

Spring 2014

NURSING INNOVATION AND LEADERSHIP
AT THE FRANCES PAYNE BOLTON SCHOOL OF NURSING

foreFRONT



Making Patient Safety a Topflight Priority



FRANCES PAYNE BOLTON
SCHOOL OF NURSING

CASE WESTERN RESERVE
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INSIDE:

Business as Unusual: Nurse Entrepreneurs are Creating Their Own Corporate Ladders

Brentlinger Fellowship Supports Future Leaders in Nursing

Groundbreaker: A Nurse's Life in Firsts

foreFRONT

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About *Forefront*

This publication is produced twice a year for the alumni and friends of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University. The *Forefront* mission is to inform readers about the school's excellence in nursing science, education and practice and how it impacts daily lives.

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dean's LETTER

Dear Alumni and Friends:

One of the proudest moments you can have as a faculty member is when your students develop the confidence to become patient advocates. They take what they have learned in the classroom; apply it in the real world and make that world better. That's what happens regularly with our new undergraduate perioperative requirement.

Our third-year nursing students join their operating-room-nurse preceptors as part of surgical teams for the clinical portion of the course. They do not sit quietly on the sideline. They are quick to ask questions when it comes to their patients' safety.

In the past year, a preceptor noted that a Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing student asked during the operation if it is appropriate for the patient, who has a severe bee allergy, to receive bone wax on his surgical wounds. A recent journal report that she read questioned its use. She was the only one in the OR to note the patient's allergies.

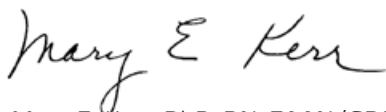
In another case, a surgeon reported to Rebecca Patton, MSN, RN, Lucy Jo Atkinson Scholar in Perioperative Nursing, who heads the program, that an FPB student left the OR to ask disruptive hospital staff in the hall to turn down the volume. The surgeon was both impressed and grateful for the student's initiative.

One of the biggest challenges that students face in their journeys to become nurses is finding their voices as patient advocates. Silence can be dangerous. We need to encourage students to speak about minor quality and safety concerns, so they will have the courage to tackle larger ones. Patient safety is not just a course at FPB. It is a core value. This issue of *Forefront* examines how we instill that value in our future nurse leaders.

This issue also introduces you to another kind of leader: the nurse entrepreneur. Four FPB alumni used their classroom lessons to capture unique niches in the health care market. And finally, you will meet Jeremy Honaker, a PhD student who is the first Brentlinger Legacy Fellow. The fellowship is named in honor of the late FPB volunteer and community activist Marilyn Brentlinger.

Whether you are in the OR, the boardroom, classroom or the lab, you cannot mistake the strong, confident voice of an FPB graduate in the room.

Sincerely,



Mary E. Kerr, PhD, RN, FAAN (GRS'91)
Dean and the May L. Wykle Professor





MOORE NAMED NURSE ANESTHESIA DIRECTOR

After a national search, Sonya Moore, MSN, CRNA has been named director of the top-ranked nurse anesthesia program.

Moore joined the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing in 2007 as the clinical coordinator and has served as assistant director of the program since October 2010.

She earned her MSN in nurse anesthesia from the University of Akron, and her BSN from the University of Cincinnati. She recently received the 2013-2014 Nurse Anesthesia Traineeship Grant from the Department of Health and Human Services.

"I was impressed with Sonya's commitment to education and her dedication to the students in the program," said Mary E. Kerr, PhD, RN, FAAN (GRS'91), dean of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing. "Her ability to lead will take the nurse anesthesia program to a new level."

SCHOOL WINS REDESIGNATION AS PAHO/WHO COLLABORATING CENTER

Case Western Reserve University's Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing has been recognized as a leader in global home health care by the Pan American Health (PAHO) and World Health (WHO) organizations. For the fifth time in 20 years the school has been named as a PAHO/WHO Collaborating Center for Research and Clinical Training in Home Care Nursing.

"I would like to express my appreciation for your past contribution, and I look forward to our continuing successful collaboration," Carissa F. Etienne, MD, WHO's Director-General, wrote in a congratulatory letter to nursing school Dean Mary E. Kerr, PhD, RN, FAAN, the May L. Wykle Endowed Professor.

STUDENTS WIN AWARD FOR TRAVELLERS' EXPERIENCE

During their semester abroad in Ireland, BSN seniors Madeline Collins and Karishma Patel worked with a unique patient population for their capstone project: the Irish Travellers in County Galway.

"As nurses, it is essential for us to be aware of factors that affect every patient population," said Patel. "We have to understand where they're coming from, so we can help them improve their health."

The students' project focused on identifying predictors of success in higher education for Irish Travellers and won the Case Western Reserve University's Support of Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors (SOURCE) Provost Award at December's Intersections poster competition.

Read the full story at fpb.case.edu/alumni/alummag.shtm





NURSING AND ENGINEERING STUDENTS INNOVATE TOGETHER

While nurses work with devices that biomedical engineers design, their paths rarely cross as undergraduates. Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University is looking to change that.

In one of the first programs of its kind in the country, senior nursing and biomedical engineering (BME) students are working together to develop prototypes for health care technology. The program, Crossing Adelbert Forums to Engage Engineering and Nursing (CAFEEN), includes joint capstone projects, as well as special lectures for faculty and students alike.

“Initially, the engineers were wondering how I was going to help,” says Emily Buckner, a senior nursing student, whose group went to Uganda during spring break to help with Tuberculosis diagnostics and patient adherence to TB treatment. “But, I conducted research and made sure the patient was being considered in everything we did.”

Senior nursing students Mary Kathryn Jaskowiak and Dannielle Boyce worked with BME students to improve intrathecal pumps.

“We have been in operating rooms and understand pain management for patients,” says Jaskowiak, who was excited to work with the engineering students. “As nurses, we were able to provide valuable insight about health needs to our group.”

The outcome from the collaboration exceeded the expectations of both Colin Drummond, PhD, and Marilyn Lotas PhD, RN, FAAN, associate professors in the school of nursing and creators of the program which will continue in the fall 2014 semester. Dr. Lotas feels that the process helps nursing students gain confidence in their role as a health care consultant while improving their ability to critique technology.

“The degree to which the clinical knowledge of the nursing students influenced the definition of ‘patient need’ and subsequent project scope surprised even me,” says Drummond, who taught the BME senior design class. “This is ‘critical thinking skills’ in action—where students contemplating multiple perspectives produced a sum greater than its parts.”

HONORS & AWARDS

Claire M. Andrews, PhD, CNM, FAAN was granted emeriti status by the Case Western Reserve University Board of Trustees.

Elizabeth Damato, PhD, RN received the Distinguished Service Award from The National Association of Neonatal Nurses.

Joyce J. Fitzpatrick, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN won a 2013 American Journal of Nursing (AJN) Book of the Year award for *Nursing Leadership from the Outside In*.

Patricia E. McDonald, PhD, RN won the Southern Christian Leadership Conference Excellence in Health Award.

Carol Musil, PhD, RN, FAAN was named the Marvin E. and Ruth Durr Denekas Professor of Nursing. She also received a 2013 Women of Achievement Award from Case Western Reserve University.

