

SUMMER 2020

vanderbiltnurse



MEN AT WORK

Why men choose Vanderbilt
for their nursing education

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CHANGING LIVES

Thanks to generous scholarship support, Hannah McGrew is earning a top-notch education from Vanderbilt's premier Nurse Midwifery/Family Nurse Practitioner combined program. No matter where her career takes her, she plans to pay it forward by serving communities that traditionally lack access to midwifery services.

To learn more about supporting nursing scholarships, contact Chris Cloar, associate director of development, at (615) 875-1704 or VUSNgiving@vanderbilt.edu.



VANDERBILT
SCHOOL OF NURSING

MISSION AND VALUES 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.



12 Men Wanted
VUSN's commitment to men in nursing draws students, faculty and awards

ON THE COVER:

From left, Victor Nyame (second year, FNP), Danilo Parra (PreSpecialty, AGPCNP), Jeffrey Boon (PhD) and R. Mansfield (DNP). Photo: John Russell

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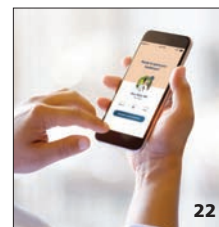
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Dear alumni, colleagues and supporters,

As I write, we are several months into the COVID-19 pandemic. It has brought profound changes to all our lives. At Vanderbilt School of Nursing, the pandemic resulted in the conversion of all spring and summer classes to online, faculty and staff working from home, the closure of our buildings, temporary ceasing of in-person clinical education and much more. But we at VUSN are fortunate. So many people around the globe have suffered and died from the novel coronavirus, despite the efforts of dedicated health care professionals doing their best under challenging situations. Some of those professionals are our own VUSN alumni, students and faculty. We are proud of all of them, and of all our community members contributing to COVID-19 efforts.

In mid-June, Vanderbilt University announced a detailed and thoughtful plan to return to on-campus classes in August. The decision was made after consultation with local, state and national public health officials, as well as experts from Vanderbilt University Medical Center and the School of Nursing. It will be good to return and welcome students, faculty and staff back to campus. That return comes with new changes and challenges, however. All over campus, buildings and in-person classes will look and operate differently than in the past. You can find specifics on Vanderbilt's plan in the news section of the VUSN website.

In addition to welcoming our own students, the School of Nursing has been tapped to help support the safe return of undergraduates. The article starting on p. 8 outlines the role of our Vanderbilt Nurse Faculty Practices in providing testing and contact tracing for the Vanderbilt community. It also highlights how those Nurse Faculty Practices adapted to provide consistent, safe patient care in the midst of the pandemic's lockdown.

Although COVID-19 is very much on our minds, we at the School of Nursing have a variety of interesting stories to share. Our cover article on p. 13 recognizes the men of VUSN and the richness they bring to our school and profession. It also outlines the school's conscious activity to make men feel supported and welcome, as well as its history of encouraging men in nursing. This *Vanderbilt Nurse* also introduces you to two remarkable Vanderbilt men: one an alumnus helping the underserved in a city with a poverty rate of more than 15 percent and the other a nurse scientist dedicated to reducing heart-related deaths among new mothers.

Other articles feature VUSN's impressive Alumni Award honorees, an alumni couple helping nursing students make a difference in the world, and two students who said, "There's got to be a better way"—and then developed one.

I hope reading this issue encourages you as much as it does me. These stories remind me that the mission and work of the School of Nursing happen through its people. Regardless of the issues that COVID-19—or any other challenge—brings, Vanderbilt nurses will consistently meet them in ways that help patients, communities and the nursing profession. Please stay safe.

Best regards,



Linda D. Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN

Dean

Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing



DANIEL DUBOIS

In addition to welcoming our own students, the School of Nursing has been tapped to help support the safe return of undergraduates.

News Around the School

COMMUNITY RESEARCH OUTREACH SCIENCE FACULTY TECHNOLOGY



Left, members of an AGACNP clinical group with Dean Linda Norman and assistant professor Sarah Davis. From left, Charlotte Kingsley, Michael McManus, Norman, Savannah Christopher, Davis and Justin Atkins.



SUSAN URMY

Simona Black, DNP'18, and Amelia Norman, MSN'18, preparing for Commencement 2019 to begin.

School of Nursing earns high rankings in 2021 *U.S. News & World Report*

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing received top rankings in the 2021 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Graduate School survey released March 17. Vanderbilt's Doctor of Nursing Practice program is ranked No. 5 and its Master of Science in Nursing program is ranked No. 9 out of more than 500 schools surveyed.

Additionally, two of the school's MSN academic specialties—the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner MSN program and Nurse-Midwifery MSN program—and its DNP specialty in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care are ranked No. 1 in the country in their respective categories. It is the first No. 1 ranking for PMHNP and the second such ranking for Nurse-Midwifery. It is also the first No. 1 ranking for Adult-Gerontology Acute Care as this year marked the first time that *U.S. News & World Report* has ranked DNP programs by specialties.

Other MSN and DNP specialties achieved top-10 rankings as well. The school's MSN programs in Adult-Gerontology Acute Care, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care, Family Nurse Practitioner and Pediatric Primary Care all are ranked No. 3 in their specialties, and Nursing and Health Care Leadership, which was relaunched in 2020, is ranked No. 8. VUSN's nursing administration-focused DNP is ranked No. 3, and its practice leadership-focused DNP is No. 4.

"The *U.S. News & World Report* rankings reflect the esteem our peer nursing schools have for Vanderbilt, as well as our strength in research, faculty accomplishments and student achievement," said Linda D. Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN, VUSN dean and Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing. "While it's an honor to be so highly ranked, the true standard of measurement is how we educate the nursing workforce.

"As recent events have shown, advanced practice nurses who can lead, provide comprehensive patient care and effect discovery are greatly needed here in the U.S. and all over the globe," she added. "Our graduates are actively meeting health care needs and providing solutions to complex issues, and that is the heart of VUSN's mission and purpose."

The *U.S. News & World Report* data come from statistical surveys sent to administrators of 603 accredited schools of nursing which offer master's or doctoral programs. Specialty program rankings are based on assessments by nursing school deans and deans of graduate studies who identify up to 15 schools offering the best programs in each specialty area. The surveys and assessments were conducted from late summer 2019 to early 2020.

Zsamboky to lead Psychiatric-Mental Health NP program

Assistant Professor Marci Zsamboky, DNP'18, RN, PMHNP/CNS-BC, CNE, has been named academic director of the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (Lifespan) specialty at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specialty is one of the school's most competitive programs and is currently ranked No. 1 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* in its 2021 Best Grad Schools of Nursing.

"Vanderbilt's PMHNP specialty plays a critical role in educating future mental health and substance abuse disorder providers who can respond to the urgent need for mental health services in this country," said Senior Associate Dean Mavis Schorn, PhD, RN, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, FNAP. "Marci has the right leadership style, academic background and clinical experience to continue the specialty's trajectory and growth. As demand for behavioral health care increases, Marci and the PMHNP faculty will make sure that Vanderbilt is on the cutting edge of care and delivery."

Zsamboky is an experienced educator and clinician with more than



Zsamboky

20 years' experience teaching nursing at undergraduate and graduate levels. Her clinical background includes inpatient, outpatient and specialty clinic practice, as well as private practice with a focus on child and adolescent psychiatric health.

Currently, she practices at Murfreesboro's Primary Care and Hope Clinic. Her research interests include child and adolescent psychiatry, adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), and the primary care-behavioral health model of integrated health care.

Zsamboky joined VUSN in 2017. She holds a bachelor of science in nursing from Indiana University of Pennsylvania

and a master of science in nursing from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Shadyside School of Nursing. She earned a post-master's certificate in psychiatric-mental health and her doctor of nursing practice degree from VUSN. She holds three advanced certifications, including certified nurse educator.

Zsamboky succeeds former PMHNP academic director Dawn Vanderhoef, PhD, DNP, MSN'00, PMC'13, RN, PMHNP-BC, FAANP, who accepted an opportunity outside of VUSN where she will focus on neuropsychology; she will remain at VUSN as part-time faculty.

"Vanderbilt's PMHNP specialty plays a critical role in educating future mental health and substance abuse disorder providers who can respond to the urgent need for mental health services in this country."

– Mavis Schorn, Senior Associate Dean for Academics



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VANDERBILT
School of Nursing



ANNE RAYNER

Mary Jo Gilmer named to International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame

Mary Jo Gilmer with goldendoodle Misha, her "partner" in research regarding children with advanced cancer.

Vanderbilt School of Nursing Professor Mary Jo Gilmer, PhD, MBA, FAAN, has been selected for induction into the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame by Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

The honor recognizes her significant, sustained international achievement and that her research has influenced the nursing profession and the people it serves. Entry into the Hall of Fame is considered one of the highest honors in nursing research.

A leading researcher in palliative care for children with life-threatening conditions, Gilmer serves as the co-director of the Pediatric Palliative Care Research

Team at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. Her research interests include parent-sibling bereavement, parent-child communication and interventions to reduce suffering in children with cancer.

Gilmer's funded work includes studies of the impact of a child's death on bereaved families. The long-term goal is to use controlled, longitudinal research on the psychosocial outcomes of families affected by cancer and the loss of a child to develop interventions to reduce the suffering and morbidity of parents and siblings.

Gilmer is currently conducting a pilot study investigating the health benefits of human-animal interactions in reducing suffering of children with advanced cancer

undergoing debilitating treatments. This pioneering project involves advancing knowledge in pediatric oncology and animal-assisted therapy, and has the potential of improving childhood cancer treatment.

Gilmer also holds an appointment as professor of pediatrics at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, and is affiliated with the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Research on Human Development and Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center.

VUSN and VUMC receive New Era for Academic Nursing Award from AACN

The active and productive partnership between Vanderbilt University School of Nursing and Vanderbilt University Medical Center has been recognized by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) with its 2019 New Era for Academic Nursing Award.

The competitive honor recognizes schools of nursing and academic medical centers that are committed to positioning academic nursing as an equal partner in health care transformation in the U.S. It is the organization's highest academic/practice partnership award.

Embracing this equal status for nursing was the top recommendation from the AACN 2016 report, *Advancing Healthcare Transformation: A New Era for Academic Nursing*, which looked at the role of nursing schools in health care reform and challenged schools to strengthen nursing's impact.

VUSN and VUMC received the 2019 award for their public and visible commitment to incorporating academic nursing into the mission and practice of the health system, as demonstrated by a variety of joint initiatives.

"The School of Nursing is very fortunate that VUMC supports academic nursing as a valued teammate in health care delivery, education and research," said VUSN Dean Linda D. Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN, the Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing. "We benefit from each other's vision and expertise: For example, School of Nursing faculty serve in senior leadership roles at the Medical Center and on VUMC boards. VUMC clinical nursing leaders are in leadership at VUSN, hold faculty positions and advise doctoral students."

VUMC's and VUSN's long-standing partnership includes clinical practice, advanced practice nursing, research,

nurse-led community programs, workforce development and nurse recruitment. The relationship is particularly robust in the area of faculty practice.

