

Who Will Teach Tomorrow's Nurses?

Expanding our nursing workforce is only the beginning.

Exceptional faculty will also help ensure the future of nursing.

Consider these sobering facts:

- Demand for registered nurses in Oregon currently exceeds supply by 25 percent. By 2025, one in two nursing positions in the state will go unfilled.
- By 2020, one in five Americans will be a senior citizen.
- By 2025, Oregon is likely to have the 4th highest per capita proportion of older adults in the nation.

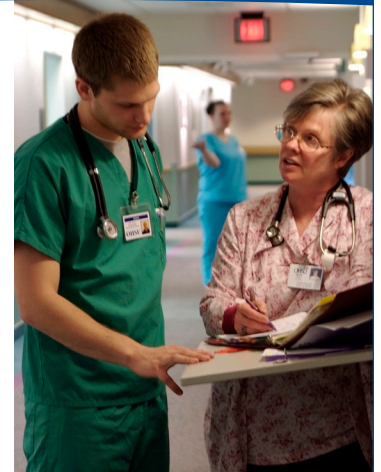
There is little doubt that in the years ahead our region will experience an exploding demand for nursing professionals. For the past decade the primary question facing nursing educators and public policy experts has been how to avoid a simultaneous shortage of nurses that could jeopardize patient care and significantly drive up the costs of care.

In 2001 OHSU and a coalition representing all of Oregon's nursing programs announced a bold approach to avoid this public health crisis in the making. The Oregon Consortium for Nursing Education (OCNE) vowed to double capacity in the state's nursing schools while delivering an innovative new curriculum emphasizing the advanced skills nurses would need to work in a rapidly evolving profession.

Nine years later, this coordinated effort has been recognized as a landmark national model. But in Oregon, and across the nation, a critical shortage of nursing faculty now stands in the way of rapid change. The question for this decade is not *Where will tomorrow's nurses come from?* but *Who will teach them?* and *How can they advance nursing science for all?*

The impact of strong faculty on the OHSU School of Nursing is incalculable. Educational excellence and research breakthroughs all begin with a capacity to attract and retain illustrious faculty and to give them the support they need to do exceptional work. Such leaders inevitably attract talented faculty and students, and generate new support in a cycle of excellence that raises all boats.

During the current period of intense competition for nurse educators, the single most important mechanism for supporting outstanding talent is endowed positions. These long-term financial resources allow key faculty to focus on achievement, education and discovery. Investing in these leading lights is one of the most essential ways to advance the OHSU School of Nursing at a time when Oregon needs it most.



Did you know?

OHSU School of Nursing faculty include nationally renowned educators, scholars and clinicians focused on the development of students, the holistic care of individuals and communities, and the pursuit of new knowledge.

Each year the majority of OHSU nursing students practice in Oregon after they graduate, making OHSU the state's primary educator of nursing professionals.

The OHSU School of Nursing is part of Oregon Health & Science University, Oregon's only academic health center.

Key Endowment Priorities

Endowed Professor in Aging & Care Systems - \$1 million

Nurse researchers have made some of the most significant contributions to the understanding of human aging because they combine a holistic approach to care with in-depth knowledge of care delivery systems. This endowed position will allow the school to support an exceptional candidate and to advance the pioneering work of the OHSU John A. Hartford Foundation Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence, one of only a handful of centers in the nation dedicated to improving quality of life for older adults. This position will engage in critical research to address both the science of aging and the evolution of care systems – and transfer that knowledge to the next generation of nurses.

Endowed Professor in Physiologic Nursing - \$1 million

The explosive expansion of medical science, including breakthroughs in understanding the human genome and physiologic dynamics, has created a new golden age of health research. Nurse scientists are central to OHSU's broad research mission because they focus not just on a disease itself but on the use of emerging science and technology to enhance quality of life for patients and families. This holistic sensibility is critical to improving human health. Breakthroughs will also help advance nursing practice for tomorrow's nurses.

Visiting Professorship in Research - \$500,000

These funds will allow faculty and students to learn from a nationally renowned senior scientist with substantive experience in a critical area of research or practice. This position is particularly important given the national shortage of senior faculty scientists because it allows for flexibility to meet evolving faculty needs without the commitment of a high-level recruitment.

Endowment for Excellence in Pedagogical & Simulation Science - \$400,000

OHSU is a national leader in the use of advanced simulation as a training tool for nursing students, an approach promoted both by OCNE and by national nursing organizations as a key way to improve both the effectiveness and efficiency of nursing education. This endowment would ensure rigorous simulation training for both nurse educators and students while providing interdisciplinary learning opportunities for students across OHSU.

Health Systems & Policy Lectureship - \$100,000

This lectureship will bring to our Portland campus a scholar in health systems and policy, an area of scholarship essential to D.N.P. and Ph.D. program content requirements. This lectureship will also help to enhance graduate education at associated clinical sites – particularly area hospitals, long-term care and public health settings.

Key measures of success

1
National ranking of nurse midwifery program

7
National ranking of graduate program

16
NIH ranking for research and training grants

75
Percentage of undergraduate nursing degrees awarded to Oregon residents

Make a Gift

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