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vanderbiltnurse

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VUSN MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing is to lead in education, evidence-based practice, scholarship, and research in order to provide optimal health care to diverse communities through innovation, inclusion, and compassion.



10 Primed for Change
As nursing faces dramatic transformation, a new dean takes charge at Vanderbilt

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Dear alumni, colleagues and supporters,

After 16 long, hard months, we have turned the corner on the pandemic. As I write this, more than 50 percent of American adults have had at least one COVID-19 vaccine. On June 1, Vanderbilt University relaxed the protocols for masking and physical distancing for those who are vaccinated. Best of all, the university announced that it would resume in-person classes for fall. For the School of Nursing, that means we will be able to see each other without using Zoom! All of our MSN, DNP and PhD block classes will be held on campus as well as having our PreSpecialty and Nurse-Midwifery students here each week. Everyone is looking

forward to a very vibrant fall semester.

Not surprisingly, COVID-19 will still be a topic for awhile. The cover story in this issue of *Vanderbilt Nurse*, "Going the Distance," explores how VUSN's pioneering use of distance learning in the 1990s positioned the school for a smooth transition to remote learning during the pandemic. Innovations developed by our faculty and staff were key to continuing students' education when on-campus sessions weren't possible.

Elsewhere in this issue you'll read an article featuring three researchers determined to improve maternal health, a spotlight on our two Commencements, and sadly, a tribute to School of Nursing alumnus and professor Tom Christenbery, who died unexpectedly in February. We also introduce you to two Vanderbilt alumni instrumental in fighting COVID-19 in the Navajo Nation. Their fascinating story first appeared online late last year, but we include it here for those who missed it.

In exciting news, our Around the School section contains an introduction to the School of Nursing's incoming dean, Pam Jeffries. Pam is a distinguished educator, scholar and leader, and an outstanding choice for the school's ninth dean. Pam and I have known each other for years, and I am confident that VUSN will reach greater heights under her leadership. I leave VUSN in excellent hands.

This is my last column for *Vanderbilt Nurse*, and there is so much I would like to write to all of you. Being VUSN dean has been the greatest adventure and opportunity of my career. To be able to facilitate the work of our faculty, staff and students in the mission of education, practice, research and scholarship of an institution like VUSN has been inspiring, fulfilling and wonderfully challenging. I have had the privilege of meeting and working with incredible alumni, taking part in educating a new generation of nurses, and guiding and supporting talented, dedicated faculty and staff. It has been an honor to serve

as dean of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing and as Vanderbilt faculty for decades. I am grateful. Thank you for your support over the years and as I start the new chapter of my life.

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It has been an honor to serve as dean of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing and as Vanderbilt faculty for decades. Thank you.

Best regards,

Pamela R. Jeffries, PhD, FAAN, ANEF, FSSH

Pamela R. Jegries

Dean

Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing

News Around the School

COMMUNITYRESEARCHOUTREACHSCIENCEFACULTYTECHNOLOGY





In-person pinning celebrations held August 2021

he School of Nursing held
August pinning ceremonies
in person on Sunday, Aug.
8. More than 300 MSN, Post-Master's
Certificate and DNP students in 10
specialties received the VUSN pin, certificate
or lavalier during the first in-person pinning
held since December 2019. Family and
friends were able to attend the two events,
held in Langford Auditorium, with
masking protocols in place.

During the ceremonies, 10 specialties announced their outstanding student award recipients. They were Timothy Scott George, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care program; Jenny Sanford, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care; Melanie Vaughn, Family; Kaitlyn Vincent, Neonatal; Brett Young, Nursing and Health Care Leadership; Tip Tilton, Nursing Informatics; Amanda Thomas, Pediatric-Acute Care; Lauren Pittard, Pediatric-Primary Care; Carina Anderson, Psychiatric-Mental Health; and Mercedes Wheeler, Women's Health. Other specialties finish in December or May, and their awards are announced at that time.

Two additional student awards were presented during the event. Lisa Stewart,

a psychiatric-mental health NP student, received the Amy Frances Brown Prize for Excellence in Writing for her paper on treating vulnerable Black individuals with schizophrenia. Briana Garcia, an adult-gerontology primary care NP student, received the Daisy Award for specialty program students. A second Daisy award was presented to PreSpecialty student Virginia "Clare" Sooter in separate ceremonies.

The recipients of the Sara K. Archer Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning were also recognized. Meg Shifrin, DNP, MSN'06, FAANP, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care; Travis Dunlap, PhD, MSN'02, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care; Angel Anthamatten, DNP, MSN'00, Family; Colleen Moss, DNP, MSN'01, BS'00, Neonatal; Rick Watters, PhD, Nursing and Health Care Leadership; Kelly Aldrich, DNP, Nursing Informatics; Marshay James, DNP'17, PMC'15, Pediatric-Acute Care; Terry Witherington, DNP, Pediatric-Primary Care; Matt Schroer, DNP, MSN'08, Psychiatric-Mental Health; and Stefani Yudasz, DNP'16, MSN'14, Women's Health, each received their specialty's student-voted award.

The events marked Dean Pamela Jeffries' first school-wide ceremony since becoming dean on July 1, 2021. In addressing the students and guests, she outlined the traditions behind pinning and noted its significance in the nursing profession. "This milestone for nurses is eagerly anticipated and frequently seems more intimate and meaningful than graduation. For some of you, pinning recognizes your entry into the profession of nursing. For others, it recognizes your completion of a strenuous, challenging and fulfilling program of advanced nursing education," said Jeffries, PhD, FAAN, ANEF, FSSH, the Valere Potter Professor of Nursing. "For all, it provides an opportunity for your faculty, family, friends and colleagues to recognize your hard work, hard-won knowledge and bright future."

A virtual pinning ceremony was held for those unable to be in Nashville. Overall, the School of Nursing recognized 343 master of nursing science, 16 Post-Master's Certificate and 18 doctor of nursing practice students upon the completion of their programs.

Longtime faculty and staff retire

The 2020-21 academic year saw a number of School of Nursing longtime faculty and staff retire and be honored with virtual retirement events.

In fall 2020, longtime Admissions Coordinator Bernie Rimgale retired, as did then-assistant dean for student affairs Sarah Ramsey, BA'77, MEd'81. Rimdale joined VUSN in 1985 and worked with research, the FNIC and the PhD program before moving to admissions. Ramsey started at VUSN as part-time activities coordinator before serving in a variety of positions in student affairs. She was named assistant dean in 2010.

Faculty retiring on Dec. 31, 2020, included Senior Associate Dean for Informatics Elizabeth Weiner, FACMI, FAAN: Professor of Educational Informatics Jeff Gordon, PhD, Med; Associate Professor Melanie Lutenbacher, PhD, FAAN; and Professor Sheila Ridner, MSN'00, PhD'03, FAAN. Weiner had been part of VUSN since 2000 and was instrumental in growing the school's informatics and technology capabilities. An advocate for underserved childbearing women and their children, Lutenbacher joined VUSN in 1993. Gordon started at the school in 2002 and was key in broadening the use of instructional technology. An acclaimed researcher, Ridner was the former director of the PhD in Nursing Science program; she had been at VUSN since 2004.

During the spring semester, the school said goodbye to staff members Brenda Compton and Paddy Peerman, MS, and faculty Sara Fogel, MSN'94, PhD'01; Ann Minnick, PhD, FAAN; and Lucinda Stewart, MSN. Compton, who most recently was grants research officer, had been at the school since 2000. Peerman, who joined the school in 1982, was the school's longtime assistant dean for enrollment management. Fogel successfully led the school's ASN to MSN program for more than eight years. Minnick, an internationally recognized researcher, served



as senior associate dean for research and had been at Vanderbilt since 2005. Joining VUSN in 2002, Stewart taught in the PreSpecialty program and focused on highrisk obstetrics, as well as interprofessional collaboration.

Several faculty retired at the end of the summer semester or early in August. They include Susie Adams, PhD, PMC'13, FAANP, FAAN; Karen D'Apolito, PhD, FAAN; Bette Moore, PhD'05, FAAN; Vaughn Sinclair, BSN'74, MSN'78, PhD'82; and Rick Watters, PhD. Former Psychiatric-Mental Health NP specialty director, Adams had been with VUSN since 1995, most recently as faculty scholar for community engaged behavioral health. A leading scholar in neonatal abstinence syndrome, D'Apolito led the school's neonatal nurse practitioner specialty for nearly three decades. Moore joined the school in 2005 and focused on maternalinfant scholarship and clinical care. Sinclair, who joined Vanderbilt in 1982, taught in the pediatric and psychiatric-mental health NP programs. An experienced nurse executive and educator who has taught at VUSN since 2006, Watters most recently served as interim director for the Nursing and Health Care Leadership program.

The School of Nursing is deeply grateful for their contributions to the school and its mission; we thank each of them for their talent and dedication over the years and wish them well in retirement.

Vanderbilt reaccredited by CCNE and ACMEofficial diversity and inclusion position statement

Two major accreditation organizations have reaccredited Vanderbilt School of Nursing through 2031. The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education reaccredited the school for its master of science in nursing, doctorate in nursing practice and post-master's certificate programs and the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education Board of Review reaccredited VUSN's MSN nurse-midwifery and post-master's certificate programs.

Both prestigious accreditations come after extensive self-studies, rigorous review by a peer-review team of examiners and the commissions' review. The 10-year accreditation approval is the maximum that can be awarded a nursing program.

Due to restrictions on travel and on-campus visits because of COVID-19, the examiners conducted VUSN's site visits virtually.

Three faculty to head professional associations







Kapu

Connors

Kim

Three of the nation's professional nursing associations have elected Vanderbilt faculty to their highest offices.

Professor April Kapu, DNP'13, MSN'05, FAANP, FCCM, FAAN, took office July 1, 2021, as president of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, which represents more than 325,000 nurse practitioners nationwide.

In this high-visibility role, Kapu leads efforts to strengthen patient access to high-quality, NP-delivered health care nationwide, foster the continued growth of the NP role and increase awareness of the critical issues facing patients and NPs.

Associate Professor Laurie Connors, DNP, FAANP, is president-elect of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics, a global nursing professional association dedicated to genomic health care, education, research and scholarship. Her three-year commitment starts in November.

As an ISONG executive leader, Connors is charged with the support and advocacy of the discovery, interpretation, application and management of genomics in nursing, as well as the scientific and professional development of ISONG members. She will foster ISONG's mission to promote the understanding of genomic health and genomic information among nurses, health professionals and the public.

Professor Jennifer Kim, DNP, MSN'97, FNAP, FAANP, is president-elect of the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association, effective July 2021. In her leadership role of GAPNA, the professional association dedicated to improving care of older adults and representing advanced practice nurses, other clinicians, educators and researchers working with seniors, Kim will serve what is essentially a three-year term as president-elect, president and past president.

Among her responsibilities will be to serve as an expert on issues involving aging, patient care and advocacy; represent the organization's membership; and help advance education, leadership, research, advocacy, networking and evidence-based care.

Eleven faculty honored as fellows

National nursing associations inducted 11 School of Nursing faculty as fellows in 2021. Invitation to fellowship is one of the highest recognitions bestowed by the nursing profession.

Six faculty from the Nurse-Midwifery specialty were recognized as fellows by the American College of Nurse Midwives during its May annual meeting. Assistant Professor and Director of the VUSN Faculty Nurse-Midwife and Primary Care Practice Melissa Davis, DNP, MSN'03, FACNM; Associate Professor Stephanie DeVane-Johnson, PhD, MSN'97, FACNM; Assistant Professor Jeremy L. Neal, PhD, FACNM; Instructor Margaret C. Taylor, DNP'17, FACNM; and Instructor Joanne S. Tennyson, MSN'95, FACNM, were honored.

Assistant Professor Heather Jackson, PhD, FAANP; Associate Professor Courtney Pitts, MSN'09, DNP'11, FAANP; and Associate Professor Megan Shifrin, DNP, MSN'06, FAANP, were inducted as American Association of Nurse Practitioners Fellows at the 2021 AANP Fall Conference in Hollywood, Florida. Jackson and Shifrin were inducted in the Class of 2021. Pitts, who also leads VUSN's family nurse practitioner specialty, was inducted in special Class of 2020 in-person ceremonies.

Associate Professor Karen Hande, PhD(c), DNP'13, ANEF, was inducted as a fellow of the National League for Nursing Academy of Nursing Education in September. Selection as an ANE Fellow is competitive; Hande is the first VUSN faculty member honored. She joined Dean Pamela Jeffries as VUSN's only ANEF members.

Senior Associate Dean for Informatics Patricia Sengstack, DNP'10, FAAN, FACMI, was elected a fellow in the American College of Medical Informatics. She was inducted Oct. 31 during the AMIA (American Medical Informatics Association) 2021 Annual Symposium in San Diego, California.

National initiatives tap Vanderbilt faculty

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Tamika Hudson, DNP, MSN'12, has accepted an appointment to the inaugural Diversity Committee of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty. The committee will recommend and support activities needed to implement the NONPF's Call for Greater Racial Diversity in NP Education.

She has also been appointed to two Metro Nashville government boards by Mayor John Cooper. She was unanimously confirmed by the Metro Council to serve a five-year term on the Board of Trustees of the Metropolitan Hospital Authority. The board governs operations and administrative affairs of Nashville General Hospital at Meharry and its related facilities. She also joined the Healthy Nashville Leadership Council, which is charged with assessing and improving the health of Nashville citizens.

Associate Dean for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Rolanda Johnson, PhD'98, MSN, has been elected chair of the steering committee for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Leadership Network. The DEILN serves as a convening body to unite expertise, experience and guidance for AACN and academic nursing; it is charged with exploring innovative approaches to enhancing diversity, equity and inclusion in academic nursing and the nursing workforce.

Additionally, she has been invited to serve on the National Commission to Address Racism in Nursing. The new commission is a joint effort of the American Nurses Association, National Black Nurses Association, National Association of Hispanic Nurses and the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations. She'll serve on the education work group.

Associate Professor Courtney Pitts, MSN'09, DNP'11, FAANP, has been appointed to the National Advisory Council for Nursing Education and Practice by the U.S. Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. Pitts, who leads VUSN's family nurse practitioner specialty, is one of 23 members on the council, which advises HHS on activities in support of nursing education and practice. Her four-year term begins later this month.







Johnson



Ziegler



Pitts

Professor Carol Ziegler, DNP'12, MSN'06, has been selected to chair the new Planetary and Global Health Committee of the American Nurse Association's Innovation Advisory Committee. The IAC is a major initiative by the ANA to support nurse-led innovation and its power to transform health care. Ziegler, whose scholarly work combines health care and environmental effects, will be actively involved in setting up the committee, expected to launch in 2022.

School leader appointed to head university's health priorities

Pam Jones, BSN'81, MSN'92, DNP'13, FAAN, has been appointed associate vice chancellor for health and wellness at Vanderbilt University. In her new role, Jones will oversee all aspects of the university's strategic health and wellness priorities, including the evolving response to the COVID-19 pandemic and collaborative health and wellness efforts with Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

"Pam was instrumental in the development and continued leadership of our Return to Campus Plan," said Vice Chancellor for Administration Eric Kopstain. "We are thrilled to formalize her role in our ongoing COVID-19 response efforts, and we look forward to her leadership in new initiatives regarding health and wellness. She has been, and will continue to be, key to the interface with our highly valued VUMC colleagues. Pam's background makes her uniquely qualified to manage these critically important responsibilities."

Jones stepped down from her position as the School of Nursing's senior associate dean for clinical and community partnerships, which she has held since 2014. She continues her teaching role and involvement with VUSN's doctor of nursing practice program.



RESEARCH NEWS

VUSN receives NIH award to teach genomics education to nursing faculty and clinicians

ssociate Professor Laurie
Connors, DNP, FAANP,
has received a five-year
grant from the National Institutes of
Health National Human Genome Research
Institute to train doctoral nurses—doctors
of nursing practice and PhD nurses—in the
translation and integration of genomics into
academics, research and clinical practice.

