

News and announcements



Joanne Noone, Ph.D., R.N., C.N.E.

- The OHSU School of Nursing has been awarded an HRSA Nursing Workforce Diversity grant in the amount of \$1,996,633 to implement statewide *Advancing Health Equity through Student Empowerment & Professional Success (HealthE STEPS) 2.0*. The program, developed at the Ashland and Monmouth campuses, was created to address social determinants to education. The grant will help recruit, enroll, retain, empower, and graduate nursing students from disadvantaged backgrounds to improve health equity within their communities through professional nursing practice. **Joanne Noone**, Ashland Campus Associate Dean and Principal Investigator will be the program's director.
- Congratulations to **Kathie Lasater** who received a Fulbright Award to conduct research at Edinburgh Napier University in the summer of 2018.

- Congratulations to **Joanne Noone**, Ph.D., R.N., C.N.E. for her selection as a fellow in the Academy of Nursing Educators! She will be inducted at the September 2017 Summit in San Diego.
- A study by Dr. **Kerri Winters-Stone**, Ph.D. Research Professor at SoN and co-leader of the Knight Cancer Institute Cancer Prevention and Control Program found that more than 500 female cancer survivors experience chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy (CIPN), long after their cancer treatment is over. This study was published ahead of print in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology* (JCO).
- The Hartford Center of Gerontological Excellence at OHSU is proud to announce three new recipients of The Hearst Foundations' Endowed Scholarship for AY 2017-18. Please join us in congratulating **Capella Crowfoot Lapham** who is in the Family Nurse Practitioner Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program and Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner DNP students **Christine Lasich** and **Callie Sockler**.

Innovations '17 grants cohort

- Angie Docherty, Rana Najjar, Sheryl Combs, and Rachel Woolley**, *Postpartum Depression in the First Year: An Analysis of Women Using Medicaid*
- Kathie Lasater, Ann Nielsen, Kathy Holloway (NZ), Brenda McGrath (NZ), Michelle Kelly (AU), and Samuel Lapkin (AU)**, *How Do Students' Backgrounds Impact Their Clinical Judgment Development (Noticing and Interpreting)?*
- Christopher Lee, James Mudd, Jill Gelow, Beth Habecker, and Quin Denfeld**, *Strategic Inquiry into Systemic Pro-inflammation and Hyper-Volumetric Stress in Heart Failure*
- Cindy Perry**, *Follow-up to the Mujeres Fuertes, Corazones Saludables/Strong Women Health Hearts Program*

Enrollment expansion in Ashland and La Grande

By Harry Lenhart

Responding to the critical need for registered nurses and nurse practitioners, particularly in rural Oregon, the OHSU School of Nursing is expanding enrollment at both its Ashland and La Grande campuses.

Ashland will admit an additional eight students to the 2018 cohort, going from 24 to 32 students, into its existing accelerated baccalaureate program designed for students with bachelor's degrees in another field. The program enables students to complete the nursing degree in less time and—to further streamline the process—offers co-admission to the family nurse practitioner graduate degree program.

In a survey of clinical partners where Ashland students gain practical experience, there were over 100 open positions, said Joanne Noone, Ph.D., R.N., C.N.E., Ashland's campus associate dean. "That concerns us," she said. "We have to respond to workforce needs."

This is also a concern for Carla Hagen, Ph.D., M.P.H., R.N., campus associate dean in La Grande. "At every quarterly meeting of the Eastern Oregon Nurse Leadership Council (which includes the chief nursing officers of the region's hospitals as well as the deans of its two community colleges offering associate nursing degrees) I'm being asked: 'How are we going to expand to meet the need?'"

La Grande will add a cohort of six to its three-year baccalaureate program, increasing the total to 30. Dr. Hagen, is working with Cynthia Perry, Ph.D., F.N.P.-BC, director of the School of Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Program (FNP), to identify pathways for La Grande's three-year students to move into the FNP program. "Our hope," said Dr. Hagen, "is that by the fall of 2018 we'll have an FNP cohort here."



Graduates at both campuses need not worry about finding employment.

"Of La Grande's 21 graduates in June all but one already had a job at commencement," said Dr. Hagen. "Local providers are continuously challenged to identify enough local applicants to fill open positions, and often resort to contracting with nurse travelers. This is significantly more costly."