Sigma Theta Tau International honored **May L. Wykle, PhD, RN, FAAN, FGSA** with its 2013 Nell J. Watts Lifetime Achievement in Nursing Award and **Rebecca Patton, MSN, RN, FAAN** with its 2013 Dorothy Garrigus Adams Award for Excellence in Fostering Professional Standards.

LAB NOTES

Rebecca Darrah, PhD received funding from the Clinical & Translational Science Collaborative (CTSC) at Case Western Reserve University for a “Pilot Study for the Identification of a Molecular Link between Obesity and Asthma.”

Chao-Pin Hsiao, PhD, RN received funding from the Oncology Nursing Society Foundation for her study, “Changes in Mitochondrial Bioenergetics and Cancer-Related Fatigue in Prostate Cancer.”

Jaclene A. Zauszniewski, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN received the Best Faculty Paper Award from the Midwest Nursing Research Society and the *Western Journal of Nursing Research* for her paper, “Resourcefulness Training for Grandmothers Raising Grandchildren: Establishing Fidelity.”

The Midwest Nursing Research Society honored the following faculty with awards: **Mary Dolansky, PhD, RN** and **Allison Webel, PhD, RN** won the Distinguished Researcher and Junior Research Awards respectively from the Self Care Research Section. **Chao-Pin Hsiao, PhD, RN** and **Amy Y. Zhang, PhD** won its Junior and Distinguished Researcher Awards, respectively, from the Pain and Symptom Management Research Section. **Kathy Wright, PhD, RN**, Mellen Postdoctoral Fellow, received the Dissertation Award for the society’s Gerontological Nursing Science Research Interest Group.



OLDER PEOPLE FARE BETTER WITH HIV

Case Western Reserve University researchers were surprised to learn that people younger than 50 years old with HIV feel more isolated and stressed than older people with the disease. They expected their study to reveal just the opposite.

“The younger, newly diagnosed individual may not know anyone in their peer group with a chronic illness, much less HIV,” said Allison Webel, PhD, RN, assistant professor at Case Western Reserve’s Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

Webel’s research group studied 102 men and women recruited from HIV-related clinics, service organizations and a registry of individuals with the illness. They focused on associations between stress, age and social isolation. Participants ranged from 18 to 64 years old.

Scientists found those under 50 felt more disconnected from family and friends. Stigma was a major contributor, Webel said, because younger people don’t identify as easily with having to battle a chronic illness. They may also feel blamed by others for their illness and avoid people because they are sick.

She also said the over-50 group, which was less stressed, had developed social networks over the years that they could rely on for support, such as getting rides to doctor’s appointments. The study countered previous research that suggested older people with HIV have increasingly limited and fragile relationships with their friends. Today, new anti-retroviral medications allow those with the HIV infection to live a normal lifespan, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The researchers concluded that the younger group needs interventions with multiple approaches from health care and social services to counseling for coping with illness-related stress and social isolation.



“CHOMP” TAKES ITS FIRST BITES AT PATIENT CARE

When Joseph Tooman sat down for his regular oral exam at Case Western Reserve University’s dental clinic, a student dentist began examining his teeth while a nursing student from the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing checked his vital signs.

Beside Tooman sitting in the dental chair were third-year student dentist Oliver Sun and Master of Nursing student Kaylee Bray. Each gathered oral and medical information to determine what health care he needed.

Tooman received the simultaneous dental and medical attention as part of a three-year pilot program called Collaborative Home for Oral Health, Medical Review and Health Promotion (CHOMP). The program hopes to discover what benefits patients and students receive when two professions work together.

“I like the one-stop convenience,” said Tooman, who also could have opted for vaccines, blood work and other health testing for free while lying in the dental chair.

Carol Savrin, DNP, CPNP, FNP-BC, FAANP who directs CHOMP and the MSN Graduate Program, and Kristin Victoroff, DDS, PhD, associate dean at the Case Western Reserve’s School of Dental Medicine, launched the program in February with student dentist-nurse teams working in the admitting and pediatric clinics two full days a week. Savrin explains that dental students now ask the nurses to help them with patients that show signs of some major health issues and seek their opinions on whether the patient’s physician should be called.

Once students meet a patient and take his or her oral and health history, they meet with faculty to determine next steps, including whether the patient is ready for treatment or should see a specialist. When the team proceeds, a faculty member does an oral cancer screening, and the dental student takes X-rays. While films are reviewed, the nursing student provides health education. The process takes about two hours.

CHOMP is supported by a \$750,000 Health Resources and Service Administration grant to the nursing school.

DRUMMOND AND PLOW JOIN FACULTY

The Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing has added two new faculty, Colin K. Drummond, PhD, MBA and Matthew Plow, PhD, both with biomedical engineering backgrounds.

Drummond, an associate professor, comes to the school of nursing from the biomedical engineering department at Case Western Reserve University, where he was the director of the Coulter-Case Translational Research Partnership and co-director of the master’s degree in Translational Health Technology. An alumnus of Case Western Reserve, Drummond’s research interests include health care IT and informatics, entrepreneurship and innovation processes in health care, and interdisciplinary technology and strategy.

A former project scientist in the departments of biomedical engineering and physical medicine and rehabilitation at Cleveland Clinic, Plow joined the school of nursing in February as an assistant professor. He earned his doctorate from the University of Minnesota in Rehabilitation Medicine and the focus of his research is on physical activity and self-management interventions.

“Both Drs. Drummond and Plow are innovators in their fields,” Dean Mary E. Kerr, PhD, RN, FAAN, said. “Our students will benefit from their research, and collaboration with other disciplines.”



Brentlinger fellowship supports future leaders in nursing

BY LISA CHIU (CWR'93)

Marilyn Brentlinger had several calendars, but her favorite was the League of Women Voters version. It had large spaces to record activities for herself, husband Paul, and their three children, Paula, David and Sara.

Daughter Sara Brentlinger Walters remembers the calendar, along with the yellow legal pads her mother used to keep track of organizations and events she was involved in. Marilyn served as president of the Lakewood College Club, the Great Lakes Theater Festival and the Cleveland Play House, and as a board member of the Lakewood Public Library, the Lakewood League of Women Voters and the Cleveland Sight Center. She was also a long-time supporter of Case Western Reserve University's Frances Payne Bolton

School of Nursing, serving on its visiting committee. She became an honorary alumna in 1990.

After Marilyn passed away in 2010 at age 85, her husband and children decided to establish a scholarship in her honor: The Marilyn E. Brentlinger Scholarship Fund for Doctoral Students. Known as the Brentlinger Endowed Legacy Fellowship, it supports PhD and DNP students who are potential leaders in their profession. Additional support is planned through an estate commitment.

"I knew from the beginning Marilyn was a leader. I observed it firsthand," Paul says of his late wife. They were childhood friends who started dating in high school. "When she decided where she wanted to go, she'd figure out how to get there."



Left: Jeremy Honaker, the first Brentlinger Endowed Legacy Fellow meets with Charlene Phelps.

Far left: Marilyn Brentlinger's husband, Paul, (inset) and their children established the Marilyn E. Brentlinger Scholarship Fund for Doctoral Students in her honor.

Born in Warren, Ohio, Marilyn earned an RN license after attending Dayton's Miami Valley Hospital School of Nursing. She then earned a bachelor's degree in education from The Ohio State University and moved to Honolulu to teach nursing at The Queen's Hospital. She married Paul in 1951 and they moved to Cleveland, where Paul worked as a financial officer. Marilyn taught obstetrical nursing at St. Luke's Hospital.

