

FALL 2018

vanderbiltnurse



## The DNP Advantage

Alumni in leadership share how the doctoral degree unlocks opportunities

ROBERT C. BLAKEY, MSN'95, DNP'10

**Yearbook entry:**

Sigma Theta Tau, VA scholarship

**LinkedIn profile:**

Retired nurse practitioner from Murfreesboro VA Urology Service, first career as a planner with the Tennessee Department of Transportation

**Next item on bucket list:**

Exploring national parks in the American West by horseback

**Bob's plan for Vanderbilt:**

A charitable remainder unitrust that provides financial security for Bob and his wife now and establishes the Dr. Robert C. Blakey, DNP Scholarship in the future



**Make your plan for Vanderbilt's future today.  
Visit [vu.edu/plannedgiving](http://vu.edu/plannedgiving) or call (888) 758-1999.**



VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY®

**Editor**

Nancy Wise

**Design and Art Direction**

Diana Duren

**Director of Publications**

Kathy Whitney

**Contributing Writers**

Jill Clendening  
Jessica Pasley  
Deborah Settles  
Betsey Usher

**Making an Impact**

Stacy Black  
Beth Donaghey  
John Norfleet

**Photography/Illustration**

Susan Andrews  
Steve Green  
Hastings Inc.  
Joe Howell  
Erin Rodgers  
John Russell  
Anne Rayner  
Shelza Rivas  
Susan Urmy

**Web**

Megan Clancy  
Diana Duren

**Cover Illustration**

Getty Images

**Editorial Office**

Communications  
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing  
461 21st Ave. S., 117 Godchaux Hall  
Nashville, TN 37240

**VUSN Alumni Office and Association**

[vusn-alumninursing@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vusn-alumninursing@vanderbilt.edu)  
Betsey Usher, Director, Alumni Relations  
[betsey.usher@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:betsey.usher@vanderbilt.edu)  
461 21st Avenue S.  
Nashville, Tennessee 37240  
(615) 322-4836

The *Vanderbilt Nurse* is published twice a year by the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in cooperation with the VUMC Office of News and Communications. The editor welcomes comments from readers at:

*Vanderbilt Nurse* Editor  
461 21st Ave. S. Nashville, Tennessee, 37240  
Email: [vunurse.magazine@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vunurse.magazine@vanderbilt.edu)

Vanderbilt University is committed to principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action.

© 2018 Vanderbilt University



SCHOOL OF NURSING  
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

MISSION AND VALUES  
STATEMENT

We value excellence and innovation in preserving and advancing the art and science of nursing in the scholarly domains of education, research, practice and informatics. These values are pursued through the integration of information technology and faculty-student interactions and transactions, while embracing cultural and academic diversity.



**The DNP Advantage 10**  
Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees help leaders gain knowledge and responsibility

# vanderbiltnurse

FALL 18 CONTENTS

## features

**7 Put It in Writing and Make Your Wishes Known**  
Nursing and Law students help seniors tackle end-of-life decisions

**10 The DNP Advantage**  
Alumni in leadership share how the doctoral degree unlocks opportunities

**22 Evolution of the Emergency Nurse Practitioner**  
Jennifer Wilbeck blazed a direct educational path and certification for ENPs

**26 New School of Nursing Building Designed with Health in Mind**  
All's WELL with soon-to-open facility

**28 Four Gifts, One Purpose**  
New building inspires support of VUSN's mission

**30 Making an Impact**  
An annual look at faculty and student achievements, honors and publications

## make connections@vusn

Log on to *Vanderbilt Nurse* online to learn more and make comments on any of the stories in this issue at [vanderbilt.edu/vanderbiltnurse](http://vanderbilt.edu/vanderbiltnurse)

We want to reach out to you. Pick one or all of the ways below to stay in touch with your classmates, faculty and school:



[facebook.com/vanderbiltsof nursing](https://facebook.com/vanderbiltsof nursing)



[twitter.com/vanderbiltnurse](https://twitter.com/vanderbiltnurse)



[pinterest.com/vusn](https://pinterest.com/vusn)



[instagram.com/vusn#](https://instagram.com/vusn#)



Submit your email address to [vusn-alumninursing@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vusn-alumninursing@vanderbilt.edu) so we can send you monthly electronic updates.

