Transitions:
Honoring the Past
Celebrating the Future
FROM THE HEAD

Dear Alumni, Faculty and Friends:

This issue of the Purdue Nurse is focused on the many transitions that have occurred over the past year; the work, contributions, and achievements of our alumni and friends; the key elements of the Campaign for Purdue, and the inauguration of our “featured article” series.

Should you ever wonder whether a gift to the Purdue School of Nursing truly makes a difference I urge you to glance at the stories and at the scores of names on the pages of this and previous issues of the Purdue Nurse. I can think of no better evidence that gifts of every size really do matter. On behalf of our students, faculty and staff, thank you!

Gifts such as John and Barbara MacDougall’s generous bequest will clearly make an impact on a grand scale. Dan and Karen Vierk strengthened our new independent graduate program with their generous gift, while Miriam Epple, Dr. Mary Ade, and Marcella Smith have enriched our programs with student scholarships, faculty and staff enhancement awards, and renovation of the Student Services Center and the Center for Nursing Education.

Please be assured that your gift, large or small, will enable us to do the important work before us.

Your faithful contributions made to the Annual Fund are just as vital to our success. These gifts provide the resources to sustain the school every day.

On the following pages we celebrate the many gifts received and request your continued support as we embark on our Capital Campaign. Our goal is to double the size of the School to approximately 40,000 square feet. This $11.2 million addition to the west of Johnson Hall will allow us to better accommodate our current students, faculty, staff and alumni. The “Pavilion” will allow us to grow to meet the needs of future students, to respond to the nursing shortage, to improve the economic development of the state, and to design programs that will improve our local to global healthcare system.

I look forward to meeting you and working with you as we take the School of Nursing to the next level!

Julie Cowan Novak, DNSc, RN, CPNP
Professor and Head, School of Nursing
Associate Dean, Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Health Sciences
It’s 2:30 a.m., and you’re probably sound asleep. LaNelle Geddes, however, is already up and starting her day. By 4 a.m., she’s at work in her office at the School of Nursing. At about 5:30 a.m., she’s off for a brisk walk around campus. By mid-day, not a hair out of place, she’s ready to teach the class that every Purdue Nursing graduate of the last 28 years remembers: pathophysiology.

Dr. LaNelle Geddes is retiring. During her 28 years at the Purdue School of Nursing, she has taught pathophysiology to thousands of nursing and medical students.

She served as Head of the school for 11 years, from 1980 to 1991. Her most important legacy from those years was instituting a four-year baccalaureate program.

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

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

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

In 1991, when her husband retired, she returned to the classroom. “Science, pathophysiology, and teaching are my true passions,” she says. This semester, she retires from the classroom, although she plans to stay involved on the Purdue School of Nursing Advisory Board and as a mentor.

School Bids Farewell to Nursing Legend
LaNelle Geddes was born and raised in Houston, Texas. From an early age she showed the determination, intelligence, and independence that have shaped her remarkable career.

“In those days, it was thought that a woman didn’t need much education,” she says. “But I had ambition. I’ve always liked to learn, and I’ve always been competitive. I wanted to go to one of the new collegiate programs to get a bachelor’s degree.”

So she did. The tuition at University of Houston was $30 a month.

After graduation, she worked as a school nurse. “The schools were one of the very few areas where nurses could work with great autonomy,” she says. “We were the only health people in the building, we could go out and do home visits. In the summertime, I would go back to the hospital and sharpen up my clinical skills.”

One summer, she enrolled in a physiology workshop at Baylor College of Medicine. Her future husband, Leslie Geddes, was teaching the course. After they married, she started back to graduate school and earned a PhD in biophysics, then did a two-year post doctorate in physiology. Her studies were fully funded by the National Defense Education Act.

A New Life in the Midwest

Dr. Leslie Geddes came to West Lafayette in 1974 to be the Showalter Distinguished Professor of Bioengineering. “When my husband was recruited by Purdue, I just could not imagine living in the Midwest,” she says. “But I came to visit and fell in love with it, and I’ve been very happy here.”

She came to the School of Nursing in 1975. She served as Assistant Head to Dr. Helen Johnson, and at the same time developed and initiated the pathophysiology class she would teach for the next 28 years.

“I try to make pathophysiology understandable for the students,” she says. “I try to demonstrate the relevance of it by bringing in everyday examples to illustrate some of the more complex concepts.

“I also try to meet students where they are, remembering that this is their first step. You can’t tell them everything you know. A lot of my teaching philosophy is knowing what not to say.”

Definite Teaching Strategy

Dr. Geddes has a very definite method for teaching.

“I make up my tests before the beginning of the semester,” she says. “Before each lecture, I look at the test to see what belongs in tomorrow’s lecture. Then I make notes in my handout so I know that I cover everything that is going to be on the test.

“Then I write out the questions that I read at the beginning of each lecture about what is going to be covered in the lecture. Embedded in those questions is the information that will be on the tests. If the students can answer those questions, they have learned the material at a nice deep level,” she says. Her students perceive her as larger than life, and she knows it.

“It’s not that I want them to see me that way, but in many ways I’m an urban legend,” she says.

“They think that I give a lot of material, and it’s not the kind of material they can just come to class and listen and then study the night before the test. These are bright students, and they’re not used to having to dig in and learn so much material. That makes them think I’m hard and demanding.

“But they also say I explain the material well. So they see me as demanding, but I think they perceive me as fair and trying to help them learn.

“My greatest reward is the students. Maybe they struggle in class, and when I go to their recognition ceremony, they say they didn’t know if they would get out of there, but they did. To see how they have grown and matured, that’s my reward.”

Honors For A Teacher

Dr. Geddes is proud of her teaching awards:

• James Dwyer Outstanding Teacher Award (School of Technology).
• Amoco Foundation Teaching Award (now known as the Murphy Award) for best undergraduate teaching in Purdue University.
• Helen B. Schleman Award (from Mortar Board) for leadership for women undergraduate students.
• Book of Great Teachers (Purdue University).
• Teaching Academy (Purdue University).

“It pleases me that my teaching has been recognized,” she says.
Looking Toward the Future

Dr. Geddes thinks nursing has a bright future.

“We still carry around a lot of the problems of the past, but one of the best things is the number of nurses being prepared for advanced practice,” she says.

“Nurses can be a more economical way to deliver healthcare. Government reports and research state that advanced practice nurses could probably deliver 85% of the care that is delivered by primary care physicians. I see them becoming more and more independent.”

For the School of Nursing, she hopes to see the program retain its high quality.

“Purdue has always enjoyed an outstanding reputation for undergraduate nursing education,” she says.

“Students who go out want to recruit more Purdue nurses for their workplace, because they remember the rigors of their own education. We have over 40 years of experience, and we’re good.”

For herself, Dr. Geddes says she doesn’t really have any definite plans for her retirement.

“It’s a matter of getting up every morning and deciding what I want to do that day. People say I will get tired of that, but I can always find things to entertain myself with.

“I will keep myself up on clinical aspects, and I hope I can be viewed as a source of information, teaching techniques, and insight into the school and its systems and politics. I have 28 years of history with the school, so I am a repository of information. I’m looking forward to it.”

Q. Do you really wear a different outfit to every class?

A. Yes, I do. A number of years ago I realized that the students noticed what I wore to class. So I decided to use that as a hook to keep them interested. I take a little piece of paper and put it over the clothes hanger and leave it there for the semester so I know what I have worn to class already. I’ve maintained the same dress size over the years, so I have clothes I’ve had for 20 years and I can still wear them. That’s why I have several closets.

