

NURSING LEADS

Learning. Engagement. Advance Knowledge. Discovery. Scholarship.



A LEADING VIEW

Welcome to the inaugural Nursing LEADS publication for The University of Toledo College of Nursing. We have chosen the name Nursing LEADS to reflect the College of Nursing mission statement and our exciting vision for its future. LEADS reflects the key themes of Learning (L), Engagement (E), Advance Knowledge (A), Discovery (D) and Scholarship (S). The College of Nursing is committed to each of these themes and embraces the challenge of taking the lead in nursing and health care in the region and beyond. The expectation of the public is challenging and real for all levels of registered nurses.

It has been a wonderful and exciting time serving as Dean of the College of Nursing since August 2008. The faculty and staff have courageously moved forward with new educational programming that includes admission three times a year to the basic baccalaureate program, increasing total annual admissions to 240 students. The Clinical Nurse Leader program has increased its admission to 32 a year. The Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Educator program areas are at full capacity, with outstanding pass rates on their respective national certification exams. I am very proud of our faculty, staff and student accomplishments, including the renewed accreditation of all baccalaureate and master's programs by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The college has the distinction of fully meeting all four standards, and its respective key elements were found to be in full compliance without any compliance concerns. Thus, these programs are accredited for 10 years, the maximum granted by CCNE. In addition, the AASN program received full approval by the Ohio Board of Nursing in fall 2009.

The faculty, staff and students shine brightly with their many accomplishments individually and collectively. You will see the progress being made, including our efforts in scholarship and research, which are too numerous to mention. I encourage you to read this publication front to back to catch the energy and vision for the College of Nursing. We plan to publish this twice a year and post the newsletter on our College of Nursing Web site. Let us hear from you; your suggestions for future articles are always welcome. Please feel free to call, drop us a note or e-mail me at tim.gaspar@utoledo.edu.



Best wishes for a healthy and wonderful new year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy M. Gaspar".

Timothy M. Gaspar, PhD, RN
Dean and Professor
The University of Toledo College of Nursing



President Jacobs expressing his thanks for a successful CCNE accreditation visit at Faculty Club reception.

SUCCESSFUL CCNE VISIT

November 6, 2009 was a red-letter day for the College of Nursing — Dean Timothy Gaspar received written confirmation of continuing accreditation for the College of Nursing's baccalaureate and master's in nursing programs from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Harriet Feldman, chair of the CCNE Board of Commissioners, noted the "Board determined that the programs met all four accreditation standards. The Board additionally

determined that there are no compliance concerns with respect to the key elements." The College of Nursing is pleased to note our accreditation term of the full 10 years will run from March 25, 2009 through December 31, 2019.

In recognition of this wonderful accomplishment, President Jacobs, Provost Gold, and Dean Gaspar hosted an informal reception at the Faculty Club in the Toledo Hilton on November 18, 2009.



Judy Didion, PhD, RN

NURSING ALUMNI AFFILIATE NEWS

Homecoming of Heroes was the theme of the 2009 UT Alumni Association's Homecoming Gala at which Judy Didion, PhD, RN, was honored and recognized for her work with the HIV Resource Team through MCO and UTMC and her work in the area of teen pregnancy prevention. She was nominated for this award through the College of Nursing Alumni Affiliate. As a former UT College of Nursing faculty member, Didion was one of the founders of the current Clinical Nurse Leader MSN program. She obtained her BSN degree from The University of Toledo in 1981 and is currently the Dean of Nursing at Lourdes College in Sylvania, Ohio.

Nominations are now being accepted for 2010 Alumna of the Year. Please email nominations to Amanda Schwartz at amanda.schwartz@utoledo.edu.

COMING EVENTS:

Mark your calendar for the College of Nursing Alumni Affiliate Third Annual Fundraiser at the Hilton Garden Inn at Levis Commons in Perrysburg, Ohio, on Thursday, April 22, 2010 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. This is an exciting way to connect with old and new friends and raise monies for College of Nursing scholarships.

For more news about the Nursing Alumni Affiliate and membership info, visit toledoalumni.org.

PHONATHON 2010 COMING SOON...

UT students will be calling you in late February for the College of Nursing's Phonathon. We would love to hear your feedback. Please share with them your thoughts about the newsletter.