A Vanderbilt network of alumni, students and friends worldwide.  
**VUCONNECT**  
an online community. Are you connected?  
[vuconnect.com](http://vuconnect.com)

## departments

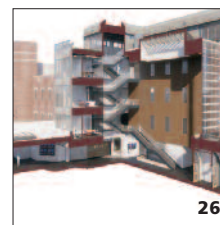
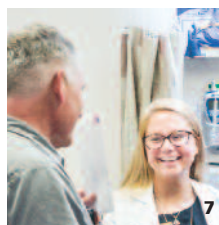
**2 Message from the Dean**  
Looking back, looking ahead

**3 By the Numbers**  
Celebrating 25 years of PhDs

**4 News Around the School**  
The latest on activities, events and accomplishments

**38 Class Notes**  
Promotions, achievements, moves, marriages, babies and other passages

**42 Photo Gallery**  
Making a world of difference a continent away



Dear alumni, colleagues and supporters,

A few weeks ago, we welcomed a wonderful and excited group of new students to the Vanderbilt School of Nursing and said “welcome back” to an equally wonderful and enthusiastic group of returning MSN, Post-Master’s, DNP and PhD students. Altogether, more than 800 students selected VUSN for their nursing education this year. We’re proud to be the choice of so many talented students and thank you for the role you, our alumni and friends, have played in our reputation and recruitment.



As we began this new year, I talked to our campus community about the School of Nursing’s core culture and our commitment to being a school where inclusion, equity and diversity guide our teaching, discovery, practice and work. As nurses, we are used to working collectively to help patients; those skills transfer in many ways to help shape VUSN’s collaborative and welcoming culture. We know that there is much to be learned from others’ experiences and opinions, and we respect and welcome diverse viewpoints.

On page 4 of this *Vanderbilt Nurse*, you’ll find the School of Nursing’s official statement of equity, diversity and inclusion. We adopted it earlier this year and are committed to developing and fostering a culture in our school that includes everyone, treats all with respect, embraces diversity and supports the plurality of humanity.

Elsewhere in this issue, you’ll read about our much-anticipated new building addition, scheduled for completion in just a few weeks. It will be good to have all of VUSN’s specialties and people in a contiguous physical location on campus. Being together will support community and collaboration, two characteristics for which VUSN has long been known.

Another reason I’m looking forward to opening the addition is that it will allow us to expand facilities for our faculty research endeavors. As people move into the new space, we will renovate areas in Mary Ragland Godchaux Hall to support one of our key strategic initiatives: research and discovery that will improve health care, nursing education and the practice of nursing worldwide.

Some of those discoveries are already happening. This issue contains our annual “Making an Impact” report, highlighting some of our faculty and students’ publication in journals such as *PLOS One*, *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, the *Journal of Nursing Education* and the *American Journal of Critical Care*. It also contains a list of awards, appointments and books published, and introduces new faculty and currently funded grants and contracts.

The issue also focuses on some milestones. This fall, we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the launch of our PhD in Nursing Science program. See “By the Numbers” on page 3 for accomplishments and a look back. We’re also commemorating the 10th anniversary of the creation of our Emergency Nurse Practitioner program. The feature on page 22 follows its development by alumna and faculty member Jennifer Wilbeck, who has been instrumental in the growth of the specialty nationwide.

Our cover article, “The DNP Advantage,” spotlights eight accomplished and notable graduates of our Doctor in Nursing Practice program. These alumni — chief nursing officers, vice presidents, directors, an associate dean and a chief nursing informatics officer — share why they chose to pursue a DNP and how having a doctoral degree has helped them grow in knowledge and responsibility. Each of these alumni is a strong leader and advocate for evidence-based solutions. They are transformative change agents in their workplaces and are improving health care on local and national levels. Their stories start on page 10.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Norman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "N".

