professor Maryjo Prince-Paul, PhD '07, MSN '96, APRN, ACHPN, FPCN, has a national reputation as an end-of-life expert, which puts her in demand to sit on dissertation and thesis committees.

"Anthropology, sociology, psychology, medical, and other students would call and ask, 'We heard you're the death and dying person. Can you sit on my committee?'" she said. She began to see a pattern in the calls from students. "I kept a list of the situations and discovered there was a lot of overlap in coursework among these various disciplines, but we were all working in silos," said Dr. Prince-Paul.

She recognized a need to bridge the gaps among researchers and educators around campus who deal with various aspects of death, dying, and end-of-life care, and began contacting others at CWRU to make connections, such as

Dr. Julie Exline in the CWRU Department of Psychological Sciences, who had done research on anger and forgiveness at the end of life. She also contacted Professor Jim Sheeler in the CWRU English Department, who won the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing for his 24-page piece, "Final Salute," which honored fallen soldiers from the Iraq War and provided a stark illustration of the war's impact on their families and friends.

Through her work as a research associate and advanced practice nurse for the Hospice of the Western Reserve, Dr. Prince-Paul also recognized a need to bridge even wider gaps throughout the community.

"Many people, mainly from the spiritual-care community, would call the Hospice of the Western Reserve to ask how to speak to critically ill patients. They didn't have the knowledge base or confidence to help, so they would ask hospice," she said.

### PEARL Emerges

Dr. Prince-Paul's observations led her to organize a meeting of professors, hospital administrators, clinicians, and staff of other hospices to examine existing resources and determine

if there were ways to combine them. The initial meeting led to monthly meetings and the formation of the PEARL Collaborative (Palliative care Education And Research Leadership) in 2008. Members include CWRU faculty from the schools of nursing, social work, medicine, psychology, anthropology, and English, plus clinical staff from University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Metro Health Medical Center, and Hospice of the Western Reserve.

The PEARL Collaborative is an interdisciplinary group of scholars, researchers, educators, and clinicians collaborating to improve the care of the seriously ill and their families



*The PEARL (Palliative care Education And Research Leadership) Collaborative, which is part of a new center of excellence, is an interdisciplinary group of scholars, researchers, educators, and clinicians collaborating to improve the care of the seriously ill and their families.*

through education, research, and clinical care. The timing has proven to be right.

PEARL participants structured an interdisciplinary graduate course in 2009 on "The Challenge of Suffering: Meaning, Responses, and Potential for Growth," which has been popular among students in nursing, medicine, psychology, anthropology, and bioethics.

The PEARL Collaborative was the foundation for a three-year grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research/

## What is Palliative Care?

Palliative care is a specialized area of health care that focuses on relieving and preventing the suffering of patients, while also helping them and their families cope with difficult decisions and live better. It is appropriate for patients in all disease stages, including those undergoing treatment for curable illnesses and those living with chronic diseases, as well as those who are nearing the end of life. Palliative care uses a team of palliative care professionals (physicians, nurses, social workers, pastors, pharmacists, psychologists, and more) who work with the treating physicians. Palliative care has been shown to significantly improve quality of life for seriously ill patients and their families, reduce overall health care costs, and in many instances, even extend length of life for patients. Although the concept of palliative care is not new, only recently have hospitals and other health care organizations begun formalizing palliative care programs.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 2009 to create the BEST Center, which stands for Building End-of-life Science through Positive Human Strengths and Traits. The BEST Center was created to shift the direction of quality of life research—moving beyond studies designed to relieve suffering, to studies designed to identify and build on the positive psychological strengths and traits of people facing life-limiting illness. (For more information about one BEST Center study, please see the sidebar about quality of life discussions for ICU patients on page 31.)

Barbara Daly, PhD, MSN '72, RN, FAAN, The Gertrude Perkins Oliva Professor in Oncology Nursing and clinical ethics director at University Hospitals, is the principal investigator for the BEST Center. Co-investigators are from the Department of Psychology, the Center for Health Care Research and Policy, and the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

In 2010, the BEST Center and the PEARL Collaborative joined forces with the Hospice of the Western Reserve to hold a symposium on bridging the art and science of pastoral and spiritual care in advanced illness, and provide

information to caregivers to guide their practice. “We were hoping to have 50 spiritual care providers, nurses, social workers, and other health care professionals attend. The response was so big, we had to change the venue because we had nearly 150 people attend,” said Dr. Daly.

The symposium confirmed the need for collaboration, continuing research, and education. “Even with well established palliative care programs in place in Northeast Ohio, there was no formal structure for collaboration among them,” said Dr. Prince-Paul. “We knew the need was there and would only grow with an aging population. There is ample evidence of a lack of understanding among the public regarding the importance of advance care planning and care options available when dealing with serious and terminal illnesses.”

### Extending Excellence

Led by Dr. Prince-Paul, CWRU is partnering with the Hospice of the Western Reserve (HWR) to develop a new collaborative center of excellence, known as the Center for Palliative Care Research, Education, and Practice. The new center will combine HWR’s nationally recognized hospice and palliative care expertise with the research and academic expertise of CWRU, including building upon the success of PEARL and the BEST Center.

The mission of the new center is to improve the care of people with advanced disease and help their families through education, research, and collaboration. The goal is to serve as a transdisciplinary center where health care providers, scholars, spiritual care providers, and community leaders come together to develop knowledge and programs to ensure Northeast Ohio residents have access to the highest quality of palliative care when facing serious or life-limiting illness. The center will also provide spiritual care resources to help guide health care decisions, educate young

## Taking a Transdisciplinary Approach



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clinicians so they are better prepared for palliative care, and continue to advance the science of end-of-life care through research.

