$500,000 grant for nursing

Program moves online

Alumni board begins

Show your pride
As I begin my second year as associate dean of nursing, the students, faculty, staff and administration continue to energize me. I swell with pride at our students’ development as they progress through our programs.

The Nursing Program at NDSU continues to evolve and grow stronger on all levels - BSN, MS and DNP - as we strive for excellence in nursing education. Our undergraduates continue to thrive. In May 2010, 49 students graduated from the Pre-Licensure Undergraduate Nursing Program. The first-time NCLEX pass rate for the past year was 94 percent, remaining above the national average of 85 percent. Applications for the 2010 Pre-Licensure Undergraduate Class were similar to 2009, around 138 with the admission of 68 students.

The LPN/BN to BSN Undergraduate Program continues to grow. In December 2010, 15 students will graduate from this distance-delivered program. In spring 2010, 13 students were admitted to the program and admission rates are expected to double in spring 2011. Faculty use creative methods and new technologies such as Lecture Captivate and Podcasting when developing on-line courses and have been successful in design and management of on-line courses for these students.

Graduate nursing education remains a priority with Nurse Educator and Doctor of Nursing Practice. The Family Nurse Practitioner pass rate for the Class of 2010 was 100 percent. Nine students were accepted into the DNP Program in fall 2010.

Molly Secor-Turner, Ph.D., joined our nursing faculty. She brings significant teaching, research and clinical expertise along with enthusiasm to work with graduate and undergraduate students.

We are committed to serving our students while shaping health care and addressing workforce and health care issues in North Dakota. The Department of Nursing and Dakota Medical Foundation are one of nine new Partners Investing in Nursing’s Future (PIN) grants awarded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation. The North Dakota Partners in Nursing Gerontology Consortium Project will be instrumental in serving the population of North Dakota by increasing awareness of health care opportunities among area youth, enhancing community recruitment and retention efforts, and enhancing the gerontology practice environment.

The North Dakota Department of Nursing also partnered with the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences to become the fiscal host for the North Dakota Southwest Area Health Education Center, which develops health care workforce pipeline activities to improve distribution, diversity and quality of health personnel in underserved areas in North Dakota.

We are pleased to be working with our newly formed Nursing Alumni Advisory Board and eager to develop programming to meet your needs as working nurses and NDSU alumni.

I hope you enjoy reading about the people, events and happenings in the department. Visit our website at www.ndsu.edu/nursing to read the latest student, faculty, department and alumni accomplishments. You can contact me on that website by clicking on “Message for the Associate Dean.” We welcome you to visit us and join our efforts in promoting nursing education and health care through our teaching, scholarship and outreach efforts.

The NDSU Department of Nursing and Dakota Medical Foundation have been awarded a two-year, $250,000 grant from Partners in Nursing’s Future to address nursing workforce shortages specific to gerontology in North Dakota. Dakota Medical Foundation also is providing $250,000 in matching funds for the project. Nine grants were received nationwide.

The funding will support the North Dakota Partners in Nursing Gerontology Consortium Project, which will develop a state model for gerontology in nursing education to help communication and create a common infrastructure for technical expertise, establishment of standards, sharing of models and establishing outcome measures for evaluation. The consortium will increase awareness of health career opportunities among area youth, enhance community recruitment and retention efforts and enhance the gerontology practice environment.

Loretta Heuer, associate dean and project director, said while the overall number of nurses nationwide is increasing, the supply side does not address the specific needs of the state. “North Dakota is one of the most rural and frontier areas of the United States, and the state’s aging population presents a significant challenge to our health care workforce,” she said.

The fastest growing age segment in North Dakota is people 85 and older. In 1950, this age group was 0.4 percent of the population. Projections have this number rising to 3.8 percent by 2030. As a result, North Dakota ranks first nationally in the proportion of residents 85 years of age and older.

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“We are excited to be part of this national program that shares lessons learned and can help ensure that we have the nurses and resources needed to keep our families and our communities safe and healthy,” said Donna Grandbois, co-project director.

During the early stages, Heuer said they have focused on forming a coalition of partners throughout the state that includes nursing schools, businesses and gerontology associations. They also have started work on a marketing plan to help nurses see gerontology as a career option. Heuer also wants to see work done with high school counselors and science teachers to spread awareness on what future nurses can do to prepare for college.