LEADS

ABOUT OUR STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Pride continues to run high as we celebrate the accomplishments of our nursing students, faculty and alumni.

In March 2009, **Brent Straley** (then a senior in our basic BSN program and current president of the Ohio Student Nurses Association) was awarded the prestigious Isabel Hampton Robb leadership award sponsored by Elsevier at the National Students Nurses Convention. This

award recognizes a current or immediate past president of a state Student Nurses Association whose leadership qualities most resemble those of Isabel Hampton Robb, who wrote what may have been the first medical/surgical textbook in the United States in 1893.



Brent Straley pictured with Tricia Schroeder, executive marketing manager with Elsevier; Copyright 2009, NSNA, by Harry Butler, Nashville.

The Associate of Applied Science in Nursing (AASN) program hosted its Graduation Celebration for 37 AASN graduates on December 18 in the Dana Center on the UT Health Science Campus. Congratulations to **Luke Warner**, recipient of the Lubarsky Award, which is given in the name of Rochelle Lubarsky, former director of the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing program, and recognizes the graduate with outstanding clinical work as well as leadership. Luke has been a great asset to recruitment with his genuineness and enthusiasm for the nursing profession.



Award recipients with Dean Gaspar (2nd from right, back row) and Paula Ballmer, Senior Recruiter (last on right, front row)

At the recent Ohio Student Nurses Association Convention in October 2009, our UT/BGSU Student Nurses Association was recognized with the following awards: Best SNA Web site by **Pierre Maldonado**, senior and nursing assistant at UTM; Best Breakthrough to Nursing Project (an initiative to promote nursing to underrepresented populations) by **Jessica Studer**, senior-chair of Breakthrough to Nursing; and First Runner Up Team in the NCLEX

Brain Bowl with team members **Sarah Carmack**, **Jennifer Claar**, and **Christine Horvat**, all seniors in the BSN program. Newly elected state officers from our program were **Michael Barth**, vice president, and **Liesa Brand**, secretary, with **Denise Oancea**, MSN, RN, MBA, instructor in the College of Nursing and advisor for SNA, being selected as State Faculty Advisor of the Year. Congratulations for a job well done!



Luke Warner with Susan Batten, PhD, RN, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs, at recent AASN Graduation Celebration.

FOUNDATION NEWS

HEART TO HEART OFF TO A GREAT START

The heart of a nurse is often touched by another nurse.

We are asking our College of Nursing alumni and friends to help us purchase a Littman stethoscope, at a cost of \$60, as a welcoming gift to each of our incoming nursing student.

We hope that you will support us in this important project. Without your help, these incoming students will have to purchase their own equipment.

Inside each gift will be a pre-addressed thank you card so your student will have the opportunity to acknowledge your generous

gift. We also will include your mentoring notes to the student in the package. You are welcome and encouraged to sponsor multiple students and/or provide additional funding to support this or other programs in your College of Nursing.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Annie Sawicki, principal gift officer for the College of Nursing, at 419.530.5408 or via e-mail at annie.sawicki@utoledo.edu. You also can visit https://utssl.utoledo.edu/utfoundation/gift_CONh2h.asp



Incoming Junior BSN student, Monica Kerman with Joanne Schwartzberg, MEd, RN, Associate Professor Emerita at inaugural Heart to Heart presentation January 11, 2010.

SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH UPDATES

Linda Pierce, PhD, RN, CRRN, CNS, FAHA, has published extensively. Her research and practice center on people living with chronic conditions (stroke and dementia) and their caregivers.

Marilynne Wood, PhD, RN, is active with the Ohio Asthma Coalition's (OAC) efforts to serve the asthma community and improve the health of Ohioans. She also is involved with the Ohio Department of Health Healthful Schools Grant and the Jamie Farr Grant for Asthma Education for Toledo inner city families.

Kelly Phillips, PhD, RN, interim associate dean for graduate nursing programs, is the program director/principal investigator for a grant award for Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships. The \$67,408 award is provided by

the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Phillips submitted a National Nursing Loan Repayment Program grant and was funded with non-ARRA and ARRA resources of approximately \$42,700.

Dianne Smolen, PhD, CNE, RN, BC, CNS, is a member of an interdisciplinary team composed of health-care professionals from multiple disciplines in The University of Toledo Medical Center and College of Nursing. This team has been studying hospital-associated urinary tract infections (HAUTIs) linked to urinary catheters. This project is a quality improvement study to further investigate a systematic, evidenced-based protocol to reduce HAUTIs.

