

Fall 2014

Innovations Volume 1: Issue 1

Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing

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2014

Innovations Volume 1: Issue 1

College of Nursing

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innovations

FALL 2014/WINTER 2015

Cover Story:
LOOKING BACK...
TARGETING THE FUTURE

Inaugural Issue

FROM THE DEAN

Marcella Rutherford, Ph.D., M.B.A., M.S.N.



FILLING THE NURSING VOID IN SOUTH FLORIDA

"NSU nursing graduates are among the approximated 2.6 million nursing professionals acutely employed in the United States today."

In 2003, Nova Southeastern University responded to the needs of South Florida and a large nursing shortage, offering its first nursing program that started with 40 students and today offers education to over 1,300. The first class of B.S.N. nurses graduated in May 2004. The program at that time was a department within the College of Allied Health and Nursing. In January 2012, the department became the seventh college in the NSU Health Professions Division (HPD)—the College of Nursing (CON).

Today, the CON offers a full array of undergraduate and graduate programs for individuals wishing to enter the profession and to licensed nurses looking to enhance their credentials. Programs include an entry-level B.S.N. nursing program, R.N. to B.S.N., and a R.N. to M.S.N. program for registered nurses. For nurses possessing a bachelor's degree who wish to pursue graduate degrees, NSU offers Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) degrees in Nursing

Education, Health Systems Leadership, and Nursing Informatics specialization. In addition, NSU offers a clinical M.S.N. in Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (A.P.R.N.) that prepares its graduates to take the certification exam to become a family nurse practitioner. For nurses who wish to obtain doctoral degrees, NSU offers the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) and Ph.D. in Nursing Education.

The College of Nursing educational experience is enhanced with the availability of high-tech simulation labs at its main campus in Fort Lauderdale (Davie) and at three of its regional campuses—Miami, Fort Myers, and Palm Beach. This technology provides interactive educational experiences that allow students to apply new knowledge and skills in a safe environment. These high-tech patient simulators have voices, make heart, lung, bowel sounds, and have pulses and programmable vital signs that immerse the student in realistic clinical situations.

Simulation can be utilized in case studies that simulates both the acute-care environment and the outpatient office setting.

NSU nursing graduates are among the approximated 2.6 million nursing professionals acutely employed in the United States today. They will play an important role in coordinating and providing health care for people when they are most vulnerable. It will also require them to offer services in a changing health care delivery environment. A robust, innovative, and interdisciplinary curriculum comprehensively shapes nursing graduates, preparing them to be collaborative team members who have the abilities to guide the coordination of services for their patients.

Our college's highly qualified faculty members are dedicated to producing nurses who possess the passion, creativity, integrity, curiosity, and intelligence required to develop the nurse leaders of tomorrow who are prepared to make a difference in health care.

innovations

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DEAN, NSU COLLEGE OF NURSING

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Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.



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FROM THE HPD CHANCELLOR

Frederick Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D.



REMEMBERING AND HONORING DR. ROSEBUD FOSTER

a unique, brilliant, and kind humanitarian,
who was a strong advocate for the underserved

Rosebud Foster, Ed.D., who served as special assistant to my office and as deputy director of the College of Osteopathic Medicine's AHEC Program, was a uniquely skilled and intellectually brilliant woman of incredible humanity and personal capabilities. She also played a major role in the construct of NSU's Health Professions Division.

I first met Dr. Foster, who passed away on July 20, in the early 1980s during a time when she was serving as the pioneer academician and administrative leader charged with establishing a series of programs at Florida International University in Miami, including its nursing program. I happened to be working in public service as a member of the Florida House of Representatives at the time, and she came to me because my jurisdiction was health issues.

Working with my legislative colleagues, we supported the establishment of a nursing program at FIU. Several years later, Dr. Foster and I got to know each other better when I came to work at Southeastern University of the Health Sciences. At the time, Dr. Foster was serving as a consultant in our AHEC Program relative to her previous service as a nurse professional and FIU educator and administrator.

Although she remained a full-time FIU administrator, the university's leadership allowed her to spend a portion of her workweek with us in the AHEC Program to address the needs of rural and underserved areas of interest to the Florida Legislature. As the years progressed, she became more involved with us due to her interests. In the late 1990s, when I became executive vice chancellor and provost of NSU's Health Professions Division, I asked Dr. Foster to join us full-time as she was already contemplating her retirement from FIU.

In 2001, this became a reality, with Dr. Foster serving as an academic and informational diplomat for the Health Professions Division due to the national recognition she had achieved as an individual who understood health care disparities that existed in minority and under-

served areas. Throughout her distinguished career, she sat on a number of presidential commissions and served as a respected information source for the executive offices of various Florida governors because they trusted her wealth of knowledge, which was not anecdotal. It was always supported with well-documented facts as well as a lifetime of experience in dealing with the delivery of—and addressing the disparities that existed within—health care.

Dr. Foster was a multifaceted individual who worked closely with Dr. Steven Zucker and others on our hugely successful tobacco cessation initiatives. She also taught in our Master of Public Health Program from its inception and served as a pillar of strength to coordinate, along with Dr. Cyril Blavo, the ascension of the program to the esteemed and accredited entity it is today. Additionally, she served as my office's special assistant in acting as the chairperson for the pro-forma committee that was established to provide information relative to the viability of creating a nursing program at the Health Professions Division.

Because of her well-regarded reputation with the nursing profession and other health care professionals, she assembled a wonderful team of individuals that provided us with fact-based information related to the marketplace conditions and the resultant needs of the nursing professional community in the state of Florida. The efforts of Dr. Foster and her pro-forma committee would soon lead to the successful creation of our nursing program, which would eventually evolve into the College of Nursing.

Dr. Foster was an incredibly valuable asset to the Health Professions Division and my office. She will be sorely missed not only personally to me as a person who always displayed her kindness, guidance, and abilities, but by the individuals who received the advice and advocacy of a very competent health care professional and thoughtful human being.

Dedicated to Supporting the Students

The Office of Student Affairs strives to unify the College of Nursing through increasing the resources for student services within the college and providing educational, cultural, and social opportunities to all students.

The college is dedicated to supporting students in the matters of financial aid, student government, career services, student counseling, student advocacy, orientation, graduation, and all student events. The office's goal is to enable students by making their experience successful within the university and upon graduation in their careers within the allied health professions.

Earlier this year, the College of Nursing placed third in the Annual Ethics Bowl, which features an ethical debate among multiple disciplines within the Health Profession Division. In this competition, student teams are given a health care ethical scenario and rated on how clearly and wisely each team can state its position. Other HPD participants included the College of Pharmacy as well as the College of Health Care Sciences' Physician Assistant, Occupational Therapy, Vascular Sonography, Physical Therapy, Audiology, and Anesthesiology Assistant programs.

In addition, during each fall semester, the Office of Student Affairs and the college's dean, Dr. Marcella Rutherford, has traveled to the Fort Myers, Miami, Palm Beach, and Orlando Regional Campuses for the College of Nursing Annual Dean's Luncheon. This is a yearly tradition for the students at our distance locations to have an opportunity to have lunch and engage in conversations with the dean.



Mary Ellen Mitchell-Rosen, M.S.N., R.N., assistant professor, (left) with her students at an event to educate the community on healthy living.



Dr. Rutherford assisting at the dean's luncheon held at the Fort Myers Regional Campus.



Drs. Derby and Martin at the Annual Ethics Bowl.



Nursing students participated at the Shark Shuffle.

Looking Back... TARGETING THE FUTURE



NSU's College of Nursing—

from Humble Beginnings to Cutting Edge

NSU's College of Nursing has made tremendous strides over the past 10 years. It all began in 2001 when Dr. Frederick Lippman, chancellor of the Health Professions Division, and Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D., former NSU president, first met with then Florida Governor Jeb Bush to determine why NSU did not have a nursing program.

The successful meeting resulted in Dr. Lippman convening a committee to write a pro forma (proposal) for a new nursing program, providing the opportunity for licensed registered nurses to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing at NSU. The committee, which was chaired by the recently deceased Rosebud Foster Ed.D., completed its work in approximately nine months—and Dr. Foster remained a supporter and consultant for the program until her death. “Dr. Foster was instrumental in helping NSU obtain state funding from then Governor Bush,” said Richard Davis, Ed.D., founding dean of NSU's College of Health Care Sciences.”

At the time, Barry University was one of the few local institutions of higher education offering this program. According to Dr. Lippman, the initial plan for NSU's R.N. to B.S.N. program was to offer two evening classes and a Saturday course to accommodate those working R.N.s who wanted to further their education and career. However, the program soon became a hybrid with one evening per week, and in 2005, the totally online format became available to students.

Once the R.N. to B.S.N. program was approved by NSU's New Program Committee, Dr. Lippman reached out to two Broward County leaders in nursing education to develop the curriculum: Sally Weiss Ed.D., R.N., CNE, ANEF, and Diane Whitehead, Ed.D., R.N., ANEF. Dr. Whitehead became the first department chair of the new nursing program, while Dr. Weiss became the first R.N. to B.S.N. program director. “This was an exciting time,” said Dr. Whitehead. “We developed a full R.N. to B.S.N. program curriculum in two months and were ready for January 2003 with 45 students.”

In 2003, the Board of Trustees approved the Master of Science in Nursing with specializations in public health, nursing education, and health systems leadership. “I remember the excitement when we developed the curriculum for this program, attended the Florida Board of Nursing meeting, and received approval,” Dr. Weiss recalled.

About 18 months after starting the R.N. to B.S.N. program, the nursing department expanded, adding the Entry-Level Nursing program. To assist in this effort, Dr. Whitehead reached out to longtime colleague Gale Woolley Ed.D., A.R.N.P., CNE. “It was so exciting to be part of a new program from its inception,” said Dr. Woolley. “We—Dr. Whitehead, Dr. Weiss, and I—quickly became known as the *Three W's* and were empowered to create and fine-tune the curriculum, hire more faculty members, recruit and select entry-level students, and design a skills laboratory for our



Dr. Linda McCash (center), NSU-CON's first Ph.D. graduate.

Continued on the next page...



The ELN program's first graduates, the 24 Strong.



A.P.R.N. students at the Palm Beach Regional Campus.

students. It was one of the highest points in my career. We had so much fun."

The Entry-Level Nursing (ELN) program began in June 2005 with 36 students. Twenty-seven months later, 24 of these students graduated. Because they all passed their NCLEX-RN examinations on their first attempt, they became known as the **24 Strong**. Today, the ELN program boasts over 850 students across the three campuses in Fort Lauderdale, Fort Myers, and Miami. Our cutting-edge facilities, which include clinical skills laboratories, human patient simulators, and mock isolation rooms, are housed at all three sites.

In 2006, the nursing department gained approval to establish a Ph.D. in Nursing Education degree. Six years later, the College of Nursing celebrated its first Ph.D. graduate when Linda McCash, Ph.D., R.N., completed the program in 2012. Next up

was the development of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program, which was placed on the Palm Beach Regional Campus.

"Being part of the NSU Health Professions Division was instrumental and helped us to rapidly develop all our programs," said Dr. Whitehead. "By 2011, we had five campuses and over 1,200 students. Dr. Weiss and I could hardly believe how fast the years had gone by and how fortunate we were to have all these successes. For our first eight years, I was a frequent attendee at the NSU New Program Committee requesting approval for another new program."

The latest *new kid on the block* is the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (A.P.R.N.) program that began in 2012 and is offered at the Palm Beach Regional Campus.

In 2011, Dr. Davis approached Dr. Lippman about the possibility of the nursing department becoming a separate college. The request was sanctioned, and Dr. Rutherford, who served as associate chair of academic affairs at the time, was approved by the NSU Board of Trustees to become the founding dean of NSU's College of Nursing, becoming the 7th college in the HPD and NSU's 17th college.