Partners in Nursing’s Future, a program led by the Robert Wood Johnson and Northwest Health Foundations, is a unique national initiative to help find innovative ways to create an adequate nursing workforce appropriate in size and equipped with the specific skills necessary to meet the changing demands of the 21st century patient population. The program provides assistance to local and regional philanthropies to act as catalysts in their own communities and develop strategies for creating and sustaining a viable nursing workforce.
NDSU and UND departments partner on Area Health Education Center

NDSU’s Department of Nursing has been named the fiscal host for the North Dakota Southwest Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Loretta Heuer, associate dean for nursing and associate director of the center, will provide administrative direction.

The center is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, UND College of Nursing and Dakota Medical Foundation, Fargo. The grant is an annual $340,000.

“It is important for North Dakota to grow our own health care workers, and the Department of Nursing is excited to partner with UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences to develop tomorrow’s providers,” Heuer said. “AHECs have an excellent reputation in building student interest in health care careers and providing pathways for them to enter the profession with the ultimate goal that they return to work in their own community. North Dakota rural areas will certainly benefit from this partnership in the years ahead.”

The North Dakota AHEC was established in 2008 and is housed in the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences’ Department of Family and Community Medicine. Two regional centers, the Eastern AHEC in Mayville directed by Dr. Bill Krivarchka, and the SW AHEC in Hettenger directed by Tony Scheerz have been established to develop health care workforce pipeline activities to improve distribution, diversity and quality of health personnel in underserved areas in North Dakota.

“It’s interdisciplinary, not just nursing,” Heuer said. “It allows for providers to be in rural areas, and we can send them out as interdisciplinary teams. They learn to understand the roles of other disciplines and how to work and act as a team.”

To continue the mission of the AHEC, two new partnerships have been entered in each of the respective regions.

Mayville State University has entered into a contract with UND to serve as the fiscal host for the Eastern AHEC. Steven Bensen, vice president for business affairs, said, “Mayville State University is honored to participate as an active partner with the North Dakota AHEC through a partnership agreement with the Eastern AHEC.”

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Nurse Educator program moves online

Jodi Terpstra began working toward earning her master’s degree to become a nurse educator in 2007. When her husband took a job at Western Michigan University so they could be closer to family, she was able to continue earning her degree online.

“It’s great that they are allowing me to finish my degree via distance. Otherwise, I would have had to come into a new state and try and transfer credits,” she said. “Other colleges would only accept 11 credits, so this was not a good option for me. I’m now at the tail end of my degree with only two more classes and my final paper.”

Such moves or other factors of time and distance can make earning a graduate degree difficult for nurses looking to increase their education. This year, the entire master’s in education in nursing program moved from the classroom to the Internet, which should make it more appealing and user friendly to nurses in rural areas who may not be able to make the long commute to Fargo for classes. Online classes also can be easier to fit around a busy schedule for working nurses.

“Those are some of the potential students we would like to target. There are needs out there,” said Norma Kiser-Larson, associate professor. Nurse educators fill a number of roles, whether working in academia as faculty, educating patients in hospitals or clinics, working in public health or educating other nurses. Nurse educators help clients and the public understand preventable diseases, facilitate adaptive responses to chronic conditions and decrease hospital lengths of stay by teaching patients and families – all while keeping the information at an easy to understand level of comprehension.

The growth of managed care and the average age of current RNs take the program for two or three years, with the goal of taking the certification exam from the National League of Nursing Education. The program curriculum is based on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Essentials of Nursing Education. The program curriculum is based on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Essentials of Master’s Education and the National League for Nursing Certification Competencies.

“I think by making the program more appealing and user friendly to people in rural North Dakota, it gives them opportunities to get their master’s degree as a nurse educator. It gives them another option.”

Faculty shortages at nursing schools across the country are limiting student capacity at a time when the need for nurses continues to grow. Budget constraints, an aging faculty, and increasing job competition from clinical sites have contributed to this emerging crisis.”

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“I think by making the program more appealing and user friendly to people in rural North Dakota, it gives them opportunities to get their master’s degree as a nurse educator. It gives them another option,” Kiser-Larson said. “We have some excellent students. They have surpassed my expectations in their accomplishments.”

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Norma Kiser-Larson

Loretta Heuer
Scholarship honors alumna and raises cancer awareness

Pam Solseng was diagnosed with late-stage ovarian cancer on the day of her graduation from the NDSU Department of Nursing in 2006. She fought the cancer for more than three years while working and raising two children. She died Dec. 9, 2009, a day after her 40th birthday.