Tracy Szirony, PhD, RN, CHPN, has been accepted as a Palliative Care Research Scholar. She

attended the Third Annual Kathleen M. Foley Palliative Care Retreat and Research Symposium in October 2009. According to the Symposium Web site, "the goal of the retreat was to advance the scientific endeavors of those who are or will become independent investigators actively involved in palliative care research through development of attendees' individual works in progress and improvement of specific competencies and core methodologies essential to conducting palliative care research." Szirony's current research focuses on "ICU Nurses' Perceptions of End of Life Care and the Decision to Enter Hospice-Individual and Surrogates Experiences with the Decision Making Process."

LEADS

PUNKY AND MIKE GASPAR "PAY IT FORWARD" NURSING FUND

This fund is the first of 2010 to honor Punky (Madelyn) and Mike Gaspar's lifelong philosophy that their giving of time and resources would result in a greater legacy to their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Raised on farms in the Midwest, there were many years when tragedy and poverty struck their family. They always remembered the

generosity of others to help them through these hard times. The "Pay it Forward" fund is available to any University of Toledo baccalaureate or graduate degree nursing student in good standing who has exhausted all other means of financial support. The student will sign a contract that they agree to pay back their loan over the course of their lifetime at no interest.

To support the fund and help our nursing students in honor of Punky and Mike Gaspar,



Punky and Mike Gaspar

please contact Annie Sawicki at 419.530.5408 or annie.sawicki@utoledo.edu. Visit the UT Foundation Web site at utoledo.edu/foundation to support needy students at UT.

WATCH FOR COLLEGE OF NURSING FACULTY PUBLICATIONS IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF NURSING LEADS

NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR CONTINUING NURSING EDUCATION

The Third Annual Dottie Hussain Lectureship on October 28, 2009 was a great success. The primary purpose of this lectureship is to promote interdisciplinary wound care practices among health-care professionals to improve patient outcomes and to provide best practice guidelines. The morning Grand Rounds and noon and evening lecture sessions provided a stellar learning opportunity on chronic, non-healing wounds and the serious health concern they are for millions each year in the United States. Students, practicing physicians, nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, physical and occupational therapists, and members of the community attended this interdisciplinary event.

Distinguished lecturers included Joyce Black, PhD, RN, CPCN, CWCN, and Steven Black, MD, FACS. Joyce Black, assistant professor at the

University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing in the Adult Health and Illness Department, is a nationally recognized published author, speaker and practitioner. Steven Black is the owner of Plastic Surgical Center, located in Omaha, Nebraska.

This lectureship was made possible through a grant from S. Amjad and Dorothy G. Hussain Family Fund at the Toledo Community Foundation and The University of Toledo College of Nursing. The lectureship was established in honor of Dorothy (Dottie) Hussain, a nurse par-excellence whose professional career spanned 32 years as a staff nurse and a critical care nurse. She was widely known and recognized as a conscientious nurse who taught and mentored a generation of young nurses, medical students and residents. She also was known for patient

advocacy and stood for patients' rights. Twice she was honored by the UT Medical Center with the prestigious Nursing Excellence Award for her nursing acumen, her passion for the profession, and her willingness to go beyond the call of duty. She concluded her nursing career as a critical care nurse in the Emergency Department at the UT Medical Center. Hussain passed away on December 2, 2006 of ovarian cancer at age 62.



Joyce Black, PhD, RN, CPCN, CWCN at evening lecture session.



Karen Hoblet, MSN, RN, with President Jacobs.

Karen Hoblet, MSN, RN, assistant professor, and **Susan Pocotte, PhD**, associate professor, were recently recognized by the UT President's Commission on Student Centeredness for going above and beyond the call of duty to help students and ensure their success. Hoblet and Pocotte received the Students First Award for displaying exceptional student-focused qualities. Congratulations!



Susan Pocotte, PhD, with President Jacobs.

Linda Pierce, PhD, RN, CRRN, CNS, FAHA, was installed as President of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) 35th annual education conference in October 2009. Pierce, professor at the College of Nursing, is certified in rehabilitation nursing. Pierce states, "The mission of ARN is to promote and advance rehabilitation nursing practice through education, advocacy, collaboration and research to enhance the quality of life for those affected by disability and chronic illness."



