



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

FAY W. WHITNEY SCHOOL OF NURSING



leadership

**Passing the torch for
leadership in nursing
from one generation
to the next**

Dr. Loretta Ford, co-founder of the nurse practitioner movement in the United States, shares her wisdom with the first class of UW Doctor of Nursing Practice Program students.

**ALUMNI
NEWSLETTER
2013**

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

In their report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*, the Institute of Medicine argues strongly for nurses to be leaders in the health care system as evidenced by the report title. One of their key messages is that “Nurses should be full partners, with physicians and other health professionals, in redesigning health care in the United States.” Furthermore, two recommendations focus specifically on leadership: 1) expand opportunities for nurses to lead and diffuse collaborative improvement efforts, and 2) prepare and enable nurses to lead change to advance health.



Mary Burman, Dean

LEADERSHIP AT FWWSON

Leadership is a core component of what we do at the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing (FWWSON) as reflected in our mission: “As a leader in professional nursing, outreach, and rural health, the

FWWSON promotes and protects health through education, scholarship, and service.” In all our programs, students complete a specific course on leadership. In our undergraduate programs, we want students to understand that there is a “leader in every chair.” We provide them with skills in team work, conflict resolution, communication, managing change, quality improvement, and ethics. At the graduate level, we want students to develop skills, such as strategic thinking, relationship-building, legal and regulatory issues, fiscal accountability, and systems thinking so that they can lead in complex organizations.

With input from a variety of our community partners, we have begun to develop a leadership option in our master’s program. While this will take several years to develop, we are excited by the possibilities. Using an umbrella of complexity leadership theory and complex adaptive organizations, we hope to develop an option that will provide graduates with the foundation to lead in a variety of organizations in acute care, long-term care, ambulatory care, and public health. We’d love your input so let us know your thoughts and ideas. And we’ll be back with more information as we develop this option.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

In this newsletter, we discuss a leadership component and/or students or graduates from each of our school programs. As you read through this issue and as you hear about our students and graduates, I think you’ll agree with me that the future of nursing is in good hands. We really can lead change to advance health!

Mary E. Burman
Dean and Professor

P.S. Previous newsletters are available on the school’s webpage at www.uwyo.edu/nursing under “Alumni.” The school academic plan, as well as the college and university plans, are available at the following URL: www.uwyo.edu/acadaffairs/plans/.

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Editor: Claire Hitchcock; Graphic design: Mariko Design LLC/Elizabeth Ono Rahel; Main photographers: Ted Brummond, Trice Megginson, Claire Hitchcock

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD 2013

KARLEEN B. (CHRISTIAN) GOERKE (BSN, '86) RN, MSN, NEA-BC

Karleen Goerke (formerly Karleen Christian from Glenrock, Wyoming) has been named the 2013 Distinguished Alumna for the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing at the University of Wyoming. Goerke was honored for her outstanding contributions to the nursing profession through her excellence in clinical practice, education, and administration at the school's convocation ceremony in May. Goerke was also the keynote speaker for the event.

Goerke's impressive career has taken place largely within the employ of one institution: Swedish Medical Center (SMC) in Englewood, Colorado. Her loyalty to her employer, passion for her work, and nursing excellence were instrumental in Karleen's rise from the starting position as operating room staff nurse in 1990 to her current position of chief nursing officer (vice president of nursing)—a position she has held for ten years. During her tenure at SMC she also served in such positions as team leader of neuro-otology and otolaryngology, oral surgery and plastic surgery; clinical educator/clinical specialist for surgical services; director of inpatient surgical services; director of surgical services; and associate chief nursing officer.

The most challenging day in Goerke's career came on April 20, 1999 when Kari was involved in one of the most horrific days in Colorado history, "Columbine". She was



instrumental in making sure the four students who were sent to SMC had the best care available. All four survived. Goerke struggled with that event in her mind for nearly 18 months before taking a decisive move for her own therapy: She put a presentation together and spoke across the country about Columbine. She shared mainly about the OR and ER trauma procedures, but also about the healing and after-care that the staff and doctors needed. She brought in a psych trauma team to encourage talk about feelings and issues surrounding this event. She last spoke about Columbine publicly on the 10th anniversary, covered by the *Denver Post* on March 21, 2009.

As chief nursing officer, Goerke was instrumental in leading SMC to a Level 1 Trauma designation in 2003 and to the first Comprehensive Stroke Center in Colorado in 2004. Many more key accomplishments are covered in the school's online distinguished alumni spotlights found on the web at www.uwyo.edu/nursing/alumni/alumni-distinguished/2013-goerke.html.

In August 2013, Goerke joined the Loretto Heights School of Nursing at Regis University as an instructor, primarily teaching in the post licensure programs. "Education has been a dream of mine for a long time so I am glad to start pursuing this endeavor," says Goerke.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD 2014

Please consider submitting a nomination for the 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award.

Submit online at: www.uwyo.edu/nursing/alumni.

Click on Distinguished Alumni Nomination Form. The deadline is February 1, 2014.

