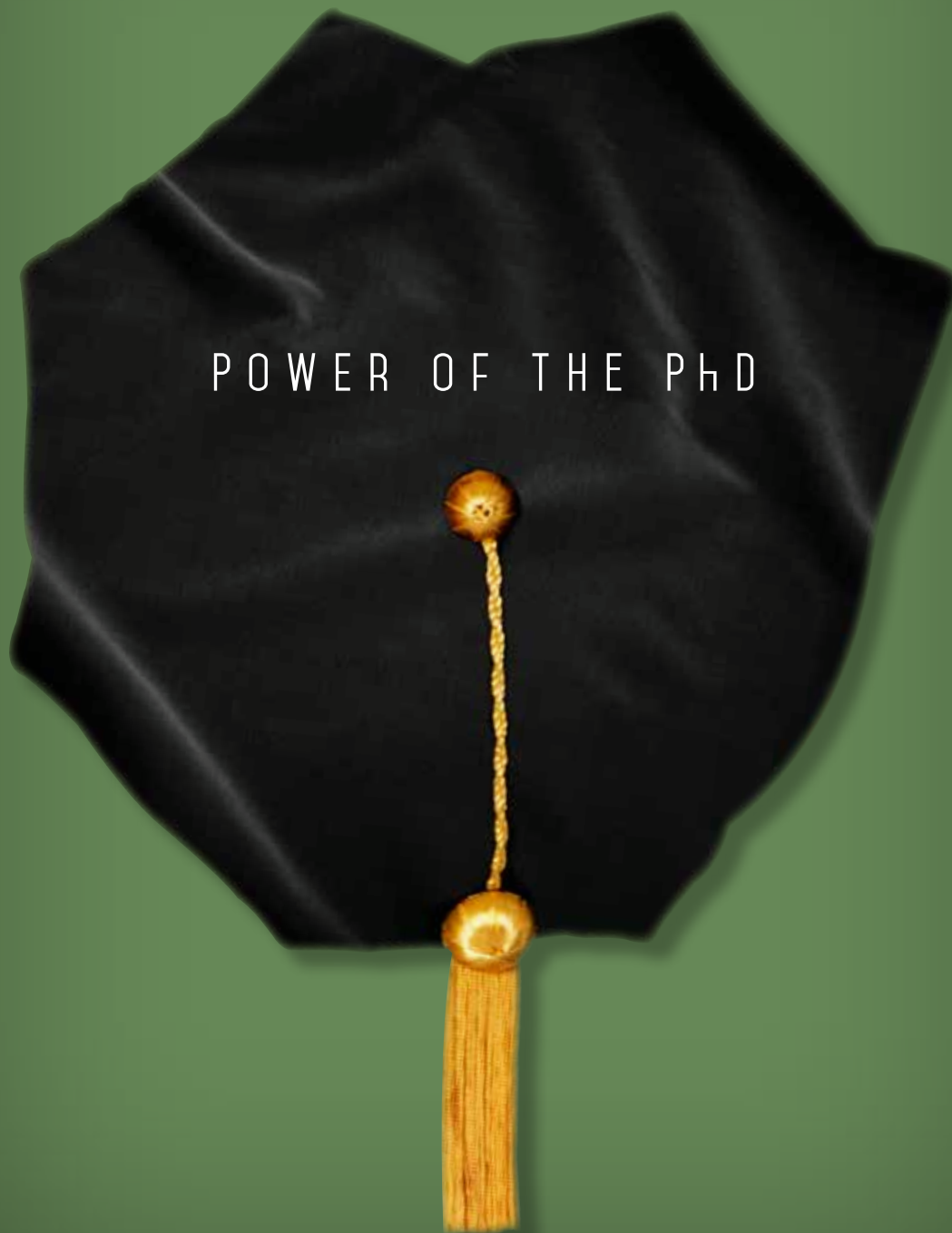


UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES COLLEGE OF NURSING

NURSING

Fall 2014



POWER OF THE PHD

UAMS[®]

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



Stories connect us and allow us to know each other on a deeper level as we share our experiences and values. I love hearing the stories of our students, of our faculty and of our alumni about how they chose nursing as a career.

I recently welcomed Marilyn Henderson, who in 1957 was a graduate of the College of Nursing's first class, to our offices for a visit. I enjoyed hearing how early she decided to pursue a career in nursing and how determined she was about getting into nursing school.

Marilyn chose nursing at a young age. She recounted how as a 12-year-old, she followed

her aunt to work at a Hot Springs hospital, determined to find a job of her own. She told of waiting as long as it took for the tardy nursing school dean to arrive for her interview — “She had what I wanted.”

I also enjoyed the stories of six alumni profiled in this issue — each talking about how they came to choose nursing and UAMS. There was Leta Snow (Class of '58), working as a nurse in a hospital on the Pacific island of Guam or Garbo Watson Hearne (Class of '83) who maintains her nursing license, even while running a Little Rock art gallery.

This issue of our magazine deals a lot with how our students and alumni chose their academic journey — whether it was to become a nurse or to continue their education and expand the horizons of their nursing career.

The theme of choice factored into the recent “I Choose...” campaign we recently developed for promoting our college to prospective students. In brochures, video clips, social media and advertising, we told the stories of students in each of our degree programs and how they came to choose the UAMS College of Nursing.

We are proud to have students who choose to entrust their academic future in us. We are as determined to provide them the education that will help them achieve their goals and fulfill the UAMS mission of health care and health improvement.

Lorraine Frazier, PhD, RN, FAAN

UAMS Nursing
Fall 2014

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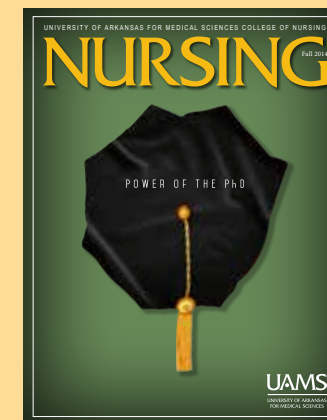
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ON THE COVER



By having the **only university-based PhD nursing program in Arkansas**, the UAMS College of Nursing is meeting market demands by producing graduates qualified to teach, conduct research and serve as leaders in nursing and health care. The college is now raising funds to establish an endowed professorship of research for the PhD program. Please contact Brenda Scisson, executive director for development, at bscisson@uams.edu or (501)526-8950 to find out how you can support this effort, which will provide a never-ending benefit not just to the program but to all Arkansans helped by the program's graduates.

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LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

COLLEGE'S DOCTORAL PROGRAM PREPARES LEADERS
IN RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

BY JON PARHAM

THE DOCTORAL (PhD) PROGRAM IN THE UAMS COLLEGE OF NURSING HAS BEEN A CAREER-CHANGING CATALYST FOR ITS STUDENTS AND GRADUATES.

Ayasha Thomason wanted to take the next step.

Working as a nurse practitioner in women's health, she was intrigued by possible genetic links between secondhand smoke and abnormal pap smears. She and a colleague developed a pilot study that received funding through the state of Arkansas' Tobacco Settlement Funds. What she discovered was more than just a promising research target — it was a career trajectory.

"I realized that to get federal funding or anything large scale to support testing our findings, I needed a PhD," said Thomason, MNSc, APRN, WHNP-BC.

Tammy Jones, PhD, RN, was an experienced nurse who began to think her career needed something more. She had worked more than 10 years; had taken on specialty certification; and had started serving as a clinical instructor to nursing students.

"I decided that to go to the next level, I would need to further my education," said Jones, the associate chief nursing officer and director for the Center for Nursing Excellence in the UAMS Medical Center. "I realized that a PhD would likely present opportunities for me to advance both the nursing profession and patient care that otherwise would not be available."

For Rebecca Burris, PhD, RN, it was a leadership opportunity. When the chair of the Department of Nursing at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville stepped down, she had the opportunity to step up, but she needed a doctoral degree.

"It was something I had wanted to do since I finished my master's degree and the opportunity was right," said Burris, now in her 15th year as department chair at Arkansas Tech.