Her husband, Brent, PharmD ’03, continues to spread awareness of ovarian cancer by speaking about the disease to students. He spoke to a nursing class in November about the signs, symptoms and treatment of ovarian cancer, a particularly difficult cancer to spot early. This year marks the first of the Pam Solseng Memorial Scholarship – a $500 scholarship for NDSU students who are older than average mothers with work experience in nursing or healthcare. The first student recipient was Leann Colby. Funds for the scholarship were raised through the Dakota Medical Foundation and a golf tournament.

“I know how tough it was for Pam to manage the kids and work and school,” Brent said. “If we can help someone in a similar situation get their goal of graduating and becoming a BSRN, that’s the main goal. I also think that any recipient of that scholarship becomes an ambassador of ovarian cancer awareness.”

To request Brent’s presentation on ovarian cancer to your group, please visit pamelasolseng.com. To learn more about the Pam Solseng scholarship honors Solseng, who graduated in 2006 and fought ovarian cancer for more than three years.

Warning signs of ovarian cancer

Ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer-related death among women and is the deadliest of gynecologic cancers. An estimated 21,880 women were diagnosed and 13,850 women died of ovarian cancer in 2010.

• bloating
• pelvic or abdominal pain
• difficulty eating or feeling full quickly
• urinary symptoms (urgency or frequency)

Women with ovarian cancer report that symptoms are persistent and represent a change from normal for their bodies. The frequency and number of such symptoms are key to diagnosis.

― Gynecological Cancer Foundation

Calling all nursing alumni ... We want to hear from you!

We like to know what our alumni are up to, so please take a moment to tell us about yourself. Feel free to share a story or memory of your time spent in the nursing program. E-mail your name, class year, job information and other updates (career changes, honors, moves, etc.) to: Loretta.Heuer@ndsu.edu.

Alumni Board helps direction of department

She is the director of Personal Care at Bethany Retirement Living in Fargo, and joined the board to express her gratitude for her education. “Today’s nursing graduates are the ones who will be caring for me and my family. I would like us to provide support for current and future graduates in any way that we can.”

The Pharmacy National Advisory Board has been in place for 10 years, and an Allied Sciences Alumni Advisory Board will be formed next year. Members of each board will be selected to form an executive college board to work with the dean and encourage inter-professional education and opportunities.

“If we’ve had a vision in the college to have advisory boards for each of our disciplines,” said Sara Wald, director of advancement in the College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences. “We just want to engage more alumni to continue to excel our programs and build opportunities for current students.”

Board members and their class years

Arlene Biberdorf, 1977
Carol Funfar, 1973
Shane Johnson, 2010
DeAnn Krieg, 1984
Cheryl Lausch, 1984
Jeanie Volk, 1976
Lori Wightman, 1980

If you want to nominate someone to become a member of the Nursing Alumni Advisory Board, contact Sara Wald at sara.wald@ndsu.edu, (701) 281-6461, or by mail to Sara Wald, Director of Advancement, NDSU Dept. 2650, PO Box 6050, Fargo, ND 58108-6050.
Student Nurses’ Association serves the community

The Student Nurses’ Association (SNA) is a recognized student organization at NDSU as well as a chapter of the Nursing Students’ Association of North Dakota and the National Student Nurses’ Association. SNA consists of pre-nursing and nursing students participating in community affairs and educational programs toward improved health care and resolution of related social issues. This function of the organization has been accomplished through our activity in community and service projects.

Some of our service projects include Go Red for Women promoting cardiovascular health and primary prevention for women, blood pressure screenings and education regarding lifestyle changes throughout the community, and volunteering at local food shelves including the Ronald McDonald House and Dorothy Day House. We recently trick-or-treated for canned goods that were brought to the Memorial Union for the Fill the Dome event. A project planned for this year will include participation in the Great American Smoke Out where we will go to grade schools and educate students through creative games that encourage the importance of not smoking.

Through participation in Expanding your Horizons, a campus event aimed at 7th and 8th grade girls, we assist pre-nursing and nursing students participating in community affairs and educational programs toward improved health care and resolution of related social issues. This function of the organization has been accomplished through our activity in community and service projects.

SNA acts and functions as an advocate for pre-nursing and nursing students and those interested in the nursing profession in exploring a variety of nursing roles and career possibilities. SNA aims to provide networking opportunities among nursing students and faculty members, and to foster a sense of community among nursing students.

