

## SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNI LETTER

May, 2007	Vol. 6	No. 1
<p><b>Dean of Nursing</b> Ruth Davidhizar, RN, DNS, ARNP, BC, FAAN</p> <p><b>Graduate Nursing Program Director</b> Karon Schwartz, RN, PhD</p> <p><b>Coordinator for Bethel Programs at Grace College</b> JoLynn Reimer, RN, BSN, MA, MSN</p> <p><b>Office Manager</b> Cathilda McElhaney</p> <p><b>Nursing Faculty (Full Time)</b> Rick Becker, RN, MA Celine Boisvert, RN, MSN Connie Cramer, RNC, MSN Sally Erdel, RN, MS Jane Eshleman, RN, MA, MS Deb Gillum, RN, MSN, ANP, FNP April Hart, RN, MSN, FNP Kathy Hoffer, RN, MS Teresa Jodway, RN, PNP Ruth Shearer, RN, MS, MSN Ethel Stringham, RN, BSN, MSN Judy Weaver-Yoder, RN, MSN, CNM Isabelle White, RN, MSN</p> <p><b>(Part-Time)</b> Mary Aune, RN, PhD Doris Bartlett, RN, MSN Melody Campbell, RN, BSN, MSN Kay Church, RN, MSN Marilyn Comstock, RN, BSN, MSN Darlene Geoghan, RN, BSN, MSN Eunice Hunsberger, RN, BSN, CNA Heather Johnston, RN, BSN, MSN Tina Kendall, RNC, BSN, MSNc Barbara Kemper, RNC, MSN Bonnie Lee, RN, MSN, FNP Lisa LeMasters, RN, NP Giny Lonser, RN, MS, PhDc Linda Newton, RN, BSN, MSN Karen Rose, RN, BSN, MSNc Louise Solak, RN, MSN JoAnn Widerquist, RN, MA, DMin Roxanne Wolfram, RN, MSN, FNP Sandra Wysocki, RN, MSNc Jennifer Layman Young, RN, BSN, MSNc</p> <p><b>Nursing Student Admissions Counselors:</b> Sharon Duerkson Linda Sommers, MED nursing@bethelcollege.edu</p>	<p><b>Dear Nursing Alumni of Bethel College,</b></p> <p>This has been a very exciting year for the School of Nursing. Since this is our first year as a “School” we have enjoyed rewording documents to reflect this new status.</p> <p><b>Another very exciting event is that the MSN program is alive and well and actively seeking students for Fall of 2007. Both the administrator and educator tracks, as well as certificate tracks for person with an MSN in another area, are available.</b></p> <p>Informational meetings related to the MSN program will be held at Bethel College in the Presidents Dining room in the Dining commons on <b>June 16<sup>th</sup> and July 16.</b> If you or someone you know is interested in discussing our campus based MSN program we would be delighted to have all attend. Please call Jennifer Meert at 574-257-3360 and tell her you are coming. Karon Schwartz will also be at the La Porte Regional Health System College Fair on Wednesday May 23, 2007 from 1 to 4 pm to talk with prospective students.</p> <p>We have applied to several scholarship programs so we hope to be able to provide some assistance with tuition. Students may take one class, one night a week and complete the program in 5 years. For some, this is more user friendly when balancing work.</p> <p>Our Graduate Nursing Program Director, <b>Dr. Karon Schwartz</b>, is doing great things for our MSN program. Our first 6 graduates took part in the Bethel Commencement exercises April 29 with more graduates from the first class to complete later this year.</p> <p>Four of our first group (2004) of students (<b>Jennifer Layman Young, Janice Eigsti, Katherine Deak, and Elena McNutt</b>) have completed their research and written their theses. These four graduates have presented their master’s theses as research presentations (summary found later in newsletter). Seven others are working on research and are at various stages. Two of the first group who left for personal reasons has returned and are continuing with studies. Six of the (2005) second group are progressing towards completion. We had 11 register for the fall of 2007; two left for medical reasons and the other 9 are progressing with their studies.</p> <p>On Oct 30 to Nov 1 NLNAC will have site visitors on campus to review the MSN program for initial accreditation. The program has already received Candidacy Status. (See page 5 for more details on the MSN program).</p> <p>This has been a good year for nursing faculty publications: April Hart, Ruth Davidhizar, Doris Bartlett, Isabelle White, Joanne Widerquist, Giny Lonser and Karon Schwartz are among this year’s authors of articles or book chapters.</p> <p>Another major project has been the settling in of the ADN and RN-BSN program at Grace College. <b>JoLynn Reimer</b> has been doing an excellent job as our Coordinator there and has been assisted by <b>Linda Sommers</b> in recruiting students. We are taking applications now for the Fall, 2007 program.</p> <p>The <b>Nursing Faculty-Alumni Scholarship</b> program has been a success this year. We were able to offer six \$250 scholarships to nursing students to assist them with expenses. If you are interested in contributing please follow the directions on the back of the newsletter or contact <b>Connie Cramer</b>, the chair of the scholarship committee.</p> <p><b>Sally Erdel</b> is leading a group to the Dominican Republic this May including Laura Dieterlen, Rachel Fenske, Andrew Holderread, Lexi Kosier, Shelby Morow, Maria Schilling, Tiffany Seese, and Amber Troyer.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Ruth Davidhizar, Dean of Nursing</i></p>	