There are many ways to say it: "take it to the next level," "take the next step" or "reach your full potential." It's that moment when you realize that though you have experience and skills, there may be something more you need to do to fulfill a dream or advance a career.

In nursing, as in many professions, earning a doctoral degree is the pinnacle academic achievement. It prepares and positions the graduate to pursue roles in nursing leadership, whether in a clinical or academic setting. While the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree is focused on clinical practice, the PhD graduate advances nursing in administrative or faculty positions or in research.

With a national nursing shortage and increased demand for medical care, nursing schools are increasing enrollments to produce more nurses. The PhD graduate is ready to take on the role of educator and mentor — preparing generations of future nurses. For those with an interest in research, a PhD in nursing can open the career path toward work in areas such as health promotion, disease prevention or bio-behavioral research.

"Our PhD program incorporates the latest information to prepare our graduates to conduct all types of research on a variety of diseases and illness that impact the health of Arkansans," said Jean McSweeney, PhD, RN, associate dean for research and interim director of the PhD program in the College of Nursing. "With all of the changes in health care — from health care reform to an aging population — there is a great demand for nursing leaders — the kind we are developing in the College of Nursing."

Difference Makers

The college started its PhD program in 1997, with the first class graduating in May 2000. Since its inception, the college has built a doctoral program that has assembled national leaders in research and education to serve as faculty and mentors. It has used the Internet to expand the classroom and has provided access research opportunities for lifelong learning experiences.

The UAMS College of Nursing has the only university-based PhD program in Arkansas. The program's location on a health sciences campus bolsters the interprofessional opportunities for nursing students alongside students in the UAMS colleges of medicine, pharmacy, health professions and public health.

Most courses in the program are offered in a "blended" format through both face-to-face classes and online work. This accommodates working students while offering the chance for students to make connections in person with fellow students and faculty.

Another difference maker is class size.

"We've focused on providing our students individualized attention to aid their success and development, thus we keep our PhD classes small by admitting five to eight students per semester," McSweeney said. "This ensures those PhD students receive the maximum attention from faculty members and their advisor."

Faculty members in the program include nationally and internationally known experts in areas from women's health to cardiology to geriatrics.

McSweeney was lead investigator in the landmark 2003 study that reported women's early warning and acute symptoms experienced prior to and with a heart attack. This landmark study, combined with her later studies, suggest a new way to stop heart attacks before they happen, by identifying and treating these early warning symptoms. She said entry into a PhD program began as a way to further improve patient care and leadership skills.

"I had no idea that I would love conducting research when I first entered the PhD program, but it became my focus and I have never looked back," McSweeney said. "I have been thankful that I learned the skills that have allowed me to conduct my research with women and heart disease."

"I know our research has improved recognition of heart disease in women and has benefitted the women in Arkansas and across the nation. Each of our PhD students has the same potential to conduct meaningful research to improve the lives of Arkansans and others."

Geriatric Nursing Excellence

In addition to its colleges and teaching hospital, UAMS is home to seven institutes, where patient care, education and research coalesce around a specific condition or cause. The UAMS Reynolds Institute on Aging, home of graduate education programs routinely ranked among the nation's elite, also provides ample opportunities for the College of Nursing's Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence.

The UAMS Hartford Center is one of only eight such programs in the nation, funding research, practice, leadership and education opportunities. In the service of improving the quality of life and care for all older adults, their families and communities, the center's activities focus on advancing geriatric nursing faculty development and facilitating interprofessional geriatric education, research and leadership for the state and region.

"We're extremely proud of the fact that Arkansas is now a leader in the care of older adults, particularly in long-term-care and rural areas," said Claudia Beverly, PhD, RN, FAAN, who directs both the Hartford Center and the Institute's Arkansas Aging Initiative network of statewide geriatric interprofessional care and education facilities.

"Resources like the Hartford Center and the Institute on Aging serve as recruiting tools that attract high-quality faculty from across the country and world that benefit our patients, their caregivers and the graduate students they teach and mentor," she said.

Mentors set the tone for the doctoral student through

guidance and advice. Thomason, on track to earn her doctorate in 2016, said doctoral level education is different and more difficult than past educational experiences — thus being able to count on experienced counsel is critical. She cited McSweeney for support in her first pilot study and for tips on grant writing and navigating the research approval process.

She pointed to Beverly and faculty members such as geriatrics nursing expert Pao Feng Tsai, PhD, RN, and Cornelia Beck, PhD, RN, for support in collaborating on work with the Hartford Center.

Beck, a professor of geriatrics, psychiatry, and nursing, who has led Alzheimer's research and held leadership positions at UAMS in research and geriatrics, was once called "a national treasure in nursing" by Patricia Archbold, DNSc, RN, director of the John A. Hartford Foundation Scholars Program for the American Academy of Nursing.

That statement came full circle when Thomason was selected in 2014 as a Patricia Archbold Scholar. Another noted geriatric nursing researcher, Leanne Lefler, PhD, APRN, is Thomason's mentor and dissertation chair.

"They all have pushed me when I needed it and given me constructive advice when I didn't realize I needed it," said Thomason, who also teaches on the College of Nursing faculty. "They have spent many hours reviewing manuscripts and papers on my behalf."

The Next Step

The PhD program will continue to evolve as needed to serve its students and the needs of nursing and health care, McSweeney said. Already the program is incorporating newer research methods and concepts of patient-centered care and allying with communities, families and patients as members of the research team.

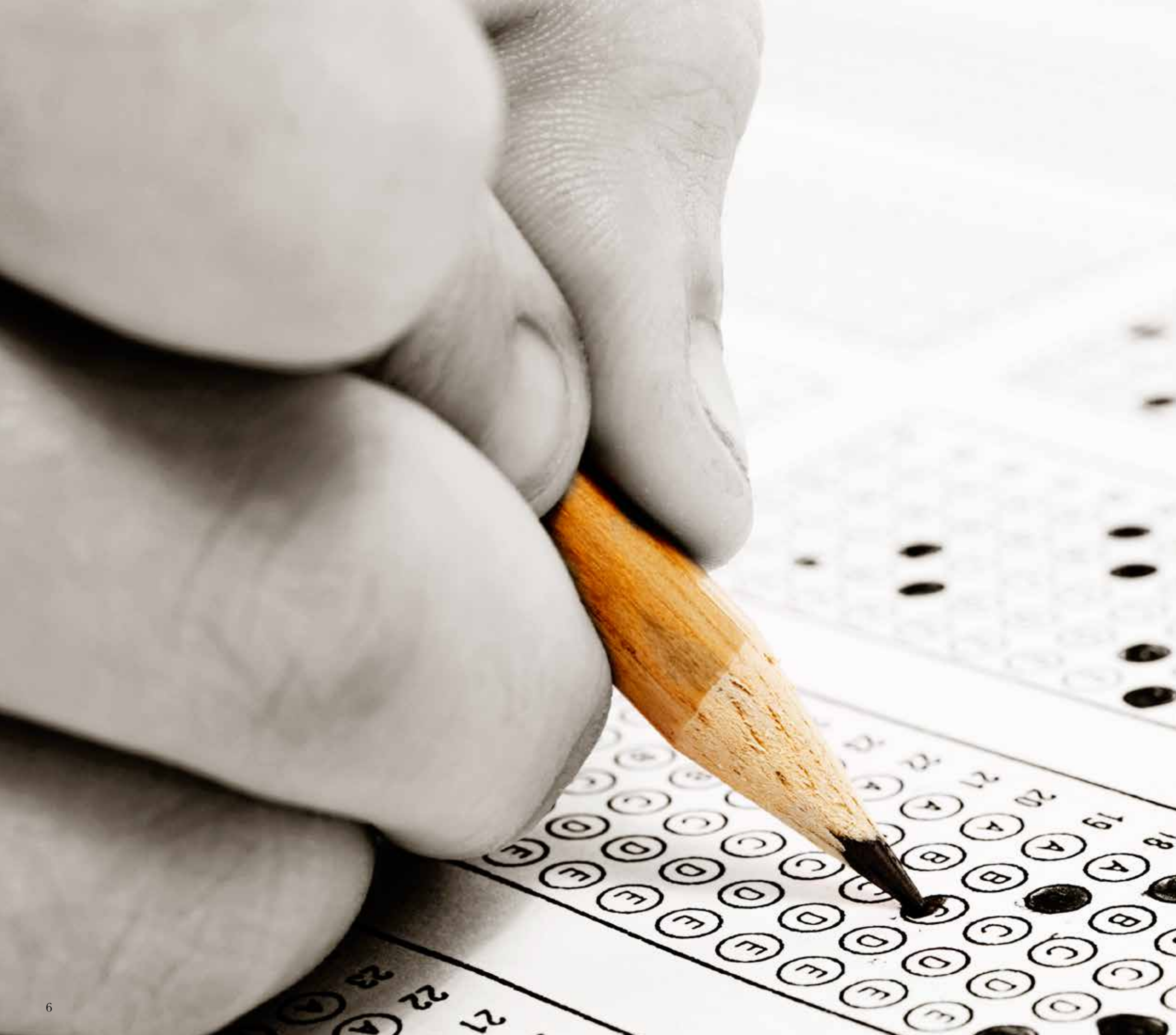
"They help to set priorities of what research will help their community achieve the best possible health outcomes," McSweeney said.

