Celebrating 40 Years of Purdue Nursing
Message From The Head

With our commitment to scholarly excellence, to improving access to healthcare, and to the economic development of the state, it is an exciting time to be at the Purdue School of Nursing!

It is also an exciting time for me, personally, as I accept the responsibilities of leading the School. As Associate Head, I had the opportunity to get to know the faculty and staff, the university, and the community. I am truly in awe of the talents of my Purdue colleagues and the resources of Purdue University.

I am also grateful to Dr. Linda Simunek for her mentoring over the last three years. My focus will be continuing the School’s tradition of excellence and leading the faculty, staff, and students in our determination to reach the “next level” of preeminence, recognizing that nursing’s future is inextricably linked to the future well-being of our global society.

Over the past two years, our nursing undergraduate program earned accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the faculty developed a new strategic plan focusing on learning, engagement, and discovery, 14 faculty members secured intramural and extramural funding, and the school gained approval for an independent graduate program on the West Lafayette campus. These are only the highlights; every day brings new challenges and accomplishments.

This issue of Purdue Nurse shares with you the exciting activities of our “Ruby Jubilee” 40th anniversary year. Our Fall 2003 issue will focus on our strategic plan for the next three years and on the faculty and staff, alumnae, and friends who will ensure that we meet our goals.

I look forward to working with you as the School interfaces with a wide range of partners, responds to the nursing shortage through increased enrollment and the recruitment of faculty leaders and strategizes regarding “best practice” for the School’s next 40 years.

Julie C. Novak, DNSc, RN, CPNP
Head, School of Nursing
Associate Dean, Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Health Sciences

Dr. Novak at the 2003 Nurse’s Ball with SON faculty leaders Dr. Ruth Wukasch and Professor Pam Aaltonen, and husband Dr. Robert Novak, Associate Head of Audiology and Speech Sciences and Director of Clinical Audiology.
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Faculty Gift
This is the Ruby Jubilee; the 40th anniversary year of the Purdue School of Nursing. In the last four decades, there have been tremendous changes in health care, including dramatic advances in technology and changing roles for nurses in a variety of settings.

Through it all, the School of Nursing has held to a vision of excellence that has empowered nearly four thousand graduates with the knowledge, discipline, caring, and skills to be leaders in their profession.
LaNelle E. Geddes personified the dramatic change in the role of nurses and took Purdue Nursing to a new level of professionalism.

Jo A. Brooks championed public health programs as healthcare shifted to more home, community, and nurse-managed care.

At the dawn of the new century, Linda A. Simunek brought the Purdue School of Nursing into a more sharply defined focus on faculty scholarly activities and graduate studies.

In the Ruby Jubilee year, 2003, Julie C. Novak takes on the challenge of graduate educational programming, expanded interdisciplinary research, and local to global engagement activities.

As we go into the new millennium, a talented and dedicated faculty and staff continues to uphold the Purdue-proud tradition of educating the hands and hearts of the next generation of nurse leaders.
In 1962, the demand for nurses was at an all-time high throughout the United States. Purdue had no nursing school, but administrators had a vision for quality nursing education, beginning with a two-year associate degree program.

Helen R. Johnson was charged with initiating and developing this new endeavor. In 1963, she began to lay the foundation for the entire Purdue nursing program, not just on the West Lafayette campus, but on the four regional campuses as well.

For the next 18 years, this down-to-earth, optimistic, and forward-thinking woman was the driving force behind the development and growth of nursing education at Purdue University.

Under her leadership, the first nursing students entered Purdue in 1963. They studied in one classroom on the top floor of what is now the Purdue Student Health Center.

During the next three years, nursing programs were initiated on all four Purdue regional campuses. By 1969, all the programs had successfully graduated a class and were accredited by the National League of Nursing.

Dr. Johnson then unveiled her next vision for Purdue Nursing: baccalaureate degree programs.

“You can never stand still,” she said at the time. “Most of Purdue’s other programs extend well above the associate degree level and we have to maintain the University’s standards of excellence. I also want to have a master’s and doctoral degree programs someday.”

The first baccalaureate degree students in Purdue’s “2+2” program were admitted in the Fall of 1970. The number of students on the main campus had grown from 30 to 172, and 611 nurses had graduated from all the campuses combined.

One of Helen Johnson’s crowning achievements occurred in 1972 with a grant from the United States Public Health Service that largely funded the construction of a new nursing building on the West Lafayette campus.
The first nursing students entered Purdue in 1963.

They studied in one classroom on the top floor of what is now the Purdue Student Health Center. Classes were moved to South Campus Courts before Johnson Hall was built in the mid-1970s.

Edwin Smith (AD’67) was the first man to graduate from the Purdue Nursing Program.

By 1969, nursing programs on all four Purdue regional campuses had successfully graduated a class and were accredited by the National League of Nursing.

One of Helen Johnson’s crowning achievements occurred in 1972 with a grant from the United States Public Health Service that largely funded the construction of a new nursing building on the West Lafayette campus. Upon its completion, the new facility was a major impetus in upgrading the nursing program from a department in the School of Technology to a separate school with its own operating budget.
1980-1992: The LaNelle Geddes Years

Helen Johnson retired in 1980, and LaNelle Geddes became head of the School. Dr. Geddes had served five years as an assistant head, and had the administrative background, leadership skills, and clinical knowledge to become the spokesperson for a program that was emerging from its infancy and changing rapidly to stay at the forefront of nursing education.

“It’s almost taken for granted now, but then nurses were just beginning to practice with more autonomy,” she says.

“As head, I really had to promote our emerging baccalaureate program. It was important to change the image of the nursing profession from technical to professional and to explain the roles of nurses with baccalaureate degrees, not only on campus, but in the community as well.”

The first class to complete the four-year baccalaureate curriculum in nursing graduated in May 1986. There were 92 graduates.

Dr. LaNelle Geddes became head of the school in 1980.

Dr. Geddes believed that alumnae outreach was essential to the School’s continued growth and success. She encouraged the formation of the Purdue Nursing Alumni Organization, and created the first school newsletter for alumnae, donors, and friends.

Dr. Geddes also fostered student activity, including the formation of the Purdue Student Nurses Association, the Minority Student Nursing Association, and the Nursing Freshman Scholar program.

The 1980s brought other important changes to nursing including a resurgence of interest and emphasis on the concept of health and wellness promotion.

In 1981, faculty members Jo Brooks and Mary Lou Holle were awarded a grant from the United States Public Health Service to establish a Nursing Center for Family Health (NCFH) as a learning laboratory for students to gain experience in health screening, health education, and health counseling.

As one of the first nurse-managed clinics in a school of nursing, the NCFH continues to make an impact on Purdue and the Greater Lafayette community and serves as a model for other schools.
Major technological advances transformed healthcare and education at the School of Nursing: computers and interactive equipment were integrated into the curriculum. By the 1980's, the nursing program was emerging from its infancy and changing rapidly to stay at the forefront of nursing education.

Mike Fights (BS'87) and his classmates prepared for the changing roles of nurses in healthcare.

The 1980s brought a resurgence of interest in public health and the concept of health and wellness promotion.

The first class to complete the four-year baccalaureate curriculum in nursing graduated in May 1986.

By the 1980's, the nursing program was emerging from its infancy and changing rapidly to stay at the forefront of nursing education.

In 1992 Dr. Geddes returned to teaching full-time and Jo A. Brooks became head of the school. Dr. Brooks, a graduate of Purdue’s first nursing class, had a very deliberate strategy formulated: she wanted to build a community of scholars by fostering an infrastructure that promoted increased faculty research, scholarly activities, and continuing education.

“These were the most essential elements to further the undergraduate program’s success and to lay the groundwork for a graduate program in nursing,” she says.

“This move toward scholarly activities reflected the maturation level of the nursing program as well as the entire nursing profession.”

The 1990s were also years of rapid changes in health care, both political and technological. In the School of Nursing, technological advances included a computerized nursing record system, interactive equipment, and a critical care unit in the Learning Lab, as well as a computer lab in the basement of Johnson Hall.

The curriculum also changed with the times. “Since we wanted Purdue Nursing graduates to be the future leaders of the health care industry, we had to continually refine our curriculum

Dr. Jo Brooks believed that health assessment was foundational to the undergraduate curriculum.

to provide more case management and home health care clinical experiences,” Dr. Brooks says.

In 1995, Dr. Brooks’ vision of community-based primary health care came to life with the creation of the Carroll County Nursing Center (now the Family Health Clinic of Carroll County). Located in rural Delphi, 25 miles from campus, the nurse-managed center provided primary healthcare, health promotion, and health education services for a medically-underserved population, while also serving as a learning laboratory for nursing students.

Dr. Brooks retired in 2000, however, she continues to serve on the clinic’s governing board.

By 2002, under the leadership of Dr. Julie Novak, the center was serving 3,000 clients per year, and was recognized with the Indiana Rural Health Association Leadership Award.

Technological advances in the 1990s included a computerized nursing record system, interactive equipment, and a critical care unit in the Learning Lab.
By the 1990s, the Nursing Center for Family Health was taking health screening programs out into the Purdue community. In 2001, the program served over 2,500 people.

The Family Health Clinic of Carroll County, a nurse-managed center, provides primary healthcare, health promotion, and health education services for a medically-underserved population. The clinic is also a learning laboratory for students.