### Nursing Alumni Who Have Completed Graduate Programs

1985	Linda Southwick – MSN, OCNS, post graduate nurse practitioner
1986	Toni Klatt-Ellis – CNS, APN
1986	Scott Miller – Post Graduate Fellow, Institute for Health Policy, University of California
1986	Rose Marie Johns – Masters in Health Administration
1986	Rosanne Griggs – MS in Trauma Nursing, PhD Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
1986	Pat (Jackson) Trethewey – FNP, University of Southern Indiana
1987	Patricia Harley – MSN in Perinatal Nursing from Indiana University/Purdue
1987	Carol Crenshaw – CCRN – MBA, Clinical Manager in Fuqua Heart Center, Atlanta, GA
1987	Roxanne (Hewitt) Griggs – MSN in Emergency Trauma Nursing PhD in Educational Administration, Southern Illinois University
1987	Patricia Harley, MSN in Perinatal Nursing, Indiana University/Purdue
1987	Linda Hartman (Aldridge) – attorney in the area of personal injury and medical malpractice
1987	Rose Herrell – CNS, APN, drug and alcohol counselor certification
1987	Brenda Cherry – MS in emergency trauma nursing, UCSF PhD, George State
1987	Vickie VanNevel – MA in Theology
1988	Barbara Kennedy Johnson – PhD, UAW
1989	April Weeks – NP
1989	Carey Freeland (Shifflettcris) – CNS, MSN Armstrong Atlantic State University
1989	Kathy Deak –MSN, Bethel College
1990	Dawn Burger – NP/FNP
1990	Dale Moore – Nurse Anesthetist
1990	Patricia Hartley – Perinatal Nursing, Indiana University/Purdue University
1991	Gloria Grott (Lantero) – Nurse Practitioner
1991	Gail Reichert, MSN, Perinatal Nursing, University of Kentucky
1993	John Albright – MBA, Notre Dame
1994	Dan Tanner – MBA, Notre Dame
1995	Heather Spillman – MBA, Notre Dame
1996	Cindy Yates Fritz – FNP, IUSB
1998	Cathy Whitcroft Raab – MSCP, ND, Rush University
1999	Cindy (Burke) Seigel, MSN, FNP, Valparaiso University
1999	Tina Kendall (1999), MSN, Bethel College
1998	Ann Fitzgerald – FNP, IUSB
2000	Lisa Harrison – Masters, Valparaiso University
2000	Kristine McIrvin-FNP, Ball State
2000	Tammy Wilson – Masters in Nursing Ed., Nebraska Wesleyan University
2001	Ethel Stringham – MS for Nurse Educators/Administrators
2001	Melody Campbell-MS for Nurse Educators/Administrators
002	Sandy Martin – FNP, Valparaiso University
2002	Kandie Forest – FNP
2003	Allen Puplis NP, Andrews
2005	Micheal Jaskiewicz FNP, Valparaiso University