"For example, one community might want research on how best to prevent strokes and control high blood pressure while another might see an increased number of suicides and want research on recognizing signs of depression."

"We have already incorporated these research methods into our courses."



Internationally acclaimed Dr. Jean McSweeney heads up Research and PhD programs.



MAKING THE GRADE

**EXAM PASS RATE UNDERSCORES
COLLEGE'S FOCUS** BY JON PARHAM

When recent graduates of the baccalaureate degree (BSN) program in the College of Nursing recorded the highest pass rate of any Arkansas nursing school on the national licensure exam, faculty and staff saw proof that a renewed focus on individualized student support was paying off.

The college's pass rate on the Registered Nurse (RN) National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) was not only on a three-year upward trend, it also exceeded the national average pass rate, according to the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

"These results are particularly worth celebrating since the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Board of Directors raised the passing standard for the NCLEX in December 2012," said Dean Lorraine Frazier, PhD, RN, FAAN "Our college's motto for students has been 'when we admit them, we commit to them' — something our faculty and staff truly take to heart with a focus on student success that is reflected in the exam pass rate. We are so proud of our students and their successes, which ultimately benefit the patients and families under their care."

The improvement was in part attributed to increased resources to help students prepare for testing and expanded access to one-on-one support from faculty or academic staff.

The resources included the 2012 creation of the Senior Capstone Course. After a consultation with faculty members to assess readiness for NCLEX, students then take a NCLEX predictor exam. Based on the score of the predictor exam, students can access additional review and study resources crafted to help where they need more review. ▶



Kelly Betts, EdD, MNsc, RN and Janet Shirley, MSN, APRN

The college's Progressive Learning Center also was established in 2012 to provide not just additional space for group study and test preparation, but also improved access to faculty and staff members for additional support.

"We want to see our students achieve their full potential and ensure that when they take the NCLEX exam they can rely on the knowledge and preparation gained through their academic experience," said Donna Middaugh, PhD, RN, the college's associate dean for academic programs.

A Holistic Approach

Academic risk factors may vary from the transition from a college environment to a professional program, personal issues with family

or finances, learning disabilities related to testing or study habits. A more systematic approach to tracking student performance from the first day of classes ensures that any difficulties can be identified quickly and before they could possibly derail a student's progress.

Kelly Betts, EdD, MNsc, RN, a clinical assistant professor, and associate dean for baccalaureate education, strives to spot these academic risk factors early and then match BSN students with the best resources. Some students may not be aware that we offer extra study or preparation assistance.

"Our goal is to provide the students the best education possible and to ensure they are successful in passing the NCLEX-RN licensure exam," Betts said. "To me, the dedication of the faculty and our academic coach working with these students on a one-one basis is the key to their success."

Janet Shirley, MSN, APRN, an assistant professor in the college, coordinates the NCLEX exam prep and academic support programs. She said revamping the programs to promote more exposure to practice exams and more one-on-one contact helped both students and faculty catch problems before they could worsen.

"Now I meet with every student who fails a test," Shirley said. "I use the opportunity to assess what might be contributing to their problems — is it a case of needing more study or test prep time or could it be test anxiety or stress from work or family or school. We really want to be holistic in our approach to supporting our students."

Shirley may suggest additional practice tests or study guides or she may connect students with wellness programs or counseling that might help address issues impacting their academic performance — whether it's school related or not.

"So many times I find myself saying, 'You're smart. You know you can do this. What's going on?' then the students will open up," she said.

She has even offered quiet study space for students who might need a quick nap between classes. This was the case for some students affected by the April tornadoes that caused significant damage in Mayflower and Vilonia — hitting during finals week.

Shirley meets one-on-one with all senior students throughout the Capstone Course.

"We go over their practice tests and we usually predict where they stack up in terms of readiness for the NCLEX," she said. She may then prescribe more study or more resources or more work on practice exams.

"I want to do everything I possibly can to help those students succeed," Shirley said.

Thank-you notes and emails received from graduates who went on to pass the NCLEX exam illustrate appreciation for the college's team effort.

'I Felt Good About the Test'

Kris Ashley, BSN, RN, said the Capstone course and other study assistance helped her pass the NCLEX exam in January 2014.

Graduation from the BSN program completed what she termed a "tough" journey started when she was a single mother, looking in the newspaper's classified section for a career and seeing multiple job listings for nurses.

"I never grew up thinking 'I want to be a nurse,' but now that I'm here, I realize this is what I'm supposed to be doing," said Ashley, who now works on the night shift at UAMS Medical Center.

Looking back at her school years, she said she was naïve in her approach to returning to school, maybe not truly appreciating the hard work and dedication it

would require. When she failed a class as a junior, she immediately retook it, and said there were instructors and classmates who offered time and support that helped her regain her momentum. She also met with Shirley, who she said helped her prioritize her studying and deal with other issues causing her stress.

Ashley recalled sitting in her car after the NCLEX exam, not yet knowing her score. "I knew with all the studying and preparation and help that I had, I felt good about the test," she said.

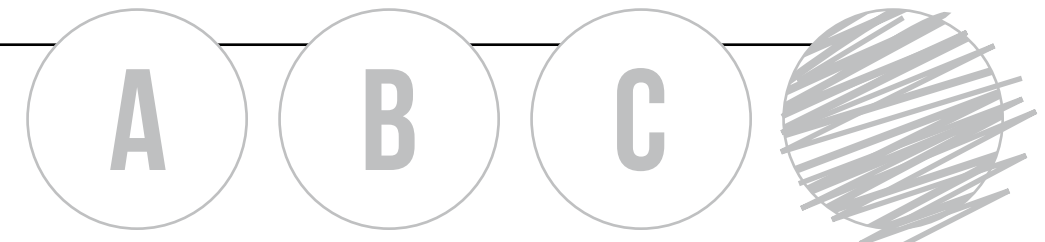
Plans are being made to renovate and expand the existing facilities that house the college's Progressive Learning Center. An expansion would allow the center to serve more students, becoming an even more critical element in student success.

Construction costs to expand the center are still being totaled. Supporting the Progressive Learning Center represents a meaningful philanthropic opportunity for an individual or foundation. Contact Brenda Scisson, executive director for development, bscisson@uams.edu or (501)526-8950, to find out how you can help.

Nursing continues to be one of the fastest growing occupations in the nation. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Employment

Projections 2012-2022 released in December 2013, RN is listed among the top occupations in terms of job growth through 2022. The United States is projected to experience a shortage of nurses that is expected to intensify as baby boomers age and the need for health care grows.■

“Our college's motto for students has been 'when we admit them, we commit to them.'”



Barone is First Nurse Appointed to FDA Panel on Tobacco Products

BY JON PARHAM



Claudia Barone, EdD, APRN

THERE WAS A FREQUENT PATIENT IN THE VIRGINIA hospital where Claudia Barone, EdD, APRN, worked as a critical care nurse in the 1980s. More than once she had fallen asleep while smoking and burned herself.