Currently, there are no formal collaborations between organizations involved with palliative care in the Cleveland area, making the center unique in Northeast Ohio. Dr. Prince-Paul estimates that there are fewer than 15 institutes and centers promoting palliative care in the United States, and none have a spiritual hub. "We will be unique when fully implemented," she said.

Although the National Institutes of Health recognizes the National Institute of Nursing Research as the lead institution for palliative and end of life research, Dr. Daly noted, "It's safe to say we are the only nursing school doing a collaborative like this. It's innovative for a school of nursing to take on a prominent role in this area."

The group received a \$25,000 grant from the O'Neill Foundation to do long-term planning and strategic development, and is working with a consultant to assess the current environment and community needs.

The group is also developing operating procedures so it can begin reaching out to funders.

"We must continue to develop expertise in supporting decision making, relieving suffering, and improving quality of life for those with advanced illness through our collaborative efforts," said Dr. Prince-Paul.

"Human connection is important. Ultimately, we would like to have an actual location to hold national forums, provide resources, and house a library," said Dr. Prince-Paul. "We want to be the Mecca of end-of-life and palliative care research and education."

## FPB study finds quality-of-life discussions are important for ICU patients

A new study from two FPB professors emphasizes the importance of having discussions about quality of life before becoming critically ill. Barbara Daly, PhD, MSN '72, RN, FAAN, the Gertrude Perkins Oliva Professor in Oncology Nursing, and Associate Professor Sara Douglas, PhD, CRNP (Cert '98), led a research team that observed, taped, and analyzed discussions from 116 family meetings, which took place in five intensive care units (ICUs) at University Hospitals Case Medical Center and MetroHealth Medical Center.

The family meetings were all for patients who had ICU stays greater than five days, which usually means the patients are too ill to be involved in discussions about their care. Care decisions then become the responsibility of family, which can be difficult without information about what aspects of quality of life are important to the patient.

Findings from the study, which was funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research, were reported in an article in *Critical Care Medicine*, "Neglect of quality-of-life considerations in intensive care unit family meetings for long-stay intensive care unit patients." Drs. Daly and Douglas found that patient treatment preferences and the type of life the patient wanted after a long stay in intensive care often were missing in many medical team and family discussions.

"Don't confuse quality-of-life discussions with end-of-life discussions," said Dr. Douglas. "This is about the kind of life patients look forward to when they leave the ICU, and whether aggressive medical treatments will give them that kind of life."

The researchers found that during most meetings with family members, little time was spent discussing what the patient might want or what was important in a patient's life.

Drs. Daly and Douglas concluded that every family decision maker should have an opportunity to discuss the quality of life the patient would want if he/she recovered from the critical event. The best way to make appropriate treatment decisions, they said, is to know the patient's wishes before he or she becomes ill.

One unexpected result of the study was a practice change in the ICUs. "Several of the ICUs involved in the study began having regular family meetings, which they were not doing before. We were pleased that the study had an influence on unit culture," said Dr. Daly.

### Additional Quality-of-Life Studies

Dr. Daly is building on the quality-of-life study in a new research project funded by the National Institutes of Health that focuses on long-term ICU patients and the dynamics of decision making between their families, physicians, nurses and others. Dr. Daly and her team are interviewing participants every five days to gather in-depth information. They will then analyze the data to determine how factors such as demographics, religion, prior experiences, etc., affect decision making. The goal is to include 300 patients and their families in the study.

"There have been a number of studies across the country about when to limit the use of aggressive technology and focus on quality of life, but none this comprehensive," said Dr. Daly. "Medical interventions allow us to prolong life much longer, but this is often accompanied by great burdens. We'll analyze these data to determine how these complex decisions are made and identify ways we can be more helpful to families faced with such decisions."

## Faculty Awards and Honors

**Margaret Bobonich, DNP '10, MSN '00, FNP-C, DCNP, FAANP**, instructor, received a Customer Service Award from the Dermatology Nurses' Association.



**Celeste M. Alfes, DNP '10, RN**, assistant professor and director of the Learning Resource Center, was selected for the year-long Leadership Development Program for

Simulation Educators by the National League for Nursing.

**Barbara Daly, PhD, MSN '72, BSN, RN, FAAN**, Gertrude Perkins Oliva Professor in Oncology Nursing, received an R01 grant totaling \$812,682 for her research project, "Mapping the Complexity of End-of-Life Transitions in Chronically Critically Ill." The grant is from the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

**Joyce J. Fitzpatrick, PhD, EMBA, RN, FAAN**, Elizabeth Brooks Ford Professor of Nursing and FPB honorary alumna, has been awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Frontier Nursing University. She also attended research day at the Mt. Sinai Hospital Center for Nursing Research and Education in December, along with many DNP alumni and students.

**Mary Quinn Griffin, PhD '01, MSN '93, RN**, associate professor, received the No. 3 Book of the Year award for 2011 from *The American Journal of Nursing* for her nursing education textbook, *A Nuts-and-Bolts Approach to Teaching Nursing*.

**Ronald Hickman, PhD '08, MSN '06, RN, ACNP-BC**, assistant professor, received the 2012 Acute Care Research Section New Investigator Award from the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS).

**Marcella Hovancsek, MSN '81, BSN '75, RN**, instructor, was nominated for the J. Bruce Jackson, MD Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Mentoring.

**Katherine Jones, PhD, RN, FAAN**, Sarah Cole Hirsh Professor of Nursing, received the Outstanding Manuscript Reviewer Award by *The Gerontologist*.