Leadership

In the Basic BSN Program

THE MARCIA DALE ASPIRE SCHOLARS PROGRAM: FOCUS ON NURSING LEADERSHIP/DEVELOPMENT



Sherrie Rubio-Wallace,
ASPIRE coordinator

The birth of the Marcia Dale Aspire Program: In collaboration with the UW College of Health Sciences (CHS) Aspire program, the FWWSO has developed the Nursing Aspire program, newly named the **Marcia Dale Aspire Scholars Program** (see back cover). The program focuses on nursing leadership and development, accepting four freshmen students annually who are guaranteed admission

to the nursing major as juniors. This fall, nursing faculty Aspire coordinator Sherrie Rubio-Wallace will implement a new leadership curriculum she has written specifically for the program. The school plans to fashion the Aspire Scholars into leaders through “working together in small groups, discussing leadership topics, mentoring, providing opportunities to take a leadership role, and helping to guide the students’ personal development as leaders,” says Rubio-Wallace.

These plans have already been implemented: “Last semester we discussed Steven Covey’s *The Seven Habits*

of Highly Effective People with the Aspire scholars and worked out individual mission statements,” says Sherrie. The students also had the opportunity to attend the 2012 *Days of Dialogue* in Casper, meeting and spending time with Susan Hassmiller, senior adviser for nursing at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. There they heard state nursing leaders discuss “What do we want nursing to look like?” In addition, Aspire Scholars participated in interprofessional activities, Wyoming Legislative Days, UW Discovery Days, UW’s Alternative Break Program, health fairs, and the FWWSO Open House, serving as ambassadors for the school.

Students to play critical role in nursing and healthcare:

Dean Mary Burman notes that “Aspire Scholars are already leaders and they will undoubtedly play a critical role in nursing and health care over the coming decades. We imagine Aspire Scholars becoming presidents of the Wyoming Nurses Association, chief nursing officers in health systems, chairs of practice councils, and even deans of schools of nursing.”

For a full description of Aspire, admission requirements, and Aspire Scholar spotlights, go to our ‘Newsletter Spotlight’ link on the Web at www.uwyo.edu/nursing

Inaugural Aspire Scholars with instrumental school faculty and staff. (L-R) front row: Elinore Simpson, Madison Vigil, Amber Wright, Margaret McDonnell; back row: Sue Steiner, Holly Miller, Laura Mallett, Debbie Shoefelt, Linda Johnson



leadership

In the Basic BSN Program

STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION: A BREEDING GROUND FOR LEADERS

WHAT IS SNA/NSNA?

The Student Nurses Association (SNA) is part of the National SNA (NSNA), organizations which both “convey the standards, ethics, and skills that students will need as responsible and accountable leaders and members of the profession,” states the NSNA Web site. We like what 2012 NSNA President Joe Twitchell said: “NSNA’s mission really is to instill . . . in all of its members, that your voice is important; you should be heard, and you can be a leader to enact change from the bedside to the boardroom.” (www.nсна.org/AboutUs.aspx)

SNA ATTRACTS AND ENCOURAGES NATURAL AND NEW LEADERS

SNA is a magnet to draw dynamic people who are concerned about others and who desire to be at the helm of change. Through their involvement in officer positions, fundraising, community service projects, and participation in the national convention they find their niche. But as Dean Burman said on page two, “there is a leader in

every chair”. So SNA encourages students from freshmen to senior status to take their part seriously in making a difference for individuals, for the community, and in overall healthcare.

“There is a lot of democracy going on!” says Sherrie Rubio-Wallace (SNA faculty adviser). “All the members of the SNA are involved from the start; they elect officers in their local groups and plan how to help out the local community annually through many service projects.”

And as for the bigger world of healthcare, students learn they can have a voice and make an impact as they participate in the National SNA conventions, where they hear about various nursing and health issues and give input on the proposal of new initiatives.

Ultimately, SNA/NSNA helps students see that they can make a difference in the world of healthcare, in a community, in a company, in an individual’s life—wherever they are, whatever job they hold. Each can be a leader.

Students coming back from attending an NSNA convention are “jazzed, motivated, and inspired,” says Sherrie Rubio-Wallace, SNA faculty advisor. The convention trains them for the future and shows them what the process is to initiate change. They see themselves as part of something bigger where more can be accomplished.



2012 SNA officers at the NSNA Convention in Pittsburgh. (R-L) Emily Stewart, secretary; Meghan Roland, treasurer; Emily Bandel, education committee representative; Dani Johnson, president; Ashley Hord, vice president; Ashleigh Hopp, historian.

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In the BRAND Program

CAREERS IN NURSING: A FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) “New Careers in Nursing” (NCIN) program was instituted to address the nursing shortage by funding scholarships for accelerated nursing programs. But the NCIN program does so much more: It funds traditionally underrepresented students and helps them make a career switch. It assists them in managing the challenges of an accelerated program and then gives them the tools to be leaders in nursing.

The NCIN program sets students up to enter the BRAND (Bachelors Reach for Accelerated Nursing Degree) program “on top of their game” and helps them tackle the program successfully. Prior to beginning the BRAND program coursework, NCIN provides important reviews in medical terminology and math. They also give students tools to increase their time management and test-taking skills.

RWJF NCIN offers extra funding for leadership activities. The BRAND program holds several different events to involve students in leadership. For example, RWJF helps bring in nursing leader panelists to discuss different issues in nursing involving our Wyoming state statutes. “Wyoming is unique,” says Candace Tull



2013 Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship New Careers in Nursing Scholars. (l-r) John Fitch, Nicole Wiese, Jonathan Banel, Felicia McAfee, Sheron Cox.