Q. We always see you in suits and heels. What do you wear when you’re lounging?

A. Once I go home, I wear my suit until it’s time for me to get ready for bed, and then I get into pajamas. I also love pantsuits. Some former faculty members used to tease me that they wanted to see me in t-shirts and jeans, but I don’t own any.

Q. What do you do with your old clothes?

A. When I moved to a new apartment several years ago, I tried to put all my blouses in one space, but the closet pole pulled out of the wall. So I started to give a lot of my clothes to a program that makes the clothing available to women who have been battered or are on their own and who need something nice to wear for job interviews.

Q. What are your hobbies?

A. I’m very good at entertaining myself. I like to read, and I have a big collection of movies. I go to lunch everyday, generally by myself, sometimes with a friend. In the summer I like to go to the farmer’s market and take two- or three-day bus trips around the Midwest. I used to love to cook and do gourmet cooking. I don’t do that much anymore. But I do get a dozen cooking magazines and I like to tear out recipes and vicariously cook them that way. I can have the fun without the work.

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Q. You have a definite presence. How did you develop and maintain that?

A. It started at a very young age. I liked to be in school plays. I’m a ham, pure and simple. When I was in my middle 20s I did some modeling, and as I did more and more teaching, it dawned on me that in order to be a good teacher you have to entertain, whether it’s what you wear or what you say and you have to look like you’re enjoying it and you have to have a presence for it. And so the more I taught the more that developed.

Q. Were you really Miss Texas?

A. No, that’s not true. That’s part of that urban legend. I did model, mostly to gain a presence, to know how to conduct myself and hold myself in front of an audience. I have done a lot of amateur modeling in fashion shows around town and I taught some modeling classes. But I never took it very seriously. I just learned how to walk and dress and that sort of thing.

Q. What kinds of books do you read for pleasure?

A. I listen to a lot of books on tape when I’m getting dressed or going on my morning walks. I like historical material. Since Sept. 11 I listen to things about Islam and the U.S. involvement historically in the Middle East, and the world situation. I like Patricia Cornwell. I like David Baldacci. I like some of these spoofs of the politicians these days.

Q. Do you have any beauty, diet, or makeup tips?

A. Avoid the sun—it does very bad things to your skin.

As far as diet, I’m really kind of lazy. I just never wanted to get into a position where I needed to take weight off. Also, I had a big investment in my clothes, so I decided it was easier to maintain than it was to lose it. I really watch my food. I eat low fat. I like soups and salads, and eat very little at night.

As far as makeup: I use Osco’s best. For moisturizing, at least at night, I use petroleum jelly. It’s cheap, and it’s a great water barrier.

And no, I’ve never had a facelift.

Q. You had a serious health scare with breast cancer.

A. I was 43 when I had breast cancer. I had no family history of it. It took me a long time to even go to the doctor about the lump I had found. I knew a little too much: that 90% of lumps are benign, that I had low risk. I let it go, really, too long. Then a few years later, I had a lump in the other breast, and it was benign. I’ve never had a recurrence. I volunteer for Reach to Recovery. But unless I’m asked, I don’t talk about it much.

Q. Has your life turned out as you planned? Looking back, is there anything you would do differently?

A. It has exceeded all my expectations. I didn’t think I would have as much fun for as many years as I have.

Q. People hold you in very high esteem.

A. Who can ask for more in life that to have conducted yourself in a way, consistently, that people will hold you in high esteem? That, to me, is a real measure of success.

The faculty and staff of the School of Nursing have initiated the Dr. LaNelle Geddes Enrichment Library in the Center for Nursing Education. This library will focus on material that will enhance independent learning and be self-tutorial in nature. It will also serve as audiovisual material for lectures and seminars.

Your support of this effort would be greatly appreciated. Donations may be sent in care of Shari Schrader, Director of Development, 502 North University Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2069 for the LaNelle Geddes Enrichment Library.
Retiring Professor Found Unique Ways To Teach Public Health

“I have always enjoyed the freedom and creativity public health nurses have to find solutions to problems,” says Professor Sharon Posey, who has retired after 20 years at the Purdue School of Nursing and 38 years of practicing nursing.

This interest in finding solutions, combined with her concern for people who don’t have ready access to healthcare, has led Professor Posey to focus on providing students experiences with culturally diverse populations.

One example was a prenatal teaching project—presented in Spanish. “The growing Hispanic population in this area needed prenatal classes, but they lacked the resources to do that,” she recalls. So she encouraged her students to develop and present a multi-week teaching project in English and Spanish with the use of interpreters.

Another teaching project involved home visitations for newborn international babies and their parents in Married Student Housing. “These were unconventional ways to achieve a goal, but they worked,” she says.

Professor Posey’s interest in non-clinical and transcultural settings is also the basis for the School’s public health nursing clinical experience at the Navajo Indian Reservation in Kayenta, Arizona.

The project began when Professor Posey and her husband were traveling in the southwest United States and took a side trip to an Indian reservation.

“The Native American setting was interesting to me as a public health experience, because there is no language barrier, but there is definitely a cultural variation, especially with the older folks. And they are dealing with basic public health issues like water, sewage, access to healthcare.

“This is often a life-changing experience for the students,” Professor Posey says. “When you are in the minority it brings up a lot of issues that the students have to grapple with, many for the first time in their lives. It gives them an incredible sense of self-confidence that they can take their nursing knowledge to any setting.

“My biggest thrill in teaching has been seeing alumni come back who are involved in public health and are making a difference,” she says.

New Adventures In Retirement

Professor Posey earned her BSN from Spalding College, a master’s degree in education from Indiana University, and a master’s degree in nursing from the University of Kentucky.

In retirement, she isn’t letting any grass grow under her feet.

Within weeks of teaching her last public health class, she and her husband hit the road in their mobile home, headed for his new stint as campground host at the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park.

“I don’t really have any future mapped out, which is very different for me,” she says. “I’m going to take some time to see what it is I want to do next, but I know that part of my future will be volunteering, giving back to the community.” She has already accepted an appointment to the School of Nursing Advisory Board.
Novak Named New Head of Purdue School of Nursing

By Lynn Holland
Director of Communications, Purdue School of Nursing

Julie Cowan Novak, DNSc, RN, MA, CPNP, has completed her first semester as Head of the Purdue University School of Nursing and Associate Dean of the Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Health Sciences.

The appointment, effective June 1, 2003, was announced by John M. Pezzuto, Dean of the Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Health Sciences.

“Dr. Novak will lead the School of Nursing to the next level of preeminence,” Dean Pezzuto said. “Under her guidance, the school will continue to provide an excellent undergraduate curriculum, build a new graduate program, engage in local to global healthcare activities, and develop a body of funded research.”

In her tenure at Purdue, Dr. Novak has spearheaded several initiatives in the School of Nursing, including:

• Securing approval of an independent nursing graduate program on the West Lafayette campus.
• Chairing the School’s Strategic Planning initiative for 2001-2006.
• Obtaining over $600,000 in state and foundation funding to support the mission of the School of Nursing.
• Securing new clinical track and staff positions.
• Obtaining initial approval for the expansion of Johnson Hall.
• Enhancing global healthcare partnerships.
• Initiating doctoral program development.