Transitioning the department to a college involved numerous changes and challenged the nursing faculty to both accept and embrace this significant opportunity. "The hard work has been worth it," said Dr. Rutherford. "We had the support of our colleagues from the former College of Allied Health and Nursing, which became the College of Health Care Sciences. Almost three years later, our college continues to grow and address the needs for nursing within the community."



Susan Holland, M.S.N., R.N., interim program director, teaching entry-level nursing students how to assess a patient at the Fort Myers Regional Campus.

Meet Our Administrative Team



BARRETT



HANLON



STROMMEN



WOOLLEY



DE BRUIN



GRANATA

BARBARA BARRETT, D.N.P., A.R.N.P.

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

Dr. Barrett earned a Doctorate in Nursing Practice from the University of Miami, a Master of Science in Nursing/Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (A.R.N.P.) from Florida International University, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Barry University, and a Bachelor of Business Administration from City University of New York/Bernard M. Baruch College. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Family Therapy.

Her academic background includes experiences in didactic and clinical curriculum instruction and development, as well as administrative functions that support the quality and integrity of educational programs.

Her scholarly interests and practice focus on emotional health and wellness in vulnerable populations such as adolescents and the elderly. Dr. Barrett is the founder and chief executive officer of Mental Health Matters, Inc.—a private mental health practice that provides mental health and wellness services aimed at increasing access to underserved clients. Services are provided across the lifespan in community, outpatient, and residential settings.

Additionally, Dr. Barrett serves as a consultant for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and Our Children Our Future, Inc. She also is the founder of The Soaring High Foundation, Inc.—a not-for-profit organization that focuses on adolescent lifestyle skills training, mentoring, and career guidance.

ANDRA HANLON, Ph.D., A.R.N.P., CPNP

Associate Dean of Graduate Programs

Dr. Hanlon received her B.S.N. degree from Georgetown University, her Master of Science in Nursing from Rutgers University, a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner accreditation from Marquette University, and a Ph.D. in Nursing from Loyola University.

She possesses an extensive background in both didactic and clinical education, having served as director of the master's programs for clinical specializations and as founding director of the Barry University D.N.P. Program. Previously, Dr. Hanlon held teaching positions at Barry, Marquette, Loyola Chicago, St. Xavier, Rutgers, and Kean.

Dr. Hanlon is a Certified Pediatric Mental Health Specialist and serves the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board as an item writer for its Pediatric Primary Care and Pediatric Mental Health Specialist Certification exams. She also is a Fellow of the National As-

sociation of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners as well as a member of its National Professional Issues Committee. In addition, she is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and Sigma Theta Tau.

LINDA STROMMEN Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N.

Associate Dean of Operations

Dr. Strommen, who is a legal nurse consultant, earned her Doctor of Education degree from NSU, her Master of Science degree in Nursing from Saint Joseph's College in Standish, Maine, and her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the College of Saint Benedicts in St. Joseph, Minnesota. She has over 30 years of experience in nursing that includes education, executive leadership, hospital practice, outpatient surgery, home health, staffing, and long-term care.

Dr. Strommen's doctoral dissertation involved program evaluation of the leadership and business courses that are taught in the R.N. to B.S.N. program at NSU. As a result of her research, best practices in leadership and business needed by registered nurses in today's health care environment were incorporated into both courses.

Prior to joining the NSU faculty in 2004, Dr. Strommen was the regional director for 13 home health agencies in Southwest Florida. She began her academic career as a program director for the R.N. to B.S.N. program in Fort Myers and recruited the first group of R.N. to B.S.N. students from Fort Myers into the program. In addition, she was instrumental in the development of taking the R.N. to B.S.N. program online and assisted with all curriculum development.

GALE R. WOOLLEY Ed.D., A.R.N.P., CNE

Associate Dean, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Woolley received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Rhode Island, her Master of Science in Nursing with a specialization in psychiatric/mental health nursing from Adelphi University, and her doctorate in Adult Education and Human Resource Development from Florida International University.

Virtually all of Dr. Woolley's clinical experience took place in various venues for adolescent psychiatry, ranging from inpatient and crisis intervention units to private practice. She taught nursing for over 40 years at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Barry University, and Miami-Dade College, where she also served as chair of the nursing department. Dr. Woolley joined NSU in

2004, becoming a founding team member of the nursing department and serving as the inaugural program director of the Entry-Level Nursing Program from 2004-2009.

Although Dr. Woolley attempted to retire in 2009, she remained connected to the College of Nursing in the role of adjunct professor, where she played an integral role in the curriculum development of some of the graduate programs and in teaching graduate students. She returned to the position of associate dean in September 2014, realizing that her only major failure in life was, in fact, retirement.

MATTHEW DE BRUIN, B.S.

Director of Student Outreach

De Bruin received his bachelor's degree from NSU and is working toward earning his master's in Marketing from the university's H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship.

He launched his professional career with a position at AT&T while pursuing his bachelor's degree. During his senior year at NSU, De Bruin began working for Sunrise Sports and Entertainment to gain a better understanding of how marketing and advertising impacted the sports industry. After graduating from NSU, he accepted a position at Enterprise Rent-a-Car, which allowed him to gain valuable knowledge in the business industry that would eventually lead him back to NSU.

De Bruin, who enjoys spending time with family and friends and participating in outdoor activities such as fishing and mountain biking, possesses a wealth of knowledge about NSU and its resources that stretches back to 2004. He looks forward to continuing his NSU career and helping the College of Nursing become one of the most prestigious nursing schools in the United States.

JESSICA GRANATA, A.P.R.N., FNP-C

Director of Clinical Services

Granata received her undergraduate degrees in nursing and psychology from Quincy College in Quincy, Massachusetts, and the University of Massachusetts in Boston. She received her Master of Science in Nursing (family nurse practitioner) with a secondary emphasis in education from Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, California. Currently, she is working toward completing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

Continued on the next page...

Meet Our Administrative Team

...Continued from the previous page



KLEIER



OGILBY



PETRONE



SHAW



SOONTUPE



WRAY

One of Granata's areas of interest is in the role of nutrition on health and wellness. She is currently researching the role of vitamin D deficiency in common chronic conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, metabolic syndrome, and others.

JO ANN KLEIER, PH.D., ED.D., ACNP-BC Director of Nursing Research

Dr. Kleier received her B.S.N. degree from the University of South Florida, her M.S.N. from the University of Miami, her Ed.D. from Florida International University, and her Ph.D. from Barry University. Dr. Kleier, who completed a post-master's acute care nurse practitioner certificate at Barry University, has been a nurse educator for approximately 30 years and has taught at Broward College, Barry University, and Nova Southeastern University.

As a urological nurse practitioner, Dr. Kleier is active in the urologic nurses' professional organization and serves on both the Urologic Nursing Editorial Board and the Certification Board for Urologic Nurses and Associates. Her research, which has focused on the decision-making processes of ethnic minorities related to health screening behaviors, has received awards within the area of urologic nursing and has been recognized by urologic physicians' groups. Dr. Kleier, who came to NSU in 2010, has served as a graduate faculty member and as director for the A.P.R.N. and D.N.P. programs.

TERRY OGILBY, PH.D., M.S.N., M.P.H., R.N. Coordinator of Clinical Services Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Ogilby, who began her college education at Edison State College, obtained her B.S.N., M.S.N., and M.P.H. degrees from the University of South Florida in Tampa and her Ph.D. in Health Care Administration from Capella University.

After launching her career at Lee Memorial Hospital in Fort Myers, Florida, where she served in various roles, including supervisor of epidemiology, Dr. Ogilby became the nursing director of the DeSoto County Health Department in Arcadia, Florida. After 20-plus years of working in the public health arena, she switched her focus to teaching, returning to Edison State College to become its nursing lab supervisor before joining the NSU faculty team a few years later.

Initially, Dr. Ogilby served as an NSU adjunct professor in the R.N.-B.S.N. program, but there soon de-

veloped a need to launch an entry-level B.S.N. program in the Lee County area. After helping to launch the program, she found herself missing the various aspects of teaching, which led her to become an associate professor in the Community Health, Leadership, and Business courses. Additionally, because her main interest is in the realm of public/community health, she currently serves as co-investigator for a research study to identify students' perceptions of their clinical experiences in rural and underserved community health centers.

ILEANA PETRONE, M.B.A.

Director of Finance and Administrative Services

Petrone received her bachelor's degree as well as her master's in Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University. She began her NSU career in the payroll department in 2002, and quickly moved up through promotions from payroll to the Office of Human Resources, where she remained until September 2011 when she was promoted to her current role as director of administrative services for the College of Nursing.

She enjoys spending time with her adorable twins (one boy, one girl) as well as watching more television than she cares to admit. She also is an avid fan of reading speculative and dystopian fiction as well as venerated literary works.

DONNA SHAW, M.S.N., R.N. Director of Clinical Services

Miami Regional Campus in Kendall

Shaw, who serves as an assistant professor, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Miami and her graduate degree from the University of Phoenix. She is currently enrolled in the Doctor of Education program at Nova Southeastern University.

She has worked in the field of mental health throughout her nursing career in both clinical and administrative positions and has been an educator since 1991. She also spent 12 years working as a consultant in the area of health care accreditation. Shaw, who has served as director of clinical services at NSU's Miami Regional Campus in Kendall since 2012, began her NSU career as an adjunct faculty member and shortly thereafter assumed a full-time role in June 2010.

Her many interests include reading, sailing, animals, learning, and promoting a sustainable lifestyle.

LISA B. SOONTUPE, Ed.D., R.N. Coordinator of Clinical Services Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Soontupe earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, a Master of Arts degree in Nursing Education from New York University, and a Doctor of Education degree in Higher Education Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

Her work experience comprises various areas of medical and surgical nursing as well as nurse researcher positions that include serving as a clinical educator in nephrology nursing, which is a position that encompassed staff development and clinical education as well as direct patient care. Dr. Soontupe's teaching experience includes 20 years in higher education at both the baccalaureate- and associate-degree levels.

Dr. Soontupe joined the NSU faculty team as an associate professor in the College of Nursing and has taught all levels of adult health nursing, pharmacology, pathophysiology, and nursing practicum. In addition, she works with graduate students in the nurse educator track and serves on various doctoral dissertation committees. She was appointed director of clinical services for the Entry-Level Nursing program in Fort Lauderdale in 2011.

ANDREA WRAY, M.B.A. Director, Student Affairs

Wray received her bachelor's degree from Florida Atlantic University and her master's in Leadership from NSU's H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship.

Because of the challenges she endured during the admissions' phase of her undergraduate program, as well as adjusting to a new school, new environment, and new country, she immediately accepted an offer to become a part-time NSU peer counselor. Wray saw this position as an opportunity to help ensure that incoming students experienced a smooth transition to the college/university setting. It was during this time that she realized she wanted to work in the field of academia, which is exactly what she's been doing throughout the past decade.

She began working in the dean's office of what is now known as NSU's College of Health Care Sciences in 2007 before transferring to the College of Nursing in 2012.

Meet Our Program Directors



BRAHIM

THERESSA ROBINSON BRAHIM
D.N.P., A.R.N.P., M.S.N., M.S.

Program Director

Entry-Level Nursing Program (Miami)

Dr. Brahim received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Florida State University, a Master of Science in Human Resources and Administration from St. Thomas University, a Master of Science in Nursing from Barry University, an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner degree from Florida International University, and her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Miami.

Prior to joining the NSU faculty in 2013, Dr. Brahim amassed an enviable professional résumé that included working as a registered nurse on a cardiac unit and as a psychiatric nurse in a state institution for 18 years. She later accepted a position as a nursing professor at Miami Dade College, where she provided instruction in psychiatric nursing for 27 years. She also has practiced as an A.R.N.P. in psychiatric mental health inpatient, outpatient, and private psychiatric office settings.