"VUMC has a division of nurse-managed faculty practices run by VUSN leaders. The growth of these practices is part of VUMC's strategic plan of growth and service," Norman said. "Currently, the Nurse Faculty Practice division has more than 10 practice sites and has been asked by VUMC leadership to add 10 additional sites in the next two years to meet population health needs."

VUMC Executive Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn Dubree, MSN'76, RN, NE-BC, serves on the VUSN Dean's Advisory Council and as associate dean for clinical practice at the school.

"Academic health care systems like VUMC are changing to meet societal and

economic needs. They see the value in community-based care, interdisciplinary teams and chronic disease prevention and management—all patient-focused models at which nurses excel. And increasingly, they're looking to nurses to lead," Dubree said. "At VUMC, we're partnering with the School of Nursing and our nurses to explore new approaches of care delivery, achieve improved health outcomes and foster innovation."

As the collective voice for academic nursing, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing represents 825 member schools of nursing at public and private universities nationwide. AACN establishes quality standards for nursing education, influences the nursing profession to improve health care, and promotes public support of baccalaureate and graduate nursing education.

"The School of Nursing is very fortunate that VUMC supports academic nursing as a valued teammate in health care delivery, education and research."

— Linda Norman



Dean Linda Norman and VUMC's Associate Chief Nursing Officer and Director of Advanced Practice April Kapu with the New Era in Academic Nursing Award.

COURTESY AACN



The new VUSN Dean's Advisory Board met for its first session on Oct. 18 in the Wachtmeister Interactive Classroom. The meeting included presentations by the school's senior associate deans. Right, Mavis Schorn, Senior Associate Dean for Academics, talks about the school's strategic educational goals.

New Dean's Advisory Board formed for School of Nursing

Corporate executives, chief nursing officers, entrepreneurs, nursing school deans, alumni and community representatives are among the leaders sharing their expertise on a new advisory board for Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. Dean Linda D. Norman, DSN, FAAN, announced the formation of the board during the school's Reunion events in October.

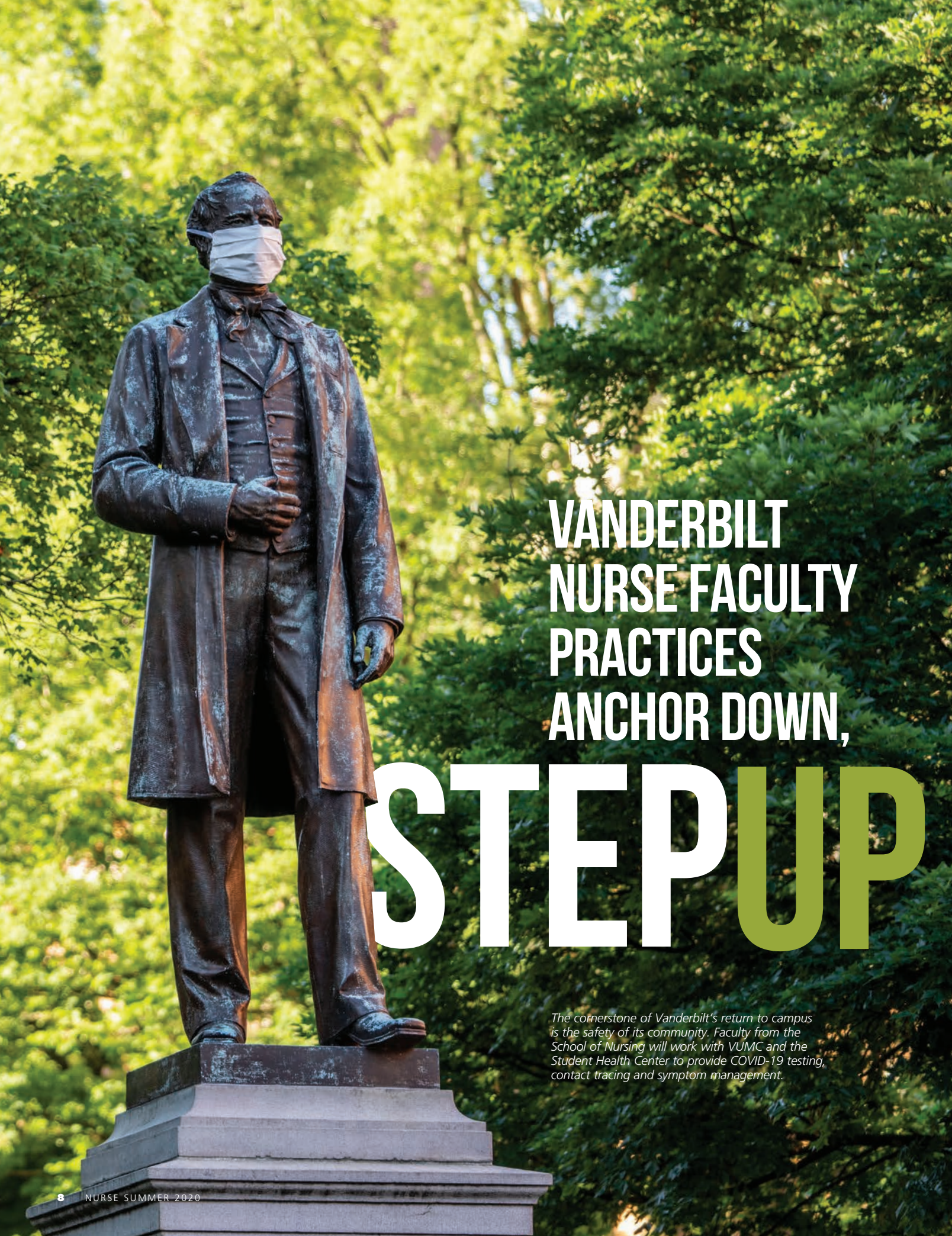
The VUSN Dean's Advisory Board will provide high-level advice to the dean and the school's leadership team through strategic analysis and guidance in support of VUSN's mission and trajectory.

Chaired by Norman, the 23-member volunteer board will meet biannually for a state-of-the-school discussion and working session.

"I'm honored and thrilled to have the input and vision of this accomplished group of advisers," said Norman, the Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing. "We will benefit from their significant expertise, diverse perspectives and invaluable skills as the school moves ahead on key strategic initiatives. I look forward to their input on how to advance the School of Nursing in areas such as reputation, research, education, practice and funding."

Members of the Dean's Advisory Board are: **Sallie B. Bailey**, former executive vice president and CFO, LP Building Products; **Angela Becker**, MSN'95, alumna and community leader; **Craig A. Becker**, president and CEO, Tennessee Hospital Association; **Ashley Bernard**, MSN'15, DNP'17, alumna and APRN, Centennial Medical Center; **Robert C. Blakey**, MSN'95, DNP'10, alumnus and retired nurse practitioner; **Velinda Block**, MSN'89, alumna and division chief nurse executive, HCA TriStar Division; **Judith Bright**, BSN'87, alumna, CEO/designer, Judith Bright Jewelry; **Tom Christenbery**, MSN'87, PhD'04, alumnus and professor, VUSN; **Stuart D. Downs**, MSN'10, DNP'13, alumnus, vice president and chief operating officer, WellStar Atlanta Medical Center and Atlanta Medical Center-South; **Marilyn Dubree**, MSN'76, alumna and executive chief nursing officer, Vanderbilt University Medical Center; **Kate FitzPatrick**, DNP'12, alumna and system senior vice president of nursing, Jefferson Health; **Dorrie K. Fontaine**, Sadie Heath Cabaniss professor emerita and dean emerita at the University of Virginia School of Nursing; **Beth Colvin**

Huff, BSN'74, MSN'79, alumna and community leader; **LaGaunda Jones**, DNP'19, cardiology services nurse manager and acting chief nurse, medical specialty nursing, Atlanta VA Healthcare System; **Dana Oman**, MED'94, alumna (Peabody) and community leader; **Rosemary Plorin**, president and CEO, Lovell Communications Inc.; **Randolph Rasch**, MSN'79, alumnus and dean, Michigan State University College of Nursing; **Gloria Rothenberg**, BS'17, MSN'18, alumna and transplant coordinator nurse practitioner, Montefiore Medical Center; **Cecile Lanier Scanlan**, BSN'86, MSN'92, alumna and community leader; **Karen Schumacher**, BSN'71, alumna and professor, School of Nursing at the University of California, San Francisco; **Karen Springer**, executive vice president, performance optimization and nursing operations, Ascension; **Charleen Tachibana**, DNP'14, alumna, senior vice president, quality and safety, and chief nursing officer, Virginia Mason Health System; and **Consuelo H. Wilkins**, MD, vice president for health equity, Vanderbilt University Medical Center and executive director, Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance.



**VANDERBILT
NURSE FACULTY
PRACTICES
ANCHOR DOWN,**

STEP UP

The cornerstone of Vanderbilt's return to campus is the safety of its community. Faculty from the School of Nursing will work with VUMC and the Student Health Center to provide COVID-19 testing, contact tracing and symptom management.

University's return to campus relies on School of Nursing expertise

As Vanderbilt University leadership considered whether it could bring students, faculty and staff back to campus safely in the fall, they knew that COVID-19 testing, contact tracing and symptom management were going to be necessary to protect the campus community. Fortunately for Vanderbilt, it has a world-renowned School of Nursing that stepped up to collaboratively design and implement plans for providing those essential services.

"From the start of the pandemic in March, the School of Nursing has been active in the university's planning. Early on, Interim Chancellor and Provost Susan R. Wenthe appointed Dean Linda Norman to head up the university's public health taskforce," said Pam Jones, BSN'81, MSN'92, DNP'13, VUSN's senior associate dean for clinical and community partnerships. "Dean Norman volunteered that the school has expertise, particularly in the area of community health planning and response. The university enthusiastically took her up on that."

Jones is coordinating VUSN's key role in the return of nearly 20,000 students, faculty and staff to campus. She directs VUSN's Faculty Practice Division, which includes advanced practice registered nurses who provide patient care at more than 10 clinics and on-call services in cooperation with Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Many of the division's faculty members have been providing COVID-19 testing and follow-up care through their clinics and practices.

"The health and safety of our Vanderbilt community are our highest priority," wrote Incoming Chancellor Daniel Diermeier and Interim Chancellor and Provost Wenthe in their announcement of the university's plans for in-person classes fall semester. The university emphasized that the plans were developed in close consultation with experts at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and the School of Nursing as well as national, state and local public health officials.

"As a core component of our preventive measures, we will have requirements for COVID-19 testing, as well as rigorous contact tracing and symptom management. We are partnering with experts at VUMC and our School of Nursing to deploy best practices in these areas," the university stated.

Jones has been working with Andrea George, PhD, CHMM, PMP, director of Environmental Health and Safety for the university on the protocols for the return to campus.

In conjunction with Student Health and VUMC, School of Nursing faculty and members of the Nurse Faculty Practice Division will perform symptom screens for all arriving undergraduate students and subsequent testing.

"We're setting up a testing center for high volume and special needs, be that students, staff or faculty," Jones said. "We've mapped

how the testing will occur. Our next step will be running our testing protocol through VUSN's simulation lab. That will allow us to check for efficiency, determine how long the process takes, identify where hold-ups could occur and see places where we can improve. The simulation also will be observed by an infection control expert to ensure best practices are in place."