Dr. Novak also directs operations at two Purdue-sponsored nurse-managed clinics: the Nursing Center for Family Health (located at the School of Nursing) and the Family Health Clinic of Carroll County, where she sees patients as a pediatric nurse practitioner. The Carroll County Clinic received the 2002 Rural Health Leadership Award from the Indiana Rural Health Association and received record funding in 2003.

A Fast Start at Purdue

Dr. Novak came to the Purdue School of Nursing in 2000 as Professor of Nursing and Director of Practice and Community Collaboration. She was promoted to Associate Head, Graduate Studies, Practice, and Community Collaboration in July 2001.

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She came from the University of Virginia School of Nursing, where she was the Theresa A. Thomas Endowed Professor of Primary Healthcare Nursing. While there, she authored and was awarded a $949,000 federal grant from the Health Resource Services Administration (HRSA) for a statewide rural nurse practitioner program and served as Director of the Primary Healthcare Nurse Practitioner Program.

In addition, she has worked internationally and served as president of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP), an organization of nearly 7,000 Advanced Practice Nurses and as the president of the National Certification Board for Pediatric Nurse Practitioners/Nurses.

“She is a strong and resourceful leader at work on multiple fronts,” says Immediate Past NAPNAP president Mary Margaret Gottesman.

“She always has the welfare of children and the nursing profession clearly in mind. She works with energy, tenacity, and insightfulness.”

Passion For Nursing

Dr. Novak indeed has a passion for nursing and the important contribution the profession makes to the healthcare delivery system.

“My clinical experiences in the hospital, as a public health nurse, school nurse, and pediatric nurse practitioner have given me an understanding of the many health issues the public faces and the desperate need for generalist professional nurses and advanced practiced nurses to work with underserved and disadvantaged populations,” she says.

Dr. Novak has developed, taught, and achieved funding for nurse practitioner programs, her research, and community initiatives in several settings including the University of California San Diego, San Diego State University, the University of Virginia, and Purdue.

She has received the Loretta C. Ford Award for excellence in nurse practitioner education from the University of Colorado and numerous other awards.

She holds a bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and a pediatric nurse practitioner certificate from the University of Iowa College of Nursing, and a doctoral degree from the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science at the University of San Diego. She has authored over 50 publications in peer reviewed journals, book chapters, and a textbook and been awarded over $3 million in grants.

Dr. Novak visits with students at the annual school picnic.

**New Administration Addresses Student, Faculty Needs**

Dr. Novak keeps a close eye on student and faculty needs and growth.

“With 2,200 RN openings in Indiana and 150,000 openings nationally, the public health crisis in this country will worsen without increased funding and a coordinated response by Schools of Nursing,” she says.

Last year the School of Nursing expanded its entering class by 40 students in order to respond to the desperate need for nurses.

In addition, five students are now enrolled in the new independent master’s degree program on the West Lafayette campus.

The School’s current enrollment is 510 undergraduate and graduate students with over 4,000 alumnae since its founding in 1962.

Pass rates on the NCLEX licensing exam consistently surpass national rates and APN certification pass rates are 96%. Some 70% of baccalaureate graduates are employed in nursing in Indiana, and 89% of the Advanced Practice Nursing graduates remain in Indiana.

In addition, Dr. Novak, in collaboration with the Leadership Team, has been successful in securing four new clinical track and three new staff positions.

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To help coordinate the activities of the school, Dr. Julie Novak has put together a Leadership Team composed of the School’s new program directors. The team includes:

Professor Jane Kirkpatrick, Assistant Head for Academic Affairs. An award-winning scholar who was recently selected for the “Book of Great Teachers” at Purdue, Kirkpatrick’s creativity, her ability to see the big picture, to mentor and to facilitate effectively with individuals and groups are key elements of her new role (jmkirk@nursing.purdue.edu).

Professor Jane Overbay, Director of the Undergraduate Program. As Curriculum Chair, a Level Coordinator, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, and Chair of our last (and next) CCNE National Accreditation Self-Study, Overbay is imminently qualified for her new role (joverbay@nursing.purdue.edu).

Dr. Nancy Edwards, Director of the Graduate Program, is an award-winning teacher and Adult Health/Gerontology expert (the focus of our first area of specialization and sub-specialization in the independent master’s program). Dr. Edwards was recently promoted and tenured, and has funded studies and excellent grant writing skills (nedwards@nursing.purdue.edu).

Dr. Sharon Wilkerson, Director of Doctoral Program Development, has made significant contributions to the undergraduate program and Graduate Nursing Consortium. In addition to focusing on her own research in infant mental health, Wilkerson is currently preparing the doctoral program proposal with her committee (swilkers@nursing.purdue.edu).

Other Directors include:

• Professor Pamela Aaltonen, Director of Engagement, aaltonen@nursing.purdue.edu
• Dr. Karen Chang, Director of Information Technology, kchang@nursing.purdue.edu
• Dr. Patricia Coyle-Rogers, Director of Lifelong Learning, pcrogers@nursing.purdue.edu
• Lynn Holland, Director of Communications, lholland@nursing.purdue.edu
• Dr. Laura Sands, Director of Faculty Development, lsands@nursing.purdue.edu
• Shari Schrader, Director of Development, schrader@nursing.purdue.edu
• RuthAnn Smolen, Director, Center for Nursing Education, smolenra@nursing.purdue.edu
• Eleanor Stephan, Interim Director of Student Services, estephan@nursing.purdue.edu
• Dr. Barbra Mann Wall, Director, Center for Nursing History, Ethics, and Human Rights, bwall@nursing.purdue.edu. Please contact Dr. Wall if you have memorabilia or other materials that you wish to donate to the Center.

Changes in Structure Help School Grow and Develop

While in Virginia, Dr. Novak served as school health consultant/coordinator for the Albemarle County Schools. One of her contributions in that position was authoring the adopted “Tobacco Free Campuses” policy based upon a decade of tobacco control research. She brought that expertise to Purdue, winning the largest grant ever awarded to the School of Nursing for her Tobacco User’s Cessation Helpline (TOUCH), a telephone counseling cessation program targeting college age tobacco users and more recently Purdue University faculty and staff. Professors Angela Brown and Noelle Lottes are co-investigators on the TOUCH research team.

Dr. Novak is married to Dr. Robert E. Novak, Associate Head of Audiology/Speech Sciences and Director of Clinical Audiology at Purdue. They are joined (at Dean Pezutto’s reception welcoming Dr. Novak as Head) by their sons, Chris (left), a senior at Purdue, and Andrew (right), a third year law student at Southern Methodist University. Son Nick (not pictured) is a senior at the University of Maryland.
Donna M. Kauffman, who has been Assistant Head for Student Services for 16 years, returned to teaching this fall. Head Academic Advisor Eleanor Stephan is serving as Interim Student Services Director.

New faculty members are:
- Milica vonStein, MS, RN, FNP: Lecturer
- Tina McIntyre, MS, RN: Visiting Assistant Professor
- Monica Keyes, RN: Visiting Clinical Instructor
- Lela Hopson, MS, RN, NP: Lecturer
- Taunya Rapisarda, MS, RN: Visiting Assistant Professor
- Polly Royal, MS, RN: Visiting Assistant Professor
- Elizabeth O’Neil, MS, RN, FNP: Visiting Assistant Professor
- Mope Adeola, RN: Lecturer
- Mary Schultz-Pardue, MS, RN: Lecturer

Professional staff transitions include Shari Schrader as the School’s new Director of Development. She succeeds Julie Porter, who married Brian Smith and moved to Rochester, New York.