Currently, she is developing antiviolence e-modules to be utilized in public school systems and is finalizing work on articles to be published on the assessment of violence in children and adolescents and teaching nursing courses on the Miami Regional Campus in Kendall. She also serves as a member of the college's Faculty Affairs Committee, Faculty Attire Research Committee, and the Standardized Testing Ad-Hoc Committee.



DITTMAN

PATRICIA WELCH DITTMAN, Ph.D., M.S.N., CDE

Program Director, Ph.D. and M.S.N. Programs

Dr. Dittman received her undergraduate nursing degree from Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island, and her master's and Ph.D. degrees in Nursing from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. In addition, she is a Magnet Appraiser for the American Nurses Credentialing Center and a nationally Certified Diabetes Educator.

Prior to joining NSU in 2006, she worked as a director of nursing at Holy Cross Hospital in Fort Lauderdale for 17 years. Currently, she is involved with policy on a state level, serving on the Florida Board of Nursing, Florida Nurse Association, and Florida Organization of Nurse Executives.

In addition, Dr. Dittman is very dedicated to her research, which focuses on qualitative methods related to chemical dependency in nursing, nursing leadership, policy, governance, and diabetes. She is a member of the Florida Organization of Nurse Executives Research Committee, the NSU Health Professions Division Research Committee, and the NSU College of Health Care Sciences and College of Nursing Research Committee. Currently, she is working on a grant concerning diabetes in African Americans.



HOLLAND

SUSAN HOLLAND, M.S.N., R.N.

Program Director

Entry-Level Nursing Program (Fort Myers)

Holland, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Central Florida, is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Phoenix College of Nursing.

She began her nursing career as a cardiac nurse, but the majority of her career has been spent working in the maternal and child area of nursing. She has had the opportunity to practice nursing in a variety of settings, including public health, school health, home health, and administration. In addition, she has been an educator since 2007 and has experience in program management and accreditation.

Holland, who has worked at NSU's Fort Myers Regional Campus since January 2013 with a specialty in obstetrics and pediatrics, is interested in research related to the development of clinical judgment, the effects of simulation, and factors that predict NCLEX success.

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Meet Our Program Directors

...Continued from the previous page



MITES CAMPBELL



MCGREGOR



ORTON

MARY D. MITES CAMPBELL
Ph.D., M.S.N.-ADM, R.N., CTTs, CCHP
Program Director
A.P.R.N. Program

Dr. Campbell received her undergraduate degree from Florida International University and earned both her M.S.N. in Administration and Ph.D. in Nursing from Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida. Over the past 28 years, Dr. Campbell has worked as a nurse for the Jackson Health System, serving as director of nursing/health service administrator at Correction Health Services. She has worked in the academic environment since 1999 as an adjunct faculty for the Miami Dade College, Florida International University, the University of Phoenix, and currently as interim program director for the A.P.R.N. program at NSU.

Dr. Campbell's interest in research stemmed from a research initiative in 2000 with the International Early Lung Cancer Program/Cornell University/Jessie Trice Community Health Center/Camillus House Care Center/AHEC/Jackson Health System that addressed high-risk, low-income adult smokers prone to lung cancer in underserved communities. She is currently working with NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine and College of Nursing on integrating smoking cessation curriculum into the A.P.R.N. clinical program.

DEBBIE MCGREGOR, Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N.-C
Program Director
Entry-Level Program (Fort Lauderdale)

Dr. McGregor was born in London, England, and completed her basic nursing education at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica. She received her bachelor's degree in Nursing and her master's degree in Nursing Education from Barry University before going on to earn a doctoral degree in Higher Education, Leadership, and Policy Studies from Florida International University.

Dr. McGregor, who has worked in the nursing profession for over 30 years and specializes in obstetrics and women's health, is certified in inpatient obstetrics and is a licensed childbirth educator. In addition, she has taught at Miami Dade College, Broward College, and Barry University and served as a site visitor for the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission.

In her role as an associate professor in the College of Nursing, she possesses a passion for service learning and simulation and has collaborated with other nursing colleagues to engage students in a study-abroad program to Jamaica and Grenada. Dr. McGregor, who enjoys conducting research on topics that include nursing, education, and women's health issues, recently worked on a study that identified predictors that contribute to black-white disparities among age-adjusted women for breast cancer along with colleagues. She was also engaged in research on the development of cultural competence among nursing students.

C. CHRISTINE ORTON Ph.D., A.P.R.N., CNE
Program Director
D.N.P. Program

Dr. Orton received a bachelor's degree in Nursing from the University of Maryland, a master's in Primary Care of Families from Hampton University in Virginia, and a doctoral degree in Nursing of Minority Families from Hampton University. She also earned her Certified Nurse Educator credential from the National League for Nursing.

Over the past 24 years, Dr. Orton has gained a range of experience by working in various clinical settings such as a neo-natal ICU, medical ICU, open-heart unit, and general ICUs. In addition, she has worked as a family nurse practitioner in clinics serving vulnerable and homeless patients, as well as in internal medicine offices, and has taught students in undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate nursing programs.

Her primary area of research interest involves working with vulnerable populations, which include the homeless, women, the poor, and the elderly.

MEET OUR FACULTY MEMBERS

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ALEXANDER



BALDWIN



BRYANT



CAMPOE



CHARD



COKE



CONNOR



DAVIS



DERBY-DAVIS



DIAMOND



DOWD



FERNANDEZ



FLETCHER



FRATER-CLARKE



FRTZINGER-HEARN



GOEBEL



HENSON-EVERTZ



KRAUSE



LA MANNA



MACDOUGALL



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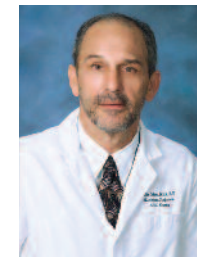
MITCHELL-ROSEN



RIGAUD



SAIFMAN



SILVER



SPOONER



STERN



WHIGHAM



WEISS



WILLIAMS-NEWMAN



WHITEHEAD

Meet Our Faculty Members — Bios

Vinette Alexander, D.N.P., A.P.R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Alexander earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in Nursing from Florida International University in Miami and her doctorate in Nursing from the University of Miami. She also pursued postdoctoral training in the field of nursing education at Nova Southeastern University. She specializes in adult health, currently practices with an internal medicine physician in Miramar, Florida, and is credentialed with the Memorial Healthcare System.

During her career, Dr. Alexander has held positions as associate nurse manager at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami and director of education at Tenet Home Health Care in North Miami Beach. Her teaching experience, which spans over 17 years in higher education, includes providing bachelor's-level instruction in subject areas such as Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice, Concepts of Adult Health Nursing I, II, and III, The Business of Health Care, Leadership, and Trends in Nursing.

Dr. Alexander, who joined NSU as an assistant professor in August 2011, has worked on an array of research projects that includes replication of a study on "The Effects of Therapeutic Touch in Reducing Pain in Cancer Patients," "Identifying Methods to Reduce Complications of Chronic Diseases such as Hypertension and Diabetes," and "Identifying Methods to Promote Elimination of Health Care Disparity in Minority Populations."

Camille Baldwin M.S.N., R.N., CNE

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Baldwin, who serves as an assistant professor and became an NSU faculty member in July 2009, received her undergraduate degree from West Texas A&M University and her M.S.N. from Florida Atlantic University. She has been a registered nurse for 16 years and has gained experience in both adult and pediatric critical care health settings since graduating with a specialty in cardiovascular and neurovascular surgical areas.

She is currently pursuing her doctorate in Education at NSU, which features a concentration in health care education and a minor in adult education. Baldwin's dissertation will focus on developing critical-thinking skills in beginning nursing students. In addition, she has conducted research regarding pediatric pain modalities.

Lynne Bryant, Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N., CNE

Associate Professor, M.S.N. and Ph.D. Programs

Dr. Bryant, who has been an NSU faculty member since 2008, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland, her master's from the University of Pennsylvania, and her Doctor of Education degree from Florida International University.

Throughout her career, Dr. Bryant has had the opportunity to practice nursing in many different areas and positions. Her experiences include working as a

staff nurse, manager, researcher, and educator as well as practicing in critical care, large teaching hospitals, small community hospitals, research units, diploma and community college programs, and the university setting.

Her interests, which include educational research and evidence-based practice, motivated her to coauthor an article about integrating multiculturalism into nursing curricula in the *Journal of Professional Nursing* and a chapter about teaching evidence-based practice in *Teaching Nursing: The Art and Science*. Dr. Bryant also has developed many of the education courses currently offered in the M.S.N. and Ph.D. programs.

Kristi Campoe, M.S.N., R.N., CMSRN, CPHQ

Assistant Professor

R.N. to B.S.N. Program (Orlando)

Campoe, who began her tenure as an NSU faculty member in 2007 as an adjunct, earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Texas Medical Branch and a Master of Science in Nursing from Nova Southeastern University. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Central Florida College of Nursing.

As a registered nurse with clinical experience in medical-surgical, telemetry, and adult progressive care areas, she maintains clinical certification from the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses and professional certification by the National Association of Healthcare Quality. Additionally, she had held hospital-based and private-industry leadership, management, and consulting roles in several major health care organizations.

Health care quality and safety are central to Campoe's teaching and research interests, which involve seeking ways to improve patient safety by mitigating medication errors in medical-surgical nursing practice. Her research draws from human factors and psychology disciplines to improve the understanding of nurses' interactions with complex medical devices that lead to medication errors. Her most recent research involves applying human factors usability methods to identify device-related usability problems that contribute to medication errors. Based at the Orlando Regional Campus, Campoe teaches junior- and senior-level nursing courses focused on professional transitions, leadership/management, and health care quality and safety.

Robin Chard, Ph.D., R.N., CNOR

Associate Professor, M.S.N. and Ph.D. Programs

Dr. Chard, who began her tenure at NSU's College of Nursing as an adjunct professor and became a full-time associate professor in 2011, received her B.S.N. from Florida International University, an M.S.N. in Nursing Education from Barry University, and a Ph.D. from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

During her 28-year career as an R.N., Dr. Chard has practiced primarily as a perioperative nurse. She began her teaching career as a surgical services educator and has taught in undergraduate, graduate,

and doctoral nursing programs. Dr. Chard, who is a certified operating-room nurse, also pursues her research interests in the areas of surgical patient safety and nursing errors.

Joan Coke, M.P.H., A.R.N.P.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Coke, who launched her NSU career as an adjunct clinical nursing professor in 2007 and became a full-time assistant professor in 2008, received a diploma in Nursing from University Hospital of the West Indies. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Barry University and earned her Master of Public Health as well as her Master of Science of Nursing (Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner) degree from Florida International University. She is currently working toward her doctoral degree in Higher Education Leadership at NSU.

Her areas of specialty include pediatrics, neurosurgery, orthopedics, medical-surgical, obstetrics, and primary care health. In addition, she is conducting research related to medical-surgical, community health, and genetics topics and currently serves as the co-investigator of a qualitative research study entitled "Nursing Students' Perception of Their Clinical Experience in Rural and Underserved Community Centers."

Luvencia Connor, M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Connor, who serves as an assistant professor in the College of Nursing, obtained her bachelor's degree in Nursing from the University of the Virgin Islands and her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Phoenix. Currently, she is pursuing a Doctor of Education degree at NSU's Fischler School of Education.

She has an extensive clinical background in the maternal-child realm, focusing her research efforts on sickle-cell disease and utilizing simulation to enhance learning and empower students through simulation and reflection. Connor, whose primary teaching responsibilities are in the undergraduate program, also serves as a faculty adviser and as chair of the college's Curriculum Council.