**Sandra Jorgensen, MSN '95, CNP**, instructor, received the 2012 Nurse Practitioner State Award for Excellence from the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.



**Evanne Juratovac, PhD '09, MSN '88, RN, GCNS-BC**, assistant professor, authored two chapters in a new text, *Case Studies in Gerontological Nursing for the Advanced Practice Nurse* (by Kazer and Neal-Boylan). Her chapters were about atypical presentation of depression in the elderly and about family caregiver health promotion.

**Shirley M. Moore, PhD '93, MSN '91, RN, FAAN**, Edward J. and Louise Mellen Professor of Nursing and associate dean for research, received the Best Abstract Award from the Council on Cardiovascular Nursing of the American Heart Association.

**Melissa D. Pinto, PhD, BSN, RN**, instructor, received the 2012 New Investigator Award from the Adolescent Health Research Section of the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS).

**MaryJo Prince-Paul, PhD '07, MSN '96, APRN, ACHPN, FPCN**, assistant professor, received a capacity building grant for the Center for Community Partnerships in Palliative and End-of-Life Care from The William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation.

**Andrew P. Reimer, PhD '10, BSN '04, RN**, instructor, received \$10,704 in funding for his project, "Assessment of Patients' Exposure to Transport," from MedEvac Foundation International.



**Valerie Toly, PhD '09, MSN '90, RN, CPNP**, assistant professor, received the 2012 New Researcher Award of Excellence from the Society of Pediatric Nurses.

**Patricia Underwood, PhD, RN, FAAN**, associate professor, received a 2011 Scholarship in Teaching Award for Collaboration at the Level of the Schools, from the Scholarship in Teaching Awards Committee, CWRU School of Medicine.

**Camille Warner, PhD**, assistant professor, was selected as a Learning Fellow from the University Center for Innovation in Technology and Education (UCITE) at CWRU.

**Ann S. Williams, MSN '86, BSN '80**, research associate, presented a research report at the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) meeting in Dubai on Dec. 7. The presentation was based on her IDF-funded research project, "Nonvisual Foot Inspection for People with Visual Impairment." Her technique helps people with visual impairments and diabetes check their feet, using a systematic method that includes use of their hands, the sense of touch and the sense of smell.

**Chris Winkelman, PhD '99, RN, CCRN, ACNP, FCCM**, associate professor, was elected a fellow in critical care medicine by the American College of Critical Care Medicine.

**May L. Wykle, PhD, MSN '69, BSN '62, RN, FAAN, FGSA**, Marvin E. and Ruth Durr Denekas Professor, received the Joseph C. Valley, Sr. Award for Outstanding and Enduring Gerontological Professional of the Year from the University of Texas.

**Jaclene A. Zauszniewski, PhD '92, MSN '89, RN-BC, FAAN**, associate dean for doctoral education, Kate Hanna Harvey Professor in Community Health Nursing, and PhD Program director, has been appointed to the subcommittee of the Hildegard Peplau Award by the American Nurses Association. She also received the Research Award from the International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses (ISPN).

## Student & Staff Awards and Honors

**Beth Faiman, MSN, CNP**, PhD student, was selected as the recipient of the 2012 Excellence in Medical Oncology Award by the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS).



**Tamara McKinnon, DNP student, and Joyce J. Fitzpatrick, PhD, EMBA, RN, FAAN**, Elizabeth Brooks Ford Professor of Nursing and FPB honorary alumna, recently attended a book signing for their new book, *Global Service-Learning in Nursing*. A significant contribution to global nursing education, the book provides clear, in-depth perspectives on global service-learning and is published by the National League for Nursing.

**Brendon Bower**, BSN student, was named Council of School Leaders director by the Ohio Nursing Students' Association Board of Directors.

**Erin J. Ross, MS, APRN, CNP, CORLN**, DNP student and FPB clinical instructor, was elected vice president of both the Society of Otorhinolaryngology & Head-Neck Nurses (SOHN) and the SOHN Greater Cleveland Area Chapter.



**Sara Taylor, RN**, MSN student, was awarded a scholarship by the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program.

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# CLASS NOTES

The Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing has a world-renowned reputation for nursing education, which our stellar alumni exemplify. The "Class Notes" section recognizes their many achievements and contributions in all corners of the world. Please submit your news and updates at <http://fpb.cwru.edu/Alumni/submitnotes.shtm>, or use the "Alumni Notes" form on page 39.

## 1970s

**Mary Mullin Graiver, MSN '78**, was elected the Region 10 coordinator for Sigma Theta Tau International at the 41st Biennial Convention. She was inducted into Alpha Mu in 1978 and then moved to Michigan, where she helped establish Theta Chi Chapter in 1986. As Region 10 coordinator, she will serve as the liaison between Sigma Theta Tau International and the 27 chapters of northern Ohio, the state of Michigan, and Ontario.

## 1980s

**Kathryn Ann Reback, MSN '80**, recently joined the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in Rockville, Md., as a member of its Patient Safety Organization team. In particular, she will be a part of AHRQ's Medical Liability and Patient Safety Initiative. Ms. Reback has been dedicated to patient safety and quality throughout her career. She spent 17 years leading patient safety, risk management, and quality improvement activities for a large community teaching hospital near Washington, D.C., while also serving as general counsel for the hospital. Most recently, she led the Federal Tort Claims Act Medical Malpractice Program for the Department of Health and Human Services on behalf of nearly 1,000 federally funded community health centers and 150 free clinics nationally. She also served as associate general counsel for the local Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plan during her 10-year tenure.