Faculty, Staff Transitions and New Faces

Congratulations to our December 2003 baccalaureate graduates!

Michelle Atkinson
Valerie Barto
Brian Booth
Ellen Bramble
Amanda Byrum
Leslie Chaplin
Courtney Cunningham
Courtney Brown
Amy Ellenberger
Anthony Farley
Cara Gantner
Lauren Grommet

Janet Hamstra
Jessica Heim
Sue Hong
Emily Hopkins
Sarah Jusco
Andrea Lane
Carrie Melchior
Marcy Merkel
Kate Palma

Wendy Parsak
Tara Potts
Sarah Ristow
John Sawyer
Jaclyn Semko
Traci Speicher
Amanda Treharne
Erin Walcutt
Laura Zauss

Clerical transitions include:
- Roxanne Martin has been promoted to Administrative Assistant to the Head, Clerical Staff Leader, Coordinator of Alumni Relations, and supports development initiatives. She also graduated this fall from the Purdue University “Leading Edge” Program, an 11-week course focused on tools and techniques for effective supervision.
- Melissa Danner has assumed the new role of Grants/Research Secretary, coordinating the submission of six grants since her appointment.
- Susan Kauffman added Schedule Deputy to her many roles including Secretary to Student Services and the Graduate Program, and Building Deputy.
- Kim Eades will serve as secretary to the Curriculum Committee, the Directors of the Undergraduate and Lifelong Learning programs, and Faculty Secretary.
- Barb Loerbs joined the School of Nursing as a Faculty Secretary this fall.
- Nancy Haley is the School of Nursing receptionist, a newly approved position. She is also secretary to the Assistant Head for Academic Affairs and provides support for student organizations and development initiatives.
For more than 40 years, the School of Nursing has had a tradition of excellence. Throughout our history, our friends and alumni have been critical elements of our success in nursing education. Today, we are positioned to become one of the premier nursing schools in the nation. The support provided by School of Nursing alumni and friends is crucial in helping to reach our goals of preeminence in discovery, learning, and engagement.
Forty years have passed since Helen R. Johnson laid the foundation for Purdue University’s nursing program. It has been 31 years since the construction of our School of Nursing building, Helen R. Johnson Hall.

What is most remarkable is the loyal support of alumni and friends of the School and University that has made the past 40 years possible.

These alumni and friends believe Dr. Johnson’s comment, “You can never stand still.” Funds are continuously needed for faculty development, student scholarships, facilities, technology, and so much more. Nursing continues to change at a rapid pace and here at the School we strive to continue to maintain the level of excellence nursing education at Purdue is known for.

We expect to reach “the next level” of excellence with the Campaign for Purdue, which is a comprehensive fund-raising effort by the University. The University’s goal is to raise $1.3 billion by 2007 in support of students, faculty, programs, and facilities.

The result will be the realization of the vision of the entire Purdue community, as expressed in the University’s strategic plan: “To be a preeminent university, advancing quality in all areas while leading the world in the basic and applied sciences and engineering and improving society at home and abroad.”

So what are the School of Nursing’s goals?

One of the most exciting is doubling the size of the existing Helen R. Johnson Hall of Nursing. This past November Dr. Novak received approval from the Capital Projects Committee and the Board of Trustees to proceed to Phase Two in the process of determining the feasibility of expanding our building space.

At this time, we are identifying lead gifts that can help make this $11.2 million Pavilion a reality. As you can imagine, a building built over three decades ago is bursting at the seams with our current enrollment of 510 students and 60 faculty and staff!

Naming opportunities are available for the new Pavilion addition, classrooms, lecture hall, and laboratories.

It is an exciting time at the School of Nursing, and we hope to work together with you to achieve our goals. Dr. Julie Novak and I, as well as other members of our faculty, look forward to seeing you in the coming year.

Our goal is to meet as many of our alumni and friends as possible on an individual basis and to thank you for past support. We also want to encourage your financial support for one of our priority areas or projects outlined on the next few pages.
Unrestricted Funds

CAMPAIGN GOAL: $617,590

Although careful assessment and strategic planning are effective tools in preparing for the future, it’s difficult to predict all the needs the school will have in the coming years. During times of uncertainty, significant growth is possible provided that additional resources are available for unforeseen opportunities.

Unrestricted funds are crucial in supporting future needs. These funds enable the school to direct money where the need is greatest, such as student scholarships, equipment for instructional labs, start-up funds for new faculty, and special programs to enhance the educational experience of our students.

Unrestricted gifts are especially valuable for a broad range of application across our school.

How your gifts have been distributed thus far:

- Student scholarships
- Teaching/learning tools
- Graduate program development
- Renovation of Student Services Department
- Renovation of the Center for Nursing Education
- Sponsorship of the Leadership Conference
- Development of a Leadership Conference Room
- Co-sponsorship of the Ethics and Human Rights Symposium
- Faculty development and travel to present research at national and international conferences.

Students

CAMPAIGN GOAL: $1 MILLION

New Purdue nursing graduates find themselves in great demand; on average, they each receive five job offers. And while this demand speaks well of our students and programs, it also is indicative of a profession in dire need of additional practitioners. Therefore, it is important to expand our class size by attracting more of the very best students into our program.

A nursing education is a lifelong investment that, without scholarship assistance, is out of reach for many. Scholarships can help attract and retain the most academically outstanding students and make a Purdue nursing education possible for the many deserving students who need financial help.

To effect positive change in response to the nursing shortage, permanent resources for scholarships must be increased substantially.

Scholarship funds not only help pay tuition, fees, and books, but also fund summer research opportunities and enable students to broaden their horizons through global healthcare experiences.

Our goals for the next five years:

- To promote diversity initiatives to prepare all students to live, learn, and work in a multicultural world.
- Increase student support to $225,000 annually.
- Provide $5,000 or more per year in the form of renewable awards to outstanding undergraduate students support outstanding graduate students with fellowships.
CAMPAIGN FOR PURDUE

Programs and Centers
CAMPAIGN GOAL: $1.2 MILLION
The School of Nursing has several programs that have been established to target the healthcare needs of students, employees, community members, and surrounding rural communities.

Our goal is to expand the Nursing Center for Family Health, located in the School of Nursing, and the Family Health Clinic of Carroll County, located in rural Delphi. This will enhance our educational and healthcare services to the community. Both of these centers also offer clinical experiences for our students and research and clinical practice opportunities for faculty.

The development of a Center for Excellence in Rural Healthcare and a Center for Nursing History, Ethics and Human Rights are priorities for helping strengthen the school’s research initiatives.

Facilities and Equipment
CAMPAIGN GOAL: $11.2 MILLION
Learning and discovery thrive in environments that encourage creative exploration and interaction.

If we are to achieve our goals of preeminence, it is essential that we have the very best facilities and equipment for our students and faculty researchers. Increases in technology, student enrollment, and grant funding have pushed the current space to the maximum.

The expansion of Helen R. Johnson Hall of Nursing is the linchpin in the school’s blueprint for national—even global—leadership and effective response to the nursing shortage.