Even though they can't turn out enough graduates to meet the need, it's important to have nursing education programs all around the state.

There's no way to keep our graduates from leaving the area but 75 percent of Ashland's graduates stay in southern Oregon and roughly 60 percent of La Grande's graduates opt to stay in eastern Oregon.

"Also," Dr. Noone points out, "in rural areas where one finds an array of vulnerable underserved populations there is a need for nurses who come from similar backgrounds. In many cases, they are more likely to work with underserved populations."

The Frances Fen-Fang Lee-Lin Endowed Nursing Scholarship in Cancer Research



To honor the legacy of a beloved colleague, dedicated teacher, and outstanding clinician, Allen Lin, Dr. Lee-Lin's husband, and their sons Anthony Lin and Benjamin Lin, have established the **Frances Fen-Fang Lee-Lin Endowed Nursing Scholarship in Cancer Research**.

This scholarship will honor the legacy and exemplary dedication of Dr. Lee-Lin and her life's work of building a pipeline of experienced nurses focused on cancer prevention and intervention. Donors make a powerful contribution to the education of doctoral nursing students (PhD and/or DNP) who plan to focus their studies on cancer prevention research. Preference will be given to students who are working with diverse populations.

Gifts to the **Frances Fen-Fang Lee-Lin Endowed Nursing Scholarship in Cancer Research** may be made at www.onwardohsu.org (Please click the checkbox that says: "I want to give to a specific fund not listed above" and then enter the fund name: *Frances Fen-Fang Lee-Lin Endowed Nursing Scholarship in Cancer Research*) or via check made payable to the *OHSU Foundation* referencing the fund name in the subject line and mailed to: OHSU Foundation; Attention: Esra Khalil; 1121 S.W. Salmon Street, Suite 100; Portland, OR 97205.

By the numbers

453 degrees were granted by the OHSU School of Nursing in 2017.

347

Bachelor of Science degrees

2

Post Master Certificates

31

Doctoral degrees

27 Doctor of Nursing Practice
4 Doctor of Philosophy, Nursing

73

Master's degrees

8 Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
13 Family Nurse Practitioner
9 Health Systems & Organizational Leadership
11 Nurse Anesthesia
11 Nurse Midwifery
7 Nursing Education
7 Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
7 Psych Mental Health NP

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Nathaniel Thornton, D.N.P., A.G.A.C.N.P.-B.C., C.C.R.N.

By Christi Richardson-Zboralski

As the first doctoral graduate of the Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program at OHSU, Nathaniel Thornton, is one-of-a-kind. In addition, he was chosen by his peers to give the graduation speech for the Portland convocation.

In Dr. Thornton's commencement speech he talked about leading. He said, "...those before us strived for dignity of the human condition, and now it is our turn to continue, so that no person's existence is marginalized or endangered because of their health."

Thornton's contributions to nursing are a testament to the words he uttered at commencement. During his coursework, he focused on research related to sepsis in older adults.

Of his nursing career he says, "A common diagnosis in the critical care setting is sepsis, a serious infection-induced immune response that causes multi-organ dysfunction," Thornton said. "During my doctoral work, I found a limited amount of literature on the treatment compliance in older adults with

sepsis—even though we know that they are at an increased risk of developing and dying from this condition." His doctoral project revealed that clinicians are often non-compliant with international treatment guidelines when caring for older adults 65 years and older, which potentially increases their healthcare costs, overall length of hospital stay and risk of death.



Nathaniel Thornton receives his hooding.

In his final year of the DNP program, he received a scholarship from the Hartford Center for Gerontological Excellence (Hearst Endowed Scholarship) to support his work of evaluating sepsis care in older adult population. He also co-authored a journal article with professor, Robin Miller, evaluating whether evidence drives fluid volume restriction in chronic heart failure treatment, published in June in *Nursing Clinics of North America*.

Following graduation, he will start work as a Nurse Practitioner with the Pulmonary and Critical Care group in the Medical ICU at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He hopes to continue his work in geriatric-related sepsis care there.