**Dana Wright, ND '82**, has been busy advocating for education and the health of women and girls globally through the International Federation of University Women (IFUW). The IFUW was founded to promote women's education.

**Lynne Pompetti, MSN '84**, who is a psychiatric clinical nurse specialist with the organization Mental Health Mental Retardation of Tarrant County in Texas, was named one of the 2012 Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses.

**Scott R. Ziehm, ND '87**, hosted Dean Kerr and San Francisco FPB alumni at a



Dean Mary Kerr and Dr. Scott Ziehm.

special reception in the city at the end of February. Dr. Ziehm has been with the University of California San Francisco for more than 20 years, and has served as assistant dean of the Master's Entry Program there since 2004. He recently accepted a position as associate dean of academic affairs for the University of Hawai'i Mānoa, a role he will assume in the summer.

## 1990s

**Beth Partin, ND '97**, recently opened her own practice in Columbia, Ky., called Family First Health Care. The practice provides comprehensive family health care that is dedicated to delivering the highest level of professional and personal service in a comfortable, compassionate, and caring manner.



**Janet Ziol, BSN '97**, is serving as a class representative for her 15th reunion during Alumni Weekend in September. She said she is eager to be in contact with her classmates and looks forward to the many opportunities to reunite with them throughout the weekend.

## 2000s

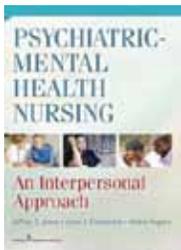
**Pulsuk Siripul, PhD '00, MSN '96**, is the new associate dean for academic affairs at the Khon Kaen University School of Nursing in Thailand.

**Jane Young, ND '04**, was recently featured in the January/February 2012 issue of *The American Nurse*, the official publication of the American Nurses Association. Dr. Young became a nurse practitioner when the role was fairly new in her home state of Idaho. She founded her own practice, Family Health Care, in Boise, Idaho, in 1983. She has since helped pave the way for NPs' independent practice in Idaho. "The first steps were to define the role of the nurse practitioner, and emphasize to the state attorney general and area physicians that nurse practitioners met the corporate and health care provider definitions of a professional," said Dr. Young. Her Family Health Care practice strives to offer comprehensive health care to patients of all ages, from birth to ages up to 105 years old. She has expanded the practice over the past 28 years, which now has four providers delivering care. In addition to starting her practice, Dr. Young formed an NP-interest group to promote the role. The group now has nearly 300 NPs participating. She also co-authored a book, *Managing Your Practice: A Guide for Advanced Practice Nurses*, where she provides information on starting an NP practice. Dr. Young graduated with a bachelor's degree in nursing and later became a pediatric nurse practitioner after realizing she needed more expertise to meet more of the community's needs. She said that "trust" is at the center of both her education and career. "If we expect our patients to change behaviors to

decrease illness, they need to trust our expertise and direction. If we expect our colleagues to change their view of nursing, they need to trust that we offer a different aspect of care that can complement theirs to improve patient care," she added.

**Abir K. Bekhet, PhD '07**, was one of only four recipients of the 2012 Way-Klinger Young Scholar Award from Marquette University. The award provides Dr. Bekhet with a one-semester sabbatical, which she will take next spring.

**Jeffrey Jones, DNP '07**, and Vickie L. Rogers, DNP '08, worked with **Joyce Fitzpatrick, PhD, RN, FAAN, FPB** Elizabeth Ford Brooks Professor and honorary alumna, as editors of the psychiatric mental health undergraduate textbook, *Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing: An Interpersonal Approach*. The book is based on the theories of Hildegard Peplau and Joyce Travelbee, and is devoted to interpersonal relations as the foundation for therapeutic practice in psychiatric nursing. It guides students through the essential phases of self-discovery needed to integrate interpersonal nursing theory into practice and also provides a historical overview of the profession.



**Concettina Tolomeo, DNP '09**, was recently promoted to director of program development for the Department of Pediatrics at the Yale School of Medicine. She also edited a first edition text titled *Nursing Care in Pediatric Respiratory Disease*, published by Wiley-Blackwell.

## 2010s

**Debra A. Lee, PhD '11**, was appointed dean of Nursing and Health Sciences at Malone University in January 2012. Dr. Lee has had



experience in critical care and rehabilitation, and conducted research in acute care, outpatient, and academic settings. She has also served as an administrator. Dr. Lee joined the nursing faculty at Malone in 2007 as adjunct professor and became a full-time professor in 2009. She has taught in clinical settings and in the classroom across the BSN curriculum, and in the RN-to-BSN program. She serves as an advisor to MSN students and also serves as director of the BSN program, which has an enrollment of more than 250 students.

Dr. Lee has authored or co-authored several professional journal articles. Her most recent publication, "Adjunctive therapies for the chronically critically ill," appears in the *American Association of Critical Care Nurses' AACN Advanced Critical Care Journal*. She has also presented research findings at multiple national meetings. Her professional memberships include the AACN and Sigma Theta Tau International. Commenting on her new role as dean, Dr. Lee said, "The prospect for me is incredibly exciting...I could not have been offered a greater opportunity than exploring this leadership role."



**Kailey Elizabeth Maclsaac, BSN '11**, who works for the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC Hamot), was recently engaged to Gregory Lynn

Tarbell, who recently graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering. The couple is planning a Nov. 10, 2012, wedding in Erie, Pa.

