Wayne State University
College of Nursing

Report of academic year
2012-2013

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

The College of Nursing is an integral part of Wayne State University, a major research institution dedicated to teaching, scientific discovery and community enrichment in Detroit and around the world.

The college itself places considerable emphasis on research; we strongly believe in the ability of informed, well-managed and broadly supported scientific inquiry to complement academic scholarship while producing new knowledge that advances the profession of nursing.

Our location in Detroit’s thriving Midtown neighborhood places the College of Nursing within walking distance of many of southeast Michigan’s major cultural institutions, including the internationally celebrated Detroit Institute of Arts and the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

Our faculty is changing the face of patient care, mentoring tomorrow’s nurse clinicians, educators and scientists, and conducting pioneering and transformational research. Working together, we are committed to meeting our nation’s growing need for a highly skilled, compassionate nursing workforce. Whatever their degree, we are confident that we turn out the best nurses anywhere.

Barbara K. Redman, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
Faculty/Research

Our faculty is a diverse body of accomplished scholars, researchers, clinicians and community leaders who are shaping the future of health care. We regularly hear from alumni about ways in which our faculty’s expertise, teaching and mentoring skills, and commitment to innovation have helped them excel both personally and professionally.

Many of our faculty members have been nationally recognized for scholarship, leadership and scientific achievement. In classrooms and clinical settings, our faculty provides students a supportive learning environment, advances the art and science of nursing, and promotes the well-being of individuals and communities.

The College’s Office of Health Research, established in 1968, is designed to promote learning, scholarship and discovery; enhance the productivity of faculty and student research; and assist faculty and graduate students in securing external funding to support their research.

In March 2013, Associate Professor Margaret Campbell received the Nursing Leadership Award in Palliative Care from The Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation. The national award annually recognizes a nurse leader in palliative care whose work has improved care for dying patients and their families.

“Nursing research is critical to providing knowledge that will improve health outcomes across the lifespan, to reducing health disparities, and to generating evidence upon which to base clinical practice. Our challenge is translating research and clinical innovations into practical applications in a timely manner.”

– Nancy Artinian, PhD, RN, FAAN, Director of the Office of Health Research
The research of Professor Karen Kavanaugh (center) is dedicated to improving care for extremely premature infants and their families, emphasizing prenatal and postnatal decision-making and support programs for parents. Her team includes Kathleen Meert, MD (standing) of the Department of Pediatrics in the School of Medicine and Susan Eggly, PhD, of the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Research conducted by Assistant Professor Wanda Gibson-Scipio focuses on improving the transition from pediatric to adult health care for 14- to 24-year-old urban African Americans with asthma.

Assistant Professor Horng-Shiuann Wu is defining the parameters of what she terms “sudden exhaustion syndrome” in an effort to differentiate among types of cancer-related fatigue, which affects more than 90 percent of patients who undergo major treatments and up to 67 percent of cancer survivors.
Wayne State University is classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a university with “very high research activity,” a distinction shared by only 2.3 percent of all U.S. colleges and universities.

Associate Professor April Vallerand (third from right) with her multidisciplinary research team. A nationally recognized authority on pain and its management, Dr. Vallerand focuses her research on the maintenance and improvement of function in patients with chronic pain.

Tess Briones holds the Katharine Faville Endowed Professorship at the College of Nursing. Endowed professorships, established through private gifts, are a meaningful way through which the college may honor and support high-achieving faculty.
“As scientific knowledge progresses there are continuous important advances in health care, and nursing research is a significant contributor. Faculty in the College of Nursing play a vital role in the university’s research mission, and are transforming the lives of people in Detroit, Michigan and around the world with their groundbreaking ideas and discoveries.”

– Hilary Ratner, Vice President for Research, Wayne State University

At Wayne State, students have the opportunity for research under faculty guidance. Here, Katina Papasifakis and Ashley Twarog display a poster for their project at Research Day.

Margaret Falahee, a candidate in the DNP program, received a research grant from Sigma Theta Tau International, Lambda Chapter at the college’s Research Day 2013. Falahee also was recognized for her poster presentation.
Associate Professor Stephanie Schim has had a significant impact on thinking about how to define and measure health care providers’ cultural competence. An assessment instrument developed by Dr. Schim and her team has been requested by more than 260 professionals, students and educators in 45 states, Puerto Rico and 19 countries.