### Alumni in Graduate Programs

Ruth Bihlman (1991)	Bethany Stout (1999)	Bill Fox (2002) MBA, Bethel
John Albright (1995)	Tracey McNeil (2000)	Becky Honzik – (2003) CRNA, Barry U
Lynn Carbone (1996)	Janet Schroeder (2001) Valpo	Peg Grcich – (2004) Ball State
Jacqueline Estok (1997)	Sandra Wysocki (2001) Bethel	Rick Becker, 2004, Ball State (MSN)
Dan Emborsky (1997)	Kim Pflughaupt (2001)	Darlene Geoghan (2003) Walden (EdD)
Tamara Andrews (1999)	FNP, Purdue Calumet	Kurt Reiss (2005) DO, DeMoines, Iowa
Richard Forest (1999)	Chad Hinton (2001) – CRNA	Paul Kuria (2005/7), FNP, Ball State

**Folks, We know this is not up to date. PLEASE send us current information.**

### **Bethel Pins 100 Nurses April 29, 2007**

In a colorful ceremony to a packed auditorium Bethel College pinned 100 graduates. This included 10 graduates from the new MSN program as well as students from all three Bethel nursing campuses. One graduate's mother, a nurse in France, Evey Heckman, delivered a speech entitled, "A cup of cold water Sans Limit". A graduate Kelly Matlock sang "Anyway" and another graduate Jennifer Girwarnauth did readings. The graduates were pinned by the faculty and Dean Ruth Davidhizar explained the meaning of the Bethel College pin and the vision that Bethel graduates would be lamps around the world bringing hope and light to others. Bethel Administrators, President Steven Cramer and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. James Stump, also participated in the ceremony.

The graduates pinned include:

***BSN Class of 2007:*** Jessica Harsch, Simeon Heckman+\*, Andrew Holderread, Ruth Johnson+\*, Stephanie Johnston, Stephanie Kiefer, Sheri Komdeur+\*, Christopher Luczynski, Rachel Marks+\*, Dorcas Muiru, Eunice Muriu, Daniel Njenga, Amber Sahlhoff\*, Amanda Schmucker, Tiffany Seese, Stephanie Swanson+\*, Antoinette Wawrzyniak, Erin Weaver, Brooke Whittaker, Larae Woudstra+\*

#### ***BSN Completion***

***Class of 2007:*** Kristen Bowen+\*, Sarah Davis+\*, Elizabeth Doorn+\*, Ellen Hatfield\*, Virginia Ingeson\*, Paul Kuria, Kristan Lalley\*, Julie Langdon\*, Beth Lockwood, Venita Massey+\*, Laurie Matthews\*, Susan Mierau+\*, Beverly Robbins+\*, Tara Roth\*, Theresa Sawyer\*, Hope Shaw Eck\*, Laura Shindollar, John Sikora\*, Gerri Sly\*, Katie Staley\*, Karla Taylor\*, Eileen Wagner\*, Sherri Weiss+\*, Katie Westcomb+\*