The building addition will more than double our space—not only to maintain our current excellence, but also to accommodate future growth. It will allow for an increase in the enrollment of undergraduate students from the current 510 to at least 600 by 2007 and up to 650 by 2010.

The building addition will provide the space necessary for the new, independent master’s program, the developing doctoral program, and the school’s 22 intramurally and extramurally funded researchers.

Faculty
CAMPAIGN GOAL: $1.5 MILLION
The school’s most important asset is its talented and committed faculty. Alumni fondly recall those faculty members who challenged them, encouraged them, and offered friendship.

A strong demand for nurses has resulted in increased enrollment and a need for additional faculty to support learning, discovery, and engagement. We have an outstanding group of faculty dedicated to providing the quality education and the leadership necessary to move to the next level of excellence.

Additional resources are necessary for attracting and retaining top faculty with endowments for distinguished and named professorships, faculty research, and teaching support. This will help offset limited state funding and tuition income.

The Next Step
Our goals are high, our challenges are great, and our resolve is firm.

We are counting on alumni and friends like you to help us shape the future. There are many different ways to give: outright gifts of cash, property, gifts-in-kind, stocks; planned gifts; or a pledge commitment.

A gift of $20,000 can fund a scholarship in your name for an undergraduate student; a gift of $125,000 can fund a partial endowment for graduate fellowships; or you might choose to endow a faculty chair with a gift of $1.5 million. There will also be several naming opportunities in our new building addition.

Over the next year a Donor Honor Wall will be created in the School of Nursing for alumni, friends, faculty, and staff donors.

For information on how you can be part of The Campaign for Purdue, contact the School of Nursing development office.

Shari Schrader, Development Director
Johnson Hall of Nursing, 117D
502 North University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2069
Telephone: (765) 494-4003
Fax: (765) 496-1800
E-mail: schrader@pnhs.purdue.edu
Web site: www.nursing.purdue.edu

Campaign Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support for Students</th>
<th>$1 million</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support for Faculty</td>
<td>$1.5 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for Programs and Centers</td>
<td>$1.2 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support for Facilities</td>
<td>$11.2 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$617,590</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support Sought</strong></td>
<td><strong>$15,517,590 million</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
Gift Earns MacDougalls Membership in R.B. Stewart Society

John and Barbara MacDougall have established a $250,000 charitable remainder unitrust naming Purdue’s School of Nursing as one of four beneficiaries. Through this generous gift, the MacDougalls have become members of the Purdue University R.B. Stewart Society. We thank them for their commitment and vision and for sharing their faith with the School of Nursing.

Barbara Mayse MacDougall
(AAS’72, BS’74)
School of Nursing Advisory Board member

Husband: John D. MacDougall, M.D., retired surgeon, Indiana University graduate.

Married: 23 years

Children: John has three grown children (Stewart, Eric and Victoria). John and Barbara have two children, Katie, 21, studying music administration at Butler; and Jamie, 19, attending Purdue and member of the Glee Club.

Q: Where did you work following graduation?
A: I worked for seven years in surgery at St. Francis Hospital, Beech Grove, before retiring to raise my children.

Q: What are your fondest memories of Purdue?
A: I enjoyed all of the campus activities, especially my sorority (Delta Gamma), and I was a sports fan and attended football and basketball games. Living with 25,000 other people my age without parents around was also great!

Q: How did your nursing degree prepare you for your career?
A: I feel that I had excellent preparation for the nursing world and I was prepared for life as well.

Q: Are you involved in volunteer activities in Indianapolis?
A: Yes. Through the years I volunteered at my children’s schools and our church. I volunteer at All Saints Church’s Day Spring Shelter for homeless women and children and I serve on the boards of Chamber Music Ensemble Committee and English Speaking Union, a national organization that promotes the English language.

Q: What are some of your interests?
A: John and I both love music. I guess both of our children have picked up on it. We also enjoy traveling.

Q: Where have you traveled to, and what has been your favorite destination?
A: Absolutely, Italy! We also loved Scotland and found China to be a fascinating place. We enjoy rest and relaxation in Corolla — the Outerbanks of North Carolina.

Q: Why did you and John decide to create a Charitable Remainder Unitrust?
A: We had the funds to establish it and we found it a very beneficial way to give back, even though it’s way out into the future. The remainder will be divided into four beneficiaries, two of which are our alma matters. It doesn’t impact us right now, but giving back is fun to do and once you give back it becomes habit.

Q: What would you tell others about giving?
A: For someone who made their career in nursing, their education made it possible. We are making the same thing possible for our future nurses. We’ll always need nurses. It makes me feel proud to hear Dr. Novak talk about the good work the School is doing and how our School is recognized in the industry. We are supportive so that it can continue – giving is the best way to keep moving in a positive direction.
What is a Charitable Remainder Unitrust?

A Charitable Remainder Unitrust is established when you irrevocably transfer money or securities to a trustee who invests the assets to pay an annual lifetime income to you or others chosen by you.

At the end of the income beneficiaries’ lives, or the term of years, the remaining trust assets are distributed to Purdue.

When properly established, these trusts provide federal gift and estate tax savings. Purdue Research Foundation can act as trustee. The minimum amount needed is $50,000.

Taxation: The beneficiary is taxed on income received (ordinary income or capital gain).

Benefits:
- Tax deduction based on value of assets transferred.
- Avoidance of capital gains tax.

For more information about a Charitable Remainder Unitrust, please call the Planned Giving Office at (800) 677-8780 or e-mail plangift@purdue.edu.

Benefactor R.B. Stewart Set Standards for Giving

Purdue founded the R. B. Stewart Society to recognize special benefactors who make generous commitments to the future of the University through their estate plans.

The society is named after Robert Bruce Stewart for his commitment to higher education, his efforts on behalf of the University, and his expression of faith in the future of Purdue through his own gifts.

For 36 years, R. B. Stewart served the University as its chief business officer. Just as R. B. built a legacy for Purdue’s future through his financial genius, so too does the R.B. Stewart Society recognize individuals whose faith and vision ensure the University’s future excellence.

Center for Nursing Education: New Name, Furniture, and Equipment

There are new developments in the Center for Nursing Education this semester, starting with the new name.

“The name Center for Nursing Education, Research, and Practice was descriptive of all we are,” said Center director RuthAnn Smolen, “but too long and difficult to remember. So we decided to shorten the name to the Center for Nursing Education.”

The Center also boasts new carpeting throughout, the fortuitous result of a plumbing disaster. The foyer has also been remodeled with tables for a badly-needed expanded student study area. A generous gift from the Miriam Epple fund provided new tables and chairs and the recovering of existing chairs.

New equipment includes:
- Mini-projector and Margi presenter-to-go
- “GERI”atric, intubation, and male cath manikins
- Videos including “Heart Medications,” “Infection in the Elderly,” and “Nutrition of the Young Child.”
- CD-ROMs
- Case studies in physical assessment
- Nursing assessment of the postpartum patient
- Clinical simulations in pediatric nursing
- Electronic infant scales and pediatric stethoscopes
- Equipped procedure carts
- PDA software for heart and lung sounds.
Thank you to the individuals and corporations who made gifts to the School of Nursing from Jan. 1, 2003-Dec. 31, 2003. We appreciate your generous and loyal support. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information listed here is accurate. Please let us know of any changes or additions.