Students also have participated in conventions at the state and national levels. Last year SNA members attended the national convention in Orlando, Fla., which allowed students to network with other nursing students and attend presentations on nursing issues. The 2011 National Convention will be held in Salt Lake City in April, and members are fundraising to attend the educational trip.

Amanda Booke, president
Student Nurses’ Association

Nursing student earns scholarship to internship program in Washington, D.C.

Linda Kibot, a graduate student working toward her doctorate of nursing practice, earned a scholarship to attend the Nurse in Washington Internship from March 14 to 16, 2010, in Washington, D.C.

The internship program is sponsored by the Nursing Organizations Alliance. Kibot earned her scholarship from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, which paid for her airfare, registration, hotel and food during her stay in Washington, D.C.

The Nurse in Washington Internship Program teaches nurses how to influence health policy at the local and national levels. Nurses visit Capitol Hill and acquire skills needed to work with legislators to advance policies and agendas. Kibot also got the chance to speak to Sen. Byron Dorgan and one of Congressman Earl Pomery’s aides.

“You have to bring up the problems to senators or your congressman,” Kibot said. “They expect people who are experts in that area to come up and talk to them. It’s important to bring up the problem.”

Kibot expects to graduate in December 2011 and hopes to work in primary care or a specialty area such as cardiology.

Ambassadors launch new website

A lot has happened with the Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences Ambassadors this past year. In March, Mary Raven stepped down as president. Her rotations during her fourth year of pharmacy school didn’t allow her to stay in Fargo during fall semester. Jason Lind stepped up to the challenge as president to carry out the remainder of Raven’s term.

We held our annual recruitment this past spring and a great new class of ambassadors joined us. We were also busy creating new events for ambassadors. We helped a local food pantry in Moorhead and volunteered at the YWCA. Everyone enjoyed these experiences and we plan to go back soon. We finished off the spring with a faculty and staff appreciation that included cake, refreshments and thank you notes written by students to honor the faculty and staff for all they do. At the end of spring semester, the Congress of Student Organizations named Pharmacy Nursing, and Allied Sciences Ambassadors the “Student Organization of the Year” and named ambassadors’ co-adviser Dana Davie the “Student Organization Adviser of the Year.”

Like the beginning of every school year, fall semester was packed for ambassadors. We launched our new website, http://sites.google.com/site/pnasambassadors. Please check it out. We started the semester with Ticket to Your Success, an annual event for new students to get information about the college and to ask questions. Despite the inclement weather, our annual retreat was again a success at bringing us together as an organization and a great way for us to get to know each other better.

In October, Ambassadors were involved with giving tours of Sudro Hall to the Nursing Alumni Advisory Board, walking in the Homecoming parade, talking with prospective students and giving tours of Sudro Hall during Discover NDSU. We also held a Student Appreciation Day before Halloween, where we served homemade cookies, brownies and cider to students to give them a boost during the dreaded midterms.

November marked the time of our elections. From this year’s results, it looks like next year will be great. It’s also the start of The Great Healthcare Adventure, a project put together by our co-adviser Dana Davie. Ambassadors travel to a local elementary school and introduce second and third graders to healthcare and the different career paths available. It was a great success last year and is starting out very well again this year.

This fall semester finished before we knew it. Our organization is moving in the right direction with the help of our advisors, Dana Davie and Sara Wald. Hopefully next year we can see the college further and have an even more successful year for the Ambassadors.

Jason Lind, 2010 president
Katie Montag, 2011 president

2011 Ambassador officers

President: Katie Montag (pharmacy)
Recruitment: Tentzin Jangchup (pharmacy)
Membership: Danielle Hassinger (nursing)
Secretary: Ashlie Sedert (nursing)
Special Events: Luke Lorenz (pharmacy)
Public Relations: Jenna Lien (pharmacy)
Dean’s Liaison Committee: Mckaya Schmit (pharmacy)
Historian: Victoria Hammond (pharmacy)
Allied Sciences Liaison: Becca Ystebo
Nursing Liaison: Sammie Juhnke
Pharmaceutical Sciences Liaison: Amin Modgil
Pharmacy Liaison: Heath Oetken

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Dean’s Liaison Committee:

Mckaya Schmit (pharmacy)

Jenna Lien (pharmacy)

Ashlie Seifert (nursing)

Danielle Hasslinger (nursing)

Jenna Lien (pharmacy)

Becca Ystebo

Nursing Liaison:

Sammie Juhnke

Pharmaceutical Sciences Liaison:

Amin Modgil

Pharmacy Liaison:

Heath Oetken

Linda Kibot spoke with congressmen during her internship program.
Show your NDSU pride!

