

URBAN HEALTH

at WAYNE STATE'S COLLEGE OF NURSING

FALL 2016

The Future Is Here

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Future of Nursing Scholar
Jada Reeves arrives at WSU
with eyes on the road ahead



Detroit, Michigan

Welcome to **URBAN HEALTH**

Nursing students received more than \$400,000 in College of Nursing scholarships for 2016-17.



The College of Nursing was one of only 32 nursing schools nationwide to receive the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Future of Nursing Scholar grant in 2016.



A \$1.9 million U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration grant was awarded to CON in 2016 to enhance advanced practice nursing education.



U.S. News & World Report ranked CON among the top D.N.P. and M.S.N. programs in the nation in its 2017 Best Graduate Schools Guidebook.

100%

CON led the nation in pass rates for the national nursing licensure exam (NCLEX-RN). In 2015, the college had a 100% first-time pass rate for B.S.N. graduates compared to 83% nationwide and 85% in Michigan.

Greetings from the **DEAN**



College of Nursing



The fact that Wayne State University is a national leader in the crucial study of urban health can be attributed in part to our prime location in the middle of a major metropolitan area. But our eminence is due to more than simply our physical place. I believe it can be more accurately ascribed to a shared commitment.

Faculty, staff and students in the WSU College of Nursing live and breathe urban health. From research to teaching and serving, urban health is our area of greatest expertise, and we are pleased to have this opportunity to share our recent experiences with you.

As you read through this inaugural issue of *Urban Health* — an annual publication created to share College of Nursing news and views with our stakeholders around the globe — the mission of the college and the university should be unequivocal.

Consistent with the mission of the larger university, the mission of the College of Nursing is to create and translate knowledge and to educate a diverse student body prepared to excel as clinicians, scholars, and leaders who improve health in local and global communities.

Across the following pages, you'll see shining examples of the groundbreaking research that makes CON distinctive, and how efforts in the lab are carried forth into the classroom and the community.

You'll read about Jada Reeves, whose Ph.D. studies are being funded through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Future of Nursing Scholars program. At Wayne State — one of just 32 schools nationwide to receive this grant — Jada is perfectly positioned to pursue her research focus on sexually high-risk behaviors among African-American adolescents. One of her mentors is Associate Dean for Research April Hazard Vallerand, whose comprehensive study on chronic pain among urban residents living with cancer also is explored in this issue. You'll also see stories on how we're continuing the rich legacy of the college, building upon the foundations set by longstanding leaders such as American Academy of Nursing Living Legend Dr. Suzanne Feetham, and how we're striving to prepare future leaders, including our Jonas Scholars, who will continue the college's pre-eminence in the area of urban health.

None of this would be possible without astute direction from our newly reconfigured Board of Visitors. At the beginning of this year, CON transitioned from three volunteer boards to one Board of Visitors — 16 leaders in the field committed to advocacy and guidance. We intend to introduce each of them in the pages of *Urban Health*, starting in this issue with Ronnie Hall, who brings wisdom earned in leadership positions at a major Detroit hospital system to Wayne State to inform and inspire the next generation of nurses.

I'm looking forward to hearing your thoughts on *Urban Health* — via email or during one of the many alumni and community events throughout the year. I also hope you will join us for the college's annual event, Contemporary Issues in Urban Health: Contributions from Nursing Science, which is right around the corner on April 12, 2017. Please save the date and watch your mail for further details.

In the meantime, my best wishes to you as we near the end of 2016 and move into 2017 with confidence and vigor.

Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo, Ph.D., RN

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We know
NURSING.



HALL OF FAME

Board of Visitors member is a star among patients and colleagues

When Veronica (Ronnie) Hall was a nursing student at Oakland University in the '80s, one assignment was to draw up her 10-year plan. She listed head nurse as her pinnacle goal, figuring it would take a decade to achieve. Hall underestimated her trajectory — by a lot.

A mere two years after beginning her career in 1984 as a staff nurse at Detroit's Henry Ford Hospital, Hall was promoted to midnight nursing supervisor. And just one year after that, she was named nurse administrative manager, taking control of a 42-bed unit.

Not surprisingly, Hall continued to advance through the ranks. Today she holds dual roles at one of the most important urban academic health institutions

in Detroit: She is chief nursing officer for Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) and chief operating officer for the system's flagship Henry Ford Hospital, where she began. She's also a WSU College of Nursing Board of Visitors member.

"What a wonderful partner and leader we have in Ronnie to help guide the college into the next decade," says Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo. "Especially as our mission and focus remain making a substantive impact on urban health and nursing."

Hall is pleased to be where she is but didn't envision this during her undergrad years. "The highest position I imagined myself in was head nurse," she says. "I never thought I'd end up as a system CNO or a COO."

In fact, Hall's auspicious 32-year career with HFHS started with a rejected job offer. After graduation, she had hesitated to apply at Henry Ford Hospital, knowing she'd be competing with nurses who had been trained through the facility's own school. But she decided to give it a try, hoping to spend a year gaining urban experience and then head back into the suburbs, where she'd done her rotations.

"Henry Ford Hospital did offer me a position — but it was on the geriatrics floor," Hall says. "I wanted a broader general medical experience, so I said 'No, thank you.' Two days later, the hospital called and offered me oncology, but I turned that down too. My mom and dad were really mad."

But she was smart to hold out. Another two days later, Hall happily accepted the hospital's third offer, this time on the metro medical floor. And that's where she thrived.

In addition to providing quality patient care in stressful and emotionally charged situations, the young nurse eagerly volunteered for added responsibilities beyond her job description. She keenly identified problem areas, then worked with supervisors to help implement process improvements.

"Early on, I recognized that there were issues with how the schedule was done, so I volunteered to take a stab at it," Hall says. "The nurse manager at the time was glad to hand it over, and I did it after hours with input from everyone involved. Within six months, I had the schedule streamlined to a point that when I tried to give the responsibility back to the nurse manager, the staff rebelled."

Not bad for someone who hadn't intended to be a nurse in the first place. After graduating from Clawson High School, Hall headed to Lake Superior State University on a full ride.

She planned to become either a police officer or a chemical engineer. But after getting to know a nursing student in her house, Hall decided that career path sounded more intriguing. Already weary of being six hours away from her parents and four younger siblings, Hall left the UP, moved back home and enrolled in Oakland University's School of Nursing.

She enjoyed the suburban rotations of her undergraduate experience, but once Hall got to Detroit after graduation, she knew she was in the city to stay. "The urban environment offers a lot of diversity and educational opportunity. We are always learning, every day," Hall says. "Once I realized that, it didn't make any sense to leave. I knew I would be hard-pressed to find another organization like this, where I could affectively change urban health on a daily basis."

Hall adds that part of the appeal of a three-decade-long career at HFHS has been working with exceptional mentors, including HFHS CEO Nancy Schlichting and Dr. John Popovich (president and CEO of Henry Ford Hospital and executive vice president and chief medical officer of HFHS). Hall worked for Popovich in the ICU at the beginning of her career; 30 years later she works alongside him on the leadership team.

Even before I joined the team, I recognized that Wayne State was a quality institution providing future nurses with a solid foundation for successful careers."

Expert counsel

Without missing a beat in her career, Hall earned her master of science in management with an HR focus from Walsh College in 1999, followed by an M.B.A. in 2002. From there, she moved from HFHS director of quality to Henry Ford Hospital's chief nursing executive to the roles she has now, in 2007 and 2011. It was during that time that Hall was invited to join the Wayne State University College of Nursing Board of Visitors.