Jean McSweeney, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN, professor and associate dean for research at the College of Public Health of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, delivered the keynote address at the college’s 2013 Research Day.

The College of Nursing’s state-of-the-art biophysical laboratory supports faculty and graduate students interested in incorporating biological measures into their research programs.

Assistant Professor Joan Bickes with members of her Community-Focused Nursing Practice class.
In 2011-2012, Wayne State College of Nursing faculty published eight books, 14 book chapters and 137 articles in refereed professional journals.
Students

The College of Nursing’s curriculum and service opportunities provide students the academic preparation and clinical experiences that will help them excel as career nurses.

The college offers a number of programs leading to a baccalaureate degree in nursing, including an accelerated curriculum for persons who already have a bachelor’s degree in a non-nursing major. The college also has master’s programs in several specialty areas, and is preparing the next generation of nurse leaders and educators through the Doctorate of Nursing Practice and Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing.

The college is committed to providing a learning environment that mirrors the world students will enter after graduation. We believe such experiences better prepare them to succeed wherever they practice, teach or conduct research. Metropolitan Detroit’s remarkably diverse population offers students an unparalleled opportunity to understand and respond to the health care needs of people from many cultural, ethnic and racial groups.

Christine Lazuka was among a group of WSU students and staff that spent spring break working in a rural health clinic and day care center in Costa Rica.

“Participating in nursing-focused health care in Costa Rica allowed me to implement the knowledge I have gained in my nursing program here at Wayne State. This great opportunity combined health care, education and cultural immersion into an unforgettable experience that made a positive impact on my nursing practice.”

– Christine Lazuka
MSN student Carlos Shelton with retired Army nurse Greta Krapohl on the occasion of Shelton’s receiving an Army Nurse Corps Association scholarship. Shelton is a former Army nurse in Iraq.

Students in the graduate certificate program Complementary Therapies in Healthcare present their aromatherapy research at the 2013 St. John/Providence Holistic Nursing Conference. The program was developed and implemented by College of Nursing Assistant Professor Judith Fouladbakhsh, far right.

“Wayne State and the College of Nursing have exceeded my expectations in preparing me for my future as a nurse. I cannot think of another university that would have allowed me to gain such thorough experience. With this fine-tuned accelerated learning I feel confident of my abilities and I couldn’t be more ready to take on the world.”

– Sharowynn Wilson

Master’s graduate Jennifer Wims was among more than 150 College of Nursing students participating in Commencement exercises during academic year 2012-2013.
“I’m a junior in the nursing program, and I love it. Being president of the Student Nurses Association has given me great opportunities to interact with other students. One of the many reasons I chose Wayne State was its outstanding reputation in the health care field. Wayne State was the only nursing program I applied to because this was the only one I was interested in.”

– Amanda Beyer
Teofanes Natavio is a clinical instructor and head of the Nursing Skills Lab. In the lab, a realistic and risk-free environment, experienced nursing instructors give students personalized coaching in the fundamental skills that will prepare them to work with patients in a clinical setting.

The College of Nursing’s two simulation labs are among the nation’s finest. Simulation labs are designed not only for risk-free practice and hands-on learning of clinical skills, but also as an environment that promotes critical thinking, student self-confidence and teamwork.

DNP student Cynthera Francisca McNeill was named WKBD-TV CW50’s 2013 Black History Maker for her implementation of a program to raise awareness of HIV among African American young people.
Community Enrichment

The history of nursing as a profession is firmly rooted in service to others. At the Wayne State University College of Nursing, we have a longstanding commitment to community service, which is an essential element of our mission. We work with organizations on and off campus to provide services that contribute to our students’ personal and professional growth while meeting the health care needs of diverse populations throughout Southeast Michigan.

It is essential that nursing students learn how to care for people in a variety of clinical settings, providing culturally sensitive care for men and women from many different backgrounds with a wide range of health needs. Every fall and winter term the college has six to eight clinical sections of eight students each at various sites throughout metropolitan Detroit, giving our students and faculty a sizeable and comprehensive presence in the community.

Proximity to the hospitals and clinics of the nationally recognized Detroit Medical Center, as well as the college’s association with other health systems and with nonprofit agencies throughout the metropolitan area, assures our students a remarkable variety of direct practical experiences.