Applications open soon

OHSU School of Nursing offers undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, continuing education, and virtual education opportunities. With five regional campuses and community partnerships the School of Nursing offers educational opportunities throughout Oregon. Applications open in September: www.ohsu.edu/applying



School of Nursing CONNECTIONS

A publication from the OHSU School of Nursing | Summer 2017



Greetings colleagues and friends

By Susan Bakewell-Sachs, dean and vice president of nursing affairs

The academic year has ended and summer term is underway. We graduated 453 students across our campuses and degree programs in June. I had the pleasure of participating at the Portland, Klamath Falls, and Ashland ceremonies. Dr. Peggy Wros was at Monmouth and Dr. Devon Berry was at La Grande, and all were meaningful. I am grateful to be celebrating my 4-year anniversary with the School.

In response to our clinical partners around the state, we are increasing enrollments in Ashland and La Grande. We are also committing to state-wide workforce planning to ensure that Oregon has the nursing workforce it needs and will be creating a strategic enrollment plan to address state needs. Our strategic priority work continues, advancing our education, practice, and research. We were thrilled to learn this month that we have been awarded federal grant funds totaling nearly \$2million over the next four years, to address social determinants of education.



Carrots, sticks, sausages and the power of incremental change

An interview with Oregon Representative and OHSU Alumna, Sheri Malstrom

By Mark Kemball

As a student entering OHSU's Bachelor of Science with an Emphasis in Nursing course in 1978, Sheri Malstrom knew exactly where she was going. "I wanted to work in community settings with mothers and babies," she said in a recent interview. "I saw a lot of my classwork through that lens." As part of her senior clinical study Rep. Malstrom worked with high-risk newborns after they had left the hospital for home. It was this experience that solidified her commitment to help parents when they take their fragile infants home, and she began her nursing career in pediatrics at OHSU immediately after graduation.

Following four years at OHSU, Rep. Malstrom worked as a public health nurse for Multnomah County. In the process she gained a perspective on patient care that was missing from clinical and hospital settings. "You understand why your patients can't do the things you tell them to do when they leave the hospital," she said. "Maybe they live in a food desert, or are two bus rides from the store. Maybe they have no prescription drug coverage, or no safe place to exercise. You work with social determinants of health as well as the health of the patient."



Sheri Malstrom, R.N., class of '81.

This patient-led perspective has never left her. Rep. Malstrom followed over 30 years in public health with a second career as a first-term legislator, elected in November 2016 to represent nearly 64,000 Oregonians in House District 27. "I now get to see the budget that tries to turn some of these challenges around," she said. "My work as a nurse revolved around improving outcomes for the individual within – or, sometimes, despite – their community. Now my focus is to build up the community in order to build up the individual."

Serving on the Ways and Means Subcommittee for Human Services has made Rep. Malstrom a participant at some of the toughest of the decision-making discussions. Throughout these emotional and highly

personal testimonies she keeps her focus on health. "If we can make people healthier we are going to save an untold amount of money," she said.

Rep. Malstrom has sponsored two bills that seek to save both the individual and the state from unnecessary costs. House Bill 2644 provides that vitamin K must be administered to newborn infants by the most effective means. House Bill 3404 requires children under two years of age to be properly secured in car seats in a rear-facing position. "This is both the care of one and the care of a community," she said. "The injuries you save are not just to that one child."

Now that Oregon Governor Brown has signed these two bills into law, Rep. Malstrom is working on a Statewide Drug Takeback program. House Bill 2645 directs each manufacturer of prescription drugs that are sold within Oregon to develop and implement drug take-back programs that allow the secure return of unused drugs for disposal. "Street sales are not the only cause of opioid abuse. Often it's the easy availability of unused pills in a home medicine cabinet that starts a devastating addiction," she said. "Getting rid of pills should be as easy as getting them in the first place."

“There have always been partisan issues. But often it’s the back and forth debate – ‘sausage-making’ as we refer to it – that makes for better legislation. Others who think very differently about an idea bring something to the table and contribute to a better result.”

— Sheri Malstrom, Oregon Representative, SoN Alumna

Rep. Malstrom acknowledges the unique political atmosphere of the past twelve months, but remains phlegmatic in the face of partisan division. "There have always been partisan issues," she said. "But often it's the back and forth debate – 'sausage-making' as we refer to it – that makes for better legislation. Others who think very differently about an idea bring something to the table and contribute to a better result."

Her nursing experience was, she says, key to establishing trust with potential – and even hostile – voters. "People felt I could listen," she said. "That's what nurses do, and I learned how to do it in nursing school."