"Because HFHS is affiliated with Wayne State, and because WSU nursing students (*continued*)



rotate through Henry Ford Hospital, it made sense to collaborate on this level and truly be part of a community together," says Hall, who eventually took a second position when CON launched its Health Partners Board.

Seven years later, she now serves on the executive committee of the recently reorganized Board of Visitors, which integrated three groups into one with newly established strategic priorities. (For details, see "Greetings from the Dean" on page 1.)

"Even before I joined the team, I recognized that Wayne State was a quality institution providing future nurses with a solid foundation for successful careers," says Hall. "I'm eager to roll up my sleeves and get to work with the Board of Visitors to make the already impressive College of Nursing even better."

And the CON leadership team is happy to have her. "Ronnie Hall offers a unique view of urban health care that is particularly beneficial to us," Clabo says. "I especially appreciated her expert counsel when we were in the midst of our board reorganization. I'm very much looking forward to working with Ronnie and the entire group as we steer the College of Nursing toward future success."

Hall says she accepted Clabo's invitation to join the reorganized board because she likes what she

sees the college already doing, such as increasing the number of pathways toward earning a B.S.N., consolidating clinical rotation locations, and increasing the dialogue between students and recent alumni. She is looking to help address the skill sets faculty members must have to educate the kind of nurse needed now and in the future, as demands on the profession have changed and continue to evolve.

"I think we can make great strides in the area of advanced degrees," says Hall. "For example, how do you best develop an ICU nurse for today's needs? I think working with the college's leadership to look at what's needed across the country and addressing those needs with program offerings will be rewarding for all of us."

In addition to helping shape big-picture policy on the board, Hall has much to offer individual nursing students at the beginning of their careers. "We have amazing students coming up," she says. "I look at them and think, 'Wow — imagine what your future might bring. You can be a nurse practitioner, take an ambulatory position, do chronic care, research infection control, be an administrator ...' The list goes on and on."

To those overwhelmed by the possibilities, Hall advises: "Follow your heart. Do what excites you." In this area especially, she leads by example. When asked what she enjoys about nursing, Hall says she loves the surprise of it all, adding, "Every day I come to work is like Christmas morning."

That sometimes comes in the form of a thank-you note from a patient saying, "I wouldn't be here if not for your staff." Or the surprise could be a complaint, believe it or not: "Solving problems makes the organization better," Hall says. "If we fail, we fail fast, and then we get back up and try the next thing. Each complaint is an opportunity to improve the patient experience."

Since her earliest days, when she was noticed and promoted for savvy solutions, the reward for Hall has been personal: "I feel fortunate to be in a role where I can help when patients and their families are at their most vulnerable. In this fast-paced environment, I'm proud to be part of an organization that helps others when it matters the most." 🧡

MMXVI WHITE COAT CEREMONY

The College of Nursing celebrated more than 100 incoming bachelor of science in nursing students at the second annual White Coat Ceremony in August, when students were initiated into the college and welcomed to the nursing profession.

Following remarks by B.S.N. Program Director Katherine Zimnicki and an address by Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo, students were invited to the stage and cloaked with an embroidered white lab coat and given a commemorative pin by members of the faculty. They then recited an oath, dedicating themselves to the provision of person-centered, compassionate care. The ceremony was followed by a reception for students and guests.



Above: Dean Clabo presents Forrest Jayson with a commemorative pin.

Left: College of Nursing classmates recite their new oath together.

Below: In a show of Warrior spirit, newly cloaked B.S.N. students flash the W sign.



Above: Personalized College of Nursing lab coats give new students a feeling of authenticity and belonging.

Near right: Katherine Zimnicki discusses how humanism raises the quality of care for all patients.

Far right: Incoming B.S.N. students are treated to inspirational messages from College of Nursing leadership during the ceremony.



THE FUTURE IS HERE

Ph.D. student arrives at WSU
with eyes on the road ahead



By the time she was 15 years old, Jada Reeves knew she wanted to be a nurse. She wasn't even old enough to drive when she began working at a Flint nursing home through her high school's career and technical education program. "We were on the dementia unit, where a patient could be gentle and loving one minute and the next minute they'd cuss you out," Reeves says. "I wasn't afraid, though, and I caught on fast. Most of my classmates couldn't do it, and that's when I realized I had a passion for patient care."

Reeves went on to volunteer as a teen candy striper at Hurley Medical Center. Even though her contact with patients was limited to handing out lunch trays and making beds, Reeves used the opportunity to closely observe the nurses in action. And she knew she was meant to be in their shoes.

Now, 28 years later, she is. Reeves has progressed from RN to B.S.N. to M.S.N. — and currently is enrolled in Wayne State's College of Nursing to pursue her Ph.D.

She's doing so through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's (RWJF) Future of Nursing Scholars program, which provides financial support, mentoring and leadership development to nurses who commit to earn their Ph.D. in three years.

Wayne State is among just 32 schools of nursing nationwide to receive the grant to increase the number of nurses holding Ph.D.s. Reeves was awarded the scholarship in April, began the program with a cohort networking retreat in New Jersey this summer, and is diving into her Ph.D. studies this fall.

"Wayne State's College of Nursing was proud to be selected to participate in the RWJF Future of Nursing Scholars program," says Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo. "This prestigious award will allow Jada to complete Ph.D. studies in a timely manner and make substantive contributions to the discipline as a leader and researcher even earlier in her career. We are deeply grateful for the commitment and generosity of the five foundations constituting the Michigan Funders Collaborative and for their recognition of the tradition of excellence in the preparation of nurse researchers in the College of Nursing at Wayne State."

The number of nurses enrolled in Ph.D. programs is not the only issue addressed by this program. The average age at which nurses get their Ph.D.s in the United States is 46 — 13 years older than Ph.D. earners in other fields. This program provides an incentive for nurses to start Ph.D. programs earlier so that they can have long leadership careers after earning their Ph.D.s.

And that is precisely Reeves' plan. Her research focus is on the topic of sexually high-risk African-American adolescents, and she's eager to gain insight, graduate and put her expertise to work making a difference in urban health.

Striving toward success

Reeves recognized the need for further studies in this area during her most recent position as a school-based health center nurse supervisor in Ann Arbor through the University of Michigan Health System. The teens she worked with had not seemed to learn early lessons about safer sex behavior.

"I would see a girl and think, 'I have treated you three times for Chlamydia — what is going on that you aren't getting the message about unprotected sex?'" she says. "I suspected that if they had been taught about sexually transmitted infections at an earlier age, they wouldn't have made these mistakes." Reeves is interested in expanding upon and identifying new knowledge that explains the concept of 'repeat offenders' — the barriers that exist among 11- to 18-year-old African-American patients that lead to recurrent STIs and high-risk behavior.

She tried to tackle the issue by implementing health center programs but came to realize that the kids she was treating needed intervention long before high school. "It has to be made part of the early curriculum," Reeves says. "But because parents are reluctant about this topic, I realized I needed to do the research to show why and how it's important so I can develop a more effective prevention policy."

Once Reeves realized that returning to school was on her horizon, she looked with laser focus toward Detroit. "I knew that WSU had a top nursing program, and I loved that its location would give me the same diversity and urban environment that I grew up with in Flint," she says, adding that she felt at home the moment she stepped on campus.

