The Flint water crisis is a drinking water contamination crisis that started in April 2014. After Flint changed its' water source from treated Detroit Water and Sewerage Department water to the Flint River, its’ drinking water had a series of problems that culminated with lead contamination, creating a serious public health danger. The corrosive Flint River water caused lead from aging pipes to leach into the water supply, causing extremely elevated levels of lead. In Flint, between 6,000 and 12,000 children have been exposed to drinking water with high levels of lead and they may experience a range of serious health problems. Childhood lead exposure causes a reduction in intellectual functioning and IQ, academic performance, and problem-solving skills, and an increased risk of attention deficit disorder, aggression, and hyperactivity. The federal government declared a state of emergency, freeing up funds and resources to help the city’s residents.

With the horrific situation in Flint the undergraduate and graduate students and Dr. Marilynyne Wood have been very busy responding to the concerns of our inner city families, school nurses and principals, and the faith-based community. Our students screened children at Sherman School, and will be at Glenwood School on March 24 and the East Toledo Family Center on Saturday, April 16. The students and Dr. Wood provide lead prevention/exposure education at these events and follow-up with children with elevated lead levels and their families. Due to her outstanding work Dr. Wood has been asked to join a National Panel of Experts, American Public Health Association (APHA), to assist with this public health tragedy. We all have a responsibility to step up and care for our neighbors. We are very proud of our students and strongly encourage everyone to take action in assisting with this crisis.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The College of Nursing is proud to announce we are now on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Follow us and tell us how you like to stay connected! Get all the latest updates about the College of Nursing and upcoming events.
Welcome to the 2016 spring newsletter edition of Nursing LEADS. I am filled with pride as I look back at the success and achievements within the College of Nursing over the last academic year. Each day, I am inspired by the energy of our faculty and students, and the dedication of our alumni and donors. I encourage you to read this publication to obtain the ongoing energy and vision for the College of Nursing.

I am incredibly excited about our tremendous ranking by Top Master’s in Healthcare Administration who ranked us No. 11 for the best graduate nursing programs. Although ranking is an important indicator of the quality of academic programs, it is the difference in the real world outcomes that our graduates make that is most important. We strive to create a rich academic environment that is engaging for all of our community members, faculty and students alike, and a commitment to diversity, equality and inclusion is at the core of all that we do.

As the College of Nursing moves forward, it is our collective goal to build and strengthen partnerships with alumni, healthcare leaders, and our community. Together we can advance our commitment to innovation, evidenced based clinical education, nursing scholarship, and the delivery of University quality care in our state and beyond. We always welcome and appreciate hearing from you. Please continue to visit our website often and learn more about College of Nursing.

Thank you for your investment,

Kelly Phillips, PhD, RN, CNS, CNL
Interim Dean and Associate Professor
College of Nursing
Dr. Schriner began her career with the College of Nursing in 1992 serving as a clinical teaching assistant for the Medical College of Ohio. She earned her MSN in Community Health Nursing from MCO in 1994 and served as faculty from 1995-2001. In 2004 she completed her PhD in Higher Education Administration from The University of Toledo. In 2010, she returned to The University of Toledo and taught in the BSN, MSN CNL Graduate Entry and DNP programs.

Dr. Gies retired in September, 2015 after ten years with the College of Nursing. She joined the college in August, 2005 as faculty after completing her MSN as an Adult Nurse Practitioner/Clinical Nurse Specialist. In May, 2011 she earned her DNP from The University of Toledo/Wright State University, a member of the first graduating class. She taught in the BSN, MSN and DNP programs and was appointed APRN program director in 2015. As a certified adult nurse practitioner she practiced at the Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital, co-directing the Metabolic Syndrome Clinic and directing the Safe Physical Activity Program.

In 2006, Denise was appointed to a faculty position at The University of Toledo College of Nursing. She earned a MSN and MBA from Madonna University. She taught several courses in the undergraduate program including adult health, management and leadership, critical care, and pediatrics. Passionate about the people of Nicaragua, Denise led annual mission trips to the country. Ms. Oancea served the Student Nurses Association as a dedicated faculty advisor for 9 years. Under her leadership SNA won numerous Brain Bowl titles and Chapter of the Year Awards, as well as the Marilyn Bagwell Leadership Development Grant and the National Student Nurse Association Stellar School Chapter Award. During her tenure 30 students were elected to state office and 5 students to national office, with 2 students receiving the National Isabel Hampton Leadership Award.
The first nurse uniforms were derived from the nun’s habit.