The last time it happened, she died of her injuries. Seeing that impacted Barone in a way that ultimately influenced her career path. As a caregiver with an interest in education, she developed a research interest in tobacco cessation techniques and helping health care providers know the available treatments.

“As a critical care nurse, you see that patients who use tobacco products just don’t recover as quickly from illness,” she said.

Now a nationally known expert in tobacco cessation, Barone was appointed in April to a three-year term on the Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Food and Drug Administration (FDA). She is the first nurse appointed to the committee.

“I was surprised to find out I was the first nurse,” said Barone, a professor in the College of Nursing. “The committee has representation from bench scientists and addiction researchers, so I hope I can offer a patient care perspective and also one interested in education for health care providers to know more about these products and how best to help patients.”

The 12-member FDA committee is selected from among those knowledgeable in the fields of medicine, medical ethics, science, or technology involving the manufacture, evaluation or use of tobacco products. The panel advises on issues related to the regulation of tobacco products. The committee reviews and evaluates safety, dependence

and health issues relating to tobacco products and provides appropriate advice, information and recommendations.

“It’s exciting to see the hard work and passion of a College of Nursing colleague acknowledged nationally through Claudia’s appointment,” said College of Nursing Dean Lorraine Frazier, PhD, RN, FAAN. “It’s also important for nursing to see the profession seated at the table to advise and make recommendations for regulating tobacco products in the United States.”

Barone trained as a Tobacco Treatment Specialist at the University of Massachusetts Medical School’s Center for Tobacco Treatment Research and Training. Her research interest in tobacco cessation includes grant-supported work studying clinic-based cessation techniques.

“Patients, such as those being treated for lung cancer, may need tobacco cessation therapy as a part of their overall treatment,” she said. “In some cases health care providers may not know the different therapies available to them for helping their patients quit certain tobacco products — therapies that they can individualize based on their patient’s history and condition.”

Barone was part of a successful program started in the Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health to educate health care providers for treating tobacco dependence in their patients. More than 7,000 providers received training through the program.

Among the products the panel could soon be advising the FDA on are the electronic delivery devices. These smokeless devices deliver the stimulant nicotine — which is extracted from tobacco — and have been marketed by some as a tobacco cessation aid and/or a safe alternative to cigarettes.

“This is something that will be examined,” Barone said. “These devices are becoming very popular, and while we know nicotine is a dangerous and addictive chemical, little has been concluded about their safety.”

Ambassadors for the College

ONE MAY THINK OF AN AMBASSADOR as someone working in a foreign country, but there is a group of ambassadors around Central Arkansas that do their jobs in their own back yards.

That’s the role that College of Nursing Advisory Board Chair Sara Jouett sees herself and the other board members having. “We are convinced that the College of Nursing is the best in the state, and our job is to be their ambassador to the community,” Jouett said.

The college revamped its advisory board in 2013 to become more functional and active, which is when Jouett was invited to join. She is a graduate of the Vanderbilt School of Nursing and worked as a nurse for many years. After moving to Arkansas almost 50 years ago, she started volunteering and got involved with both the Arkansas State Medical Auxiliary and the UAMS Hospital Auxiliary. “A nursing degree is helpful in so many areas,” she said. “It can give insight to many community health related issues.”

All of her previous roles helped Jouett seem like the perfect candidate to help direct this board. “I encourage the other members and listen for things that we can address to help the college,” she said.

The board’s focus is promoting the College of Nursing and its programs, events and achievements. “Our job is to get the word out about the College of Nursing, to encourage new students and support the college in small ways,” Jouett said. “We really serve as its ambassadors.”

They reached out to potential supporters with a letter, sharing their passion for the College of Nursing. The board assisted with the college’s most recent white coat ceremony, and looked for any opportunity to talk up the college to prospective students they meet.

The board includes 11 members from diverse occupations. “We all have different backgrounds and bring different visions, but that’s what makes a healthy board,” she said.



Sara Jouett, College of Nursing Advisory Board Chair

The board members include:

Sara Jouett, *chair, of Little Rock*, Worked as a head nurse in pediatrics.

JoAnn Smith, *vice chair, of Searcy*, Taught at the college for a number of years.

Michael Spades, Jr., *secretary/ treasurer, of Little Rock*, Lawyer representing clients in civil and criminal litigation matters.

Richard Smith, *nominations committee chair, of Searcy*, Taught at the college along with his wife, JoAnn.

Sharon Allen, *of Little Rock*, Served as president and chief operating officer of Arkansas Blue Cross board of directors.

Benni Fambrough, *of Little Rock*, Worked as a nurse at UAMS, a professor and staff member in the college.

Linda Hodges, PhD, *of Hot Springs Village*, Was Dean of the College of Nursing from 1989 to 2006.

Lolly Honea, *of Little Rock*, Retired nurse, but now serves as a real estate agent.

Michael Manley, *of Little Rock*, Is the director of AR SAVES and outreach director of the UAMS Center for Distance Health.

Lester Matlock, *of Little Rock*, is the managing partner of Matlock & Associate, a financial services practice.

Jananne Reding, *of Little Rock*, Is a graduate of the college and taught there as well.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

BY SPENCER WATSON

ASK ANY NURSING STUDENT about the bonds they form in college, and there's a chance the word family will get used. But, in a few cases, that connection is literal — with classmates or students and alumni sharing actual family ties. Such is the case for Brien and Veronika Macon. Brien is four years older and the president of the senior class. His sister started the program this past summer. The two wouldn't have it any other way.

"The way things fell into place, it was really perfect," Brien said of arriving on campus first. Though knowing no one, "I can walk into a room and meet everyone."

His sister, on the other hand, is approachable but more quiet and reserved. Knowing she'd know someone when she arrived — and someone who seemingly knows everyone already — was very welcome.

"He's my resource and my go-to" she laughed.

The two say being in the same program is mutually reinforcing. For Brien, it creates pressure to do better "because I know she's watching," and for Veronika it takes pressure off because "everyone looks up to him."

For Ryan and Avery Holt, who met in high school and married two years ago, starting the nursing program together has meant always having a helping hand.

"It's easier always having a study partner," Avery said.

Though separated by two years, the couple started the program together after Avery decided against veterinary medicine and Ryan, who started pre-med, applied and

was accepted into nursing. Both cite medical struggles as teenagers as contributing factors to pursuing a career in health care and that shared perspective brings them together.

"I think that sort of sets us apart," said Ryan. "Part of the reason we both chose nursing is our past experiences."

For Robert Middaugh, the experience of having family on campus doesn't come from a fellow student but a parent. His mother Donna Middaugh, PhD, RN, is the associate dean for academic programs in the College of Nursing.

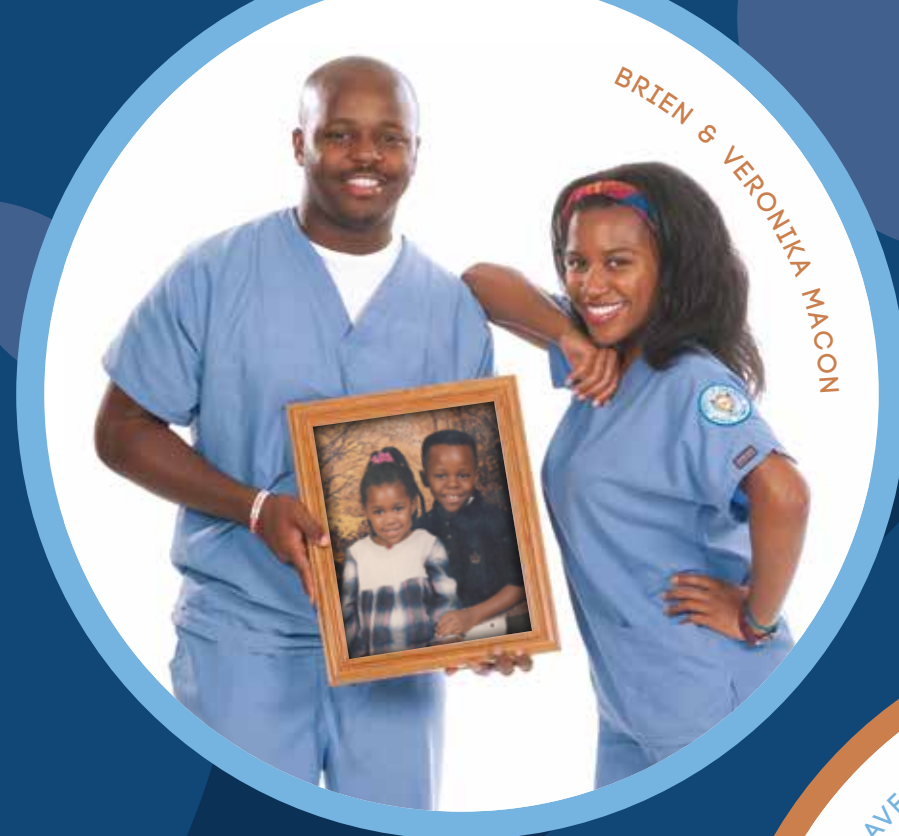
"I was able to talk to my mom a lot about it and I had a lot of stories to go by," said Robert, whose interest in physical therapy and pre-med start led him to nursing.