Although Marilyn stopped working after the children were born, son David, an investment director in San Francisco, remembers a time when he witnessed her nursing training and sense of duty in action, in New York City.

"Years ago we were riding through Central Park at night in a horse drawn carriage," he recalls. "The park was closed to car traffic but somebody had a high speed joyride. The car missed a turn right by our carriage, hit the curb and rolled over several times. People were screaming from the car. My mother instantly jumped off the carriage, ran to the overturned car and calmed an injured girl whom she pulled out of the car through a shattered window."

Marilyn's actions that evening conveyed the importance of leadership and service to her children. "Our mother believed in purpose and community," David says. "Leadership was never a goal in itself. It is the combination of vision and action."

"That's who she was," says daughter Sara. "She showed us by example." She remembers her mother recruiting her and her siblings, along with their friends, to help with

fundraising events. "She gave me my first work experience at the Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival selling mugs."

Paul and Marilyn Brentlinger wanted their children to value education "to understand how the world around us worked," David says. The Brentlinger family hopes the fellowship they established will help develop future leaders in nursing, following Marilyn's footsteps.

"She herself benefited from scholarship support for her nursing studies," says Paula, a Seattle-based physician and global health expert who is now on the school's visiting committee. "And the current health care environment in the United States is changing rapidly. There is a greater need for nurses who are prepared to engage in and support nursing education, research, policymaking and advanced clinical practice."

Jeremy Honaker, the first Brentlinger Endowed Legacy Fellow, hopes to join the ranks of such health care leaders. A registered nurse for 12 years before he enrolled at FPB, he wants to improve the quality of wound care. Raised in Bardstown, Kentucky, on a 200-acre farm, Honaker never imagined he would one day pursue a doctorate in nursing. The Brentlinger fellowship provided him the necessary financial support to pursue advanced studies.

"I didn't have the means to pursue my PhD," Honaker says. "The Brentlingers gave me an opportunity to get a world-class education. Their vision of supporting a larger need will affect not just my future, but the future of health care in general." +

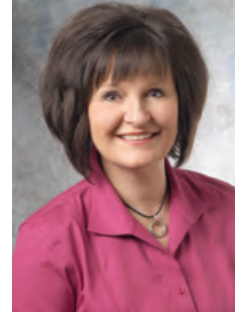


Making Patient Safety a Topflight Priority

BY TAMAR NORDENBERG



What would happen if 20 jets crashed every week without survivors? Air traffic would halt until a solution was put in place, “Miracle on the Hudson” pilot Captain Chesley B. “Sully” Sullenberger told Healthcare Financial Management in a recent interview. “Airlines would park their fleets. No one would fly until we had solved the problems,” assured Sullenberger, famed for his remarkable water landing five years ago of a disabled US Airways flight without any loss of life.



Mary A. Dolansky

The equivalent of more than 20 jet-loads of people *actually* die weekly from medical errors in the United States—at least 400,000 each year, according to an estimate of preventable hospital-associated harms published in the September 2013 issue of the *Journal of Patient Safety*. The difference between disasters in the air and in health care is that avertible healthcare-associated casualties happen one person at a time and mistakes are easier to ignore, according to Sullenberger, who today advocates to improve safety in both industries.

In recognition of the health care system's safety and quality shortcomings—failures that take their tragic toll quietly, patient by patient—Case Western Reserve University's Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing is equipping its students to stand strong against these deficiencies. "The number of deaths and injuries from

medical errors is staggering," said associate professor Mary A. Dolansky, PhD, RN. "We have gotten better at collecting data to define the extent of the problem. Now it's essential that we use this data to improve how we provide care."

To graduate champions of patient safety and health care quality, the school of nursing has refined its curriculum by expanding the impact of its expertise. The school has also set up channels for reaching nurses across the country and around the globe.

"PERFECT LEARNING LABORATORY"

Breakdowns in health care quality and safety come in many forms—among them, central line bloodstream infections; wrong-site operations; falls while patients are unsupervised; and medication mistakes. Certain populations, such as those with disabilities, can be particularly at risk for inferior care. (See "FINDing Ways to Improve Quality and Safety for All." p.12)

Everyone is vulnerable—even nurses' own families. Proof of that came a few years ago when Dolansky's husband, Dave, was hospitalized for vomiting, vertigo, and muscle stiffness from a condition called acute disseminated encephalomyelitis (ADEM). Mystified when his condition suddenly nose-dived during his hospitalization, Dolansky scrutinized her husband's records and caught an alarming lapse. His high-dose steroid prescription was accidentally left off his medications list at some point as Dave was transferred among hospital departments and eventually to a rehabilitation facility. "Unplanned steroid withdrawal can be deadly," recalled Dolansky, whose husband improved when his steroid prescription was restored.

As in the Dolansky's case, vigilance by patients and loved ones can safeguard against medical mishaps to some degree. Simple steps such as confirming that health care workers have washed their hands and checking that the patient is receiving the expected type and dosage of medication can prove valuable. Still, most people lack a health care provider's knowledge, and family members and friends can't remain at the bedside 24/7.





Rebecca M. Patton

Nurses are often in the best position to advocate for a patient's well-being, according to the School of Nursing's Rebecca M. Patton, MSN, RN, CNOR, FAAN. "Nurses, like other health care providers, want the best outcomes for their patients," said Patton, Lucy Jo Atkinson Scholar in Perioperative Nursing. "But unlike others, we nurses are with the patient 24 hours a day, which places us in an optimal position to advocate on a patient's behalf."

Following her tenure as president of the American Nurses Association, Patton joined the School of Nursing faculty and developed a perioperative nursing course for the school's undergraduate curriculum. The mandatory course—one of the first of its kind in the country—answers a two-pronged need: concerns about patient safety and hospital shortages of operating room nurses. The class addresses quality and safety by educating students about aseptic techniques and other strategies that can prevent errors during their hospitalization, while simultaneously opening students' eyes to possible OR careers.

Approximately 100 junior-year nursing students spend seven weeks in the operating room. "Ours is the most comprehensive program of this type out there," Patton pointed out. "Our nursing students have the opportunity to carry out what others only read about."

The perioperative program, made possible by a nearly \$2 million gift from alumna Lucy Jo Atkinson (NUR'54), teaches nursing students how to keep patients safe while providing quality care. "The operating room is an excellent place to learn about patient advocacy, and in particular about teamwork, communication, and coordination of care," Patton said. Dolansky echoed this view, calling the real-life perioperative experience in a carefully supervised environment "the perfect learning laboratory for modeling quality and safety principles."

While underscored throughout the school's curriculum, quality and safety issues can play an especially high-stakes role in the surgery context, Patton pointed out. Among her safety priorities during surgical procedures include positioning patients correctly on the operating table to avoid painful bed sores and dangerous nerve damage; maintaining

WHEN HOME IS WHERE THE HEALTH CARE IS

Home care providers face unique hurdles associated with quality and safety, according to nursing school associate dean for academic affairs Elizabeth A. Madigan, PhD, RN, FAAN. Madigan, who has conducted research on quality and safety in various health care settings, said these are among the particular obstacles in home care:

- Lack of supportive resources for unexpected urgent care needs;
- Difficulty in tracking down health-care-acquired infections and preventing their spread to care providers and the broader community;
- Presence of trip-and-fall hazards such as throw rugs and extension cords.