**Wariya Muensa, PhD '12**, who worked in the FPB World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for several years while completing her courses, successfully defended her dissertation in Oct. 2011. The dissertation was on "Beliefs, Attitudes, Perceived Behavioral Control, and Intentions of Staff Nurses to Use Music as Therapy for Premature Infants in Neonatal Intensive Care Units in Thailand."

## The FPB Family

### Looking for Legacy Alumni

The Kohns and Epsteins know a thing or two (or three) about FPB. Mary Lou (Gaehr) Kohn (grandmother), Marcia Kohn Epstein (daughter), and current student Leah Epstein (granddaughter) have kept FPB "in the family." If you are part of an FPB legacy family (including all relatives – grandparents, aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers, or cousins), please let us know, briefly tell us why FPB remains in your family, and send pictures. We'd love to recognize those relatives who have passed on the tradition of attending FPB for generations! Please email [nada.difranco@cwru.edu](mailto:nada.difranco@cwru.edu) or see the "Alumni Notes" form on page 39 for additional contact information.



Mary L. (Gaehr) Kohn, MN '43



Marcia Kohn Epstein, BSN '75



Leah Epstein, BSN '13

Class Notes were compiled between September 1, 2011, and February 29, 2012.

## IN MEMORIAM

### We mourn the loss of these FPB alumni and friends and extend heartfelt condolences to their loved ones.

**Jean (Cramer) Fernald, DN '36**, age 96, died Sept. 30, 2011, in Denver, Colo. She loved being with her family and friends throughout her long life.

**Dorothy Beachler Hoskins, BSN '39**, passed away on Dec. 30, 2011.

**Jane Leiter Stiefel, BSN '39, age 98**, passed away Jan. 1, 2012.

**Doris Gordon Clark, MN '43**, passed away on Aug. 7, 2011.

**Elizabeth Reiley Kimble, BSN '43**, passed away Aug. 15, 2011.

**Doris Rohn Bright, MN '44**, died Feb. 14, 2012,

in Wooster, Ohio, with her daughter, Laurie, at her side. She worked as an obstetrical nurse at McDonald House in Cleveland during the baby boom. In 1947, she married the Rev. Harry E. Bright of the United Methodist Church. Together, they served churches across Ohio, including in West Mansfield, Granville, Ada, Cincinnati, Delaware, Akron, and Cleveland. When her husband retired in 1982, they moved to Lakeside, Ohio. She was involved as an active member of the Friends of the Lakeside Hotel, where they worked to save and restore the Victorian hotel. She will be remembered for her storytelling, listening ear, leadership, skill, humor, and wit.



**Ruth Hofsteter, MN '44**, age 93, died Nov. 28, 2011, in Massillon, Ohio. She was a graduate of the College of Wooster and Western Reserve College, and served as a missionary nurse and midwife in India for 38 years before retiring in 1983. She was a member of Myers United Church of Christ in Massillon.

**Martha Wylie Pride, MN '44**, passed away Dec. 5, 2011 in Berea, Ky. She was a retired Berea College professor and administrator in the nursing department. She was an active member of the Berea community and of the Union Church in Berea. She was a past member of the Berea Hospital Board and the Madison County Board of Health, as well as a past president of the Kentucky Nurses Association. She was also a member of the Berea Kiwanis Club, Kentucky Council of Churches, Church Women United, and Women's Industrial of Union Church.

**Jean O'Flaherty Hamel, MN '45**, St. Ignace, Mich., age 91, died Nov. 8, 2011. She graduated from MaryGrove College in Detroit with a degree in teaching. She taught for two years before going back to college to study nursing as a member of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corp. She moved to St. Ignace in 1947. After raising a family, she worked at Mackinac Straits Hospital in St. Ignace. She was a charter member of the Mackinac Straits Hospital Auxiliary, and was involved in the Civic League in St. Ignace.

**Norma J. Kolthoff, MN '45**, Madison, Wis., age 90, died Nov. 11, 2011. Always interested in science, she obtained her bachelor's degree in zoology in 1943 from North Central College.



She then responded to the wartime effort and joined the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps, earning a master's degree in nursing from FPB. Her interest in science spurred her to continue her education at Indiana University, where she earned a master's degree in zoology. She then assumed a teaching position at FPB. She then obtained a doctorate in physiology from Boston University in 1964. She was the first

nurse to receive a PhD in physiology. She returned to a faculty position at FPB, where she continued research on blood flow rates and microcirculation. She gained national recognition as a leader, consultant, and presenter in advocating the need for systematic study of critical issues in nursing. In 1971, when Dr. Kolthoff joined the faculty of school of nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she was one of the first nursing faculty members with a PhD. She was project director of the school's institutional research development program and coordinator for research services. Nursing schools have used several editions of her textbook on introductory physiology. Dr. Kolthoff's contributions were recognized by faculty colleagues who named her the Helen Denne Schulte Professor of Nursing and, nationally, she was inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. After retiring, she was honored as an emerita professor of nursing by the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her retirement allowed her to focus energies on an exhaustive study of the Louis and Clark Expedition, including systematic exploration of many segments of their journey.

**Elizabeth S. "Betty" Russell, MN '45**,

age 91, died Jan. 19, 2012, in Davis, Calif. She was born near Fuzhou, China, to missionary parents, before returning to the United States at the age of 5. She grew up on her father's citrus farm outside Claremont, Calif. She graduated from Pomona College in 1942. In 1944, she married J.C. "Russ" Russell. They had three children together and raised their family in San Bruno, Calif. She was an active member of the Millbrae Community United Methodist Church and the American Association of University Women, and volunteered for schools, Cub Scout troops and Girl Scout troops.