(current BRAND coordinator). “Our BRAND program has access to high powered nursing leaders—access to people who make a difference in our state. We have an unparalleled situation where we can take advantage of leaders’ accessibility, since we also enjoy enough curricular flexibility to add to the students’ education with the presence of these panelists/leaders.”

The FWWSON looks forward to following our NCIN Scholars to see what role they will play in nursing’s future. Like RWJF, we also believe that these students will bring a new perspective to the field of nursing and will stretch it beyond what we could have imagined. We look forward to the future: Nursing is in good hands!

Read the full article about RWJF NCIN and the 2013 BRAND program at UW by going to our ‘Newsletter Spotlight’ link on the Web at www.uwyo.edu/nursing



Carrie Deselms



Candace Tull

The FWWSON has been fortunate in receiving funding from RWJF NCIN since the inception of the BRAND program. Inaugural faculty coordinator Carrie Deselms wrote successful grant applications for several years. New BRAND coordinator Candace Tull has continued the pattern and RWJF funding continues. Students accepted by RWJF as an NCIN Scholar currently receive \$10,000 toward their full program of study. Among other requirements, applicants should identify with one of the following categories:

- (a) Under-represented in nursing: Racial/ethnic minorities, or male gender, or Wyoming rural/frontier isolated community resident
- (b) Disadvantaged background: site bound in Wyoming; under-employed or financial hardship; single parent; or documented learning disability.

Leadership

In the RN/BSN Completion Program

LEADERSHIP IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT: BORN OUT OF CONCERN FOR A COMMUNITY

by Teresa Wolff, coordinator of the RN/BSN Completion Program

Like many nurses prepared at the associate degree level, Joanie Connolly realized if she wanted to expand her options she would need to return to school to earn a baccalaureate in nursing. After completing the required prerequisites, Joanie was ready to enroll in the final course for her degree, Nursing 4985: Capstone Project, which was offered for the first time through UW FWWSON in the fall of 2012. This newest addition to the curriculum was designed for students to use the knowledge they had gained in prior courses to develop a project related to a focused health topic based upon a community need.

A PROJECT BORN OUT OF CONCERN FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

Joanie's first step was to speak with Melanie Kawulok, who was at that time director of Sheridan County Public Health and an adjunct faculty for the FWWSON. "Melanie told me she had been contacted by 'Freehand Robert' Benson, owner of Your Mom's Favorite Tattoo Parlor in Sheridan," said Joanie. "Robert expressed a concern for the public health and well-being of the residents of Sheridan County as a result of the many 'underground' body art parlors operating in the area. He wanted some assistance drafting legislation regulating the provision of body art." Joanie commented, "I was



"I was shocked to discover the person who cuts your hair has to be licensed, but someone can inject ink into your body without any regulatory oversight."

—Joanie Connolly

shocked to discover the person who cuts your hair has to be licensed but someone can inject ink into your body without any regulatory oversight!"

For Joanie, this particular project seemed to be the ideal way to use the theoretical knowledge she had gained in the RN/BSN program in a real life setting. She would have the opportunity to contribute to maintaining the health of her community and preventing a potential outbreak of disease that could be spread through the use of contaminated equipment used by unlicensed body art providers.

ORDINANCE DRAFTED

Together Joanie and Melanie were able to draft an ordinance and are presently working with the Sheridan County Attorney's office and the County Commissioners to develop a joint resolution between the city and the county. Thanks to the collaborative effort between the private sector body art studio owner, a public health nurse, and a nursing student, the health of the residents of Sheridan County is one step closer to being protected.



Leadership

In the Masters Nurse Educator Program

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION WITH MS NURSE EDUCATOR GRADUATE, KATHY WELLS

By Pamala Larsen, professor emeritus and former MS Nurse Educator coordinator

In the past two years, Kathy Wells (2004 UW MS Nurse Educator Program graduate) has taken on a challenging leadership role in the RENEW (Revolutionizing Nursing Education in Wyoming) state-wide project. Wells is the chair of the RENEW curriculum committee, tasked with the development of the BSN competencies, pre-requisite courses, philosophy and framework for the RENEW curriculum as well as development and leveling of courses. She says, "As nursing educators, curricular change is what we've always done." But while most changes are normally superficial in nature, the RENEW project is taking change to another level. Kathy sees the RENEW project as a catalyst for change in the state and the direction nursing education should be going. "The process of thinking and working with others, collectively, has proven highly stimulating," says Wells. "The end result will be seamless education for nursing in the State of Wyoming." And the end result will be attributable to Wyoming nursing leaders such as Wells.

A LEADER WITH A WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE

Kathy Wells brings a wealth of experience to her position with RENEW but also to her position as Dean of Health Sciences at Central Wyoming College (CWC) in Lander,

a position she has held since 2007. An RN since 1991, Kathy was an acute care nurse, working in ICU, ER, and as a house supervisor. She was happy in her positions and not looking to make a career change. As she puts it, "I fell into education by accident." Always interested in how graduates transition into practice, she had talked with the Nursing Advisory Board at CWC about the issue. As it turned out, there was an open faculty position. Kathy applied for the position and was hired, still unconvinced whether she wanted to be a nursing instructor. That was in 2000, and she has had no regrets.