Jacqueline Davis M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Davis, who has been a faculty member since 2008, received her undergraduate degree from Florida International University and her M.S.N. from Barry University. Prior to joining the College of Nursing faculty team, she spent more than 20 years working in the Baptist Health South Florida system, which included stints as a direct care nurse at Baptist Hospital and Baptist Children's Hospital. In addition to her NSU duties, Davis works on a per-diem basis for Miami-Dade College and Barry University.

In her role as a College of Nursing assistant professor, she teaches in the Nursing Pharmacology and Maternal/Child Nursing courses.

Meet Our Faculty Members — Bios

Marcia Derby-Davis, Ph.D., M.S.N., R.N.

Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Derby-Davis, who joined the NSU nursing faculty in 2006, began her health care career in 1987 after earning her associate's degree in Nursing from Southern University in Collegedale, Tennessee. Following graduation, she returned to South Florida to launch her nursing career. Several years later, she resumed her studies, earning her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Florida Atlantic University in 2000.

Because she is a dedicated lifelong learner, Dr. Derby-Davis went on to receive a Master of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Phoenix in 2006. In 2012, she continued her educational quest by earning her doctoral degree in Nursing at Barry University in Miami, Florida.

Over the years, she has presented at local and national conferences on numerous topics, including the nursing predictors of nursing faculty job satisfaction, utilizing simulation to enhance learning, resilience, and nursing leadership, and global nursing strategies. "Teaching is my passion, and I believe every student is created for greatness," Dr. Derby-Davis stated. "My motto is 'failure is not an option.'"

Debbie Diamond, M.S.N., A.R.N.P., FNP-BC

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Diamond received her nursing diploma from the Jackson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Florida International University, and her Master of Science in Nursing from Barry University with a specialization in nursing administration. She also became board certified as a family nurse practitioner.

The majority of her career has been spent working in pediatrics, particularly in the pediatric oncology specialty. Diamond, who joined the Baptist Scholars department in 2007, provides instruction to College of Nursing students and has taught courses in pediatrics, leadership, business, medical-surgical nursing, and health assessment.

She wholeheartedly believes in the nursing profession and is energized by creating a classroom environment that enables students to learn without pressure.

Aline Monique Dowd, M.S.N., A.R.N.P.-BC

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dowd, who joined the NSU faculty team in August 2008, earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in Nursing from Florida International University in Miami, Florida, and received her certification as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner specializing in adult health in 2006. Currently, she is pursuing her doctorate degree in Health Care Education at NSU's Abraham S. Fischler School of Education.

Her clinical experience includes adult health, pediatric health, and clinical nursing education, while she has taught courses that encompass a range of topics such as Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice, Mathematical Applications for Nursing Practice, Foundations for Health Assessment, Primary Concepts of

Adult Health Nursing I, Pharmacologic Basis for Nursing Interventions I, and Pharmacologic Basis for Nursing Interventions II.

Dowd's current area of research involves the integration of technology to promote nursing student engagement in the classroom.

Ana Fernandez, D.N.P., M.S.N., R.N., CNE

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Fernandez, who joined the College of Nursing in 2011 as its clinical manager of human patient simulation, received a nursing diploma from Jackson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Excelsior College. She then earned a Master of Science in Nursing Education and a doctoral degree in Nursing from Walden University.

In a career that spans over 30 years, she has worked in various areas of nursing that include medical-surgical, burns, trauma, gynecology and oncology, home health quality assurance, and pediatric home health. Her research interests include the evolution of simulation-based learning and its relationship with clinical judgment. She is currently working on research related to the effects of the electronic health record on documentation in the simulation lab.

Cynthia Fletcher, Ph.D., M.S.N., R.N.

Associate Professor, M.S.N. and Ph.D. Programs

Dr. Fletcher received her bachelor's degree from Long Island University in Brooklyn, New York, her master's from Hunter College in New York, and her doctorate from the University of Miami. She also completed postdoctoral training at Indiana University in Indianapolis as well as a genetic fellowship at the National Institute of Nursing Research in Bethesda, Maryland.

Dr. Fletcher, who specialized in critical care nursing and assumed many administrative positions in acute care, has held faculty positions at universities in Alabama, Indiana, and New York.

Her primary area of research involves improving the quality of life for individuals with sickle cell disease. She is presently investigating the perceptions of students to clinical experiences in rural and underserved community sites.

Joan Frater-Clarke, R.N., M.P.H., M.S.N., A.R.N.P.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Frater-Clarke, who began her NSU career as an adjunct clinical professor before becoming a full-time faculty member in 2009, obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Barry University. She then received a Master of Public Health degree, a graduate certificate in gerontology, and a Master's of Science degree in Nursing/A.R.N.P. from Florida International University. Currently, she is in the midst of completing a doctoral degree in Nursing Education at Nova Southeastern University.

Her specializations include medical-surgical nursing, adult health care, and adult education and development research. She also serves as chair of the college's Faculty Affairs Committee.

Linda Fritzing-Hearn, M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Fritzing-Hearn, who began working at NSU in the fall of 2009, received her undergraduate and master's degrees in Nursing Education from Nova Southeastern University and is in the process of completing her doctorate in Education at the university.

Her career has featured a mix of experience that includes working in psychiatric nursing with eating disorder and chronic pain clients as well as in community nursing with traumatic brain-injured and developmentally disabled clients. Positions she has held include case management and rehabilitation admissions liaison, assistant nurse manager, and nurse educator.

Fritzing-Hearn, who is extremely involved in community initiatives, is working with colleagues on research regarding the underserved population in South Florida and is conducting research regarding new nurse employment qualifications. She worked at NSU's Miami Regional Campus in Kendall until the fall of 2012, which is when she transferred to the main campus in Davie.

Kelly Goebel, D.N.P., M.S.N., ACNP-BC

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Goebel, who has been with NSU since 2010 instructing students in nursing research, health assessment, and advanced medical-surgical nursing, received her undergraduate degree from St. Joseph's College of Nursing, her Master of Science in Nursing from Loyola University Chicago, and her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of South Florida.

Over the past few decades, she has gained experience in critical care/emergency nursing as well as in the aeromedical field and has volunteered overseas to work with refugees in Kosovo and Albania. She currently practices as an acute-care nurse practitioner in Southwest Florida.

Dr. Goebel, who is certified as both a critical care and emergency nurse, has an interest in the field of critical care, with a focus on sepsis. As a result, she is working on an education program to increase awareness of sepsis for the medical-surgical nurse.

Kelly Henson-Evertz, D.N.P., M.S.N., R.N.-C, CTTS

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Henson-Evertz received her associate's degree at Nassau Community College in Garden City, New York, her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, Minnesota, her master's in Nursing at St. Catherine University in St. Paul, Minnesota, and her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Chatham University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

She is certified in inpatient obstetrical nursing and as a certified tobacco treatment specialist. Over the course of her 33-year nursing career, Dr. Henson-Evertz has held many positions, including staff nurse in surgical orthopedics, post-partum, mother-baby, and nursery, perinatal educator, HIV counselor, tobacco cessation counselor, and nurse educator.

Recently, Dr. Henson-Evertz conducted an evidence-based practice intervention that educated

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B.S.N., M.S.N., and F.N.P. students on how to help patients quit the use of tobacco products. Her particular interest lies in incorporating tobacco dependence treatment education into all U.S. nursing curricula. Additionally, she is very passionate about enlightening the minds of future nurses through education.

Deirdre Krause, Ph.D., A.R.N.P., FNP-BC Associate Professor, A.P.R.N. Program

Dr. Krause received her nursing diploma from Kings County School of Nursing in Brooklyn, New York, her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, and her Master of Arts in Nursing from New York University, specializing in nursing education and administration. After relocating to Florida, she received her Ph.D. in Nursing from the University of Miami in 1991.

Initially, she worked in the critical-care area, becoming a clinical nurse specialist; however, she has amassed experience in numerous inpatient and outpatient environments. She also owned her own home health and staffing company as well as her own practice for a number of years. During this time, Dr. Krause was also teaching nursing, providing lectures in the clinical and online environments in both the undergraduate and graduate areas. For the past eight years, she has targeted her focus in the family practice area, most recently in the pioneering area of convenient care.

Dr. Krause, who holds the rank of captain in the United States Navy Nurse Corps, has been deployed to Corpus Christi, Texas, where she managed the family practice clinic, and to Gulfport, Mississippi, where she was responsible for the medical evaluation of members being deployed and returning from their deployments.

Stefanie La Manna, Ph.D., A.R.N.P., FNP-C Assistant Professor, A.P.R.N. Program

Dr. La Manna, who initiated her NSU career in 2012, received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, graduating cum laude, her Master of Science with specialization as a family nurse practitioner, and her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing all from Barry University. Dr. La Manna is currently pursuing her second master's degree, this time in Public Health.

In her role as a board-certified family nurse practitioner, she has been practicing since 2001. Her present area of practice encompasses internal medicine, specializing in infectious disease and immunology with a patient population ranging from adolescents to geriatrics. Research is another area of interest, which is evidenced by her article entitled "Testing the La Manna Asthma Safety Questionnaire for Coaches" that was published in the *International Journal of Sport and Society*. Currently, she is revising her instrument titled "Asthma Safety Knowledge Questionnaire for Coaches."

Dr. La Manna, who is an advocate for children and adults with asthma and strives to help them maintain their safety while engaging in sports, also possesses an interest in infectious diseases, immunology, and the importance of immunizations throughout the lifespan.

Barbara MacDougall, M.S.N., A.R.N.P.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

MacDougall, who began her NSU career as an assistant professor in 2005, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Miami and her Master of Science in Nursing from Florida International University. Because she has been a pediatric nurse practitioner for over 15 years, she has held numerous positions such as nurse manager, and hospital supervisor. Her primary area of interest is analyzing how students of different ages learn.

Blondel Martin, Ph.D., M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Blondel's health care career began in 1996 after she graduated from Broward Community College. After practicing as a nurse for several years, she returned to the academic setting to obtain her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Phoenix.

Because he possessed a desire to educate other nurses, she earned her Master of Science in Nursing Education degree from the University of Phoenix and received her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing at Barry University.

In 2013, she joined the NSU nursing faculty to teach in the Entry-Level Nursing Program. "With the desire to care for others and to educate young aspiring nurses, I have now combined my experiences and passion to fulfill my dream," she said.

Linda McCash, Ph.D., A.R.N.P.-BC

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. McCash, who joined the faculty team on May 18, 2014, received her undergraduate degree from the University of Florida and her Master of Science and doctoral degree in Nursing from the University of South Florida.

Prior to her NSU employment, she taught nursing in a B.S.N. program at a state university for six years. In addition, she is a board-certified psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner and a family nurse practitioner. Career highlights include gaining clinical practice experience working with mental health clients across the lifespan such as children, adolescents, and their families.

In terms of research, Dr. McCash has completed a study on adolescents' exposure to school teasing, bullying and violence, and the impact on their behavior. She also collaborated on a research study comparing treatment regimens using buprenorphine for opiate detox. Her current research project is entitled "Risk and Reckless Behaviors, Depression, and Suicidal Ideation in College Students and Student Peer-to-Peer Mentorship and Impact on Self-Efficacy."

Mary Ellen Mitchell-Rosen, M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Mitchell-Rosen, who has been a College of Nursing faculty member since August 2003, earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Delaware and her master's degree in Nursing from the University of Phoenix. She is currently

pursuing her doctoral degree in Nursing at Barry University.

Her clinical experience includes post-anesthesia care, ICU, home health, hospital nurse educator, community health education, and clinical nursing education. Courses she has taught include The Nurse as a Scholar, The Nurse as a Professional, Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice, Mathematical Applications for Nursing Practice, Foundations for Health Assessment, Nursing Leadership, Research, Community Health, and Senior Practicum.