**June Soeder Mundie, DN '46**, age 86, Gulfport, Fla., passed away July 22, 2011.

**Patricia Firestone Reitz, DN '46**, passed away Oct. 17, 2011.



**Harriet Kemper Welland, BSN '46**, passed away March 5, 2010.

**Harriet Elder, MN '47**, passed away Oct. 18, 2011.

**Sophia Krok Baker, MSN '50**, died Jan.

9, 2010, at the age of 91. She attended nursing school in New England before joining the Navy.



She was stationed at Pearl Harbor, where she tended to survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor. After leaving the Navy, she joined the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Washington, D.C., as a member of the Public Health Service. She became nursing director for the Neurology Department. While in Washington, D.C., she met and married George Baker. After retiring from the Public Health Service,

she spent many years enjoying her hobbies, traveling, volunteering, and spending time with family.

**Virginia N. Epps, BSN '50, CPHN '46**, age 87, Southlake, Tex., died Jan. 12, 2012.

She was active in public health nursing in Bowling Green, Ohio, and Massillon, Ohio. She volunteered for the Red Cross for more than 60 years as a nurse. She moved to Texas in March 2011. She was involved with the Canton Players Guild Community Theatre, and was a member of the Woman's Club, College Club, and Daughters of the American Revolution in Massillon.

**Mary E. Brant Stewart, BSN '51**, passed away Feb. 28, 2012.

**Carmin Jimison, MSN '54, BSN '53**, St. Petersburg, Fla., age 95, passed away Oct. 11, 2011.

**Ann Brown Eichwald, BSN '55**, formerly of Lakewood, Ohio, passed away Jan. 26, 2012, at home in Arizona.

**Patricia English Hugan, BSN '55**, passed away Oct. 6, 2011.

**Mary Ann Janos, BSN '55**, Painesville, Ohio, died Dec. 28, 2011. In addition to FPB, she attended John Carroll

University, The Ohio State University, and Johns Hopkins University. She retired in 1999 as a physical therapist at the Cleveland Clinic.

**Evelyn Webb Johnson, BSN '56**, passed away Oct. 22, 2011.

**Barbara Pecjak Lamaida, BSN '57**, Broadview Heights, Ohio, died June 10, 2011.

**Anne Barrows, BSN '58**, passed away Jan. 27, 2011.

**Hazel F. Howard, MSN '58**, age 96, Keene, N.H., died April 12, 2011. Ms. Howard was a 1937 graduate of NH Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Concord, N.H., and continued with studies at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md. She received a BSN from the University of Virginia in 1957. She served during WWII with the Army Nurse Corps in Augusta, Ga.

**Beverley J. Johnston, BSN '58**, passed away Jan. 17, 2012.

**Ursula Margaret Lowe, BSN '59**, passed away Oct. 26, 2011.

**Charlene Easterday, BSN '60**, Boca Raton, Fla., formerly of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, died Oct. 12, 2011.

## Dorothy Ellen Ebersbach

**Dorothy Ellen Ebersbach, BSN '54**, died Nov. 14, 2011, in Tampa, Fla. She was born in Pomeroy, Ohio, and received a bachelor's degree in education from Ohio University in 1936. She was active in sports, and loved basketball and tennis. Living in Tampa after college, she worked for her father's construction business. She became interested in flying and received a private pilot's license. She proceeded to enter the government Ground School at the University of Tampa and earned her commercial pilot's license. As a pioneering female aviator, she applied

for the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) and was one of a select group of women chosen. She received training at Love Field in Dallas, Tex., and went on to Marana, Ariz., for post-secondary training as a test pilot. Her last post was at gunnery training school, doing test flights and towing targets for gunnery practice. The WASP program was disbanded in 1944, and she returned to civilian life. After graduating from FPB, she worked for the Hillsborough County Health Department in Florida until her retirement in 1975. In 2009, she was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal



for her service as a WASP. Ms. Ebersbach was involved in her church, Hyde Park United Methodist Church, the Tampa Bay Garden Club, and American Association of University Women. Just a few weeks before her passing, she pledged \$2 million to establish the Dorothy Ebersbach Academic Center for Flight Nursing at FPB. The center will expand on the flight nursing program's mission of training graduate-level nursing students to provide critical, on-site care during emergencies and transport to medical facilities.

# IN MEMORIAM



**Catherine Rodgers Mallin, BSN '60**, died Jan. 9, 2012. She was born in Cleveland and lived in Shaker Heights, Ohio, from 1964

to 2008, when she moved to Westlake, Ohio. She was a registered nurse for more than 35 years. She enjoyed dancing, theater, crossword puzzles, reading, and spending time with her family and friends.

**Lillian Johanson Stedronsky, BSN '62**, died Dec. 31, 2011. She was honorably discharged from the United States Army when World War II ended. She was a head nurse for many years in the Psychiatric Unit of the VA Hospital in Brecksville, Ohio, retiring in 1979.

**Ruth Ellen Toth, MSN '62, BSN '60**, died Feb. 12, 2012. She served on



the Board of the Cleveland Orchestra's Women's Committee and was an usher at Severance Hall, the Cleveland Museum of Art, and Apollo's Fire. She was a volunteer long-term care ombudsman and served as a volunteer with many organizations, including Malachi House, Baldwin-Wallace College, the American Red Cross, and the Porter Library.

**Martha Baron, MSN '64**, Greenville, S.C., died Oct. 29, 2011. She was born in 1934 in Brooklyn, N.Y., and grew up in Thomaston, Ga. She was a 1956 graduate of Emory University School of Nursing. She moved to Greenville in 2005 from Glen Head, N.Y., to be closer to her family.