Your purchase supports NDSU’s Student Nurses’ Association

NDSU Nursing Fleece Style 1
Color: Black
Sizes: S-XXL unisex
Price: $45

NDSU Nursing Fleece Style 2
Color: Black
Sizes: X-S XL women’s, S-XL men’s
Price: $45

Order form

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Order forms and checks, payable to NDSU SNA, should be sent to Karla Haug, NDSU Dept 2670, PO Box 6050, Fargo, ND 58108-6050. For further information, contact Karla Haug at 701-231-5126 or e-mail karla.haug@ndsu.edu.

Nursing student a campus leader

Danielle Haaslinger, a junior in nursing, is this year’s president of Campus Attractions, the student organization dedicated to providing programs and activities to students on campus. As president, she was the Homecoming chair, leading the student effort to provide events and entertainment during Homecoming Week.

“Schaeffer crowned NDSU Homecoming queen

This year’s NDSU Homecoming queen, Kolby Schaeffer, from Bowman, N.D., has made the most of her experience in nursing at NDSU. Schaeffer’s passion for helping people drives her to succeed in the nursing program and become involved with many organizations on campus.

“She’s always believed she was meant to be a nurse. I’ve always enjoyed caring for others. My grandmother was sick with cancer when I was in the fourth grade, which took my level of caring to a whole new level. I really enjoyed being there for her,” Schaeffer said, “and now I’m ready to be there for others.”

Schaeffer hopes to be an advocate for people and families in need and to inspire them to take control of their health. Ultimately, she would like to open a nonprofit clinic as people in need can be more focused on taking care of themselves instead of worrying about saving money for doctor’s visits. But for now, Schaeffer is focused on enjoying her final year at NDSU.

“Being a part of Alpha Gamma Delta has changed me for the better. I have become such a strong person with great leadership skills. It’s inspiring to be around so many women who have the same values as I do,” Schaeffer said.

A highlight for Schaeffer this year was being crowned Homecoming queen. NDSU students voted and crowned Schaeffer at the Homecoming show and coronation in Festival Concert Hall on Friday, Oct. 1 during Homecoming Week. Theta Chi fraternity nominated her.

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“My favorite part about Homecoming this year was working with the Homecoming king and queen candidates and speaking at the coronation show,” she said. “The candidates were a lot of fun to work with and it was the largest crowd that I have ever had to speak in front of.”

Haaslinger joined Campus Attractions during her sophomore year. She had attended a few events and knew people on the board who encouraged her to take a larger role in the organization. She became the Coffeehouse committee coordinator, in charge of programming events such as live music at lunch, poetry readings, open mic nights, and other small events.

As president this year, she helps manage a budget of $181,000, which is allocated to each of the nine committees charged with providing different types of entertainment for students. Between Campus Attractions, her role as a College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences Ambassador, her service as a junior representative on the Nursing Student Council and her work at the Wellness Center Child Care Service, Haaslinger’s academic life is tightly packed.

“It’s been difficult, but it helps to manage time well,” she said. “I can’t procrastinate.”

Haaslinger, who grew up in Apple Valley, Minn., initially started at NDSU as a pre-pharmacy major, but changed to nursing after finding she enjoyed the clinical work and one-on-one interaction nursing provides. She is minoring in child development and hopes to establish a career working with children.

She participates in Bison Ambassadors, Student Nurses’ Association, Greek Programming Council, Order of Omega Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. She also is a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority at NDSU.

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Following graduation, Schaeffer hopes to work at Sanford Health and take graduate school courses. She plans to apply to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program by 2013 and work toward her dream of opening a nonprofit clinic.
2010 nursing scholarships

Hazel B. Berve Trust Scholarship
Samantha Mattheis, Georgetown, Minn.

Albert and Celeste Brauer Scholarship
Samantha Mattheis, Georgetown, Minn.

Dakota Medical Foundation Scholarship by Donald (1973) and Jane Matthees
Nicole Gunnarson, Hawley, Minn.

EM Eggert Scholarship
Andrina Tyryshka, Beulah, N.D.

Sister Catherine Haertzen Scholarship
Elisha Anderson, Minot, N.D.