Noted Dr. Middaugh: "We always tell students it's a different way to study. They have to focus on everything they're learning and relate that to patients."

Personally, of course, she's "very proud" to see her son in the program. Though he doesn't share her passion for teaching, his interest in nursing — which she didn't pressure at all — makes her smile.

"I'm just so proud of his hard work and determination, and also proud that he came to the decision to pursue nursing on his own," she said. "It makes it much more meaningful for him."

“It's easier always having a study partner.”



BRIEN & VERONIKA MACON



RYAN & AVERY HOLT



DONNA & ROBERT MIDDAUGH

Here are some of the other family relationships within the College of Nursing:

- **Mother/Daughter:** Tana Jones is a student in the RN-BSN program while her daughter, McKinsey Jones, is a student in the BSN program.
- **Sisters:** Candice Allums is a junior in the BSN program while her younger sister Brandie Allums, is a freshman in the BSN program.
- **Mother/Son:** Doris Woodson and her son Benjamin Woodson are both students in the BSN program.

Do you have a family connection with the College of Nursing? Share it with us: email conalumni@uams.edu or post it on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/UAMSCollegeofNursing.

SIX DECADES SIX STORIES FROM ALUMNI

FOR 61 YEARS the UAMS College of Nursing has prepared nurses to help meet the pressing demand for skilled, professional nurses to serve the people of Arkansas.

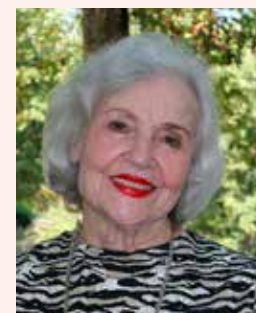
Since its 1953 inception, the college has produced more than 4,282 graduates, from Bachelor's to Doctoral degrees, each with a unique story of how they came to the college and where they went afterward.

Some spent careers in clinical practice. Others chose a different path. But each one, no matter how far removed from receiving a diploma, is proud to be among the university's nursing alumni and proud to identify as a nurse.

The Office of Institutional Advancement recently began an effort to improve coordination among the alumni groups of the UAMS colleges and graduate school. The goals include extended services to all university alumni and more collaboration — such as an all-campus reunion in the works for 2015. A new UAMS Alumni Council includes representation from the College of Nursing.

College of Nursing graduates who want to reconnect with their university are encouraged to visit the college online (nursing.uams.edu), on Facebook (www.facebook.com/UAMSCollegeofNursing) or email conalumni@uams.edu.

LETA SNOW
CLASS OF 1958



Leta Snow thought she was going to be a teacher until 6th grade when she heard her older sister talk about being accepted to nursing school. "That's what I decided I want to do too," she said.

Immediately upon graduation, she went to work as head nurse on a medical-surgical ward in the still-new University Hospital that would eventually become

UAMS. She was on the team supporting the state's first open-heart surgery, performed in 1959. The same year, she married William Snow, who had just completed his internship at UAMS. A captain in the US Air Force Reserves, he was soon drafted and sent to the Pacific island of Guam with Leta at his side.

"I worked at the Government of Guam Hospital, which was quite a different adventure," she said. "We had a little girl as a patient during Christmas holidays...and on Christmas day, her mother made all the nurses a Christmas ornament, which I still hang on my Christmas tree.

"We had geckoes, little harmless lizards, everywhere in the hospital — and I mean everywhere!"

From Guam, it was back to UAMS where her husband completed his residency and she worked part time. In 1962, they moved to Mountain Home, where she worked in William's medical clinic for several years and did volunteer work with practical nursing students and aides at the local hospital. Later, she did a decade-long stint working intensive cardiac care at Baxter Regional Medical Center until retirement in the 1980s.

"I think I liked acute nursing the most, partly because I was with the patient more of the time and observed them almost constantly," she said. "We had to be a little more perceptive and had to do more since we did not have all the equipment available now."

BECKY SEMASEK MAY
CLASS OF 1961



A great teacher at Mount Saint Mary Academy first made chemistry fascinating for Becky May, and that got her interested in science. And, as career choices for women at the time included nurse, secretary, teacher or housewife — that interest was a big reason why May became a nurse.

"It was a process of elimination in some ways," she laughed.

But one for which she's grateful, she said. After all, she's still close to friends she made in the 1961 class of 20 — the fifth class to graduate from the college — more than 50 years after they graduated. And that's despite "scattering" around the country. They kept in touch, and still do.

"Most of my close friends worked until after they turned 70 because we love what we do," she said.

Nursing looks a little different now than it did then, said May, who along with two classmates began her career working with James Melby, M.D., on clinical research that developed protocols for certain endocrine diseases that ultimately led to kidney transplant operations, which were experimental in the 1960s. Inspired by pediatric instructor Elizabeth O'Connell, May worked at UAMS for six years, becoming the head nurse in the intensive care nursery, but ultimately retired from the Arkansas Department of Health.

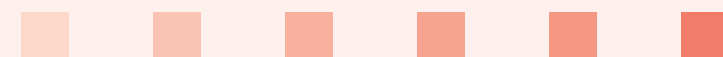
Medical advances and electronics aside, basic tasks have changed over time, May said. For instance, it was the med students, not nurses, who drew blood and started IVs then.

And it was nurses, not pharmacists, who mixed those IVs.

And, of course, campus was different in 1961. There was no air conditioning anywhere even though most students lived on campus in the dorm. The fact that it was co-ed, separated only by floors and without live-in oversight, was fairly liberal for the time, May said, but not unseemly.

"We all just had to do the right thing, with nobody minding the store," she said.

It's a different campus and a changed profession today, but one May said she loves. And, she added, she's proud to see her granddaughter pursuing it as an applicant this fall.



'78

NANCY NAUCKE BUIST
CLASS OF 1978



Being among the first to earn a bachelor's in nursing with a nurse practitioner certificate, Nancy Buist still smiles to think of herself and her UAMS classmates of 1978 as "pioneers" for a movement that eventually swept the country.

She's gone on to work for more than 35 years in the field, 23 of them at

Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, where she earned one of two master's degrees. She helped found, and for five years worked with, an on-site primary care clinic for 6,500 employees at Turner Broadcasting, also in Atlanta, and now runs her own consulting business.

Guided to nursing by a friend and to UAMS by its reputation, Buist said she has many fond memories of her time on campus: a "spooky" all-nighter in her first summer session cramming for anatomy in the company of a cadaver; caring for her first patient working in the orthopedic ward under Carl Nelson, MD, and her clinical instructor Martha McEwen; and teaching a mentally disabled 11-year old diabetic patient to inject insulin by injecting herself in the thigh with sterile water and then letting the patient practice on her.

And she also has lasting memories of Eloise R. Field, dean of the college, whose advice to seniors she took to heart: be a well-rounded student of all things in the world, don't focus too narrowly on the hospital side of life and be well read to expand creativity and intellect.