She liked everything she heard during her meeting with a CON admissions officer, and had the immediate sense that, unlike what she'd experienced in previous academic environments, she'd be accepted instead of judged. "In other programs, they said, 'This is how we do things; follow us,' instead of listening to new ideas," Reeves says. "Wayne State seems to gravitate toward diversity of thought. I see a culture where everyone learns from each other and everyone plays a part." Reeves didn't apply to any other Ph.D. programs after meeting with Wayne State's College of Nursing, saying, "I decided that I needed to get in where I fit in." (*continued*)



And Wayne State agreed. “Jada has an impressive background and her research interests are a great fit for our urban health focus,” says Associate Dean for Research April Hazard Vallerand, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, who serves as Reeves’ Future of Nursing Scholars program mentor along with School of Medicine Assistant Professor Angulique Outlaw, Ph.D. “We are delighted she has joined the College of Nursing and look forward to fostering her success in pursuing her Ph.D. at Wayne State.”

Aiming and achieving

Prior to her school-based health center job, Reeves served in a range of nursing positions. While at C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital, she chose to go into the float pool because she wanted to experience caring for all types of patients, especially those on the most difficult floors, such as the cancer unit. “Not everyone can handle those assignments; I saw it as a way to be supportive not just to the patients but also to their parents,” she says. “From kids going into open heart surgery to PICU babies just barely holding on, there were many days I came home crying. But there were also tears of joy when I saw kids recover, sometimes feeling like I’d witnessed a miracle. I never would have been able to experience caring for the smallest person to the oldest if I wasn’t a nurse.”

When she was working toward her master’s degree at U-M, Reeves spent a year as nurse practitioner at the Michigan State Prison in Jackson. “It was a real eye-opener,” she says. “There were times when I was dealing with hard-core criminals, but when

they’re sick in the clinic you just think of them as patients.” It was this position that made Reeves realize that her true calling is caring for families and children. And taking the school-based health center position helped her hone in even more: “I just love working with adolescents. I feel they can truly use my guidance on risky behaviors.”

Throughout her career, Reeves has set long-term goals for herself and has continued to achieve them even as she raises a set of twins, Tyler and Joseph, now 12, and their younger brother Gabriel, now 7. Her husband of 18 years, Dwight, who is a cybersecurity analyst for Ford Motor Company,

always encourages his wife’s pursuits. But the two huddled when Ph.D. rose as the latest-and-greatest long-term goal. “We finally have all of my student loans consolidated and I really didn’t want to take on more debt,” Reeves says. “Even though I had previously always worked while going to school, my goal was to be a full-time Ph.D. student and get it done. When Wayne State told me about the Future of Nursing Scholars award, my husband couldn’t

believe our good fortune. He said, ‘Now I don’t have to be an Uber driver on the side!’”

Reeves says she’s grateful not just for the financial fortification but also for the built-in mentoring relationship with Vallerand and Outlaw. “I felt supported by Wayne State even before I started the program,” she says. “Instead of seeing this intensive program ahead of me as a hardship, I see it as a fellowship.” 🤝

NOTE: Jada’s RWJF Future of Nursing Scholars award is supported with funding from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation, MetroHealth Foundation, Ethel and James Flinn Foundation, DMC Foundation and the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan.

Wayne State seems to gravitate toward diversity of thought. I see a culture where everyone learns from each other and everyone plays a part.”



ROOTED IN EXCELLENCE

Nursing Living Legend blooms in Detroit and then branches out

When Suzanne Feetham, Ph.D., RN, FAAN (M.S.N. '69) stood in front of 4,000 Wayne State graduates to accept her honorary doctorate of laws last May (pictured above), she was humbled to hear the names of the honorary degree recipients who had come before her — including Walter Reuther, Rosa Parks, Thurgood Marshall and Aretha Franklin. *(continued)*



Dr. Suzanne Feetham has shared her expertise at professional conferences across the country. In spring 2016, she appeared on a panel during WSU's Forum on Contemporary Issues in Society, which explored the topic of Urban Families: The American Dream in Crisis.

"Just to be on that list is amazing," Dr. Feetham told the crowd, adding that she was born in Detroit and, after leaving for college and the start of her career, chose to move back to the city with her husband, Terry, to pursue her master's at the Wayne State College of Nursing the year after the '67 riots. "Detroit grounds who I am and who I have become as a nurse, scientist and leader."

Indeed, Dr. Feetham says her long and

illustrious career in nursing and family science can largely be attributed to the experience she gained and the connections she made while at WSU.

Since that time, Dr. Feetham has held leadership positions in academia, service and government at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). She was the first Harriet H. Werley Endowed Chair in Nursing Research at the University of Illinois at Chicago, named for one of her WSU mentors. She has authored landmark publications in research of urban families, genetics and genomics to inform policy to advance the health of the public. Dr. Feetham has also served as visiting professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as well as at the University of Pennsylvania, where the dean of the School of Nursing is CON 2015 Alumna of the Year Antonia M. Villarruel (Ph.D. '93). Currently, Dr. Feetham is a nursing research consultant at Children's National Health System in Washington, D.C. She has received numerous awards for her work, including being named a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing in 2011 — and the honorary degree from WSU last spring.

"Watching Dr. Suzanne Feetham accept an honorary doctor of laws degree from the university she has represented so brilliantly through the years was a highlight of Commencement," says Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo. "We are inspired by her accomplishments and proud that Wayne State played a key role in her career."

Family tree

Dr. Feetham was searching for answers when she moved from Texas to Detroit in 1968. She had considered universities across the country for graduate school, and Wayne State stood out because it was one of a few nursing colleges to offer advanced clinical education and basic sciences of genetics and embryology, with

research opportunities at the master's level. She says, "It was unique at that point to find a research-intensive college of nursing."

In fact, the year after Dr. Feetham arrived, CON established its Center for Health Research, the first of its kind to be affiliated with an educational institution. Dr. Harriet Werley, the director, "naming it that instead of the Center for *Nursing* Research was critical to its vision," Dr. Feetham says, noting that broadening the scope encouraged scholars from a range of disciplines outside of nursing to collaborate and informed that nursing research could advance health care beyond nursing.

The center was funded by a grant written in part by Professor Virginia Cleland, who was one of Dr. Feetham's most revered mentors. "Serving as her research assistant as she finalized a major clinical trial at Henry Ford Hospital taught me much of what I went on to use throughout the rest of my career," Dr. Feetham says. "She and all of my Wayne State mentors made me think about what would advance not just my own work and not just the college but science overall."

A prime example is the Feetham Family Functioning Survey (FFFS), which she developed at WSU in 1977 to assess the strength of families. The survey is used to this day in research across disciplines, with translations in eight languages.

It took seed from the Spina Bifida Family support group Dr. Feetham helped start in 1969. She cared for a young patient named Ann as an undergraduate at the University of Michigan, and had kept in touch with the family even as she moved across the country. Once Dr. Feetham was back in Michigan, Ann's mother asked if she would create a group for parents of children with this congenital disorder that results in multiple physical problems. As support groups were uncommon in those days, Dr. Feetham reached out to her WSU and March of Dimes connections to make it happen. "We had 12 parents at that first meeting," Dr. Feetham says. "When I left Detroit for D.C. in 1982, we had more than 200 families statewide participating."

Through that group, Dr. Feetham identified the importance of families' understanding of how genetic information impacts them. "Parents were asking about the genetics of spina bifida," she says. "They knew that there was more than one gene involved and that there were many other factors. At the time, scientists were looking at various environmental causes."