Agnes (1969) and Byron (1957) Harrington Scholarship
Savannah Berry, Jamestown, N.D.

Dean’s Scholarship – Nursing
Amanda Brooke, Dickinson, N.D.
Danielle Haslanger, Burnsville, Minn.

Vernon E. Howell and Orlee R. Howell Scholarship
Jill McMulden, Eagle Bend, Minn.

LeRoy C. Justesen Memorial Scholarship
Rosa Jacobs, Bismarck, N.D.

Dakota Medical Foundation Scholarship
Jordan moo, West Fargo, N.D.
Carissa Krueger, Grand Forks, N.D.
Cassandra Munger, Wolf Lake, Minn.
Beth Rasmussen, Fertile, Minn.
Julie Tholen, Randall, Minn.
Katelyn Thompson, Minnewaukan, N.D.
Emily Twedt, Fargo, N.D.
Miranda Utter, West Fargo, N.D.

Dakota Medical Foundation Scholarship by Dick (1971) and Beth (1990) Marsden Scholarship
Samantha Johnson, Brookings, S.D.

Presentation Sisters Scholarship honoring Dr. Mary Margaret Mooney
Ashlee Sorenson, West Fargo, N.D.

Sanford Health Foundation-Oswald Ronice Scholarship
Marti Hoeft, Twin Valley, Minn.

Helge and Ingeborg Melby Lindbo Scholarship
Rebecca Hooke, Fargo, N.D.

Presentation Sisters Women of Color Scholarship
Anna Charles, Yei, Sudan

Sanford Health Foundation-Orleal Ronice Scholarship
LeAnn Cuddy, Fergus, N.D.

Presentation Sisters Scholarship
Savannah Berry, Jamestown, N.D.

Gifts from Atheists

Nursing Alumni Scholarship
Lindsey Brey, Dickinson, N.D.
Cahen Huber, Valley City, N.D.
Alicia Peterson, Appleton, Minn.
Ashlie Seifert, Rochester, Minn.

Sanford Health Foundation-Alyce Ovidia Grangaard Scholarship
Alissa Beckstrand, Jamestown, N.D.
Samantha Evans, Carrington, N.D.

Sanford Health Foundation-Oswald Ronice Scholarship
Marti Hoeft, Twin Valley, Minn.

Jennie (1976) and Jeffrey (1977) Volk Nursing Scholarship
Kathy Schaeffer, Bowman, N.D.
Faculty Briefs

Heuer named to N.D. Board of Nursing Education Committee

Loretta Heuer, associate dean of nursing, recently was appointed to the North Dakota Board of Nursing Education Committee. She was among three nurses appointed to the Nursing Education Committee by the North Dakota Board of Nursing (NDBON). Her two-year term began in November.

Nursing faculty publish articles


Heuer co-wrote “Positive and negative spillovers of the health disparities collaboratives in Federally Qualified Health Centers” in Medical Care. "Nursing innovations: The future of chronic disease management," a commissioned paper for the Institute of Medicine’s The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health report; and "NRSHA prevention of oral and chronic diseases," a policy brief for the National Rural Health Association.

Nursing faculty give presentations and earn awards

Heuer presented “Practice-based research with vulnerable populations: Protecting the rights, safety and welfare of highly mobile research participants” at a national webinar sponsored by Migrant Clinicians Network.

Donna Grandbois, assistant professor, was invited to present “Native American elders in the 21st century: Our cultural meme” at the 22nd Annual Native Health Research Conference in Rapid City, S.D.; and “Understanding Native American Society” at the Concordia College Regional Diversity Conference in Moorhead, Minn., in August.

Tina Lundeen, assistant professor, presented the poster “Nurse practitioners’ knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes about obesity, the obese patient, and management of obesity in clinical practice” at the North Dakota Nurse Practitioner Association Second Annual Pharmacology Conference in Fargo, N.D.

Mary Wright, associate professor, presented the poster “Parental expectations and recommendations related to health care/medical home for their children with special needs” at the 2010 Western Institute in Nursing Research Conference in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Secor-Turner presented the poster “Are life experiences of instability related to sexual risk behavior among high risk adolescent girls?” at the Society for Adolescent Medicine Conference in Seattle, Wash.