Nurse scientists at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing are studying how to minimize these risks. As a step toward finding infection control solutions in the residential setting, for example, Irena Kenneley, PhD, RN, APRN-BC, CIC conducted a clinician survey on infection control in home health care. Her research, discussed in the April 2012 issue of *Home Healthcare Nurse*, confirmed the presence of occupationally acquired infections among home health care providers and found that infection prevention and control methods vary greatly among care agencies.

The nursing school will continue contributing to the evidence base in this arena, which Madigan noted takes on ever-greater importance as the U.S. population ages. "My generation wants to stay independent in their homes as long as possible," said Madigan, a baby boomer herself. "We want to avoid relying on nursing home care or spending time in a hospital intensive care unit."



FINDING WAYS TO IMPROVE QUALITY AND SAFETY FOR ALL

Despite some progress in protecting people with disabilities, equality in health care has not yet been realized. According to school of nursing research associate Ann S. Williams, PhD, RN, individuals with disabilities are regularly excluded from clinical studies contributing to safety and quality disparities for those with disabilities. “How can we understand the effectiveness of health care tools for those with visual or hearing impairments without having input from them?” Williams asked rhetorically.

To address the disparities in research and care, Williams partnered with her school of nursing colleague Shirley M. Moore PhD, RN to establish the FIND (“Full INclusion of Persons with Disabilities”) Lab, which develops approaches to help investigators at Case Western Reserve University and beyond achieve full inclusion in their studies. Even simple tools, such as audio or large-print instructions, can represent a valuable start in improving research participation—and, ultimately, in improving health care safety and quality—for those with disabilities, Williams said.

the highest possible sterility standards to prevent sometimes-deadly infections; performing surgical counts to ensure no instrument, swab, or other foreign object is mistakenly left behind in a patient’s body; and accounting for allergies and sensitivities.

Patton already has noted how the experience helps students obtain nursing positions in the operating room, which she stressed are notoriously hard to come by straight out of school.

Recent FPB graduate-turned-Massachusetts General Hospital operating room nurse Hanna Collins, BSN, RN credits the perioperative course and her practicum spent at University Hospitals for setting her apart as a rookie in a competitive workforce. “I wouldn’t have been able to get this job without this perioperative course,” said Collins. “At first, Mass General told me ‘Sorry, we don’t hire new graduates,’” recounted Collins, whose junior-year class was the first to experience the course. “But because of experience in the operating room, I was able to demonstrate my knowledge of the roles of both circulating and scrub nurse, and I got the job.”

CHANGING CULTURE COUNTRYWIDE

To further ensure that nurses like Collins are armed with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to optimally provide evidence-based care for patients, the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing is heading up the national Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) initiative.

Launched in 2005 with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, QSEN was led through its initial phases by the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill School of Nursing. The QSEN project enhances health care by focusing on two specific areas of nursing competency: quality improvement and safety; and the four related skills of teamwork: interprofessional collaboration; patient/family-centered care; evidence-based practice; and informatics.

The QSEN competencies represent the core knowledge and skills that nursing school graduates need to deliver and continually improve care to their patients, across a



variety of health care systems (See “When Home Is Where the Health Care Is.”p.11)

Dolansky, who now directs the QSEN Institute, said the overarching goal is to address the culture of today’s health care systems. “We are setting out to achieve a paradigm shift in the way things are done,” Dolansky stressed. “No matter what kind of policy or mandate you have in place, systems will fail patients unless there is a *culture of quality and safety.*”

UNC–Chapel Hill’s Linda Cronenwett, PhD, RN piloted the QSEN program in its early years—attracting nursing education programs to participate, generating teaching strategies and partnering with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, National League for Nursing and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. Collectively, they developed faculty expertise and worked with accreditation and certification organizations to embed changes into nursing education curriculum requirements.

As she headed toward retirement, Cronenwett sought a new home where the mushrooming QSEN program could thrive. “I searched for active leaders who were already esteemed for their work on the QSEN movement,” said the UNC–Chapel Hill nursing school professor and dean emeritus. Shirley Moore, PhD, RN, FAAN, FPB’s associate dean of nursing, had served as an original QSEN faculty member, and Mary Dolansky had demonstrated incredible leadership within the FPB School of Nursing in terms of its curriculum. Said Cronenwett, “I wanted to make sure that the QSEN movement continued into the future. I saw the promise of Dr. Dolansky to accomplish that goal, and so I was thrilled to hand off QSEN leadership to Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.”

With QSEN’s transition to its new Case Western Reserve University home, Dolansky and the School of Nursing launched a QSEN Institute to grow the knowledge base. The nursing school is hosting the QSEN National Forum series, where nursing educators and other specialists convene each year to share advancements in the field. The next forum, “Creating Safe Harbor for Patients and Families,” will take place May 27–29 in Baltimore, Md.

(Additional information is available on the QSEN Institute website, at QSEN.org.)

To reach the broadest nursing audiences possible with QSEN best practices, the School of Nursing is offering a free online course on related topics in 2014. Dolansky designed a six-week “massive open online course,” or MOOC, through Coursera to reach nurses across the country who, having built their own competencies, can take the strategies back to their sites.

The class will be offered in August 2014.

Dissemination of knowledge—from QSEN and other nursing school education and research projects—is necessary for widespread health care improvements, noted Dolansky. The Institute will develop and share up-to-date teaching strategies and other expertise online—by posting journal articles and curricular materials, for example—to encourage nursing schools and nurses nationwide to adopt this contemporary model of health care.

“One of the exciting stories here is how quiet enthusiasm for our quality and safety innovations is spreading,” she said. “The vision for the future is about impacting nurses across the front lines.”

To the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, it’s about emerging as an educational model for health care greatness—what Sully Sullenberger calls an “island of excellence.” +



Business as Unusual

Nurse Entrepreneurs are Creating Their Own Corporate Ladders

BY MARLA F. ZWINGGI

A new breed of nurse is emerging: the nurse entrepreneur. Nurses are using their vast knowledge in health care to build their own businesses while helping others. One of the necessary tools for their success has been a Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) at Case Western Reserve's Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing. Meet four DNP alumni who have added CEO to their credentials.

THE FITZGERALD METHOD EMERGES

Twenty-five years ago, Margaret Fitzgerald, DNP, FNP-BC, FAAN, sat at her dining room table with six advanced practice nursing students. A clinical preceptor then, she was helping them prepare for their nursing certification boards. “I led their study, and even cooked them some snacks. When all six passed, word got out fast,” Fitzgerald said. “By fall, I had my second study group at that table. Now we prepare more than 7,000 NPs for their boards annually.”

Starting a business wasn’t on her to-do list. But, professional exam preparation resources for nurse practitioners were scarce. She and her husband and business partner, Marc Comstock, saw a growing need that they couldn’t ignore. They took a risk that changed their lives.

Today, Fitzgerald Health Education Associates, Inc. (FHEA) has successfully prepared more than 75,000 nurse practitioners for certification for advanced practice. The Fitzgerald methodology combines didactic teaching with case studies and interactive assessments to help students review and retain information.

Fitzgerald who earned her DNP in 2006 felt Case Western Reserve University’s doctorate program was designed just for her. “Not only did it help me expand my business and speed its growth, but I was able to perform an analysis of the nurse practitioner market for my capstone project.”