Mitchell-Rosen's research interests involve the areas of nutrition, physical activity, and health care disparities among the medically underserved.

Eglintine Gotha Rigaud Ph.D., A.P.R.N., WHNP-BC Assistant Professor, D.N.P. Program

Dr. Rigaud received her B.S.N. from Hunter College-City University of New York, her M.S. from Columbia University in New York, and her Ph.D. in Nursing from Barry University. Her research interests are in the area of women's health issues, college student health concerns, and health care disparities. Dr. Rigaud has a diverse background of over 25 years working in women's health as a nurse manager, midwife, nurse practitioner, and educator.

Heather Saifman, M.S.N., R.N., CCRN

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Saifman, who joined the college as a full-time faculty member in 2011 following a one-year stint as an adjunct, received her undergraduate degree from NSU and her master's in Nursing from Florida Atlantic University (FAU). She is currently pursuing her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing from FAU. Prior to her NSU employment, she served as a critical care/intensive care nurse for 16 years, where she was recognized as a clinical leader by achieving clinical ladder distinction.

She is actively pursuing her research interests in nursing leadership and in the peer mentoring of baccalaureate student nurses in the simulation lab setting and has presented her peer mentoring research at local and national conference platforms. Over the past several years, Saifman has completed the NSU College of Health Care Sciences' Teaching and Learning Academy as well as its Leadership and Management Academy, where she currently serves as an executive council member.

John Silver, Ph.D., M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Silver, a full-time faculty member since 2006, received his associate's degree in Nursing from Palm Beach Community College and both his bachelor's and master's from Florida Atlantic University (FAU). In 2010, he earned his Ph.D. in Comparative Studies from FAU. Over the past four decades, he worked extensively in critical care, including medical-surgical ICU's, trauma units, burn units, and neurological ICU's.

Throughout his career, he has presented both nationally and internationally on health policy, the restructuring of health care systems, and the role of nursing

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in that process. He also has addressed a variety of nurse practitioner groups on political tactics for prescriptive authority and independent practice. Additionally, Dr. Silver studies nursing leadership and has a particular interest in the political fracturing of nursing.

As an instructor, he teaches a variety of courses, including health assessment, the second medical-surgical nursing class, as well as problem solving and the trends in nursing class taught in the last term.

Sally J. Spooner, D.H.Sc., M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, R.N. to B.S.N. Program

Dr. Spooner, who has been affiliated with the college since 2005 and works at the Orlando Regional Campus, received her B.S.N. from Florida State University, her M.S.N. from the University of Phoenix with a concentration in nursing education, and her D.H.Sc. with a concentration in allied health education from Nova Southeastern University.

She served as a critical care nurse for the Department of Veterans Affairs—now known as the Veterans Health Administration—until her retirement from federal service. During this time, she worked at the Bay Pines VA Medical Center in St. Petersburg, Florida, in a variety of labs and units.

Recently, Dr. Spooner presented a poster at a national conference related to inter-rater reliability and the grading of discussion postings, which was followed by a podium presentation at a national conference related to the same topic. She is currently working on a grading-rubric template with a focus on grading in a more objective format with a goal of completing a study on inter-rater reliability.

Sabrina Joy Stern, M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Stern, who initially worked for the College of Nursing in a marketing/recruiting role, received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of the State of New York, her M.S.N. from the University of Phoenix, and is pursuing a doctorate in Education at Nova Southeastern University.

Her initial exposure to the health care environment was as a candy striper, which spurred her interest in pursuing a career in nursing. After obtaining licensure as an emergency medical technician and paramedic, she became a registered nurse, which allowed her to gain experience in home health nursing as well as teaching home health aides and nursing assistants. Prior to launching her NSU career, she served as a director/manager for weight-loss clinics and taught at the community college level.

In her role as an assistant professor, she has taught in the Transition to Baccalaureate Nursing Education, The Nurse as a Professional, Mathematical Applications for Nursing Practice, Foundations of Pro-

fessional Nursing, and Community Health courses. According to Stern, who focuses her research efforts on learning about the best-practice applications of good teaching methods, “It is both a pleasure and an honor to be involved in preparing our next generation of nursing professionals.”

Marline Whigham, M.S.N., R.N.

Assistant Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Whigham, who has worked at the college for five years, received her undergraduate degree from Florida Atlantic University and her M.S.N. from the University of Phoenix. During her 25-year career as an intensive-care nurse, she was recognized for nursing excellence by her peers and has served as a mentor to new graduates.

Currently, she works as a nurse educator teaching students about topics that include pathophysiology, advanced medical-surgical nursing, and trends in nursing. Whigham, who is well-versed in evidenced-based practice as it pertains to clinical nursing, stays abreast of trends in her field and integrates best practices into her courses and the students' clinical experiences. She also serves on several college and university committees, has engaged in research, and presented at several national conferences.

Sally A. Weiss, Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N., CNE, ANEF

Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Weiss received her undergraduate nursing degree from American University, her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Miami, and her doctorate in Education from Florida International University. She has been actively engaged in teaching in associate degree, bachelor's, and graduate nursing programs for many years, while her clinical focus is in the area of neuroscience nursing.

She coauthored, the textbook *Essentials of Nursing Leadership and Management*, which is now in its sixth edition and has been used in nursing programs for over a decade. In addition, Dr. Weiss has held board positions in several local, regional, and national nursing organizations including the Florida Organization of Nursing Executives, the Florida League for Nursing, and the National League for Nursing.

In 2002, Dr. Weiss played an instrumental role in the development of NSU's nursing department. In 2003, she assumed the role of program director of the R.N. to B.S.N. program and became director of the entry-level program based at the Miami Regional Campus in 2010. Her interests focus on developing active teaching/learning strategies, mentoring new faculty members, and utilizing the proper use of high-stakes testing in nursing education.

Donna Williams-Newman

D.N.P., M.S.N., R.N., Cert.P.A.

Professor, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Dr. Williams-Newman, a registered nurse/midwife with 23 years of clinical and teaching practice, received her Master of Science in Nursing Education from the University of the West Indies School of Nursing and her Doctor of Nursing degree from the University of Miami. She also holds certifications in public administration, nursing, and midwifery.

Earlier in her career, she taught in the M.S.N. program at the University of Phoenix and the online D.N.P. program for Chamberlain College of Nursing in Illinois and gained administrative experience as director of nursing and department head at Knox Community College from 2001 through 2012, where she was instrumental in starting the B.S.N. degree program in 2005.

Her clinical experiences, which have focused on mother/baby care, were attained at Percy Junior Hospital in Jamaica and Hargreaves Memorial Hospital, where she designed and implemented a parent/child class for expecting parents and was awarded the 2000 Nurse of the Year Award.

As an internationally educated nurse, Dr. Williams-Newman has written articles about the transition of internationally educated nurses into the United States and is interested in topics such as cultural diversity, maternal health, and health disparities.

Diane Whitehead, Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N., ANEF

Professor, D.N.P. Program

Dr. Whitehead received her undergraduate nursing degree from Florida State University, her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Miami, and her doctorate in Education from Florida International University. She is currently completing her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Walden University.

She has been actively teaching and administering associate degree, bachelor's, and graduate nursing programs for several decades and served as a faculty member and program director at Broward College for almost 20 years. In addition, she has published content in the areas of nursing leadership and management and online nursing education. In fact, her textbook entitled *Essentials of Nursing Leadership and Management* has been used in nursing programs for over a decade. Dr. Whitehead is an active participant in national nursing organizations, including the Organization of Nursing Executives, the National League for Nursing, and the South Florida Nursing Consortium.

In regard to her NSU career, Dr. Whitehead began development of the nursing department in October 2002, becoming department head in 2003 and being named associate dean for the department a few years later. She currently serves as the College of Nursing's associate dean for graduate programs.

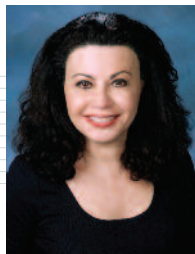
Meet Our Staff Members



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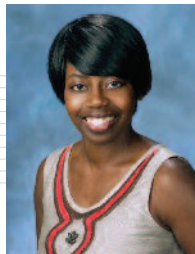
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1. SOLANCH ALMEIDA, PROGRAM SUPPORT COORDINATOR (M.S.N. AND PH.D. PROGRAMS)
2. LINA ARGUELLES, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
3. LISA ASSALONE, ASSISTANT TO THE DEAN
4. NADA CAMIDGE, ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR
5. TRACEY DIGIACOMO, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
6. JOVENNE DIXON, PROGRAM SUPPORT COORDINATOR (ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAM)
7. DIANNA GARDNER, B.S., ADMISSION AND RECRUITMENT COORDINATOR
8. DAYAMI GOMEZ, PROGRAM SUPPORT COORDINATOR (ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAM)
9. MARIANA HERNANDEZ, PROGRAM SUPPORT COORDINATOR (R.N. TO B.S.N. PROGRAM)
10. BIBI JAMEER, ACCOUNTING ADMINISTRATOR
11. MELISSA MORRIS, M.S.N., R.N., CLINICAL LAB MANAGER OF HUMAN PATIENT SIMULATIONS AND SKILLS LAB
12. EVELYN NINA, ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR III
13. KRISTINA SANTANA, PROGRAM SUPPORT COORDINATOR (ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAM)
14. CAROL SISOLAK, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



ENTRY-LEVEL NURSING PROGRAM



The Entry-Level Nursing (ELN) program was developed to prepare those individuals who want to pursue a career in nursing for the first time. It is a seven-semester program that students must attend on a full-time basis, inclusive of the summers. Currently, prospective ELN students must take 39 college credits prior to beginning the program. These courses include basic sciences and general education courses that not only provide prerequisite material for future nursing courses, but also provide the students with well-rounded liberal arts that are expected for baccalaureate nursing students.

The ELN students begin their first semester studying advanced anatomy and physiology. They also are enrolled in courses where they learn about the profession of nursing and how to utilize the NSU library and access electronic learning resources. Beginning in the second semester, students participate in didactic classes three days a week and attend clinical experiences two days a week. The clinical experiences may take place in our on-campus skills laboratory, the simulation laboratory, a local hospital, or a community clinic. Students attain approximately 1,300 hours in clinical experiences prior to graduation. Following completion of the program, ELN graduates are eligible to sit for the National Council State Board of Nursing licensing exam for the registered nurse.

Our next plan for the ELN program is to add a four-year concentration, meaning that students will enter our nursing program immediately out of high school. Rather than completing the 39 credits of sciences and general education courses at other colleges, students will take them at NSU's Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. This four-year concentration also will be available at our regional campuses in Fort Myers and Miami.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS



The continuous commitment and engagement of students are integral to the growth and excellence of NSU's College of Nursing. The R.N. to B.S.N. program combines internal and external partnerships with creative and innovative application of nursing knowledge to prepare a future generation of nursing leaders. Threading evidence-based research into our courses assists the student to develop new ways of critically thinking and understanding nursing trends that are permeating the community as well as assimilating best practices for better patient outcomes.

The R.N. to B.S.N. program fosters an environment of learning through the use of Web-based technology, preparing the baccalaureate-level nurse to assume roles in health care business, nursing leadership, and education upon completion of the four-semester program. The R.N. to M.S.N. program meets the same objectives as the B.S.N. program; however, students will obtain a bachelor's degree upon completion of that track and complete two dual courses that serve as six-credit hours towards the B.S.N. and M.S.N., saving the M.S.N. student one semester during the M.S.N. portion of the program of study.

Students meeting the necessary criteria will be eligible to apply for the clinical Advanced Practice Registered Nurse program or one of the nonclinical programs, such as health system leadership, nursing education, or nursing informatics.