Other lessons from nursing school have also served her well as a first-time legislator. "I wasn't the nurse I eventually became when I started out. I was fumbling and slow like everybody else," she said. "I'm now reliving that experience as a legislator. I've found it's better to do things with more carrots than sticks, and I learned that from patient education. With patient care you generally do not try to make sudden, major change. You achieve significant change by making many small, innovative changes. This is how our professors – Dr. Carol Lindeman, Dr. Naomi Ballard, Dr. Marsha Heims, Dr. Marie Duncan – encouraged us to think and act. I am proud to carry in the legislature this legacy of my time at OHSU."

"It is important to understand that an idea can come from anywhere and anyone," she concludes. "Laws are simply good ideas that become bills. If you think you have an idea that would be a good legislative concept, write to me or write to your legislator. Your voice matters, and there is a method to this process."

Representative Sheri Malstrom

Democrat – District 27 – Beaverton

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Lissi Hansen, Ph.D., R.N. (left) and Molly Campbell, mentor and mentee, discuss their research process and next steps.

Relationships + research = effective change

How SoN's student-mentor relationship and curriculum yields cutting-edge healthcare research

by Cathy Carroll

SoN's Ph.D. and D.N.P. students are working with mentors not only to learn research and clinical skills, but to push the boundaries of healthcare. They recently talked about working together, and how SoN's programs stand out from the rest.

"The new, research-focused Ph.D. curriculum is designed to make students effective agents of change. It trains students how to win grants and run rigorous studies, which can translate to national changes in practice and policy," said Research Professor Kerri M. Winters-Stone, Ph.D. Her work focuses on improving the care and health of cancer survivors and their families.

Winters-Stone mentors Jenny Firkins, a neuro-trauma nurse, in part by seeking opportunities for Firkins to collaborate with researchers outside of her field to add new dimensions to her work and complex problem-solving skills. Firkins works with Winters-Stone's team on a National Institutes of Health-funded grant in collaboration with OHSU's neurology department and Knight Cancer Institute, plus a private technology company. "We value Jenny's input on the project from her experience as a nurse, which helps us how to figure out how to best implement the project in the oncology setting," Winters-Stone said.

This approach attracted Firkins. "Kerri is an exercise physiologist, and to learn from an interdisciplinary approach is really important for the whole picture. Other schools don't offer that," said Firkins.

She works with Winters-Stone in researching the role of exercise in cancer survival and the quality of life for a terminal patient. "It's important to optimize functioning and quality of life, so these patients stay as healthy as possible, as long as possible," Firkins said. "This has not been studied in this patient population — virtually all research is in treatment because of the limited survival."

The new Ph.D. curriculum also helps students become strong, curious scholars and researchers. For example, Professor Lissi Hansen, Ph.D., R.N., teaches a new course that helps students explore whether qualitative or quantitative research suits them.

Her research focuses on people with end-stage liver disease and their family and caregivers. "We know about transplants, medicine and procedures, and little about the people," she said. "This is about them, and their struggles with uncertainty, sleep, disease severity and quality of life."

This research pulled Molly Campbell in to the program and to Hansen, her mentor. "People have a better quality of life with palliative care and symptom management and often live longer than in the current standard of care," said Campbell, a cardiac nurse. "Lissi is so supportive of every idea that I have, and can connect me to an article I should read, or conferences, and encourages me to talk to all the professors in my program. She is also helpful with setting deadlines, and critiquing my work so I can improve as a writer, and understanding the research process."

The D.N.P. program focuses on the next generation of advance practice nurses. "It is very much student-driven," said Associate Professor Shigeko (Seiko) Izumi Ph.D., R.N. "Students take a lead to identify and build relationships with clinicians, collaborators and mentors needed to conduct the project."

D.N.P. graduates gain skills in clinical work and in independent, self-directed, leadership. Izumi mentors Margot Presley, B.A., M.N.-R.N., F.N.P.-S., who exemplifies this, Izumi said. "She identified improving care for transgender population as an area of interest in her D.N.P. project and collaborated with Old Town Clinic (in Portland) to assess and address practice changes for this population in the clinic," Izumi said.

Presley said Izumi mentors her in skills around qualitative inquiry. "She acts like a navigator of these new academic experiences," Presley said. "Seiko is incredibly approachable with questions, and her direct communication style is very efficient and practical."