**Florence "Fay" Stirling Cleary, MSN '66**, Des Moines, Iowa, age 94, died March 5, 2011. She enjoyed growing up on a farm near Des Moines. She graduated from



Broadlawns School of Nursing in 1944, and earned her BS in nursing and education from Drake University. Her nursing career evolved from working with disabled children to leading the Iowa State Education Association's nursing section to helping organize school nurses in Iowa. She worked as a staff nurse in Des Moines public schools in the 1960s. Following her school nursing career, she worked with the Iowa Board of Education and the Iowa Department of Health on nursing issues. After retiring in 1983, she began her career as a dog obedience trainer with the Des Moines Obedience Training Club.

**Dorothy M. Ellington Bradford, MSN '68, BSN '55**, Jefferson, Ohio, died Oct. 27, 2011. Dr. Bradford



was the first faculty member hired for the new Kent State University Nursing School in 1968 and taught there for 17 years. She earned her EdS in Counseling at Kent State in 1975, became a family nurse practitioner, and received her PhD in Nursing Education Administration in 1985. From 1984 until her retirement in 1995, she led nursing education at Cuyahoga Community College. She was the former chairperson of the Lake County United Way (1981 to 1991). She was past president of the Cleveland Council of Black Nurses and League of Women Voters. Dr. Bradford was a founder of Lakeland Community College and the founder of Community Day Care Center in Wickliffe, Ohio, which was the first full day care center in Wickliffe. She published more than 15 articles for

professional magazines and gave numerous presentations/seminars on her research, including one in Madrid, Spain in 1993.

**Harriet Snowdon Blossom, MSN '73**, age 90, died Nov. 1, 2011, in Cincinnati, Ohio. She was an early nurse practitioner.

**Vernie F. McGavick, MSN '73**, passed away May 9, 2011.

**Alison Pyke Harrigan, MSN '85**, died Jan. 24, 2012. A longtime resident of Mentor, Ohio, she lived in Garrettsville, Ohio for the past five years. She worked as a psychiatric nurse at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center (formerly St. Vincent Charity Hospital) in Cleveland. Prior to retiring, she was a professor in the nursing department at the University of Akron for more than 20 years. She loved nursing and teaching, and enjoyed spending time with family, especially her three grandchildren.

**Barbara Ann (Sabol) Pollock, MSN '87**, died Nov. 19, 2011. She received a BSN from Cleveland State University.

**Shirley Dugan McIntosh, MSN '99**, Canton, Ohio, died Aug. 27, 2011. She worked at the Veterans Administration in New Philadelphia, Ohio, and spent time with family



traveling the world and relaxing in her Florida home. Prior to receiving her MSN from FPB, she worked as an emergency nurse in Canton for 25 years. She was a member of Jackson Friends Church in Massillon, Ohio, and enjoyed playing with her grandchildren and spending time with friends. Her greatest joy in life was taking care of others in their time of need.



**Kristen M. Lecky, BSN '06**, Westlake, Ohio, died Jan. 13, 2012. She had a love for people, music, fashion, and shopping.





## Faculty & Friends

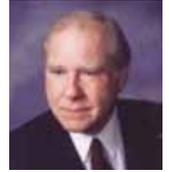
**Robert Binstock**, died Nov. 22, 2011. Dr. Binstock served in many roles at CWRU.

He was a professor of aging, health, and society with primary appointments in the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics in the School of Medicine, and at FPB, where he also served as faculty associate in the University Center on Aging and Health. A former president of the Gerontological Society of America, Dr. Binstock served as director of a White House Task Force on Older Americans, and as chairman and member of a number of advisory panels to the U.S. government, state and local governments, and foundations.

He was also a former chair of the Gerontological Health Section of the American Public Health Association, and he frequently testified before Congress. He was a member of the MacArthur Foundation's Research Network on an Aging Society. Dr. Binstock published more than 300 articles, book chapters, monographs, and books. His 26 authored and edited books include *Aging Nation: The Economics and Politics of Growing Older in America* (2008), and seven editions of the *Handbook of Aging and the Social Sciences* (the latest published in 2011). He received many additional honors throughout his career for contributions to gerontology and the well-being of older persons. Dr. Binstock received his AB and PhD degrees in political science from Harvard University.

**James Joseph Branagan**,

beloved husband of Mary Lou Stricklin, MSN '77, died Nov. 23, 2011. After serving as an attorney at several corporations and law firms, he established his private law practice in 1988. His law practice and lifelong interest in the arts led him to become involved with the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts for several years. He was an active member of the Suburban Ski Club for many years and traveled every ski season. He was also a vigorous outdoor hiker and enjoyed whitewater rafting.



**Marcella Irene Groenke**, mother of FPB Assistant Professor Evelyn Duffy, died Nov. 20, 2011.

*This memorial section lists deceased alumni and friends of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing for whom death notices were received between September 1, 2011, and February 29, 2012.*

# FPB NURSING ALUMNI NOTES

Send in this form or complete the online form at [fpb.case.edu/alumni/submitnotes.shtm](http://fpb.case.edu/alumni/submitnotes.shtm)

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Nada G. Di Franco, Director of Alumni Relations  
 Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing  
 Case Western Reserve University  
 10900 Euclid Avenue  
 Cleveland, OH 44106-4904 (USA)  
 Or fax to: (216) 368-3542  
 Or send e-mail to: [Nada.DiFranco@case.edu](mailto:Nada.DiFranco@case.edu)  
 Or call: 1-800-825-2540, extension 5568

*Please send us your e-mail addresses so that we can keep you updated.*

## Minding Minds: Psychiatric Nursing at the Hospital and Beyond

Like most areas of nursing, psychiatric mental health nursing requires good communication and relationship skills. For Deborah Cloud, BSN '71, communication and relationship skills honed through her work in psychiatric mental health nursing have been the foundation of every professional and volunteer role she's ever held, whether or not it has directly involved nursing. And her background has opened many doors for her to help thousands of people.