The future holds many new and wonderful opportunities for the College of Nursing. Through continued student-faculty partnerships, many research opportunities can be afforded to interested students. Cultivating a climate for multidisciplinary scientific inquiry will further engage the students and may potentially develop collaborative bonds, providing for alumni involvement and lifelong learning.

R.N. TO B.S.N./M.S.N. NURSING PROGRAM



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (M.S.N.) PROGRAM



The College of Nursing currently has three nonclinical M.S.N. programs that are 100 percent online, developed to assist the working nurse to advance in his/her profession, and open to licensed nurses with a baccalaureate degree in any field. These programs may be completed in six semesters (two years).

The inaugural program—the M.S.N. in Nursing Education—was established in 2005 and continues to be a very popular degree for those nurses who wish to transition to entry-level academic (associate degree or vocational) or staff development positions. It also serves as a foundation for Ph.D. doctoral study for those interested in teaching at the B.S.N. or higher levels. Because educational processes are never static, the faculty members continually update course content as new theories of education and strategies to best foster and facilitate learning are changing on a daily basis.

An additional M.S.N. program in Health Systems Leadership was added in 2007 that is for nurses who desire a position of leadership within the organizational environment of health care. Resource and fiscal management, quality initiatives, and economics of health care are specialization courses that prepare the student for a leadership practicum at the end of the program.

In 2013, a new program was offered in conjunction with NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine—the M.S.N. in Nursing Informatics. The program focuses on the data analysis as it relates to complex health care systems and is for nurses who are interested in the field of nursing computer technology and information science. The M.S.N. in Nursing Informatics degree program integrates nursing science, computer science, information science, and ethics to manage and communicate data and knowledge that help improve nursing practice and patient outcomes.

As technology is becoming a part of everyday health care initiatives, it is important that nurses be on the forefront of its development, its use, and be able to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of such initiatives. Courses are taught collaboratively between the College of Nursing and the College of Osteopathic Medicine's Biomedical Informatics Program.

ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE (A.P.R.N.) PROGRAM



The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (A.P.R.N.) family nurse practitioner program, located in Palm Beach, welcomed its first cohort of students in the fall of 2011 and its second cohort in January 2012. Both cohorts graduated from the program in August 2014, with 100 percent of the first cohort passing its national certification boards.

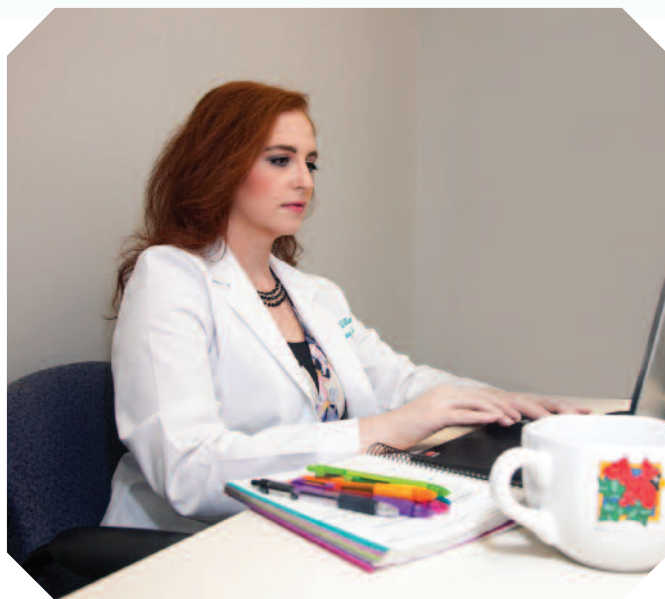
This is a highly competitive program for nurses who have completed their B.S.N. degree and have amassed a minimum of two years of clinical experience. The program involves 52 credits and 540 practicum hours, completed over eight semesters, which makes it attractive for the working professional nurse. Students share five core courses of advanced nurse roles, theory and research, evidence and practice, health care policy, and informatics with the nonclinical M.S.N. program in an online format.

Upon successful completion of these core courses, students begin their family nurse practitioner specialization classes, which are delivered in a hybrid format for advanced pathophysiology and advanced pharmacology and face-to-face for the actual clinical courses. All the specialization courses for this degree are taught and facilitated by Ph.D.- and D.N.P.-prepared nurse practitioners who hold a faculty practice once a week. The expertise our faculty members possess provides true clinical insight into the everyday practice problems that can be encountered on a weekly basis.

One of the educational innovations that sets this NSU program apart from others in the area is the use of professional patients in both the physical assessment course as well as the two adult clinical courses. The Palm Beach Regional Campus is fortunate to have six fully equipped patient examination rooms for the purpose of simulating actual patient encounters found in clinic settings.

The College of Nursing is considering opening a nurse practitioner-run clinic in Palm Beach Gardens to provide primary health care to the population of Palm Beach County while providing a clinical site for F.N.P. students with nurse practitioner preceptors. Additional information on this initiative will be provided in the near future.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS



DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (D.N.P.) PROGRAM

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program, which was established in 2012 and is located in Palm Beach Gardens, is the newest addition to the College of Nursing graduate programs. The online program, which was recently accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, graduated its first two cohorts in August 2014.

The D.N.P. is a practice-focused terminal degree that prepares graduates to function at the highest level of specialty practice or executive leadership. As such, the D.N.P. is best suited for those master's-prepared nurses who are functioning as nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, midwives, nurse anesthetists, and nurse leaders but see the need to address health care problems in clinical settings. The D.N.P. curriculum builds on the master's curricula by providing additional education in evidence-based practice, technology, policy, quality improvement, and systems thinking.

Our graduates are prepared to lead and engage in practical, clinically focused scholarship and evidence-based research utilization. This preparation begins with the capstone project, which addresses a health care issue of interest to the student and focuses heavily on practice

that is innovative and grounded in evidence. Some examples of the D.N.P. graduates' projects are

- Evaluation of Role Functions and Competencies of Dermatology Nurses and Nurse Practitioners
- Decreasing Overuse Injuries in the Adolescent-Throwing Athlete
- Development of a Shared Governance Model for A.P.R.N.s in a Hospital Setting
- Development of an Intra-Abdominal Hypertension Guideline and Protocol
- Development of a Breastfeeding Education and Support Web Site

Each of these projects and the others not mentioned here will impact nursing practice, health care outcomes, delivery, and policy, which are the hallmarks of a D.N.P. education.

NSU's Doctor of Nursing Practice program is unique in several ways. Unlike some institutions, students start working on their capstone projects in their very first course with faculty guidance. This permits students to hone in on a health care issue early in their course of study and then use subsequent courses to de-

velop, implement, and evaluate a health care innovation that can be presented at a conference—and can proudly be included in their CVs. In one of the courses, students are asked to develop an abstract and then a poster that is evaluated by peers and colleagues for potential local or national presentations.

As this program is online, the faculty members are committed to one-on-one guidance on the capstone project. Go to Meeting sessions, which are similar to Skype, keep faculty members and students in close individualized contact. Students who are close to the Palm Beach Regional Campus have their proposal and final defenses on that campus, while those who are distant may choose to use Go to Meeting as their face-to-face contact for their defenses. In response to students' suggestions, the D.N.P. program will also videotape defenses and have them available for student viewing.

The capstone project reflects the application of research findings completed by the research-focused, doctoral-prepared scholar. Both the research- and practice-focused doctoral programs in nursing share the scholarly approach to nursing science and are considered terminal degrees in the discipline.



PH.D. STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS CONDUCTING DIABETES RESEARCH (FROM LEFT):

PAM SANFORD, M.S.N., R.N., MARIE HANKINSON, M.S.N., R.N.,

PATRICIA WELCH DITTMAN, PH.D., M.S.N., CDE, AND JO ANN KLEIER, PH.D., Ed.D., ACNP-BC.

PH.D. IN NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Ph.D. in Nursing Education was an innovative degree when it was initiated in 2007 because few Ph.D. programs at that time focused on preparing nurses to utilize best practices in educating new professionals and conducting research on those educational practices. This program extends the education of current nursing faculty from around the country and creates a path of entry into nursing education for prospective faculty members.

The Ph.D. in Nursing Education program is not only for those seeking a nursing faculty career path, but also for those nurses who envision a role in research and evidence-based practice positions within health care organizations. This program is still highly sought after and competitive as the gray-ing of nursing faculty members is of major concern to both educational and health care institutions.

Because the program is completely online, it draws students from around the nation due to its continued success, much of which is due to its distinguished faculty members who possess strong curricular and higher education leadership experience and are on the cutting edge of new technology and teaching strategies.

All students come together once a year for a Summer Institute that serves as the orientation

program for both new and current students and provides face-to-face opportunities to socially and professionally interact with the peers and faculty members they have been talking to in a virtual environment. The most valuable experience of this Summer Institute is the time set aside for scholarly dialogue. Students are invited to meet in an informal session with Ph.D.-prepared faculty members to discuss dissertation ideas and obtain feedback on those ideas from a community of faculty scholars.

The program is known for its responsiveness to student suggestions to improve their doctoral experience. A recent example is students mentioning that they have viewed the presentations associated with proposals and final defenses as somewhat anxiety-producing because of the lack of opportunity to attend other students' defenses as the program is online. Our faculty has plans to videotape several students' proposals and final defenses and make them available for student viewing. In addition, because students wish to be a part of the celebration of their colleagues' successful final defenses, the faculty is investigating the use of the Go to Meeting platform for synchronous final defenses.



Dr. Hanlon (pictured first from left) with other conference participants.

In June, Andra Hanlon, Ph.D., A.R.N.P., CPNP, associate dean for graduate programs, presented a peer-reviewed paper on the outlook for doctoral nursing education at the Seventh International Scientific Conference on Nursing and Health Care Research held in Lake Bled, Slovenia, that was hosted by the Faculty of Health Care Jesenice (FHCJ). Dr. Hanlon posed the question of whether a hybrid degree, incorporating the research aspects of the Ph.D. and the practice aspects of leadership, technology, epidemiology, informatics, health care economics, policy, and organizational behavior of the D.N.P., might be more universally applicable in preparing nurses to meet future health care challenges.

Dr. Hanlon also moderated a panel discussion on global issues in nursing education, where it was discovered that there are no nursing Ph.D. programs in the European Union. Nurses who hold doctorates in Europe have, however, received Ph.D.s in other disciplines, such as sociology, psychology, and kinesiology.

In meetings with the dean of the FHCJ, Brigita Savič, Ph.D., Dr. Hanlon discussed mutually beneficial possibilities for NSU's College of Nursing and the FHCJ that could enhance NSU's degree offerings to meet global needs for doctoral-prepared nurses. Dr. Savič

wants her nursing faculty members to hold Ph.D.s in the discipline of nursing; therefore, it is anticipated that over the next year, Dr. Savič and Dr. Hanlon will be working together to develop such a curriculum. The desire for a nursing doctorate meeting global standards of rigor in both research and practice was echoed by other conferees representing doctoral nursing education in places such as Croatia, Italy, Romania, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

Additionally, as part of the FHCJ's International Day event, Dr. Hanlon toured the FHCJ facility at Jesenice, Slovenia, and participated in roundtable discussions on the status of nursing and health care issues in several countries. Specifically, she presented a U.S. perspective on providing health care that focused on the issues being studied and the innovative solutions being developed and evaluated by NSU D.N.P. students.

Commenting on the experience, Dr. Hanlon said she received an extremely warm welcome from everyone at the FHCJ and enjoyed the interaction with all the international representatives. "It was exciting to meet individuals outside the United States who are dedicated and passionate about moving the discipline of nursing forward to improve global health," she said.