She said that the university will use new FDA-approved testing swabs that can be self-administered by an individual and only require a sample from inside the nostril. Each collection will be observed by a health care professional to ensure maximum effectiveness. The university also plans to film someone being tested to show how easy the process is and share that video with parents, students and others who might be tested.

Contact tracing

The Faculty Practice Division has also been asked to collaborate with the university's Student Health Center in assuring student health and safety. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and RNs from VUSN and Faculty Practices will perform contact tracing for COVID-19 positive cases; act as an interface between the university, Student Health and VUMC; provide counseling for any students who are in quarantine and isolation; and provide periodic well checks for all students.



"Dean Norman volunteered that the school has expertise, particularly in the area of community health planning and response. The university enthusiastically took her up on that."

– Pam Jones



VUSN Faculty Practice Division members will work with VUMC and the Student Health Center (above) to provide symptom screening and testing for undergraduates.

“As the most trusted profession in America, the discipline of nursing is uniquely prepared to lead contact tracing programs,” Jones said. “Our nursing faculty will obtain the names of those who were in contact with an infected individual. Then we’ll contact them, notify them of their exposure and give them guidance for their own testing and health. Once someone is quarantined, we’ll be in regular contact to check on them and provide assistance.”

The testing and contact tracing support will continue for as long as needed.

Norman, the Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing as well as dean, believes that involvement by the School of Nursing will reassure students, parents, faculty and staff who might have apprehension about the return to campus.

“Many groups were involved in the decision to return to campus, and leadership took into account a variety of scenarios and best practices. They believe, as do I, that it is important for Vanderbilt students to have the invaluable experiences of in-person learning and interaction with faculty, staff and fellow students,” said Norman, DSN, FAAN. “This is a great opportunity to help the university and provide quality, holistic care to students at a time when they will be under physical and mental stress.”

Testing and assessment

Setting up testing centers, conducting testing and performing contact tracing is not new to the School of Nursing Faculty Practice Division. Faculty members have been providing that care and more since early March.

As soon as COVID-19 tests were available, faculty from the Vanderbilt Nurse Faculty Practices in coordination with VUMC provided testing in some of their practice sites and volunteered to staff sites elsewhere.

Associate Professor Abby Parish, MSN’05, DNP, FNAP, and Instructor Shelza Rivas, BA’12, MSN’15, DNP’17, normally can be found at Vanderbilt Nurse-Midwifery and Primary Care at Melrose, one of more than 10 nurse-managed clinics operated by Vanderbilt University Medical Center and staffed with VUSN faculty. The two volunteered to perform COVID-19 testing at VUMC’s Clarksville clinic near Fort Campbell. They weren’t the only ones.

Instructors Randy Smith, MSN’12, DNP, and Amanda Noblett, MSN’11, usually work as providers at Vanderbilt Health at Gaylord, an employer-provided health clinic that serves Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Centers’ more than 2,500 employees and their families. Smith and Noblett volunteered to conduct tests at an assessment site set up by Vanderbilt University Medical Center in one of its parking garages. The rapid cycle site was set up to test VUMC staff and faculty primarily; it was created and managed by advanced practice nurses Kathleen Donais and VUSN alumna Shannon Ellrich, MSN’17, DNP’20. Noblett said that doing assessment was an amazing experience to help with early detection of COVID-19 and to have the opportunity to reassure people worried about the virus.

Everyone coming for testing was assessed using a comprehensive form like this one.



Above, patient Jill Clendening, left, speaks with her provider, VUSN alumna Katy Hansen, MSN’10, using telemedicine. Hansen is also currently earning a PhD in Nursing Science at Vanderbilt.

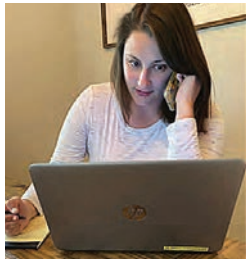


Emergency Nurse Practitioner alumnus Jason Tillman, MSN’15, and ENP instructor Mindy Johnson, DNP, work weekends providing COVID-19 testing at Vanderbilt Health Walk-in Clinics.



Above and right, a team of health care workers from VUMC Nursing, VUSN and Metro Nashville Public Health Department conducted screenings and provided support for vulnerable residents in the Mercury Courts community in Nashville.





VUMC's hotline was managed by Vanderbilt Faculty Practice providers Alyssa Miller, MSN, (left) and Alexandra Speros, MSN'99, CNM. The two managed the hotline while working from their individual homes.

Safe at home with technology

When people were encouraged to stay safe at home, many Vanderbilt University Medical Center providers turned to telehealth for routine health visits. Vanderbilt Health OnCall, an on-call service operated by School of Nursing faculty nurse practitioners, was one of the early adopters. “We were able to launch telehealth services within a matter of hours,” said Jennifer Mitchell, MSN’05, APRN, clinical director of Vanderbilt Health OnCall. “I’m so proud of what our group has been able to accomplish.”

Normally, the service’s nurse practitioners are on call to assess patients over the phone and to pay them home visits; the services are open to non-Vanderbilt patients as well (it’s very popular with visitors to Music City). VUMC made establishing secure videoconferencing an early focus and it paid off. With the videoconferencing option, concerned individuals can speak directly to a nurse practitioner without any exposure risk. This service proved especially essential in the early weeks of the pandemic when much was unknown about the virus’s transmission and progression. Since March 5, Vanderbilt Health OnCall providers completed nearly 200 telehealth visits, primarily for COVID-19 positive patients.

The nurse midwives and advanced practice nurses from Vanderbilt Nurse Midwives and Primary Care for Women at Melrose and the West End Women’s Health Center also quickly revised their care model. One group of providers conducted telehealth appointments and another group provided on-site care, said Lori Cabbage, MSN, CNM. In the first six weeks of the stay-at-home orders, 325 postpartum visits and 202 primary care visits were conducted by telehealth.

The Clinic at Mercury Courts, which is operated through a partnership between VUSN, VUMC and Urban Housing Solutions, also moved to a combination of telehealth and home visitation—but it also faced a different issue. A few days into Nashville’s initial COVID-19 response, the clinic’s physical building experienced a water break that resulted in flooding and the need for the clinic to move to a different location. Within a week, it was in temporary quarters and soon the clinical team was back at work providing care to vulnerable clients in an impoverished area. The identification of a COVID-19 positive individual in the Mercury Courts community

triggered a coordinated response from the Nashville-Metro Health Department with support from VUMC and the clinic staff.

More than 120 homebound and/or medically vulnerable individuals were screened; the clinic then provided treatment and support for those who needed isolation. Several of the individuals who needed to be in isolation did not have access to food, so the School of Nursing, clinic and others provided food boxes. Items in the boxes, along with pictorial instructions for recipients with limited English proficiency, were recommended by interns in VUMC’s Dietetic Internship Program for maximum nutrition and low preparation. The quick action by the health department and various Vanderbilt teams is credited with preventing a cluster outbreak.

Hotline heroes

As associate nursing officer for VUMC Advanced Practice and director of the Office of Advanced Practice, alumna and faculty member April Kapu, MSN’05, DNP’13, was part of VUMC’s command center team and charged with deploying the APRN workforce enterprise-wide. Within 24 hours of the decision to create a COVID-19 telephone hotline, Kapu and her team had it up and running.

Callers to the hotline speak first with VUMC schedulers, working from home, who provide answers to frequently asked questions and arrange for clinicians to return the calls. The hotline started with three nurse practitioners and expanded as call volume increased; currently, about 200 nurse practitioners, physician residents and fellows respond to patients’ calls.

Questions range from people who want to know if they should be tested to those who have tested positive and want to know when they can go back to work. If testing is advised, the hotline clinicians recommend where patients can go for assessment. If patients test positive, another team follows up by telemedicine visits every other day to make sure they aren’t worsening.

The clinician hotline supervisors are both School of Nursing faculty and practice providers. Alexandra Speros, MSN’99, CNM, is a certified nurse midwife and family practitioner providing women’s care at West End Women’s Health Center and Vanderbilt Nurse-Midwives at Melrose, and Alyssa Miller, MSN, is a nurse practitioner who provides primary care to the Metro Nashville Public Schools’ Employee & Family Health Care Centers.

“It’s been great to see the teamwork between many people who have never met, working to get information out to all of our patients quickly and easily to keep them as safe as possible,” Speros said. “It took a little bit of figuring out how to manage the calls at first because we had such a huge influx of calls very quickly. We didn’t know at first how many calls to anticipate, but we got appropriate staffing quickly and knocked those out as quickly as possible.”

As of press time, the hotline had fielded more than 26,000 calls.

“It’s been great to see the teamwork between many people who have never met, working to get information out to all of our patients quickly and easily to keep them as safe as possible.”

– Alexandra Speros

BY ANDREW FAUGHT

MEN WORK

The School of Nursing is helping with the demand for nurses by establishing itself as a leader in preparing men for the profession

When Jay Huang enrolled at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in 2019, he was well aware of the statistics: Just 9 percent of nurses in the United States are male. Role models may be scarce, but Huang is undeterred. The Californian, who holds an undergraduate degree in biochemistry, found a passion for health care after he did volunteer outreach with older adults for the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

“At the end of the day, I simply want to help people who are in need,” said Huang, who is in the school’s accelerated PreSpecialty program, a rigorous 12-month curriculum designed for students with bachelor’s degrees in areas other than nursing.

The School of Nursing is a national leader in sending men into the profession, becoming in 2018 one of only eight nursing schools in the United States to win the “Best School” honor

from the American Assembly of Men in Nursing (AAMN). Following the announcement, the School of Nursing’s male enrollment jumped by 30 percent. In fall 2019, the 65 incoming male students, Huang among them, accounted for 13 percent of all admitted students.

“It’s important for nursing—indeed any profession—to be inclusive. Just as our patients are diverse, nursing needs to be diverse. Research by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation shows that patients communicate better with providers whom they perceive to be like them,” said Linda D. Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN, dean of the School of Nursing and Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing. “It’s also important for female students to have male classmates. Men have different viewpoints and experiences that add to the comprehensiveness of classroom discussions and practice.”

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS: CRISSY ALLEN, DANIEL DUBOIS, JOE HOWELL, ANNE RAYNER, JOHN RUSSELL, CAROLINE TAYLOR, SUSAN URMY



DIVERSITY AS A STRENGTH

Men have served as nurses for centuries. Monks in the Middle Ages took care of other men, for example, and the poet Walt Whitman was a nurse in Washington, D.C., during the Civil War. Yet today there still persists a perception that men are not suited to be nurturers or caregivers. According to a recent AAMN study, 70 percent of male nurses believe stereotypes prevent more men from considering the nursing profession.

Vanderbilt has worked to dispel those stereotypes for more than 50 years. In 1967, Luther Christman was appointed dean of the School of Nursing and, in the process, became the first man to lead a collegiate nursing program in the U.S. After leaving Vanderbilt in 1972, he founded the AAMN, an organization that, while also open to female membership, was created to “strengthen and humanize” health care with wider inclusion of men in the profession. (Vanderbilt established its AAMN chapter in 2011.)



Christman

nurturing side, their helping side, that care side of their personality,” he said, “but also to combine that with a scientific side that can be used to improve the health of a population.”