"She was a truly remarkable woman of grace and wisdom, and I kept a list of books I read, with notes about the books, at her suggestion for many years based on her advice," Buist said.

'83

GARBO WATSON HEARNE
CLASS OF 1983



Despite being an art dealer and bookseller for nearly three decades, Garbo Hearne has never stopped being a nurse since graduating in 1983. She's maintained her license and still works in nutrition education and preventive medicine.

"I'll never get out of nursing, no matter what," she said.

But, in starting a family and having children, she realized life would be difficult if both she and her husband, a physician, were always on call 24 hours a day.

"Ultimately, I chose to open a gallery to be in control of my time," she said. "My husband and I felt that the gallery would be an asset to the community."

She'd fallen in love with nursing as a hospital volunteer as a youth. That drove her; after two years at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, to come to UAMS for a nurse practitioner degree.

Memories here, she said, include a lasting love for the library, the tennis courts by the dorm (both now gone) and making snow angels in the parking lot where the Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging is now. And, of course, the close friends she made.

As for being an entrepreneur, she said learning how to prioritize and be organized as a nurse was a tremendous advantage. And as a gallery owner, she loves the appreciation for art at UAMS.

"UAMS understands the importance of art and have really made an effort to support Arkansas artists and utilize the healing power of art."

'94

WALT NICKELS
CLASS OF 1994



Walt Nickels could have scarcely imagined that a chance meeting with a nurse caring for his grandmother while he was in high school would set him on his career path.

Granted, he was always interested in science and even medicine, potentially considering going into dentistry despite hating trips to the dentist. But the nurse

made an impression simply by being male.

"I had never thought about nursing until that point. From there, I started researching what nurses do, what options for a career are available and by my junior year of high school, I had decided that I wanted to become a nurse," he said.

As a medical campus with a strong reputation, UAMS was the "perfect option," Nickels said. Beyond a degree in 1994, the program also netted lasting friendships. Among those Nickels counts Claudia Barone, EdD, APRN, an "amazing professor" then who became a great friend over the years after graduation.

School certainly had its challenges, though.

"Keep in mind, in the early '90s, computers were not readily available to everyone like they are today. There was a small computer lab on campus that we could use to type papers, but we had no Google, etc."

After earning his degree, Nickels spent eight years working in the ICU, primarily at UAMS. During that time he became familiar with the work of the Arkansas Regional Organ Recovery Agency (ARORA). He joined the organization in 2002 as an organ procurement coordinator and is now the director of clinical services.

'12

MELISSA "MISSIE" WOOTEN
CLASS OF 2012



Two years after graduating in 2012, Melissa "Missie" Wooten said she still thinks of herself as a new nurse. And as such, she hasn't stopped learning.

"Since I have graduated, I have started working at Arkansas Children's Hospital as an inpatient surgical nurse. It's really surprised me how much I have learned. I am still growing with my passions in nursing and time will tell what I do with my career," she said.

But it was always going to be the health care field.

"As a small child I was in the hospital a lot. I found the process intriguing and was always interested in other patients. I always knew I would go into the health field," she said. Add to that a father who was diagnosed with Parkinson's when she was 7, and "having an ill family member really brought out my nurturing sense."

That's part of why she loved the UAMS nursing program. It offered wide exposure to many fields, be it labor and delivery, geriatrics or community nursing. "We were able to see a little bit of everything," she said.

Not that it was easy. "One of the most challenging parts was the feeling of 'unknown.' Was I doing it correctly? Will I learn all that I need to do?"



A large, close-up portrait of Marilyn Henderson, an elderly woman with short, light-colored hair, wearing glasses and a white textured cardigan over a patterned top. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. In the background, a faded, larger portrait of her is visible.

'Nursing Was Always Good to Me'

GRADUATE OF COLLEGE'S FIRST CLASS
LOOKS BACK BY JON PARHAM

Marilyn Henderson,
College of Nursing Class of 1957

MARILYN HENDERSON HAD LITTLE DOUBT

what she wanted to be when she grew up. Her aunt was a nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hot Springs, where Marilyn grew up. Still feisty and full of energy at 82, she says she marched down to the hospital as a 12-year-old in the early 1940s and asked for a job. With a little help from her aunt, she was soon working as a nurse's assistant.

As a youth, she was already helping patients — transporting them to different units in addition to other tasks. This began a journey that eventually brought her to UAMS as a member of the first class of a new nursing school. She remembers interviewing with the dean of the school, at that time still located at MacArthur Park in the building now home to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Bowen School of Law.

"She was late. It felt like I waited three or four hours," she said during a recent visit to UAMS. "But I would've waited as long as it took. She had what I wanted."

She realized working at St. Joseph's that she would need a formal education to advance her career. When she left nursing in 1997, she had worked stints at the University Hospital (today the UAMS Medical Center), the Veterans Hospital in Little Rock and hospitals in Clinton, Ark., Wichita, Kan. and back in Hot Springs.

She held faculty posts at nursing in Little Rock, Memphis, and Monroe, La.

"Nursing was always good to me," she said. "I never looked for a job. They always came looking for me."

Her first two years of the nursing program were at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Henderson finished the last two at UAMS, graduating in 1957 with a job already lined up in the newly opened University Hospital on Markham Street.

"I remember hearing a lion roar at one point. I had no idea the Little Rock Zoo was that close. It scared me a little," she said, laughing.

The new graduate started in the OB-GYN unit, and then moved to a new pediatric unit, where she was the head nurse.

She still remembers her habit of gripping each of her patients' hands firmly in her hands during her rounds at the start of each shift. She said nursing students made fun of her for it.

"I don't remember names well, so I'd just take them and hold their hands and look square at them to help me remember," she said. "You also can tell a lot about how a patient is doing that way: Do their hands feel warm? Do they have a firm grip? Is one hand gripping harder than the other?"

UAMS runs deep in Henderson. Her stay in central Arkansas back then was long enough for her late husband, Charles Glasgow, to finish medical school at UAMS in 1962. And his father also graduated the College of Medicine.

Of the couple's five daughters, two are UAMS graduates. Margaret Glasgow, BSN, RN, is a nurse

“ I never looked for a job. They always came looking for me. **”**

now at UAMS in the Labor and Delivery unit. Another daughter, Martha Glasgow, graduated from the radiologic technology program in the College of Health Professions. A great-nephew is now in medical school.

She still has two keepsakes from her time as a student and employee at UAMS. An early name tag emblazoned with her name, "Mrs. Marilyn Glasgow, RN," and also the pin she received just before graduating. It was later reused by her daughter.

The engravings on the back are still clear: "M J Postlewaite 1957" and "Margaret Glasgow 1995."

UAMS College of Nursing: Brand of Choice



TALKING TO STUDENTS AND GRADUATES of each academic program in the College of Nursing, there were many paths that led them to the college, but they all had one thing in common: they chose UAMS.

Building on the element of choice, the college recently revamped its student recruitment and promotional materials — from brochures to websites, from print and online advertising to short video testimonial clips posted on the college’s website. New advertising targeted nursing publications and websites.

The new recruitment brochures featured the BSN, RN to BSN, RN to Master’s, Master’s, PhD, BSN to PhD and DNP programs. Each program was represented in the “I Choose UAMS” campaign by a student or graduate who stated why they chose UAMS and the College of Nursing.

“Choosing a nursing school is in a lot of ways no different than making any other decision — you want to gather all the facts so that you can make an informed choice that is best for what you need,” said Dean Lorraine Frazier, PhD, RN, FAAN.

“We firmly believe our college and its programs have some unique and extremely positive points of differentiation and this campaign gave us a chance to highlight those while telling the stories of why these students chose UAMS.”

Tamekis Hampton, DNP, MPH, BSN, RN, for example, opted to pursue her PhD to better prepare her for working in research or nursing education while strengthening her leadership skills. “I chose UAMS for its outstanding overall reputation — especially in nursing,” said Hampton, who works now with sickle cell patients

as an advanced practice registered nurse in UAMS College of Medicine Department of Internal Medicine.