Purdue Nursing graduates have found places as leaders in many healthcare arenas.

Health assessment and home health care were basic to the curriculum.
1998-2003: The Linda Simunek Years

In 1998, Dr. Brooks returned to full-time teaching and research and Linda A. Simunek was named Head of the school. Dr. Simunek also began her tenure with a specific plan: maintaining the excellence of the undergraduate curriculum, planning for master’s and doctoral programs, and fostering nursing research.

In 2001, the School of Nursing undergraduate program earned accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, an acknowledgment of the excellence of an undergraduate curriculum designed to prepare students for constantly-expanding leadership and management roles.

Also in 2001, another of Helen Johnson’s visions came to fruition when the first cohort of nine nursing students earned master’s degrees under a graduate consortium agreement with Purdue Calumet, paving the way for an independent graduate program on the West Lafayette campus.

During the Ruby Jubilee year, 2002-2003, the executive team of Linda Simunek, Julie Novak, Sharon Wilkerson, Pamela Aaltonen, and Donna Kauffman led the School of Nursing based on the school’s new strategic plan.

In June 2003, Dr. Julie C. Novak became Head of the school, as Dr. Simunek further pursues her interest in ethics and human rights at the Bioethics Program at the University of Miami.

At this time of change, the School’s emphasis continues to be an excellent undergraduate education. There is also support for graduate education, an increasing body of research activities, collaborative and evidence-based practice, local to global community engagements, and faculty presentations at national and international levels.

In 40 years, the Purdue School of Nursing has graduated nearly 4,000 men and women whose hands and hearts are making a difference everywhere on the front lines of health care. It is with intense Purdue pride that the School of Nursing looks forward to the challenges and opportunities of the next 40 years.

Independent Master’s Approved

Another of Helen Johnson’s visions for the School of Nursing came to fruition in March 2003, with the approval of an independent master’s program on the West Lafayette campus.

The Master of Science (MS) Degree with a Major in Nursing and Adult Nurse Practitioner specialization (MS/ANP) offers an innovative approach to advanced practice education by integrating expertise from other healthcare disciplines during a 550-hour preceptorship.

The program is also designed to educate nurses who can provide competent, culturally sensitive, cost-effective, accessible care with an emphasis on rural underserved populations. Students in the program will be exposed to global perspectives through ongoing projects in Honduras and Mexico.

They will also have an opportunity to participate in clinical preceptorships with diverse populations in the United States, specifically the growing Hispanic population in rural Indiana and the Native American population through the Purdue University School of Nursing Kayenta Nation project in Arizona.

Upon completion of the MS/ANP program, the graduate will be eligible to apply for prescriptive authority in Indiana and apply for national certification as an Adult Nurse Practitioner.
With this issue of the Purdue Nurse we celebrate the challenges and accomplishments of the School of Nursing for our last 40 years and look forward to the challenges and opportunities of the coming decades.

Noteworthy accomplishments of the students, faculty, and alumni as of the 2002-2003 Ruby Jubilee Year include:

**Progress in Learning**
- Approval of the West Lafayette Master of Science in Nursing program.
- Consortium arrangements with regional Purdue campuses for master’s offerings in specialty tracks including Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist, and Nursing Administration.
- Initial accreditation of the baccalaureate program by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).
- Innovations in the baccalaureate curriculum including the integration of clinical leadership skills made possible by funding from the Helene Fuld Foundation; integration of geriatric and end-of-life issues content made possible by funding from the Division of Nursing, DHHS; experimentation with the use of hand-held digital technology aids to facilitate patient care and clinical instruction made possible by funding from Microsoft.
- Enhancement of resources for clinical instruction at the Center for Nursing Education, Research and Practice (C-NERP) and lab redesign to include a home health care unit.
- Increase in clinical faculty appointments.

**Progress in Discovery**
- An evolving program of nursing and interdisciplinary research focusing on health behavior, gerontology, chronic illness, and rural health.
- Funded studies on specific aspects of the care of patients with Alzheimer’s disease, diabetes, osteoarthritis, interventions for tobacco use cessation, preterm birth, and the use of hand-held technology in clinical education.
- Increased submission of grant proposals to address the nursing shortage, enhance access to culturally sensitive care, and respond to underserved and rural populations.
- Enhanced collaboration with university research, technology, and computer services in grant submission, management, administration, and dissemination.
- Participation by three faculty in post-doctoral fellowships.

**Progress in Engagement**
- Expanded wellness and health promotion services and clientele in the nurse-managed clinics made possible through state, corporate, foundation, and private funds.
- Initiation of a Center for Ethics and Human Rights in the School of Nursing.

**Infrastructure Support**
- Increase in the number and mix of nursing faculty including master’s-prepared clinical faculty with certification in various specialty areas and expert doctorally-prepared tenure-track faculty actively engaged in teaching, funded research, and service.
- Establishment of a broad-based Nursing Advisory Council committed to advancing the mission of the School of Nursing through development initiatives.
- Articulation of Capital Campaign goals that advance the mission of the school of Nursing.
- Updated Constitution and by-laws of the Purdue Nursing Alumni association (PNAO).

**Building on Initiatives**
During the last five years, I have had the honor of serving as head of the Purdue School of Nursing (PSON) and associate dean for the Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Health Sciences.

Building on the initiatives that preceded me, the School now has graduate level studies at West Lafayette, expanded faculty research, clinic services, and international linkages. I wish to thank all of my colleagues for making my tenure enjoyable and memorable. I will further pursue my interests in ethics and human rights at the University of Miami Bioethics program.

**Welcome New Head**
As of June 2003, a new head and associate dean, Julie Novak, RN, DNSc, CPNP, will usher in the next era of growth and development for the School of Nursing.

Dr. Novak, who joined the faculty in 2000 as Director of Practice and Community Collaboration and was promoted to Associate Head 18 months later, is nationally renowned, highly accomplished, dynamic and creative. She is an expert clinician, researcher, outstanding educator, a prolific writer and speaker, and a nurse leader.

She is highly active in advancing nursing through elected office in professional nursing organizations, membership in national advisory boards and through research, publications, and clinical practice. In 2001-2002, she served as president of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP), an organization of 7,000 advanced practice nurses.

At Purdue, she chaired the School of Nursing Strategic Planning effort and played a key role in the development and approval of the MS/ANP graduate program. She is the project investigator for a funded research study on tobacco use cessation, the largest grant secured by the School of Nursing. She also has directed the PSON Family Health Clinic of Carroll County since 2001.

Please join me in extending a warm welcome to Dr. Novak, who will lead the School of Nursing to the next level of preeminence.
Scholarship Honors Elnore Novak Roberts

By Julie Porter

To honor Elnore S. Novak Roberts’ love of nursing and to memorialize her life, Drs. Robert and Julie Novak have established a memorial scholarship in her name.


She graduated from Hopkins Township High School in 1932. She attended LaSalle-Peru College and worked at the Hartman Clinic as a medical office manager and medical assistant.

Elnore had intended to study nursing, but after her marriage to Chester Novak in 1935, became his partner in business in Granville, Illinois, for a total of over 25 years of service to that community. Chester preceded her in death in 1962.

Elnore subsequently entered the banking business at Eureka Savings and Loan in La Salle, Illinois until her retirement.

In 1990 Elnore relocated to San Diego, California to be near her son, Robert, and his family. In San Diego, Elnore was an active volunteer at Alvarado Hospital, a member of several bridge groups, and spent most weekends watching her grandsons play sports.

In 1994 she relocated to Hubbard Hill Estates in Elkhart, Indiana to live near her daughter Nancy Akemon, her husband, Robert, and their three sons.

In Honor of a Good Life

Elnore Novak Roberts lived a full, vital, and memorable life. As the daughter of two educators, as an accomplished entrepreneur, a dedicated health care volunteer and a woman committed to the pursuit of excellence in all she did, she left behind a legacy of learning, caring, and participating in the community that has influenced all who cared for her.

It is to honor this legacy of love and compassion from an extraordinary mother that prompted the establishment of this scholarship. The Elnore Novak Roberts Scholarship will be awarded to a Purdue School of Nursing student, the recipient of the scholarship will be chosen by a faculty committee.

Donations to the Elnore Novak Roberts Scholarship Fund can be made by sending a check to Elnore Novak Roberts Scholarship Fund, c/o Purdue School of Nursing, Johnson Hall of Nursing, 502 N. University St., West Lafayette, IN 47907. Checks should be made payable to the Purdue Research Foundation.

For More Information

If you would like more information on leaving a legacy, honoring a loved one by creating a scholarship, leaving a provision in a will, or making an annual contribution to the School of Nursing, please contact alumnae secretary Roxanne Martin at 765-494-4004.

Director of Development Moves On

Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow…
- Shakespeare

The only words to convey my feelings concerning my departure from the Purdue School of Nursing are from Shakespeare. I was only with the School for one year but in that time, I grew to love and respect both the School and the people who make it such a success. And, it is my hope that alumni and friends acknowledge this success by supporting the School throughout the Campaign for Purdue. While I left to be in New York with my own Romeo and am working to support nursing at the University of Rochester, please know my support and best wishes are with those in Johnson Hall.