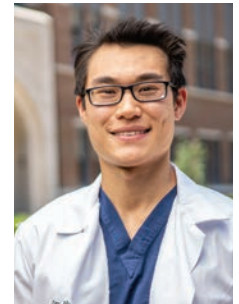
A decade ago, AAMN launched a campaign called “20 x 20: Choose Nursing,” an effort to boost male nursing ranks to 20 percent by 2020. “Of course, we’re not there yet, so we still have work to do,” said Christenbery, a faculty adviser for the school’s AAMN chapter.

“Nursing as a profession wants to reflect the members of society that it cares for, so we’re running a little behind on the numbers of males that we’d like to see,” he added. “Medicine was predominantly male until just a couple of decades ago, and now it’s pretty much shifted to fifty-fifty. Nursing is progressively making that shift, but it hasn’t been quite so swift as medicine.”

Even as the perception challenges endure, there is reason to believe that the number of men in nursing will continue its upswing. For one, job opportunities are plentiful, and there is high potential for advancement. The federal government projects that 200,000 new registered nurse positions will open each year from 2016 to 2026, due in large part to retirements. The positions also pay well: Nurse practitioners average more than \$100,000 in annual earnings, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The School of Nursing—which currently has 21 male faculty members, accounting for 13 percent of the faculty body (compared to the national average of 6 percent)—has implemented the nurse equivalent of a full-court press to make sure men help fill some of these openings. Faculty who are members of AAMN regularly speak with men who are not nurses, but who work at the school’s various clinical sites, about nursing careers. The “man-to-man approach” has been an effective means for recruiting men to the program, said Chance Allen, MSN’12, instructor in nursing and a faculty adviser for AAMN.

There are also efforts at the school to ensure that underrepresented male nursing students receive the support they need. Both male and minority faculty members host



“At the end of the day, I simply want to help people who are in need.”

– Jay Huang



JOHN RUSSELL

Professor Tom Christenbery is a faculty adviser for the local AAMN chapter.

Tom Christenbery, MSN’87, PhD’04, professor of nursing and director of program evaluation, is among those at the School of Nursing working to continue that legacy by bringing more men into the fold.

“Men are looking for an opportunity to be in a career where they can express their



JOE HOWELL



“Vanderbilt sees diversity as a strength, and I certainly agree.”

– Ken Watford

academic enhancement activities such as brown bag lunches, during which they discuss things like test-taking strategies and topics that are reflected on the National Council Licensure Examination. Additionally, a climate survey to assess male experiences at the school is being planned, and responses will be considered by the school’s Diversity and Inclusivity Committee.

“Vanderbilt sees diversity as a strength, and I certainly agree,” said Ken Watford, MSN’96, DNP’11, assistant professor of clinical otolaryngology and a family nurse practitioner in the Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. “In my class we had people from all backgrounds—philosophy, history, biology and chemistry. Vanderbilt encourages those perspectives because they contribute to our understanding as nurses. We see a tremendously diverse group of patients in Nashville, including refugees from around the world from all socioeconomic levels.”

Gender diversity, Watford added, is “just another area of diversity that ultimately allows you to provide better care.” Watford was an emergency room nurse in the Mississippi Delta for three years when, at 32, he enrolled at the School of Nursing to become a nurse practitioner. In a class of 150, only nine students were men, he recalls. But despite the gender discrepancies, for Watford and the students whom he precepts in clinics, nursing is a profession that offers an abundance of opportunities.

“There’s upward mobility, and you’re going to have a job for the next 30 years, pretty much anywhere you want to,” he said. “I have students who have gone into travel nursing, and they’ll spend three months here, six months there, and they’ll make a good salary and see the world.”

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

The importance of community is at the heart of many nurses’ decisions to join their profession, and it is no different for the men among them. As with Huang, Watford became a nurse, he said, “to feel the reward of helping and connecting with people.”

Nurses are also a close-knit community unto themselves, and many male nursing students go into the profession because they were influenced by a nurse in their own families, or because they have a mother or girlfriend who voiced support for male nurses, noted Christenbery.

For male students, AAMN has proven to be a pivotal part of the social and learning experience. Chapters, including the one at Vanderbilt, sponsor an annual “Engaging the Future RN” campaign, in which nursing students reach out to high school students to extol the profession in classroom presentations and career fairs. School of Nursing chapter members also have set up booths at Vanderbilt football tailgate parties to provide free blood pressure checks for fans, and have volunteered their time and expertise at Nashville’s Oasis Center, a shelter for youths in crisis.

School of Nursing student Anand Brahmhatt (right) works with School of Medicine student Matthew Nettles as part of a team-building exercise. Both men are members of the Vanderbilt Program in Interprofessional Learning (VPL), which teaches students from different disciplines to collaborate effectively as a team.



One particular focus of the AAMN student members is men's health in the community. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, men are 33 percent less likely than women to have visited a doctor within the past year, making it difficult to identify and treat their health problems early. Having more male students active in the community is helping men recognize the importance of taking ownership of their health.

Vanderbilt's most recent AAMN chapter president is student Matias Massaro, a native of Buenos Aires with a background in psychology. After moving to the U.S., he became intrigued by the possibility of becoming a nurse practitioner. NPs do not exist in Argentina.

"I definitely knew that men were going to be a small minority," said Massaro, who is part of the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program. "But I wasn't completely petrified by it because my background in psychology, back in Argentina, is kind of the same ratio of female to male. It didn't make me question my passion. I've made beautiful friendships with a lot of people in the program."

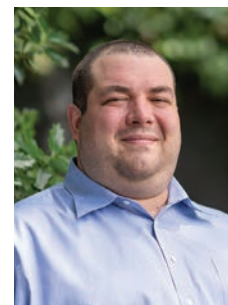
"Everybody brings value to the table, whether you're a woman or a man, if you're American or Argentinian," he added. "We're in such a health care crisis around the world with COVID-19, and there's not enough staff or resources. Imagine if men weren't there."

Increasingly the School of Nursing is seeing more young men come into nursing as their first career option, Christenbery said, with most gravitating toward the pediatric, acute care and psychiatric-mental health tracks.

"Many men have very caring natures, and nursing is certainly a profession where compassion and care are critically important," said Christenbery, who notes that other nursing programs have contacted the school about its efforts to boost the ranks of men. "We've seen time after time and through decade after decade that men can be just as caring, just as nurturing. If given the space and the encouragement and provided a skill set to implement, men can blossom."

"We're in such a health care crisis around the world with COVID-19, and there's not enough staff or resources. Imagine if men weren't there."

– Matias Massaro



Below, PreSpecialty students Jay Huang, Cody Walsh, Tyler Hall and Danilo Parra on the first day of Orientation. They (and male colleagues) account for 13 percent of VUSN admitted students in 2019.



ANNE RAYNER

BY ANDREW FAUGHT

Crystallizing Moments

Asa Briggs sees the disparities in our nation's health care—and does something about them

Watching his aunt struggle with bipolar disorder, Asa T. Briggs, DNP, MSN'12, traded in his legal aspirations to pursue a career in mental health care.

"She would have extensive inpatient hospitalization, but then would come out with no continuity of care," Briggs recalled. "It was a crystallizing moment for me."

At first Briggs focused on earning his professional counselor license, but then his friend Erica Anderson Stone, MSN'05, an instructor at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, suggested that he consider providing more holistic care for patients.

"It was at that moment that I realized that nursing was 'it' for me," he said.

Briggs enrolled in the School of Nursing's PreSpecialty program, which is for students entering the profession from other vocations. His focus was psychiatric-mental health.

In January, he became program director of rural psychiatric services for Prisma Health in Greenville, South Carolina, working with underserved populations in a city where the poverty rate exceeds 15 percent. Previously, he had spent seven years at Unity Healthcare in Washington, D.C., where he oversaw 22 clinics and provided care through the district's Department of Corrections.

Having promoted an innovative treatment plan at Unity that offered continuity of care to newly released prison

inmates, Briggs is now continuing his novel approach to mental health care in Greenville. Leaning on his Vanderbilt experience, he holds goal-setting sessions with his patients while providing psychiatric care.

"It's really important for me to understand what their health goals are, and then what we can do to work collaboratively to achieve those goals," said Briggs, who recently earned his doctor of nursing practice at Yale University. "A lot of times, when it comes to mental health issues, that agency is missing."

While increased patient engagement and education can help eliminate disparities in health care, challenges persist among the more vulnerable members of society. At Vanderbilt, Briggs studied biopsychosocial models of care, considering not just biological contributions to mental health, but also "the psychology of the lived experience and the social determinants of health," he said. That led him to become an adviser to President Obama's My Brother's Keeper initiative, in which Briggs examined the impact that adverse childhood experiences can have on the mental health of young men of color.



Briggs

"Asa understands the role stigma plays among minority and vulnerable populations, leading to their reluctance to seek mental health care," said Susie Adams, PhD, PMC'13, FAANP, FAAN, professor of nursing. "He is fulfilling his family's expectations to give back to the community, which simultaneously reflect Vanderbilt's mission as a center for scholarly research, informed and creative teaching, and service to the community and society at large."



COURTESY ASA BRIGGS

New researcher probes the connection between the heart and maternal mortality

Early in his career, as Mulubrhan F. Mogos cared for fragile babies in a neonatal ICU, he questioned whether the mother’s experience during pregnancy and delivery could provide clues to what went wrong, setting him on a path to study the long-term impact of cardiovascular disease on mothers and babies.

Mogos, who joined the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing last fall, is a rising star in the study of cardiovascular health conditions during pregnancy and associated adverse maternal-fetal health outcomes. His research has received local and national funding including an R01 investigating the role of ultrasound technology in predicting preterm birth, as a co-investigator. In 2017 he earned a diversity fellowship supported by the National Institutes of Health and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

His most recently published research found that the first six weeks after delivery are the most dangerous for women at risk of heart failure, when at least 60 percent of pregnancy-related heart failure hospitalizations occur. Heart disease, including heart failure, is a leading cause of maternal mortality and morbidity in the United States.

“The United States is the place to study this because of the abundance of resources,” Mogos said. “The goal is to develop effective interventions that are scalable on a national, and even global, level.”

Mogos says pregnancy presents a unique window of opportunity, as most women have regular prenatal checkups. “It’s a chance for us to closely monitor women who are at risk, and encourage heart-healthy lifestyles while educating women about symptoms to watch for,” he said.

“Women are typically discharged a few days after they give birth and not seen by health care providers until six weeks later, which means serious symptoms might be left unrecognized and untreated. Concerns of new moms—fatigue, shortness of breath—are often waved away even by providers.

“The lack of adequate surveillance during the postpartum period is one of the potential reasons for the unacceptably high rate of maternal morbidity and mortality in the United States.”

Even tennis great Serena Williams, who recognized signs of a recurring pulmonary embolism after the birth of her daughter, had to repeatedly challenge her hospital caregivers to get the right diagnosis and care.

Mogos plans to use big data to study the health trajectories of mothers who have had preeclampsia during pregnancy, looking at changes in their cardiovascular system along with measuring the impact of interventions such as nutrition education, emotional support and exercise work.