Genomics, the study of all of a person's genes, is a growing field within health care and the burgeoning health technology space. With the vast amount of information made available by genetic testing, data science and advanced sequencing technologies, there is an increased need

for nurses trained in genomics who can interpret the information and translate it in a way that patients can understand.

"We will deploy a 'train the trainer' model," Connors said. "Our participants will take their skills back to their universities to serve as champions to incorporate genomics into curriculum, research, scholarship and clinical practice."

Totaling nearly \$700,000, the TIGER grant will enable Connors and her collaborators at Clemson University and Loyola University Chicago to increase the capacity and capability of doctoral nurses in genomics over the course of the grant's timeline.



HRSA grants awarded to increase NPs in rural and underserved areas

wo Vanderbilt School of Nursing professors have received grants totaling more than \$3 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration to educate nurse practitioners to provide critical health care in rural and underserved areas.

Ginny Moore, DNP, MSN'90, associate professor and director of the women's health nurse practitioner specialty, will receive \$1.5 million over three years to continue and enhance the Vanderbilt Nursing Education Program—Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, begun in 2018. The VEP-SANE program is designed to add more sexual assault nurse examiners in needed geographies, including rural and underserved locations across the U.S.

Vanderbilt's program will enroll 42 students in didactic training and a virtual, interactive clinical immersion. The students will be taught how to provide telehealth care with existing equipment available in low-resourced locations, and they will learn via expanded simulations how to provide essential care to persons who have been sexually assaulted. The program also will arrange 40-hour clinical preceptorships at high-volume, forensic nurse exam sites where trainees can work toward achieving clinical competencies. After clinical competencies are demonstrated, trainees may begin practicing independently as SANEs in their communities while accruing the clinical hours required for certification exam eligibility.

"We are so excited to continue the work we started in 2018 and grateful for the opportunity the grant provides to positively impact the course of recovery for survivors of sexual assault," Moore said.

Marci Zsamboky, DNP'18, PMC'17, assistant professor of nursing, will receive \$1.92 million over three years to support

Vanderbilt will expand its Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program with a \$1.5 million HRSA grant.





the behavioral health workforce education and training program within the school's psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner (lifespan) specialty. The grant will be used to improve the number of graduated Advanced Practice Registered Nurses prepared to deliver safe, high quality, culturally competent behavioral health care in rural and underserved areas.

"Individuals living in rural and underserved areas frequently have unmet behavioral health needs due to an inadequate workforce," Zsamboky said. "Participation in this important grant will prepare our nurse practitioner graduates to be a part of the solution nationwide."

The program's students will participate in a six- to seven-month clinical immersion at practice partner sites across Tennessee

and gain experience integrating behavioral health care, psychopharmacology and telehealth. The program's practice partner sites are in areas that lack access to care and have poverty and uninsured rates higher than the national averages of 10.2 percent and 13.9 percent, respectively.

The program also will educate PMHNP students in community resilience, telehealth, youth violence, vulnerable youth issues (such as LBGTQ+ and homelessness), substance use disorder, digital health literacy, social determinants of health, trauma-informed care, and integrated primary and behavioral health care.

Cardiovascular scientist named Ambassador for Friends of National Institute of Nursing Research

Assistant Professor Mulubrhan Mogos, PhD, has been named an ambassador for the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research, an independent nonprofit organization that advocates for nursing science and its role in promoting the health and well-being of Americans.

Mogos was one of 15 nurse leaders selected nationally for their abilities to advance public, health profession and policy-maker awareness of the National Institute for Nursing Research's agenda. The ambassadors focus on working with congressional leaders and educating them on the high-impact, cost-effective treatments and quality-of-life developments generated by nursing science; the group's ultimate goal is to expand funding to ensure training of nurse scientists.

Mogos, who joined VUSN in 2019, studies cardiovascular health conditions during pregnancy and associated adverse maternal-infant health outcomes. His research has received local and national funding, including an R01 grant from the National Institutes of Health investigating the role of ultrasound technology in predicting preterm birth (co-investigator). He is a Valere Potter Dean's Distinguished Faculty Fellow at Vanderbilt.



OHN RUSSEL

Maternal health researcher to study cesarean disparities



Neal

Assistant Professor Jeremy Neal, PhD, FACNM, has been awarded an R21 exploratory/development grant of more than \$250,000 from the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities to assess the differences in labor progress and care among Black and white women with low-risk pregnancies. The study findings will inform how health care providers can improve standards of care to decrease the disparity in cesarean births.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 31.7 percent of all deliveries in the U.S. are by cesarean birth. The

disparity in primary cesarean birth rates between Black and white women with low-risk pregnancies is significant: In 2019, 30 percent of low-risk Black women experienced a cesarean birth compared with 24.7 percent of white women.

"The biggest contributor to cesarean births for first-time mothers is if their care provider deems their labor progression too slow," said Neal, also co-director of the Vanderbilt School of Nursing postdoctoral program. "The standards for labor progression are out of sync with the physiological reality. By holding women to too fast of an expectation, we are putting them at greater risk for cesareans, unfortunately and unnecessarily."



or many people, hospitals are uncomfortable places where reminders of illness and injury are at every turn. But for Pamela R. Jeffries, PhD, FAAN, ANEF, FSSH, visits to a large hospital in Indianapolis as a teenager were fascinating, even inspiring, experiences. Among the earliest influences on her career path in nursing education and innovation was witnessing the hospital staff's dedication to patient care.

"Growing up in rural Indiana, I took memorable trips with my best friend to the Indianapolis hospital where her father was a patient," says Jeffries, the new dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. "I was drawn to the highly charged atmosphere inside a hospital, where no two days are the same, and I knew that working in a service profession, such as nursing, would be the career for me."

Jeffries would go on to earn a bachelor of science in nursing from Ball State University. She then went to work at a small regional hospital in Danville, Indiana, where she was a critical care nurse in the cardiovascular unit and handled code resuscitation procedures for the entire hospital.

"When I started working in critical care, I had to watch the cardiac monitors," Jeffries says. "It's stressful, and sometimes I had dreams, actually nightmares, in which I would see arrhythmias. I would tap my sleeping husband and say, 'Cardiac arrest.' He would respond, 'We rescued, go back to sleep.' The point is that you never totally get used to the trauma and life and death situations with nursing.

"The stress level for nurses and other health professionals has been especially high during the COVID-19 pandemic because many families cannot be with their hospitalized loved ones," she adds. "Those on the front line of COVID treatment are dealing with extensive severe illness and deaths, which is never easy, no matter how many years you've been in the field."

Jeffries, who succeeded Linda Norman, DSN, FAAN, as dean last July, takes over at a time when nursing education is undergoing an unprecedented transformation. The profession is being shaped not only by a global pandemic and all its demands, but also by innovation and technology. Jeffries' background, which includes expertise in experiential learning, innovative teaching strategies, and the use of technology in the delivery of nursing education, is well-suited for this moment of dramatic change—one in which skilled nurses are needed more than ever before.

"COVID has been a 'disruptor on steroids' for both faculty and students in nursing education," Jeffries says. "When the pandemic first hit, nursing students could not progress without online education, so any faculty who hadn't incorporated online education in the past quickly changed their tune. Of course, Vanderbilt has been a national leader in nursing virtual and hybrid learning platforms for a long time. We are fully engaged in the best practices, but we must continue to ask ourselves, 'How we can do even better in terms of

bringing the most value to the student learning experience?' Our students love the flexibility of virtual. Many of them are balancing families and jobs with their education."

Academic Path

Jeffries' academic path began with her move from a regional Indiana hospital to a larger hospital in Indianapolis to be a full-time critical care staff nurse. She began work on her master's at nearby Indiana University School of Nursing. "There was an opening for a critical care nurse to teach part time," Jeffries says. "I got the job, which ended up being full time, and that was the start to my academic career."

However, Jeffries' academic life was put on hold in 1992, when she and her husband relocated with their four young children to Indonesia for his engineering career. During their four years abroad, she taught CPR and first aid classes in an impoverished area with limited access to health care. She also collected data for her doctoral dissertation on the



"I was drawn to the highly charged atmosphere inside a hospital, where no two days are the same, and I knew that working in a service profession, such as nursing, would be the career for me."

Dean Pamela R. Jeffries







health behaviors of English-speaking expatriates. Without the luxury of email, she had to mail her dissertation chapters to her university advisers, and delivery back and forth would sometimes take months. Jeffries often relays that experience to her students to illustrate the importance of perseverance.

When the Jeffries family returned home, she earned her doctorate from Indiana University School of Nursing and accepted a tenure-track position there. Angela B. McBride, now the nursing school's dean emerita, became a role model and mentor to Jeffries.

"I soon realized that hiring Pam Jeffries was one of my wiser decisions as dean of the School of Nursing," McBride says. "Pam combined her strong interests in nursing education and information technology to develop a timely and creative research program focused on simulation as a way of teaching students. She was a pioneer and leading light in this field, which has become even more important during COVID, as simulations enable students to learn clinical decisionmaking without having to be in a hospital."

Jeffries was promoted to associate dean of undergraduate programs at IU School of Nursing before Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing recruited her to be a full professor and associate dean for academic programs. Then in 2013, Johns Hopkins University named her vice provost of digital initiatives for the university. "Online education was not being widely embraced at many traditional colleges and universities at that time," Jeffries says. "I worked in university administration, connecting associate deans, instructional design directors and others across 10 schools to promote shared resources and harness the energy for a successful approach to digital learning."





Leadership Style

Before joining Vanderbilt this summer, Jeffries served as dean of the George Washington University School of Nursing, which experienced a significant period of growth during her tenure. At GW, she became known as a systems thinker, achieving significant improvements in the school's operations, services and academic programs. Among her accomplishments were expanding the 5-year-old school's infrastructure and developing initiatives to build an inclusive and diverse school

Based in the nation's capital, she played a strong role in shaping nursing policy and continues to be an ambassador and advocate for nurses nationally through her service on the board of directors of the American Academy of Nursing. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the NLN's Academy of Nursing Education, the Society of Simulation in Healthcare and an alumna of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellows program.

In many ways, Jeffries is starting at Vanderbilt with a "clean slate," since she had only visited campus once previously when her twins were touring colleges. She says she always kept her eye on the School of Nursing's upward trajectory in its national and international reputation.

"I had met the two previous outstanding deans, Linda Norman and the late Colleen Conway-Welch, through our membership in professional associations and committee service, and I knew that Vanderbilt was one of those aspirational places to be," Jeffries says. "And the more I learned during the dean search process, the

more I wanted to contribute to the School of Nursing's next chapter."

Jeffries has embraced Vanderbilt's uniquely collaborative and supportive culture, which she has heard much about during a recent listening tour. Her conversations with nursing faculty and staff members have provided insight on what is working and what needs improvement or changing at the school. "I'm hearing authentic voices who are passionate about Vanderbilt, about Nashville, and the school's mission to prepare the best nurses possible for high-quality patient care," she says.

Among the goals Jeffries has already set are growing scholarships to bring more advanced practice nurses into the workforce and strengthening the School of Nursing's health care and community partnerships. "During the past 18 months, public health needs have risen to the top," she says. "We need to know more about opportunities to make a bigger impact on populations within our nearby communities."

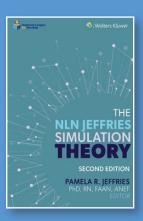
She will also keep the school's strong priority on building a diverse and inclusive community as she works with the nursing community, including alumni, to set the school's overall goals and aspirations for the near and long-term future.

"Dean Jeffries is a visionary leader who converts problems to opportunities," says Diane Billings, a national leader in nursing education and Chancellor's Professor of Nursing Emerita at Indiana University. Billings has been a longtime mentor to Jeffries. "Pam thinks big and collaborates effectively to achieve the best outcomes for all. She is a student and faculty advocate and inspires the best in all with whom she interacts."

NLN Jeffries Simulation Theory

Throughout Pamela Jeffries' academic career, she has placed a strong priority on learning through innovative instruction. She was an early proponent of the use of health care simulations to model clinical events for nursing students. Simulations are an important part of a nursing student's education, as they allow students to practice and improve their clinical and decision-making skills in safe, real-life patient scenarios without potential risk to actual patients. This educational approach is meant to replicate aspects of the real world and allow students to be immersed in the learning environment.

In the early 2000s, Jeffries was project director for a pioneering study on the use of simulations to model real



clinical practice events safely. Up until then, very little had been published about the structure of nursing simulations. Her project for building a simulation one that was grounded in evidence—was needed. She published the first research framework in 2005.

A decade later, with support from the National League of Nursing and many

and published one of the most significant contributions Theory.

This seminal work provides structure and best practices for what was then a fledgling educational model. It calls for design, educational practices, simulation experience and outcomes—in the development of educational simulations. A second edition of Jeffries' monograph, which provides an updated review of her theory and highlights future research needs in this area, was published this fall.

Development of a successful simulation is similar to combining the best ingredients from a well-tested recipe. The simulation must have both the variability and the

One component of Jeffries' simulation theory is the notion of fidelity, or realism, within the scenario. Real actors or high-fidelity mannequins with



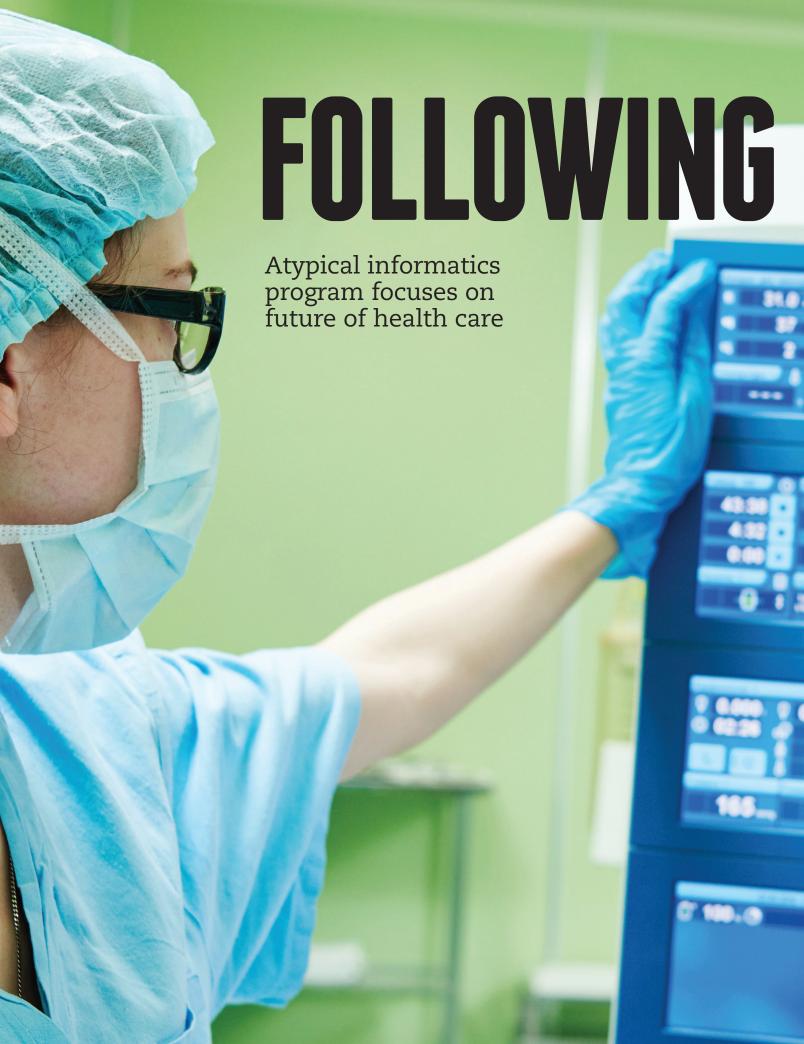


heartbeats and other bodily responses are used. Another necessary component is having faculty trained to oversee simulations. For the most effective simulation-based education, Jeffries says faculty need to set the learning objectives and structure the debriefing.