Julie Porter
School of Nursing Donor Honor Roll 2002

The School of Nursing extends thanks to the following individuals and businesses who made contributions to the School between Jan. 1, 2002 and Dec. 31, 2002. Your support and gifts provide crucial assistance for financial aid, new academic initiatives, student and faculty support, equipment, and emerging priorities of the school.

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Lana Cramer
Nancy Crigger
Robert & Julie Curtis
Margaret Dalphond
Robert & Linda Daming
Keith & Dawn Davis

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William & Kari Foote
Leslie & LaNelle Geddes
Joseph & Michelle Gerretty
Leslie Gibson
Audrey Heasty
Jessica Holden
James & Susan Johnson
Tyler & Laura LaSell
Think back to the days when you were a student at the Purdue School of Nursing. Remember…

- Why you wanted to be a nurse?
- The excitement of your first day of classes?
- Your favorite professor?
- Your first patient in clinicals?
- Your classmates and the fun you had?

These memories are a part of who you are today. Your time as a student helped to mold and shape Purdue School of Nursing. Remember…

The Ruby Jubilee Celebration committee has created two endowment funds dedicated to students and faculty. These funds will be used to support programming such as the Helen R. Johnson Leadership Conference, Nursing Research Days, the Student Council’s Mentor/Mentee Picnic, and the Nurses’ Ball. These activities provide knowledge, leadership, and social interaction, strengthening relationships between students, faculty, and alumni – thereby strengthening the school.

We are asking that each alumni contribute at least $40—one for every year of your school’s existence—to help build an even stronger school.

The alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of nursing listed on this page have already successfully funded the first endowment of $20,000. You can help complete the second endowment with your contribution. Make checks payable to Purdue Research Foundation with a note that the contribution is for the Nursing Ruby Jubilee. Mail to Roxanne Martin, Johnson Hall of Nursing, 502 N. University Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2069.

As Dorothy realizes at the end of her journey through Oz, there is no place like home. Especially our home, the Purdue School of Nursing. Won’t you celebrate with us by sending your contribution to the Ruby Jubilee Fund today?

Ruby Jubilee Endowment Fund Celebrates 40 Years of Nursing

Contributions as of May 1, 2003.
The Purdue School of Nursing and the American Nurses Association are co-hosting a Human Rights and Ethics in Health Care symposium on Friday, Sept. 19, 2003 on Purdue University’s West Lafayette campus.

The multidisciplinary symposium focuses on vulnerable populations, resource allocation, access to health care, legal aspects, technology, genetics, and end-of-life issues. The objectives of the symposium are to:

• Identify key ethical and human rights issues that a post-human future raises for nursing and other professions.
• Examine ethical and human rights implications of state of the art research.
• Compare and contrast key innovations in technology and discuss their ethical implications.
• Analyze current professional positions and emergent ethics and human rights perspectives on access to healthcare, care of vulnerable populations, resource allocation, and end of life issues.

Keynote speaker Dr. Francis Fukuyama is a leading thinker, professor, political economist, ethicist, and member of President George Bush’s Bioethics Commission. He is the author of “Our Posthuman Future: Consequences of the Biotechnology Revolution,” “Trust: The Social Virtues and the Creation of Prosperity,” and “The Great Disruption: Human Nature and the Reconstitution of Social Order.”

Other topics and speakers include:

• “Vulnerable and Resourceful Populations: Ethical Mandates” by Dr. Mary Ilu Altman, Assistant Director of Diversity Affairs, Ivy Tech Community College.
• “Ethics and Research,” by Dr. Laura Sands, Assistant Professor, Purdue University.
• “Access to Care for Children: Local to Global.”
• “Resource Allocation” Panel with Dr. Barbra Wall, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, Purdue University (historical perspective), Dr. Nancy Crigger, Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, Purdue University (present perspective), Dr. Julie Novak, Head, Purdue School of Nursing, Associate Dean, Pharmacy, Nursing, and Health Sciences (future perspective).
• “Human Rights, Ethics, and the Law: An Uneasy Alliance” by Alysa Rollock, Vice President for Human Relations, Purdue University.
• “Ethical Issues Related to Technology” by Dr. Matt Krane, Associate Professor, School of Materials Engineering, Purdue University.

Purdue contacts for this symposium are:
• Pat Coyle-Rogers, Director, Lifelong Learning, Purdue School of Nursing, phone (765) 494-4030, pcrogers@nursing.purdue.edu.
• Julie Novak, Head, Purdue School of Nursing, phone (765) 494-4004, jnovak@nursing.purdue.edu.

For information about registration visit: www.conf.purdue.edu (keyword: nursing) or contact Tom Robertson, (765) 494-7220 or email tlrobertson@purdue.edu
Clinic Recognized for Rural Health Leadership

The Family Health Clinic of Carroll County (FHCCC), a Purdue School of Nursing affiliate, is a nursing center that provides primary healthcare for the low income and culturally diverse population of rural Carroll and surrounding counties.

It is also a shining example of the integration of the key elements—discovery, learning, and engagement—of both the Purdue University and the School of Nursing strategic plans.

For its groundbreaking work, the clinic was recognized this year with the Indiana Rural Health Association Leadership Award.

“The clinic is so successful because of the strength of the community collaboration, the partnership with Purdue, and the high quality of compassionate care delivered by the staff,” says Julie Novak, Associate Head of the School of Nursing and Director of the Family Health Clinic.

Reaching Out to the Community

Located 25 miles from the West Lafayette campus in rural Delphi, the Family Health Clinic was started in 1995 by Dr. Jo Brooks, the head of the Purdue School of Nursing at that time.

Today the clinic serves about 3,000 clients a year, ranging from newborn to 95 years of age. Without the clinic services, many of these clients would travel to Lafayette or Monticello and use more costly hospital emergency departments for their primary healthcare. The majority (55%) of the FHCCC’s clients are uninsured.

The clinic is currently funded by grants from the Indiana State Department of Health, focusing on community health and cancer prevention, and by Purdue University, the Carroll County United Fund, the March of Dimes, and client revenues. The annual FHCCC fundraiser, held May 9, raised nearly $10,000.
In addition, the owner of the clinic space, Ruth Ann Brosman, has been extremely supportive with building renovation and reasonable rental fees.

**Integrating Key Elements**

In addition to providing primary care to a medically underserved population, the clinic provides an opportunity to integrate research/discovery, practice/service, and education/learning for School of Nursing faculty and students.

Currently, several faculty members use the clinic for undergraduate and graduate nursing student rotations, clinical preceptorships, and for faculty practice.

Because of the growing Hispanic population in the area, the clinic also provides faculty and students an opportunity to work with a culturally diverse population.

The advance practice nurses providing services at the clinic include a family nurse practitioner and two pediatric nurse practitioners. Women’s health and adult nurse practitioners join the staff during the summer months.

A BSN-prepared RN coordinates clinic services and serves as case manager. These providers consult with and refer to their collaborating physician, Dr. Brian Doggett. In addition, referrals are made to specialists in Greater Lafayette, Monticello, and Indianapolis.

Jennifer Sundell, MSN, CPNP, and the staff of the Family Health Clinic of Carroll County provide primary health care services for children including school, camp, and sports physicals and management of acute and stable chronic illnesses.

Because of the growing Hispanic population in the area, the clinic also provides faculty and students an opportunity to work with a culturally diverse population.
As the number of Americans over the age of 65 grows, challenges and opportunities in fields related to aging also continue to grow. On the following pages, visit several School of Nursing professors who are dedicating their research efforts to helping the elderly live full, productive lives.

Projects Use Animal Assisted Therapy to Help Seniors

Five of Nancy Edwards’ seven sisters are nurses. Four of them, including Nancy, graduated from the Purdue School of Nursing. She is a Lafayette native, born at St. Elizabeth Hospital, educated at Central Catholic High School and Purdue University, where she earned her associate’s and bachelor’s degrees. She began working as a staff nurse at St. Elizabeth Hospital in 1978, and continued working while pursuing her MSN from Indiana University and PhD from Purdue.

“I had Dr. Jo Brooks as a teacher at the Purdue School of Nursing and met her again when she was working with St. Elizabeth Hospital to create the Family Health Clinic of Carroll County,” Dr. Edwards says. “I helped her write the grant, and in the process she recruited me.” Dr. Edwards began teaching at the Purdue School of Nursing in 1997.

Developing A Research Trajectory

It was while working on her doctorate that she developed a research trajectory that focuses on the care of individuals with progressive neurological diseases, particularly Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s.

She is currently conducting two research inquiries focused on animal-assisted therapy.

Professor Nancy Edwards found that installing specially-designed fish tanks in dining areas encourages Alzheimer’s patients to spend more time at the table, leading to higher food consumption and weight gain among patients.
Mary Davis of West Lafayette (left) was one of the early participants in Dr. Edwards’ study of animal-assisted therapy. Now Davis “babysits” AIBO, the robotic dog, between assignments.

One study looked at the effect of fish aquariums on nutritional intake of Alzheimer’s patients. It found that specially-designed fish tanks encourage patients to spend more time at the table, leading to higher food consumption and weight gain among patients. The study, originally conducted in Indiana, is currently being replicated in long-term care facilities in Florida and North Carolina.

The second study, which looks at the effects of technology on the lives of the elderly, features a robotic dog named AIBO.