Leadership also was on the mind of Jason Ketcher, BSN, RN, a student in the master’s degree program. “My ultimate goal is to be in an executive nursing position or nursing leadership position and I knew that going back to school would be central to obtaining that,” said Ketcher, a newborn screening coordinator at Arkansas Children’s Hospital, in his video testimonial.

A self-described “non-traditional student” as a 51-year old, Linise Phillips, who in her senior year of the BSN program, called becoming an RN a lifelong dream. “When I decided to be a nurse, I knew the UAMS College of Nursing was the place. This is home for me,” Phillips said.

“I choose UAMS for its outstanding reputation — especially in nursing”

Keith Whitworth, UAMS director of marketing, worked with the College of Nursing to pull together the “I Choose” campaign. He called it a matter of getting “the right message to the right person at the right time.”

“With so many marketing avenues to choose from, it was important to evaluate the most effective way for the college to reach its customers — in this case, potential students — with a concise and consistent message,” Whitworth said.

Thousands of people were reached utilizing targeted ads on websites and Facebook.

“With online advertising, you can easily find out how many people looked at or clicked on an ad,” Whitworth said.

Brenda Scisson, the college’s executive director of development who has long experience in public relations, said the college held steadfast to its branding campaign’s goal of garnering greater recognition, enhancing its reputation and using existing relationships to foster growth while developing new relationships with stakeholders.

“We’ve focused on being more diligent in telling our story and getting more credit for the good our faculty and staff are doing to improve health care in Arkansas,” she said.

She credited the Creative Services division of the UAMS Office of Communications & Marketing for the premises and designs in the branding campaign. The creative team included a copywriter, graphic designer and videographer to give the brochures, video clips, advertising and other elements a consistent feel.

The branding extended to an overhaul of the college’s student recruitment booth, used at job fairs and career development events. The new design, featuring elements of the “I Choose” campaign is already drawing positive reviews as an effective resource for students interested in a career in nursing.

A major redesign of the college’s website focused on representing the professionalism of the college while being user friendly for visitors. The home page is now augmented with short video clips from students in every program, a welcome message from the dean, quick links to information for prospective students, resources for current students, access to features for alumni and supporters and college news.

“We’ve reenergized our social media presence using Facebook to give us another way to promote activities by our students, faculty and staff,” Scisson said. “We’re proud that our Facebook page has

gotten more ‘likes’ than any other UAMS college, which lets us know we are reaching people who are interested in our college — from current students to future students to our alumni and donors.”

To see the redesigned website and the dean’s video, visit nursing.uams.edu. To view some of the student video testimonials, visit nursing.uams.edu/news/student-stories. Find the college on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UAMSCollegeofNursing.

“The 3 Rs of Branding”

- Recognition
- Reputation
- Relationships



High Profile
The High Profile section of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette featured College of Nursing Dean Lorraine Frazier in its cover story on Aug. 31, 2014. The profile story, was written by Joe Stumpe with photographs by John Sykes Jr.,

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Undergraduate or Graduate Scholarships

Deborah Dorsa Carman/ Beaumont Foundation of America Annual Scholarship

Brandi Duncan
Tamisha Gatewood-Henderson
Angie Huskey (Hope)
Tina Pennington
Leah Richardson
Nicole Ward
Jennifer White

Madelyne M. and Edward C. McCarty Nursing Endowed Scholarship

Ambrosia Caruso
Anndi Cranford
Kasey McClain

BSN Scholarships

Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association Endowed Scholarship

Krystal Qualls

Barbara Pearson Nursing Endowed Scholarship

Kimberly Wise

Barton Endowed Scholarship

Candice Allums
Tacara Anderson
Megan Ankney
Sarah Bean (Hope)
Mary Dalby
Alex Ebmeyer
Helen Etheridge
Judy Staley
Emily Woods
Kimber Woods

Benni Ogden Fambrough Endowed Scholarship

Raquel Torres

Blue Jeans for Books Award

Ashley Connors
Angie Huskey (Hope)

Cammy Giffin Haynes Endowed Scholarship
Ryan Holt

Carolyn B. Purtle Endowed Scholarship
Carlicia Brown (Hope)
Terri Jackson (Hope)
Jazmyne Stuart (Hope)

Class of 1997 Endowed Scholarship
Rae Nelson

Crystal Webster Nursing Endowed Scholarship
René Calhoun

David L. Johnston Endowed Scholarship
Rebecca Shook

Dean's Excellence Award for Future Nurse Educators Endowed Scholarship
Laila Litonjua

Dr. Elizabeth O'Connell Endowed Scholarship
Wendy Vick

Dr. Janet Lord Nursing Endowed Scholarship
Tiffany Martin

Dr. Lee and Maria Nauss Endowed Scholarship
Emma Rhoads

Flora Mae Griffey Nursing Endowed Scholarship
Mary Kemp

Florence C. Zook RN Nursing Endowed Scholarship
Linise Phillips

Florence Grabiell Ellis RN Endowed Scholarship
Kaylee Wingertter

Gloria Rauch Endowed Scholarship
Amanda Lewis-Parkinson

Helen F. Lang RN Endowed Scholarship
Brien Macon

Helene Fuld Foundation Health Trust Endowed Scholarship
Morgan Colclasure
Martha Reicks
Amanda Twitchell
Katie Vu

Jane and Bob Wilson Nursing Endowed Scholarship
Eve Harshfield

Jean McClendon Endowed Scholarship
Naomi Harrod
Courtney Hunt

Kathryn Crandall Endowed Scholarship
Bushra Salamah

Little Rock Departmental Club Endowed Scholarship
Joshuah Lingo

M.B. Knighten Memorial Surgical Nursing Endowed Scholarship
Nysha Whorton

Marie Stephens Endowed Scholarship
Cynthia Thompson

Marion E. Pool BSN Endowed Scholarship
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Martha Harding Gann Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Hannah Stark

Mary Katherine Mouroth Endowed Scholarship
Sarah Bean (Hope)

Mike W. Spades Memorial Endowed Scholarship
Bethany Lemley (Hope)

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Jonathan Sacks

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BreEnna Addison (Hope)

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Paul O. Canaday Scholarship
Courtney Hunt

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Tacara Anderson

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Aisha Rivera

Sharon Knighten Oncology Nursing Endowed Scholarship
Brooke Buckley

Veronica McNeirney Endowed Scholarship
Mallory Druckenmiller

Virginia L. Goosen Nursing Endowed Scholarship
Alexandria Smith

RN to BSN or MNSc Scholarships

Dr. Beth Vaughan-Wrobel Endowed Scholarship
Rebecca Luther

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Katrina Banks

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Johnnie Moum Bequest DNP Scholarships
All 19 students in the inaugural class of our DNP program (which began in fall, 2013) were provided a full-tuition scholarship made possible by various donors. All scholarships were matched, dollar-for-dollar, by the Johnnie Moum bequest. Johnnie, who passed away in 2012, was a philanthropist who had a great passion for the UAMS College of Nursing.

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Jody Purifoy
Valerisin Chism
Pam Laborde
Lynn Frazier

Jane Wilson DNP Scholarship
Amy Funderburk

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Aimee Pruett

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Sally Cunningham
Colby Hines

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Mandi Williams

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Annual contributions to the UAMS College of Nursing provide continued support that helps us maintain excellence in ways that are both tangible and far-reaching. Gifts of any size are appreciated and put to good use to advance the College of Nursing's mission. Thank you to all who gave during fiscal year 2014.

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DEAN'S CIRCLE

The UAMS College of Nursing continues to seek ways to meet opportunities and challenges it now faces and will confront in the future as it fulfills its missions of teaching, service and research.

To help address these issues, the college established a Dean's Circle. Alumni and special friends of the college are invited to become members of this special group by committing to an annual tax deductible gift of \$1,000 or more. The fund is used to finance the most pressing needs of the college, as determined by Dean Lorraine Frazier.