Dr. Feetham began working with a genetics faculty member at Wayne State and developed a survey to obtain a three-generation family history from parents in the group. The families' responses resonated with Dr. Feetham and

influenced her work throughout her career — including eventually the FFFS. In addition to the parent group, she maintained a practice at the Myelodysplasia Clinic at Children’s Hospital of Michigan while she was on faculty at the College of Nursing. “I was preparing a research proposal following our families from newborn through 18 months,” says Dr. Feetham. “The only measures at the time were of mother and father relationships, but I knew there was more to family than that. So we were able to develop a measure that looked at a broader definition, and one that’s still being used today.

“It’s very exciting that I see colleagues from Japan not only translating what I’ve done but taking it further and expanding the theoretical model. It works across cultures because it depends on the families to determine how much interaction is good and bad; it doesn’t leave it to the scientists to decide.”

Leaving a legacy

In 2012, Dr. Feetham and her husband made a planned gift commitment to establish a scholarship at the College of Nursing. Although they met at U-M as undergraduates, the Feethams both were born and raised in Detroit. “We are committed to the students of Detroit and to Wayne State,” Dr. Feetham says. “Terry and I each had a scholarship at U-M so we know how much of a difference it can make. It’s important to me to help not just nursing students but nursing students from the city.”

As students pursue their degrees, she hopes they will look well down the road to plan their next steps. “People of my age weren’t organized to be so deliberate about their careers as we expect students to be today,” she says. “I was fortunate to be in the best places with innovative leaders and uncharted opportunities. When I’m working with students today, I talk to them about career cartography. It starts with: What is your career destination? What kind of difference do you want to make? You can’t just focus on that next job or research grant. You have to be deliberative and look at the big picture.”

To that end, in 2015, Dr. Feetham published an article in the *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* called “Career Cartography: A Conceptualization of Career Development to Advance Health and Policy” with colleague Jennifer J. Doering. They concluded, “The career cartography process is applicable to nurse researchers at every career stage and in any professional environment. In this age of high-stakes science and scarce funding resources, learning how to conduct research or translate research findings to practice is not likely to be enough to make a sustained impact on the

health of the public. Sustained impact is more likely when nurse researchers possess the skills to systematically plan, evaluate, communicate, and disseminate a program of research and scholarship across a career.”

Indeed, Dr. Feetham is known for bringing a broader systems perspective to whatever she does, and credits lessons learned from serving in two federal agencies, working at the state level in Michigan and attending to the policy context wherever she is.

She continues to have contact with former Wayne State baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral



students, all of whom attest to the significance of their WSU experience to their careers.

Dr. Feetham says the commitment of Wayne State to Detroit and its leadership as a catalyst in the city is key to her own devotion — her career has been defined by mentoring and improving outcomes for urban families.

She is grateful for strong roots in Detroit, saying, “Wayne State is a phenomenal place with phenomenal people — professors, researchers and mentors who challenged me and made me think about what I was doing and where I was going.” 🧡

When Dr. Suzanne Feetham (second from left) received her honorary degree last spring, her CON friends gathered to celebrate, including (from left) Carolyn Roberts (Ph.D. '79), Carol J. Loveland-Cherry (Ph.D. '82) and Joanne M. Pohl (M.S.N. '79).

COMMENCEMENT 2016



The College of Nursing congratulates the 105 new bachelor of science in nursing, master of science in nursing and doctor of nursing practice scholars, clinicians and nurse leaders who look toward a very bright future following Commencement at Detroit's Ford Field this past May. See page 11 for details about Dr. Suzanne Feetham receiving an honorary doctorate of laws during the ceremony.



POWER over pain

Professor helps urban patients self-advocate to manage chronic pain

Dr. Sue Hasenau (right) reviews dosage and interaction details with a study participant.

Patients are often asked to describe their pain on a 10-point scale. This rating can give a care provider meaningful data about the patient's immediate need for relief. Unfortunately, it may not communicate enough information to successfully manage a person's daily experience with chronic pain. Add urban health disparities to the profile of a patient with chronic pain and the risk for additional health complications significantly increases. In fact, African-Americans with cancer pain have been found to have higher levels of pain, more pain-related distress and poorer function than other groups for a number of reasons, including difficulty getting adequate medication, lack of understanding about how to properly take medication and miscommunication with physicians. Helping African-Americans successfully manage chronic pain and increase function at home between doctor's visits and cancer treatments, however, can reduce the risk of additional health complications. *(continued)*



Dr. April Hazard Vallerand led the effort to conduct research where urban patients needed help — at home.

Understanding the factors that affect functional status and the barriers to improving pain management is exactly what College of Nursing Associate Dean for Research April Hazard Vallerand, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, has dedicated her program of research to, saying, “For people living in the United States, the rates of chronic pain are greater than the combined rates for cancer, heart disease and diabetes.”

Referring to a previous study of low-income primary clinic patients with pain, Vallerand says, “The optimist in me initially thought that race and socioeconomic disparities wouldn’t affect perceived control over pain. But patients who are living in extreme poverty without health insurance have little access to specialty care. Patients may not be informed enough or assertive enough to advocate for pain relief — or even realize that they have to.”

In 2011, the nationally recognized pharmacology and pain research expert launched a study to continue building nursing knowledge focused on African-Americans with cancer pain. It was initially funded by a three-year, \$1.1 million award from the National Cancer Institute. Then, when Vallerand was appointed to the first WSU CON Alumni Endowed Professorship, she received more funds as part of her new position to continue the study, extending the project to a fourth year in 2013.

Vallerand knew pain was keeping this population from doing the things they love — whether it actually hurt too much to play with their grandchildren or they were *afraid* it would hurt too much so they didn’t even try.

“The goal in our research was to get African-American cancer patients as functional as possible and able to do the things that are important to them,” she says. “We didn’t want them staying in their chair because the pain increased when they moved. That’s not quality of life.”

Patients who feel in control of their pain are more likely to do the things they enjoy. And then it comes full circle: Patients who have a reason for living are often more able to tolerate pain and can continue to do the things they enjoy.

Vallerand says, “Perceived control over pain has been positively correlated with psychological well-being, quality of life, decreased anxiety and patient satisfaction. Conversely, lack of control has been correlated with disability, increased pain intensity, distress, anxiety and depression. Feelings of loss of control are thought to be one of the most distressing components of the pain experience.” That can lead to catastrophizing, when patients think that there is nothing they can or will be able to do to reduce the pain, which can lead to a devastating downward spiral.

Power nursing

To identify study participants, Vallerand and recent WSU graduate Sheria Robinson-Lane, Ph.D., RN, who headed the patient recruitment effort, worked with Detroit’s Karmanos Cancer Center. All of the 236 participants who completed the study were African-American outpatients aged 18-85 (with a mean age of 56) living throughout metro Detroit.

Vallerand and her nursing team spent 12 weeks with each patient, making home visits, talking

with them about their pain and processes, offering alternatives and suggestions, coaching them through scenarios, having them keep pain diaries, following up with phone calls, collecting data and completing evaluations.

The intervention, which was customized to meet individualized patient and caregiver needs, focused on:

- **Medication management:** Making sure the patient was taking the right medication in the most effective way.

The nurses found that some patients skipped doses of pain medications because they were afraid of becoming addicted. They were also fearful that an increased dosage meant their cancer was advancing. Vallerand and her team listened to concerns and addressed them with facts.