“We know that for older people who may be suffering from depression and isolation, human-to-human contact is best, and human-to-animal contact is second best,” Dr. Edwards says.

“But what about older people who are in situations where they don’t have much human contact and they can’t have—or can’t take care of—a real animal? We’re trying to find out if these mechanical animals can make a difference in their lives.”

Thanks to the novelty of a mechanical dog that can move, pause, lift a paw, and tilt a head, this particular research project has been a magnet for publicity.

In the last year Dr. Edwards’ work has been featured on the ABC Nightly News, the USA Today Sunday Magazine, and several newspapers including the Indianapolis Star.

Dr. Edwards proposes to continue her research on dementia with a study looking at the influence of staff education on the behaviors of caretakers of Alzheimer’s patients.

She encourages her students to consider specializing in gerontology.

“There is a misperception about nurses who choose long-term care,” Dr. Edwards says. “In hospitals, the physicians are present more often. In long-term care, it’s the nurses who pick up the small clues and act on them. I think clinicians should think about long-term care, where there is considerable autonomy and many opportunities to make timely interventions.”

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Purdue Offers Graduate Certificate in Gerontology

Nursing professor Nancy Edwards was the first student at Purdue to earn a PhD (CFS’96) with a minor in gerontology from Purdue’s Interdisciplinary Gerontology Program.

She earned the distinction while working on her doctorate in Child Development and Family Studies (’96). Today she is also a faculty associate and researcher in the gerontology program, along with Nursing professors Carol Baird, Nancy Crigger, Colleen de Turk, Eileen Rossen, Laura Sands, Jacqueline Walcott-McQuigg, and Ruth Wukasch.

The gerontology program, designed for students and professionals who want to increase their knowledge of the aging process.

The program involves many disciplines and lets students tailor their study to their particular needs. Emphasis is on understanding the process of growing older from a life framework, incorporating information from biology, psychology, sociology, family studies, health education, nutrition, pharmacy, nursing, and many other disciplines.

The program also puts an emphasis on interdisciplinary research. Current studies of aging, including those profiled in this issue of Purdue Nurse, cover a wide range of topics and a wide range of interests.

For more information on the gerontology program, see the website at www.purdue.edu/aging.
Statistician Adds Expertise to Nursing Strength in Research

Laura Sands, new to Purdue this year, isn’t a nurse—but her experience and expertise have already made her an important asset to students and faculty in the School of Nursing.

She teaches lifespan human development to sophomores, research methods to seniors, and provides statistical and methodological consultation to faculty.

Her intellectual curiosity and penchant for developing collaborative research efforts which garner significant support are reflected in the research funding she brought with her to Purdue for this academic year, and in a continuing stream of ideas for new projects.

A recent white paper initiated by Dr. Sands, for example, brought together three other nursing faculty (Karen Chang, Nancy Edwards, and Julie Novak) as well as pharmacy, psychology, and information technology collaborators in a proposed implementation of advanced information technology in rural health clinics, namely the Family Health Clinic of Carroll County, the School of Nursing’s satellite nursing center in rural Delphi, IN.

A second research proposal that Dr. Sands submitted this year brings Nursing (Dr. Nancy Edwards) and Department of Health and Kinesiology faculty together to study the effects of exercise in reducing negative behaviors in Alzheimer’s patients.

Developing a Research Trajectory

Dr. Sands, who earned all of her degrees from the University of California, Berkeley, began her study of psychology with the intent of being a clinician or a teacher. Then a statistics professor who recognized Sands’ skill in the subject prodded her into quantitative psychology.

Dr. Sands has combined her interest in intellectual functioning, quantitative psychology, and gerontology into a research trajectory that is focused on determining how to keep older adults functioning at their highest expectable levels.

“My research in gerontology is a natural extension of my great respect for older adults,” she says. “It feels worthwhile to be researching how to improve the quality of their lives.”

“I also love working with students,” she says. “They are so enthusiastic when you talk to them about real world issues. I’m particularly interested in teaching them to evaluate the relevance of research to their own practice.”

Optimal Functioning

Dr. Sands’ current research is directed towards understanding factors that affect optimal functioning in frail or demented older adults. Her research projects examine:

• Why do some frail older adults rapidly lose the ability to care for themselves, while others don’t?
• Would regular exercise help reduce negative behaviors in patients with mild to moderate Alzheimer’s disease?
• Do adult day care centers help improve the health and quality of life of the patients who are using them?

Before coming to Purdue with her husband, Dr. Tim Sands, who is the Basil Turner Chair in Material Science and Electrical and Computing Engineering, Dr. Laura Sands was Associate Adjunct Professor of Medicine, Department of Geriatrics, at the University of California, San Francisco. They have four children, ages 9 to 17.

She can be reached at (765) 494-4037 or lsands@nursing.purdue.edu

“It is the psychological burden, not the physical burden, of caring for a demented patient that affects the caregiver’s perception of the patient’s quality of life.”
Intervention Targets Osteoarthritis Pain

Carol Baird’s academic and research interests grew from her own life experience. Early in her nursing career, Dr. Baird spent 13 years as director of a nursing home, where she acquired insight into the kinds of health problems older people have.

Her father had severe osteoarthritis in his knees, and her mother-in-law suffered great pain from arthritis in her spine. “It seemed to me there should be something more nurses could do to help patients with these types of problems,” Dr. Baird says.

Paucity of Research

But when she started her master’s work on self-appraisal of stress of older adults with osteoarthritis, she discovered that not much research had been done in this area. “I was interested in conducting qualitative and descriptive research to try to understand what it was like for an older woman living with osteoarthritis,” she says.

Dr. Baird looked at physical self-care behaviors such as heat, ice, and exercise, and medical care such as surgery, injections, chiropractic, and medication. She also looked at education and reframing techniques such as thinking, “This is not the worst thing that could happen to me.” She found that the women who managed best had positive mind skills and a positive outlook that allowed them to overcome pain and live successful lives.

“If we could just bottle that good attitude, we could make a huge difference in the quality of life of women living with osteoarthritis,” she says.

In a recent longitudinal study of 60 women over the age of 65, Dr. Baird looked at different interventions women could do for themselves, in addition to medical interventions, to help them have a positive mindset.

She settled on guided imagery, which includes mentally setting a positive scene and practicing progressive muscle relaxation. “I looked at what physiologic changes happen when you’re thinking of positive things that can make changes throughout your body,” she says.

“It’s really self-hypnosis. Studies show it will reduce acute pain, but there are not many studies focusing on chronic pain.” Results of her study showed that guided imagery can reduce pain.

“Analysis of the current study does show some effect on total pain measures—significant improvement in perceived current pain, rating of chronic pain, number of joints that are painful, and sleep difficulties due to pain,” she says.

As important as the reduction in pain, the study also showed an improvement in mobility in the women who used guided imagery.

Future Work Will Expand Study

In the future, Dr. Baird would like to expand the sample size, examine the pain aspect, and measure specific aspects of mobility and stress hormones.

Dr. Baird is a diploma graduate of Marion County General Hospital. She earned her bachelor’s, master’s, and PhD degrees from Indiana University, and is also a certified advanced practice clinical specialist in gerontological nursing.

She came to Purdue in 1998 and teaches Adult Health Nursing, Fundamentals of Nursing, and Professional Issues. Dr. Baird can be reached at (765) 494-4036 or clbaird@nursing.purdue.edu
Researcher Looks At Factors Affecting Seniors’ Adjustment

Eileen Rossen wants to know why some people age so much more successfully than others, and her research looks at what factors could help maintain a high quality of life and independence into older age.

“I have been very interested in the psychosocial, biophysical, and spiritual factors that influence positive aging,” she says. “We know that relocation is a stressor for people of any age, so my research focuses on finding out what factors might lead to poor adjustment for older people, which could then lead to a reduced quality of life,” she says.

Dr. Rossen’s research with seniors moving to congregate living facilities has led to development of a scientifically grounded, age-sensitive pre-move screening questionnaire to determine a person’s confidence to move and confidence in their adjustment to the move to congregate living.

Her previous research that resulted in the development of this screening tool examined risk factors. “Risk factors include not having someone to talk to about the move, feeling that the move is not a personal choice, or feeling that expectations are not being met,” Dr. Rossen says.

Other risk factors are not feeling well prepared or having a physically or logistically difficult move. “Social isolation or poor social skills also play a part,” she says.

Factors that influence a successful move include: making a positive choice to relocate, having someone to talk to, and being mentally and physically prepared for the move.

Dr. Rossen’s goal is to develop nursing interventions to help make relocation transitions more positive. These could include support for maintaining old connections and developing new connections, using group therapy to focus on the meaning of a move, and promoting physical activity and social support. Her early studies focused on women; she is now looking at men’s relocation transitions as well.

Dr. Rossen came to Purdue School of Nursing in 1999. She teaches psychiatric nursing and is currently a post-doctoral fellow at the Indiana University School of Nursing. She can be reached at (765) 494-4035 or erossen@nursing.purdue.edu

Suit Teaches Students About Physical Limitations

Nursing students can now experience the obstacles of physical limitations with a new simulation suit. Components include earplugs that mimic hearing loss, goggles that simulate cataracts, and gloves that dull the sense of touch. Adjustable belts force various bent postures and sticks at the elbows and knees feel like stiffening joints and numbness. Weights at the wrists and ankles make raising the arms and legs difficult. “Students need to understand how physical limitations interfere with life as healthy young people know it,” says CNERP director RuthAnn Smolen.