DEEP TIES AND COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

Kathy is a sixth generation Lander, Wyoming, resident. From a pioneer family, she has deep ties and a commitment to the community. Kathy's career began in nursing, graduating from CWC with her associate degree in 1991, followed by a BSN from Weber State University in Utah, and an MS in nursing education from the University of Wyoming in 2004. In 2012, she added the position of Dean of the Health and Science Division at CWC to her directorship of the CWC School of Nursing. We are grateful for this nursing leader who "fell into education by accident!"



Kathy Wells has two vital leadership roles:

- (1) as Dean of Health Sciences at Central Wyoming College in Lander, and
- (2) as curriculum chair for RENEW. "Thinking and working with others collectively has proven highly stimulating", says Wells. "The end result will be seamless education for nursing in the state of Wyoming."

leadership

In the DNP Program

LEADERSHIP PREPARATION REQUIRED FOR THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF NURSING PRACTICE

By Ann Marie Hart, DNP program coordinator

UW's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program opened in the fall of 2012 with a dozen family nurse practitioner (FNP) students. This new program resulted largely from the national movement to move NP education to the doctoral level. The DNP program replaced our master's NP program, whose graduates have been providing high quality primary care across Wyoming and the nation for over 30 years. The DNP is a terminal practice doctorate; DNP graduates will have successfully completed the educational requirements and demonstrated the requisite skills for the *highest* level of nursing practice. UW's DNP-prepared NPs will be practicing as accountable, independent clinicians, often in rural or frontier communities. This type of practice *requires* that DNP graduates be prepared for leadership roles.

CURRICULUM DESIGNED AROUND LEADERSHIP CONCEPTS

The school's new DNP program educates NPs to utilize evidence to create innovative ways to improve primary health care delivery, particularly in the rural Rocky Mountain region. UW's DNP faculty designed its curriculum around four key leadership concepts: *integration* (working with a team of different professionals both before and during provision of services in order to avoid costly, ineffective fragmentation in care), *innovation* (improving care with creativity, not being limited by the current paradigm of care delivery),


reflection (critically evaluating one's professional practice), and *articulate communication* (effectively communicating with patients and other professionals orally, by writing, and through listening).

UW'S DNP PROGRAM EMPHASIZES HEALTH BEHAVIOR CHANGE.

Both disease prevention and management are largely impacted by lifestyle (e.g., diet, exercise, stress management). Many patients are aware of the benefits of lifestyle changes and are looking for ways to successfully make these changes. In response, UW's DNP program has designed and implemented three required behavioral change courses to prepare NPs for encounters with such individuals.

AUGUST 2015: PREPARED TO CREATE AND LEAD EFFECTIVE CHANGE

Our first cohort of DNP-prepared NPs will graduate in August 2015 after three intensive years of classroom and clinical experiences. These graduates will be entering an environment that is ripe for accountable innovation and effective leadership. The faculty believe our DNP graduates will have the necessary skills to provide excellent care and to create and lead effective change. We are excited to see and experience their accomplishments!



The UW FWWSON inaugural DNP students are rapt with attention as they take advantage of the opportunity to discuss healthcare with Dr. Loretta Ford (center), co-founder of the nurse practitioner movement.



conflict resolution



career planning



**health
care
systems**

**What
defines a
nursing
leader?**

ethics



communication



teamwork



DIANE BOYLE FILLS EXCELLENCE CHAIR IN NURSING

Diane Boyle, a prolific researcher and award-winning teacher, is the first excellence chair at the FWWSON. Her appointment through UW's Excellence in Higher Education Endowment began August 2013. Boyle was deputy director and co-principal investigator of the National Database of Quality Indicators® (NDNQI®) at the University of Kansas School of Nursing, where she has been a faculty member since 1994. "Dr. Boyle brings to UW significant expertise in health outcomes, patient safety, nursing quality indicators, nursing workforce issues and health care work environments—areas that are very important for the school, college, and the state of Wyoming," says Dean Mary Burman. "Boyle will be teaching health outcomes and nursing quality indicators to both undergrad and grad students, will provide instruction on research methodologies to doctoral students, will lead research to examine differences in nursing quality between rural and urban hospitals, and will determine what nursing workforce attributes are associated with good patient outcomes in rural hospitals."

Please look forward to meeting this exceptional woman!

SCHOOL UPDATE

The individuals represented in this section are impacting or have impacted nursing and the FWWSO significantly. Please read more about these treasured individuals at our “Newsletter Spotlight” link on the web at www.uwyo.edu/nursing.

NEW FACULTY

Diane Boyle, PhD, RN: Boyle, former University of Kansas SoN faculty since 1994, and deputy director and co-PI of the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators® (NDNQI®), is now Wyoming Excellence Chair in Nursing.

Shelly A. Fischer, RN, MS, FACHE, NE-BC: Fischer will teach leadership and rural health in the DNP and Nurse Educator programs. She served for 33 years as a nurse in critical care, neuroscience nursing, and long term care, and 25+ years in clinical and leadership roles.

Marilyn Hall, MSN, RN: Hall will teach didactic and clinical in Basic BSN program public health/pediatrics/OB/adult health practicums. Hall taught four years at Casper College, spent nine years in school nursing, and boasts a 24-year career in ER nursing.

Ann Wislowski, MSN, RN: Wislowski will teach Basic BSN program Adult Health. From Philadelphia, she worked as a surgical/trauma ICU nurse at the University of Pennsylvania, taught undergraduate nursing students, and worked as an NP for a vascular surgery service.