"Even if students make errors, they want to feel supported by faculty," Jeffries says. "They can always be immersed back into the simulation to try again. The debriefing, or guided reflection, is extremely rewarding for on what they have learned.'

As Vanderbilt's new dean, Jeffries is excited that the physical space and resources for simulation, ensuring highquality education for Vanderbilt students across programs and disciplines.

—Ann Marie Owens



THEDATA

BY AMY WOLF

alk into any modern hospital room and you'll find as much precisely calibrated equipment as in the cockpit of a 787, machines capable of monitoring and recording just about every known biological function.

It's often nurses who utilize this ever-more sophisticated technology, drawing on real-time data to help treat patients and collaborate with the health care team in making diagnoses or charting a path for care.

But this information—the amount of which has exploded in recent years—doesn't stop at the patient's bedside. It's often aggregated into a de-identified massive set of numbers that can help researchers search for large-scale patterns that could ultimately lead to new innovations and novel insights.

Nurse informaticists, health informaticists and data scientists have traditionally been the specialists helping make sense of these massive data sets. As the amount of data collected grows exponentially, it provides the ability to examine health care in entirely new ways, particularly in nursing.

In 2019, the increased opportunities and new capabilities available to informatists led Vanderbilt School of Nursing to completely revise its nursing informatics master's program to incorporate newly emerging informatics competencies. Graduate students study the latest techniques and tools for data analysis, detecting health patterns among large populations and exploring new developments in health technology.

"This is not a typical informatics program. We believe strongly that the valuable informatics nurses of the future are going to be those who not only facilitate the means to collect data, but also know how to analyze and interpret it," says Brenda Kulhanek, PhD, academic director for the nursing

informatics specialty, which was ranked #3 in the nation by US News and World Report in 2019.

Kulhanek is one of the leaders brought to VUSN to elevate the specialty program. After beginning her career at the patient bedside, her interest in technology and passion for nursing led her to education and informatics leadership roles at TriStar Health, HCA Healthcare and other health systems. She advocated for nurses and the specialty as then-president of the American Nursing Informatics Association.

Valuable Partnerships

Program leaders say Vanderbilt's trans-institutional partnerships tied to data analytics are what sets its program above others. These include the Department of Biomedical Informatics, the Data Science Institute, Vanderbilt Clinical Informatics Center and The Wond'ry, Vanderbilt's Innovation Center. They've also built external relationships, bringing in experts from tech giants like Apple, Microsoft, Google and others.

"We have created what I believe is one of the most unique and forward-thinking programs in informatics nursing because of our robust resources inside and outside of the university," says Patricia Sengstack, DNP'10, FAAN, FACMI, VUSN senior associate dean for informatics. She has a joint appointment as a nursing informatics consultant at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Sengstack is another leader transforming the informatics program. She came to Vanderbilt with a strong history of nursing informatics expertise, having led nursing informatics for 15 hospitals in the Bon Secours Health System. She also worked with the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center to develop and implement an electronic health records system for clinical research trials.

"Having the electronic health records system come to life for the NIH Clinical Center and to see the ability for doctors, nurses, social workers, physical therapists—everybody—to be able to access an electronic health record that's comprehensive and collaborative was just revolutionary," Sengstack says.

Eve on AI

Most recently, researchers and students in the program have begun to explore the worlds of artificial intelligence and machine learning—technology designed to vastly accelerate data analysis, or in the most sci-fi scenarios, augment human capabilities.

"AI is able currently to use collected data to tell when a patient is getting septic or may get another infection before humans can pick it up. But there needs to be a nurse who understands the technology and data and we've built that into our program, which is not common," Kulhanek says.

The types of jobs for nursing informaticists are expanding as quickly as the field, whether in hospitals and other health care facilities to software companies and government agencies.

"The need for informatics—and professionals who understand it and use it every day in patient care—is expanding exponentially," says Pamela Jeffries, PhD, FAAN, ANEF, FSSH, dean of the Vanderbilt School of Nursing and Valere Potter Professor of Nursing. "Vanderbilt focuses on educating and supporting a high-caliber nurse who brings the competencies needed for the best quality patient care, and nursing informatics is the next level of that."

Making Technology Accessible

Another goal of the informatics nurse specialty is to increase the understanding of how current health care technology can be used most effectively and accessibly by health practitioners and patients alike.

This aspect of the specialty program is something Kelly Aldrich, DNP, director of innovation and associate professor of informatics at VUSN, is passionate about teaching and implementing.



"We have created what I believe is one of the most unique and forwardthinking programs in informatics nursing because of our robust resources inside and outside of the university"

- Patricia Sengstack

She has spent more than three decades on the front lines of health care informatics, devising numerous technologies to aid nurses and patients. In 2006, she helped create and launch a technology that allows nurses to automate the input of vital signs in a central database instead of transcribing them in multiple areas. It was revolutionary for the time and is now an industry standard in use today.

"We designed this product that created a barcoded wristband protocol for each patient, and it allowed the caregiver to send the vitals immediately to multiple sources," Aldrich explains. "This was a game changer for nurses, giving them time to focus on their patients while providing automation of crucial health data algorithms and immediately notifying the care team of deterioration or complications with the patient."

Three years later, in 2009, the work of Aldrich, Kulhanek, Sengstack and other nursing informatics leaders was bolstered with the passage of the federal Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act. It was created to promote and expand the adoption of health information technology—focusing mainly on the use of electronic health records by health care providers.

Along with teaching in the nursing informatics specialty, Aldrich serves as the chief clinical transformation officer for the Center for Medical Interoperability, a national nonprofit working to integrate health care technologies so that they can exchange information.

"Our goal in health care informatics is to provide the right tools of technology and the best data information possible to

"The valuable informatics nurses of the future are going to be those who not only facilitate the means to collect data, but also know how to analyze and interpret it."

- Brenda Kulhanek



support the clinicians and reduce burdens on them, especially when it comes to charting and data entry, so they can focus on giving personal hands-on care," says Aldrich, who before coming to Vanderbilt was the inaugural chief nursing informatics officer for HCA Healthcare, leading informatics strategies for more than 170 hospitals.

As technology expands in the health care arena, the partnership between clinicians and outside industry to create real-time innovation and ideation is more important than ever.

"That means really listening to the nurses to find out what they need and partnering with nurse informaticists and technical experts to create devices and systems that providers will use to make health care experiences better for all sides," Aldrich says.

COVID Put Informatics in the Spotlight

The COVID-19 pandemic put a major spotlight on the real-life impact of health care informatics.

In 2019—before the arrival of COVID-19—Aldrich and the Center for Medical Interoperability were contracted by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to demonstrate an automated, ledger-based system that could be used for the trusted transmission of data about personal protective equipment (PPE) from multiple supply chain systems. This would be needed for national PPE tracking in a potential pandemic; the project came from the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory at the CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health.

The research started with a theoretical pandemic, but in 2020 it became reality.

Hospitals were running through disposable protective gear faster than it was being shipped. Aldrich and her research partners quickly took their supply chain strain theory and started feeding it with real-time data. This alpha project phase connected 78 hospitals in nine Health and Human Services' regions for a demonstration period of 16 weeks. It provided hundreds of thousands of realtime, automated data points for predictive



"We're continually challenging students and decision-makers: How are we building a data culture? How are we expanding that innovation culture?"

- Kelly Aldrich

modeling and other data analysis to help hospitals and the CDC examine exactly what PPE they had available so they could come up with innovative ways to keep caregivers and patients safe.

The CDC recently funded a second phase of research for Aldrich at VUSN. With this segment, Aldrich has brought in Vanderbilt Data Science Institute collaborators, Chief Data Scientist Jesse Spencer-Smith, PhD, and Vanderbilt School of Engineering Professor of the Practice Dana Zhang, MS'18, PhD'18. Together they are working with several institute graduate students to analyze information collected from participating health care organizations and develop predictive models tied to their medical inventory.

'We're doing data analysis on a medical organization's burn rates to figure out: Will they have enough PPE and other essential items to provide for their teams? And that's going to be where some interesting predictive modeling comes in. I think because of that, it will have a true impact on supply chain management for the country," Aldrich says.

Informaticists in Action

Informatics nurses played other vital roles at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, when many caregivers and patients were pushed into types of care they weren't used to.

"Informatics nurses stepped in and quickly got organizations set up with telehealth, trained people on new remote technologies, simplified clinical documentation and even built and managed applications and dashboards to help keep track of COVID data," Kulhanek says.

Locally, part of this work involved helping Vanderbilt University establish testing and safety protocols for those returning to campus in the fall of 2020.

"A Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) database was developed to track any student contact data, including COVID-19 testing dates and results, as well as associated contact tracing," Pam Jones, BSN'81, MSN'92, DNP'13, FAAN, associate vice chancellor for health and wellness at Vanderbilt University and associate professor at the nursing school, wrote in a research article on nursing leadership and contributions during the pandemic that was published in Nursing Administration Quarterly. The database was key to managing student health at the height of the pandemic.

Innovation is part of the mission statement of VUSN. The people leading the nursing informatics specialty at Vanderbilt take that mission to heart.

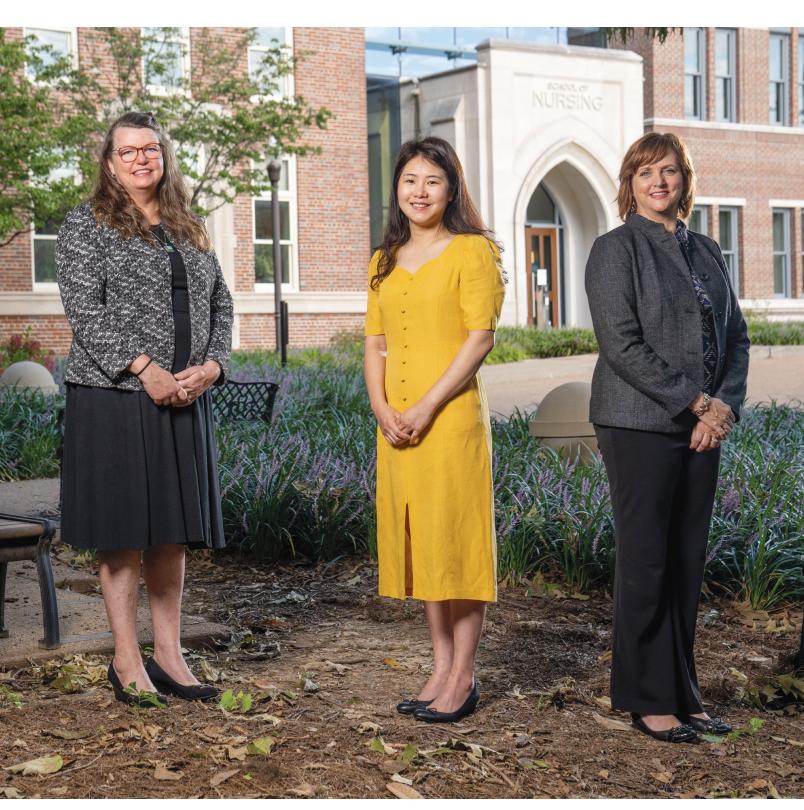
"We're continually challenging students and decision-makers: How are we building a data culture? How are we expanding that innovation culture?" Aldrich says. "I think that's really exciting, and I'm ready to work with these amazing students and fellow nurses to take on that challenge." BY MARISSA SHAPIRO

Responding to Recurring Health **Issues**

Acute and chronic illness researchers aim to improve the lives of individuals, caregivers, communities and health care systems

here are key differences between acute and chronic illnesses—one is associated with conditions that occur suddenly but eventually dissipate, while the other's symptoms are long lasting and worsen over time. But together they make up one of the School of Nursing's signature areas of research, with faculty united around the idea of improving the lives of patients through creative thinking and problem solving. Among the new techniques developed by these researchers are innovative systemsbased interventions, as well as programs aimed to improve the physical and mental health of patients suffering from disease. Meet four faculty members helping keep Vanderbilt on the leading edge of acute and chronic illness research.





Left, Researchers Julie Barroso, Laurie Schirle, Chorong Park and Deonni Stolldorf focus on acute and chronic illness

Julie Barroso, PhD, Julie Eleanor **Blair Chenault Professor of** Nursing

Julie Barroso has been researching various aspects of living with HIV since the early days of the epidemic. While working as a medical/surgical nurse at a large public hospital in the 1980s, she saw firsthand how poorly patients with HIV infection were treated in hospitals.

"I saw someone open the door to the room of a patient with HIV infection and put a lunch tray on the floor and shove it into the room with his foot," Barroso says. "Back in those pre-HIPAA days, we actually had signs on patient doors that indicated they had HIV infection, so people knew. I was incoherent with anger when I saw that."

Barroso earned her PhD from the University of Texas at Austin, where she focused on issues related to long-term survivors of AIDS and conducted extensive research on HIV-related fatigue—the disease's most problematic symptom. Stressful life events are the best predictor of increases in HIV-related fatigue, according to Barroso's research. To improve the care of patients with HIV, she has collaborated on the development of an app that teaches cognitive behavioral stress management. The recent successful pilot study was funded by the National Institutes of Health and has given Barroso the insights she needed to pursue wider testing and the ultimate dissemination of the app.

Over the past year and a half, her research interests have also expanded to long COVID-19, as its most prominent symptom is fatigue. "Patients report over 250 symptoms in large studies, which is hard for anyone to get their arms around," Barroso says. "My goal is to find clusters of symptoms related to long COVID. Cluster identification may make reported symptoms more manageable, and importantly, may

""So many people with long COVID are young and cannot take care of themselves. With the way this epidemic is going, we may end up with literally millions of people with long COVID, so we need to get started on understanding it now."

- Iulie Barroso

help us find the cause(s) of those symptoms. Then, I would like to determine the impact of each cluster on the patients' functional status - their ability to work, exercise and the activities of daily living. This will help us begin to develop interventions. So many people with long COVID are young and cannot take care of themselves. With the way this epidemic is going, we may end up with literally millions of people with long COVID, so we need to get started on understanding it now."

With former roles as an associate dean of the faculty and associate dean of doctoral programs at other universities over the past decade, Barroso came to Vanderbilt in August 2020 to pursue a more researchoriented path that would give her the necessary time to think creatively about research solutions to problems. She cites her time as a researcher at Vanderbilt as the happiest in her academic career.

Chorong Park, PhD, assistant professor

Before you read on, stand up. By standing for the minute or two it will take to read the rest of this article, you will have triggered the metabolic pathways that make you less vulnerable to developing type 2 diabetes or cardiovascular disease.

During her time as a nurse in the cardiovascular disease unit, Chorong Park saw just how greatly patients struggled to modify their health behaviors, including their diet. Moving from South Korea to pursue her doctoral studies at Yale

University, Park began her investigation into the interplay between physical activity, sedentary behavior and sleep, and how each contributes to the risk of cardiovascular disease.

Now at Vanderbilt, Park is developing simple interventions that encourage people at high risk of cardiovascular disease and diabetes to make slight yet impactful changes to their behaviors. Park's current focus is on how to encourage people to replace sedentary behavior with light-tomoderate physical activities. "Those most at risk of acute heart attack sit for 10 to 14 hours each day. Simply standing or walking two to three minutes for every 30 minutes of sitting can reduce their total sitting time and increase their light levels of physical activity," Park says. "We believe that these behavior changes have a direct influence on cardiovascular disease risk factors like glucose, insulin sensitivity and inflammation biomarkers, in addition to typical factors like blood pressure."

With her early education and clinical work in South Korea, Park would like to work with the Asian American population on future research. Asian populations are understudied in all research areas, including cardiovascular disease research. "While Asian Americans are slim compared to the general U.S. population, most literature shows that particularly South Asian women are at high risk for cardiovascular disease," Park says. "This group's metabolism and genetic factors are different than studied populations, and their health patternsamid the experience of adapting to American culture and habits—put their risk of developing type 2 diabetes or heart disease higher than many researchers realize."