The suit was purchased through the Marsella Smith Gerontological Fund.
**FACULTY NEWS**

**GRANTS**

**Carol L. Baird**, DNSc, APRN, BC received a grant ($11,000) from the Gerontological Nursing Interventions Research Center and the Hartford Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence at the University of Iowa for a study, “Effectiveness of Guided Imagery as Self-Care for Osteoarthritis.” She also received a Summer Research Training grant ($550) from the Gerontology Program, Purdue University.

**Carolyn L. Blue**, PhD, RN, CHES, received a grant ($6,000) from the American Association of Diabetes Educators and Sigma Theta Tau International for a study “Development of an Instrument to Measure Cognitive Beliefs about Physical Activity and Healthy Eating Behaviors for Persons At Risk for Diabetes.” She was also awarded a two-year postdoctoral fellowship from Indiana University School of Nursing to develop a program of research in the prevention of diabetes.

**Karen Chang**, PhD, RN, received a grant ($100,000) from Microsoft, Inc. for “The Application of Pocket PCs and Tablet PCs in the iCare Project for Patient Care and Nursing Education.” She also received a grant ($30,000) from the Purdue University, e-Enterprise Center for “The iCare Project for Nursing Education and Patient Care” and a grant ($30,000) from School of Technology, in collaboration with faculty from SON (Novak, Sands), Computer Technology (Lutes), and Sociology (Anderson), “Development and Evaluation of a Diabetic e-Management System.” A collaborative project, “A Multimedia Integrated Learning Tool for Clinical Nursing Education” ($16,675, funded from the Instructional Computing Services area of ITaP) will develop multimedia digital content for medical/surgical clinical nursing courses. Collaborators include Steven Dunlop (ITaP), Laura Sands, Karen Yehle, Suzanne Rudman, Patty Gunning, and Mel Braswell (School of Nursing).

**Patricia Coyle-Rogers**, PhD, MSN, RN, C, received a grant ($24,033) from Greater Lafayette Health Services Inc. to design, implement and evaluate a Registered Nurse refresher course, entitled Purdue Nightingale Review.

**Nancy Edwards**, PhD., RN,C, received a $1,000 grant from Sigma Theta Tau International for a study entitled “The Influence of Staff Education on Behaviors of Individuals with Dementia.”

**D. Elizabeth Jesse**, PhD, RN, CNM, principal investigator, and **Jacqueline Walcott-McQuigg**, PhD, RN, co-principal investigator, and **Laura Sands**, PhD, biostatistician, received a grant ($160,534) from the March of Dimes for “Psychosocial Obstetrical Profile to Predict Preterm Birth Among African-American, Caucasian, and Hispanic American Low-Income Women.” Jesse also received a grant ($7,000) from the Purdue Research Foundation for “Comparing Psychosocial and Behavioral Factors in Pregnancy Influencing Preterm Birth in African American and Caucasian Low Income Women,” and a grant ($250) from the March of Dimes, Tippecanoe County to attend March of Dimes Perinatal Conference in Chicago, Ill. Feb 26-28, 2003.

**Julie C. Novak**, DNSc, RN, CPNP, was awarded an Indiana State Department of Health $15,000 supplemental grant for the Family Health Clinic of Carroll County (FHCCC). She was also awarded $10,000 from the Carroll County United Fund for the FHCCC to support clinic services, dental referrals, and prostate cancer screening. Dr. Novak and the clinical staff received $9,800 from the Indiana Tobacco Control Trust Fund for a FHCCC Respiratory Health and Smoking Cessation program and $10,000 for the Prostate Cancer Screening and Referral Program. With Kyle Lutes as PI, James Anderson, Karen Chang, Julie Novak, Laura Sands (Co-PI), were awarded $30,000 from the School of Technology Interdisciplinary Innovation Initiative, for their project, “Development and Evaluation of a Diabetic e-Management System,” As Immediate Past President of NAPNAP and Co-Project Director of the Keep your Child Safe and Secure (KySS) national campaign, Dr. Novak was awarded $90,000 from the DHHS Maternal Child Health Bureau for the KySS Educational Summit and Intervention Phase design (Bernadette Melnyk, PI).

**Laura Sands**, PhD, was awarded a grant ($30,000) from the Institute on Aging, San Francisco, for “Evaluating Outcomes of Adult Day Services.” She was also awarded $14,000 from the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, San Francisco for an “Evaluation of a Phone Mail Care System for Homeless Veterans” and a subcontract from National Institutes of Health to University of California, San Francisco for $28,624 for “Evaluation of a Trial of General Anesthesia with or without Nitrous Oxide.” She is also co-investigator on the following grant: Lutes, K. (PI) James Anderson, Karen Chang, Julie Novak, Laura Sands (Co-PI), “Development and Evaluation of a Diabetic e-Management System,” School of Technology Interdisciplinary Innovation Initiative, $30,000.

**RuthAnn Smolen**, MS, RN, Director of the Center for Nursing Education, Research, and Practice, received grants from several sources for the center, including $7,000 and IV pumps and IV supplies and equipment from Abbott Labs, $750 in IV therapy donation from Purdue University Student Health, and $1,200 equipment donation from the Purdue Computing Center.

**Jacqueline Walcott-McQuigg**, PhD, RN, received a $6,000 proposal development award for “Low-Income Women’s Participation In Structured Exercise Programs” from the Purdue University Gerontology Program.

**Barbra Mann Wall**, PhD, RN, garnered a $4,000 research award from the Irish American Cultural Institute and a $2,000 research award from the American Association for the History of Nursing.
PRESENTATIONS/CONFERENCES

Pamela Aaltonen, MS, RN


Carol Baird, DNS, APRN, BC


Carolyn L. Blue, PhD, RN, CHES

Poster: “Peer Advocates as a Recruitment Tool to a Weight Management Investigation on a College Campus,” 2003 American Academy of Health Behavior Scientific Meeting, St. Augustine, FL, March 17, 2003. With Scott M. Butler, MS, David R. Black, PhD, MPH, FAAHB, & Randal J. Gretebeck, PhD.

Cynthia L. Bozich-Keith, APRN, BC


Karen Chang, PhD, RN
“Patients’ Perspectives Of Positive And Negative Nursing Care,” Sigma Theta Tau Omicron Research Day, Nov. 6, 2002, Lafayette, IN.


Patricia Coyle-Rogers, PhD, RN, BC


Nancy Crigger, PhD, MA, ARNP-BC
Keynote speaker, Research Exchange Day, University of Honduras School of Nursing, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, May 10, 2002. She also received a Recognition Award for Contribution for Research and Nursing Education from University of Honduras School of Nursing.


“Brigada de Salud and Healthcare in Developing Nations” (May 2002) and “Antibiotic Resistance and Antibiotic Overuse” (July 2002) on WBAA radio, Purdue University.

Nancy Edwards, PhD, RN,C


“Pieces of the Puzzle” Training for Dementia Caregivers, South Bend, IN, Feb. 26-27, 2003, Laural Health Care Network.

D. Elizabeth Jesse, PhD, RN, CNM

“Screening for Depression in Pregnancy: Are You Often Sad and Depressed?” Postpartum Depression Workshop, Kathryn Weil Center for Education and Purdue School of Nursing, April 24, 2003.


Jane Kirkpatrick, MSN, RNC


Leticia A. Mitchell, RN, MS, RD


Julie C. Novak, DNSc, RN, CPNP


Janet Purath, PhD, MSN, RN, C “Predictors of Physical Activity Adoption in Sedentary Working Women,” Midwest Nursing Research Society, Grand Rapids MI, April 2003.

Eileen Rossen, PhD, RN

Laura Sands, PhD


Donna Schmeiser, MSN, RNC and Karen Yehele, MS, RN, CS
“Decreasing Anxiety for the Nursing Student Entering the Acute-Care Clinical Setting,” Nursing and Health Professions Educator Conference, University of Southern Indiana, Oct. 23, 2002.

Jacqueline Walcott-McQuigg, PhD, RN

“Low Income Women at Risk for Type 2 Diabetes,” Department of Psychological Sciences Colloquium Series, Purdue University, Nov. 14, 2002.


Barbra Mann Wall, PhD, RN


Sharon Wilkerson, PhD, RN


Conversations With Master Teachers
In a new faculty development series, initiated by Julie Novak and entitled Conversations With Master Teachers, Purdue Nursing professors gave informal lunchtime talks about their philosophies and methods of teaching. Master teachers included: LaNelle Geddes, Jane Kirkpatrick, Ruth Wukasch, Karen Yehle, Barbra Mann-Wall, Patricia Coyle-Rogers, Nancy Edwards, and Cynthia Bozich-Keith. Videotapes of the series are available in the CNERP.

PUBLICATIONS


APPOINTMENTS/PROMOTIONS

Pamela Aaltonen, MS, RN, became president of the Indiana Public Health Association effective May 2003.

Carol L. Baird, DNS, APRN, BC was named a collateral reviewer for Sigma ThetaTau International. She was also named a manuscript reviewer for Journal of Advanced Nursing and an abstract reviewer for Midwest Nursing Research Society. She was a reviewer for NAON: Scope and Standards for Orthopaedic Nursing Practice.