A PINNACLE MOMENT

Jeffrey Jones, DNP, PMHCNS, CST, LNC saw firsthand that a lot of psychiatric facilities in 2005 were changing because of reimbursement disparities in mental health care. “There was a shift toward a medical model of practice that was believed to be more efficient but it wasn’t holistic or humanistic from a psychiatric nursing perspective.” Jones’ frustration fueled his decision to open his own psychiatric private practice in Mansfield, Ohio.

A DNP student at the time, he officially incorporated Pinnacle Mental Health Associates, Inc. after taking a course taught by Joyce Fitzpatrick, PhD, RN, the Elizabeth Brooks Ford Professor of Nursing. “The DNP encompassed adequate research to make me a better, more polished clinician,” said the 2007 graduate. “Yet it had business/ leadership components to help me start my own business.”

From 2006 to 2011, he was able to provide mental health services to more than 250 patients in a private practice



Margaret Fitzgerald



Jeffrey Jones

while serving two local mental health agencies through his business. Today he operates his practice mainly as a contractor without an actual office.

“It became more practical and efficient to operate without a brick and mortar space,” said Jones. “Once you understand that you are the business—the commodity—it frees you up to morph into whatever is needed in the marketplace.”

WHEN ONE DOOR CLOSSES, ANOTHER OPENS

Sixteen years ago the hospital-based occupational health clinic that Jean Aertker, DNP, ARNP-BC helped start in Tampa, Fla. was put up for sale. Instead of watching her clients be absorbed by the next owner, Aertker, a nurse practitioner, partnered with a physician to build a new, more focused practice—Tampa Occupational Health Services. It was founded on the core value of listening to a client’s needs.

“We pride ourselves on working closely with over 125 government entities and small business owners to help them comply with mandatory OSHA surveillance examinations, perform employee health examinations and health monitoring and drug free work place testing,” said Aertker. She became the principal owner in 2008 after completing her DNP at Case Western Reserve.

Aertker’s other passion is serving on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners’ Champions Program. The program encourages nurse practitioners to be nationally certified to provide commercial driver medical



Jean Aertker



Nicola Hawkinson

exams—the first nationally recognized certification that NPs can obtain beside medical doctors, chiropractors and physician assistants. She has trained more than 800 examiners to date who are mandated by the Department of Transportation to be certified by May 21, 2014.

“Nurses are the infrastructure of health care. Their unique perspective can bridge the employer and employee’s needs,” said Aertker, charter founding member of the American Association for Nurse Practitioners.

RECRUITING A FUTURE

While working as a nurse practitioner in orthopedics for more than eight years, Nicola Hawkinson, DNP, RN, witnessed high rates of turnover and employee dissatisfaction from nurses to administrative professionals to surgeons. She saw an opportunity to create a recruiting organization focused on this niche market while simultaneously providing continuing educational opportunities for job hunters.

“I developed SpineSearch in Dr. Fitzpatrick’s class as part of the DNP,” said Hawkinson. “It forced me to put an idea to paper, from concept to execution.”

Hawkinson’s five-year business plan includes expansion to three satellite offices and diversification to other health care service lines.

She credits the DNP for not only giving her a broader visualization of clinical opportunities but business opportunities in the health care industry.

“The DNP has helped my business grow through a phenomenal network of resources,” said Hawkinson (NUR ’10).

SpineSearch, based in New York, has built a nationwide network that represents more than 6,000 spine professionals. It offers a variety of educational symposiums and webinars that emphasize networking, independence, career growth and specialized spine education. SpineSearch has grown into one of the premier recruiting companies in the country, and it all started at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

THE DNP DIFFERENCE

Fitzpatrick, who holds a MBA from Case Western Reserve, is a champion of the nurse entrepreneur movement, and teaches Management in Advanced Nursing Practice. The course focuses on management of entrepreneurial concepts and issues related to advanced nursing practice.

“From the leadership realm, nurses are more reluctant to seek advice from those outside of our discipline.” Fitzpatrick said. The Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing’s DNP program has addressed this concern by building specific experiences into the curriculum that focus on leadership, collaboration, and the opportunity to practice to the full extent of a nurse’s clinical expertise.

“We want to give students the confidence to stretch that clinical knowledge to create new roles for nurses in health care and beyond.” +



ALL SMILES

Nancy Dobina Lenga (NUR'63) and Barbara Plant Flowerman (NUR'63) share a laugh at the Alumni Awards Luncheon during Homecoming 2013.



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Homecoming 2013: Celebrating Old Memories and New Traditions



Case Western Reserve University was bursting with sunshine and alumni on the last week of September for “Homecoming: A Celebration.” Among the partygoers were more than seven decades of nursing alumni who reminisced about classes and clinicals, rekindled old friendships and rejoiced in each other’s company

The celebration kicked off with a new tradition, the Blue Block Party 2.0. Hundreds of university alumni showed their school spirit by sporting blue attire as they explored Toby’s Plaza, part of the new campus hot spot: Uptown. Uptown is nestled between Mayfield Road and 116th Street on Euclid Avenue. It features a Barnes and Noble bookstore, Constantino’s Market, restaurants galore and the new home of Cleveland Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA).

On Friday, alumni gathered at the nursing school for the THINK Forum “Celebrating Collaboration: Lessons from Inter-Professional Health Education.” The forum featured faculty from the schools of nursing, dental medicine and medicine who discussed such joint initiatives as the Student-Run Free Clinic and CHOMP (see p. 5). The FPB graduates then moved to the Case Western Reserve Homecoming Luncheon and Grand Lecture: CWRU’s Newest Generation of Stars with University President Barbara Snyder.

After a tour of the school, the alumni enjoyed an afternoon tea, much like the ones thrown by the school’s namesake and subject of the the documentary, *The Life of Frances Payne Bolton*, which was viewed later that day.

In the evening, Dean Mary E. Kerr hosted the grand classes—graduates who are celebrating 50 or more years as alumni. Guests were treated to a special dinner in the dean’s Cleveland Heights home.

The next morning, the dean started another new tradition. She delivered the first State of the School address during an intimate breakfast with alumni, parents, and students at the Tudor Arms Hotel near campus. The slide presentation featured school news and future plans interspersed with historical photos of the school.

The weekend’s events culminated in the Alumni Reunion Luncheon and Alumni Awards. Honorees included Adeline M. Nyamathi (GRS ‘83) for the 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award and Elizabeth Anne Noelker (NUR ‘88) for the Award for Excellence. Mary Reed Dewar (NUR ‘46) and Sharon Anderson Speck (NUR ‘61) each received the Alumni Association President’s Award. (Read their individual stories on pages 20–22).

The festivities ended with a generous gift of \$108,707 from the Class of 1963. +



1



4



2



5



3

(1) Yvonne Prado (NUR'03) (left) and Mary Wingert (NUR'13) (right) chat with new alumni board member, Ernestine Jenkins Patterson (NUR'98, '03).

(2) Young alumni gather for some good cheer.

(3) Award winners Elizabeth Anne Noelker (NUR'88) (left), and Mary Reed Dewar (NUR'46), with Deborah Morris Nadzam (NUR'75, GRS'86).

(4) Rosalie Tyner Anderson (NUR'63, '79) congratulates award winner, Adeline M. Nyamathi (GRS'83).