Heading in this research direction, Park intends to investigate the relationship between stress, sleep and physical activity to consider new interventions. This work

"Those most at risk of acute heart attack sit for 10 to 14 hours each day. Simply standing or walking two to three minutes for every 30 minutes of sitting can reduce their total sitting time and increase their light levels of physical activity."

- Chorong Park

will include novel and objective measures of stress-including levels of the chronic stress level biomarker cortisol in two to three hairs of participants. This will give Park a precise measurement of three month's of cortisol in individual participants, resulting in what she anticipates will be seminal research in the field.

Lori Schirle, PhD, assistant professor

Lori Schirle's goal is to deliver effective pain management and minimize the risk of opioids. As a surgical intensive care nurse and nurse anesthetist for more than 30 years, Schirle has plenty of experience helping patients assess and manage their pain. During her doctoral studies at the University of Miami researching postoperative opioid prescribing recommendations, it became quickly apparent that there were no guidelines on prescribing opioids for any type of pain.

"Postoperative pain management relied on surgeons' standard opioid-prescribing amounts, but no one really knew how much pain medication people actually took after surgery," Schirle says. "This started my research path to investigate pain and opioid use, and safety after surgery.

"Currently, opioids remain the mainstay of postoperative pain management. Some patients require no opioids after surgery while others go on to become persistent users, which greatly increases the risk of opioid use disorders," she added. "Persistent opioid use after surgery is considered one of the most common complication after surgery, major and minor."

To address these and other risk factors that lead to persistent opioid use, Schirle collaborates with colleagues in the Vanderbilt Genetics Institute and Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Department of Anesthesiology, as well as colleagues at the University of Maryland Pain and Translational Symptom Science Department. She is currently investigating the role that individual pain sensitivity and genetic makeup may play in the great

variation seen in opioid use after similar surgeries. Her research has been funded by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Foundation and the Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research. She is also a member of a number of professional organizations related to the study of pain.

Schirle describes the current opioid epidemic as improving, with a long way to go. The COVID-19 pandemic may not be making things easier. As most public health efforts have centered on the SARS-CoV-2 virus since March 2020, emergency measures to cope with the pandemic have failed to include people suffering with addiction and chronic pain, leading to a disruption in access to treatment facilities and providers, Schirle says. These factors, in combination with social isolation and economic stress, resulted in an increase in overdose deaths by as much as 50 percent in the U.S., and 44 percent in Nashville, when compared to 2019 numbers.

Deonni Stolldorf, PhD, assistant professor

Sustainable health care interventions—the continuation and integration of a program in the context in which it was implemented—are how health care providers and systems can leverage programs to ensure patient wellbeing and positive outcomes. Deonni Stolldorf became interested in sustainable health care interventions during her work as a hospital-based nurse educator. When quality improvement or a new implementation was initiated in a health care setting, nurse educators provided the necessary education to support the project.

"I began to see a pattern of hospitals becoming enamored with the latest health care intervention or improvement process, and hurriedly adopting it. However, once the intervention was implemented, it was not used to its full extent or sustained use was not achieved," Stolldorf says. "These projects became like dusty books on the shelf. My goal is to take the book off the shelf and make sure it is used and never again collects

dust. We can achieve this by integrating interventions as part of routine care."

Her latest work involves a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute-funded study to evaluate the implementation of GUIDED-HF, a self-care program designed to decrease the risk of cardiovascular-related death and readmissions in patients with acute heart failure discharged from the emergency department. Stolldorf, dual PI Sean Collins, MD, director of the Center for Emergency Care Research and Innovation at VUMC, and their research team will tailor the implementation of GUIDED-HF and evaluate its use and clinical outcomes in four emergency departments.

Stolldorf is also investigating the perspectives of patients, their caregivers and health care professionals regarding Hospital at Home programs, which enable patients who need acute care to receive it at home rather than in a hospital setting. This Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical and Translational Research-funded study will assist with development of interventions to enhance patient safety and care quality, support patients' caregivers, and develop and support nursing care delivery. Stolldorf and VUMC nurse leaders are looking into the knowledge and skills nurses need to be effective in the Hospital at Home setting. "Best practices for hiring and training are unclear," Stolldorf says. "With this new area of research, we intend to identify how to best prepare nurses for this new program."

Stolldorf has worked on the sustainability of various health care interventions in nursing residency programs, rapid response teams, the VA's Warrior to Soul Mate initiative and the MARQUIS Toolkit of medication reconciliation interventions.

"If we can achieve sustainability of the interventions we implement, we are likely to achieve the outcomes we want," Stolldorf says. "These clinical outcomes ultimately affect population health. And if we can improve the satisfaction and safety for our staff, we can improve retention among the nursing workforce that is so badly needed across the U.S."



NCE NURSE

Community of nurses continues in retirement

Charlotte Covington, Adrienne Ames, Dean Pamela Jeffries and VUMC Executive CNO Marilyn Dubree, MSN'76, at a recent Vanderbilt Commodore football game.

t a retirement center nestled in the hills of Nashville, a cadre of Vanderbilt nurses have built a community within a community. .

No single career experience connects them—they've been war nurses, flight nurses, ER nurses and floor nurses, as well as teachers, researchers and administrators. Their relationships are woven through their vast web of experience, with their love of nursing at the hub.

"Nurses always find each other," says Charlotte Covington, BSN'69, MSN'89, associate professor of nursing, emerita.

Frances Edwards, BSN'53, MSN'76, is at the helm of the group. "When my husband and I moved to the Blakeford at Green Hills in 2013, I was pleasantly surprised to find there were several nurses here," she says. "As May came, I decided it would be important to celebrate National Nurses Week. I planned a lunch for May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday."

The luncheon has become an annual event. "There are about nine or 10 of us each year, always changing, of course," she says. "We talk about our educations and experiences. Nursing opens up a whole new world."

In addition to Edwards and Covington, Vanderbilt nurses currently living at the Blakeford include School of Nursing faculty legend Adrienne Ames, MSN'75, and Sara Plummer, a long-time veteran of Vanderbilt University Medical Center. (Plummer's daughter is Assistant Professor of Nursing Carrie Plummer, MSN'13, PhD'15.)

"I enjoy hearing from other nurses about their variety of experiences," says Plummer, who moved to the Blakeford in 2019. "Some were in the ER, some the OR, some in small, private hospitals. I appreciate learning about their careers."

Hands-On Care

Plummer herself can literally tell war stories. Right out of college, she was stationed in Saigon for a year as an Army nurse during the Vietnam War.

"We worked 12 hours a day, seven days a week," she says. "We got patients from the (U.S.) Embassy and soldiers helicoptered in from the battlefield. I turned 21 while I was there. It was really rough. You had a choice—either you adapted and made it through, or you had a psychological breakdown."

She joined Vanderbilt in 1970 and spent the next 35 years working in the Medical Center, two decades of which were in neurosurgery, with the last 10 years in the dialysis and renal transplant unit.

Ames, who built a public health career in Georgia and was also a National Guard flight nurse, first came to Vanderbilt to pursue her MSN to be a family nurse practitioner/clinician. She came back a few years later to start what would become a 35-year tenure as a School of Nursing faculty member, piloting initiatives in clinical care, home care, social work, rehabilitation, addiction and wellness.

Her true love remains public health. "I always had a joint appointment between the School of Nursing and the hospital, so I kept my hand in the clinical side," she says. "Being with people, understanding the world that they live in and helping them build a healthy lifestyle is what I like best." After her retirement in 2013, Ames volunteered at the Vanderbilt Clinic, escorting patients and their families through the maze of hallways to appointments.



Sara Plummer, Adrienne Ames and Frances Edwards during the annual Nurses Day luncheon at their residence, the Blakeford.

Research Into Practice

Among Edwards' earliest memories of nursing are working in the polio wards of the early 1950s. "Our patients were on iron lungs," she says. "And there were no disposables! We wore cotton gowns and caps. They were sent to the laundry after each use and each patient. We washed our hands a lot."

Edwards came back to the School of Nursing in the mid-'70s to earn her MSN. Her thesis was on relieving stress in patients using the Jean Johnson self-regulation theory. In her research, she worked with patients who were to receive arteriograms. "Before their procedures, I would explain to them exactly what they would experience—what they would see, what they would hear, what they would smell," she says. "The nurses said they could always tell who my patients were because they were so calm." She put her research into practice alongside her husband, the late surgeon Dr. Bill Edwards, BA'49, MD'53, working with arteriogram and vascular surgery patients.

Later she became a vocal advocate for nursing on the state and national stages. She chaired the American Nurses Association political action committee and lobbied extensively for nurses and health care in the Tennessee State Legislature and U.S. Congress.

Trauma Trailblazer

Covington worked in several hospitals in the Northeast before joining VUMC. As a registered nurse in the emergency department, she was one of the hospital's first flight nurses. She also created the role of the emergency department educator and was one of the first trauma course instructors for the Emergency Nurses Association.

"I went into nursing to work in hospitals caring for patients," she says. "Now there are so many different opportunities." Covington helped create many of those opportunities. After 24 years of nursing practice, she joined the nursing school faculty in 1993. There she created two major foundation courses and her commitment to students earned her the school's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2004. She also worked as a family nurse practitioner at the Metro Nashville Public School Employee & Family Health Care Centers, VUMC's School of Nursing nurse-managed clinics.

Covington, who retired in 2012, moved to the Blakeford in early 2021. She is a board member of the School of Nursing Alumni Association and served on the board for the school's donor organization, the Julia Hereford Society.

Community Connections

All four still use the observation skills—or sixth sense, as Edwards says—they learned in nursing school. During the COVID-19 lockdowns of 2020, Edwards and Plummer kept tabs on neighbors.

"We would check in on everybody. It was very difficult, especially for people who couldn't see their families," Edwards says. "Not everyone understood the reason for the lockdown and thought they had done something wrong. It was a very hard time."

Plummer, trusting the instincts she honed over four decades as a nurse, is proactive about alerting Blakeford administrators about concerns with her neighbors, such as possible memory loss or a trip and fall. Ames offers encouraging words to caretaker spouses and, having lived at the Blakeford for less than a year, makes a point of getting to know others in the community.

Edwards continues to enjoy being connected with retired nurses at the center. "Nurses are remarkable people," she says. "We have a different way of looking at the world and solving problems, so it is always interesting and fun."

"Before their procedures, I would explain to them exactly what they would experience what they would see, what they would hear, what they would smell."

- Frances Edwards

By Jennifer Plant Johnston

Have Vaccine, will travel

Vanderbilt's Mobile Vaccine Program visits Nashville's underserved communities with lifesaving COVID-19 shots





he knocking at the front door startled Melissa Williams* as she tried unsuccessfully to nap between jobs. Ever since the highly contagious Delta variant of COVID-19 had taken Nashville into its grip, sleep had not come easily to the young single mother, who was worried about her children's health as well as her own. So, when she opened the door to find representatives of Vanderbilt's Mobile Vaccine Program on her porch, a feeling of relief washed over her.



"Before I lay down, I prayed that God would find a way for me to get the vaccine," the exhausted woman told them, tears in her eyes. That day, she became one of more than 4,134 residents in the Nashville area who thus far have received a COVID-19 vaccine from the mobile team. Organized by Vanderbilt School of Nursing faculty and Vanderbilt University Medical Center, the program has been visiting underserved communities since March to educate residents about the importance of the vaccine and administer shots.

"To have the opportunity to be the person who is thinking about her needs, and the needs of people like her, is the most rewarding thing I've ever done in my career," says one of the program's co-founders Christian Ketel, DNP'14.

A meeting last winter between School of Nursing and VUMC leadership to lay the groundwork for the mobile program was among Ketel's first priorities after getting vaccinated himself. Senior leaders were fully supportive from inception, he says.

"Ninety percent of what we do is conversations about vaccines and vaccine hesitancy. Ten percent is vaccinations."

- Christian Ketel

"A very big part leading up to the launch of the Mobile Vaccine Program is the work that the School of Nursing has been doing in the community for decades, and that has helped lead to the success of the program," says Ketel, who is an assistant professor of nursing and director of Vanderbilt Primary Care-West End. which provides health care to underserved populations.

Fellow Assistant Professor of Nursing Carrie E. Plummer, PhD, MSN'05, teamed with Ketel to launch and run the program, combining her logistical strengths with his salesmanship. Plummer teaches the School of Nursing's year-long Community and Population Health course, which connects her with a lot of community groups.

"We came at it from different angles in the beginning," Ketel says. "I was more focused on people experiencing homelessness and medically underserved communities, where she was focused on the medically vulnerable geriatric Nashvillians. We were a good match."

Plummer's desire to reach more underserved community members during the pandemic and to create service opportunities for her students led her to Ketel. The two "share the same heart," she says, and a similar drive—they'll go almost anywhere needed. When a someone who had health issues that kept her homebound reached out on social media for a home visit, Ketel went to her house and vaccinated six members of the household. When a worker said he couldn't afford to take time off work to get vaccinated, Ketel went to his worksite and climbed up on the man's forklift to give him a shot.

The team has encountered patients with numerous barriers to vaccination, including work conflicts, gaps in Internet literacy and English language proficiency, lack of regular medical care, and mistrust based on historical mistreatment. particularly among the African American, Kurdish and Hispanic communities.

"Ninety percent of what we do is conversations about vaccines and vaccine hesitancy," Ketel says. "Ten percent





is vaccinations. It feels, at times, like hand-to-hand combat between accurate and true information and volumes of disinformation."

COMMUNITY EFFORT

The Mobile Vaccine Program grew quickly from a successful spring pilot in Nashville's Mercury Courts community, where School of Nursing and VUMC have long run a clinic for homeless and lowincome patients. The vaccine program has attracted participation from Vanderbilt faculty, staff and student volunteers as well as pharmacy students and faculty at nearby Lipscomb University and undergraduate interns from Vanderbilt, Middle Tennessee State University and Tennessee State University. Outside agencies, including the Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency and Urban Housing Solutions, soon joined the program partners in the vaccine effort.

"We've had a partnership with the Vanderbilt School of Nursing that dates back years," says Brent Elrod, managing director of Urban Housing Solutions. "More recently, because of COVID, Christian and Carrie have worked very hard to bring the vaccine to our properties, where we have a large number of folks with underlying health conditions and least access to health care."

The mobile vaccine outreach efforts have resulted in high vaccination rates at several Urban Housing properties, including more than 90 percent of its residents at River Terrace in Inglewood.

When Plummer connected with Paige Hopkins, MDHA's COVID-19 resource navigator earlier this year, that agency already had cast a wide net with fliers and vaccine events. "At that point, everyone who wanted a COVID-19 vaccine had gotten one," Hopkins says. "Door-to-door outreach became really important."

In addition to going directly to underserved neighborhoods, mobile team members actively have sought out events around town where they can talk to attendees about the vaccine and administer shots. Even if only five people opt to get a shot at one of these events, the team returns to provide a second dose, Hopkins explains.

"It was important to have a person come and show that people really care, and they want to help," she says. "I really felt like the residents could feel that energy."

Brooke Smith, a recent graduate in health care administration at Tennessee State University, says knocking on doors opened her eyes to the mistrust and lack of health education among underserved communities.

"We were able to change a lot of minds and allow them to be more open to it," says Smith, a 2021 summer intern. "I just feel







like us going to them and reaching out to them showed that we care, we understand, and we're here to help."

The importance of empathy was the biggest takeaway for NCAA summer intern Maddie Souza of Danville, California. A medicine, health and society major at Vanderbilt, she is a senior on the Commodores lacrosse team.

"I saw how much they (the nurse practitioners) were willing to meet people halfway in communication and dialogue about health," Souza says. "I learned a lot about the humanity part of it."

Meanwhile, Sarah Uroza, Pharm.D, an assistant professor in the pharmacy practice department at Lipscomb School of Pharmacy, and faculty colleagues have brought pharmacy students to help draw up the vaccines, administer them and assist with vaccine storage and refrigeration, allowing Vanderbilt volunteers to focus on patient education.