***ADN Class of 2007:*** Suzanne Alford, Rebecca Berger, Mecheal Boen, Dawn Brammer, Tyne Brow, Brandy Burt, Jessica Collins, Emily Cooper, Amanda Danley, James Drake, Jennifer Drust, Esther Elias, Paula Ellis, Ruth Eshun, Jennie Girwarnauth, Angela Goldt, Amber Graddy, Jami Grandholm, Tesha Harris, Shanelle Hiponia, Jennifer Hook, Christa Hostetler, Shauna Jenkins, Torey Klint, Crystal Leiler, Heather Lippert, Stephanie Lootens, Jamie Madison, Kelly Matlock, Tammie Mejer, Jessica Nass\*, Christy Oberholtzer, Jane Prebeck, Marie Royer, Michael Rushlow, Charles Shumba, Jackie Snider,

Kathy Spirito, Heidi Stamper, Tina Swartzendruber, Kathleen Valdick, Bethany Webb,  
Maureen Wojciechowski

**MSN Class of 2007:** Kathy Deak+\*, Janice Eigsti+\*, Mary Ann Horner\*, Tina Kendall\*,  
Elena McNutt+\*, Marjorie Ramey+\*, Penny Robison+\*, Karen Rose+\*,  
Barbara White+\*, Jennifer Layman Young+\*

\* signifies a GPA of 3.5 or above

+ signifies membership in Sigma Theta Tau

## **School of Nursing Awards**

Spirit of Nursing Award .....*Jennifer Drust*

Nursing Student Affairs Award for Altruism .....*Eileen Wagner,*  
*Eunice Muriu, Mecheal Boen, Venita Massey,*  
***Penny Robison, Heidi Stamper***

***Middleton Outstanding Nursing Graduate Award***,.....*Stephanie Swanson*

Middleton Endowment Advanced Education Award.....*Tyne Brow,*  
*Eunice Muriu, Brandy Burt*

Inglett Scholarship Award ..... *Brandy Burt, Stephanie Swanson*

Nu Omicron Honor Society Inductees .....*Stephanie Swanson, Rachel Marks,*  
*Larae Woudstra, Sheri Komdeur, Ruth Johnson, Simeon Heckman,*  
*Kristen Bowen, Venita Massey,*  
*Beverly Robbins, Sherri Weiss, Katie Westcomb,*  
*Elizabeth Doorn, Susan Mierau, Barbara White, Janice Eigsti,*  
*Karen Rose, Sarah Davis*

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## **Nursing Faculty/Alumni Scholarship**

This scholarship program is operating annually and accepting donations from alumni, faculty, and other interested donors. This year we were able to award six \$250 scholarships to Katie Westcomb, Sherri Weiss, Jessica Nass, Maureen Wojciechowski, and Simeon Heckman. We invite alumni and present as well as former faculty to send tax deductible contributions to the **Nursing Faculty/Alumni Scholarship** at Bethel College in care of the Office of Institutional Advancement. You can send a receipt request with your check to the Office of Institutional Advancement, 1001 W. McKinley, Mishawaka, IN 46545.

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Update on what is happening with MSN programs:

**Bethel College MSN Degree Formats**

<b>Education</b>		<b>Administration</b>	
<b>Fall # 1</b>		<b>Fall # 1</b>	
MNUR 511 Nursing Roles in Health Care Org	3	MNUR 511 Nursing Roles in Health Care Org	3
MNUR 512 Statistics for the Health Sciences	3	MNUR 512 Statistics for the Health Sciences	3
<b>Spring # 1</b>		<b>Spring # 1</b>	
MNUR 513 Advanced Nursing Theory	3	MNUR 513 Advanced Nursing Theory	3
MNUR 514 Nursing Research	3	MNUR 514 Nursing Research	3
<b>Summer # 12</b>		<b>Summer # 12</b>	
MNUR 521 Specialty Practicum	3	MNUR 521 Specialty Practicum	3
<b>Fall # 2</b>		<b>Fall # 2</b>	
MNUR 611 Educational Pedagogy	3	MNUR 615 Health Care Org. and Delivery	3
MNUR 612 Curriculum Development in Nursing Education	3	MNUR 616 Health care Financing, Budgeting and Human Resources	3
<b>Spring # 2</b>		<b>Spring # 2</b>	
MNUR 613 Information Systems in Nursing	3	MNUR 613 Information Systems in Nursing	3
MNUR 614 Evaluation in Nursing Education	3	MNUR 617 Ethical, Legal and Regulatory issues in the Health care Organization	3
<b>TBA</b>		<b>TBA</b>	
MNUR 699 Nursing Thesis in Specialty Area	3-9	MNUR 699 Nursing Thesis in Specialty Area	3-9
<b>Fall # 3</b>		<b>Fall # 3</b>	
MNUR 621 Teaching Practicum	6	MNUR 622 Administrator Practicum	6
<b>Minimum Hours</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>Minimum Hours</b>	<b>36</b>