(5) Graduates from the grand classes share FPB memories during dinner at Dean Kerr's Cleveland Heights home.

Alumni Association Honors 2013 Award Recipients

An international nurse leader, a public health advocate, a veterans' hospital innovator, and a top nurse scientist were honored by the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing Alumni Association in the fall. Each year, the alumni association pays tribute to the accomplishments of its most noted alumni and friends with the President's Award, Award of Excellence and Distinguished Alumni Award.

The President's Award, shared in 2013 by nurse leader, Mary Reed Dewar, MN'46, and deaf-advocate Sharon Anderson Speck, BSN'61, recognizes an outstanding alumna or alumnus selected by the president of the Alumni Association and the Alumni Awards Committee for exceptional service to nursing or various unique efforts – often at the grassroots level – which benefit nursing.

The Award for Excellence received by veterans advocate Elizabeth Anne Noelker, MSN '88, recognizes an alumnus or alumna who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and achievement in nursing, and has made significant contributions in nursing or related areas of health care.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is the highest honor given by the FPB Alumni Association to an alumna or alumnus who has demonstrated continuous, outstanding, creative and exemplary contributions to the discipline of nursing or to health care. The 2013 award was given to nurse scientist Adeline M. Nyamathi, PhD '83.



PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Mary Reed Dewar, MN'46

Mary Dewar earned a BA from Oberlin College and a master's degree in nursing at Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing. She received a master's in public health nursing at New York University.

Dewar worked as a missionary nurse for the United Church of Christ in China, Angola, Zimbabwe, Southern Rhodesia, and Ghana. From 1968 to 1970 she worked for the Christian Medical Commission, based in the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland, surveying medical mission work. She then taught public health nursing at Adelphi University in Garden City, N.Y.

Interested in health policy, she is president of the Long Island Coalition for a National Health Plan. She is a member of the American Public Health Association, the American Nurses' Association, the New York State Nurses Association and Sigma Theta Tau International. She is also a member of Physicians for a National Health Plan and its New York City Board, Single Payer NY, Health Care-NOW and UHCAN. She serves as the chair of the Public Issues Committee of the Long Island Council of Churches. She also represented The International Council of Nurses at UNICEF's semi-annual meeting of NGO's in New York, and she was an examiner for the Regents External Degree Nursing Program in Albany.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Sharon Anderson Speck, BSN '61

Sharon Anderson Speck attended Muskingum College, and graduated from Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing with a BSN. At FPB, a professor noticed she was having hearing problems and referred her to the Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center. She also had vision problems, diagnosed as Retinitis Pigmentosa and possibly Ushers Syndrome. These disabilities provided experience which stimulated insight as a nurse and community leader.

Speck became a public health nurse in Boston. She traveled to Africa with her husband where she earned her British Nursing Registration in Zimbabwe and an appointment as director of nursing at Malawi's 262-bed African Mental Hospital.

Back in the United States, she worked as a nurse in Zanesville and Cambridge, Ohio, and the Muskingum College Health Center. Dewar also served on the Zanesville-Muskingum County Board of Health. In addition, she gave her time as a volunteer with deaf children in the Zanesville City School system. Speck was president of the regional Self Help for Hard of Hearing People organization and a member of the State Committee on the Education of the Deaf and Ohio Rehabilitation Services Advisory Committee on Deafness and Hearing Impairment. She also served on the National Commission on the Education of the Deaf.



AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Elizabeth Anne Noelker, MSN '88

Elizabeth Noelker, MSN, RN, received her BSN from Kent State University and her MSN from Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing. She began her career at University Hospitals of Cleveland and Parma Community General Hospital.

Noelker became the associate chief nurse for long term care at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center and has served as its acting associate director for patient care services. She implemented programs within the Community Living Center, cited as best practices by the Joint Commission, the Long Term Care Institute and by VA headquarters. She also developed a "Restraint Free Environment."

She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, chairperson for Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN 10) Associate Chief Nurse Leadership Conferences, the nurse leader for Long Term Care VISN 10 Readiness Review Team and Corporate Compliance and chairperson for CLC Performance Improvement Counsel. Noelker is chairperson for the Hospice and Palliative Care Oversight Committee, co-chair for National VA Nursing Leadership Counsel, chair of the Nursing Clinical Practice Council, and co-chair VISN 10 Geriatrics and Extended Care Counsel.

Noelker, who served on the FPB clinical faculty, received the Veterans Health Administration National Secretary's Award for Excellence in Nursing in an expanded role, and the "Shining Star" for Excellence in Nursing Management from *Nurse Spectrum* magazine.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA AWARD

Adeline M. Nyamathi, PhD '83

Adeline M. Nyamathi is the Audrienne H. Moseley Endowed Chair in Community Health Research, and Distinguished Professor and Associate Dean for International Research and Scholarly Activities at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Nursing. She has taught there for almost 30 years. She is also a visiting professor at Anhui Medical University in Anhui, China.

She earned her BSN at Hunter College, Bellevue School of Nursing and her MSN at State University of New York at Stony Brook. She earned her PhD at Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

A member of Sigma Theta Tau, Nyamathi has led a team of multidisciplinary scientists as PI of nine NIH-funded RO1s, as well as other NIH grants related to HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases. She has more than 175 articles in referred journals, as well as an additional 100 papers and presentations. Nyamathi is a reviewer for *Research in Nursing & Health*, *Nursing Research*, and *AIDS Education and Prevention*.

Nyamathi is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and the Western Academy of Nursing. She was designated for the AACN Leadership Training for Academic Nursing Program in 2005 and received the Helen Tobin Writers' Award in 2008.

events & CELEBRATIONS

CELEBRATING MAY WYKLE

Friends and family gathered at the Benjamin Rose Institute last October to celebrate the career and accomplishments of May L. Wykle, PhD, RN, FAAN, FGSA, former dean of the school of nursing. Wykle received emeriti status last summer.



- (1) Wykle (right) shares a moment with Diana Morris, Executive Director, University Center on Aging & Health.
- (2) More than three decades of leadership: former deans Joyce Fitzpatrick (left), and May Wykle with Dean Mary Kerr.
- (3) Grover C. Gilmore, dean of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences (left), former U.S Rep. Louis Stokes, and Dean Kerr enjoy a laugh at the reception.
- (4) Carol Talley, classmate from the Ruth Brant School of Nursing, Martin's Ferry Hospital, shares memories of Wykle with her daughter, Caron.

1940s

Alice R. Nickerson (NUR '43) sends her belated 70th reunion wishes to her fellow classmates. She writes that despite the recent loss of her husband Neil, the past year has been full of family, with five children and spouses, 12 grandchildren and spouses, and five great-grandchildren, plus an Ethiopian son and family, too. Over the years she has shared FPB nursing knowledge around the world, including Liberia, Kenya, Thailand, and Papua New Guinea.

1960s

May L. Hinton Wykle (NUR '62, '69) was inducted into the Martins Ferry, Ohio Hall of Honor. Among her accomplishments, Wykle was the first African-American to graduate from the Ruth Brant School of Nursing and first African-American dean of Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University.

The classmates of **Janet Carter (NUR '64, '79)** report that she recently lost her husband, David Carter (GRS '67). The couple resided in Medina, Ohio.