The Mobile Vaccine Program "has made such a difference, especially to homebound patients and those with lots of kids that just can't get out of the house to get a vaccine," says Uroza, a clinical pharmacist. "When you knock on their door and say you have one right now, and you don't have to leave your house to get it, it makes it really hard to have an excuse not to get the vaccine."

"It was important to have a person come and show that people really care, and they want to help. I really felt like the residents could feel that energy."

– Paige Hopkins

On tough days, the team vaccinated only a handful of people, recalls Uroza. But on another day, a hundred members of a Hispanic church showed up for a vaccination event, along with their priest.

That success was due in no small part to the groundwork already laid by Claudia Barajas, manager of community engagement for the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, who also volunteered to help. "You can't be with the community only for cancer during a pandemic," Barajas says.

She partners with the vaccine team by going into churches in the Hispanic community on Sundays to announce upcoming mobile vaccine events, and to provide patient education. She finds that "many people are not clear how the vaccine protects them," and those with immigration issues fear being tracked.

"Health disparity is a big issue in Tennessee, especially in the Hispanic and African American communities. There's a lack of transportation, a lack of information, a lack of understanding of the importance of the vaccine, a lack of understanding of the language and the system," Barajas says. "It takes years to change perceptions."

Partnerships, such as the one with Barajas, have allowed the mobile team's mission to expand exponentially, Ketel says. Recently, they've moved into rural areas, where vaccine rates are alarmingly low.

"In some ways, although the pandemic has been a tragedy for the last two years, it's really highlighted the importance of public health nursing," Plummer explains.

"Humans aren't the best at correctly assessing and understanding risk," she says. "When it comes to health and wellness, as well as treating disease, nurses have an important role to play as advocates, educators and partners to patients at risk."



The International Year of the Nurse and Midwife was planned to be a celebration of nursing accomplishments and recognition for the nursing profession but quickly turned into a real-world demonstration of impact, nursing knowledge, accomplishment and necessity.

From caring for COVID-19 patients, often at risk to their own health, to setting up testing, and later, vaccine clinics, nurses were—are—on the frontlines of what may prove to be the worst health crisis of the 21st century. The pandemic affected all nursing professionals. Vanderbilt School of Nursing faculty pivoted to teach students in virtual settings spearheaded clinical innovations such as expanded telehealth and nurse-on-call programs, studied pandemic responses and best practices, and provided leadership locally, regionally, nationally and globally. They also continued scholarly and research activities.

The following pages represent select accomplishments by VUSN nurse scientists, educators and leaders in the academic and scientific arenas from the past year.

We hope you find it interesting and informative.

Currently Funded Grants and Contracts

Research Grants

Susie Adams

Integrated Addiction Medicine Project
Meharry Medical College
Health Resources and Services Administration
7/1/19–6/30/21 | \$112,628

Terrah Foster Akard

A Nurse-Led Storytelling Intervention for Rural Pediatric Palliative Care Populations
2020 Hillman Serious Illness and End of Life Emergent Innovation Program
Rita & Alex Hillman Foundation
1/1/21–12/31/21 | \$50,000

Terrah Foster Akard

Chancellor's Faculty Fellow Vanderbilt University 7/1/19–6/30/21 | \$80,000

Lindsey Baksh

Medication Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Expectant Mothers (MOMs)
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
National Institutes of Health
10/1/2019–5/31/2022 | \$31,156

Julie Barroso

Understanding the Effects of Substance Use on Male Couples' Risk for HIV Florida International University
National Institutes of Health
3/15/21–3/31/22 | \$30,576

Julie Barroso

Pre-implementation Research for Trauma-informed HIV Care in Metropolitan Nashville Meharry Medical College National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases 5/1/21–4/30/22 | \$7,811

Leanne M. Boehm

Discovery Grant
Vanderbilt University
7/1/19–6/30/22 | \$100,000

Leanne M. Boehm

Improving ICU Recovery in Survivors of Critical Illness American Association of Critical-Care Nurses 4/1/19–1/31/22 | \$49,999

Leanne M. Boehm

Vanderbilt Scholars in TF Transitional Research (V-STTaR) Program Vanderbilt University Medical Center National Institutes of Health Faculty Research Scholars Program 9/1/18–8/31/21 | \$331,659

Catheryne Clouse

CareConekta: Mobile Health for a Mobile Population National Institute of Mental Health 5/10/19–3/31/2 | \$630,807

Catheryne Clouse

Impact of Cross-state Mobility on HIV Engagement in Care in TN Meharry Medical College

Meharry Medical College National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases 8/5/20–7/31/21 | \$79,785

Catheryne Clouse

The South African National HIV Pregnancy Cohort: Evaluating Continuity of Care Among Women Living with HIV

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development 4/3/21–3/31/22 | \$84,817

Laurie Connors

Translation and Integration of Genomics is Essential to Doctoral Nursing: "TIGER"

National Institute of Health

National Human Genome Research Institute R25

5/12/21–3/31/26 | \$689,492

Mary Jo Gilmer

Exploring the Impact of Human-Animal Interactions on Children with Life-Threatening Conditions and their Parents

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development 3/1/20–2/28/22 | \$440,901

Mary Jo Gilmer

Pilot Study of the Effects of Animal-Assisted Interactions on Quality of Life in Children with Life-Threatening Conditions and their Parents Human Animal Bond Research Institute 1/1/19–12/31/21 | \$48,819

Alvin Jeffery

K12 Vanderbilt University Medical Center Learning Health System Scholars Program Vanderbilt University Medical Center Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality 9/30/19–10/31/21 | \$242,358

Jennifer Kim

Diabetes, Dementia, and Aging at Home Vanderbilt University Medical Center National Institute on Aging 9/15/20-4/30/24 | \$49,043

Jennifer Kim

Geriatric Workforce Enhancement Program
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Health Resources and Services Administration
7/1/19–6/30/24 | \$290,442

Jennifer Kim

Providing Safe Care to Older Hospitalized Patients through Discrete Event Simulation Modeling Vanderbilt University Medical Center Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality R18 9/1/19–6/30/22 | \$29,743

Mariya Kovaleva

Addressing Caregiver Burden during Persons' Living with Dementia Hospital-to-Home Transitions
Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
7/1/19–4/30/21 | \$10,000

Mariya Kovaleva

Addressing Caregiver Burden during Persons' Living with Dementia Hospital-to-Home Transitions
Southern Nursing Research Society
1/1/2020–4/30/21 | \$7,500

Mariya Kovaleva

Perioperative Settings: Nurses, Persons Living with Dementia and Their Caregivers Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing 2/15/20-4/30/21 | \$5,000

Mariya Kovaleva

Tele-Savvy during Hospital to Home Transition Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association 7/1/19–4/30/21 | \$5,000

Cathy A. Maxwell

Aging & Fragility: Activity, Resilience and Energy in the Second Half of Life (AFRESH) Urban Housing Solutions West End Home Foundation 1/1/20–12/31/20 | \$32,760

Cathy A. Maxwell

Aging & Fragility: Activity, Resilience and Energy in the Second Half of Life (AFRESH) Urban Housing Solutions West End Home Foundation 1/1/21–12/31/21 | \$35,990

James Muchira

Turning the Tide on Early Childhood Obesity
Heilbrunn Nurse Scholar Award
Rockefeller University Heilbrunn Family Center for
Research Nursing
7/1/20-6/30/22 | \$25,000

Shelagh Ann Mulvaney

Increasing HPV Vaccine Uptake in Community-Based Pediatric Practices University of Kentucky National Cancer Institute 12/1/20–11/30/21 | \$62,386

Shelagh Ann Mulvaney

Feasibility of a Tailored Diabetes Self-Management Assessment and Support System Vanderbilt University Medical Center National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Disease 8/1/20-7/31/21 | \$30,850

Jeremy Neal

Differences in Labor Progress, Care Received During Labor, and Provider-Patient Communication and Decision-Making Quality among Low-Risk Black vs. White Nulliparous Women with Spontaneous Labor Onset R21

National Institute of Health 4/12/21-1/31/23 | \$457,019

Bethany Rhoten

Improving ACL Reconstruction Return to Play Outcomes through Psychologically Informed Rehabilitation

Vanderbilt University Medical Center American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine 10/1/19-5/31/20 | \$12,700

Shelia Ridner

A Randomized Trial Evaluating Bioimpedance Spectoscopy versus Tape Measurement in the Prevention of Lymphedema following Locoregional Treatment for Breast Cancer ImpediMed, Inc. 6/3/14-7/31/21 | \$2,101,420

Sheila Ridner

A Randomized Trial of an Advanced Pneumatic Compression Device vs. Usual Care for Head and Neck Lymphedema Tactile Medical 12/1/20-11/30/25 | \$909,085

Patricia Scott

Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care (TIPQC) Vanderbilt University Medical Center State of Tennessee 7/1/20-6/30/22 | \$40,504

Deonni Stolldorf

Implementing and Sustaining Complex Interdisciplinary Healthcare Interventions: Learning from Medication Reconciliation Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality 9/30/17-9/29/21 | \$426,835

Deonni Stolldorf

Social Determinants of Health: Moving Toward Performance Indicators and Metrics for an Integrated Health Equity Dashboard Platform Vanderbilt University Medical Center IBM 6/1/21-5/31/22 | \$41,902

Nonresearch

Pamela O. Jones

Advanced Nursing Education Nurse Practitioner Residency (ANE-NPR) Program ANE-Nurse Practitioner Residency Program Health Resources and Services Administration 7/1/19-6/30/23 | \$2,443,595

Bonita A. Pilon

Interprofessional Collaborative Practice: Behavioral Health Integration into the Mercury Courts Model Health Resources and Services Administration 7/1/17-6/30/21 | \$1,497,978

Courtney Pitts

AIDS Education and Training Centers Program Vanderbilt University Medical Center Health Resources and Services Administration 11/1/20-6/30/22 | \$25,185

Courtney Pitts

The CAP Program: A Collaborative Academic-Practice Program Advanced Nursing Education Workforce Health Resources and Services Administration 7/1/19-6/30/23 | \$2,710,321

Mavis Schorn

Nurse Faculty Loan Program Health Resources and Services Administration 7/1/21-6/30/22 | \$630,278

Mavis N. Schorn

Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students Bureau of Health Workforce Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students Health Resources and Services Administration 7/1/20-6/30/25 | \$3,250,000

Mavis N. Schorn

Vanderbilt Nursing Education Program for Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners ANE—Sexual Nurse Assault Examiner Program Health Resources and Services Administration 9/30/18-9/29/21 | \$1,483,215

Clinical-Community Partnership Grants

Leah Branam

Collective Impact through Community Health Initiatives United Way Metro Nashville 2019-2020 United Way of Metropolitan Nashville 7/1/21-6/30/22 | \$89,500

Leah Branam

Youth in the Kitchen: Promoting Healthy Eating through Cooking and Nutrition Programs for Y outh and Families Healthier Kids for Our Future Cigna Foundation 8/1/21-7/31/22 | \$77,589.40

Carrie Plummer

Interprofessional Collaboration: Investigating the Effect of a Multiphase Nursing-Pharmacy Education Intervention Tennessee Nursing Foundation 12/1/20-4/30/22 | \$4,697



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Welcome New Faculty

New additions to the Vanderbilt School of Nursing faculty bring expertise in education, practice, research and scholarship.

Kelly Aldrich, DNP, RN-BC, FHIMSS Associate Professor Director of Innovation



Aldrich is an informatics nurse specialist with more than 35 years in health care clinical, leadership and informatics roles, including serving as the inaugural chief nursing informatics officer for HCA. She teaches nursing informatics in

the master's and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs. Her focus is interoperability, usability and advocacy for front line clinicians who need data liquidity to provide person-centered care. Aldrich also serves as the director of innovation for the School of Nursing and as chief clinical digital officer for the nonprofit Center for Medical Interoperability.

Jennifer Barut, PhD'18 Assistant Professor



Barut is an experienced psychiatric nurse, nurse leader and behavioral health executive with a passion for education and mentorship. She has served in a variety of leadership positions, including chief nursing officer for Vanderbilt

Behavioral Health and chief executive officer for Haven Behavioral Health in New Mexico. Her instructional background includes increasingly responsible roles leading to director of clinical education for VBH. Barut's interest include recovery and improving health in underserved populations. She teaches in the Nursing and Health Care Leadership program.

R. Duke Chenault, MSN'00, DNP'16, PMC'16, ACNP-C, FNP-BC Instructor



Chenault shares his nearly two decades of clinical experience in community and employer-sponsored clinics with students in both the Family Nurse Practitioner and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs. His focus

is using leadership and evidence evaluation skills along with patient safety-focused quality improvement. His clinical practice is with the Vanderbilt Health at MNPS Employee & Family Health Care Centers clinics, five primary care clinics serving Metropolitan Nashville Public School employees, families and retirees. He has been full-time clinical faculty and taught part time at the School of Nursing since 2004.

Cate Enstrom, DNP'19, AGACNP-BC Instructor



Enstrom has spent her nursing career in acute care and surgical critical care settings. Her clinical background includes emergency medical services, rapid response, trauma and surgical critical care. She is a former Vanderbilt DNP

AGACNP Critical Care Fellow. Her academic interests include mechanical ventilation, simulation and advanced practice providers in critical care. Enstrom maintains a clinical practice in the cardiac intensive care unit at Centennial Medical Center in Nashville. She teaches in the PreSpecialty program and the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner specialty.

Rebekah Hayes, MSN'16, DNP'20, AGPCNP Instructor



Hayes is passionate about educating and equipping PreSpecialty students with the fundamentals of nursing while helping them develop the strong critical reasoning skills they will need in the clinical environment. She has worked in a variety

of settings, including skilled nursing facilities, an outpatient clinic and a small community hospital, where she also served as a nurse educator. Hayes has extensive experience in pain management both post-operative and chronic, including evidence-based outcomes for the use of non-narcotic treatments.

Jason Jean, MSN'00, DNP'16, DNP, FNP-BC Instructor



Jean combines a strong clinical and education background with health care leadership expertise in his teaching in the Nursing and Health Care Leadership and DNP programs. He has taught both in the classroom and in hospital

settings, including most recently, serving as director of faculty development for 300 physician training programs at HCA Healthcare. Other administrative experience includes progressively responsible positions at Cigna and Vanderbilt Health. As a practitioner, he has worked in community clinics, cardiac programs and ambulatory care clinics, among others.

April Kapu, MSN'05, DNP'2013, FAANP, FCCM, FAAN



Associate Dean for Clinical and Community **Partnerships**



Kapu joins the School of Nursing from Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where she was associate chief nursing officer for advanced practice nursing and director of the Office of Advanced Practice. Kapu was instrumental in

the development of VUMC's adult critical care nurse practitioner program and the growth of its advanced practice workforce to more than 1,400 professionals. She is charged with strengthening VUSN's clinical and community programs and its continued partnership with VUMC. Kapu is the current president of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

Brenda J. Kulhanek, PhD Associate Professor **Program Director, Nursing Informatics**



Kulhanek is an experienced nurse informaticist with extensive academic and corporate expertise, including serving in senior clinical education roles for TriStar Health and HCA. She also led clinical informatics and

clinical practice and education for Adventist Health. She has more than 10 years experience in teaching master's level nursing informatics. Kulhanek is a past president of the American Nursing Informatics Association and presents and publishes regularly. In addition to directing the Nursing Informatics specialty, she teaches in the MSN and DNP programs.

Erica May, MSN'16, DNP'18, FNP-BC, AGACNP-BC, ENP-C Instructor



May combines a love of teaching with experience in emergency nursing, emergency medicine, first aid and rescue. She has taught in the BSN program at Lipscomb University and in the MSN program at Vanderbilt. Before joining

the Emergency Nurse Practitioner specialty full time, she lectured in the program on topics such as dental blocks, cardiac dysrhythmia and wound care and supported ENP pediatric and capstone simulations.