Linda Pierce, PhD, CNS, CRRN, FAHA, left, next to outgoing President Donna Jernigan.

At the recent Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses 19th Annual Statewide Educational Conference and Meeting in Dublin, Ohio, three from our college were recognized at the Annual Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony. Congratulations to **Stephanie Tiell**, NP student, for receiving a Student Scholarship Award; to **Ann Baker, PhD, CNP**, alumna and associate professor emerita for excellence in education; and to **Kaye Lee, CRNP**, alumna, for Excellence in Advanced Practice. Thank you for representing UT College of Nursing in a wonderful way!



Left to right: Kaye Lee, CRNP; Ann Baker, PhD, CNP; and Stephanie Tiell, BSN, RN

LEADS



Mass Communication Chief,
Linda Andreoli, US Navy Reserve

Clinical Nurse Leader student **Linda Andreoli** was recently promoted to chief in the Navy Reserve at an official promotion ceremony on September 19. Andreoli has been part of the Navy Reserve for nine years. With a bachelor degree in communication with an emphasis in broadcasting, Andreoli has served as a mass communication specialist with the Navy Reserve and states, "I am thrilled to tell the Navy story!" As chief in the Navy Reserve, her responsibilities include "taking care of the sailors and keeping them motivated to grow personally and professionally." Congratulations to Linda Andreoli!

NURSING: THE U.S. ARMY WAY

My name is Alexander Heinly. I am a senior UT nursing student and a U.S. Army ROTC cadet. During my first semester as a UT nursing student, I heard about the U.S. Army Rocket Battalion. At first, I thought that being a BSN student and being a U.S. Army ROTC cadet was impossible. I decided to try the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) out of sheer curiosity. As the year progressed, I participated in several leadership training sessions that taught me various first aid skills that could be used in urgent combat situations or in everyday life. Through these training experiences, I came to realize that U.S. Army ROTC training and the UT College of Nursing curriculum complement each other.

Over this past summer, I participated in the U.S. Army's Nurse Summer Training Program (NSTP). During this training, I had the opportunity to use the nursing skills that I have learned as a UT student at Tripler Army Medical Center located in beautiful Honolulu, Hawaii. I spent 28 days in Hawaii performing over 160 hours of patient care on dozens of U.S. military members and their families. On the medical telemetry floor, I



Alexander Heinly, Army ROTC nursing cadet

cared for clients who had all types of ailments, ranging from post myocardial infarctions to pre-surgery. I worked with a U.S. Army nurse each day caring for patients. I used many of the nursing skills that I have learned at UT and expanded on that knowledge with helpful explanations and tips from the nurses.

I absolutely love being a UT nursing student and a U.S. Army ROTC cadet. I continue to be challenged academically and physically. I have had the opportunity to help people in so many ways that I could have never imagined. I look forward to continuing my nursing education and Army training on my journey to becoming an officer in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps.

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RECRUITMENT NEWS AND BY THE NUMBERS

For the most up-to-date program information, visit our college Web site at utoledo.edu/nursing.

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Did you know? In 2009, more than 200 high school students and their parents visited the UT College of Nursing for an individual or small group appointment. Visits included an opportunity to meet one-on-one with Paula Ballmer, senior recruiter, or Janice Cassity, recruiter, and tour the Learning Resource Center and Simulation Lab. Whenever possible, current nursing students, faculty and Dean Gaspar participated. Evaluations of our nursing visits were very positive, with the favorite part of many being "hearing what current nursing students have to say about the program."

Information sessions for adult students for all of our programs continue to be very successful. In 2009, we held four information sessions on the UT Health Science Campus and an open forum at BGSU Firelands in Huron,

Ohio. Nearly 200 prospective students attended one of the sessions to hear more about what we offer. We have learned that once a student visits our campus, we have more than a 50 percent chance that he/she will choose the UT College of Nursing.

On the road, the UT College of Nursing hosted table exhibits at several professional meetings/conferences, including the Ohio Organization of Nurse Executives, the Ohio Nurses Association Biannual Convention, the Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses and Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) Annual Research Conference. The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program (jointly offered with Wright State University) was a featured program at these exhibits. Thinking of a DNP? Call today at 419.383.5810 or e-mail admitnurse@utoledo.edu.

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