Patricia Coyle-Rogers, PhD, RN, BC has been appointed to the editorial board of the Journal for Nurses in Staff Development.

Nancy Edwards, PhD, RN, C, was appointed to the rank of Associate Professor with Tenure.
D. Elizabeth Jesse, PhD, RN, CNM, was named abstract reviewer and was elected co-chair of the Women’s Research Section of the Midwest Nurses Research Society. She was also named Program Services Committee co-chair for the March of Dimes, Tippecanoe County and is a board member of the March of Dimes National Prematurity Campaign. Additionally, she is a committee member for the American College Nurse Midwives: Division of International Research.

Cynthia Bozich Keith, APRN, BC, received a certificate of recognition from the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Logansport State Hospital, April 2003.

Julie C. Novak, DNSc, RN, CPNP was named Head of the Purdue School of Nursing, effective June 1, 2003, and Chair, National Nursing Coalition for School Health, effective January 2003.

Linda Simunek, PhD, RN, ARNP, JD, has been appointed to chair a peer review panel, February 2003, Division of Nursing, USDHHS.

RuthAnn Smolen, MS, RN, chapter review: Critical Care in Nursing by authors, Dr. Linda E.S. McCuistion and Joanne M. Bullard, and chapter review for Lippincott textbook on critical care by RuthAnn Smolen, MS, RN.

Jacqueline Walcott-McQuigg, PhD, RN, has been appointed collateral reviewer for Sigma Theta Tau International, 2002-2004. She has also been named grant reviewer, National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Diabetes, named a peer reviewer for the National Office of Scientific Quality Review, and reviewed abstracts for the Midwest Nursing Research Society.

ACCOLADES

Carol Baird, DNS, APRN, BC, was recertified as a clinical specialist in gerontological nursing by the American Nursing Credentialing Center (ANCC), 9/1/02 to 8/31/07. She was named to the Media Guide to Health Care Experts, Sigma Theta Tau International. She served as a media consultant for three paper publications and three online publications.

Visiting Professor Angela Brown, MSN, RN, passed the ANCC Family Nurse Practitioner exam.

Nancy Crigger, PhD, MA, ARNP-BC, became coordinator for the West Central Indiana Advanced Practice Nurses, February 2003. She also participated in an intensive Spanish program at the Bilingual Institute for Latin American Studies in Cuernavaca, Mexico, Summer 2002 and is making preparations for the sixth Brigada de Salud trip to Honduras May 12-20, 2003. She also received the Excellence in Leadership Award from Delta Omicron, Sigma Theta Tau International.

Jane Kirkpatrick, PhD, RN, was interviewed for “Factors Influencing Weight Management Strategies in Culturally Diverse Populations” Phase Five Communications, Inc., New York, NY, December 2002. She also received a Certificate of Excellence for Outstanding Performance in Peer Review of Manuscripts from the Journal of the National Medical Association in 2002 and 2003.

Barbra Mann Wall, PhD, RN, received the Lavinia Dock Award for Exemplary Historical Research and Writing from the American Association for the History of Nursing. The article was published in Advances in Nursing Science, 22, 1-22. She has also been asked to edit and help write a book on the history of the Indiana State Nurses’ Association to celebrate its 100th anniversary. She has received a provisional contract with the Ohio State University Press to write her book, Unlikely Entrepreneurs: Catholic Sisters in the Hospital Marketplace, 1865-1925.

TEACHING AWARDS

Pamela Aaltonen, MS, RN, was named senior resource faculty for the 2003 “Teaching for Tomorrow” awards.

Carol L. Baird, DNS, APRN, BC received the 2003 Teaching Excellence award from Delta Omicron, Sigma Theta Tau International.

Dede Campbell, MSN, RN, won the Excellence in Clinical Teaching Award from the Purdue Nursing Student Council.

Nancy Edwards, Ph.D., RN,C, received a 2003 “Teaching for Tomorrow” award.

Jane Kirkpatrick, MSN, RNC, received the Nursing Student Council Excellence in Teaching Award: Lecturing. She also received the LaNelle E. Geddes Excellence in Teaching Award presented annually to an outstanding teacher in the Purdue School of Nursing, selected by its student body for excellence in undergraduate teaching, presented at the University Honors Convocation, April 11, 2003.

TRIBUTE

Sandra Reynolds Grabowski, 59, of West Lafayette, died Jan. 20, 2003 from complications of cancer of the appendix. She graduated from Purdue in biology in 1965, earned a doctorate in neuro-physiology in 1973. She taught Anatomy and Physiology to Purdue Nursing students for 25 years.

Memorials may be made to Purdue Research Foundation for the Sandra Grabowski Memorial Fund, Department of Biological Sciences, 915 W. State St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054.
The Center for Nursing Education, Research and Practice continues to be the busiest place in the School of Nursing, with undergraduate and graduate students attending lectures and clinicals, validating skills, and studying.

For the CNERP, following Purdue President Martin Jischke’s directive of “getting to the next level” means more and better technology.

“Educational technology resources and support are essential components in higher education,” says CNERP Director RuthAnn Smolen. “As students become more comfortable with technology in the CNERP, they will be more successful with the use of technology in clinical practice settings.”

Creative uses of interactive technologies in Purdue’s nursing education include high speed computer networks, interactive video systems, virtual reality applications, web-based instruction, multimedia technologies, computer-assisted instruction, computerized classroom presentations, intranet/internet resources, database development, and real-time, point-of-care computerized documentation using wireless and dial-up connectivity using lap-tops and PDAs.

Other new things in the CNERP this semester include a collaborative outreach to medical students to use the critical care lab, an advanced assessment class for graduate students, and a redesigned Web presence. Check it out at http://www.nursing.purdue.edu/facilities/cnerp/
School of Nursing Bacalaureate Graduates

**December 2002**
- Bijan Andrade
- Sara Book
- Elizabeth Buhle
- Charissa Cleary
- Erin Clutinger
- Robin Gaeta
- Karie Gorbett
- Stephanie Gruenwald
- Kristen Harper
- Laura Johnson
- Amy Jones
- Megan Kane
- Matthew Keen
- Andrea Lannon
- Kristen Mennen
- Kelly McCormick
- Holly Panozzo
- Thomas Pott
- Leslie Reneau
- Latasha Sandidge
- Stephanie Sando
- Melissa Schurr
- Amy Sheets
- Anne Sinha
- Cara Spiezio
- Jill Sprainis
- Amy Wilson
- Cheryl Zalewski

**May 2003**
- Corin Argenta
- Kristin Atkinson
- Kimberly Benson
- Gail Birkhead
- Sarah Blejski
- Andrea Braun
- Anne Brubaker
- Sarah Buche
- Cara Campbell
- Melissa Campbell
- Renee Cantin
- Trisha Champagne
- Betsy Chapman
- Lindsay Clem
- Caroline Cliff
- Jamie Collins
- Jaima Cummins
- Roseann Czekala
- Angie DeHart
- Rebecca Dlugosz
- Stephanie Drazer
- Elizabeth Ebenger
- Jane Evans
- JoAnn Filipovski
- Laurel Finnerty
- Karen Foster
- Angela Gardini
- Christine Geier
- Jamie Geiman
- Leah Gottschalk
- Molly Gramelspacher
- Alison Guthrie
- Crystal Harris
- Aimee Harrison
- Amber Hillegonds
- Virginia Hinrichs
- Kristin Hittle
- Mary Hoying
- Jill Huetten
- Tara Hufford
- Misty Irving
- Tina Johnson
- Katherine Kaeffer
- Leigh Kaufman
- Laura Klenke
- Allison Klinge
- Krista Kober
- Kerri Krizman
- Amanda Kruger
- Elizabeth Lana
- Heidi Langdon
- Lynnette Lister
- Jennifer Malchow
- Angela Maryfield
- Laura Mast
- Elaine McKee
- Kendra Medler
- Annabelle Miller
- Julie Minne
- Valerie Ollier
- Jill Paxson
- Reid Pfueger
- Rachel Ragland
- Lora Rausch
- Connie Richard
- Beth Ripley
- Rebecca Russell
- Julia Schauer
- Kristin Schmitt
- Tracy Scopel
- Jill Seitz
- Jenny Selan
- Jessica Sherman
- Lisa Sikorski
- Nicole Sliebeck
- Heather Strait
- Angela Summers
- Polly Sutton
- Allison Swayze
- Tracey Talley
- Jenna Thompson
- Angela Torrance
- Beth VanDusen
- Amy Vostry
- Kathleen Walsh
- Christina Walters
- Bethany Weeden
- Holly Wilson
- Melissa Wilson
- Carrie Winiarz
- Erin Wolfe
- Lindsay Zwitt

In May 2003, eight students earned master’s degrees with a specialization as a Family Nurse Practitioner. They are (back rows, from left) Lori Krol, Nancy Smith, Elizabeth O’Neil, Susan Bryant, Milica vonStein, and Kathy Nichols. Missing from the photo are Gayle Snodgrass and Laura Wicker. With the graduates are faculty members (front row, from left) Linda Simunek; Jane Walker, Graduate Program Coordinator, Purdue Calumet campus; Julie Novak, and Sharon Wilkerson.
Nursing student organizations provide fellowship, growth, leadership, and opportunities for community service. Active organizations at the School of Nursing include:

**Student Ambassadors** serve as representatives of the student body at School and University functions. This year they helped with Homecoming festivities and the Helen Johnson Leadership Conference.