William Travis McCall, PhD, MSN'13, AGACNP-BC, FNP-BC, PG, CCP Assistant Professor



McCall has more than 15 years clinical experience in emergency health care settings that range from community emergency departments to highpressure prehospital care and transport. He has published on pediatric

trauma in the emergency department and caring for patients from school shootings. His scholarship includes work on secondary trauma stress and nurse welfare. In addition to teaching in the Emergency Nurse Practitioner program, McCall is a flight nurse practitioner with Vanderbilt LifeFlight and has completed more than 1,000 patient transports.

James Muchira, PhD Assistant Professor



Muchira focuses on transmission of cardiovascular risk from parents to their children. Using data from multigenerational cohorts, he found that offspring of parents with heart-healthy lifestyles live nearly a decade

longer without cardiovascular disease than offspring of parents with unhealthy lifestyles. He has also found that maternal heart health—as opposed to paternal—is a stronger predictor of their offspring's time to onset of heart disease or stroke. Muchira's current research investigates factors that contribute to parents-child transmission of cardiovascular disease.

Melan Smith-Francis, MSN'06, DNP, CNM, FNP-C **Assistant Professor**



Smith-Francis is a certified nurse-midwife and family nurse practitioner with a passion for preparing students to be advocates for mothers and children. Before joining VUSN, she taught at Austin Peay State University

and Simmons College. She has extensive clinical experience in midwifery, newborn/infant and primary care, as well as educational support regarding breastfeeding, menopause, fertility and nutrition and exercise. She is dedicated to decreasing cesarean rates, preterm births and morbidity and mortality among women of color, and empowering women regarding their health and nutrition.

Jade Vergara, MSN'13, AGPCNP-BC Instructor



Vergara has expertise in community health and caring for senior adults, particularly the homebound and in residential settings. Her interest in geriatrics began when she was part of a research team studying Parkinson

disease and later, dementia. Vergara has taught community health in the PreSpecialty program and helped facilitate clinical immersion for AGPCNP students. She recently published regarding telehealth for geriatric patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Vergara teaches in the PreSpecialty program.

Jessica Walker, MSN'15, DNP'17, PMHNP-BC **Assistant Professor**



Walker teaches in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, PreSpecialty and doctor of nursing practice programs, and is faculty in the interprofessional Vanderbilt Program in Interpersonal Learning. She works clinically

providing outpatient psychiatric consultations for a homeless outreach team through Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Advanced Practice Clinics. Prior to joining the School of Nursing full time, Walker worked for Homeless Health Services and the Adult Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Service, and was the Psychiatry Advanced Practice Provider Team Lead at VUMC.

Selected Works and Accomplishments 2020

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing faculty are recognized for discovery, scholarship and leadership in the nursing profession and higher education. Here is an abridged list of their work, followed by a sampling of student accomplishments. (This information is reported by most recent full calendar year.)

Journals

Brown MJ, Adams SM, Vanderhoef D, Schipani R, Taylor A. Improving PHQ9 Utilization Rates in a Primary Care-Mental Health Integration Setting. Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. Mar 2020;2(26):206-211. doi: 10.1177/1078390319865331

Akard TF, Dietrich MS, Friedman DL, Gerhardt CA, Given B, Hendricks-Ferguson V, Hinds P, Ridner SH, Beckmann N, Gilmer MJ, Improved Parent-child Communication Following a RCT Evaluating a Legacy Intervention for Children with Advanced Cancer. Progress in Palliative Care. Oct 2020. Epub ahead of print. doi: 10.1080/09699260.2020.1826778

Akard TF, Dietrich MS, Friedman DL, Wray S, Gerhardt CA, Hendricks-Ferguson V, Hinds PS, Rhoten B, Gilmer MJ. Randomized Clinical Trial of a Legacy Intervention for Quality of Life in Children with Advanced Cancer [published online ahead of print, 2020 Sep 30]. Journal of Palliative Medicine. 2020;10.1089/ jpm.2020.0139. doi: 10.1089/ jpm.2020.0139

Akard TF, Gilmer MJ, Research Cooperative Groups in Pediatric Palliative Care Research. Palliative Medicine Reports. Dec 2020. 321-325. doi: 10.1089/pmr.2020.0043

Akard TF, Wray S, Friedman DL, Dietrich MS, Hendricks-Ferguson V, Given B, Gerhardt CA, Hinds PS, Gilmer MJ. Transforming a Face-to-Face Legacy Intervention to a Web-based Legacy Intervention for Children with Advanced Cancer. Journal of Hospice Palliative Nursing. Feb 2020;815(1):49-60. doi: 10.1097/ NJH.0000000000000614

Andrews SP. Identification of Current Best Practices for Short Term Medical Mission Trips and Adherence to Current Common Principles and Guidelines. Christian Journal of Global Health. June 2020;7(2):67-82. doi: 10.15566/cjgh.v7i2.341

Anthamatten A, Dellise N. The Use of Technology in the Management of Sexually Transmitted Infections. Nursing Clinics of North America. Sept 2020; 55(3):379-391.

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Exploring the Utility of Entrustable Professional Activities as a Framework to Enhance Nurse Practitioner Education. Nurse Educator. Mar 2020;45(2):83-87. doi: 10.1097/ NNE.0000000000000697

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Boehm LM, Lauderdale JL, Garrett AN. Piras SE. A Multisite Study of Multidisciplinary ICU Team Member Beliefs Toward Early Mobility. Heart & Lung. Epub Oct 2020. doi: 10.1016/j.hrtlng.2020.09.021

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Boehm LM, Stolldorf DP,

Jeffery AD. Implementation Science Training and Resources for Nurses and Nurse Scientists. Journal of Nursing Scholarship. Jan 2020;52(1):47-54. doi: doi.org/10.1111/jnu.12510

McPeake JM, Boehm LM, Hibbert E, Bakhru RN, Bastin AJ, Butcher BW, ... Haines KJ, Sevin CM. Key components of ICU Recovery Programmes: What Did Patients Report Provided Benefit? Critical Care Explorations. Apr 2020;2(4). doi: 10.1097/CCE.0000000000000088

Drumright K, Gervasio R, Hill C, Reed N, Boehm LM. Implementation of a Patient and Family-Centered ICU Peer Support Program at a

Veterans Affairs Hospital. Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America. June 2020;32(2):203-210. doi: 10.1016/j. cnc.2020.02.003

Spiegelberg J, Song H, Pun BT, Webb P, Boehm LM. Early Identification of Delirium in ICU Patients: Improving the Quality of Care. Critical Care Nurse Journal. Apr 2020;40(2):33-43. doi: 10.4037/ccn2020706

Mickelson RS, Piras SE, Brown L, Carlile C, Drumright KS, Boehm L. The Use and Usefulness of ICU Diaries to Support Family Members of Critically Ill Patients. Journal of Critical Care. 2020 Oct 22;61:168-76.

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Romano AM, Buxton M. A Multimethod Improvement Project to Strengthen Intermittent Auscultation Practice Among Nurse-Midwives and Nurses. Journal of Midwifery Women's Health. May 2020;65(3):362-369. doi: 10.1111/jmwh.13113

Chandrasekhar (Raman) R, Brennan J, Ndi D, Sloan C, Markus TM, Schaffner W, Talbot HK. Marked Reduction of Socioeconomic and Racial Disparities in Invasive Pneumococcal Disease Associated with Conjugate Pneumococcal Vaccines. The Journal of Infectious Diseases. Aug 2020. doi: https://doi.org/10.1093/ infdis/jiaa515

Chandrasekhar R, Hughes CG, Pun BT, Orun OM, Ely EW, Pandharipande PP. Statistical analysis plan for the Maximizing the Efficacy of Sedation and Reducing Neurological Dysfunction and Mortality in Septic Patients with Acute Respiratory Failure trial. Critical Care and Resuscitation. Mar 2020;22(1):63-71.

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Phillippi JC, Sanders B. Overview of Prenatal Care. In: Schuiling K & Likis F, eds. Women's Gynecologic Health. 4th ed. Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett;

Simmonds K, Likis FE, Phillippi JC. Pregnancy Diagnosis and Decision Making Support, and Resolution. In: Schuiling K, Likis F, eds. Women's Gynecologic Health. 4th ed. Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett; 2020.

Reeves GC. Pneumonia. In: Buttaro TM, Polgar-Bailey P, Sandberg-Cook J, Trybulski J, eds. Primary Care: Interprofessional Collaborative Practice 6th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier; 2020:505-511.

Reeves GC. Structure and Function of the Musculoskeletal System. In: Huether SE, McCance KL &Brashers VL, eds. Structure and Function of the Musculoskeletal System. 7th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier; 2020.

Sengstack P. Health Information Technology: Striving to Improve Patient Safety. In: Saba V & McCormick K, eds. Health Information Technology: Striving to Improve Patient Safety. 7th ed. New York, NY: McGraw Hill; 2020.

Steanson K. Child with Respiratory Failure and Transaminitis. In: Kline-Tilford A & Haut C., eds. Cases in Pediatric Acute Care: Strengthening Clinical Decision Making. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley; 2020:427-430.

Steanson K. Osteomyelitis Case Study. In: Kline-Tilford A & Haut C., eds. Cases in Pediatric Acute Care: Strengthening Clinical Decision Making. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley; 2020:89-91.

Other Publications

Dellise, N, Recognizing Advanced Heart Failure and Referring For Advanced Therapies. The Connection (AAHFN). Fall 2020. p.8, https://lscpagepro.mydigitalpublication.com/

Evans M. Promoting APP Professionalism in Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation. HemOnc Today. Haealio.com. Feb 2020.

Hande K, McDowell R, Butler T, Cones B, Jackson H, Oncology Nurse Practitioner Fellowship: A Model to Transition into Specialty Practice. Tennessee Nurse. Oct 2020:9. https://www.nursingald.com/ publications/2119

Haskell B, Schroer M, Zsamboky M. Easing the Psychological Impact of COVID-19 for Nurses. Nurseline. Apr 2020.

Haskell B, Schroer M, Zsamboky M. Easing the Psychological Impact of COVID-19 for Nurses: An Update for Tennessee Nurses. Tennessee Nurse. June 2020;83(2).

Hicks J. Pregnancy & infant loss awareness. Tennessee Nurse. Sept 2020. 83(3), 15. https://www.nursingald. com/publications/2119

Hudson T. Vulnerable Patient Populations: The Role of Nurse Resilience. National Black Nurses Association News. Mar 2020.

Greenberg SA, Dunn D, Baker NR, Kim J, Shaughnessy M, Mullaney S. Addressing Nursing Home Safety During the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond. Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses (GAPNA) Position Statement. Dec. 2020. https://www. gapna.org/about/policies-positionstatements

Sengstack P. Adrian B, Boyd D, Davis A, Hook M, Hulett S, Karp E, Kennedy R, Heermann L, Niblett T. The Six Domains of Burden: A Conceptual Framework to Address the Burden of Documentation in the Electronic Health Record. Position Paper of the American Nursing Informatics Association Board of Directors. June 2020. https://www. ania.org/about-us/position-statements/ six-domains-burden-conceptualframework-address-burdendocumentation

Awards

Adams S, Hall of Fame, University of Kentucky College of Nursing.

Anthamatten A. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, FNP Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Baksh L. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, Women's Health NP Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Boehm L. Fellow, American College of Critical-Care Medicine.

Clouse K. Dean's Award for Recognition of Faculty Achievement in Research Endeavors, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Clouse K. Valere Potter Distinguished Faculty Fellow, Vanderbilt University.

Connors L. International Society of Nurses in Genetics' Founders' Award for Education, International Society of Nurses in Genetics.

Davis M. Dean's Award for Recognition of Faculty Achievement in Clinical Practice, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Gast S. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Gilmer MJ. Member, Sigma International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame.

Hande K. NLN Foundation Education Scholarship Award, National League for Nursing Foundation.

Hande K. Oncology Nursing Foundation 2020 Academic Scholarship for Doctoral Studies, Oncology Nurses Association.

Hande K. Ingeborg Mauksch Award for Excellence in Mentoring, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Hopkins L. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Hudson T. VUSN Award for Recognition of Faculty Achievement in Diversity and Inclusion, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Hunt J. VUSN Faculty Scholarship Program, Vanderbilt University.

Jones P. Woman to Watch, Nashville Medical News.

Kestner H. Iota Chapter Professional Development and Scholarly Activity Award, Sigma Theta Tau International.

Kleinpell R. Fellow, National Academies of Practice (NAP).

Leming-Lee T. Daisy Award for Recognition of Small Group Facilitator at the DNP Level, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Leonard C. Daisy Award for Recognition of Small Group Facilitator at the PreSpecialty Level, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Lewallen K. Dean's Award for Recognition of Faculty Achievements in Informatics Endeavors, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Lord M. VUSN Faculty Scholarship Program, Vanderbilt University.

Mogos M. Valere Potter Distinguished Faculty Fellow, Vanderbilt University

Moore-Davis T. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, Nurse-Midwifery Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Moss C. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, Neonatal NP Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Muchira JM. Nursing Research Article of the Year Award, American Heart Association's Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing.

Neal J. Dean Colleen Conway-Welch Award for Contributions to PhD Student Learning, Mentoring, Modeling of Professional Behaviors, and Encouragement of Scholarship, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Nelson B. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, Pediatric NP-Primary Care Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Phillippi J. Mentee, Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health Editorial Mentorship Program.

Pitts C. Fellow, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

Plummer C. Dean's Award for Recognition of Faculty Achievements in Academics, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Rudy S. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, ENP Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Rudy S, Gordon J. LearnX Live! Award: Platinum Status, Best Extended Reality Training Project: Best Hard Skills Training Project-Innovative Teaching. LearnX International Competition.

Schirle L. Nursing Outlook Excellence in Policy Award, Nursing Outlook.

Schroer M. Daisy Award for Recognition of Small Group Facilitator at the MSN Level, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Smith J. Dean's Award for VUSN Tradition Meets Innovation Award for Faculty, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Steanson K. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, Pediatric NP-Acute Care Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Stolldorf D. Valere Potter Distinguished Faculty Fellow, Vanderbilt University.

Vanderhoef D. Sara K. Archer Excellence in Teaching Award, Psychiatric-Mental Health NP Program, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Wilbeck J. 2020 Certified Nurse Award for Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Appointments and Offices

Akard T. Co-chair, Planning Committee, Investigator Meeting, Palliative Care Research Cooperative.

Akard T. Member, Scientific Committee, Investigator Meeting, Palliative Care Research Cooperative.

Andrews S. Co-chair, Institute for Pediatric Nursing.

Arnow D. Board Member, Pediatric Nursing Certification Board.

Arnow D. Treasurer, Pediatric Nursing Certification Board.

Beaird S. Committee Member Pediatric Nursing Certification Board, Primary Care Mental Health Specialist Certification Exam.

Beaird S. Member at Large, Southern Headache Society.

Brown A, Chair, Advanced Practice Provider and Nursing Group, Pediatric Pulmonary Hypertension Network.

Davis M. Co-chair, Advanced Practice Leadership Board.

Devane-Johnson S. Appointment, Health Disparities Case Review Task Force, State of Tennessee.

Evans M. Advanced Practice Provider Sig Co-Chair, American Society of Transplantation and Cellular Therapy.

Evans M. Director at Large, Association of Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurses.

Gooch M. Southeastern Regional Director, American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners.

Gooch M. Member. Advanced Practice Advisory Council, Emergency Nurses Association.

Hande K. Appraiser, American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Hande K. Member, Clinical Practice Guidelines, National Community Oncology Disseminating Association and Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Oncology Partnership.

Hande K. Member, Board of Trust, Tennessee Nurses Foundation.

Hicks J. Member, Governance Committee, Pregnancy Loss and Infant Death Alliance.

Hopkins L. Chair, Program Director Special Interest Group, National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty.

Holt J. Member, Glossary Committee, International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning.

James M. Nursing Curriculum Coordinator, Pediatric Onco-Critical Care Symposium 2020, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Ieffery AD. Director, American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. Jeffery AD. Member, Beacon Program Task Force, American Association of Critical Care Nurses.