One patient with prostate cancer couldn't stand up long enough to do the dishes because his feet burned so badly. His doctor had prescribed one Tramadol a day, and he was waiting until he couldn't tolerate the burning before he took it. "I looked through his pain diary and said to him, 'Your pain has not been below a seven in the past two weeks. What's the chance you won't have any pain tomorrow?'" Vallerand recalls. "I suggested that he take the pill as soon as he woke up, because sometimes you can preempt the pain. The next time we paid a visit, he called out to us, 'Here comes the dream team!' When I asked if he was joking, he told us, 'You changed my life.' This man's pain was so much better that he was taking walks around the block, he was doing Chubby Hubby workout videos — and he was back to washing dishes."

- **Pain advocacy:** Teaching patients how to talk to their doctor and caregivers about pain, using specific language.

Vallerand says that patients need to understand that their oncologists are focused on the cancer, not always the pain. Just because that doctor saved your life doesn't mean he or she will make you feel better. Add to that the fact that office visits are abbreviated due to insurance guidelines. "It could be the patient never told the doctor how much pain she was in, or maybe she assumes the doctor knows and would do something if he could. I instructed our patients: Doctors can't read minds. If you're not getting the care you need, keep asking until you do."

Vallerand tells of a tiny 68-year-old woman whose breast cancer had metastasized to her spine. Even though she was in extraordinary pain, her doctor had cut her nighttime medication dose in half because when he asked if she felt pain upon waking, she had said no. Of course she didn't feel pain upon waking — a nighttime pill made certain of that. Sure enough, once her doctor cut back her dosage, the pain returned. "I told her, 'He didn't ask the right question and you didn't give the right answer,'" Vallerand says. "So we role-played how that conversation should have gone. And the next time she went to the doctor, he started to leave the office after a quick exam and this little old lady said, 'Stop right there! The last time I was here, you didn't ask the right question and I didn't give the right answer.' They had a discussion and she got her pills back."

- **Living with pain:** Encouraging patients to continue participating in life despite their pain.

Vallerand wanted to know what meaningful activities each patient felt they were missing out on because of pain. It was here that her nursing team shined.

"We had absolutely amazing nurses work with us — about 50 over the course of the four years," Vallerand says. "Many were Wayne State master's and doctoral

students, but also some from area hospitals and throughout the community. And all of us considered it such an honor to be invited into these patients' homes."

She tells of one nurse who learned that a patient with severe peripheral neuropathy would only shower when her son was home because she was afraid of falling. To give this patient back some independence, the nurse went out and bought the woman a shower seat, using her own money. Vallerand later learned the nurse had bought five more shower seats for five other patients throughout the study. *(continued)*



When another patient worked through her pain to dip strawberries in chocolate so she could earn extra money on Valentine's Day, everyone on the team walked out with boxes of candied fruit. "They went above and beyond on a regular basis," says Vallerand.

Robinson-Lane says their team gained a lot from the experience as well. "I believe that after working with Dr. Vallerand, the nurses are not only better prepared to manage pain more effectively for their patients, but they are also more committed to ensuring that education and advocacy remain practice priorities."

She adds, "Dr. Vallerand is deeply committed to helping others have the best quality of life possible and believes that advocacy and education are key areas in which nurses can help those in our community achieve this. Her research not only raises awareness of health disparities in pain management but also engages the community in conversations that address fears about medication use and how to advocate for oneself."

Now, with the fieldwork complete, the team — including WSU Professor Thomas Templin, Ph.D.; Sue Hasenau, Ph.D. '06 (project director and retired nursing professor from Madonna University); Robinson-Lane and Vallerand — are in the process of analysis and publication.

Future plans

"This was an amazing experience," says Vallerand of the study. "I hate to see it end."

And perhaps it doesn't have to. Vallerand is already pushing forward to the next challenge: Working with cancer survivors, 40 percent of whom continue to have lingering, long-term pain from chemotherapy and surgery.

Says Vallerand, "Our sense is that patients in our study — cancer patients in active treatment — were getting the best cancer care available from their doctors but the pain often remained. If that's the case at the height of their illness, what happens after they're cured? Where can they go for help?"

We know the answer to that one. "Our methods help people realize that it's unlikely they'll have 100 percent relief. It's not pain at zero we're aiming for. It's pain that's tolerable — pain low enough that it doesn't run your life. Pain you have control over," Vallerand says. "There's so much joy when you're able to help someone feel better and be able to do the things that are important to them." 🍷



Forming ATTACHMENTS

Endowed research fund to benefit vulnerable infants and their families



Nurses understand that strong relationships improve the well-being of their patients. Wayne State University Associate Professor Emerita Judith Fry McComish (M.S.N. '71, Ph.D. '84) illustrated this through researching pregnant women coping with substance abuse or perinatal depression.

"I remember seeing how support from others and therapy interventions really helped

them heal from the traumatic experiences that led them to substance abuse," she says. "Working with a different population of postpartum women, doulas formed relationships that improved outcomes for the mothers and their newborns — and even the doulas too."

Witnessing the power of research to improve lives throughout her career, Fry McComish and her husband Philip McComish created the Dr. Judith Fry McComish and Philip A. McComish Endowed Research Fund at the College of Nursing to study socioemotional health and development of vulnerable infants and their families. The endowment will be used to fund research and evidence-based practice projects on infant mental health conducted by faculty members and nursing doctoral students.

"It's paramount to have a secure attachment relationship between the infant and their caregiver," says Fry McComish. "If people don't have secure attachments from birth, it affects their whole social, emotional and cognitive development throughout life and their ability to form relationships as adults."

Evidence-based interventions into infant and family development are especially needed in Detroit, which has a high infant mortality rate. Fry McComish has seen the commitment by the College of Nursing to this at-risk population.

"A lot of emphasis of the research at the College of Nursing is on ways to improve outcomes for vulnerable infants," she says. "The college is very supportive of efforts to improve the health of our Detroit community."

Because her husband Philip had been such a support throughout her career, Fry McComish was proud to create the fund in partnership with him. Although an engineer by trade, Philip received his B.F.A. from Wayne State after retiring in 2008, and was at Judy's side throughout her career.

"Most faculty in nursing have husbands who are very supportive," she says. "As I finished my Ph.D., taught courses or wrote articles, he was my best editor. He knows an awful lot about nursing now."

The creation of the endowed research fund is just the latest example of a career dedicated to helping others. Working as a researcher and faculty member in the College of Nursing until 2015, as well as holding a joint appointment in the School of Medicine from 1992 to 2007, Fry McComish understands the difficulty of obtaining research funding, and wanted to provide more opportunities to the nursing faculty and doctoral students.

"Some of those experiences of trying so hard to get funding to do the research were why we started this endowment," she says. "I know how hard it is for faculty to get support, and Wayne State has been good to me, so I wanted to give back to my school." 🙏

Lasting IMPRESSION

After making her mark in grad school,
CON instructor gives back to her community



By focusing on diabetes in a creative and crowd-engaging way, the Panther Step Team from Detroit International Academy took first place in last spring's Stomping Out show.

When Cynthera McNeill was a WSU College of Nursing graduate student in 2012, she wanted her doctoral project to connect with the community in a lasting way. It's safe to say she succeeded.

On the second Saturday in April for the past five years, McNeill has presented Stomping Out, a free health education program and resource fair for Detroit high school students.

"It's a chance for the community to surround and support our youth as they creatively express themselves while teaching their peers about health promotion and disease prevention in a culturally sensitive way," says McNeill, who herself was born and raised in Detroit and is now a CON clinical instructor after having earned her D.N.P. in 2013.