1970s

Ruby Crawford-Hemphill (NUR '76)

was named a 2012 *Cincinnati Enquirer* Woman of the Year in a ceremony for her work as the assistant chief nursing officer of the Women's Health Center at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center.



Diane T. Stringer (NUR '76) was appointed to the Salem State University Board of Trustees by Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick. A Gloucester, Mass. resident, Stringer is president and chief executive officer of Hospice of the North Shore & Greater Boston.

Captain James R. Fell (NUR '75, '77) retired from the Navy Nurse Corps after 28 years of service following his most recent deployment to the Middle East. He is currently the director of the new BSN nursing program at Baldwin Wallace University in Berea, Ohio.

Patricia Horvath (NUR '77) was named HealthSpan of Cleveland's vice president of sales and new business development for Ohio. Previously, the resident of Kirtland, Ohio was the executive director and vice president of sales and account management, employer and individual of the Northern Ohio Health Plan for UnitedHealthcare.

Loretta Reinhart (NUR '79) was named the dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences at the Florida Southern College. Previously she served as dean and professor at the School of Nursing and Health Sciences at Malone University in Canton, Ohio from 1991 to 2012.

Madeline Zaworski (NUR '79, MGT '88), president and owner of "A Time for Balance" as an Independent Wellness Home Consultant with Nikken, Inc., has been recognized by Worldwide Who's



Who for demonstrating dedication, leadership and excellence in health, wellness and entrepreneurship.

1980s

Deborah Rovito (NUR '83), a CNS in Spinal Cord Injury at the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio, was awarded the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Award for Excellence in Nursing for the Registered Nurse in an Expanded Role.

Carolyn V.

Donohue (NUR '86) joined Roper Hospital as the chief nursing officer. Most recently she was the chief nursing informatics officer and an associate vice president at the University of North Carolina Health Care System in Chapel Hill, N.C.



Linda Robinson (NUR '87) was awarded the 2013 American College of Nurse-Midwives Book of the Year Award for her memoir, *Sunday Morning Shamwana, A midwife's letters from the field*. The book recounts the year she spent working with Doctors Without Borders in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Deborah J. Burns (NUR '88), certified nurse midwife, joined OhioHealth Marion Area Physicians. She is also a member of the American College of Nurse Midwives.



1990s

Geraldine McCarthy (NUR '90, GRS '94) was appointed as chairperson of the South/South West Hospital Group by the Minister for Health, Dr. James Reilly in Ireland.

Ruth Hope

(NUR'93) became director of Midwives Services at The Family Health Center of Battle Creek. She returns to Michigan after living in Maine for the past 12 years.



Azra Baig (NUR

'94) was elected as a South Brunswick Board of Education member. Baig lives with her husband Wasim and two daughters, Sunna and Samia, in South Brunswick, N.J.



Sandra Harris (NUR '92, '94) joined Baldwin Wallace University as an assistant professor in the nursing program. Previously, she was a research nurse coordinator at Cleveland Clinic and spent 20 years on the faculty at the Huron School of Nursing.

Lisabeth M. Searing (NUR '95), an assistant professor of nursing at Illinois Wesleyan University, was awarded a Nurse Educator Fellowship from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Carmen Kosicek (NUR '98) is a 2014 sponsor of the Nurses Lounge Student Career Center. Nurses Lounge, Inc. is an online professional network for nurses. She also is a contributing author for the *Tennessee Nursing Extra*. Carmen, her husband of 23 years, their two children and rescued greyhound reside in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Vanessa Paras McFeely, (CWR '93, NUR '98) joined the Maryland Athletic Club & Wellness Center as in-house nurse for the company's Healthy Start Program. Previously she was a nurse practitioner for Johns Hopkins Hospital where she worked with the Center for CSF Disorders. In addition to being a nurse practitioner, she is a registered yoga teacher.

2000s

Yafen Wang (NUR '00, GRS '13) received the Excellence in Advancing Nursing Science Award for 2013-14, Certificates of Honorable Mention from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. She is a faculty member at Kent State University.

Rupa Grummon (NUR '04, '07) works with a private group of 12 nurse practitioners, who visit patients in short-staffed facilities across middle Tennessee.

Alicia Snyder (NUR '07) is a research nurse at the Heart Institute Research Core at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Dolores L. Fazzino (NUR '08) published an article called "Forgiveness from Across the Veil" in *Soul Life Times*, Nov. 9, 2013.



Audrey Beauvais (NUR '09),

received the 2013 Josephine A. Dolan Diamond Jubilee Award from the Connecticut Nurses Association for her contributions to nursing education. She also received the 2013 Connecticut League for Nursing's Ruth M. Olson Excellence in Nurse Education Award for her success as an educator and for her leadership skills. A Fairfield, Conn. resident, she is an assistant professor and director of the undergraduate nursing program at Sacred Heart University.



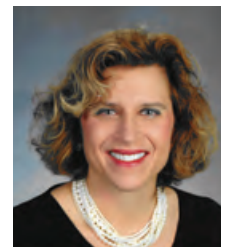
2010s

Martha Dawson (NUR '10) was elected secretary of the board of directors of the National Black Nurses Association. She is assistant professor in the Department of Community Health, Outcomes and Systems in the University of Alabama School of Nursing.

Marianne D.

Harris (GRS '13) was accepted into the YWCA Greater Cleveland 2013-2014 Momentum executive leadership

program. She is the director of Emergency/Critical Care Services for Fairview Hospital/Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio and is also a clinical preceptor for FPB nurse practitioner students.



inMEMORIAM

1930s

Marian Hall Anson (NUR '34), age 101, of Conneaut, Ohio, died Jan. 12, 2014. Her nursing career included 20 years as the industrial nurse for the General Electric base plant. She was active in The First Baptist Church of Conneaut, D.A.R., Gray Ladies of Brown Memorial Hospital, Child Conservation League, and the Lake Erie Boat Club.

1940s



Ann K. Sowash (NUR '46), age 88, of Warren, Ohio, died June 6, 2013. She retired as a registered nurse at University Hospitals of Cleveland

and as a trauma nurse at Hillside Hospital. She was member of First United Methodist Church in Warren, Homebuilders, Joy Circle, Monday Afternoon Club, Bridge Club, Red Cross Volunteer, and Mobile Meals.



Margaret Oleair Thomas (NUR '46), age 91, of Lorain, Ohio, died Jan. 7, 2014. Thomas worked as a registered nurse at the former St. Joseph

Hospital, Amherst Hospital, and various local physicians' offices, before retiring from Dr. J.B. Patterson's office. She was a member of St. Nicholas Byzantine Catholic Church. She enjoyed computer puzzles, reading, watching mass on television and spending time with her family.



Josephine Krempa Benson (FSM '46, NUR '48), age 90, of Medina, Ohio, died July 13, 2013. After graduating from the Frances

Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Benson received the Linda Richards Achievement Award for Nursing. She continued nursing until her marriage to the late Dr. Jerrel Ward Benson in 1950, when she remained home to raise her family. She loved to read, garden, sew and knit but her family always continued to be her most precious priority.

1950s

Gladys J. Bartol (NUR '50), age 85, of Sands Township, Mich., died Dec. 11, 2013. She was a member of a class of six students to earn a nursing diploma from FPB. In 1957, Bartol entered the U.S. Air Force, beginning a career in nursing that would span 20 years. She retired from the Air Force in 1977 while stationed at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base.