Jeffery AD. Member, Nursing Knowledge: Big Data Science Conference.

Jeffery AD. Chair, Reference Committee, Tennessee Nurses Association.

Kapu A. President-elect, American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Karp S. Co-chair, Research Committee, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners.

Kim J. Mentor, Leadership Institute, Gerontological Advanced Practice Nursing Association.

Kim J. Member, Review Panel, Journal of Gerontological Nursing.

Kulhanek B. President-elect, Association for Nursing Professional Development of Middle Tennessee.

Lewallen K. Treasurer, Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association.

McClure N. President, TN Asthma Coalition.

Morris M. Secretary/Treasurer, Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses.

Mulvanev S. Member, Chairman Society for Ambulatory Assessment.

Phillippi J. American College of Nurse-Midwives Liaison, American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologist's Committee on Obstetric Practice.

Piano M. Co-chair, Heart Failure Society of America.

Piano M. Co-chair, Trans-Institutional Program Review Committee.

Pitts C. Appointment, National League for Nursing Public Policy Committee.

Rhoten B. Appointment, TN State Board of Nursing Home Administrators.

Ridner SH. Chair, Graduate School Student Accommodation Review Committee.

Schirle L. Board Trustee, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Foundation.

Schirle L. Member, COVID-19 Quantitative Research Task Force, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Foundation.

Schorn M. Board of Commissioners, Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education.

Shifrin M. Member, Pre-ICU Critical Care Work Group, American Thoracic Society.

Steed J. Appointment, Health Board, Rutherford County, TN. Steanson K. President-elect, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (Music City Chapter).

Stolldorf D. Chair, Interdisciplinary Research Group on Nursing Issues.

Tucker L. Member, Financial Committee, American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners.

Vick R. Appointment, Committee Member, TN Department of Health: Primary Prevention Clinical Advisory Committee.

Walker J. Chair, Practice Council, American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

Widmar B. Board Member at Large, National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties.

Wilbeck J. Member, Pre-ICU Critical Care Work Group, American Thoracic Society.

Zsamboky M. Member, Nominating Committee, American Psychiatric Nurses Association—TN State.

Zsamboky M. Member, Faculty and Preceptor Development Committee, National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties.

Editorial Boards & Editorships

Adams S. Member, Editorial Board, Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

Adams S. Member, Editorial Board, Journal for Nurse Practitioners.

Boehm L. Member, Editorial Board, American Journal of Critical Care.

Christenbery T. Member, Editorial Board, Nurse Educator.

Devane-Johnson S. Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Human Lactation.

Hopkins L. Member, Editorial Board, Nurse Practitioner: The American Journal of Primary Health Care.

Jeffery AD. Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Medical Systems.

Kapu A. Member, Editorial Board, Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

Kennedy B. Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing.

Maxwell C. Member, Editorial Board, BMC Geriatrics.

Miller S. Member, Editorial Board, The Journal of the International Society of Chinese Health Practices.

Phillippi J. Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health.

Piano M. Member, Editorial Board, Cardiovascular Toxicology.

Piano M. Member, Editorial Board, European Journal of Cardiovascular

Pitts C. Editorial Board Member, Journal for Nurse Practitioners. Pitts C. Guest Editor, Nursing Clinics of North America.

Smith LD. Reviewer, American Journal of Critical Care Junior Peer Reviewer program, American Journal of Critical Care.

Stone E. Guest Editor, Nursing Clinics of North America.

Van Meter J. Member, Editorial Board, The Nurse Practitioner.

Wilbeck J. Editor, Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal.

Student Journal

Benki C, Root M, Adams J. Advance care planning with a teenager: Empowering their voice and choice at end of life. Children's Project on Palliative/Hospice Services E-Journal. Aug 2020.

Ridner SH, Dietrich MS, Davis AJ,

Sinclair V. A Randomized Clinical Trial Comparing the Impact of a Web-Based Multimedia Intervention Versus an Educational Pamphlet on Patient Outcomes in Breast Cancer Survivors with Chronic Secondary Lymphedema. Journal of Women's Health. May 2020;29(5):734-744.

Rhoten BA, Davis AJ, Baraff BN, Holler KH, Dietrich MS. Priorities and Preferences of Patients With Head and Neck Cancer for Discussing and Receiving Information About Sexuality and Perception of Self-Report Measures. Journal of Sexual Medicine. May 2020:1743-6095.

Schafer R, Phillippi JC. Group B Streptococcal Bacteriuria in Pregnancy: An Evidence-Based, Patient-Centered Approach to Care. Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health. Feb 2020.

Stone JY, Bailey TS. Benefits and limitations of continuous glucose monitoring in type 1 diabetes. Expert Review of Endocrinology and Metabolism. Jan 2020;15(1): 41-49.

George A, Dinu B, Estrada N, Minard CG, Hurwitz R, Mahoney DH, Yates AM, Vaughan M, Carmouche A, Airewele G, Kirk SE, Fasipe T, Uwaezuoke P, Ware RE. Novel dose escalation to predict treatment with hydroxyurea (NDEPTH): A randomized controlled trial of a dose prediction equation to determine maximum tolerated dose of hydroxyurea in pediatric sickle cell disease. American Journal of Hematology. 2020. Sep;95(9):E242-E244. doi: 10.1002/ ajh.25883. Epub 2020 Jul 4. PMID: 32472611.

Awards and Grants

De Lisser R, National Award for Excellence in Education, American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

De Lisser R, AMERSA 2020 Conference Best Workshop Award, Association for Multidisciplinary Education and Research in Substance Use and Addiction.

Do E. Fellowship, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) Minority Fellowship Program.

Hartch C. University Graduate Fellowship Russell G. Hamilton Scholar, Vanderbilt University, 2020-2021.

Hartch C. Co-PI, VICTR Grant, Vanderbilt University.

Kucinski V. Margaret McClure Scholarship award, New York Organization of Nurse Executive and Leaders, 2020.

Lee A. Fellowship, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) Minority Fellowship Program.

Nolte H. PI, Women's Experience of Body Awareness: Studio. National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences.

Nguyen C. Fellowship, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) Minority Fellowship Program.

Schafer R, Dianne S. Moore Midwifery Research Scholarship, A.C.N.M. Foundation.

Schafer R, Dr. Margaret C. Freda Graduate Nursing Scholarship Award, March of Dimes.

Schafer R. NLN Foundation for Nursing Education Scholarship, National League of Nursing.

Schafer R. Student Achievement Research Award (SARA), Vanderbilt University.

Appointments

Hair H. Commissioner, American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on Accreditation for Practice Transition Programs.

Hartch CE. President, Yale University School of Nursing Alumni Board, Yale University School of Nursing.

Garrison H. Student Member, PhD Curriculum Sub-Committee, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Root MC. Co-Chair, Pediatric Special Interest Group, Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association.

Schafer R. Fellow, American College of Nurse Midwives.

Uwaezuoke, P, Editor, APHON Position Paper on the Transition of Patients with Sickle Cell Disease from Pediatric to Adult Health Care.

Class Notes

70s

Brenda Thomas Harris, BSN'73, received the 2020 Tennessee Governor's Volunteer Star Award in recognition of her volunteer work at the Monroe County Animal Shelter, Monroe County Friends of Animals and the Cherokee National Forest.

Rumay Harrell Alexander,

MSN'77, was selected to be an American Nurses Association Scholar-In-Residence, dedicated to addressing systemic racism in the nursing profession.

Cindy Selleck, MSN'79, was named a Visionary Leader by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

809

Pam Orebaugh Jones, BSN'81, MSN'92, DNP'13, was the first recipient of the Vanderbilt Chancellor's Award for Distinguished Service.

Suzanne McMurtry Baird,

BSN'84, MSN'95, is lead author of "Goals for Collaborative Management of Obstetric Hemorrhage," published in *Obstetrics & Gynecology Clinics*, and co-author of "Current Key Challenges in Managing Maternal Sepsis," in *The Journal of Perinatal & Neonatal Nursing*.

Deborah Kenny, MSN'86, is a tenured full professor of ethics and leadership at the Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Sciences at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, where she teaches and conducts research.

Leigh Ann Thompson McInnis,

BSN'87, MSN'89, wrote a chapter, "Herbal Supplements for Common Women's Health Issues," for the book, Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Part II: Herbal Supplements and Vitamins, published by Elsevier in March.

Velinda Youngner Block, MSN'89, was named a Visionary Leader by the University of

Leader by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing in April.

Betsy Babb Kennedy, BSN'89, MSN'93, is co-author of "Goals for Collaborative Management of Obstetric Hemorrhage," published in *Obstetrics & Gynecology Clinics*.

90s

Teresa Knoop, MSN'90, retired from Vanderbilt University Medical Center in May 2021.

Ginny Moore, MSN'90, is lead author of "Opioid Use Disorder Screening for Women across the Lifespan," published in *Advances in Family Practice Nursing*, and co-author of "Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause: Screening and Treatment," in the same issue. She was corecipient of the VUSN Tradition Meets Innovation Award for Faculty in May.

Kelly Ambrosi Wolgast,

MSN'93, was named a Visionary Leader by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

Joanne Tennyson, MSN'95, was named a Fellow of the American College of Nurse-Midwives in May. She is an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and an instructor at VUSN.

Debbie Arnow, MSN'96, DNP'11, was named director of the VUSN Nursing and Health Care Leadership specialty.

Linda Beuscher, MSN'96, is co-author of "Field Testing of Ro-Tri, a Robot-Mediated Triadic Interaction for Older Adults," published in the *International Journal of Social Robotics*.



Stephanie DeVane-Johnson, MSN'97, was named a Fellow of the American College of Nurse-Midwives in May. She co-authored "Breastfeeding Sisters that are Receiving Support: Community-based Peer Support Program Created for and by Women of Color," published in *Breastfeeding Medicine*. Her

work to improve birth outcomes for Black women was featured in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's *Health and Medicine*. In April, Stephanie was interviewed by *Good Morning America* about the benefits of Black doulas.

Kathryn Moore, MSN'96, is chief executive officer at Acute and Critical Care Consultants in Tucker, Georgia, where she practices as an adult-gerontological acute care nurse practitioner in an intensive care setting. She earned her doctor of nursing practice from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and her PhD from University of Kentucky in Lexington.

Alisa Haushalter, MSN'97, was named the 2020 Communicator of the Year by the Memphis Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America in January.

Jennifer Scroggie, MSN'97, PMC'16, received the DAISY Foundation Award for Small Group Facilitator at the MSN Level at VUSN in May.

Kim Isenberg, MSN'98, received the Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Five Pillar Award in April for "leadership, wisdom and determination to help Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital during the pandemic."

Rolanda Johnson, PhD'98, coauthored "Creating Collaborative Relationships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities: An Approach to Diversifying the Nursing Workforce," published in Nurse Educator.

Pam Nelson, MSN'98, DNP'20, was interviewed by *Psychiatry Advisor* about suicide prevention during the COVID-19 pandemic. In April, she opened a private psychiatric practice in Nashville.

She is lead author of "Role of Primary Care in Suicide Prevention during the COVID-19 Pandemic," published in July 2020 in *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*.

Melissa Ott, MSN'98, received the Excellence Award from the Tennessee chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association in April, and coauthored "Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause: Screening and Treatment," published in Advances in Family Practice Nursing.

Sharon Karp, MSN'99, PhD'08, co-authored "Clinical Strategies for Addressing Obesity in Infants and Toddlers," published in *The Nurse Practitioner.* She was appointed director of program evaluations at VUSN in May.

Julia Cain Phillippi, MSN'99, was featured in a video regarding the importance of women's preventative care, part of the Vanderbilt University Ask an Expert series. She co-authored "Challenges in the Triage Care of Low-risk Laboring Patients: A Comparison of 2 Models of Practice," published in The Journal of Perinatal & Neonatal Nursing, and "Review of Evidence-based Methods for Successful Labor Induction," published in the Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health.

Angela Weaver, MSN'99, was co-recipient of the VUSN Dean's Award for Faculty Achievement in Academic Endeavors in May.

00s

Terri Allison, PMC'00, was promoted to professor at VUSN in February 2021.

Sheila Ridner, MSN'00, PhD'03, co-authored "Standardization of Lower Extremity Quantitative Lymphedema Measurements and Associated Patient-reported Outcomes in Gynecologic Cancers," published in Gynecologic Oncology, and "Perceived Effects of Neuropsychiatric Symptoms on Functional Status in Earlystage Huntington Disease," in the Western Journal of Nursing Research, and "Perceived Benefits of a Brief Acupuncture for Sleep Disturbances in Post-deployment Military Service Members," in the Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine. She was named professor emerita at Vanderbilt in May 2021.

Dawn Vanderhoef, MSN'00, PMC'13, co-authored "The Impact of an Educational Intervention on Nursing Staff Attitudes toward Patients **Experiencing Homelessness** and Mental Illness," published in the Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

Terrah Foster Akard, MSN'01, PhD'08, had four articles she co-authored published In March 2021 in the Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing; Journal of Hospice & Palliative Care Medicine; the Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing; and Progress in Palliative Care.

Aimee Chism Holland, MSN'02, was named a Visionary Leader by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing in April.

Michelle Dillow Schramm, BS'99, MSN'02, is featured in a National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health video. "Why Be a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner?"



Tanya Sorrell, MSN'03, is featured in the American Nurses Association on-demand webcast, "How You Can Have a Direct Impact on Reducing the Devastating Racial Disparities of COVID-19," and the ANA webcast, "Boosting Vaccine Confidence in Minority Populations: Specific Strategies to

Encourage and Educate Your Patients." She has trained over 5,000 community leaders in vaccine confidence for the InterFaith Youth Core. In April, Tanya was interviewed at length by WGN9 in Chicago, Illinois, and on National Public Radio, after the Derek Chauvin verdict, on the emotional effects of systemic trauma on society. In May, she was promoted to director of substance use disorder community services for the Illinois Regional Leadership Centers based at Rush University.

Melissa Griswold Davis,

MSN'03, is featured in a video on the importance of preventative care for post childbearing age women, as part Vanderbilt University's Ask an Expert series. She was named a Fellow of the American College of Nurse-Midwives in May.

Julie Perry, MSN'03, is lead author of "Utilizing Academiccommunity Partnerships with Nursing Students to Improve Hand Hygiene in Elementary Students to Reduce Transmission of COVID-19," published in NASN School Nurse in January.

Tiffany Street, MSN'03, DNP'18, was promoted to associate nursing officer at the Vanderbilt Heart and Vascular Institute in March.



Benjamin Smallheer, MSN'04, PhD'11, was invited to join the advisory committee for

the King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, College of Nursing-Jeddah in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in early 2021. Ben is lead faculty for the adult gerontology nurse practitioneracute care program at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, where he is an associate professor.

Ty Williams, MSN'03, DNP'12, wrote the chapter, "Herbal Supplements: Precautions and Safe Use," for the book, Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Part II: Herbal Supplements and Vitamins, published by Elsevier in March. He received the DAISY Foundation Award for Small Group Facilitator at the DNP Level at VUSN in Mav.

Alison Anderson, MSN'05. is co-author of "Determining the Impact of Age and Sex on the Psychophysical and Neurophysiological Response to Thermal Pain across the Adult Lifespan," published in the Journal of Advanced Nursing in January. She is lead author of "Experimentally Evoked Pain in Alzheimer's Disease," published in March in the Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

Michael Gooch, MSN'05, is author of "A New Rash Differential: COVID-19," published in the January/ March 2021 issue of Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal.

Megan Shifrin, MSN'06, is lead author of "Incorporating the Lived Experience into Graduate Nursing Education," published in the Journal of Nursing Education in April.

Melan Smith-Francis, MSN'06. returned to VUSN in May 2021 as an assistant professor of nursemidwifery.

Carol Ziegler, MSN'06, DNP'12, was a panelist for a discussion around the documentary, Unbreathable: The Fight for Healthy Air, hosted by the Tennessee Asthma. She received the VUSN Dean's Award for Faculty Achievement in Social Justice in May.