Dr. Andra Hanlon Plays Active Role at Conference on Nursing and Health Care Research in Slovenia





Baptist Health South Florida Partnership **BENEFITS STUDENTS**

By Gale Woolley Ed.D., A.R.N.P., CNE, Associate Dean, Entry-Level Nursing Program

In August 2007, a partnership between NSU and Baptist Health South Florida (BHSF) was established to serve a dual purpose:

- provide BHSF with a pipeline for new nurses, thereby helping it to relieve its nursing shortage
- provide significant financial support to NSU entry-level nursing students

BHSF committed to pay tuition and fees for 40 students for each admitted cohort, or 80 students a year. As of fall 2014, BHSF provided scholarship monies for 388 students through our entry-level program totaling almost 10 million dollars. In addition, BHSF recently began to offer scholarships to students in our other programs. To date, 15 students already holding a license to practice as a registered nurse have been awarded \$135,000 to complete their Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. Additionally, seven B.S.N. nurses have been awarded \$111,500 to complete their Master of Science degree in Nursing,

while six nurse practitioners have been awarded \$98,500 to complete their Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

In order for students to qualify for the entry-level Baptist Scholars program, they must first be accepted into NSU's Entry-Level Nursing program at the Miami Regional Campus in Kendall. When students receive their acceptance package, an application for the Baptist Scholars program is included. The perspective Baptist Scholar then submits the application as well as a resume, an essay describing career goals, and letters of recommendation before being scheduled for a panel interview.

The interviewing panel consists of nurse managers, Baptist Scholars faculty, a BHSF human resources representative, and the director of the Baptist Scholars program. Scholarships are awarded based on the direct patient care R.N. needs of BHSF. Upon receipt of the scholarship, students are considered BHSF employees and are expected to attend the BHSF employee orientation. In addition, students must sign a contract committing them to work at one of the BHSF facilities

for a minimum of three years. The majority of their nursing student clinical experiences will take place at one of the BHSF facilities.

Another partnership component is that BHSF assigns three full-time faculty members that are employed by Baptist Health to teach exclusively for NSU. These faculty members have assigned offices at the Miami Regional Campus and are shared by both institutions to serve on various committees in an effort to facilitate communication success for the BHSF Scholars. In addition, the Miami Regional Campus program director attends regular meetings of the BHSP faculty and staff members at their facility, while the BHSF Scholars director sits on the NSU College of Nursing Advisory Board. Decisions affecting the NSU Baptist Scholars are made by administration and faculty members of both institutions in order to best meet the needs of these scholarship students.

There is no question that the NSU College of Nursing-BHSF partnership has greatly benefitted both institutions, and most importantly, has produced nurses that practice evidence-based quality care.



Dr. Dittman (left) and Candice Hickman

NSU-CON and Holy Cross Hospital COLLABORATION PROVES SYMBIOTIC

*By Patricia Dittman Ph.D., M.S.N., CDE
Program Director, M.S.N. and Ph.D. Programs*

Research and evidence-based practice are imperative for health care organizations to provide quality care. As we look to forward-thinking, outcome-driven health care environments, it becomes apparent that seeking new knowledge and innovation needs to be embedded in our daily practice. Identification of problems and intensive focus on phenomenon are the basis for nursing research.

NSU and Holy Cross Hospital (HCH) in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, have been working together for the past eight years to promote research interests among nursing associates through the Nursing Research Council (NRC). As a Magnet-designated hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, HCH needs to meet the current Magnet Model components, one of which is New Knowledge, Innovation, and Improvements. Under this research and evidence-based practice standard, Magnet hospitals need to provide active and completed research studies that show growth of professional practice over time. Because it has been a Magnet hospital since 2004, research and evidence-based practice project standards are high.

NRC members are asked to provide resources to nurses who are interested in submitting a nursing research study. The council membership is made up of representation from all areas of the nursing division and provides the first step in the approval process

prior to the Institutional Review Board. This council's authority provides for oversight of all nursing research studies and provides guidance as needed. Other council responsibilities include the development and planning of the Annual Holy Cross Hospital Nursing Research Symposium, which provides nursing research information to the internal and external nursing community. Feedback from symposium attendees has revealed that HCH is seen as a leader in practice-based nursing research.

Holy Cross Hospital, in partnership with NSU's College of Nursing, provides educational and supervisory oversight of nursing research studies through the NRC. NSU's Dr. Patricia Dittman serves on HCH's Nursing Research Council. As an inaugural voting member of this shared governance council, she supports the nursing division's research trajectory by mentoring novice nurse researchers as well as providing ongoing education related to all aspects of the nursing research process.

Candice Hickman M.S.N., R.N., who is an NSUCON alumna, has served as the NRC's chairperson for the past three years and reflected on the benefits of collaboration between academia and practice. "I truly value the benefit of having Dr. Dittman present at our monthly NRC meetings," she explained. "When evaluating potential research studies,

Dr. Dittman's expertise in the intricacies of safe and effective research development is invaluable to the council. We are confident that if we discuss our proposal with Dr. Dittman, she will provide valuable feedback that will strengthen our submissions to the Instructional Review Board."

As an American Nurses Credentialing Center appraiser, Dr. Dittman maintains current knowledge on the Magnet designation process and is helpful in planning the future direction of the council in meeting the Magnet Model category of New Knowledge, Innovation, and Improvement. Dr. Dittman, who works collaboratively with Hickman and the Nursing Research Council, takes pleasure in observing nursing research and evidenced-based practice growth within the HCH nursing division.

As in any partnership, both organizations must benefit from the experience. One of the benefits NSU experiences is the ability to provide clinical experiences for its nursing students at this Magnet-designated acute care hospital. Whether it is entry-level students' learning clinical skills, graduate students seeking practicum experiences, or doctoral students looking for a site for their original research, both organizations value and grow from the partnership. This example of professional collaboration is a standard that all health care organizations should attain.



Catching Up with 2008 Alumnus FABIEN PAMPALONI, R.N., B.S.N.

By Gale Woolley Ed.D., A.R.N.P., CNE
Associate Dean, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Since graduating from the Entry-Level Nursing Program in 2008, Fabien R. Pampaloni has attained a high degree of success and excellence that exemplifies a wonderful role model our students and community can embrace and value.

Upon graduation, Pampaloni began his nursing career at Broward General Medical Center, where he worked the nightshift on the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU). Unfortunately, a year after he was hired, he received notice from the United States government that he would need to return to his native country of Switzerland due to the declining national economy in the United States.

Despite the overwhelming support he received from his PICU team, Pampaloni was invested in maintaining a respectable reputation. He complied with the government directive and voluntarily returned to his home for several months. Because of the tremendous amount of time and money he had invested in his nursing career, he proactively contacted 50 individuals working in health care to seek assistance in returning to the United States.

In 2010, Linda Wilson, Ph.D., R.N., from Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, asked Pampaloni to serve as a technology research assistant in its new simulation center, which allowed him to return to this country. Despite the challenges this opportunity presented, he succeeded in this role. In fact, he learned to successfully write grants that funded three projects, manage a simulation center, educate standardized patients, and promote patient safety.

In 2010, Pampaloni published his inaugural article, which was followed by the publication of four chapters in a text entitled *Human Simulation for Nursing and Health Professions* in 2012. He also created several Web sites and served as Webmaster for the New Jersey/Bermuda Perianesthesia Nurses Association for three years. In addition to these accomplishments, Pampaloni has been invited to present numerous presentations as well as conduct several workshops on simulation all over the country. He also served as treasurer for Sigma Theta Tau International in Philadelphia.

In 2011, he was approached to work for Pocket Nurse Enterprises because the organization was interested in opening its international branch and needed a multilingual person with a background in nursing and simulation. Fortunately for Pampaloni, he is fluent in English, Italian, and French and can converse in Spanish and German.

Today, he is serving as an account manager in eight international territories for Pocket Nurse, where his responsibilities include developing international trade and distributor agreements, serving as liaison between Pocket Nurse and non-English-speaking customers, and assisting customers with nursing and medical inquiries.

Pampaloni clearly exhibits our core values, has made an outstanding contribution to the profession of nursing, and has demonstrated great pride in his alma mater.

AN INFORMATIVE UPDATE ON PROUD ALUMNAE

Lyn Peugeot, R.N., B.S.N., and Ann Forgione, B.S.N.

By Linda Strommen, Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N., Associate Dean, Entry-Level Nursing Program

Since the inception of the R.N. to B.S.N. program in 2004, the College of Nursing has graduated hundreds of students that are now alumni and are committed to lifelong learning and being role models for new professional nurses coming into the profession. We are pleased to highlight the achievements of two R.N. to B.S.N. alumni that embrace and exemplify integrity, stewardship, and competence.



LYN PEUGEOT ENJOYING THE SUN
IN FRONT OF THE TERRY BUILDING.

"My R.N. to B.S.N. courses gave me the foundation and knowledge to think critically, be a change agent, and see the big picture of health care today..."

LYN PEUGEOT, R.N., B.S.N.

Peugeot graduated from the College of Nursing's R.N. to B.S.N. program in 2012 with highest honors and is presently in the NSUCON nonclinical master's program completing her M.S.N. degree with a concentration in nursing education. She is committed to being a role model for lifelong learning and mentoring others and says her long-term goal is to teach in academia. "My R.N. to B.S.N. courses gave me the foundation and knowledge to think critically, be a change agent, and see the big picture of health care today," she explained. "Health care is a business, and nurses are truly partners in all aspects of health care today."

During the time she was in the R.N. to B.S.N. program, she was a telehealth manager overseeing the after-hours oper-

ations for nine programs. Prior to her R.N. to B.S.N. graduation, she accepted the opportunity to transition to a clinical nurse educator in hospice and palliative care. Peugeot is truly changing lives and changing the world through her outstanding service to the community and her extraordinary dedication to the nursing profession. Her goal is to build collaborative relationships and bring a positive influence of the hospice philosophy to stakeholders in the community.

Peugeot is a national speaker for end-of-life and palliative-care topics through panel discussions, presentations, and live webinars that include the Florida Association Directors of Administration, the Florida Medical Directors Association, the Florida

Academy of Physician Assistants, and the Florida Nursing Home Administrators organization. She currently serves on the R.N.-B.S.N. Broward College Scholarship Committee, the Broward College R.N.-B.S.N. End-of-Life course Program Advisory Committee, and is a certified End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) Train the Trainer.

She also serves her community by volunteering with the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, and the Alzheimer's Association Southeast Chapter. Her professional affiliations include the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, the Florida Nurses Association, Sigma Theta Tau, and the American Nurses Association.

ANN FORGIONE, B.S.N.

“Do the right thing for the right reason
for the good of the patient
and you can never go wrong.”



ANN FORGIONE (RIGHT) RECEIVING
AN AWARD FROM DR. RUTHERFORD.

Forgione, who graduated from the R.N. to B.S.N. program in 2008, exemplifies the core values of innovation, creativity, and student-centered education—a fact that was evidenced in 2013 when she received the prestigious College of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award.

For example, she was a key leader in the development and implementation of the nursing Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) partnership between NSU and the Lee Memorial Hospital System (LMHS). This initiative began in 2010 based on the need to improve clinical nursing education for baccalaureate students and to provide a more consistent practice environment for nursing students that integrated the mission and values of both NSU and the LMHS.

Forgione completed extensive research related to this new model of student education that provided the basis of the DEU's development. This initiative serves as an excellent example of her commitment to the nursing profession, the community, and nursing education. Since its inception, the DEU has helped improve quality care for patients—resulting in improved patient satisfaction scores—and has provided positive feedback from students, faculty members, and staff nurses.

She is currently enrolled as a second-year student in the CON Master of Science in Nursing program pursuing a concentration in health systems leadership. “One of the most important things I learned as a B.S.N. student was how all the puzzle pieces fit together and understanding the reasoning and evidence that support what we do as nurses every day,” she said.

Forgione believes that today's nurses are the drivers and leaders at all levels of health care change and that knowledge related to business, cost, and legislative changes is imperative for every patient-care decision a nurse makes. She also expressed the importance of working together for a common purpose and the need to have an underlying passion for everything we do.