Linda Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN  
 Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing  
 Dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing  
[linda.norman@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:linda.norman@vanderbilt.edu)

# 25 years of PhDs

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing 1993-2018



## 1992

Katharyn A. May, DNSc, named chair of doctoral program planning committee

VUSN receives \$150,000 from U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services to start PhD in Nursing Science program

PhD program receives unanimous approval from Vanderbilt University Graduate School, Faculty Senate, Chancellor Joe B. Wyatt and Board of Trust



## 2006

Health Science Research & Clinical Research specialty tracks created

## 2007

Blended distance learning format combining block and intensive coursework introduced

## 2011

PhD candidate defends her dissertation via video conferencing – Lt. Col. Linda Fisher, on active duty with the Army Nurse Corps



## 1993

First class admitted – six students in inaugural class



## 1997

First graduate: Kuei-Ru Chou



First black PhD graduate: Rolanda Johnson, now VUSN assistant dean for diversity and inclusion

## 1998

## 2004

Fast Track option allows potential students to apply to MSN and PhD programs simultaneously



## 2018

As of May 11, 2018, program has graduated 61 PhDs

Fall student enrollment — 33

ERIN RODGERS



From left, Brionne Williams, MSN'17; Abisola "Abi" Ibrahim, MSN'17; Jessica McMillan, DNP'18, MSN'16, BA'13; LaToya Hopkins, MSN'17, and Ralphine Whitfield-Walton, MSN'17, at their Sigma Theta Tau induction.

## School of Nursing announces official diversity and inclusion position statement

**T**he School of Nursing adopted a new diversity and inclusion statement that specifies its dedication to the equity, diversity and inclusion of all students, faculty and staff and proclaims its responsibilities as an educational institution to foster and graduate highly educated and culturally sensitive health care professionals.

The statement was developed by a diversity and inclusion task force set up in 2017 and approved by the school's executive committee in mid-January.

The task force was chaired by Assistant Professor Geri Reeves, PhD, MSN'93. "Writing the diversity and inclusivity statement was the collective effort of a diverse group of individuals representing faculty, staff and students," Reeves said. "Our hope is that the statement will be a written reminder of our common humanity and need for each other."

Dean and Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing Linda Norman, DSN, FAAN, said she welcomed the statement and thanked the group for its work.

"It's important that we as educators proclaim our belief in the value of all people and the need for inclusion, diversity and equity," she said. "Our society is richer — we are richer — when we learn from and work with people who bring experiences and perspectives different than our own. I hope this statement communicates to future and current students, faculty and staff that we need their diversity and welcome them here at VUSN."

.....

### VUSN's diversity and inclusivity statement:

*At Vanderbilt University School of Nursing we are intentional about, and assume accountability for, fostering advancement and respect for equity, diversity and inclusion for all students, faculty and staff. We support our efforts with respect for the inherent dignity, worth and unique attributes of every person. To bring to life our vision of inclusive excellence, we seek to recruit, admit, hire, retain, promote and support diverse and underrepresented groups of students, staff and faculty. We value social justice and human rights. We embrace the plurality of humanity that composes our community including, but not limited to, age, race, ethnic origin, gender identity, sexual orientation and religion. We affirm the inherent worth of each individual in order to protect, promote and optimize the health and abilities of all people. As educators of advanced practice nurses, nurse scholars, nurse leaders and nurse faculty, we accept the responsibility to foster and graduate highly educated, culturally sensitive health care professionals who mirror the diverse populations they serve.*

## VUSN rises in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2019 graduate school rankings

Vanderbilt University School of Nursing has again been named one of the nation's "Best Graduate Schools" in the annual *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. The school's Master of Nursing Science program moved up to No. 14 from No. 15 and its Doctor of Nursing Practice program continued as the No. 11-ranked DNP in the United States.

Additionally, six of VUSN's specialties were ranked. All six of them were named to the nation's Top 10. The school's Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specialties were ranked the No. 2.

The Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner specialty rose to No. 3 from No. 7, tied with Duke University and Johns Hopkins University. Informatics rose to No. 3 from No. 4; Family Nurse Practitioner rose to No. 5 from No. 6; and Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner was ranked at No. 8.

Dean Linda D. Norman, DSN, FAAN, the Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing, said that while the rankings are gratifying, they reflect only a small portion of the School of Nursing's impact. "A strong indicator of VUSN's true value comes every May, August and December, when our students finish their programs and take their places as practice-ready professionals or nurse scholars focused on making a difference in health care and for patients everywhere," she said.

The *US NWR* data comes from statistical surveys sent to administrators of 552 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 10 schools offering the best programs in each specialty area. The surveys and assessments were conducted in fall 2017 and early 2018.



JOHN RUSSELL

Left, PreSpecialty students Mary Enriquez, BS'17, and Holly Kosir, BA'13, both enrolled in Vanderbilt's Master of Science in Nursing program after earning Vanderbilt undergraduate degrees. The school's MSN program is ranked No. 14 in the United States.