The MSN program involves 5 semesters of course work, one summer of specialty practicum and a nursing thesis in a specialty area that can be done in the semester of choice following MNUR 514. The program utilizes the Bethel College adult program format in which 16 weeks of two 60-minute class hours equal three credit hours (32 hours). During the fourth semester, a format of 8 weeks, four hours a night for two classes will be used. (In the adult format a 10 min. break is allowed for every 2 hours of class.) The 8 or 16 week format may change from year to year. This will be done with considerations to student needs. Clinical hours are calculated at the rate of 1 class hour to 3 clinical hours or 2 credits for 66 hours (in the practicum) and a rate of 1 to 4 clinical hours for 5 credits for 215 hours (teaching practicum). In MNUR 521 and MNUR 621, 622 1 hr of credit is given for 10.6 hours of class. Upon completion of MNUR 514 the student will sign up for one credit hour for each semester the student works with a graduate faculty member on research progressing toward the thesis for MNUR 699. A minimum of 3 credits must be taken to fulfill the requirements for the thesis; however, the student may take as many as 9 credit hours to complete this work.

Comparison of courses included in the Post Graduate Certificate Programs

<b>Nurse Educators Certificate</b>		<b>Nurse Administrator Certificate</b>	
MNUR 611 Educational Pedagogy	3	MNUR 615 Health Care Org. and Delivery	3
MNUR 612 Curriculum Development in Nursing Education	3	MNUR 616 Health care Financing, Budgeting and Human Resources	3
MNUR 614 Evaluation in Nursing Education	3	MNUR 617 Ethical, Legal and Regulatory issues in the Health care Organization	3
MNUR 623 Teaching Practicum	6	MNUR 624 Administrator Practicum	6
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

The students who wish to take the certificate programs will be integrated into the classes with students in the major.

**Bethel College MSN Graduates Present Research**

On April 23, Janice Eigsti, RN, MSNc, who works in Critical Care Education at Elkhart General Hospital and is a resident of Goshen, Indiana presented “The Graduate Nurses’ Perceptions of a Critical Care Nurse Internship Program” in the Academic Center at Bethel College, Mishawaka, Indiana. Jance Eigsti noted that while graduate nurse internship programs have existed for a number of years as tools for recruiting and retaining nurses, few have addressed the nurse interns’ perceptions of these programs. She conducted a retrospective, descriptive design study with the purpose of disclosing the critical care graduate nurse interns’ perceptions of the Critical Care Nurse Internship Program at a 370-bed, Midwestern hospital provided information for this study. Benner’s (1984) novice to expert model served as the theoretical framework. The Critical Care Nurse Internship Program Questionnaire provided satisfaction scores for program components. Mean scores between groups were explored using the t-test. Mean satisfaction scores for the overall program was 5.62 (*SD* = .371). The retention rate was 76.9% (20 of 26). Statistically significant differences in satisfaction scores were not found in this pilot study between nurse interns currently working in critical care and those who are not.