Her concluding message? “Do the right thing for the right reason for the good of the patient and you can never go wrong.”

SONIA REISDORF, M.S.N. Providing Care in a Remote Alaskan Hospital

By Andra Hanlon, Ph.D., A.R.N.P., CPNP, Associate Dean for Graduate Programs



"I believe it is imperative to promote nursing and to give back to the nursing profession..."

Sonia Reisdorf, M.S.N., a 2014 graduate of the college's Master of Nursing Education program and recent recipient of the 2014 Chancellor's Award for Community Involvement, has spent the past two-plus years working at a critical access hospital located in Kotzebue, Alaska, located 30 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

This Alaskan Hospital provides care to a population of 8,000, which includes the town of Kotzebue (population: 3,000) and 11 outlying villages with approximately 5,000 residents primarily comprised of Alaskan Native Americans. According to Reisdorf, there is no road system and the area is only accessible by plane, with the nearest hospital located 546 miles away in Anchorage. Not surprisingly, the location and remoteness of this area presents many challenges for individuals seeking access to health care, including providing health care that is culturally competent.

Reisdorf has worked hard to help improve the health of local citizens by embracing the culture through active community involvement in health fairs that promote healthy lifestyles. As this area is only accessible by plane and only has one grocery store, fresh fruits and vegetables generally are not available. Therefore, classes in food preparation using dried vegetables have been incorporated during the health fairs to teach the community how to seek alternatives when

fresh options are not available. Similarly, because exercise is just as important as nutrition, Reisdorf teaches a Zumba fitness class once a week at the local high school that has been so well received that classes are now being offered in several outlying villages.

Reisdorf explained that recruiting and retaining staff is a major challenge because many of the medical providers, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and nurses only stay for a short time as the extreme environment leads to a high turnover rate. Reisdorf, however, is committed to serving and encouraging others to improve the health of the community. As a result, she is actively involved with nursing students through the University of Alaska Anchorage in supervising clinicals and classroom sessions for the distance R.N. program. She has also functioned as the agency coordinator for the University of Washington's medical-surgical review and certification course to ensure the professional development of the nurses in her area.

"I believe it is imperative to promote nursing and to give back to the nursing profession," she stated. "I hope to teach one day, and to share the knowledge and experiences I have encountered with future nursing students. My future plans are to finish a doctorate in nursing, and for now, continue to work and live in this remote area of Alaska."



DR. RUTHERFORD, NSU-CON DEAN, RECOGNIZES NURSING STUDENTS BRIDGET GUERRERO AND VALERIE TERLINGO AND NSU EMPLOYEE EVELYN TEJADA FOR DONATING MONEY TOWARD THE NATIONAL COMMON KNOWLEDGE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIP.

CON RESEARCH and Scholarly Activity

In keeping with NSU's Vision 2020, mission, and core values, the College of Nursing has created a Research Council that consists of nursing faculty from the main campus in Davie as well as its regional campuses in Miami, Fort Myers, and Palm Beach—and a student representative. The Research Council works to encourage and mentor faculty members with an ultimate goal of increasing research, scholarship, and funding for the college and involving students from all levels in research activities.

Since the council's inception, approximately 15 nursing faculty members have become actively engaged with planning and implementing research projects and disseminating scholarly products. Nursing students from undergraduate and graduate programs have participated as research assistants. Topics include

- translation of existing English-language research instruments into Haitian-Creole and Spanish for South Florida
- susceptibility to melanoma skin cancer among men living in South Florida
- perception of stigma among HIV/AIDS patients
- defining intraoperative nursing errors
- HIV vaccine promotion among nurse practitioners
- using electronic medical records in the nursing simulation lab
- promoting smoking cessation among parents of small children



DR. JO ANN KLEIER, DIRECTOR OF NURSING RESEARCH, LEADS THE COLLEGE OF NURSING TOWARD THE ACQUISITION OF GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS.

Following are examples of the college's research projects:

- **Jo Ann Kleier, Ph.D., Ed.D. ACNP-BC**, and **John Silver, Ph.D., R.N.** – Instrument Translation and Language Verification of Spanish-Language Instruments to Measure Sun Protective Behaviors.
- **Ana Fernandez D.N.P., M.S.N., R.N., CNE**, **Melissa Morris, M.S.N., R.N., CPN**, and **Jo Ann Kleier, Ph.D., Ed.D., ACNP-BC** – The Impact of Utilizing an Electronic Medical Record in the Entry-Level Nursing Simulation Lab on the Quantity and Quality of Student Documentation Encounters.
- **Dr. Jo Ann Kleier** and **Andra Hanlon, Ph.D., A.R.N.P., CPNP** – Sun Protection Behavior of Parents of Young Children Living in South Florida.
- **Randy Denis, B.S., R.N.**, and **Dr. Jo Ann Kleier** – Instrument Translation and Psychometric Properties of a Haitian-Creole Language Version of the Center for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale.

FACULTY CHOICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Faculty Choice Awards were presented to select faculty members for their teaching excellence and ability to express collegiality amongst all faculty members. The recipients were chosen by their fellow faculty members.



STEFANIE LAMANNA, M.S.N., R.N.
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
A.P.R.N. PROGRAM (PALM BEACH)



ALINE DOWD, M.S.N., A.R.N.P.-BC
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAM (FORT LAUDERDALE)



HEATHER SAIFMAN, M.S.N., R.N., CCRN
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAM (MIAMI)



KELLY GOEBEL D.N.P., ACNP-BC
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAM (FORT MYERS)

NSU OVERVIEW

Dateline Health



In June, the HPD's community service TV program *Dateline Health* was named a People's Telly Silver winner in the 35th Annual Telly Awards for its program entitled "Joint Preservation and Pain Management." *Dateline Health* is a 30-minute program dedicated to promoting the community's overall health and well-being that covers a wide range of contemporary health care issues through interviews with health care experts, researchers, and policymakers.

This was *Dateline Health's* fourth Telly Award, having received two in 2008 and another in 2012. The winning episode featured host Frederick Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D., HPD chancellor, interviewing physicians from Holy Cross Hospital in Fort Lauderdale on topics ranging from joint preservation and the harmful effects of opioids to new treatment options for mitigating pain.

The Telly Awards was founded in 1979 and is the premier award honoring outstanding local, regional, and cable TV commercials and programs, the finest video and film productions, and online commercials, video, and films. Winners represent the best work of the most respected

advertising agencies, production companies, television stations, cable operators, and corporate video departments worldwide. This year, nearly 12,000 entries were received from all 50 states and numerous countries.

NSU Receives \$2.85 Million Grant from U.S. Department of Education

NSU was awarded a \$2.85 million Post-Baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Title V program. The grant, led by NSU's Gregory Simco, Ph.D., and Meline Kevorkian, Ed.D., who serve as co-administrators of the grant, will be used to expand post-baccalaureate educational opportunities and post-baccalaureate academic offerings for Hispanic college students and students from ethnically diverse populations who are attending institutions of higher education.

As our technology-driven society becomes increasingly complex, an advanced degree has

become an expectation for many competitive and financially rewarding computer science positions. When compared to overall population diversity, however, the number and proportion of Hispanic/Latinos seeking and earning graduate degrees, especially in fields related to the computer sciences, remains sorely lacking.

Because NSU serves as an Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) as defined by the U.S. Department of Education, the grant will allow Hispanic and Latino students at NSU—as well as students from other underrepresented populations—to benefit from sustainable changes to curriculum content and instructional approaches. Students will also benefit from an expanded support model that identifies and effectively addresses student needs upon admission through graduation.

The U.S. Department of Education's Title V program provides grants to assist HSIs to expand educational opportunities for, and improve the attainment of, Hispanic students. These grants also enable HSIs to expand and enhance their academic offerings, program quality, and institutional stability.

Continued on the next page...

NSU OVERVIEW

NSU Opens Regional Campus in Puerto Rico

NSU reconfirmed its commitment to Puerto Rico with the grand opening of a new regional campus in San Juan, which represents an expansion of its educational offerings and also provides increased opportunities for students university-wide.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held at the campus on August 28 to celebrate the opening of a new four-story, state-of-the-art building that will be offering master's and doctoral degrees in pharmacy and education at the campus located in San Juan's Professional Offices Park IV. It is estimated that the regional campus will have a \$27 million economic impact on the island this fiscal year. NSU has additional regional campuses in Miami, Miramar, Fort Myers, Palm Beach, Orlando, Tampa and Jacksonville.

Pictured at the ribbon-cutting ceremony (from left) are: Winel Segarra, NSU College of Pharmacy student; Andrés Malavé, Ph.D., executive director of NSU's Puerto Rico Regional Campus in San Juan; George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., NSU president and CEO; Jacqueline Travisano, M.B.A., CPA, NSU executive vice president and chief operating officer; and Alexis-Morales-Fresse, NSU Abraham S. Fischer School of Education student.



College of Optometry Receives Major Grant From National Eye Institute

The National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health has awarded approximately \$556,532 to investigators at NSU's College of Optometry to study the relationship between the vision condition, convergence insufficiency, and reading performance and attention. Convergence insufficiency is a common vision disorder in which the eyes turn slightly outward when a person is reading or doing work close to his or her eyes.

The grant will fund the Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial—Attention and Reading Trial, which is a national, multicenter clinical trial that involves optometry, ophthalmology, psychiatry, and education in determining how this eye-teaming problem impacts a child's attention and reading performance. NSU is one of seven clinical sites participating across the United States.

College of Osteopathic Medicine Receives \$1.95 Million Grant to Investigate CFS/ME

Mary Ann Fletcher, Ph.D., Schemel Professor for the Institute for Neuro-Immune Medicine at NSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, and her research team were awarded a \$1.95 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH)/National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke to study complex biomarkers of chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME) in men.

Dr. Fletcher and her team will combine the findings from this 100 percent federally funded four-year study with data the team previously compiled from its other sponsored programs in Gulf War Illness, a related neuro-immune disorder. Grants for these four studies total nearly \$10 million and have been funded by the U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and the NIH.

Men between the ages of 18 and 75 who are interested in enrolling in the study can call (305) 275-5450.



IT'S TIME TO GET PUBLISHED

*Tell us your stories.
See your name in
Innovations magazine.*

Please let us know if you have

- been promoted or accepted a new professional position
- had a major article or book published
- been appointed to a committee or board of directors
- conducted research
- received any special awards or recognition

WE WANT TO READ ABOUT YOUR
ACHIEVEMENTS, SO PLEASE SUBMIT
YOUR INFORMATION BY MAY 1, 2015.

PHOTO REQUIREMENTS

High-resolution quality—no less than one megabyte (1 mb) and in their original (from the camera) photo file format such as .jpg or .tiff. Please do not embed photos in a Microsoft Word document or copy them (right-click) from Facebook or other Web sites.

WORD LIMITS

We are accepting article submissions as follows:

- for a one-page article—no more than 650 words with one photo
- for a two-page article—no more than 1,300 words with several photos

*If you plan on writing a longer article,
please email us at nsucon@nova.edu.*

Please update your contact information regularly so we can continue to send you *Innovations* and other important college and alumni information at <https://www.nova.edu/webforms/alumni/index.html>.

We look forward to hearing from you.



Ongoing virtual information sessions are available, so please visit the College of Nursing Web site for details at nova.edu/nursing.



- Entry-Level Nursing Program
- R.N. to B.S.N/M.S.N. Programs
- M.S.N. Program
- D.N.P. Program

The College of Nursing encourages you to reconnect with your colleagues and become active in the NSU Alumni Association by visiting the following Web site: www.nova.edu/alumni.

Who knows?

You may even find a fellow College of Nursing graduate who is working for the same employer.