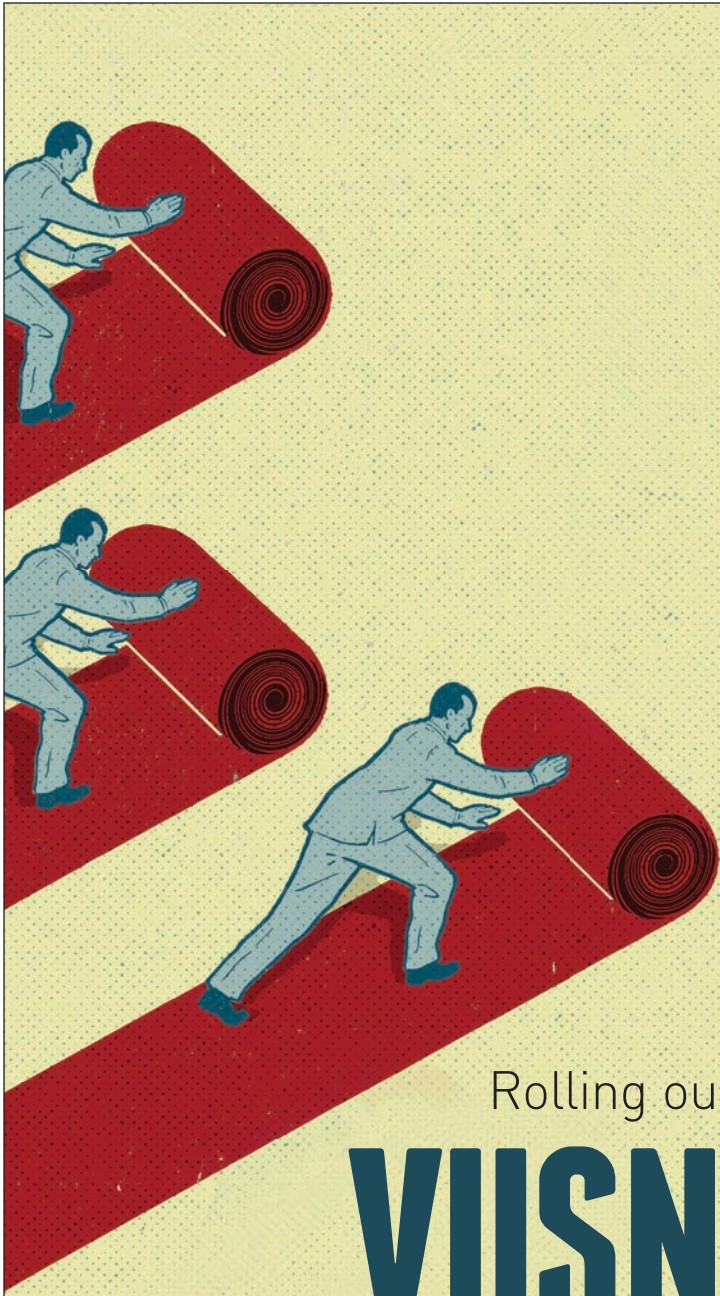
Mogos most recently was on the faculty at the College of Nursing at the University of Illinois in Chicago. He moved to Nashville in July 2019 with his wife and his mother. He finds himself delighted by how friendly Nashville is. “Everyone says hi,” he noted. “We were working in the yard, and a neighbor came over to offer us help. I’m really enjoying that.”

“The goal is to develop effective interventions that are scalable on a national, and even global, level.”

– Mulubrhan Mogos



JOHN RUSSELL



One of the highlights of Reunion each autumn is the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Alumni Awards presentation. Taking place during the Friday reception for alumni and their guests, the presentation recognizes exceptional alumni in various stages of their careers. Honorees are selected by the VUSN alumni board from nominations submitted by alumni, faculty, students and friends of the school. Categories range from named awards to recognition of honorary alumni. The 2019 award winners include a pharmacist, gerontology expert, chief nursing officer for a major academic health care system, and women's health advocate whose work has increased access to gynecological care across the country.

Continued on next page

Rolling out the red carpet as

VUSN AWARDS RECOGNIZE ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

BY Nancy Wise



Cathy Madigan, DNP, BSN'77, received the Lulu Wolf Hassenplug Alumni Award for Distinguished Career in Nursing, named for a former VUSN faculty member and distinguished nursing advocate. Madigan is chief nursing officer for the University of North Carolina

Health Care System and associate dean for practice at UNC, Chapel Hill School of Nursing. As CNO, Madigan supervises all of the system's nursing enterprises and is responsible for quality and patient satisfaction initiatives for UNC Hospitals. She joined UNC Hospitals in 2003 as director of cardiac services and, in 2013, was promoted to vice president of nursing and associate CNO. She formerly directed children's cardiac programs at the Denver Children's Hospital and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She received the award for professional leadership in the nursing field and a history of achievement.



VUSN Associate Professor **Ginny Moore, DNP, MSN'90**, received the **Alma Gault Alumni Award for Public Service**, which memorializes VUSN's fourth dean and honors dedication to public service or underserved communities. Moore, academic director of

VUSN's women's health specialty, has been engaged in public service for nearly three decades. Her career has included work as a sexual assault nurse examiner, serving as an NP for low-income women in a family-planning clinic and starting a health clinic for adolescents in residential state custody. Her doctoral project focused on support of survivors of domestic violence, prostitution, homelessness and addiction. One of her recent projects involved the development of online training for the Sexual Assault Center's crisis line, which created a way for non-local volunteers to train and become phone counselors.



Katherine Evans, DNP'12, received the Alumni Award for National Leadership, presented to an alumnus or alumna with a broad impact on health care, typically on a national or global level. Evans is the CNO at United Healthcare Retiree Solutions, a division of

United Health Group, and a national leader in advanced practice gerontological nursing. As president of the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association, she led the creation of a national certification exam for the gerontological advanced practice nurse specialist, identifying APRNs who have the experience, knowledge and skills to manage older adults with complex health issues. Active in other nursing organizations, she was part of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's work group on education of doctorally prepared APRNs. She speaks regularly on issues regarding the preparation of the nursing workforce to care for an aging population. She is a fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.



The Alumni Award for Clinical Achievement in Nursing was given to Marlee Crankshaw, MSN'01, DNP'10, for outstanding contributions in clinical, patient-centered practice. Crankshaw is the administrative director for neonatal services at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital

at Vanderbilt, where she oversees a team of nearly 400 staff. In her more than 35 years at Vanderbilt, she has been responsible for numerous innovations, including single-parent rooms, training newborn nursery and NICU nurses as lactation counselors, a donor breast milk program and a NICU family advisory council. Crankshaw encourages innovative patient-centered ideas by hosting town hall meetings, annual staff retreats and a monthly collaborative workgroup. She continually advocates for patients, families and staff, and encourages ideas on how to increase quality and safety in care delivery.



The Catherine Hanley Class of 1912 Rising Star Alumni Award is named after VUSN's first graduate. It recognizes a recent alumnus or alumna who shows outstanding promise. Within six months of starting as a new adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioner at the University

of South Florida, **Christina Cardy, MSN'16, DNP'17**, successfully facilitated the merger of USF Cardiology with a large, private cardiology practice by creating note templates and treatment protocols, restructuring the practice's answering service to increase patient access, and transitioning the department from paper to electronic billing. Her DNP project helped significantly reduce the 30-day readmission rate for atrial fibrillation; she became her department's first published nurse practitioner with her related publication in *Heart & Lung*. Using the knowledge she obtained from her DNP coursework, she successfully proposed a formal leadership structure for advanced practice providers and was promoted to director of APPs at USF.



The **Friend of Nursing Award** is presented to someone who has made significant contributions to nursing but is not a nurse. The 2019 recipient is **Chad Gentry, PharmD**. Gentry is part of the interprofessional health care team at the Clinic at Mercury Courts, a community health

clinic for underserved individuals, and one of its founding members. He works closely with VUSN to integrate pharmacy into clinical care. Gentry is an outspoken advocate for nursing and its unique perspective on health care. He is committed to educating the next generation of providers in the skills needed for collaborative practice and working together as equal members of the health care team. Gentry is an associate professor at Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy and on the faculty for the Vanderbilt Program for Interprofessional Learning and the Meharry-Vanderbilt Interprofessional Student Collaborative.



Aimee Chism Holland, DNP, MSN'02, received the **Alumni Award for Innovation in Health Care**. As a women's health NP with the National Health Service Corps, she saw firsthand women's unmet health care needs, including reduced access to providers with specialty

training. She used her expertise to develop one of the first gynecology skills workshops utilizing clinical practice simulations and geared for primary care NPs. These workshops provide opportunities for nurse practitioners to practice and refine gynecology skills in an educational environment rather than with actual patients. Her workshops have been attended by more than 2,500 NPs, physician assistants, midwives and physicians at national conferences. Her work also is used to teach gynecology skills at universities, including Vanderbilt. Holland recently received a grant to provide a telehealth gynecology skills workshop for rural primary care providers.



Mavis Schorn, PhD, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, FNP, was named **Honorary Alumna**. She serves as the senior associate dean for academics at Vanderbilt School of Nursing. Since joining VUSN in 2002, she has been an advocate for Vanderbilt nursing students

and the role of nursing in the health care arena. She is a strong proponent of interprofessional education, and active with the VUMC interprofessional student-run Shade Tree Clinic, the Vanderbilt Program for Interprofessional Learning, and the Vanderbilt-Meharry Alliance Interprofessional Education Collaboration. Schorn is the principal investigator on a \$1.43 million HRSA grant to develop and implement a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program for emergency NP students, thereby increasing the number of SANE-trained and -certified APRNs in emergency departments in rural or underserved communities. A clinician, faculty member and researcher, she is a fellow in three professional organizations.

Two millennial students couldn't find health care providers.