Norma Kiser-Larson, associate professor, earned the NDSU Mary McCannel Gunkelman Recognition Award and the College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Science Award for Exemplary Service. Maggie Lee, assistant professor, was an Apple Polisher honoree in spring 2010. Tina Lundeen, assistant professor, earned the ND Diabetes Care Provider Achievement Award. Carla Gross, associate professor, earned an Educational Scholarship from Al-Kappa at Large Chapter, a Board of Nursing Scholarship, and a South Dakota State University Scholarship. Shila Thompson, assistant professor, earned a Board of Nursing Scholarship.

New to Department of Nursing

Molly Secor-Turner
assistant professor of nursing

Responsibilities: Teaching undergraduate and graduate community/public health nursing research.

Research: Secor-Turner’s research uses a mixed-methods approach to study the social context of risk and protective factors associated with adolescent health risk behaviors such as early pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease and violence involvement.

Previous experience: Postdoctoral Adolescent Health Protection Research Training Fellow at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Degrees: Bachelor’s degree in nursing, master’s degree in public health nursing and doctorate in nursing from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Lori Askew
academic assistant

Responsibilities: Working with graduate nursing program/students and the LPN/RN to BSN program, which includes maintaining student records and coordinating communication and activities with respective faculty, maintaining and monitoring the department contracts and handling all correspondence and communication; assisting the associate dean of nursing by recording minutes of department committees, communicating within the university regarding changes to courses, and coordinating the Nursing Alumni Advisory Board.

Previous experience: Askew was a legal assistant for 24 years for attorneys in Fargo, including Solberg Law Firm and Wold Johnson Law Firm. Prior to that she was a judicial secretary to one of the justices at the North Dakota Supreme Court.

Degrees: Bachelor’s degree in management from the University of North Dakota and an associate degree in legal secretary from Interstate Business College.

Jane Strommen
project coordinator, ND Partners in Nursing Gerontology Consortium Project

Responsibilities: Expanding collaboration within and between the Department of Nursing and the consortium members and community; serving as a leader and consultant to all grant activities; carrying out the day-to-day functions of the grant objectives, activities, progress and outcomes; assisting in management of project budget; assisting in disseminating outcomes, and sustainability activities.

Previous experience: Strommen was a long-term care administrator for more than 16 years in two rural locations, overseeing skilled nursing care, basic care, assisted living, independent senior housing, personal care and child daycare. For the past seven years, she was executive director of a new non-profit organization in rural Cass County.

Degrees: Bachelor’s degree in business administration from NDSU; master’s degree in health services administration from the College of St. Francis, Joliet, Ill.; doctoral candidate in human development, gerontology track, at NDSU.

Jane Hagen
academic assistant

Responsibilities: Working with the undergraduate program nursing and pre-nursing students as well as maintaining undergraduate student records; maintaining budget records, purchasing and bill payments for the department; keeping payroll forms and records for the department; working as the point of contact at the front desk for the department.

Previous experience: Hagen worked for about 19 years at the University of North Dakota, including 10 years with the microbiology and immunology department; she also worked for 11 years as a medical transcriptionist for Altru Health Systems in Grand Forks, N.D.

Degrees: Medical secretary degree from Northwest Technical College in East Grand Forks, Minn.

Djuna Grandbois
academic assistant

Degrees:
Bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of North Dakota, including 10 years with the microbiology and immunology department; she also worked for 11 years as a medical transcriptionist for Altru Health Systems in Grand Forks, N.D.

Degrees: Medical secretary degree from Northwest Technical College in East Grand Forks, Minn.
a message from the advancement office

I hope you enjoyed this latest edition of the Nursing Alumni Newsletter. As you can see, our students, staff, and faculty are engaged in a multitude of exciting activities. Particularly, the addition of the Nursing Alumni Advisory Board will propel our mission of educating the next generation of nurses. Your help is pivotal in providing our students with a world-class education.

In the coming weeks, we will begin a drive to enhance the Department of Nursing’s financial foundation. When you are contacted by phone or letter, please consider a donation to help support student scholarships, student programming and essential educational equipment. Your help provides the students opportunities to achieve their goals and become the professionals that make us all proud.

Of course, financial assistance is not the only way you can impact their young careers. Your time and talent are also valuable resources. Please consider serving on the Nursing Alumni Advisory Board. If you are interested, please contact me.

Finally, it’s a treat when alumni come back to visit us in Sudro Hall. We learn about the milestones in your lives, and it gives you an opportunity to see firsthand some of the exciting accomplishments of our nursing students. We hope to see you soon!

Sara Wald
Director of Advancement
(701) 231-6461 or Sara.Wald@ndsu.edu