Stomping Out features a different health theme each year, such as HIV/AIDS or pregnancy

prevention. To choose each year's topic, McNeill gets input from teenagers on issues that affect their age group, ranging from unhealthy dietary behaviors to drug use. The 2016 focus on diabetes was proposed by the team of campers McNeill sponsored during a previous summer's C2 Pipeline Warriors College Experience.

Each July, C2 Pipeline brings dozens of rising seniors from across metro Detroit to campus for a multidisciplinary, hands-on adventure with health care at its core. The two-week camp includes lessons on nursing, medicine, social work, engineering, and pharmacy and health sciences, immersing students in university life while offering a preview of their intended academic programs.

Throughout the camp, students collaborate to solve a health care challenge — in 2014, it was diabetes



Dr. Cynthera McNeill (D.N.P. '13) says she is devoted to organizing the Stomping Out event each year because “adolescence is a trying time, and health choices kids make now will affect them into adulthood.”

express their creativity while imparting lessons about health and disease prevention to their peers and parents.

Groups are evaluated primarily on how well they communicate the event's theme as they compete for a \$1,000 prize, earmarked for the winning school to use toward healthy lifestyle initiatives. The 2016 panel of judges included a dance instructor, two teen peers and an endocrinologist.

“This is the same stepping that fraternities and sororities are doing in college,” says McNeill. “So in addition to expressing their creativity and competing for a prize, this gives students a taste of that college experience and gets them excited about going.”

Team effort

In 2014, McNeill, along with co-directors and CON faculty members Drs. Umeika Stephens and Tara Walker, obtained 501c3 nonprofit status for an umbrella group she named SAVE THEM, which stands for Stomping Away Various Epidemics by Teaching Health Education and Mentoring. Community members Roszetta McNeill and Christopher Covington are also on the board.

In order to keep Stomping Out free of charge for attendees, the group appeals to local businesses and community organizations, who generously contribute educational resources, tons of food and supplies such as giveaways for the kids. What's more, Detroit's Don Bosco Hall has donated event space since the program began. *(continued)*

awareness and management — to compete for scholarship prizes. McNeill's team earned second place and became the only group to implement their project when they went on to help plan and organize this year's Stomping Out event.

“This was the first year we've veered from safe-sex-related themes, and I was interested to see if diabetes would grab the teens' attention,” says McNeill. “But we still had nearly 400 people come out on a snowy spring day, so now we know we can continue to expand into other areas, like perhaps violence.”

Stomping Out features information booths, health screenings and refreshments, but its centerpiece is a student talent show and competition. Through step routines — which include skits, singing and dancing — participants



Sounds of United Leaders (S.O.U.L.) from Oak Park High School (top) impressed the crowd at Stomping Out, while Stepper With a Groove from Oak Park Preparatory Academy (above) earned third place.

“When we’ve got hundreds of people crowded into the hall each year, people will ask me why I don’t move to a bigger facility or set up outside somewhere,” McNeill says. “But other venues want to charge us an arm and a leg, or they won’t let us bring in our own food. I don’t want to turn away restaurants offering to donate pizza. And as far as holding the event outside — last year it snowed on the second Saturday in April, so I think we’ll stay inside. Even though it’s jam-packed, everyone always has a nice time.”

McNeill appreciates the College of Nursing’s ongoing support as she focuses on adolescent health promotion and disease prevention. “A lot of colleges talk about urban engagement, but this is a hands-on, community-based initiative that takes place every year,” she says. “I’m proud of what we’re accomplishing — seeing the look on the children’s faces is a huge reward.”

She says she’s also grateful to Wayne State for giving her the opportunity to come full circle — from being a Detroit child to helping the children of Detroit. “The College of Nursing gave me the tools I needed to address health disparities within my own community,” she says. “I believe that my foundation gives me perspective needed to reach the members of my resilient community as well as provide insight to overcoming barriers and health disparities. Because I could not have been this successful without my community supporting me along the way, I feel obligated, humbled and blessed to make a difference here.” 🙏

Just **REWARDS**

Congratulations to WSU's second cohort of Jonas Scholars

The College of Nursing's Teneka Liddell (left), Brian Ledl and Cinzia Carparso recently were chosen as Jonas Scholars for the academic and professional excellence they have achieved to this point and for the potential of their graduate studies to affect veterans and the nursing profession. The awards are funded by the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare, which is dedicated to improving veteran health through the Jonas Veterans Healthcare Scholar program and to developing outstanding nursing faculty and clinical leaders through the Jonas Nurse Leaders Scholar program.

Turn the page to learn their stories.





Cinzia Carparso

2016 Jonas Nurse Leaders Scholar

Cinzia Carparso is in the B.S.N. to Ph.D. program at Wayne State after earning her bachelor's from Oakland University in 2013. She realized while serving as an OU teaching assistant for three years that she has a passion for teaching. While Carparso initially was interested in pediatric nursing, she found herself with a position in oncology at Beaumont Hospital. And while she enjoys the clinical side of her nursing career, she misses teaching undergraduate students. Carparso will study the psychological risk factors in adolescents and young adults who have a parent with end-of-life cancer with Dr. Cynthia Bell, her nursing faculty advisor. Carparso has personal experience with this research topic: When she was 8 years old, she lost her mother to breast cancer. She says, "There is not a lot of support for children or the remaining spouse after a parent passes away, and the anxiety and trauma can cause other issues related to this loss." She notes that it is important to include family in patient care, and look at the whole family unit. After earning her Ph.D., Carparso plans to find a faculty position at a research-intensive university.

A man with short dark hair, wearing a bright blue polo shirt with a small red logo on the chest and grey pants, is sitting on a black leather tufted couch. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background consists of large windows with decorative white lattice patterns, through which some greenery is visible. The lighting is bright and even.

Brian Ledl


2016 Jonas Veterans Healthcare Scholar

Currently a registered nurse at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, Brian Ledl (B.S.N. '09, B.S. '06) is dedicated to providing compassionate care to veterans in the inpatient surgery unit. He began the doctor of nursing practice program at WSU in 2015 with a focus on adult gerontology primary care. Because Ledl attended Wayne State for his B.S.N., he already knew his nursing faculty advisor, Dr. Nancy George, and was excited to pursue his D.N.P. under her guidance. When Ledl completes his D.N.P., he plans to use best evidence and research to better patient outcomes and lower costs at the VA hospital. Noting that both his father and grandfather are military veterans, Ledl says, "I'm honored to get the Jonas Scholar award. It alleviates some financial stress and increases motivation. It embodies everything I'm interested in." *(continued)*



Teneka Liddell

2016 Jonas Veterans Healthcare Scholar

A nurse educator and registered nurse at the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit, Teneka Liddell is also an RN at the Detroit Medical Center. She specializes in health promotion, patient teaching and nursing education. Having served as a 9-year-old junior nurse in church, Liddell has long known nursing was something she wanted to do. She earned her B.S.N. from Michigan State University and her M.S.N. in adult health from Eastern Michigan University. Liddell is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in nursing at Wayne State. "I chose WSU because of its connection to the city of Detroit and vulnerable populations. Wayne State has a very close connection to the DMC and other major hospitals, including the VA," says Liddell. "I love that they do research on issues that matter in the community." Once she earns her Ph.D., she hopes to apply knowledge to make change in practice and policy as well as create new nursing knowledge. As a Jonas Scholar, Liddell plans to focus on improving the education of nurses who currently work with vulnerable populations as well as improving education for future nurses. 