Before the 19th century, nuns took care of sick and injured people so it was obvious that trained lay nurses might copy the nun’s habit. Before the 1940s minor changes occurred in the uniform. The clothing consisted of a mainly blue outfit. Hospitals were free to determine the style of the nurse uniform, including the nurse’s cap which exists in many variants.

Historically, a typical nurse uniform consisted of a dress, pinafore apron and nurse’s cap. This type of nurse’s dress continues to be worn in many countries. Beginning in the 1990s, and until the present time, the traditional nurse uniforms have been replaced with the “new” scrub dress in some countries. Most hospitals in the USA and Europe argue that the scrub uniform is easier to clean than the old nurse uniforms.

By the 1970s, surgical attire had largely reached its modern state — a short-sleeve V-necked shirt and drawstring pants and supportive closed-toe shoes. Scrubs came to be called “scrubs” because it was worn in a “scrubbed” environment. Today, any medical uniform consisting of a short-sleeve shirt and pants is known as “scrubs”.

In recent years, CON student uniforms have traditionally been white scrubs. Spring of 2016 we introduced a Galaxy blue scrub with the College of Nursing logo embroidered on the left sleeve and a white lab coat with the logo embroidered over the heart. Due to our students having the logo on the left side we will be able to distinguish them from other Health Science disciplines. We are very happy about the upgrade and believe our students will be as well. Also, with this change we switched to a local company which came with a cost benefit to our students. All in all, the new uniforms seem to be a win-win.
To win the honor, a chapter applies for the award and is then reviewed by a board of directors. A chapter should be active on campus, promote professional development, and display student success to win the award.

"Toledo is the most active chapter in the state and that helped us win," said Amanda Nuckols, president of the UT Student Nurses’ Association chapter.

In 2014, the chapter also was named a Stellar Chapter, a national award recognizing school chapters that demonstrate ongoing involvement in the organization, including a strong commitment to shared governance and professional development of students and faculty.

The professional student organization has a strong presence on UT’s campus, offering a variety of student social activities, community outreach and professional development for students to network with nursing employers.

In fact, November was one of the chapter’s busiest months. In a single week, the group collected more than 700 items for the Cherry Street Mission’s Thanksgiving baskets; held an apparel sale that sold more than 200 items; made eight dozen cookies for Veterans Day that were given to a branch of the American Legions, the nation’s largest wartime veterans service organization; planned a surprise party for one of the group’s advisers who was retiring; and created busy blankets — small quilts made with squares of material featuring zippers, buttons, netting, satin, ribbons, lace and other materials for Alzheimer’s patients to keep on their laps and fiddle with.

"It was crazy," Nuckols said of the week and laughed. "But it all turned out really well."

If interested in joining, Nuckols encourages people to come to meetings, which are held biweekly in Collier Building Room 2401. The schedule for spring semester will be announced early next year.

"This organization has done countless things for me," she said. "It’s really helped me to grow, be more structured with my time, and break out of my shell."

Pre-nursing students also are encouraged to join the UT Pre-Nursing Student Organization. For more information, contact Carol Bryan at carol.bryan@utoledo.edu.

To learn more about the UT Student Nurses’ Association contact Nuckols at amanda.nuckols@utoledo.edu.
Undergrad & Graduate Viewbooks

Prospective students want to picture themselves on campus and the College of Nursing strives to paint that picture by providing stories and photos featuring current students and faculty at the Undergraduate and Graduate levels. We understand, choosing the right college is life-changing, so we have made sure our viewbooks tell our story of what prospective students will experience as a Rocket!

The viewbooks are being used as part of the admissions and recruitment funnel. Every direct from high school student who makes an appointment with our College receives a book and books are also featured at college fairs, nursing conferences and hospital education fairs. Viewbooks are an important medium for influencing students to apply to the University.

Our viewbooks are 9 x 11 ½, semi-gloss, 13 pages and both have a front folder pocket on the inside cover equipped to hold 8 ½ x 11 papers. There are many full-page photos throughout the viewbooks that are stunning and engaging. The photography functions as a stand-alone story, but was occasionally a backdrop for the display of text-based information.