RETIREMENTS AWARD-WINNING FACULTY

Anne Bowen, PhD: Bowen was Director of the Nightingale Center for Nursing Scholarship. Her passion for research culminated in the 2012 *College of Health Sciences (CHS) Outstanding Researcher Award*. Now Professor of Psychology at the University of Arizona, Bowen continues work in HIV prevention.

Carrie Deselms, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC: Deselms as coordinator of BRAND brought the creative program to its present successful state and was rewarded with the 2012 CHS Innovation in Teaching Award. Deselms is now president of the Wyoming State Board of Nursing.

Pamala Larsen, PhD, CRRN, FNGA: Larsen was associate dean and coordinator of MS Nurse Educator and RN/BSN Completion programs. She was and continues to be an advocate for geriatric nursing, recognized in 2012 with the CHS Outstanding Teaching in Geriatrics Award.

DEATHS

Marcia Dale, EdD, RN, FAAN: Dr. Dale, former FWWSO dean, passed away in Cheyenne from multiple myeloma in August 2012. Dale retired from UW in 2003 following ten years as dean and 42 total years of service to UW. *Please see back cover.*

Donna Diers, PhD, RN, FAAN: Sheridan, Wyoming native, nursing *Living Legend*, and Yale School of Nursing Professor Diers died in February 2013. Diers is remembered for her contributions to the profession of nursing. UW awarded an honorary degree to Diers in 2012.

Deborah Retz, MS, RN, BC, CVN-III: Nursing faculty member Retz passed away at her home in Cheyenne in February 2013 following a courageous battle with cancer. Retz was assistant lecturer at the school since 2008 and was twice chosen “Top Prof” by the Cap and Gown Chapter of Mortar Board during her tenure.

Elizabeth “Betsy” Wiest, EdD, RN: Former nursing faculty member Wiest passed away in May 2013 at her Laramie home. Wiest was on UW SoN faculty from 1972–2002, serving in numerous roles throughout her

tenure. During her retirement she created the Wiest Nursing Scholarship for non-traditional generic nursing students.

2013 FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT AWARDS

FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS

Anne Bowen: NCNS Big Heifer Award

Denise Gable: CHS Outstanding Staff Award

Christina Lepper: UWYO Jodi K. Humphrey Staff Award

Crystal McFadden: UWYO Staff Incentive Award

Mary Anne Purtzer: CHS Interprofessional/Interdisciplinary Award

Susan Steiner: NCNS “Communication of Wisdom” Award

STUDENT CONVOCATION AWARDS

On May 11, 2013, 203 graduates were honored: 47 Basic BSN, 22 BRAND, 124 RN/BSN Completion, and 10 MS Nurse Educators. Awards were presented at the ceremony as follows:

BASIC BSN AND BRAND STUDENT AWARDS

Joi Smith: Passion for Nursing Award, *devotion, allegiance, and commitment to profession of nursing*

Danielle Johnson: Rudolph “Rudy” and Louise Anselmi and Jeri Kirk Family Trust Nursing Scholarship, *leadership and responsibility*

Julia Brown and Dodi Campbell: Amelia Leino Memorial Award, *outstanding in family nursing*

Darcey Cowardin: Gertrude Gould Memorial Award, *excellence in public health nursing practice*

Emily Bandel: Beverly McDermott Award, *leadership and public activism*

Michelle Dowling: Dorothy Tupper Memorial Award, *caring, compassion, and interpersonal communications*

Stephanie Nemec: Lina Kennedy White Memorial Award, *interest in and aptitude for geriatric nursing*

Emily Stewart: SoN Spirit Award, *exceptional spirit and enthusiasm*

RN/BSN STUDENT AWARDS

Joan Connolly: Professional Nurse Award, *practice, community service, and professional service*

Shelly Montgomery: Making a Difference in Wyoming’s Health Award, *Wyoming RN/BSN Completion student with demonstrated commitment to continued education and excellence in nursing practice*

MS STUDENT AWARDS

Paula Hart: Courage to Teach Award, *personification of a critically reflective attitude about learning and teaching*

PUBS, GRANTS, PRESENTATIONS

ACTIVE GRANTS

Bowen, A. (PI) (2012–13) Identifying Health Care Provider Needs of Individuals with DD in Wyoming. Funded by Wyoming Governor's Council on Disabilities, \$127,000.

Burman, M. (PD) (2013–2015) Revolutionizing Nursing Education in Wyoming (ReNEW). Project funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation "State Implementation Grant" program, \$150,000.

Burman, M. (PD) (2013–2015) Wyoming Center for Nursing and Health Care Partnerships. Project funded by the Wyoming Workforce Development Council and the Department of Workforce Services, \$26,000.

Burman, M. (PD) (2011–2014) Nursing Education and Leadership in Wyoming (NEWL). Project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation "Partners Investing in Nursing's Future" (PIN) program through the Wyoming Community Foundation, \$450,000.

Clarke, P. N. (PI) (2010–2014) LEAP from RN to MS: Preparing Nurse Educators. Funded by Health Resources Administration (HRSA), \$1,108,708.

Hart, A.M. (PI) (2012–14) Advanced Education Nurse Traineeship. Funded by Health Resource Services Administration (HRSA), \$330,000.