## Vanderbilt awards endowed chairs to two nursing professors



Kleinpell



Piano

Two Vanderbilt University School of Nursing professors have been named to endowed chairs, the highest honor Vanderbilt University awards its faculty.

Ruth Kleinpell, PhD, FAAN, FAANP, FCCM, received the Independence Foundation Chair in Nursing Education. Kleinpell, an internationally recognized researcher and educator, serves as VUSN's assistant dean for clinical scholarship. She directs the school's Scholarly Practice Program, focusing on support of clinical teaching faculty in scholarship initiatives and scholarly clinical excellence. Her research interests include telemedicine, ICU nursing care, elder care and outcome assessment, as well as advancing faculty and clinical scholarship.

Mariann R. Piano, PhD, FAAN, FAHA, received the Nancy and Hilliard Travis Chair in Nursing. Piano is the senior associate dean for research and postdoctoral fellowship director. She leads the School of Nursing's research program, responsible for supporting faculty scholarly endeavors, expanding the school's research function and directing efforts to increase external funding. Piano is a distinguished researcher in cardiovascular disease and an expert on the effects of binge drinking on young adults.

## Vanderbilt graduates its largest class of DNP students

May's Commencement marked a milestone for the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing when it awarded 73 Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degrees, the greatest number since the program began in 2008. The school also awarded the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree to 326 graduates during the investiture ceremonies on Branscomb Quadrangle. An additional six nursing students received their PhD in Nursing Science degrees in separate ceremonies held by the Graduate School.

VUSN Dean Linda D. Norman, DSN, FAAN, told the assembled graduates that

when she looked at them, she saw excellence and the bright, dedicated future of health care.

"I see students whose care of patients made a difference in those patients' lives. I see campus leaders and passionate volunteers. I see students who worked while going to school, studying and raising families. I see students whose evidence-based scholarship is already improving patient care," said Norman, the Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing. "You did all of that while achieving in academically challenging courses and rigorous clinical practice. Vanderbilt is proud of you, and we look forward to what comes next in



SUSAN URMY

*Class of 2018 Master of Science in Nursing students process onto Alumni Lawn for the university's overall Commencement ceremonies.*

your professional journeys."

Because VUSN students finish their programs at different times of the year, some graduates have already begun those journeys. This year's

investiture ceremonies honored those who completed their educations in August 2017, December 2017 and May 2018.

## Gilmer's research about dogs helping children with cancer goes global, thanks to CNN

A CNN video featuring Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Professor Mary Jo Gilmer, PhD, FAAN, and her research on the effectiveness of animal-assisted interactions for children with cancer has had worldwide reach. The story showcased Swoosh, a therapy dog at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, and two boys he helped through cancer treatments.

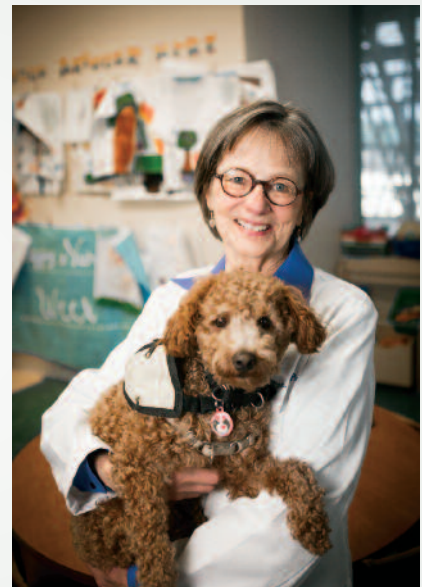
When CNN posted the video to its Facebook page, it initially received 242,000 views. Subsequent reposts led to the video being seen more than 1.52 million times on Facebook alone. It was also featured on CNN's international Facebook page and its Twitter feed.

Gilmer was Vanderbilt's principal investigator on a multisite study that found animal-assisted interventions may be beneficial for parents and families during pediatric cancer treat-

ment. "Measuring the Effects of an Animal-Assisted Intervention for Pediatric Oncology Patients and Their Parents: A Multisite Randomized Controlled Trial," co-authored by Gilmer, was published in the *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing*.

The Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt was one of five pediatric hospitals in the study. Vanderbilt co-investigators include Terrah Foster Akard, PhD'08, MSN'01, FAAN, associate professor of Nursing, and Debra Friedman, MD, E. Bronson Ingram Professor of Pediatric Oncology, and director of Hematology/Oncology at Children's Hospital.