Accolades

Research, grants and funding

Principal Investigator **Dr. Cindy Bell** and Co-Investigator **Dr. Karen Kavanaugh** received funding from the Oncology Nursing Society to study *Measuring Readiness to Engage in Discussions with Adolescents and Young Adults Living with Advanced Cancer*.



Dr. Cindy Bell received a Career Development Award for her study *Adding Essential Instrumentation Skills for Use with Adolescents Living with*

Advanced Cancer from the Oncology Nursing Society Foundation.

Dr. Cindy Bell, Dr. Karen Kavanaugh and Dr. Ikuko Kato received a WSU Research Grant for *Evaluating Feasibility Social Media Recruitment and Online Data Collection in Adolescents and Young Adults with Cancer*.

Dr. Ramona Benkert and **Dr. Katherine Zimnicki** received a one-year, \$350,000 Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration in 2016.

Dr. Margaret Campbell received Boost Funding from the WSU Office of the Vice President for Research for *Feasibility Testing of a Hospice Family Caregiver Intervention to Improve Patient Dyspnea Care*.



Dr. Margaret Campbell, Dr. John Strandmark and **Dr. Hossein Yarandi** received support from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Foundation for *Prevalence and Trajectory of Dyspnea or Respiratory Distress among Patients at the End-of-Life*.

Principle Investigator Dr. Raymond Cha and Co-Investigator **Dr. Barbara Pieper** received support for their study *Diabetic Foot Infections Due to Multidrug Resistant Bacteria in Southeastern Michigan: Clinical and Molecular Epidemiology, Outcomes and Therapeutic Approaches* from the Urban Center for Antimicrobial Resistance, Discovery, Education and Stewardship.

Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo received three Jonas Scholars Awards from the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare to support three graduate-level students.

Dr. Nancy George received a three-year, \$1.9 million Advanced Nursing Education award from the Health Resources and Services Administration.

Dr. Carmen Giurgescu received Boost Funding from the WSU Office of the Vice President for Research for *Refining and Pilot Testing an Intervention to Increase Physical Activity in Pregnant Black Women*.



Dr. Carmen Giurgescu and Dr. Andrea Cassidy-Bushrow received 2015-17 Institute for Population Sciences, Health Assessment,

Administration, Services, and Economics, WSU and Henry Ford Health System support for *Neighborhood Environment, Lipidomes and Pre-Term Birth in African American Women*.

Clinical Instructor **Nancy Hauff** received a Birth Hospitals Mini-Grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health in 2015.

Dr. Linda Kaljee, (Co-PI), Dr. Joanne Sobeck (Co-PI) and **Dr. Barbara Pieper** (Co-I) received support from the Urban Center for Antimicrobial Resistance Discovery, Education and Stewardship program for *Barriers and Facilitators to Appropriate Consumer Use of Antibiotics in the Detroit Metropolitan Area* in 2015.



Co-Investigator **Dr. Karen Kavanaugh** with Principal Investigator Dr. Brownsyne Tucker Edmonds received support for *Exploring*

Attitudes, Perceptions, and Coping from the Perspective of Families at Risk of Extremely Preterm Delivery from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.



Dr. Linda Lewin was awarded a Sigma Theta Tau International Small Grant for 2014-16 to study *Psychometric*

Testing of the Revised Beliefs About Personal Weight Survey.

Principal Investigator **Dr. Linda Lewin** submitted a 2016 research proposal titled *Mothering of Young Children by Women with Bipolar Disorder* to Rockefeller University.

Dr. Tsveti Markova (PI), **Dr. Ramona Benkert** (PI), **Dr. Wanda Gibson-Scipio** (Co-I) and Dr. Dennis Tsillingiras (Co-I) received one-year, \$1.11 million funding for the Michigan Area Health Education Center from the Health Resources and Services Administration for September 1, 2015-August 30, 2016.

Dr. Cynthera McNeill is Co-Investigator for *From Barbies to Birth Control: Identifying Barriers to the Implementation of Evidence-Based HIV/STI/Teen Pregnancy Prevention for Urban Adolescent Females* in collaboration with Henry Ford Health System for 2015-16.



Dr. Janean Monahan is Principal Investigator for a 2015-16 Harriet H. Werley Faculty Research Award on *Perioperative*

Experience of Emerging Adults.

Dr. Barbara Pieper received a Sage Travel Grant in June 2016 for *Beginning Nursing Students' Exposure to Patients with Wounds and their Wound Care* from the Wound Ostomy Continence Conference.

Professor Emeritus **Dr. Virginia Rice** (PI) and Associate Dean and Professor **Dr. Janet Harden** (Co-I) received support for 2012-16 from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) National Institute on Drug Abuse for *Health Consequences of Adolescent Water Pipe Smoking With and Without Cigarette Smoking*. (continued)

Dr. April Hazard Vallerand received a Future of Nursing Scholars Award to support a Ph.D. student from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Honors and awards



Dr. Margaret Campbell and **Dr. Thomas N. Templin** received a National Institute of Research Award for Outstanding Poster for *Distress Cut-*

Point for the Respiratory Distress Observation Scale at the 30th Anniversary Scientific Symposium in Bethesda, Maryland, in October 2015.

Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo is a member of the following editorial boards: *Journal of Nursing Education* and *Journal of Professional Nursing*.

Dean Laurie M. Lauzon Clabo was named President for the Michigan Association of Colleges of Nursing for the 2016-18 term.



Dr. Zorica Kauric-Klein is a member of the following editorial boards: *Journal of Clinical Nephrology* and *Research Annals of Clinical and*

Experimental Hypertension.

Dr. Karen Kavanaugh received the Honor a Researcher Award from the Midwest Nursing Research Society.

Dr. Karen Kavanaugh is a member of the *Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing* editorial board.

Dr. Karen Kavanaugh was invited to attend the International Work Group on Death, Dying and Bereavement in November 2016 in Glasgow, Scotland.



Dr. Helene J. Krouse is a member of the following editorial boards: *ORL-Head and Neck Nursing Journal*, *International Journal of Environmental Research*

and Public Health, *Journal of Asthma*, *American Journal of Nursing*, *Journal of Advanced Nursing* and *Nursing Research*.

Dr. Helene J. Krouse was named a Journal Star Reviewer for the *Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Journal*. She was recognized at the 2015 American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Annual Meeting in Dallas.

Dr. Janean Monahan was nominated in 2015 for an Outstanding Achievement in Perioperative Education, Clinical or Academia award.



Dr. Leanne Nantais-Smith won the Best Poster Award with her co-authors for *Stool Biomarkers to Diagnose Necrotizing Enterocolitis*

in Preterm Infants: A Pilot Case-Control Study at the 10th Annual Mid-Michigan Regional Research Day in April 2015.

Dr. Leanne Nantais-Smith received an Award of Appreciation from the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board for her two-year participation as a beta testing site for the electronic Program Resources Application in 2015.



Dr. Barbara Pieper, with her co-author, received the Clinical Research Highest Scoring Poster Abstract Award for *Development and Testing of a*

Pressure Ulcer Knowledge Test at the 2015 Symposium on Advanced Wound Care in San Antonio.

Dr. Barbara Pieper, with her co-author, received the Outstanding Poster Abstract Award for *Testing the Pieper-Zulkowski Pressure Ulcer Knowledge Test* at the 2015 National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel Biennial Conference.