Robinson, B. (2012) Healthcare needs of elders living in frontier areas: Understanding the perspectives of Wyoming's frontier elders. Funded by University of Wyoming, College of Health Sciences, \$5,810.

Tull, C. (PI) (2013–2014) New Careers in Nursing Scholarships grant. Round six. Funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, \$50,000.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS 2013

Burman, M.E., Robinson, B., & Hart, A.M. (in press) Linking evidence-based nursing practice and patient-centered care through patient preferences. *Nursing Administration Quarterly*.

Clarke P.N., & Fawcett, J. (2013) Life as a nurse metatheorist. *Nursing Science Quarterly*, 26(3), 238–240.

Clarke P.N., Swider, S., & Bigley, M.K. (2013) Nursing Leadership and Health Policy: A Dialogue with Nurse Leaders. *Nursing Science Quarterly*, 26(1), 136–142.

Clarke P.N. (2013) Technology: Informing Nursing Practice and Nursing Science. *Nursing Science Quarterly*, 26(1), 36.

Diaz Swearingen, D. C., Clarke, P.N., & Gatua, M. W. (in press). Are we there yet? An assessment of cultural competencies in rural nursing education. *Nursing Perspective Journal*.

Diaz Swearingen, C., Clarke, P.N., Gatua, M.W., & Cooper, C. (2013) Diffusion of innovation: Nursing workforce development through promotion of RN/BSN education. *Nurse Educator*, 38(4) 152–156.

Hart, A.M. (in press) Evidence-based recommendations for the diagnosis and management of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD). *The Nurse Practitioner*.

Hart, A.M., Morgan, K., & Casper, G. (in press) Rural parent behaviors and expectations when caring for children with acute respiratory infections (ARIs). *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*.

Hart, A.M. & Morgan, K. (2013) Acute respiratory infection-related patient behaviors and expectations in Wyoming. *Journal for Nurse Practitioners*. 9, 202–207.

Schueler, J.L., Alexander, B.M., **Hart, A.M.**, Austin, K.J., & Larson-Meyer, D.E. (2013) Presence and dynamics of leptin, GLP-1, and PYY in human breast milk at early postpartum. *Obesity*. (Epub ahead of print). doi: 10.1002/oby.20345.

Angiola, J. & **Bowen, A.M.** (2013) Quality of Life in Advanced Cancer: An Acceptance and Commitment Therapy View. *The Counseling Psychologist*, 41, 313–335.

Black, A.C., Serowik, K.L., Schensul, J., **Bowen, A. M.**, & Rosen, M.I. (2013) Build a Better Mouse: Directly-Observed Issues in Computer Use for Adults with SMI. *Psychiatric Quarterly*, 84, 81–92.

Purtzer, M. A., & Overstreet, L. (in press) Transformative learning theory: Can it help us facilitate mammography screening in rural women? *Oncology Nursing Forum*.

Hermansen-Kobulnicky, C. J., & **Purtzer, M. A.** (in press) "How I kept track of it of course was my business": Cancer patient self-monitoring as self-stylized work. *Palliative and Supportive Care Journal*.

Thomas, J., & Borrayo, E. (in press) The impact of perceived stress and psychosocial factors on missed class and work among college students. *Journal of College Counseling*

Tompkins, S., Roeder, J., **Thomas, J.**, & Koch, K. (2013) Effectiveness of a relationship enrichment program on couples living with Multiple Sclerosis. *International Journal of MS Care*, 15, 27–34.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS 2012

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COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE YEAR

THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, CHEYENNE

Both the Basic BSN and the DNP programs selected the VA as their community partner award winner for 2013. Thank you, Cheyenne VAMC, for partnering with our school in the education of generations of nurses! The FWWSON is proud of the top-notch care the Cheyenne VAMC provides to our nation's veterans.

BASIC BSN

The Basic BSN program has enjoyed a long-time partnership with the VA Medical Center with students placed in multiple settings within the hospital. For several years now, students continually share positive comments about those clinical experiences.

VAMC Unit Manager, Kasey (Clabaugh) Mullins, UW BSN ('03), RN says, "Having students on the unit helps keep the nursing staff sharp and focused on keeping their skills current. Other benefits include students' tendency to question policies, procedures, and practice which makes for valuable workplace discussions."

According to UW faculty Linda Williams, "Kasey appreciates what the students bring to the clinical setting and is very supportive and concerned that the students have an excellent experience at the VA, involving them in a variety of learning opportunities." Kasey also gathered feedback from the veterans and notes, "The veteran patients are receptive to having nursing students care for them and appreciate that the students give them individual attention and teach them about their health, illness, and plan of care."



Kasey Mullins
VAMC Unit Manager

DNP

For over three decades, the Cheyenne VAMC has partnered with UW's nurse practitioner (NP) program to provide high quality clinical experiences for students. NPs and physicians from the VA have precepted countless students, many of whom have gone on to VA careers. Experiences students receive there are second to none. Students are required to go through an intensive training session to fully utilize the VA's impressive integrated medical records system. Also, students enjoy their own patient examination room and schedule (which increases in complexity as the students' skills progress). In addition to their main preceptors, students who rotate through the VA also work with providers in multiple departments, ensuring a well-rounded experience.