The study was sponsored by American Humane, with funding from the nonprofit Human-Animal Bond Research Institute and Zoetis, a global animal health company.



SUSAN URMY

*Mary Jo Gilmer with therapy dog Annabelle. Gilmer's research on the effectiveness of animal-assisted interactions with children with cancer was a top story on CNN.*



Vanderbilt Law School student Jenae Ward, left, and Vanderbilt University School of Nursing student Breanna Baraff, right, discuss advance directive materials with patient Leona Campbell. Baraff receives VUSN's Helen Tanley Alford Scholarship.



SUSAN URMV

## Put it in writing and make your wishes known

*Nursing and Law students help seniors tackle tough end-of-life decisions*

BY NANCY WISE

**M**any nurses have been there. They've provided information and support while distraught family members tried to decide what their loved ones would want in terms of end-of-life care when they couldn't decide for themselves.

Some have been part of an intense, fast-moving team working to save a terminally ill patient's life after she coded. Others have had to explain to a patient about to undergo surgery why he needed to designate someone to make care decisions if he couldn't make them for himself.

How much better it would be if patients had advance care plans — living wills, durable powers of attorney for health care, medical directives — so that their personal wishes could be known.

A team of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing students and Vanderbilt Law School students are working to make that happen.

The Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic project allows older adults who need advance care plans and health care/financial power of attorney documents to get them easily and free of charge. The partnership utilizes teams of nursing and law students to introduce the sometimes-challenging topic of advance care directives to patients at the Vanderbilt Senior Care Clinic run by James Powers, MD.

## Inside the hospital clinic

The student teams meet with seniors at the clinic before or after patients' medical appointments. They provide information and assistance in creating the medical and legal documents needed to assure that the patients' wishes are known and carried out if needed in the future. The senior care outpatient clinic provides in-kind office space for the medical-legal clinic, ensuring the patients have access to private, face-to-face counseling sessions.

School of Nursing Assistant Professor Carrie Plummer, PhD, MSN'05, established the program, which is funded by a grant from Nashville's West End Home Foundation. She directs it and oversees the nursing students' involvement.

"A 2017 study found that less than a third of adult Tennesseans surveyed reported having an advance directive or power of attorney paperwork completed," Plummer said. "At the same time, the majority of health care providers are not comfortable initiating discussions with their patients about end-of-life decisions and/or feel that they don't have sufficient time to include these discussions in the primary care setting.

"This program gives nursing and law students the skills and experience to successfully engage and navigate these difficult discussions with patients while providing a much-needed service."

Vanderbilt Adjunct Professor of Law Anne-Marie Farmer, JD'03, supervises the law students. She said the program offers them a valuable opportunity to learn important practice skills that are difficult to teach in a traditional class setting. "This provides real-life experience in client interaction, particularly how to explain complex issues to clients who don't have a background in 'legalese' and for whom these concepts are unfamiliar and often avoided," Farmer said.

## Information first

The nursing students' participation is part of their yearlong Enhancing Community and Population Health (Community

## Less than one-third of adult Tennesseans have an advance directive or power of attorney paperwork completed.

Health) course. Fourteen PreSpecialty students designed and developed the program by reviewing best practices, researching existing evidence-based literature, conducting site visits and creating a HIPAA-compliant database for patient data. They also underwent an intensive five-week training on clinical skills for patient and caregiver discussions on advance directives, power of attorney, dementia, health literacy and patient education, end-of-life care and difficult discussions, adult protective services and elder abuse, and Medicare 101 and Medicare scams/fraud.

The law students participate in the project through the law school's Geriatric Clinic Medical Legal Partnership Practicum, which Farmer teaches. Before starting work at the clinic, the eight second-year students received classroom training on relevant substantive law, as well as coaching on skills such as client interviewing and counseling.

"As a nursing student discusses

advance medical care planning with a geriatric patient, the law student offers to explain the significance and impact of having springing powers of attorney, which would designate someone to handle financial matters if the patient becomes unable to handle their own affairs in the future," Farmer said, explaining that a springing POA 'springs' into effect only when the person becomes incapacitated. "It is essential that patients opting for a power of attorney document understand the breadth of authority they are granting to the person they designate.

"After this conversation, if the patient decides this is something they would like to utilize, the law student will draft the requested documents for the patient."