**Nursing Charter Benefactors Club**
(Over $10,000)

For clinic support: Family Health Clinic of Carroll County Annual Fund Raisers United Fund of Carroll County

**Nursing Benefactors Club**
($1,000-$9,999)

Mary Ade
Nancy Akemon and family
Eldon & Donna Aldred
Ellen & Jeffrey Butz
Clarian Health Partners
Columbus Regional Hospital
Steven & Lynette Goldsberry
Greater Lafayette Health Services
Landscapes Unlimited
Julie & Bob Novak
Porter Memorial Hospital
Sarah & Gary Potts
Kathleen & Kristen Risa
St. Francis Hospital & Health Centers
Ruth Wukasch

**Nursing Dean’s Club**
($500-$999)

Cathy & John Barnhart
Miriam Eppele
Cinda Fluke & Ronald Alvarez
Kari & William Foote
Nancy Dickinson Hazard
Sherman Kessler
Charles & Marqueta Landis
Barbara & John MacDougall
Nancy McCall
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Emma Smith
Patricia & Theodore Tabloski
Norma & James Tomlinson
Joyce Walters
Kathleen & Steven Wodicka

**Nursing Patrons Club**
($250-$499)

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Annett Clinic LLC
Carol & Robert Baird
James & Lecoadia Bien
Jo & Earl Brooks
Patricia Coyle-Rogers
Jan & Myron Davis
Leslie Gibson
Sandra Hale
Deborah & Edward Harlamert
Audrey Heasty
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Kristina & Steven Matthews
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Judith Schmutte
Virginia & James Skiles
Sharon Stoten
St. Elizabeth School of Nursing
Suzanne & Clement Wang
Sharon & Clarence Wilkerson
Susan & Mitchell Yeakley

**Nursing Supporters Club**
($100 to $249)

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Mary Ilu Altman
Lynn Ammon
Thomas Arnold
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Mary Babcock
Karen & Andrew Bauer
Marjorie Baylor
Susan & Wayne Blom
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Laura & Jay Bolden
Sandra & Jack Bowen
Shelley & Ronnie Boxell
Sue Bradford
Florence Brentlinger
JoAnn Brooks
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Bonnie & Gerald Ceres
Margaret Cohen
Pamela & Thomas Conquest
Noelle Cope
Andrea & Raymond Coward
Theresa Coyner
Nancy Cugger
Donna Czech
Linda & Robert Daming
Tommy & Clifford Davis
Ann Day

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($250 to $249)

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Lisa Dobagai
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Paula & Larry Swinyer  
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Belinda & Thomas Wallbank  
Louis Warner  
Laurel Widmer  
Joan Wildblood  
Laurie & Michael Wright  
Karen & Donald Yehle  
Emily & Peter Zarras  
Mary Helen Zink  

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(Up to $100)  

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Jaina Amin  
Kristin & Dennis Andersen  
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The 2003-04 Purdue School of Nursing Faculty and Staff

The Faculty/Staff Campus Campaign for Purdue was launched Jan. 15, 2004. The seven-year Campus Campaign goal is $40 million. During the first three years of the Campaign for Purdue, current and retired faculty and staff giving totaled $22,887,881. Faculty, staff and retiree giving increased tremendously in 2003-04 with gifts and pledges totaling $10,155,338 from 6,354 donors — a 200% increase in gifts and pledges and 21% increase in donors.
Kirkpatrick Selected for Book of Great Teachers

Purdue Nursing Professor Jane Kirkpatrick was among 42 professors added this fall to the Book of Great Teachers, which honors outstanding teaching faculty who have demonstrated sustained excellence in the classroom.

To be included in the Book of Great Teachers, professors and former professors must have served on the Purdue faculty for at least 10 years. Honorees include past winners of university-wide teaching excellence awards and those nominated by students, alumni and colleagues.

Purdue Provost Sally Mason said the newest inductees have made a profound impact on students’ lives.

“Whether it’s helping students through personal crises, spending long hours with students on research projects or inviting students to share home-cooked meals, these professors are passionate about the fundamental reason they are at Purdue – to teach,” Mason said.

“We are proud to honor our colleagues who have made such a fundamental difference for all the students who pass through our classroom doors.”

Julie White, a nurse and former student of Professor Kirkpatrick’s, said Professor Kirkpatrick served as a memorable mentor and deserves to be included in the Book of Great Teachers.

“She is a true advocate for her students,” White said. “It’s obvious that her passion in teaching is seeing each student reach their potential. When I was her student, she genuinely nurtured me and made a personal investment in my education. Without her, I wouldn’t be the nurse I am today.”

The book, a bronze and walnut wall display in the west foyer of the Purdue Memorial Union, was first unveiled in 1999 with 225 current and former faculty honored. New names are added every five years.

Dr. LaNelle Geddes is also listed in the book.
1960s

PATRICIA MOONEY KLEE (‘AD65) retired from peds/NICU in 2001. tyf228@aol.com

SUSAN S. COOK RUSK, (AD’65) died Dec. 14, 2003. She was 67. She completed her bachelor’s degree at Purdue and master’s degree at Indiana University. She was a professor at the School of Nursing from 1972 to 1985. She was a life member of the Purdue Alumni Association, Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, and the American Nurses Association.

JOAN RATTAY BRATTON (AD’67) is using her EdD degree to design and present retail training for Ace Hardware Corp. She is very proud of her two sons, Alex and Erich, both computer engineers, and grandsons Ethan and William, future Boilermakers. joan@bratton.com

LOLA JEAN MITCHELL KOZUK (‘AD67) has been a health statistician at the National Center for Health Statistics (part of the Centers for Disease Control) since 1979. She writes reports for government publications and health journals. ljkozuk@aol.com

1970s

STEVEN ROSCOE REED (AAS’70, BSN’72) has worked in a variety of healthcare settings including emergency departments, intensive care units, home healthcare as a visiting nurse, quality assurance specialist, and facility administrator. He has taught at diploma and ASN schools of nursing and currently teaches at Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville, FL, as an assistant professor in the practical nursing program. Steven.reed@sfcc.edu

ALBERT I. KOEHLER (AD’76) is manager of credential, clinical risk management, and provider appeals at BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee in Chattanooga. unclealber@aol.com

CONNIE STRINE LIVINGSTON (AD’76, BS’78) is president of Perinatal Education Associates, Inc., a company that provides continuing education for maternity nurses, childbirth educators, and doulas throughout North America. She is author of the new book, “Innovative Teaching Strategies Handbook for Birth Professionals.” clivingston@birthsource.com and www.birthsource.com

LESLIE PRATHER JARED (AD’77 and BS’80) started her own company, Clinical Study Management LLC, in 2001. She specializes in providing clinical research and project management services to biotech and pharmaceutical companies, contract research organizations, and other organizations. She assists clients with the management and implementation of Phase I through Phase IV clinical trials worldwide. lesliejared@clinicalstudymgmt.com

1980s

VALERIE HESSONG GELWICKS (AD’81 and BS’83) is homeschooling her three children ages 16, 14, and 12. gelwicks1@aol.com

1990s

KARIN E. DUFFY (BS’90) earned her MS from George Washington University in 1998. She is now employed as a PA in orthopedics.