Izumi shares articles and references that allow Presley to better understand the larger context of her questions. She suggests exercises that break down the writing process, and teaches the strategy involved with publishing. "Above all, Seiko is realistic, and honors that research and writing are challenging for everyone," Presley said.

Anthony Hoy's D.N.P. research centered on helping medical professionals develop cultural competency for working with transgender youth. "This topic is vitally important for the transgender community," Hoy said. "So many have had horrific experiences with healthcare that have made them avoidant of seeking treatment until their situations are dire."

Hoy said, "OHSU inspires nursing students to collaborate in creating positive change in healthcare."

He was mentored by Margaret Rhoads Scharf, D.N.P., P.M.H.N.C.N.S.-BC, F.N.P.-BC, P.M.H.N.P., and Tina Walde, D.N.P., P.M.H.N.P. "These relationships challenged me to be creative, while grounding me so that I didn't become overwhelmed," said Hoy. "They cheered me on and consoled me when my spirits were flagging, and they quietly inspired me to be a better nurse practitioner."

Commencement 2017

Student and faculty awards

Statewide awards

The Jean E. Boyle Memorial award

Graduate recipient: Sarah Kuppenbender (Family Nurse Practitioner – Portland campus)

Undergraduate recipient: Pesa N. Coslow (B.S. with a major in nursing – Monmouth campus)

The Community Service Award

Graduate recipient: Sarah E. Wohlgenuth (Family Nurse Practitioner - Portland campus)

Undergraduate recipient: Hannah C. Hassan (B.S. with a major in nursing – Klamath Falls campus)

The Carol A. Lindeman Award

Graduate recipient: Wendy Herrick (Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Portland campus)

Undergraduate recipient: Caitlin J. Walters (B.S. with a major in nursing – Portland campus)

The Henrietta Doltz Puhaty Award

Graduate recipient: Dana Davies (Family Nurse Practitioner – Portland campus)

Undergraduate recipients: Katelyn M. Allard (B.S. with a major in nursing – Monmouth Campus) and Jessica Dombek (B.S. with a major in nursing – La Grande Campus)

The Rural and Frontier Nursing Award

Graduate recipient: Korey V. Ham (Family Nurse Practitioner – Portland campus)

Undergraduate recipient: Shannon White (B.S. with a major in nursing – La Grande campus)

The Transcultural Nursing Award

Graduate recipient: Margot Presley (Family Nurse Practitioner – Portland campus)

Undergraduate recipient: Ireli Y. Hernandez (B.S. with a major in nursing – Monmouth campus)

Campus specific awards

(undergraduate only)

The Elнора Thompson Leadership Award

Kelsey-Jo A. Moss (B.S. with a major in nursing – Portland campus)

Maricela Kelly (RNBS Completion program - Online)

Marina R. Hartnell (B.S. with a major in nursing – Ashland campus)

Lusann M. Strop (B.S. with a major in nursing – Klamath Falls campus)

Isela J. Garcia (B.S. with a major in nursing – La Grande campus)

Yeng Xiong (B.S. with a major in nursing – Monmouth campus)

The Golden Lamp Award

Yvonne M. Barsalou (B.S. with a major in nursing – Portland campus)

Kathi Weaver (RNBS Completion program – Online)

Rachel M. Dunn (B.S. with a major in nursing – Ashland Campus)

Megan J. Romero (B.S. with a major in nursing – Klamath Falls campus)

April G. Adamson (B.S. with a major in nursing – La Grande campus)

Stacie N. Chance (B.S. with a major in nursing – Monmouth campus)

Individual campus awards

Dorothy L. Johnson Award

Michelle M. La Vina (RNBS Completion – Virtual campus)

Zachary T. Smith (B.S. with a major in nursing – Portland campus)

Krueger Award

Carly B. Ziegler (B.S. with a major in nursing – Ashland Campus)

Monmouth Scholarly Achievement Award

Ellie Atkins (B.S. with a major in nursing – Monmouth campus)

Perseverance Award

Jon E. Howard (B.S. with a major in nursing – Klamath Falls campus)

Student Vision Award

Alayna N. Oleska (B.S. with a major in nursing – Monmouth campus)

Excellence in teaching

Graduate: Teresa Turnbull, D.N.P., F.N.P., A.A.N.P.C.B.

Undergraduate: Beth Doyle, D.N.P., W.H.C.N.P., A.N.P., R.N., G.C.P.H.