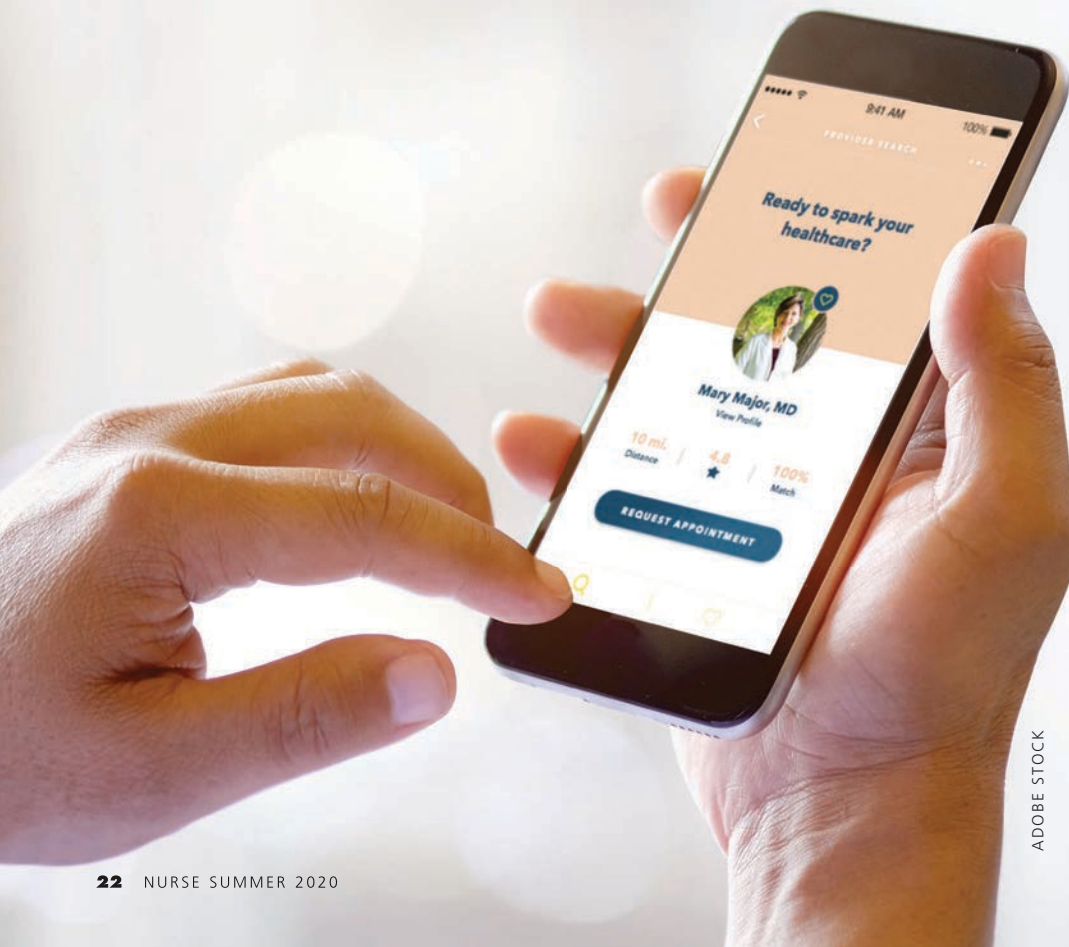
So they created an app for that.

BY ALLISON WHITTEN

When Vanderbilt University School of Nursing PreSpecialty students Ashley Allington and Sara Moran arrived in Nashville in August 2018, they noticed a problem that kept popping up for them and many of their female friends: How do you find a health care provider in a new city where you don't know anyone?

Google reviews or Yelp can be great for finding new favorite coffee shops and restaurants, but navigating the health care system in a strange city can feel completely overwhelming. The arduous process means that many new residents put their health on the back burner.

"I remember saying, 'Sara, why isn't there an app for this? There's an app for everything out there. If you need something, you can go on the App Store on Apple, and you can find it.' But this was something that we really found to be a specific need," Allington said.



ADOBE STOCK

“We wanted to make this a one-stop shop for health care for female millennials trying to navigate this market.”

– Ashley Allington



Convinced of the need, Allington and Moran made the bold decision to create an app themselves, and in a few months Sparkwell Health was born. In fall 2019—just after they’d started their specialty year at VUSN—they entered a pitch competition hosted by the Wond’ry at the Innovation Pavilion, Vanderbilt University’s on-campus innovation center that supports students and faculty with novel business ideas. Sparkwell Health won the top prize.

Allington, by then an Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP student, and Moran, a Women’s Health NP student, found key mentors at the Wond’ry and became entrepreneurs on top of their nursing school commitments. “It is no surprise that building a business is no easy feat, but I was surprised about the grind that it entails. It’s similar to health care in that it’s not a 9-to-5 job—it’s something you do around the clock,” Allington said.

Moran agreed, adding, “My background is in psychology and biology, so I have loved learning about the business world. It has been really overwhelming at times, but I have really enjoyed learning and connecting with others who have different backgrounds than I do.”

One mentor from the Wond’ry who has been especially instrumental to Allington’s and Moran’s success is Stryker Warren, a longtime health care services consultant and entrepreneur. It was a great fit, as Warren says he is most intrigued by business ideas that arise from entrepreneurs’ personal experiences. But Warren soon found out it was more than just a great idea:

He has been impressed by the students’ work ethic, too.

“These two nurse practitioner candidates—Ashley and Sara—have demonstrated an indefatigable commitment to customer discovery and product

development, while maintaining impressive academic responsibilities at Vanderbilt,” Warren said. “They embody both the aspirational and the requisite, practical aspects of execution while leveraging their considerable creative talents.”

The students’ vision for the app interface is similar to those of simple dating apps, but with medical providers instead. The user answers a few basic questions, and then the app populates with 10 or so providers. The user then can swipe either right to select a provider or left to move on. Users can even schedule their first appointment within the app.

Another critical aspect of the app in development is the inclusion of evidence-based health content for users. Allington and Moran are passionate about using their education to increase the general public’s understanding of health issues as part of the app’s features.

“We want it to be a safe place for women to come to, and a place where they’re able to connect with preventative health care services, and in addition, get easy-to-digest evidence-based health care,” Allington explained. “Unfortunately, a lot of people in our demographic go to Instagram and other sources that aren’t as reputable to get their information. We wanted to make this a one-stop shop for health care for female millennials trying to navigate this market.”

By focusing on a smaller market of female millennials in Nashville first, Allington and Moran have already built an impressive website and Instagram following. “We definitely have go-getter mentalities, so we wanted to start big. However, we have learned that starting much smaller and then growing as you go is really the best way to build something,” Moran said.

The app is set to launch in Nashville later this year. Allington will take the reins to keep building Sparkwell Health’s Instagram presence and focus on funding efforts, while Moran concentrates on her first year as a WHNP.

The impact of Sparkwell Health could be enormous. “It’s really about confidence and convenience,” Warren said. “Sparkwell will succeed by raising awareness, breeding self-confidence in health care decision-making, and by ensuring young women are proactive in their self-care. No longer, ‘I will think about my health tomorrow’ when the app is in her hands right now.”

Find Sparkwell Health at sparkwellhealth.com, on Instagram at [sparkwell_health](https://www.instagram.com/sparkwell_health) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/sparkwellhealth](https://www.facebook.com/sparkwellhealth).

Above: Left, Sara Moran and Ashley Allington started what would become Sparkwell as first-year PreSpecialty students.

Transformative power of education

Law and nursing alumni couple want to help students make the world a better place

Craig Nordlund, JD'74, and Sally Baum Nordlund, BSN'74, found three important things during their time at Vanderbilt. First, they found each other—the two met as students, Craig at Vanderbilt Law School and Sally at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. Second, they each discovered a passion for their professions that has remained with them throughout their lives. And third, they developed a belief in the transformative power of education.

The Nordlunds would go on to become lifelong Vanderbilt supporters. In addition to annual gifts to the university, they have endowed scholarships at three of Vanderbilt's schools and colleges, and included Vanderbilt in their estate plans.

Sally, an Ohio native, immediately felt at home at Vanderbilt after arriving on campus. "I felt really lucky to be a student in that environment," said Sally about her experience at VUSN. "I was prepared to go out into the world and eager to begin my nursing career."

Craig feels connected to Vanderbilt in a number of ways, including the fact that his three siblings attended the university, and his father, Donald Nordlund, served on the Board of Trust from 1986 to 1997. But it was Craig's time at the law school that proved to be an important turning point in his life.

"I had professors with the right balance of theory and practice—which heavily influenced my career," he said.

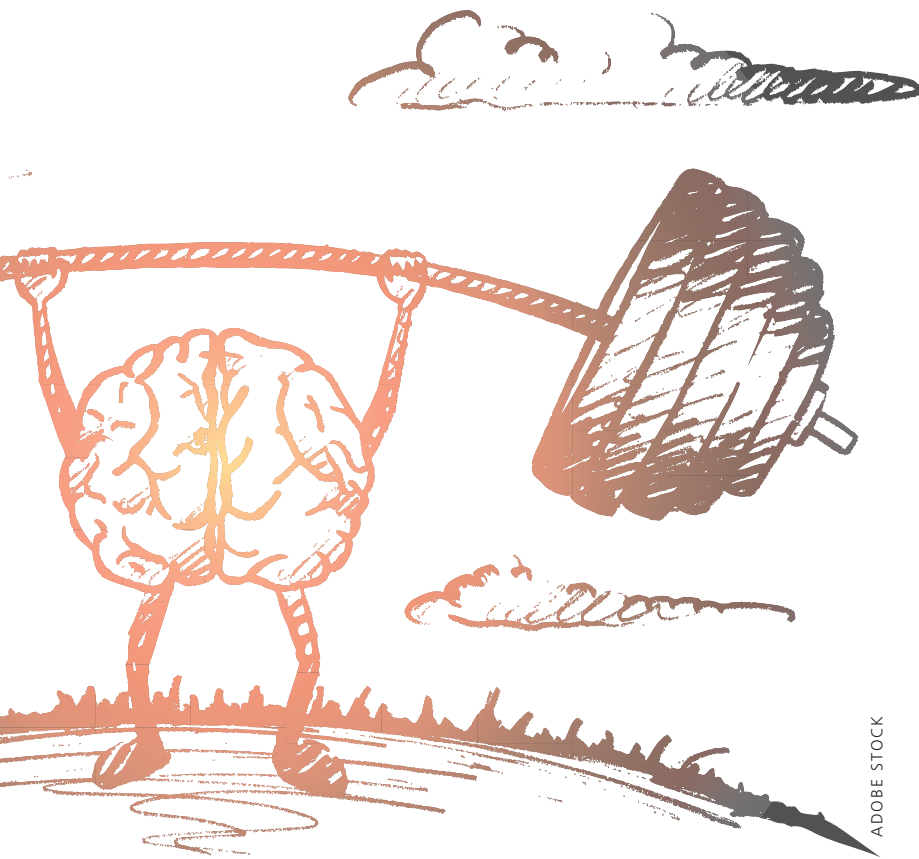
The Nordlunds settled in Palo Alto, California, where Craig had a distinguished legal career at Hewlett-Packard Co. and then later at Agilent Technologies. Meanwhile, Sally spent her early career working in

intensive care, emergency care and coronary care before shifting to teach CPR and first-aid training in industry. The couple also raised three children. Their son, Michael Nordlund, BA'09, and youngest daughter, Laurie Finch, BA'12, both graduated from the College of Arts and Science.

In honor of their educations—and those of their children—Craig and Sally established three scholarships to help future generations of students pursue a Vanderbilt education. The Donald Craig Nordlund and Sally Baum Nordlund Scholarship in Nursing has provided need-based support for 21 nursing students since it was established in 2005. The couple also established a Donald Craig Nordlund and Sally Baum Nordlund Scholarship at the College of Arts and Science and at the law school. In addition, they documented a bequest in 2015 to provide future support for their scholarships, which will ensure their legacy extends long beyond their lifetimes.

"We included our scholarships in our estate to make sure they stay in place and stay viable," Craig said. "It's our hope that this extra support will allow future students to get an education they might not otherwise be able to afford."





The Nordlunds intend for their scholarships to allow students to graduate without the burden of high debt. When Craig was in college, he recalls that working a good summer job meant one could earn enough money to pay tuition for the school year. He says that's often no longer true.

"The cost of education is increasing exponentially at a time when it is more and more important for people to earn at least an undergraduate degree," he said. "Anything we can do to help eliminate that burden will help make the world a better place."

Sally believes their scholarships could help encourage students who might otherwise be deterred from choosing high-cost, advanced degree programs like nursing or law. She also hopes their support will inspire recipients to similarly give back to Vanderbilt in the future.