NPs at the VAMC continually demonstrate commitment to UW's NP program not only by precepting students and securing stipend funding, but by routinely providing guest lectures and workshops such as the suturing workshop pictured here with VAMC NP Ann Enlow.

COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE YEAR

BRAND: WYOMING MEDICAL CENTER

From BRAND's inception, Wyoming Medical Center has been crucial in the offering of superior clinical experiences. WMC, a teaching hospital, offers opportunities for a rich array of learning experiences. In addition to medical and surgical clinical experiences, students learn fundamentals in obstetrics (OB), including labor and delivery, post-partum, and newborn nursery. Clinical instructor Cheryl Wrasper, a long-term former WMC OB employee, augments the learning process as she brings forth vital knowledge and sharing of real-life case scenarios. In addition, Linda Clamp has served with excellence as an adjunct clinical faculty in the medical surgical clinical course.



Linda Clamp, adjunct clinical faculty at WMC

BRAND students observe and interact with other medical disciplines, such as cardio-respiratory; radiation therapy; occupational, physical, and speech therapies; dialysis center; and pharmacy. They experience interprofessional collaboration between nursing and other departments, a concept integral to their future work in the health care delivery system. Students also gain experience using electronic documentation and bar-scanning for medication administration.

Each year BRAND graduates are hired by WMC, bringing the partnership between the hospital and school

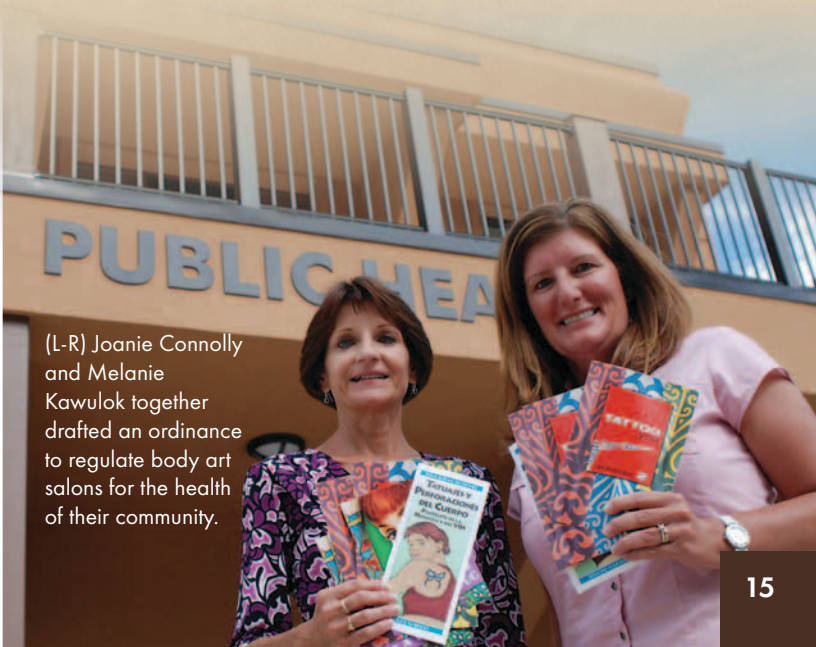
full-circle: BRAND graduates (along with other WMC nurses) help to carry on the legacy of mentoring future BRAND students.

RN/BSN COMPLETION: SHERIDAN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

The FWWSON RN/BSN Completion Program named Sheridan County Public Health for its educational partner for 2013. Melanie Kawulok, former nursing director at Sheridan County Public Health, demonstrated a commitment to participating in the education of our students by serving as a mentor for Joan Connelly during Joan's capstone project. Together the two worked to formulate standards for regulating body art parlors in the county. Melanie joined Dr. Mary Burman and Terri Wolff in presenting the information about how the other Wyoming public health nurses could become involved with FWWSON RN/BSN students in their respective capstone projects at the annual spring meeting of the Wyoming Public Health Nurse Managers in Cheyenne this year.

Melanie also is an adjunct faculty member for FWWSON and has been teaching online courses for the RN/BSN students for the past several semesters. Recently Anna Atkinson, another of the public health nurses at Sheridan County Public Health, joined our faculty as an adjunct. Both of these public health nurses utilize their current practice experience to enhance the educational experience of our students. These types of partnerships are critical to providing a quality learning environment for the RN/BSN Completion students.

Wyoming Medical Center



(L-R) Joanie Connolly and Melanie Kawulok together drafted an ordinance to regulate body art salons for the health of their community.

PRECEPTOR AND APN RECOGNITION

PRECEPTOR RECOGNITION

Basic BSN—Erin Kraus, RN, BSN, Poudre Valley Hospital, Ft. Collins, Colorado; NICU

Nominated by Julia Brown, Basic BSN student: “Erin was a great mentor and preceptor. Each day was a tremendous learning experience that helped me develop skills as a new nurse and increase my self-confidence and professionalism. By her caring manner and immense passion for what she does, Erin demonstrated the type of nurse I want to be. I quickly became proficient and confident as part of the NICU team at Poudre Valley Hospital. Erin helped me experience every aspect of the unit before my rotation ended. I will continue to look to her as a wonderful mentor as I move on to my professional career as a new graduate nurse.”