**Sigma Theta Tau** is the International Honor Society of Nursing, which recognizes superior achievement and the development of leadership qualities. This year 39 students were inducted into Purdue’s Delta Omicron Chapter.

The **Minority Student Nurse Association** provides support and encouragement to minority students in nursing. This year the group collected personal care items to donate to the local women’s shelter. They also held a bake sale to fund a hygiene workshop and care packages for young girls at a local church.

The purpose of the **Brigada de Salud** and **Nursing Students Without Borders** groups is to help medically underserved communities in developing countries. Five **Brigada de Salud** trips in the last two years have included several Purdue Nursing students. The **Nursing Students Without Borders** group is developing a project in Mexico.

The **Purdue Student Nurses Association** hosted guest speakers at meetings throughout the year. This year the PSNA also sponsored a clothing sale, clothing and food drives, a Valentine party at Tippecanoe Villa, and a monthly blood drive. They are also collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

The **Nursing Student Council** serves as a liaison between students and faculty, coordinates activities between classes and organizations within the School, and represents the School in campus-wide activities. Student Council sponsored activities this fall included the formal Nurses’ Ball (above), the Career Fair (below), and the Mentor-Mentee program, which pairs incoming students with upperclassmen for fellowship and mentoring.

About 50 health care agencies set up booths at the School of Nursing Career Fair in the Purdue Armory in February. Of the May 2002 baccalaureate graduating class, 90% accepted hospital positions. Of these, 72% are in Indiana and 13% are in Minnesota (Mayo Clinic).

The **Nursing Christian Fellowship** advocates nursing care that includes the spiritual dimension. This year the group provided care packages during finals week and sponsored several guest speakers, including St. Elizabeth Hospital chaplain Sister Raphael (far left, photo above).
1970s

Colleen Culp ('71) was director of nursing at Adams County Memorial Hospital ECU from 1996-2000 and is currently Director of Education at the hospital. cculp@adamshospital.com

Peggy Lynn ('75) earned a master’s degree in biostatistics at the University of Texas School of Public Health and is currently employed at Johnson Space Center, developing software for the International Space Station. peggy.a.lynn1@jsc.nasa.gov

Paula Low Foster (AAS’77, BSN’79) earned a MSHA from Medical College of Virginia in 1993. In 1995 she coordinated the implementation of a hospital-based skilled nursing facility and managed that department until 2001, when she became nursing systems coordinator with primary responsibility for overseeing all computer applications utilized by the nursing service. hero_mom@hotmail.com

Pam Butler Conrad (AD ’78) See listing in 1980s.

1980s

Pam Butler Conrad (AD ’78, BSN ’81) is living in England for two years with her husband and two children. She is a certified clinical aromatherapist. She completed a six-month internship in London in a complementary therapy clinic for pre-natal patients at Queen Mary’s Hospital. She is currently studying for an MSc in Complementary Therapies/Integrated Health at The University of Westminster in London. Her main focus is complementary therapies in women’s health, pre-natal to menopause. rpkrconrad@aol.com.

Sandra Hale ('80, '88) worked in the Lafayette area from 1969 to 1998 in various positions and roles in Home Hospital and St. Elizabeth Hospital. She taught at the St. Elizabeth School of Nursing, Ivy Tech State College, and Purdue University. She is presently teaching in the BSN program at Lander University in Greenwood, SC. shale@lander.edu

Loraine (Lori) Rabb Fisher (ADN’81, BSN’83) in May 2002 resigned from her teaching position at Bethel College in Mishawaka, IN to become the volunteer nurse coordinator of Health Ministries at River Valley Community Church in Mishawaka, IN. Julia Nicole Fisher was born 3-9-01 joining Melissa (11) and Brian (8) at home.

Sue Rupley Scheiber ('89) has a new son, Seth William, born June 1, 2002.

1990s

Karen Call ('90) recently started to travel with a prominent nursing travel company. PurdueRN@aol.com

Kelly Hoffman O’Sullivan (’90) gave birth to twins, Jack and Sarah, on Dec. 6, 2001. They join a 4-year-old brother at home on Cape Cod. Kelly and her husband, Brian, work together in his medical practice.

Kari House Foote ('92) is practicing at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago as an oncology nurse. She is also involved as an Oncology Nursing Society trainee for the OINS Chemotherapy and Biotherapy course. She also gave birth to a daughter, Frances Parker Foote, on Sept. 1, 2002. kfoote@juno.com

Jennifer Pattison Hoffman ('92) works bone marrow transplant at St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove, IN. jenniferhofmann@msn.com

Gwyneth Pyle ('92) earned her oncology certification (OCN) and has been employed at Lafayette Cancer Care for five years. nursg@localline.com

Noelle Swets Cope ('93) earned her FNP in 1998. She married Tony Cope and they had their first child, Willem Daniel, on Feb. 28, 2002. She is a partner in a pediatric primary care office. She also works with a Children’s Advocacy Center doing sexual abuse exams, and is chair of the executive board for the organization. tncope@meleodusa.net

Amy Griffin Henninger ('94) was married on April 13, 2002 to Matthew Henninger. She is working for the American Heart Association as a Youth Market Director.

Nicky Teghtmeyer (‘94) works on a cardiac step down unit at a private hospital in Charleston, SC.

Judith L. Read Townsend (‘95) is Program Chair for the Surgery Technology Program at Ivy Tech-Kokomo, IN. jread@ivytech.edu

Claudia Srenaski Wheeler (‘95) is a senior clinical research associate for a clinical research organization. She specializes in oncology and HIV/infectious disease trials. claudiawheeler@yahoo.com

Laura Lewis Lasell (‘96) completed her master’s degree from Indiana University in August 2001. She is currently a Family Nurse Practitioner at Columbus (IN) Pediatrics and Volunteers in Medicine Clinic. Laura_lasell@mac.com

Gina Bridge Hamaker (‘97) has a new baby, Haylee Michelle, born Nov. 28, 2002. She joins a brother, Alex, mbridge@wi.rr.com

Missy Muensterman Singer (‘97) graduated from University of Southern Indiana’s FNP program. She lives in Evansville with her husband, Matt, and 3-year-old son, Iric, and works at Welborn Clinic as an Oncology Nurse Practitioner. She teaches cardio-kickboxing, is involved in the Junior League of Evansville, and has done public speaking on cancer related topics. imstinger@netzero.net

Noelle Dilling Lottes (’98) See listing in 2000s.

Becky Tunink Navarro (’98) is a forensic nurse examiner and the new program coordinator for the Wishard Center of Hope, Indianapolis, a sexual assault and domestic violence acute treatment program. rebecca.navarro@wishard.edu

Polly Powell Stead (‘98) works part time at Wishard Emergency Room/ Trauma Center in Indianapolis. She had a baby, Isabelle Grace, in May 2002.

Karen Utnage Bauer (’99) worked on an ortho/neuro floor for two years, then became a travel nurse and worked at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis and Tucson Medical Center in Tucson, Az. She moved back
to Indianapolis with her husband and is currently working as an agency nurse for RN Specialties. She has worked at St. Francis, Beech Grove, Hendricks County, Riverview, and St. Vincent’s hospitals. She also volunteers at a diabetes summer camp for kids. k Bauert@rn.com

Jenny Bovard (‘99) is working on the postpartum/antepartum floor at University Hospital, Cincinnati.

Ray Anthony Labayo (‘99) is a staff RN at Loyola University Medical Center on the burn ICU. He has completed his ACLS and PALS certifications, and joined the Critical Care Nurses Association.

2000s

Shannon Freiburger (‘00) is working as a traveling nurse with American Mobile Healthcare. She has worked in California, Washington State, and Indianapolis. This summer she is marrying Michael Nottingham, RN, who is also a traveling nurse with AMH. smfreiburger@hotmail.com

Gwen Carter Johnson (‘00) gave birth to her first son, Colby, on Jan. 16, 2002. She is a developmental therapist for First Steps. Jrjgdj061601@netzero.net

Lisa Foreman Tucker (‘00) is an ICU nurse with Clarian Health in Indianapolis. She was married in October 2002. eulalah77@aol.com

Kelly Paterson Carpenter (’01) was married on Aug. 31, 2002. She is currently working on the PICU at St. Margaret Mercy Healthcare Centers in Hammond, IN.

Gretchen Maria Smith Davis (‘01) is a staff nurse in the Oncology Department at St. Vincent Hospital, Indianapolis. She married Benjamin Davis (‘01 Ag Econ) on June 1, 2002.