"Vanderbilt remains on the cutting-edge of nursing research and education, continually assessing the skills and knowledge base needed for today's RNs," she said. "I cannot think of a better way to support these endeavors than by giving to Vanderbilt and helping to provide future students with these same opportunities."

Megan Cohen, Class of 2021, is a current recipient of the Donald Craig Nordlund and Sally Baum Nordlund Scholarship in Nursing and first-year student in the women's health nurse practitioner program. Like Sally, Cohen found Vanderbilt to be a perfect fit.

"This scholarship has enabled me to go to a school where I know they will prepare me to be a competent provider who helps patients to the best of my ability," she said. "That's exactly why I went to nursing school to begin with."

The Nordlunds' nursing scholarship also supports students like Erin Dowling, Class of 2020, who chose VUSN for its top-rated family nurse practitioner master's program. A former U.S. Navy Nurse Corps officer, Dowling appreciates how Vanderbilt supports former military students and provides unique opportunities to work with underserved populations.

"The financial aid has afforded me the optimal graduate school experience," Dowling said. "I have been able to support myself while focusing all my efforts on learning. In the future, I will be under less financial burden as a new nurse practitioner thanks to the aid that I have received."

"We believe that Vanderbilt University and its graduates truly make a difference in the world. What a blessing it was for us to have attended Vanderbilt, and we are so pleased to have the opportunity to help pass that blessing along to others."

– Craig and Sally Nordlund



Craig and Sally Nordlund met as students at Vanderbilt. Their experiences inspired lifetime giving.

Thanks to their documented bequest for scholarships, the Nordlunds joined Vanderbilt's Sarratt Society, which celebrates the generosity and vision of donors who make a planned gift to the university. In 2019, Sally served as the Sarratt Society Class Chair for VUSN in honor of her 45th Reunion. In this volunteer role, Sally further supported VUSN by encouraging fellow alumni to include Vanderbilt in their estate planning. To learn more about how to create your legacy through a planned gift to Vanderbilt, visit vu.edu/plannedgiving.

Class Notes

60s

Ginger Trundle Manley, BSN'66, MSN'81, was a panelist in the Nashville Public Television documentary, *Companionship & Intimacy: Aging Matters*, which aired in December 2019.

70s

Carol Etherington, MSN'75, is an ex-officio member of the Vanderbilt University Public Health Advisory Task Force, formed in March as a resource during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Betsy Brach, BSN'79, MSN'81, has an experiential psychotherapy practice for individuals, couples and groups in Bethesda, Maryland.

Randy Rasch, MSN'79, was elected board member at large of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in February. He was also appointed by Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to lead a statewide effort to reduce health disparities for people of color.

80s

Anne Page, BSN'80, was named treasurer of the Virginia Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses.



Elizabeth Goy Damato, BSN'81, is senior research physiologist at the Naval

Medical Research Unit—Dayton and associate professor at both the Case Western Reserve University School of Nursing and School of Medicine in Cleveland.

Pam Orebaugh Jones, BSN'81, MSN'92, DNP'13, was appointed to serve on the Vanderbilt University Public Health Advisory Task Force, formed in March 2020 as a resource during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Jim Pace, MSN'81, MDiv'88, was named dean of nursing and health sciences at Valdosta State University in Georgia. He started his new role on June 1, 2020.

Kathleen Woolridge Wolff, MSN'83, co-authored "The Partnership to Improve Diabetes Education Trial: A Cluster Randomized Trial Addressing Health Communication in Diabetes Care," published in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine* in January 2020.

Suzanne McMurtry Baird, BSN'84, MSN'95, co-authored "Statewide Quality Improvement Initiative to Implement Immediate Postpartum Long-acting Reversible Contraception," published in the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* in April 2020. She is a director on the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses board.

Debbie Dunn Gregory, MSN'84, was featured in the Johnson & Johnson *Notes on Nursing* newsletter in November 2019 for her work in innovative clinical models and the founding of the Nursing Institute for Healthcare Design.

90s

Teresa Knoop, MSN'90, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Oncology Nursing Society in March 2020. She is assistant director of clinical operations for the clinical trials office at Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center.

Beth Towery Davidson, MSN'91, was named president of the American Association of Heart Failure Nurses for 2019–20. She is director of the heart failure disease management program at TriStar Centennial Medical Center in Nashville.

Nicole Herndon, MSN'92, DNP'13, is in her second elected term as Tennessee state chair of the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses. She is corporate senior director of women and children service lines at Community Health Systems in Franklin, Tennessee.



Pearl Bransford, MSN'93, is an alderman at large for Franklin, Tennessee.

Geri Reeves, MSN'93, was interviewed by *Prevention* in March 2020 for an article about shortness of breath, anxiety and the coronavirus.

Kelly Ambrosi Wolgast, MSN'93, was editor of the March 2020 edition of *Nursing Clinics of North America—Building Innovative Nurse Leaders at the Point of Care*.

Alyce Goodman Abraham, MSN'95, received the 2020 American Association of Nurse Practitioner State Award for Excellence for Kentucky. She is a nurse practitioner with University of Louisville Physicians—Urogynecology.

Wendy Johnson Araya, MSN'96, DNP'12, co-authored "Assessing and Addressing Practitioner Burnout: Results from an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Health and Well-being Study," published in November 2019 in the *Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners*.

Chris Marcou Eighmey, MSN'96, is an instructor of pediatric surgery at the Oregon Health and Science University School of Medicine in Portland.

Anthony Lathrop, BA'87, MSN'96, PMC'97, is a certified nurse-midwife in Indianapolis.

Deana Morgan Clapper, MSN'97, was featured in *The Tennessean* in January 2020 in a story about the Donate Life Rose Parade float. She is associate executive director of Tennessee Donor Services.

Stephanie DeVane-Johnson, MSN'97, was named Public Health Nursing Researcher of the Week in February 2020 by the American Public Health Association—Public Health Nursing for her work establishing community partnerships and infant feeding choices in Black communities in Nashville.

Jenny Hannagan Kim, MSN'97, is treasurer of the Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association.

Rene Love, MSN'98, DNP'10, PMC'12, was named associate dean for academic affairs—graduate clinical education at the University of Florida College of Nursing, starting in February 2020.

Leah Barker Moynihan, MSN'98, is a nurse practitioner specializing in urogynecology at Women & Infants Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island.

Marcia Spear Barnes, MSN'99, DNP'10, edited *Skin Grafts: Indications, Applications and Current Research*, published by IntechOpen in 2011. To date, over 144,000 chapters have been downloaded globally.

Brenda Truman Pun, MSN'99, co-authored "Monitoring for Delirium in Critically Ill Adults," published by *Delirium* in February 2020.

Kristin Brandt Stovern, MSN'99, is a nurse practitioner specializing in obstetrics and gynecology at Mercy Hospital in Joplin, Missouri.

Jennifer Ezell Wilbeck, MSN'99, PMC'06, was interviewed by *Prevention* in March 2020 regarding fever and COVID-19.

00s

Patrick Palmieri, MSN'00, was promoted to vice chancellor for research at the Universidad Norbert Wiener in Lima, Peru, where he had served as dean of the school of nursing.

Sarah Streibig Wray, BA'98, MSN'00, co-authored "Transforming a Face-to-Face Legacy Intervention to a Web-based Legacy Intervention for Children with Advanced Cancer," published in the *Journal of Hospice & Palliative Nursing* in February 2020.

Monica Deshpande, BS'95, MSN'01, is a nurse practitioner and instructor of otolaryngology at the Oregon Health and Science University School of Medicine in Portland.

Ashley McFarland, MSN'01, is the owner of Ashley McFarland Aesthetics in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Colleen Reilly Moss, BS'00, MSN'01, completed her doctor of nursing practice at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in December.



Heather Quaille, MSN'01, is a member of the Board of Directors of Nurse

Practitioners in Women's Health. She is chief executive officer, founder and clinical director of Qubed Health Services LLC; her son, Chandler, plans to attend Vanderbilt University as a Chancellor Scholar in fall 2020.

Allyson Hilton Yanni, MSN'01, joined the Lake Norman Medical Group in Mooresville, North Carolina, as an adult nurse practitioner in neurology/neuro-ophthalmology in February 2020.

Randi Singer, MSN'04, received a faculty fellowship from the Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy in December 2019 for her studies on how Black sex workers protect their health and prevent HIV. She is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Women, Children and Family Health Science at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing.

Alison Anderson, MSN'05, co-authored "Neuroimaging Methods for Nursing Science," published in December 2019 in *Nursing Research*. She is working on her PhD at Vanderbilt.

April Kapu, MSN'05, DNP'13, was elected president-elect of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners in April. She received a Society of Critical Care Medicine Presidential Citation in February.

Carrie Plummer, MSN'05, was showcased in the December 2019 Nashville Public Television documentary, *Companionship & Intimacy: Aging Matters*. She provided information about intimacy and health for older adults.

Carol Ziegler, MSN'06, DNP'12, was appointed to the Vanderbilt University Sustainability Advisory Council in February 2020.

Andrea Boohaker, MSN'07, is lead advanced practice provider in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she autonomously evaluates and treats upper extremity trauma injuries, supervises 12 providers and serves on several executive committees to advocate for advanced practice providers across the UAB system.

Diane Johnson, MSN'07, was mentioned in a January 2020 *Overton County News* story about Vanderbilt researchers studying noise levels during critical times of surgery, and the impact on patient safety and employee well-being.

Jessica Van Meter, MSN'07, DNP'15, was a panelist for the VUSN DNP Know Your Value program in January 2020. She is a flight nurse at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, VUSN instructor, and director of the bachelor's program in emergency nursing at Georgetown Public Hospital Corp. in Guyana.

Lisa Garwood, MSN'08, is a nurse practitioner at Mid-State Gastroenterology in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Courtney Young Pitts, MSN'09, DNP'11, was interviewed in February 2020 by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* about two Health Resources and Services Administration grants received by VUSN to grow the number of nurse practitioners in rural, underserved areas that lack primary care providers.

Jannyse Starks, MSN'09, DNP'11, shared the 2020 Martin Luther King Jr. Award, presented by VUSN and Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, with Tamika Hudson, MSN'12, for their work educating students, faculty and staff about the effects of poverty on health. Rolanda Johnson, PhD'98, presented the award.

10s

Carrie Harland Donnell, BA'05, MSN'10, co-authored "Building a Safe and Healthy America: Eliminating Corporal Punishment via Positive Parenting," published in the March–April 2020 issue of the *Journal of Pediatric Health*.

Katy Hansen, MSN'10, was featured in the March 2020 issue of *VUMC Voice* about telehealth during the COVID-19 crisis. Hansen is a PhD student at

Vanderbilt and nurse practitioner at the Vanderbilt Osher Center for Integrative Medicine.

Michele Hasselblad, MSN'10, served as a panelist for the VUSN MSN Know Your Value program in January 2020. She is vice president of adult ambulatory nursing at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Patty Sengstack, DNP'10, answered questions about informatics as guest editor of *It Takes a Nurse* for one week in February 2020. The Facebook community is an outreach effort of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



Mark Graves, MSN'11, is a nurse practitioner at Rainy Lake Medical Center

in International Falls, Minnesota, where his scope of practice is primary, emergency and inpatient care for a remote and rural critical access hospital.