BRAND—Aaron Wright, RN, BSN, Ivinson Memorial Hospital, Laramie, Wyoming; ER

Nominated by Amanda Westby-Moyer, BRAND student: “Aaron was an excellent preceptor to have during my ER rotation. He always pushed me to try new things and to try again if I failed the first time. The ER is an intense place to intern but he always made me feel comfortable and competent. He quizzed me a lot and if I didn’t know the answer we went over the information until I knew it well. He is a very skilled and knowledgeable nurse. I feel lucky to have had him as my preceptor.” [Note: Wright is now a DNP student at FWWSO.]

See “Newsletter Spotlight” link on the web at www.uwyo.edu/nursing for in-depth articles.

ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING AWARDS

Maria Kidner, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP

Maria Kidner (UW FNP ‘01), one of the first Wyoming DNP-prepared family nurse practitioners, has enjoyed an illustrious career practicing rural and frontier health care in Basin, Wyoming and working in orthopedic and cardiology clinics in Cheyenne, earning respect for her clinical knowledge and compassionate care. Maria’s service career includes leadership in medical missions to Guyana, South America; development and delivery of educational programs; and heavy involvement with organizations such as the Wyoming Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau, March of Dimes, and the Cheyenne Community Clinic. Kidner also served as representative to the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, working to ensure that Wyoming’s NPs can practice at their highest educational level.

Marsha Siegel, EdD, FNP-C

Marsha Siegel (UW FNP ‘89) has worked in a variety of patient care roles during her 24-year career as a nurse practitioner, including family planning and private practice. She currently is the acting medical director for the Compensation and Pension Program at the Cheyenne VA and serves as a volunteer provider for Crossroads Clinic. Siegel has been committed to professional service state- and nation-wide through the Wyoming Council for Advanced Practice Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau, the Wyoming Nurses Association, the AANP, and the ACNP, where she served as president. Since 1990, Siegel has worked tirelessly to educate Wyoming’s legislature, lobbying for advanced practice nursing. Largely because of her work, Wyoming NPs can practice to their full scope of practice.



Erin Kraus



Aaron Wright



Maria Kidner



Marsha Siegel

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Thank you!

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Many thanks to our generous donors for continuing their support of nursing education through scholarships.

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www.uwyo.edu/uw/news/2013/07/emily-bandel-from-nurses-assistant-to-the-mayo-clinic.html

Making a Difference

One UW Nursing student's
life-changing experience . . .



At the school's 2012 scholarship reception, senior Emily Bandel spoke about her summer Mayo Clinic internship experience. An interview with Bandel can be found at the above URL.

SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

THE RUDOLPH "RUDY" AND LOUISE ANSEMI AND JERI KIRK FAMILY TRUST NURSING SCHOLARSHIP



Danielle Johnson

This "scholarship" is unusual in that it is awarded at the end of a student's schooling. The financial award is helpful as one looks to resettle in a new job. But it is also helpful in reaffirming a student's bent toward leadership, as the 2013 scholarship recipient Danielle Johnson verifies below:

I feel that the leadership roles I have been blessed to have up to this point have been stepping stones to greater leadership and responsibility. This scholarship has helped me focus on the importance of bringing leadership into the "real world" and has inspired me to continue in leadership as I move out of school and into a job.

Our health care system is going through a lot of changes and challenges. To pursue practical ways of making a difference in the lives of people at home and globally is a crucial responsibility. With this in mind, I plan to continue developing leadership and communication skills so that I might bring change to situations around me through positive, trusting relationships. It brings me back to the core principle of love, and how important it is to show love in every action as a nurse and leader.

I am so grateful for the Rudolph "Rudy and Louise Anselmi and Jeri Kirk Family Trust Nursing Scholarship, for the Anselmis and Kirks and people like them who believe in us as new graduates and who support the building of leaders as we transition from school to professional life. I have great hope and excitement for our generation because I know that we have the tools and passion to change the world.

ABOUT THE ANSEMI FAMILY

This award was established in memory of his wife Louise by Mr. Rudolph Anselmi, who was instrumental in sponsoring the legislation that authorized the establishment of the school of nursing in 1951.

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- Yes**, my company matches my gifts. I have included a form from my company.

MARCIA DALE, EdD, RN, FAAN

THE EPITOME OF A LEADER

The Friends of the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing development board dedicated the nursing “Aspire” program (see pg. 4) to the late Dr. Marcia Dale, former dean of the UW School of Nursing. Marcia not only loved students and tremendously enjoyed helping them to succeed, but is the epitome of a leader and one to stand as an example to the new Marcia Dale Aspire Scholars.

Among many other accomplishments, Dale served as president of every nursing organization in Wyoming, including the Wyoming Nurses Association, the Wyoming State Board of Nursing, and the Wyoming League for Nursing. Nationally, she was among the first three nurses from Wyoming to be accepted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She established a national peer group of ten schools of nursing deans to serve as a forum for sharing ideas in regard to improving nursing education. Dale also led the first site visit for the national Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accrediting organization.

Please see a spotlight on Dale’s exemplary contributions to nursing at www.uwyo.edu/nursing/alumni/alumni-spotlights/spotlight-marcia-dale.html



COMING UP—A CHANCE TO HONOR MARCIA DALE

The Friends of the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing development board is taking on a project to seek financial assistance/award funding for the Marcia Dale Aspire Scholars. The board will be finalizing plans this fall, so be looking for announcements about this project that will not only support and encourage our future nursing leaders, but will honor the name and memory of a very special leader, Marcia Dale.