The students also encourage patients to discuss their wishes with their families and provide blank ACP forms in stamped, preaddressed envelopes so that the patients can mail them back to the clinic to be added to their electronic health records.

*Clockwise from bottom left, patients Joanne Sonnenblick and Steven Sonnenblick sign advance care directives after a discussion with Vanderbilt Law student Dean Balaes and Vanderbilt School of Nursing student Kaitlyn McGowan. Sara Weaver, of the Law School's Legal Clinic, waits to notarize the forms.*



SUSAN URMY

By documenting their personal wishes and preferences, patients assist their family and physicians' intense decision-making at what can be an emotional time. Advance care directives also ensure patient autonomy and dignity with medical care based on the patients' own choices.

### Peer partnerships

In preparation for talking to patients, the nursing students practiced by speaking to family members. "I have to say that my parents hated every moment of that conversation," said student Kaitlyn McGowan. "In the clinic, it was a different story. People appreciated that we were bringing up this important issue and many had already thought to some degree about what they wanted for care at the end of their life."

Farmer previously led a clinical course for Vanderbilt Law School students that was part of a medical-legal partnership program with Nashville's VA Hospital. "I believe this is the first partnership with the nursing school, and also the first one where legal services are provided onsite in the medical office rather than at the law school," she said.

McGowan says she appreciates being able to work with law students in a non-traditional interprofessional team. "Many of us are beginning our careers as young professionals and it is extremely important to learn how to collaborate with others outside of our specific domains," she said. "It was an exciting partnership."

Law student Dean Balaes, BA'15, sees the project as an opportunity to serve. Balaes, who receives the Keith-Glasgow Scholarship Fund in Law and the John and Susan Gorman Scholarship, says, "Everyone has exceptional needs. It is the job of lawyers and medical practitioners to listen and serve those individual needs. Otherwise, we risk being a source of harm rather than a source of aid."

"Individuals should not feel that their concerns will be dismissed," he continued. "The medical and legal partnership is a promising opportunity to fulfill this sense of service."



*Patient and VUMC employee Michael O'Donnell assures Vanderbilt Nursing student Mary Spitler that he will review and return the advance care directive she discussed with him. Spitler is a recipient of the Burrus Medical Scholarship for Nurses.*

The project's core audience is older adults for whom obtaining legal assistance in creating documentation would be a financial hardship. During the planning stage for the project, adult primary care clients at the Vanderbilt Senior Care Clinic were screened to assess eligibility. Those who met the program's criteria were sent informational letters explaining that the students would be available to talk with them at the patients' next clinic appointments.

### Patient response

Powers said that the clinic has both produced and increased awareness of advance directives in his patients. "We have seen a doubling of the prevalence of discussions regarding advance care planning among clinic patients," he said.

Plummer considers the program an aspect of nursing's holistic model of care. "Health is not just about diagnosing and treating disease, but also recognizing and addressing the patient's other social/environmental needs," she said. As an adult-geriatric nurse practitioner who has

worked with older adults across various health care settings, Plummer said she has seen many cases where patients' health has been affected by legal needs that they couldn't afford to address. She has also seen firsthand the challenges that occur when patients at end of life have not shared their wishes or set powers of attorney in place.

McGowan, who is studying to be a women's health and adult-geriatric primary care nurse practitioner, said she intends to have conversations about the importance of advance directives and power of attorney with all of her patients in the future. "I hope one day an advance directive becomes standard for every individual and that people feel empowered making decisions for their own end-of-life care before that time comes," she said.

This project was supported by Nashville's West End Home Foundation, whose mission is to enrich the lives of older adults through grantmaking, advocacy and community collaboration.

*April Kapu, one of eight School of Nursing alumni  
who talk about the DNP advantage in leadership*



# The DNP Advantage

Alumni in leadership share how the doctoral degree unlocks opportunities

**T**hey live and work across the U.S. — some in bustling cities, others in scenic mountain settings. Their backgrounds range from surgical nursing to labor and delivery. Some of them have decades of experience and others have less. One characteristic all these nurses have in common, however, is they knew that obtaining their doctor of nursing practice (DNP) degree would help them personally and professionally to be change agents in evidence-based nursing practice and leadership on all levels.

Meet eight of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing's more than 250 DNP graduates as they share how the DNP advantage has shaped their lives and careers.