Michelle Irwin, MSN'11, is assistant in medicine at Piedmont Atlanta Hospital, specializing in pulmonary and critical care medicine.

Cathy Ivory, PhD'11, was interviewed on the *Healthcare's Missing Logic* podcast, Episode 29: "The Tension between Technology and Practice: Where We Started, Where We Are Now and What's at Risk without Both/And Choices."

Tara Mudd, MSN'11, was featured in a Norton Healthcare story about using Apple watches to detect irregular heartbeats. She is a nurse practitioner at the Norton Heart and Vascular Institute Atrial Fibrillation Clinic in Louisville, Kentucky.

Ken Nelson, MSN'11, DNP'13, was interviewed in January 2020 by WFRV–Green Bay about the early stages of coronavirus in the United States. He served as moderator for the VUSN DNP Know Your Value program in January and is chief nursing officer at both HSHS St. Vincent and St. Mary Hospitals in Green Bay, Wisconsin.



Douglas Smith, MSN'11, was selected for the *American Journal of Critical Care* Junior Peer Reviewer program in February 2020.

Malinda Rivas, MSN'11, is an adult nurse practitioner at Murfreesboro Medical Clinic and Surgery Center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Chance Allen, MSN'12, and his wife welcomed a baby in February 2020.

Asa Briggs, MSN'12, testified before the Council of the District of Columbia Committee on Health in support of the District of Columbia Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Act of 2019. He recently became program director of rural psychiatric services for Prisma Health (formerly Greenville Hospital Center) in South Carolina.

Megan Childers, MSN'12, is a nurse practitioner at the Comprehensive Pain and Neurology Center in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Tamika Hudson, MSN'12, shared the 2020 Martin Luther King Jr. Award, presented by VUSN and Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, with Jannyse Starks, MSN'09, DNP'11, for their work educating students, faculty and staff about the effects of poverty on health. Rolanda Johnson, PhD'98, presented the award.

Erin Kyle, MSN'12, DNP'14, was promoted to editor-in-chief of *Guidelines for Perioperative Practice*, a publication of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses.

Cathy Maxwell, PhD'12, was featured in a December 2019 interview in the *Tennessee Tribune* about the comprehensive handbook she wrote about aging called *Aging & Injury*.

Joanna Nolte, MSN'12, received the Florida Gateway College 2020–21 Nursing and Health Sciences Faculty of the Year Award. She started RenewNow CE, an online continuing education company for nursing nationally accredited by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, and is a volunteer with Helping Hands, a clinic for the uninsured and homeless in Gainesville.

Randy Smith, MSN'12, completed his doctor of nursing practice at the University of South Alabama in December 2019.

Pamela Bruce, MSN'13, DNP'15, was a panelist for the VUSN DNP Know Your Value program in January 2020. She is director of quality and clinical transformation for Vanderbilt Health Affiliated Network.

Rachel Kromer, MSN'13, co-authored "Imagining an Orientation Built on Trust," published in the January/February 2020 issue of the *Journal for Nurses in Professional Development*.

Lauren Barber Shurson, MSN'13, is a clinical assistant professor at the University of Arizona College of Nursing.



Liz Munoz, MSN'13, was featured by the *Nashville Scene* in January 2020 for a story about the Vanderbilt Volunteer Doula Program she and VUSN faculty started when she was a student. Munoz is the program's nurse-midwifery liaison and is pursuing her doctor of nursing practice at Vanderbilt.

Meredith Stringer, MSN'13, is a nurse practitioner in the neurosurgery section of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and an instructor in surgery at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, both in Lebanon, New Hampshire.

Holly Cline, MSN'14, was a panelist for the VUSN MSN Know Your Value program in January 2020. She is an adult nurse practitioner at Neighborhood Health in Nashville.

Mira Desai, MSN'14, is a nurse practitioner at Oak Street Health, where she provides primary care for the geriatric population of an underserved area on the south side of Chicago.

Brittany Hollibaugh Haskell, MSN'14, was featured in February 2020 on the Vanderbilt Center for Teaching website in its Junior Faculty Spotlight.

Christian Ketel, DNP'14, was a panelist for the VUSN DNP Know Your Value program in January 2020. He is clinical manager of the Clinic at Mercury Courts in Nashville and assistant professor at VUSN.

Hannah Carroll Lowe, MSN'14, moderated the VUSN MSN Know Your Value program in January 2020. She is a nurse practitioner in Huntsville, Alabama.

Buffy Lupear, DNP'14, was mentioned in a January 2020 *Overton County News* story about Vanderbilt researchers studying noise levels during critical times of surgery, and the impact on patient safety and employee well-being. She also co-authored "Assessing and

Addressing Practitioner Burnout: Results from an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Health and Well-being Study," published in November 2019 in the *Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners*.

Stefanie Porter, MSN'14, was interviewed in February 2020 by *My Southern Health* for the article "What to Expect from Cardiac Rehab." She is a cardiac surgery nurse practitioner at the Vanderbilt Heart and Vascular Institute.

Sam Younger, MSN'14, accepted a position as a director at Claro Healthcare where he manages a team responsible for clinical performance improvement in hospitals across the country. He wrote "Leveraging Advanced Practice Nursing in Complex Health Care Systems," published in the April/June 2020 issue of *Nursing Administration Quarterly*.

Stefani Davis Yudasz, MSN'14, DNP'16, and her husband welcomed a baby in March 2020.

Danielle Boudreaux, MSN'15, co-authored "Building a Safe and Healthy America: Eliminating Corporal Punishment via Positive Parenting," published in the March/April 2020 issue of the *Journal of Pediatric Health*.

Desiree Clement, PMC'15, DNP'17, was named family nurse practitioner specialty director at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University in Atlanta in January 2020, where she is an assistant professor. She volunteers as a primary and women's health care clinician at Clarkston Community Health Center, serving an uninsured and large multilingual immigrant population.

Gordon Gillespie, DNP'15, is a director on the Emergency Nurses Association board.

Elisha Hill, DNP'15, was a panelist for the VUSN DNP Know Your Value program in January 2020. She is the owner of the Better You Spa and an associate professor of nursing at Union University, both in Hendersonville, Tennessee.

Jessica Walker, MSN'15, DNP'17, received a 2019 Early Career Professional Scholarship from the Beck Institute, and was appointed co-chair of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association's Practice Council. Walker is an assistant in psychiatry and behavioral sciences in Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Homeless Health Services.

Christina Cardy, MSN'16, DNP'17, is director of advanced practice providers at University of South Florida Health in Tampa.

Kara Gordon Earthman, MSN'16, and Carter Harrison Tucker Jr. were married in October 2019.

Lisa Heap, MSN'16, is a family nurse practitioner at the Oregon Medical Group Internal Medicine Clinic in Eugene.

Shannan Cantu Santoli, MSN'16, is a certified nurse-midwife at Ascension Wisconsin in Glendale.

Kendra Osborn Delaney, BA'15, MSN'17, was a panelist for the VUSN MSN Know Your Value program in January 2020. She is pursuing her PhD at Vanderbilt and practicing as a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner at Sterling Primary Care in Nashville.

Shannon Ellrich, MSN'17, was featured in a March 2020 story in *The Tennessean* explaining how she and another Vanderbilt University Medical Center nurse practitioner created and are managing COVID-19 assessment sites for VUMC. Ellrich is a current doctor of nursing practice student at VUSN.

Beth McCraw, DNP'17, is vice president of nursing and clinical services at Jennie Stuart Medical Center in Hopkinsville, Kentucky, where she leads the nonprofit, acute care community hospital's nursing and clinical administration.

Alexandra Moran, MSN'17, co-authored "Incorporating a Nurse Practitioner into a Vascular Medicine Program," published in *Vascular Medicine* in October 2019. She is pursuing her doctor of nursing practice at VUSN.

Jennifer Shelby, MSN'17, DNP'18, is a nurse practitioner at Women's Health Specialists in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Caleb Cochran, MSN'18, is an emergency medical technician and flight nurse for Vanderbilt LifeFlight.

Nhan Dinh, MSN'18, is a certified nurse practitioner/specialty provider at University of New Mexico Hospitals in Albuquerque.

Brooke Faught, DNP'18, was featured as a panelist for the Nashville Public Television documentary *Companionship & Intimacy: Aging Matters*, which aired in December 2019.

Eric Hall, MSN'18, joined VUSN in early 2020 as a simulation lab nurse.

Lindsay Johnson-Bishop, MSN'18, co-authored "Comparison of Hickman versus Proline Central Venous Catheters in Pediatric Patients Undergoing Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant," published by *Biology of Blood and Marrow Transplantation* in March 2020. She is pursuing her doctor of nursing practice at VUSN.

Jamie Powers, MSN'18, is a nurse practitioner at Graves Gilbert Clinic in Bowling Green, Kentucky, where she cares for mainly adult and gerontology patients.

Jennifer Rice, MSN'18, is a palliative care and hospice nurse practitioner at the Hospice of West Tennessee in Jackson. She is the first and only nurse practitioner to hold this position in the West Tennessee Healthcare system.

Grace Underhill, BA'17, MSN'18, is a pediatric nurse practitioner at Covenant Care Pediatrics in Atlanta.

Erica Choi, BA'16, MSN'19, co-authored "A Case for Cultural Awareness," published in the February issue of *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*.



Gy Choi, MSN'19, is a family nurse practitioner at Urban Health Plan, a federally qualified health

center in the Bronx and Queens areas of New York, serving low-income, undocumented immigrants, predominantly from Central and South America.

Lorne Schwartz, MSN'19, is a nurse practitioner at Dr. Hasemeier and Associates in Tennessee.

Charlotte Van Cleve, MSN'19, co-authored "Implementation of a Collaborative Smoking Cessation Referral Process in a Psychiatric Setting," published in the *Journal for Interprofessional Education & Practice* in March 2020.

Jennifer Werthman, PhD'19, co-authored "The Administration of Moderate Sedation and the Role of the Radiology Nurse," published in January 2020 by the *Journal of Radiology Nursing*.

Julie Witte, MSN'19, is a women's health nurse practitioner at PrivaMD in Grand Haven, Michigan.

IN MEMORIAM

Frances Upton Cooper, BSN'53, of Lexington, Kentucky, Feb. 20, 2020.

Ernestine Nance Newman, BSN'53, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, Feb. 24, 2020.

Ruth Puckett Speirer, BSN'54, of New Orleans, Nov. 26, 2019.

Ellen Jones Tenney, BSN'65, of Grand Haven, Michigan, Jan. 29, 2020.

Ann Baile Hamric, BSN'70, of Richmond, Virginia, Feb. 9, 2020. She was recognized during VUSN's centennial celebration as one of the school's Top 100 leaders.

Becky Moreland Hoffmeister, N'75, of St. Petersburg, Florida, Jan. 28, 2020.

Maria Rapert Lanners, MSN'87, of Dassel, Minnesota, Jan. 31, 2020.

Robert Hudson, MSN'95, of Poplar Bluff, Missouri, Jan. 14, 2020.

Susan Mogan, MSN'11, of Nashville, Jan. 9, 2020.



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