Involvement with communities of people outside the college is the ideal *quid pro quo* for the college’s faculty and students, providing opportunities for research, clinical practice and self-enrichment while serving the needs of others.

In 2010 WSU was awarded a federal grant to create a statewide Area Health Education Center to improve primary care in Michigan and increase access to care overall. The College of Nursing and the School of Medicine collaborate on planning and implementing AHEC activities at five regional centers; College of Nursing Associate Professor Ramona Benkert is MI-AHEC program director. MI-AHEC advances recruitment of students from disadvantaged and underrepresented populations to the health professions, promotes diversity among those professions and addresses shortages in the health workforce.
Through the C2 Pipeline partnership, 50 students at each of five public high schools participate in a 38-week hands-on program to improve academic achievement, enhance college preparation and encourage interest in health careers. The project is sponsored by Wayne State University (College of Nursing, School of Medicine, School of Social Work and the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences), the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry and the Michigan Area Health Education Center.

Associate Dean Nancy Artinian, seen here greeting a patient, is a national leader in cardiovascular research to promote health in vulnerable populations and Wayne State’s principal investigator for “HEART Camp: Promoting Adherence to Exercise in Patients with Heart Failure,” a collaboration with the University of Nebraska. The study seeks to improve long-term adherence to exercise in patients with heart failure as a means of enhancing their quality of life.
Community Enrichment

Amy Tittle, left, a student in the nurse practitioner program, and CON alumna Sheryl Martz at the WSU Campus Health Center, a nurse-managed health center operated by the nonprofit Nursing Practice Corporation.

Using “glow germ” and black-light flashlights, College of Nursing students show children how apparently clean hands can still be homes for bacteria at Wayne Metro Head Start in Hamtramck.

Every year, College of Nursing students offer flu vaccinations to Wayne State students and staff at convenient locations across campus.
Nursing students in their final semester of the BSN program gain a unique understanding of community health as they care for the homeless of Oakland County. Above, clinical instructor Kim Shmina, left, and nursing students Angela Genova, Carmen Cocan and Kristen Brome go over the day’s work at Royal Oak’s Welcome Inn shelter, with which the college has a seven-year partnership.

Students in the master’s program provided a healthy dose of information during the Community and Family Health Expo held in March 2013 at River Rouge High School. College of Nursing faculty and students from advanced public health and adult primary care classes are an essential part of the annual fair’s myriad services to individuals and families in the surrounding community.
Alumni and friends

The College of Nursing takes great pride in its 8,700 alumni, who serve with exemplary professionalism in communities around the world. Our alumni represent a broad spectrum of degrees and specialties, and each graduate is a testimony to the excellence of a Wayne State nursing education.

The college’s Alumni Association seeks to build loyalty and advocacy for the college, encouraging graduates to maintain a relationship with their alma mater and support it with their time, energy and gifts.

“At the College of Nursing I was taught to take theory and practice and go out and make a difference. When I talk with my peers who also received Wayne State nursing degrees, they say the very same thing.”

– Shawn Levitt, Chief Nursing Officer, the Detroit Medical Center

Marie Gates, shown here at the Class of 1962 reunion, received her BSN, MSN and PhD from the College of Nursing and had a distinguished career as a nurse and nurse-educator. “Wayne State and the Visiting Nurses Association, and the wonderful mentors I had through both, shaped who I am as a person and as a nurse,” she says.

Janette Ferrantino, center, who endowed the Barbara Lopetrone Ferrantino Annual Scholarship in memory of her mother, with student scholarship recipients Emma VanPietersom and Claire Rymill.

“My training at Wayne State set a solid foundation to explore all that nursing has to offer. The exposure I received to different experiences and the professors that pushed us really set us up for success in the real world.”

– Brad Lukas, Class of 2010

Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends, almost one-third of WSU College of Nursing students receive at least partial support of their nursing education through scholarships.
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Barbara K. Redman, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor

Nancy T. Artinian, PhD, RN, FAHA, FPCNA, FAAN
Associate Dean for Research and Director of the Office of Health Research

Jean Davis, PhD, RN
Associate Dean for Academic and Clinical Affairs

Janet Harden, PhD, RN
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Cynthia Redwine, PhD
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