BY JILL CLENDENING  
PHOTO BY JOHN RUSSELL

# W

hen Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

launched its Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program in 2008, school leaders hoped that, in addition to bringing valuable evidence-based knowledge to clinical settings, the degree program would also help many of its graduates move into significant roles of health care leadership.

The infusion of DNP-level nurses into leadership teams, the program’s developers believed, would positively fuel transformative change as the national health care landscape shifted toward better access to care, better quality of care and more affordable care.

Just 10 years later, Vanderbilt DNP alumni have overwhelmingly borne that out.

Among the School of Nursing’s 269 current DNP alumni are chief nursing officers, chief nursing informatics officers, academic deans, corporate leaders and advanced practice nurses at major health care networks. These individuals are earning well-deserved reputations as passionate change agents through their advocacy and adoption of evidence-based management practices and clinical care.

“In 2004, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) called for an educational framework to provide nurses with clinical care preparedness at the doctorate level,” said Linda D. Norman, DSN, FAAN, dean of the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing and Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing. She was the school’s senior associate academic dean at the time and oversaw the launch of VUSN’s DNP program just four years later in 2008.

“The DNP is a practice-focused degree that prepares advanced practice nurses to apply evidence-based knowledge to clinical practice and improve health outcomes for patients,” she said. “A DNP degree strengthens the authority of nurses with advanced degrees whether they lead complex care delivery or nursing education.”

### Think at the systems’ level

Although nurse executives and leaders are nothing new, DNP nurses have blazed new territory by developing and advocating innovative and evidence-based approaches to complex problems.

Terri Allison, DNP, ACNP-BC, FAANP, directs VUSN’s DNP program. She said that DNP-educated nurses have a



Terri Allison

reputation for being able to explore novel technologies and strategies to support safe and efficient patient care, all while maintaining a keen eye on the business aspect

of health care — the cost.

According to the AACN, there are 303 DNP programs currently enrolling students at schools of nursing nationwide, and an additional 124 new DNP programs are in the planning stages. Vanderbilt’s DNP program is the No. 11-ranked DNP program in the United States by *U.S. News & World Report*. VUSN’s inaugural class in 2008 registered 32 students. Today, the program has more than doubled, with incoming classes enrolling more than 70 students.

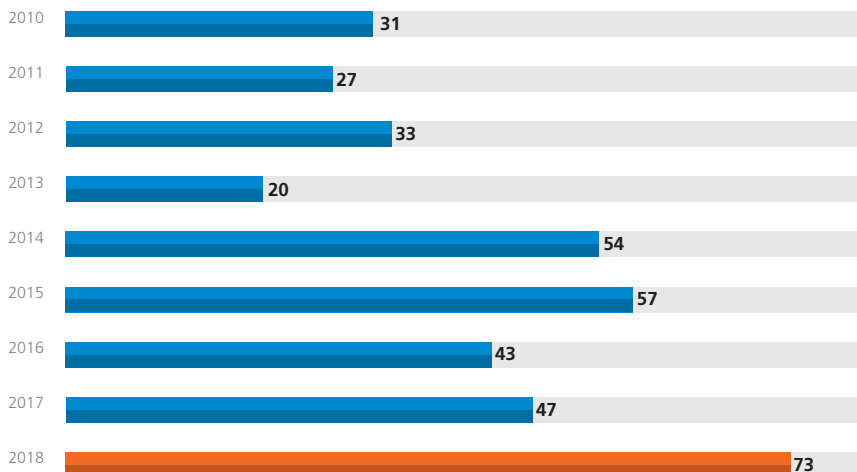
Vanderbilt DNP alumni — some already working in health care leadership roles or on a trajectory to their current positions when they enrolled in the program — overwhelmingly credit the completion of their DNP degrees for expanding their vision, deepening their knowledge, and giving them an undisputed seat at the table when it comes to making big picture decisions in health care.

“A doctorate is a thinking degree, so it changes how you think and how you view the world,” Allison said. “As a nurse practitioner, you know how to take care of patients, but completing a DNP program teaches a nurse to think at the systems’ level. You learn where all the parts fit together, what the resources are and what is needed to execute a plan.

“We’re seeing our graduates being hired for key leadership positions because executives at health care institutions throughout the United States clearly recognize the value of a DNP graduate, and the reputation of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing is well established,” she said. “When someone hires one of our graduates, they know they’re getting a quality individual, well-versed in applying the evidence to make positive change happen.”