Lindsey Baksh, MSN'07, DNP'19, is co-author of "Opioid Use Disorder Screening for Women across the Lifespan," published in *Advances in Family* Practice Nursing in May.

Ashley Brouwer, MSN'07, was the speaker at "What's Up Down There?" in March 2021, hosted by Fairbanks Urology in Alaska where she is a nurse practitioner.



Robb Nash, MSN'07. PhD'16. was hired as the first executive/ medical director of The Village

at Glencliff, a medical respite community in Nashville for people who would otherwise recover on the street after hospitalization.

LeTizia Baxter Smith, MSN'07, is owner of Silver Lining Psychiatric Consultants and a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner at the Mental Health Cooperative in Nashville, as well as Diversity and Inclusion Committee chair and instructor at VUSN.

Britney Hagy Broyhill, BA'06, MSN'08, DNP'13, was a panelist for "Capturing APP Value: Industry Leaders Share Their Experiences," hosted by the Chartis Group in March.

Liz Howard, PhD'08, is lead author of "Ode to a Mentor," published in the January/March 2021 issue of The Journal of Perinatal & Neonatal Nursing.

Kristina Kimball, MSN'08. ioined the Watkins Clinic in Lakeland, Florida, in March 2021 as a pediatric nurse practitioner.

Matt Schroer, MSN'08, presented at the Tennessee chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association at its annual conference in April.

Leanne Boehm, MSN'09, PhD'16, is co-author of "Benefits of Peer Support for Intensive Care Unit Survivors: Sharing Experiences, Care Debriefing and Altruism," and "Establishing a Peer Support Program for Survivors of COVID-19: A Report from the Critical and Acute Illness Recovery Organization," published in the American Journal of Critical Care in March 2021. She co-authored a chapter, "The Role of the Volunteer across the Critical Care Recovery Arc," for the book, Improving Critical Care Survivorship: A Guide to Prevention, Recovery, and Reintegration, published by Springer Nature. In May, she received the Borten Family Foundation Junior Investigator Award from the American Delirium Society.

Pam Carney, MSN'09, retired from her position as a nurse navigator at Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center in Nashville in February.

Katie Page, MSN'09, led volunteers from the Virginia affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives to successfully advocate for recognition of certified midwives by the state and to allow certified nursemidwives to practice to the full extent of their education and clinical training without physician control. In May, she presented "Advocacy in Action!" at the ACNM annual meeting.

Courtney Young Pitts, MSN'09, DNP'11, was named a 2021 Rising Star Nurse Leader by the Tennessee Action Coalition, Tennessee Nurses Association and Tennessee Hospital Association.

Bethany Andrews Rhoten, MSN'09, PhD'13, co-authored "Perceived Effects of Neuropsychiatric Symptoms on Functional Status in Early-stage Huntington Disease," published in the Western Journal of Nursing Research, and "Perceived Benefits of a Brief Acupuncture for Sleep Disturbances in Post-deployment Military Service Members," in the Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine. She is lead author of "Impact of an LGBTO Cultural Competence Training Program for Providers on Knowledge, Attitudes, Self-efficacy and Intensions," published in the

Jeaninne Blackwell, MSN'10, MTS'11, was named head of psychiatric evaluation and medication management services at Chesapeake Mental Health Collaborative in Towson, Maryland.

Journal of Homosexuality.

Katy Hansen, MSN'10, is co-author of "Preference for Telehealth Sustained over Three Months at an Outpatient Center for Integrative Medicine," published in Global Advances in Health and Medicine, and lead author of "A Call to Action: Adoption of Trauma Informed Care in Complementary and Integrative Health Services," in The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine.

Manola Valverde Vides McCain, MSN'10, was interviewed for the website of Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama, about her career as a certified nursemidwife.

Patty Sengstack, DNP'10, is coauthor of "Contribution of Freetext Comments to the Burden of Documentation: Assessment and Analysis of Vital Sign Comments in Flowsheets," published in the Journal of Medical Internet Research.

Julia Martin Steed, MSN'10, PhD'18, is co-author of "Creating Collaborative Relationships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities: An Approach to Diversifying the Nursing Workforce," published in Nurse Educator. She is lead author of "Smoking and Maternal Health: Evidence that Female Infertility Can Be Attributed to Smoking and Improved with Smoking Cessation," published in Advances in Family Practice Nursing.

Erin DeBruyn, MSN'11, is co-author of "Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause: Screening and Treatment," published in Advances in Family Practice Nursing.

Mary Lambert, MSN'11, was appointed director of community health for the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Natasha McClure, MSN'11, is co-author of "Utilizing Academiccommunity Partnerships with Nursing Students to Improve Hand Hygiene in Elementary Students to Reduce Transmission of COVID-19," published by NASN School Nurse and "Interactive. Case-based Teaching Design Strategies for Nurse Practitioner Students," in The Journal for Nurse Practitioners.

Shaunna Parker, MSN'11, is coauthor of "Creating Collaborative Relationships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities: An Approach to Diversifying the Nursing Workforce," published in Nurse Educator, and "Opioid Use Disorder Screening for Women across the Lifespan," published in Advances in Family Practice

Nursing. She co-authored "Smoking and Maternal Health: Evidence that Female Infertility Can Be Attributed to Smoking and Improved with Smoking Cessation," in that same issue.

Katie Wright, MSN'11, presented at the American College of Nurse-Midwives annual meeting in May.

Chance Allen, MSN'12, was featured on a Positive Sobriety Podcast episode. "Anxiety. Addiction and Recovery."

Amy Alspaugh, MSN'12, received the *Journal of Midwifery* & Women's Health New Author Award at the American College of Nurse-Midwives annual meeting in May.

Tamika Hudson, MSN'12, was appointed by Mayor John Cooper to the Healthy Nashville Leadership Council and to the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties' diversity committee. She is co-author of "Creating Collaborative Relationships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities: An Approach to Diversifying the Nursing Workforce," published in Nurse Educator.

Cathy Maxwell, PhD'12, was featured in Nashville Public Television's "Aging Matters" about staying active to avoid frailty. She received the VUSN Dean's Award for Faculty Achievement in Media in May.

Kathryn Braunlin McNabb,

BS'10, MSN'12, presented "Brain Basics: Tools for Non-contrast Head CT Interpretation," at the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses annual conference in April.

Imelda Reyes, DNP'12, stars in a video on the Career Girls website about her experiences as nursing faculty. She was named to the advisory committee of DNPs of Color in spring.

Brian Widmar, PhD'12, was featured by NP Schools for an interview, "An Expert's Bona Fide Guide: Life as an Acute Care NP," in spring 2021. He was named a Visionary Leader by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing in April.

Susie Adams, PMC'13, was interviewed in February 2021 by Psychiatry Advisor for "Interventions and Other Suicide Prevention Measures Employed or Adapted in the Context of COVID-19." She presented at the annual conference of the Tennessee chapter of American Psychiatric Nurse Association in April and co-authored "The Impact of an Educational Intervention on Nursing Staff Attitudes toward Patients **Experiencing Homelessness** and Mental Illness," published in the Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association in May. That month she was awarded the status of professor emerita at Vanderbilt.

Courtney Cook, DNP'13, is co-author of "Incorporating the Lived Experience into Graduate Nursing Education," published in the Journal of Nursing Education in April.

Lauren Watts Drukenbrod,

BA'11, MSN'13, is a nurse practitioner in the Metro Public Health Department of Nashville and Davidson County's occupational health and wellness clinic where she cares for civil service employees.

Nancye Feistritzer, DNP'13, was interviewed by *Health Leaders* in May for "Emory Chief Nurses Embrace the Benefits of Rapid Decision-making."

Karen Hande, DNP'13, was elected to the board of trust of the Tennessee Nurses Foundation in December 2020.

Denise Savage-Desai, MSN'13, is a nurse practitioner

at Vanderbilt Student Health, specializing in the care of young adults.

Rebecca Silvers, MSN'13. DNP'21, is VUSN's Founder's Medalist for 2021. She is a pediatric nurse practitioner at Benioff Children's Hospitals in Oakland, California, and on faculty at University of California San Francisco School of Nursing.

Jade Ward Vergara, MSN'13. received the DAISY Foundation Award for Small Group Facilitator at the PreSpecialty Level at VUSN in May.

LaTonia Chalmers, MSN'14, is president of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

Brittany Hollibaugh Haskell,

MSN'14, was named a 2021 Rising Star Nurse Leader by the Tennessee Action Coalition, Tennessee Nurses Association and Tennessee Hospital Association. She presented at the annual conference of the Tennessee chapter of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association in April.

Caché Longmire, MSN'14, became the first nurse practitioner at the University of Mississippi Medical Center's Cooperative for Innovation Research and Clinical Engagement Clinic in Jackson, a clinic researching the human immunodeficiency virus, in March.

Orlin Marques, MSN'14, DNP'16, is on the advisory committee of DNPs of Color.

Jennifer Ridgway, MSN'14, DNP'17, is lead author of "Interactive, Case-based Teaching Design Strategies for Nurse Practitioner Students," published in The Journal for Nurse Practitioners.

Lacey Cross, MSN'15, is corecipient of the VUSN Dean's Award for Faculty Achievement in Academic Endeavors in May.

Shelza Rivas, BA'12, MSN'15. DNP'17. is co-author of "Opioid Use Disorder Screening for Women across the Lifespan," published in Advances in Family Practice Nursing.

Jessica Walker, MSN'15, DNP'17, co-authored "Radiation Therapy Adherence among Patients Experiencing Homelessness." in the International Journal of Radiation Oncology, Biology, Physics, and is lead author of "The Impact of an Educational Intervention on Nursing Staff Attitudes toward Patients **Experiencing Homelessness** and Mental Illness," published in the Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. She is a board member for the Mental Health Cooperative in Nashville.

Janelle Delle, DNP'16, was promoted to assistant professor at VUSN.

Kimin Huang, MSN'16, was named a 2021 Rising Star Nurse Leader in February by the Tennessee Action Coalition, Tennessee Nurses Association and Tennessee Hospital Association.

Jessica McMillan, BA'13, MSN'16, DNP'17, is featured in the Alumni Spotlight on the website for the American Nurses Association Minority Fellowship Program.

Alyssa Huddleston Miller, MSN'16, received the VUSN Dean's Award for Faculty Achievement in Clinical Practice in May 2021. She is program director of the Vanderbilt COVID-10 Contact Tracing Program.



Natalie Paul, MSN'16, gave a talk to Kaiser Permanente providers about LGBTQ inclusive

primary care in March. She is a family nurse practitioner at Zoom+Care in Vancouver, Washington.

Wren Sherrill, MSN'16, was featured in *Belmont Vision* in February for her work as a nurse practitioner in the Vanderbilt University Medical Center's COVID-19 intensive care unit.

Sherin Tahmasbi, DNP'16, co-authored a chapter, "Herbal Medicine to Enhance or Modulate Viral Infections," for the book, Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Part II: Herbal Supplements and Vitamins, published by Elsevier.

Kristian Dambrino, MSN'17, released her third album, Change of Heart, as an online fundraiser for The Oasis Center in Nashville. The album's sales benefit homeless or displaced youth at the shelter.

Alvin Jeffery, PhD'17, is coauthor of "Data Science Methods for Nursing-relevant Patient Outcomes and Clinical Processes: The 2019 Literature Year in Review." published in CIN: Computers, Informatics, Nursing. His first invited editorial, "Can Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Help Us Treat Sepsis?" was published in *Intensive* and Critical Care Nursing.

Alexis Myers, BA'14, MSN'17, was the keynote speaker at the virtual Pittsburgh Schweitzer Fellows Celebration of Service in May. She presented about Ronald McDonald Care Mobile and the Schweitzer project at the Homewood Early Learning Hub and Family Center.

Jennifer Barut, PhD'18, returned to VUSN in May 2021 as an associate professor in nursing and health care leadership.

Simona Black, DNP'18, was a speaker at the Auburn University Women's Summit in May. She is a retired colonel in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and assistant professor at Norfolk State University in Virginia.

Meredith Donahue, MSN'18, was featured by *Urology Times* in an interview, "How APPs Can Be Involved with Genitourinary Cancer Care," in March.

Brooke Faught, DNP'18, was interviewed in a video, "Why be a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner?" hosted by the National Association of Nurse Practitioner's in Women's Health.

Ashlee Jackson, MSN'18, joined the staff of the Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, Washington, as a nurse practitioner in complex care management.

Heather Mantsch, MSN'18, joined the staff at the Range Mental Health Center in Minnesota as a psychiatric nurse practitioner in December 2020.

Rebecca Palmer, MSN'18, coauthored "Utilizing Academiccommunity Partnerships with Nursing Students to Improve Hand Hygiene in Elementary Students to Reduce Transmission of COVID-19," published in *NASN School Nurse* in January.

Maggie Swietlik, DNP'18, is chief nursing informatics officer at Inova, headquartered in Falls Church, Virginia.

Nicole Beckmann, PhD'19, is lead author of "Parent Caregiving Experiences and Posttraumatic Growth following Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant," published in the Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing, and "Parental Posttraumatic Growth after Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant," in the Journal of Hospice & Palliative Nursing.

La Donna Brown, DNP'19, is a founding member and treasurer of DNPs of Color and a nurse anesthetist at North American Partners in Anesthesia in Maryland and Virginia.

Cate Enstrom, DNP'19, returned to VUSN in May 2021 as an instructor in the PreSpecialty program.

LaGaunda Jones, DNP'19, was named chief nurse of hospital services at the Charlie Norwood Veterans Administration Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, in May.

Komi Kokou-Abi, MSN'19, DNP'21, is a psychiatric nurse practitioner at Rock Springs in Austin, Texas.

Erin Miller, MSN'19, presented a pediatric sexual assault nurse examiner case study to the Children's Advocacy Center of Southwest Florida in April. She is one of only two board-certified pediatric SANEs in the state.

Lexa Taylor, MSN'19, DNP'21, was featured in an advertisement for the Health Resources and Services Administration's Nurse Corps Scholarship Fund. She is co-author of "Influenza Vaccine Community Outreach: Leveraging an Interprofessional Healthcare Student Workforce to Immunize Marginalized Populations," published in *Preventive Medicine*.

Margaret C. Taylor, DNP'19, was named a Fellow of the American College of Nurse-Midwives in May. She is an instructor in clinical nursing at VUSN.

20s

Andrea Bushaw, PhD'20, is coauthor of "Clinical Strategies for Addressing Obesity in Infants and Toddlers," published in *The Nurse Practitioner.*

John Dowlen, MSN'20, joined the staff at CHI Memorial Family Practice Associates–Soddy-Daisy in March 2021 as a nurse practitioner. He is certified in nonviolent crisis intervention and an ordained minister.

Gwen Godlock, DNP'20, is a member of the Texas Nurses Association's 8th District Board of Directors.

Whitney Withrow, MSN'20, is a psychiatric nurse practitioner at Sheppard Pratt in Baltimore, Maryland.

IN MEMORIAM

Lucy Savery Klein, BSN'43, of Olympia Fields, Illinois, April 24, 2021.

Ada Trice Smith, BSN'47, of Nashville, February 24, 2021.

Elsie McGill Tinkler, BSN'47, of Greenwood, South Carolina, April 29, 2021.

Camille Legeay Cook, BSN'48, of Washington, D.C., February 17, 2021.

Margaret "Bubs" Pumphrey Tobey, BSN'55, of Roanoke, Virginia, January 20, 2021.

Connie McKay Adams, BSN'59, of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, May 29, 2021.



Anita Raines Elliott, BSN'58, of Madison, Tennessee, February 9, 2021. Christine Patrick Sharpe, MA'71, BSN'79, MSN'88, of Nashville, February 24, 2021.

Cheryl Cooper, MSN'94, of New Concord, Kentucky, February 3, 2021.

Krista Koleas, MSN'03, of Nashville, April 5, 2021.



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