LISA ORR LINDENMAYER (BS’90) is a part-time staff nurse at St. Vincent’s Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis. She is married, with two daughters, 11 and 6. bradlisa@peoplepc.com

KIMBERLY OSWALD CLOHECY (BS’93) recently graduated from Rush University with her MSN and is currently working as an acute care nurse practitioner for the section of Interventional Cardiology at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Medical Center in Chicago. She married Will Clohecy on July 12, 2003. koswald@rush.edu

SUNNY NESIUS HAMMANN (BS’94) is currently a stay-at-home mom with two children, Allison, 3, and William Zachary, born June 14, 2003. sunnyrn840@aol.com

JANET BURFORD VARDAMAN (BS’94) received her MSN in 1998 and married in 2000. She is currently working as a certified registered nurse anesthetist.

LEIGH BRYANT KESSLER (BS’95) is a clinical manager for the Medical-Surgical units at Community Hospital North, Indianapolis. She and her husband, Brandon (ASM’97), welcomed their first child, Wyatt Nolan, on Aug. 15, 2003. bkessler@mail.tds.net
ALISON ELK (BS’95) was married in 2001 to Lt. Norm Presecan, USN. In 2003, she graduated cum laude, Juris Doctor, from the University of Richmond, VA. She is currently employed with Kaufman & Canoles in Norfolk, VA, in the area of medical malpractice defense and health law. alisonelk@yahoo.com

BRADLEY LINCKS (BS’95) is the Director of Behavioral Health Services at Clark Memorial Hospital, Louisville. The full-service hospital, with 44 inpatient psychiatric beds, focuses on acute crisis stabilization in the adult and geriatric populations. Brad.lincks@clarkmemorial.org

RACHEL HOPKINS WALTERS (BS’95) is employed in the NNICU in Evansville, IN. rachdanw@evansville.net

EDWARD K. DENNIS (BS’96) works at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center as a staff nurse in the burn/trauma ICU. He is also a part-time graduate student at Vanderbilt School of Nursing, working toward certification as an acute care nurse practitioner. edward.dennis@vanderbilt.edu

KATHY PUPIERI (BS’96) is Innovation Specialist at Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. She provided a presentation to PSON faculty and staff on “Creating the Future of Nursing through Partnership” in January 2004.

MEGAN McCARTY TOLEN (BS’97) works PCC at Home Hospital, Lafayette, critical care unit. Her first child, Allison, was born Jan. 2, 2003.

DAWN DRESBAUGH PETERSON (BS’98), is patient care coordinator at Home Hospital, Lafayette, postpartum and newborn nursery, and has three children, Reece, 4, Sydney, 2 ½, and Jake, 1.

2000s

HILARY MARKEL CONWAY (BS’00) was married to Frank Conway (Technology’00) in June 2002. She works for five high-risk ob-gyn doctors in an office at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, N.J. hconway@sbmfm.com

KRISTY ENGELSMAN (BS’00) is a staff educator of the Adult Orthopaedic Inpatient Unit at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. She was awarded the “Excellence in Nursing Practice” award for Ortho/Neuro at Northwestern in May 2003, and won a scholarship from the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses for the certification exam in April 2003. She was certified in Orthopaedic Nursing (ONC) in May 2003. ke2707@msn.com

CHAD DENNEY (BS’01) is working in the emergency room at St. Vincent’s, Indianapolis. Chad22079@hotmail.com

SARAH SMITH MILLER (BS’01) was married Aug. 30, 2003, and is currently working for LDRP for Community Health Network. She is also enrolled in the CNM program at the University of Indianapolis. Sarahrene79@hotmail.com

CARRIE REX SZAFCZYK (BS’02) is working as an RN in surgery at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital in Elmhurst, IL. crex80@yahoo.com

BETH VAN DUSEN (BS’03) is working in the NICU at UNC Hospital. bvandusen@nc.rr.com

Your Purdue Nursing Alumni Organization officers include: (front row, left to right) board member Julie Elam (BS’96), Vice President Julee Kauling (BS’93), President Sarah Potts (AD’68), Treasurer Noelle Lottes, (BS’98, MS’01).

(Back row, left to right) School of Nursing Director of Development Shari Schrader, board member Jennifer Albright (BS’94), Dr. Julie Novak, board member Sue Cardwell (AD’77); Immediate Past President Janet Kemper (AD’73), and School of Nursing Alumnae Secretary Roxanne Martin.

Missing from the picture are board member Lisa Dobogai (BS’94), and Secretary Cinda Fluke (AD’73, BS’76).
Homecoming Celebrates Purdue, Nursing Pride

On a sunny October morning, thousands of Purdue alumni and friends came home to Memorial Mall to meet old friends, eat good food, and see the sights.

In the School of Nursing tent, faculty and students took blood pressures, shared our technology, passed out materials, and answered questions about our programs.

In the afternoon, the “All American Marching Band” and the Alumni Band led the way to Ross-Ade Stadium, where the Boilermakers rolled over the University of Illinois 43-10.

Please plan to join us for next year’s Homecoming, Oct. 16, 2004.

Professor Jane Kirkpatrick welcomes School of Nursing alumnae Laura Fischer Zeller (BS’90) and her daughter to Homecoming. They are reminiscing about a 1986 picture of Zeller and Professor Kirkpatrick that was published in the last issue of Purdue Nurse.

UPCOMING SCHOOL OF NURSING EVENTS

Nursing Student Career Fair..................March 1, 2004
Helen R. Johnson Leadership Conference................April 16, 2004
Graduation..................................................May 16, 2004
Second Annual Nursing History, Ethics and Human Rights Symposium..............................Sept. 10, 2004
Homecoming vs. Wisconsin......................Oct. 16, 2004
Looking for Outstanding Alumni

Each year the Purdue School of Nursing names outstanding alumni. This is your opportunity to nominate a classmate or a colleague.

Criteria include:

- Currently registered to practice nursing.
- An active member of a professional organization.
- Actively engaged in community affairs.
- Making a special contribution to the profession.

Nominations must include:

- Nominee’s name, address, home and work telephone numbers, and e-mail address.
- A curriculum vita/resume.
- Education/certifications; work experiences; professional and community activities.
- Awards and honors.
- Letter(s) of recommendation.
- Nominator’s name, address, home and work telephone numbers, and e-mail address.

Please submit by March 10, 2004 to:

Purdue Nursing Alumni Organization
Care of Roxanne Martin
Purdue School of Nursing
502 North University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2069

The award(s) will be presented at the Helen R. Johnson Leadership Conference on April 16, 2004.
Men have been practicing the art and science of nursing since the early ages. Today, men comprise 5% of the total registered nurse population. While at first glance this number may seem dismally low, the number of men in nursing has actually doubled in the past two decades and indications are that it will continue to increase.

Are You Man Enough To Be a Nurse?

By Michael Criswell RN, MN, CCRN, CCNS
Clinical Assistant Professor, Purdue School of Nursing

Today this country is facing a severe shortage of registered nurses. It is estimated that in ten years, the shortfall will be over 500,000 nurses.

Data also suggest that until the past year’s “Salute to Nursing” campaign sponsored by Johnson & Johnson, fewer students were choosing nursing.

According to the American Association of Collegiate Nursing, there are 21,000 fewer nursing students today than in 1995. The number of nursing graduates who sat for the NCLEX-RN licensing examination decreased by more than 25% from 1995 to 2002.

Despite this disturbing data, men seem to be entering the nursing profession at the highest rates ever. A 2000 survey found that almost 13% of all students enrolled in nursing programs are male. At the University of Texas school of Nursing, 23% of the enrolled nursing students are men.