Mary Lurie Harlow (‘01) married Tony Harlow (IT ‘02) on June 1, 2002. She now works in the Medical ICU at Mayo Clinic-St. Mary’s Hospital in Rochester, MN. marsies14@hotmail.com

Elizabeth Kirburz (’01) is a NICU nurse at Children’s Memorial Hospital in Chicago. She has taken an active role in the NICU Research Council and the Developmental Committee. lkiburz@yahoo.com

Jennifer Raines Behunin (MS’01) is working as a nurse practitioner in a gynecology practice in Atlanta. jshrum@segynone.com

Claire Hohenberger Anderson (‘02) works in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. She married Bradley Anderson on Dec. 28, 2002. clairehohenberger@hotmail.com

Dawn Frautschy (‘02) works in the neonatal intensive care unit at UNC Hospital in Durham, North Carolina. blondgal7aol.com

Kelly Henderson (‘02) works two jobs: on the oncology floor at Lutheran Hospital in Ft. Wayne and on the medical surgical floor at DeKalb Memorial. Khender3@purdue.edu

Jessica Kitterman (‘02) is working in the Neurology/Urology Surgical Unit at Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, IN. kitterman@skyenet.net

Lauren Kraft (‘02) is working in the Emergency Room at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, GA.

Noelle Dilling Lottes (‘98, ’02) earned her MS from the Purdue School of Nursing in May 2002 and is ANCC certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner. She is currently a visiting clinical assistant nursing professor at Purdue’s West Lafayette campus. Her daughter, Emma Isabelle, was born on May 17, 2002. nlottes@nursing.purdue.edu

Alumni Group Continues Involvement in School

This has been a year of transition and celebration for the nursing alumni group. The School is celebrating its 40th anniversary and the alumni group is looking back, remembering, and also looking forward to the issues that lie ahead for nurses and the art/science of nursing.

This year the Purdue Nursing Alumni Organization (PNAO) was involved with the sponsorship of the Helen R. Johnson Leadership Conference and the Nursing Mentor-Mentee Picnic, and helped staff the nursing tent at Purdue’s Homecoming celebration. The group also named an Alum of the Year for 2003, Sheree Schroeder, and awarded the Helen R. Johnson Scholarship.

In addition, PNAO provided snacks for nursing students during “Dead Week” and continues to raise funds through the sale of alumni clothing and bags (see back page for selection and order form.)

Officers and board members reconsidered the group’s purpose and held elections to build a multi-generational, multi-location board and directors. Thanks to outgoing president Janet Kemper and board members Jan Davis and Margaret Rogler for their service and dedication.

The next step will be to update the ten-year-old by-laws and initiate new programs for alumni around the country.

A call for nominations for officers was sent out, and many alumni responded with interest. A ballot was then created and sent out for a vote. At the Feb. 20, 2003 meeting, the board tallied the ballots received and the results follow:

President: Sarah Potts (AAS’88)
Treasurer: Noelle Lottes (BS’88 and MS’02)
Secretary: Cinda Fluke (AAS’73 and BS’76)

New Board Members:
Sue Diehl Cardwell (AAS’77)
Lisa Dobogai (BS’94)
Julie Elam (BS’96)
Teresa McKenzie Vandereyk (BS’80)

Present Board Officers and Members:
Immediate Past President: Janet Kemper
Vice President: Julee Kauling

Board Members:
Cindy Cox Michelle Gerrety
Gloria Lohr Gwen Pyle
Jennifer Albright

There is still much work to be done, as there are five standing committees.

These committees are the Bylaws Committee (chaired by Jennifer Albright), Membership and Public Relations Committee, Nominating Committee, Program Committee (chaired by Julee Kauling), and the Scholarship and Awards Committee. PNAO members will be receiving more information about volunteer opportunities in the near future.

To become a member of the Purdue Alumni Association or to ask any questions pertaining to PNAO, call or email Roxanne Martin at 765-494-4004 or rmartin@nursing.purdue.edu.
Schroeder Named Nursing Alum of the Year 2003

The Purdue Nursing Alumni Organization has selected Sheree Schroeder, RN, BSN, RDCS (AD’78) as Outstanding Alumnus 2003 for her special contributions to the art and science of nursing.

Schroeder has over 25 years of experience in the medical field. In addition to her full-time nursing and parenting responsibilities, Schroeder also completed her Bachelor of Science degree in May 2001, graduating with highest distinction from Indiana University School of Nursing, Kokomo.

After graduating from Purdue’s two-year nursing associate degree program in 1978, Schroeder started her career in the OB/GYN department of Howard Community Hospital in Kokomo. She later transferred to the Emergency Room where she developed her critical care skills.

In 1987, looking for a change of pace, she began working as an office nurse for Drs. Quakenbush and Wilson, and quickly became a favorite among the patients.

Soon, however, looking for another challenge, she moved back to Howard Community Hospital as manager of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program.

Currently she is Director of Cardiovascular Service Line, which currently has gross annual revenues of over $28 million and top patient satisfaction scores. She is responsible for operations, management, marketing, finance, and quality patient care for the Cardiovascular, EKG, and Cardiac Catherization Labs. She directs performance and process improvement activities and is a member of the hospital’s Malcolm Baldrige leadership team. She was named “Manager of the Year” in both 2000 and 2001.

It was under Schroeder’s direction that Howard Community’s Cardiovascular Lab earned national accreditation from the Intersociatial Commission for Accreditation of Echo and Vascular Laboratories in 1999. She has also lobbied in Washington, D.C. on behalf of the Society of Vascular Technology for support of quality assurance standards and national credentialing standards.

Active Community Member

Schroeder is also an active community speaker on cardiovascular disease prevention and the last two years has organized free cardiac ultrasound screenings for Kokomo high school athletes. The idea began after a local high school student died in 1999 of an apparent heart problem during a basketball game.

“Two rare but potentially fatal heart conditions can be detected with the hospital’s portable ultrasound machine,” she says. To date over 800 student athletes chose to have the cardiac screening at the same time they had their required sports physical. The ultrasound was provided free by Howard Community Hospital under Schroeder’s coordination.

Schroeder’s 26-year marriage to Dan, also a Purdue grad, has blessed them with two outstanding sons. Jacob, the oldest, is currently enrolled in engineering at Purdue and was honored with the “Outstanding Sophomore” award from Purdue Engineering 2002. Her youngest son Ryan, who graduated as valedictorian of his high school class in 2003, received “Indiana Resident Top Scholar Award” and will be at Purdue this fall in the Honors Engineering Program. Sheree has been active in her sons’ many extracurricular activities, and was a 4H leader for five years.

She is an active member of Tri Kappa Sorority and currently serves as president of P.E.O., a Philanthropic Educational Organization Sisterhood. She is also an active participant in her church, where she organized carotid ultrasound screenings for the Parish Nurse committee. She is also a fervent Purdue Boilermaker fan.

Schroeder is currently enrolled to begin the pursuit of a Master’s Degree in Nursing fall 2003 at Indiana University, Kokomo.
Homecoming Celebrates Purdue, Nursing Pride

It was the biggest Homecoming celebration in Purdue’s history.

On a sunny September morning, thousands of Purdue alumni and friends arrived at Memorial Mall to meet old friends, eat good food, and see the sights.

Two stages provided entertainment, and in the tents circling the fountain, people visited with their school’s representatives and enjoyed special guests like Purdue Pete, the Golden Girl, and a nursing student dressed as Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz, who heralded the beginning of the School of Nursing’s 40th anniversary Ruby Jubilee.

In the afternoon, the “All American Marching Band” led the way to Ross-Ade Stadium, where the Boilers beat the Minnesota Gophers 28-15.

Nursing alumni Kathleen Wodicka (AD’68) (second from right, along with Prof. Ruth Wukasch, right) took a turn staffing the School of Nursing tent on Memorial Mall during Homecoming.

“I am continually impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of the School of Nursing faculty and staff,” Wodicka said. “What wonderful learning experiences they are providing for nursing students. What an impact both the faculty and the students will have on our profession!”

Wodicka, a new Nursing Advisory Board member, is Distance and E-Learning Manager for Sigma Theta Tau International (e-mail: kathyw@stti.iupui.edu).
Order Form

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Make checks payable to: Purdue Alumni Association
Mail to: Roxanne Martin, Johnson Hall School of Nursing, 502 N. University St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2069

Purdue Nurses In Action

Send us a note about what you are up to—position, promotion, professional activities, publications, honors, marriages, babies, change of address or other items of interest. We will include your information in the ALUMNI NOTES section of the next issue of Purdue Nurse.

Name ________________________________
(Maiden name) ________________________________
Year of graduation/Degree ________________________________
Address ________________________________
City __________________ State __________ Zip __________
E-mail ________________________________

Activities ________________________________

______________________________________

Mail to: Lynn Holland, Purdue Nurse, Johnson Hall School of Nursing, 502 N. University St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2069

Save!
Buy any two shirts/sweatshirts for $50.
Students, faculty, staff, and visitors to the School of Nursing have a new work of art to contemplate as they climb the north stairwell.

The 3-foot by 4-foot quilt, titled “Hot Summer Nights II,” was commissioned by Prof. Donna Schmeiser and created by Lafayette artist Sylvia Whitesides.

The creative process began when Prof. Schmeiser won the LaNelle E. Geddes Excellence in Teaching award in 2000. “The students are the reason I was given the award,” she says. “I wanted to give something back that they could see and enjoy on a daily basis that would brighten their spirits.”

The piece incorporates Purdue’s black and gold theme, with the School of Nursing apricot as an accent. The fabric is dyed several times, then quilted.

A macrame piece commissioned by former faculty member Mary Lou Holle in the 1970s is being cleaned and repaired. It will be rehung in the south stairwell.