Dr. Lakia Appointed to the State of Ohio Coordinating Body (OHCB) for Diabetes Education

Deloris Lakia, DNP, CNP, CDE has been asked to serve on the State of Ohio Coordinating body (OHCB) for diabetes education. OHCB for diabetes education is the statewide board for diabetes educators. Dr. Lakia has also been asked to serve as a panel member for the Spring 2016 statewide diabetes educator conference in Columbus to provide expertise in the area of diabetes education with patients having serious mental illness (SMI). Dr. Lakia states “Diabetes educators often work with patients with SMI in community and hospital settings and are challenged to assist them in making the best choices to maximize their diabetes management and prevent long-term complications so prevalent in this at-risk population. The panel will focus on education strategies, motivational interviewing and patient resources to promote best outcomes.”

Celebration of Holidays

On November 18, The College of Nursing highlighted the beauty of diversity through the celebration of Kwanzaa, Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas. At the event students, staff and faculty learned the rituals, traditions and customs of each holiday along with the meaning of the holidays. Each holiday had an interactive station where all who attended could immerse themselves into the culture of the holiday. The College of Nursing values the diversity of faculty, staff and students.
The 2015 Ohio Nurses Association (ONA) Convention, Nurses Charting the Course of HealthCare was held in Columbus, Ohio from October 9th-11th. Nurses representing 17 districts from across the state came together for two purposes: 1) to shape the new ONA Board which will focus on issues that impact the nursing profession in the state during the next two years, and 2) to vote on the platform of focus for the organization.

Reflecting on my service as a delegate for the Northwest Ohio Nurses Association (NONA) district, I am struck by the rare honor and privilege this event afforded. Nurses from NONA entrusted me to represent their voice – knowledge, ideas, and perspectives when discussing issues and concerns that impact nursing and healthcare in our state. Networking with other nurses from all over Ohio was an additional benefit for all those who attended. I also had time to break bread with colleagues from my own district and others who happened to be dining at the same table.

Reflection brings into focus the reality that the opportunity to impact the nursing profession and healthcare is rare and as professional nurses all of us need to seize these precious moments when they are presented. My thoughts are that we should be fighting over the opportunity to be a delegate to every ONA convention and we should have two or three candidates for ever delegate seat and Board seat available, but this is not the case. This reality brings renewed urgency for me as a NONA and ONA member to work with other nurses in the organization to reinvigorate membership and engagement so that all registered nurses may have equal if not greater opportunities in the future.

The ONA Biennial Convention also affords many enlightening and enriching experiences. First it provides a time to reflect on two years of legislative activities that impacted nursing and healthcare in the state of Ohio. Second, the convention provided a time when ONA district delegates voted on issues and priorities that they believe their state organization must effect for the future of nursing. These priorities are presented as “Reference Proposals” and focus ONA energies with the organization and the lobbying efforts within the legislature. Third, the convention also provided numerous high quality continuing education opportunities via poster session and in classroom settings. Lastly, fundraising activities such as district association raffles and a silent auction supporting organization initiatives provided fun and excitement.

“Fundraising activities such as district association raffles and a silent auction supporting organization initiatives provided fun and excitement.”

Five of the nine NONA delegates work for The University Of Toledo (UT) and the UT College of Nursing (CON). This is yet another example of how faculty and graduates from the UT CON continue to serve and model professional accountability and responsibility. Attendees included faculty: Dr. Kathy Sink, Dr. Jane Ransom, Dr. Karen Hoblet, and Dr. Bernie Butler. Delegates that work for UT include Molly Scott, an advanced practice provider, who works in the Movement Disorders Clinic.
As President and President-elect of Zeta Theta Chapter respectively, Drs. Temeaka Gray and Kelly Phillips attended the STTI convention in Las Vegas last November. They found the experience very informative and felt a genuine, uplifting of the profession of nursing. Plenary session topics included membership eligibility, cultivating future leaders, and presentations by the outgoing and incoming STTI presidents. At the Biennium, the chapter received its’ 4th Key Award. The Chapter Key Awards, established in 1991, honor STTI chapters that excel in chapter-related activities such as: membership recruitment and retention, publicity and programming, professional and leadership development and local, national and international collaboration. Dr. Gray accepted the award on behalf of the chapter.