Today, Ms. Cloud uses her 46-year psychiatric nursing foundation in a number of ways. She teaches psychiatric mental health nursing at Kent State University, works part time as a nurse at Marymount Hospital in Garfield Heights, Ohio, runs an organization development firm, and does extensive volunteer work for the Alzheimer's Association.

"Everything I do ties into psychiatric nursing, whether it's teaching tomorrow's nurses, working directly with patients in a hospital, getting people together to resolve conflicts and improve communication in my organization development business, or running a support group for Alzheimer's caregivers," said Ms. Cloud.

She earned her first nursing diploma in 1966 from the Youngstown Hospital



*For her volunteer work with the Alzheimer's Association – Cleveland Area Chapter, Deborah Cloud (in pink) recently received the Arlene L. Ellis Volunteer Service Award, which was presented to her by Nancy Udelson, the chapter's executive director.*

Association School of Nursing in Youngstown, Ohio. She was then recruited to University Hospitals in Cleveland in psychiatric mental health nursing, where she worked for 20 years, 14 as the head of a psychiatric nursing unit. While there, she earned her BSN from FPB in 1971 and later a bachelor's degree in psychology from CWRU.

### Listening to a Familiar Voice

May Wykle, former dean, served as her mentor and inspiration. "Because of Dr. Wykle, I've done a lot in nursing and used my nursing background to expand into other areas," Ms. Cloud explained. For example, Dr. Wykle told her about a new organization development program at the Weatherhead School of

"Helping others is how I want to spend my life. Because of nursing, I can. Dr. Wykle always told me everything would link, and she was right."

Management at CWRU. She decided to enroll and she earned a master's degree in organization development and analysis in 1981. "There was a strong link to sociology and psychology, so it was nice to branch out into this new area," she added.

In 1987, Ms. Cloud started an organization development consulting firm, Cloud & Associates. She works with individuals and groups in non-profit organizations and government agencies to assess organizations and help them solve problems and meet goals. Although not involved directly in nursing in this role, she has never strayed far from her nursing core. "I conduct group or individual interviews, perform assessments, and design programs to reach goals. I use all of the senses I learned in psychiatric nursing," she said.



When Ms. Cloud was hired by St. Vincent Charity Medical Center in Cleveland to conduct training in group dynamics for the psychiatric nursing staff, she saw an opportunity to work directly with patients again. In addition to running her consulting business, she began working part time as a PRN psychiatric nurse at hospitals around Cleveland. She also began teaching, and since then has taught psychiatric mental health nursing at several nursing schools in Northeast Ohio.

"I love working directly with patients and their families, and being their advocate, because I can see their accomplishments," she said. "I also enjoy seeing people learn and grow."

## Helping Others Leads to Accolades

As a volunteer for the Alzheimer's Association – Cleveland Area Chapter, Ms. Cloud calls on her nursing skills as she serves as a co-facilitator for a monthly caregiver support group. She was inspired to get involved in 2000 while her mother was coping with Alzheimer's disease. Since she became a facilitator, the group has grown from two or three caregivers regularly attending to nearly 20.

Ms. Cloud uses her nursing instincts to lead the group. "I use active listening learned in psych nursing to help those in pain as Alzheimer's caregivers, helping them traverse the health system, understand the impact of the disease on their life, and use available resources. I'll also call someone if I see they are in need,

but didn't get time in the group," she said. In addition, she has written grant proposals, worked at health fairs, given presentations about Alzheimer's at area churches, and more. For her dedicated work, Ms. Cloud was named the 2012 Volunteer of the Year by the Alzheimer's Association.

"Helping others is how I want to spend my life. Because of nursing, I can. Dr. Wykle always told me everything would link, and she was right," said Ms. Cloud.

She acknowledged her education at FPB in preparing her to thrive in so many areas. "FPB has always encouraged nurses to be all they can be, which is why you find so many of us in so many sectors. I've really come to appreciate the education and skills I have. As you get older, you use everything to achieve new successes," she added.



## A Farewell Message from Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations Nora Hennessy

Many of you have invited me into your homes and lives, and shared your personal stories with me. At times, we've laughed and cried as you shared your memories, thoughts, and dreams.

You are the finest nurses in the land! You are the most skilled at the bedside, in the board room, and everywhere else imaginable. You care about the future of nursing education and share your time, talent, and treasure accordingly. I wish that all of you could see the faces of our students when we tell them their scholarships are provided by other generations of nurses who care deeply about their future. Your involvement and support of our students makes a profound difference in their lives, and in the overall success of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

Thank you for the privilege to walk with you these last 12 years. I depart FPB a better person, and I stand in awe at your goodness, your accomplishments, and your loyalty to the school. In July 2012, I will begin a new journey at CWRU as associate dean of development and external affairs at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences. I will remain a strong supporter of FPB.

Thank you!

# FPB Nursing

Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing  
Case Western Reserve University  
10900 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-4904

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## Alumni Weekend 2012 — September 27-30

Celebrating the Reunions of 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, & 2007.

Remember to register for Alumni Weekend 2012 (registration opens in late July) at: <http://www.case.edu/alumni/weekend/>



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