Elena McNutt RN, MSNc, who works at Woodlawn hospital in Rochester as the director of surgical service and lives in Rochester, Indiana presented “ A Quasi-Experimental Study of the Effects of Pre-Admission Education on Anxiety Levels of Patients Undergoing Elective Surgical Procedures”.. This study examined the relationship of the timing of preoperative education and anxiety levels experienced by patients undergoing an elective surgical procedure. The study used a quasi-experimental post-test with comparison group design. Sixty-eight participants formed the experimental and control groups with 34 participants in each group. The study was conducted over a two month period in late fall and early winter at a small rural community hospital. Participants had to meet study criteria to be included in the study. Independent t-test analysis at the 95% confidence level demonstrates patients who receive education prior to admission experience less anxiety (*p*=0.04) than patients who receive education at the time of admission. The results of this study suggest that pre-admission education makes a difference in the anxiety levels of post surgical patients.

A third presenter Kathy Deak, who works in nursing informatics at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in South Bend, Indiana and who resides in Granger, Indiana, presented “Motivational Influences on Continuing Education” Continuing education to increase knowledge and competency in nursing practice is increasingly necessary among nurses as patient acuities increase and healthcare technology advances. Studies have identified intrinsic motivation reported by nurses to attend continuing education as well as barriers. This study was conducted to compare staff nurses’ and nurse manager’s attitudes and beliefs as motivators toward continuing education and the impact of manager’s attitudes and beliefs on staff nurse motivation to attend continuing education activities.

A qualitative case study design was used to conduct the study. Two focus groups were formed, one of patient care department staff nurses and one of patient care department middle managers. Three sessions were conducted with each focus group to discuss semi-structured open-ended questions prepared to generate responses related to continuing education beliefs and perspectives and motivators and barriers to attendance at continuing education activities.

Prevalent themes which emerged related to culture and commitment, role model, intrinsic motivation, and perceptions of conflicting messages, not a priority, superiors don't encourage or support, and unclear expectations.

Management should carefully consider the culture within the organization and within each nursing department to identify prevailing perceptions which may be negatively impacting staff nurse attendance at continuing attendance activities.

Jennifer Layman Young, BSN, MBA, MSNc, 2007 graduate of Bethel College's MSN Nurse Educator program presented her research, Analysis of Attitude, Belief, and Quality of Life Following an Intervention with Osteoporotic Patients, at Bethel College April 2, 2007. Osteoporosis or low bone density affects an estimated 44 million Americans (National Osteoporosis Foundation, 2005). Clinical studies indicate the importance of education and exercise as intervention tools in prevention and treatment of the disease (Unson, et al., 2003; Wright, et al., 2003). Studies suggest that beliefs and attitude held by clients are particularly important in the effective treatment of chronic disease (Cranney et al., 2002; Ware, 2005). Loss of quality of life while dealing with a chronic disease can be an issue for osteoporotic patients. A descriptive, correlational and quasi-experimental research design was utilized using the Theory of Reasoned Action (Fishbein & Ajzen, 1975) with the expectancy-value model (Ajzen & Fishbein, 1980) and the Short Form 36 version 2 Health Survey (Ware, Snow, Kosinski, & Gandek, 1993) to assess the effects of an intervention (i.e. exercise and education) on the attitude, beliefs, and the quality of life of those afflicted with low bone density. A convenience sample of participants consisting of 40 women, 49 to 84 years of age, who participated in an intervention involving multiple osteoporosis education. The research questions were 1) Does the attitude and beliefs of women with low bone density change after an intervention, and 2) Does quality of life for women with low bone density change after an intervention?

The data suggests a significant difference between attitude and beliefs held by osteoporotic women after an intervention of education and exercise. On the other hand, quality of life measurement showed minor statistical difference after the four-week exercise and education intervention. Implications for nursing indicate the exercise and education interventions for osteoporotic patients may prove beneficial. Further research is warranted to examine interventions on chronic disease, such as osteoporosis.

*Remember to spread the good word about Bethel's nursing program. Only with support from our alumni and friends can we continue to grow.*

*Special thanks to Deb Gillum for assistance in the preparation of this newsletter!*

From:

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