Nursing programs locally, including Purdue, show an increase of men enrolling in nursing to as high as 8%.

New Generation of Male Nurses

John Sawyer, 25, is one of this new generation of male nurses. He graduated from the Purdue School of Nursing in December 2003. “I love nursing, especially the technical aspect of trauma critical care,” he says.

Of the 121 Purdue Nursing students earning baccalaureate degrees in 2003, four were male. There are also two men in the Purdue West Lafayette MS/Adult Nurse Practitioner Program.
Shortage Means Better Opportunities

Although the nursing shortage has created a healthcare crisis, it has also opened up new job opportunities with better salaries and benefits for nursing graduates.

Healthcare administrators are scrambling to find new ways to attract and retain nurses to fill the ranks in their hospitals. Hiring incentives, flexible scheduling, and better salaries and benefits are not only attracting women but men as well.

In 2003, the average salary for nurses was $47,000. Experienced nurses can exceed $60,000. Nurses with advanced preparation such as nurse practitioners and nurse anesthetists can earn between $65,000 and $100,000. This, coupled with a good job market and job security, is helping to attract men in record numbers. Men who may have lost jobs due to a downturn in the economy or are seeking a second career are looking at nursing as an option.

One such is 51-year-old Carl Barowski, a registered charge nurse in a hemodialysis unit. Formerly a police officer in California, he was looking for a better salary and a wider variety of job opportunities. He took a career analysis test and found that healthcare was a strength for him.

As a married father of three children, medical school was not an option due to the length of education and the time away from his family. Nursing offered Barowski the ability to receive his education more quickly, find a job with a good salary and with a variety of clinical practice choices.

Creative Recruiting

Hospitals and schools of nursing are using a variety of methods to encourage men to enter the profession. Advertising catchphrases such as “Do you have what it takes to be a male nurse?” and “Are you man enough to be a nurse?” and images of male nurses in acute care areas using high tech equipment promote a strong male image while promoting nursing as a career choice for men.

The University of Oregon’s Health and Science Center offers a Saturday Academy called “Men in Scrubs” to high school seniors as a way for teenage boys to learn about nursing as a career choice.

Laura Curry, student advisor at the Purdue School of Nursing, says nurse educators are becoming more sensitive to the needs of a diverse student population.

“Nursing educators are doing everything they can to eliminate gender stereotypes and improve non-gender specific material that may alienate male nursing students,” she says. Examples of this include revising all pamphlets and brochures to include more men and underrepresented minorities and using textbooks that are non-gender specific.

Negative Stereotypes Still Appear

While positive media depictions of men in nursing provide role models to reduce stereotypes, negative depictions still appear.
Who Are Today’s Male Nurses?

According to a recent health survey, male nurses are younger than their female counterparts, with roughly 40% of men in nursing under 40, while only 30% of female nurses are under 40. This is an encouraging sign and may indicate that young men are responding to positive roles of men in the profession.

Many male nurses prefer the fast-paced environments of emergency rooms, intensive care units, or surgery, however, a growing number of Advanced Practice male nurses are choosing to provide primary healthcare in rural and underserved settings.

In a 2002 movie titled “Meet the Parents,” the negative stereotype of a male nurse is exploited for the sake of comedy. The character portrayed by Ben Stiller is a male nurse who is constantly humiliated and ridiculed by his girlfriend’s parents for being a nurse.

Discrimination From Within and Without

Nursing has always been regarded as a feminine occupation. Traditionally, nurses are portrayed as pretty young women in white. Men who choose the occupation cross very strict gender lines and run the risk of being cast in a negative stereotype. In the past, men who have chosen nursing have run the risk been labeled as gay or as underachievers.

Sam Williams doesn’t worry too much about the stereotypes people attach to male nurses. The 39-year-old former truck driver, a married father of two children, currently works as a critical care nurse.

“I like the caring aspect of nursing and I also like using critical thinking in my assessments of patients as I troubleshoot for problems while working in the ICU,” he says.

“I think people’s ideas about men in the nursing profession are loosening up and that is opening the door for more men to want to enter the profession.”

Acceptance for men in nursing must also come from within the nursing profession itself. In a May 2001 article in Nurse Week, author Lisette Hilton recounts the story of a male California nurse educator who encountered hostilities while trying to supervise students in labor, delivery, and post partum. The head nurse refused to let him go into the labor/delivery area despite the fact that he was there to supervise his students. He eventually left the university but stayed in the nursing profession.

Phil DeTurk, (BS’02) is enrolled in the new Adult Nurse Practitioner program at the West Lafayette campus and is also a teaching assistant for Nursing 105 clinical course for sophomores. “I enjoy the diversity of nursing,” he says. “There is something new every day. I enjoy educating patients and their families on disease processes, discharge instructions, and staying on the wellness continuum.”

Continued on next page
Nursing is, after all, an art and a science and should be “genderless.”

A Stronger Voice For All

Other factors that contribute to discrimination against men within the profession include the perceived threat of a man’s aggressive or assertive nature and the worry that male nurses will be promoted before women solely due to gender.

Nurse-physician relationships are another reason men have been reluctant to become nurses. Traditionally, the media has portrayed nurses as subservient to the doctor. Women in nursing have had to tolerate abusive behavior by physicians and most men would not put up with those types of attitudes.

Today, however, many doctors are changing their views regarding the importance of the RN at the bedside in achieving a positive outcome for patients. Borowski believes the physicians he works with in the dialysis unit like his straightforward, no nonsense manner. “And more men in the profession will help nurses’ voices resonate louder and stronger about issues that are important to them,” he says.

Continuing the Tradition of Excellence

Nursing has always been dedicated to the care of the ill and the safeguarding and improvement of health for all individuals. The American public is facing a serious healthcare crisis as the nursing shortage looms. This will affect the delivery of care and patient outcomes, if current trends are not reversed. The need for highly skilled, caring nurses will also increase in order to meet the demands of a complex and aging population.

If men are encouraged to become registered nurses, we can contribute much to reduce the nursing shortage and continue the tradition of excellence that nursing represents. Nursing is, after all, an art and a science and should be “genderless.”

Author Michael Criswell (BS’84), (Emory University MN ‘87) was introduced to nursing while still in high school.

“Like many teenagers, I was unsure of what I wanted to study in college,” he says. “On the advice of my mother, who is also a nurse, I took a job in the physical therapy department at a local hospital.

“While escorting patients from the medical-surgical wards to physical therapy, I was struck by the amazing job nurses performed. I was fascinated by the organization and expertise they displayed when passing medications, managing IV’s, and performing complex treatments and procedures.

“Though the nurses were busy, they always seemed to take time to laugh, joke, or to hold the hand of a sick person who needed them. Watching them convinced me that I wanted to become a registered nurse.

“I have been a nurse for the past 25 years at St. Elizabeth Medical Center as a critical care nurse and for the past 16 years integrating my specialty as an educator at the Purdue School of Nursing. I love working in this challenging and very rewarding profession.”

Professor Criswell is a long distance runner, currently training for his third Boston Marathon. His wife, Emma Ruth, is the RN manager in the hemodialysis unit for Greater Lafayette Health Services. The Criswells have two sons, Matthew, 17, and Seth, 12.

Professor Criswell may be contacted at mcriswel@nursing.purdue.edu
The Purdue School of Nursing now offers an independent master’s degree program on the West Lafayette campus

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