Helen Brunclik German (NUR '50), age 91, of Trego, Wis., died April 24, 2013. After graduating from Luther Hospital

School of Nursing she was employed as a staff nurse at Luther and also attended Wisconsin State College in Eau Claire. She taught medical surgical nursing at Milwaukee Hospital for three years before returning to Luther in 1953 as the assistant director of nursing education. Later she was named director of nursing at Luther. In 1965 she moved to Marshfield, Wis.

where she assumed the position of director of St. Joseph Hospital School of Nursing. Helen retired from active nursing in 1973.



Margaret Davidson Gold (NUR '58), age 82, of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, died July 11, 2013. After graduation, she worked as

an RN at Mt. Sinai Hospital from 1956 to 1963, a utilization review manager for the State of Ohio, and professor of nursing at Lakeland Community College. She also served as a board member of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing. In the late 1960s, Gold sang with a group called The Upstarts, and enjoyed gardening, sewing, cooking, exercise and physical fitness. She often took long bike rides and frequently traveled with her husband and vacationed with friends. She enjoyed the Cleveland Symphony and Cleveland Playhouse.

1960s



Sandra P. Knott (NUR '62), age 76, of Springfield, Ore., died June 26, 2013. Knott began her career as a pediatric nurse,

training at Children's Hospital in Boston, worked as a visiting nurse and eventually becoming a nurse practitioner and diabetes educator. In track and field, Knott became a National Champion in the 880 yard and 800 meter events, captured five AAU titles, and won the 1964 US Olympic Trials in the 800. In 2008, she was inducted into the Case Western Reserve Athletic Hall of Fame.



Margreta B. Liebenauer (NUR '62 '65), age 74, of Oswego, N.Y., died June 24, 2013. She taught for

a number of years in the Boards of Cooperative Education Services LPN program in Mexico, N.Y. Liebenauer was a member of the Philanthropic and Educational Organization, and the past president of the Oswego Town.

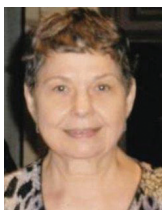
Holly A. Skodol Wilson (NUR '66), age 70, of Boulder, Colo. died Sept. 4, 2013. After graduating, Wilson was a professor and associate dean in the School of Nursing at University of California, San Francisco. She was recognized for her award-winning textbooks in psychiatric diagnostic systems, and her advances in educational strategies and theories.



Gloria G. Gerry (NUR '67), age 68, of Youngstown, Ohio died Sept. 6, 2013. She had worked as a nurse in the area

and attended the First Presbyterian Church. She also loved gardening, especially her roses.

1970s



Joan E. Specht (NUR '77), age 73, of Fort Myers, Fla., died Jan. 3, 2014. She worked for six years at University Hospitals of Cleveland.

In 1983, Specht relocated her five daughters to Cape Coral, Fla. and later worked at Lee Memorial Hospital in Plantation, Fla. She was also an

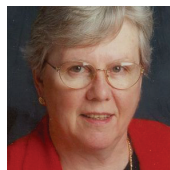
alumna of Florida International University. She was a nurse at Boca Raton Community Hospital and Dr. Frederick R. Selfin's office.

1980s



Jane Howell Bergman (NUR '80), age 68, of Champaign, Ill. died Jan. 15, 2014. Bergman was a practicing nurse in Erie and Cleveland,

and a clinical nursing instructor at the University of Akron for several years before moving to Champaign-Urbana, where she worked for the C-U Public Health District. She put her career aside to become a full-time homemaker and mother.



Dora Loyer Rice (NUR '61, '84), age 74, of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, died Nov. 3, 2013. Rice was a

registered nurse for over 40 years, the last 20 of which were at The Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center, where she retired as the Head of Risk Management. She received the Wings of Excellence Award for distinguished federal service. A published author in nursing, her research was used by the CDC to generate guidelines for infection control.

1990s

Sharyn Luckey Buccalo (NUR '93), age 66, of Denton, Md., died Oct. 17, 2013. Her lifelong love of reading and learning remained with her until her death. She worked at several hospitals after moving to the Eastern

Shore of Maryland including Easton, Chestertown and Dorchester. Her love of nursing was as strong as her love of reading and she taught several classes at the Chesapeake Community College.

FRIENDS

Paul Joseph Bilka, age 94, died Oct. 30, 2013. A retired rheumatologist, Paul and his late wife, Madge Mussey Bilka (NUR'43), were lifelong philanthropists supporting excellence in nursing education by establishing endowed funds and scholarships at Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

Mary Peters Bolton, age 97, formerly of Cleveland, Ohio, died Jan. 10, 2014, in Palm Beach, Fla. She was the wife of the late Kenyon C. Bolton, second son of Chester Castle and Frances Payne Bolton. She served on the board of Cleveland's Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, as president of the Garden Club of Cleveland, and was active with the Cleveland Playhouse.

This memorial section lists deceased alumni and friends of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing for whom death notices were received between March 31, 2013 and Jan. 31, 2014.

TELL US ABOUT IT

Have you recently married, changed careers, received an award, had a baby or have other news to share? Tell us your story at nursing.case.edu/classnotes or send notes to fpbmarketing@case.edu or to *ForeFront*, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University, 10900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44106-4904.

GROUNDBREAKER: *A Nurse's Life in Firsts*



BY JESSICA ULLIAN

Betty Smith Williams, DrPH, RN, FAAN became an educator long before she ever stood at the front of a classroom. In her first year as a visiting nurse in Cleveland, she taught mothers how to feed their babies, adult children how to care for their parents—and even young doctors how to practice medicine.

At one home visit, a new resident shadowing her popped his finger in a fussy baby's mouth to soothe the child. "I just thought, 'Oh, my goodness—I've been taking such care with my technique,'" Williams remembers. "But I didn't want to embarrass him, so I waited until we left to talk with him about aseptic care."

Such teachable moments would define Williams' career, which broke new ground for African-American nurses.

Since becoming the first African-American to wear the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing's cap 60 years ago this spring, she has achieved an impressive series of firsts: first African-American nurse to teach senior college courses in California, first black faculty member at Mount Saint Mary's College and assistant dean of student affairs, then academic affairs at the UCLA School of Nursing, and first black dean of the University of Colorado, School of Nursing. She was the founding dean of the School of Nursing, American University of Health Sciences.

"I never wanted to assist—I wanted to be instrumental," she says. "Teaching people how to be self-reliant, self-directive, was all part and parcel of that. I felt that to be an independent, self-directed thinker was what the nurse's role should be."

Embracing that role, Williams never waited for anyone else to solve her problems. When she saw her students' discomfort in poor minority communities, she shared *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines with them, so they could better understand issues that mattered to their patients. When she saw that her white colleagues had a professional rapport beyond the workplace, she sought out other black nurses around the country and co-founded the National Black Nurses Association, Inc. (NBNA).

Williams retired from teaching in the 1990s, but her capacity for leadership has not diminished. In 1998, she co-founded the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations (NCEMNA), and in 2010, was honored as an American Academy of Nursing's Living Legend. Now, at 84, she cares for her husband, Harold, a retired architect, and is considering writing her memoirs.

"I want to preserve some of the information I have from my activities with these organizations, at a time when social and professional changes were happening rapidly," she says. With a laugh, she adds, "I'd better get started."+

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