Dean's Circle members

Ms. Sharon Allen
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Mrs. Connie and Mr. Ed Bennett
Dr. Kelly Betts
Dr. Claudia Beverly
Mrs. Stuart Cobb
Dr. Frances Dalme
Dr. Rodney Davis – honoring UAMS Urology Nurses
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Ms. Molly Frazier
Dr. Angela Green
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Ms. Janet Shirley
Dr. Charles Smith – honoring his daughters Rachel & Amber and UAMS Family Medical Center Nursing Staff & Nursing Assistants
Mr. Richard M. and Mrs. JoAnn Hennessey Smith CDR USN Ret.
Mrs. Leta Snow
Mr. Mike Spades
Mrs. Cornelia Sundermann
Ms. Joan Tackett
Dr. Roxanne Townsend - honoring UAMS Nurses
Dr. Kent Westbrook - honoring Marinelle Paladino
Mrs. Lisa and Mr. Grady Wooten - honoring their daughter & UAMS College of Nursing Alumna Missie Wooten
Dr. Patricia Wright
Ms. Jane Wilson
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Mrs. Lolly Honea

To find out more, contact:
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Phone: (501) 526-8950

THE DEAN'S AWARD: MICHAEL SPADES JR.



Little Rock attorney Michael Spades, Jr. originally got involved with the College of Nursing as a tribute to his late father.

His mother died when he was young, and he and his two sisters were raised by their father. His father put himself through college, along with all three children. "He had to play both mom and dad to us," he said.

Spades said his father did much through the years to provide for the family but was always passionate about education and teaching.

Spades grew up in Black Rock in northeast Arkansas but later moved to Clinton. He earned a degree at the University of Arkansas, then a law degree at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Today he represents clients in civil and criminal litigation. In his practice, he also serves as a Criminal Justice Act panel attorney for the U.S. District Courts, Eastern District of Arkansas.

When his father was sick in his last years, Spades said it was the quality of nursing care his father received that really made an impression on him and his sisters, Rebecca Wood and Virginia Milan.

Knowing there was a shortage of nurses, the Spades children agreed they wanted to do something. After their father passed away, the siblings felt a nursing scholarship would be the best way to honor him — a gesture that could make a lasting difference in promoting the compassionate care their father had received.

They chose to endow a scholarship at UAMS since it was the only academic health sciences center in Arkansas — and one of the region's largest. In 2000, they established a baccalaureate scholarship in memory of their father, Michael W. Spades, Sr., to pay tribute to their father's love of education and the excellent care he received in the last years of his life.

Spades joined the College of Nursing's advisory board three years ago. At that time, College of Nursing Dean Lorraine Frazier had decided to reactivate the board and reached out to him. He now serves as the board's secretary and treasurer. He also is a member of the Dean's Circle.

"We are fortunate to have Mike serving on our advisory board — he has stepped up and really provided the encouragement and effort that helps the college," said Frazier. "Hearing how the nursing care their father received inspired his children to act challenges us to graduate the kind of nurses who can provide such impactful and patient-centered care in their careers."

In recognition of his contributions to the college, Spades was selected for the Dean's Award in 2014. The award is for special individuals who have contributed to the growth and success of the college.

"I was very surprised," he said. "It was certainly something I didn't anticipate. I'm grateful that I would even be considered. It inspires me to do more for the college, and I hope I can continue to contribute and give back."

Through the advisory board, he has been able to learn more about the college and attend some of its events. "I've been very impressed by the students. They are very well-trained, know what they want to do and seem ready to embark upon their career as a nurse. They have a great confidence with the education they received here," he said. "I'm just pleased to be a small part."

ARKANSAS HCGNE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2014-2015



The Arkansas Hartford Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence (HCGNE) was established in 2001 at UAMS with funding from the John A. Hartford Foundation (JAHF). For the past 13 years the Center's goal has been increasing the capacity of academic geriatric nursing to provide expert geriatric care that improves the health of older adults in Arkansas and the southern region of the United States.

With \$300,000 grant funding from the foundation for January 2013-December 2015, our focus is on establishing the pipeline into academic geriatric nursing by increasing faculty knowledge of geriatrics and retooling and/or enhancing the geriatric credentials of our academic faculty and others who will serve as faculty.

Recent accomplishments and activities include:

- **Nursing Research Summer Scholars Seminar** was held June 23-27, 2014 at UAMS. This seminar is a collaboration of the Hartford Centers of Geriatric Nursing Excellence at the University of Iowa and UAMS. Janet Specht, PhD, RN, and Howard Butcher, PhD, RN, faculty members from the University of Iowa, coordinated this joint program. There were eight attendees from UNC-Charlotte, University of Alabama, University of Missouri, St. Louis, University of Central Florida, St. Louis University and the UAMS College of Nursing.
- **Arkansas HCGNE Co-Director Cornelia Beck, PhD, RN**, is now mentoring a NHCNE Claire M. Fagin Fellow from Duke University and Patricia Archbold Scholar from the University of Pennsylvania. Arkansas HCGNE Education Leader, Leanne Lefler, PhD, RN, APRN, ACNS-BC, is now mentoring Ayasha Stewart Thomason, recipient of the NHCNE Patricia Archbold Scholar award for the 2014-2016 cohort.
- **Aging Research Interest Group** is an interprofessional group that meets monthly to review publications, presentations and research proposals of members. It also allows networking with other disciplines for better perspective and future collaboration. There are 16 states that participate in our ARIG: UAMS Northwest in Fayetteville, Arkansas State University, University of Central Arkansas, University of Iowa, Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, University of Central

Florida, University of Missouri, Clayton State University, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Duke University, Georgia Regents University, University of Texas at Arlington, Vanderbilt University and the University of Missouri- St. Louis. Since January 2014, six grants/publications have been reviewed.

- Courtney Bizzell and Julie Allard were the two BSN nursing students selected for the Summer Geriatric Nursing Externship for the summer 2014. The eight-week program is for BSN nursing students between their junior and senior years. The externship provides a \$4,000 stipend for each student, supported by the HCGNE. The externship's purpose is to provide learning opportunities in leadership, practice, education and research related to geriatric nursing.
- **The HCGNE** hosted a Southern Nursing Research Society Pre-Conference in February 2014 in San Antonio. The goal of the program was to foster successful programs of Adult-Gerontological research and hone specific skills to gain a competitive edge for funding. There were nine participants from the seven states: North Carolina, Arkansas, Tennessee, Virginia, New York, Louisiana and Texas. Arkansas HCGNE faculty included Leanne Lefler, PhD, RN, APRN, ACNS-BC, Claudia Beverly, PhD, RN, FAAN, Pao-feng Tsai, PhD, RN, and Jean McSweeney, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN, and J. Taylor Harden, PhD, RN, FAAN, representing the NHCNE.
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Partners** in Nursing (PIN 6) grant for 2012-2014 through the UAMS CON and HCGNE in partnership with the Arkansas Community Foundation and the Arkansas Workforce Services was designed to target registered nurses at the BSN level to further their career and also consider an academic career. This grant will end August 2014.
- Susan B. Hassmiller, PhD, RN, FAAN, presented "Nursing and Leadership: Are You the Best Leader You Can Be?" this year for the 2014 HCGNE Distinguished Nurse Leader lecture series. While at UAMS, she also presented "Future of Nursing Campaign for Action" for the Arkansas Action Coalition.
- **HCGNE Leadership Team** member Sandra New Berryman is recipient of the 2013-14 UAMS Chancellor's Teaching Award.

Looking Back... Class of 1958



Original UAMS nursing class of 1958 (taken in 1956)

Front row: Donna Jo Collison, Laverne Cox, Carolyn Butler, Diane Huie, Joan Hill, June Ann Milligan, Norma Long, Susan Richardson, Leta Minton (Snow)

Back row: Mary Chambers, Mary Nelson, Beth Boatright, Maxine Sutton, Norma Gibson

LETA SNOW, a member of the College of Nursing Class of 1958 — only the college's second class — who sent a copy of this photo, says she remembers the day this photo was taken in July 1956. The class had recently arrived on campus, posing for a photo in their new uniforms. Many of the class members already knew each other from the first two years of school, held then at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Not all of those in the photo completed the program, she said. A few class members have passed away. Snow says she remains in touch with some of her classmates and has fond memories of her days at UAMS.



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