Dr. Paul Stemmer and **Dr. Barbara Pieper** received Boost Funding from the WSU Office of the Vice President for Research for *Protein and Cytokine Indicators of Wound Healing Trajectory*.



Margaret L. Campbell, Ph.D., RN, FPCN and her research team were recently awarded a five-year, \$2.4 million research grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to test an algorithm intended to help nurses provide improved palliative care. Campbell and her research team will gather data from ethnically diverse patients in four medical intensive care units (MICUs) to scientifically test the algorithm based on an objective measure of distress — the Respiratory Distress Observation Scale (RDOS), which Campbell developed to guide palliative care clinicians when patients experience difficult or labored breathing (known as dyspnea) and cannot self-report any breathing discomfort. The MICUs participating in this study include the Henry Ford Health System, University of Michigan, Harper University and Detroit Receiving Hospital.

Publications

College of Nursing faculty members share expertise in academic books and journals

- Accortt, E.E., Dunkel-Schetter, C. **Peters, R.M.** & Cassidy-Bushrow, A.E. (2015). Lower prenatal vitamin D status and postpartum depressive symptomatology in African-American women: Preliminary evidence for moderation by inflammatory cytokines. *Archives of Women's Mental Health*. September, 1-11. DOI: 10.1007/s007-015-0585-1.
- Aroian, K.J., **Templin, T.N.** & Hough, E.S. (2016). Daily Hassles, Mother-Child Relationship, and Behavior Problems in Muslim Arab American Adolescents in Immigrant Families. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*. DOI: 10.1037/cdp0000084.
- Baker, H., **Oliver-McNeil, S.**, Deng, L. & Hummel, S.L. (2015). Regional Hospital Collaboration and Outcomes in Medicare Heart Failure Patients: See You in 7. *JACC: Heart Failure*, 3(10), 765-773. Mini-Focus Issue.
- Balint, K.A.** & **George, N.M.** (2015). Faith community nursing scope of practice: Extending access to health care. *Journal of Christian Nursing*, 32(1), 34-40. DOI: 10.1097/CNJ.0000000000000129.
- Bangdiwala, S.I., Bhargava, A., O'Connor, D. P., Robinson, T.N., Michie, S., Murray, D. M., Stevens, J., Belle, S.H., **Templin, T.N.** & Pratt, C.A. (2016). Statistical methodologies to pool across multiple intervention studies. *Translational Behavioral Medicine*, 1-8.
- Bell, C.J.**, Smythe, E., **Diver, J.**, Dickens, D. & Hinds, P.S. (2016). Exploring Readiness to Engage in Difficult Discussions with Adolescents Living with Advanced Cancer. *Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplantation* 22(3), S115-116.
- Bobbitt, K.R., **Peters, R.M.**, Li, J., Rao, S.D., Woodcroft, K.J. & Cassidy-Bushrow, A.E. (2015). Early pregnancy vitamin D and patterns of antenatal inflammation in African-American women. *Journal of Reproductive Immunology*, 107, 52-58. DOI: 10.1016/j.jri.2014.09.0.
- Bossick, A.S., **Peters, R.M.**, Burmeister, C., Kakumanu, N., Shill, J.E. & Cassidy-Bushrow, A.E. (2016). Antenatal inflammation and gestational diabetes mellitus risk among pregnant African-American women. *Journal of Reproductive Immunology*, 115, 1-5.
- Bossick, A.S., **Peters, R.M.**, Burmeister, C., Shill, J.E. & Cassidy-Bushrow, A.E. (In press). Antenatal Inflammation and Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Risk Among Pregnant African-American Women. *Journal of Reproductive Immunology*.
- Campbell, M., Yarandi, H.** & Mendez, M. (2015). A Two-Group Trial of a Terminal Ventilator Withdrawal Algorithm: Pilot Testing. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 18(9), 781-785. DOI: 10.1089/jpm.2015.0111.
- Campbell, M.L.** (2015). Caring for Dying Patients in the Intensive Care Unit. Managing Pain, Dyspnea, Anxiety, Delirium, and Death Rattle. *AACN Advanced Critical Care*, 26(2), 110-120.
- Campbell, M.L.** & Stellini, M.A. (2015). Dyspnea: Management in seriously ill hospitalized patients. In S. Pantilat, W. Anderson, M. Gonzales & E. Widera (Eds.), *Hospital-based palliative medicine: A practical, evidence-based approach* (pp. 37-48). Ames, IA: Wiley Blackwell Publishers.
- Campbell, M.L.** & **Templin, T.N.** (2015). Intensity cut points for the Respiratory Distress Observation Scale (RDOS). *Palliative Medicine*, 29, 436-442. DOI: 10.1177/0269216314564238.
- Campbell, M.L., Templin, T.** & Kero, K. (In press). Mild, moderate, and severe intensity cut-points for the Respiratory Distress Observation Scale. *Heart & Lung*.
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In memoriam



Madelaine A. Bader (M.S.N. '67) of Port Angeles, Washington, passed away on January 28, 2015. After graduating from a diploma-nursing program in 1947, she began working as a nurse and on her B.S.N. In 1958, she joined the Army Nurse Corps. During her 20-year Army career, Lt. Col. Bader was chief of clinical nursing of psychiatry and neurology. She played an active role in planning and implementing Project Crisis Awareness and Management at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, which was designed to help terminally ill patients, their families and staff members cope. She also served as a faculty member in the Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing program offered in conjunction with the University of Maryland. Midge presented many professional workshops throughout the U.S., was a published author and was the Army psychiatric nursing consultant to the surgeon general during 1972-73. She is survived by her spouse Rosemary Kane and her nieces Susan Hawkins, Cheri Albright and Anne Albright. She is also survived by Rosemary's sister and brother-in-law Nancy and Chuck Cornwell, and their children and grandchildren.



Louise Brentin (M.S.N. '77) passed away on October 29, 2015. Louise received her M.S.N. from Wayne State University and continued working as a nurse. She then became an instructor at Delta College, where she also served as chair of the nursing program. She loved going to the beach, teaching others and being with family, especially her grandchildren. Louise is survived by her husband Bob and three daughters, Stephanie (Jared) Rose, Suzanne (Jeffrey) Derowski and Lindsay Brentin, as well as two grandchildren, Bryson Rose and Gabrielle Derowski. She is also survived by her sister Marilyn Grady.



Harvey Day (B.S.N. '62, M.S.N. '64) passed away on June 5, 2016. Day was the third man to enroll in the WSU College of Nursing, and was the first African-American man to graduate from the program. He went on to earn a doctoral degree in educational psychology from the University of Michigan in 1975. Day's family requests memorial contributions be made to the College of Nursing scholarship fund.



Longtime faculty member **Ingvarde (Varda) Hanson** passed away in May 2016. She received her M.S.N. from WSU in 1961, and served for many years as a CON faculty member, leading the psychiatric-mental health program. She retired from WSU in 2007. The funeral was held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

Joyce E. Jackson (B.S.N. '52) passed away on June 6, 2016. She was a proud member of the first WSU College of Nursing graduating class in 1951, maintaining lifelong friendships with the other 10. Upon graduation, Jackson worked for the Visiting Nurse Association. After taking time off to raise her family, she returned to nursing at the Northville Clinic and later the Canton Allergy Clinic. She is survived by three children: Judy Sulaver, Jan Kosko and John Jackson. Memorial contributions may be made to the College of Nursing scholarship fund. 🍷



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