### Growing popularity: Vanderbilt Doctor of Nursing Practice degree

No. of degrees awarded by year



Program growth since inception  
**235%**

Note: Enrollment began in 2008, with the first DNP degree awarded in 2010.



## Transformative

### Lydia Rotondo, DNP'13, RN, CNS

*Associate Dean, Education and Student Affairs  
Director, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program  
Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing  
University of Rochester School of Nursing  
Rochester, New York*

**L** Lydia Rotondo had no idea just how transformative earning nursing's top degree would be for her career. She had previously worked in many nursing roles, including surgical critical care staff nurse, nurse manager, nursing supervisor, nurse consultant, administrator, clinical nurse specialist and nursing faculty. But the DNP would add another dimension entirely.

"If luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity, then I am indeed incredibly fortunate to have the opportunity to utilize the exceptional academic preparation I received at Vanderbilt in my professional work at the University of Rochester School of Nursing (URSON)," she said. "Following completion of the DNP program in 2013, I moved to Rochester, New York, and joined the UR School of Nursing faculty, teaching in the DNP program. Six months later, I became DNP program director and worked closely with faculty colleagues to review and revise the curriculum in response to emerging national trends in DNP education.

"Based on my experience at Vanderbilt, I arrived with a keen appreciation for educational excellence, a vision for DNP practice and a passion to contribute to the DNP program at URSON — an institution with a rich history of transformative nursing education that began with founding dean, Loretta Ford, the co-developer of nurse practitioner education," Rotondo said.

Rotondo's transformation did not stop there.

In June 2015, she was asked by URSON's Dean Kathy Rideout, EdD, to serve as the interim associate dean for Education and Student Affairs; she assumed the position permanently a year later.

"Today, I maintain both roles as DNP program director and academic dean," she said. "I believe these two leadership roles provide an ideal platform to advocate for DNP preparation and roles in diverse health care and organizational settings at the local and state level." Rotondo is also a prominent voice in the national dialogue promoting DNP scholarship.

"I encourage nurses to consider that tomorrow's nursing practice will depend on the actions of today's nurses, and that by pursuing their DNP now, they have a unique opportunity to set the standard for future DNP's as practice leaders, clinical scholars and change agents," she said. "Moreover, as practice pioneers, they will be uniquely positioned to respond to the challenges and opportunities of health care's new frontier."



## Policy and partnership

### **Charleen Tachibana, DNP'14, RN, FAAN**

*Senior Vice President, Quality and Safety  
Chief Nursing Officer  
Virginia Mason Health Systems*

**C**harleen Tachibana had been the chief nursing officer for Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle for more than a decade when she decided to return to nursing school. She wanted to polish certain skills she realized were necessary to lead others who had been immersed more recently in didactic learning environments.

Another driver of her decision was the landmark Institute of Medicine (IOM) report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*, which underscored the need for nurses with advanced degrees in leadership roles and issued the call to

**“I needed to lean into this with the same expectations that I held for the nurses that work at Virginia Mason. Lead by example.”**

action to double the number of nurses with doctoral degrees by 2020.

“First, as a nurse leader, I needed to lean into this with the same expectations that I held for the nurses who work at Virginia Mason. Lead by example,” Tachibana said. “Second, it had been many years since I had been in school, and I needed to up my game. My focus on advocacy, evidence-based practice and a few other areas were not as strong as I would like, and the DNP program addressed that. And third, I have a passion for school, learning and being in a cohort of people on a journey together. I had just come out of the Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship, and the timing was right. The DNP degree is a degree that matched my interest and the role that I hold.”

Now she wears two hats as senior vice president for quality and safety and CNO for Virginia Mason Health System, one of the top health care organizations in the Pacific Northwest. It has nine clinic locations, a research institute and two hospitals, including an acute care facility in Seattle.

Tachibana said her DNP degree also has opened her eyes to partnership opportunities with other medical professionals.

“It has allowed me to expand my focus on quality and safety to be more collaborative outside of nursing, and to be more actively involved with leading this work,” she said. “Prior to completion of my DNP, I was more focused on nursing than on other professions. The program’s emphasis on policy, advocacy, inter-colaborative work, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, population health and measurement all better help me address the health care issues we face with greater skill and knowledge.”



## DNP to dream job

**Britney S. Broyhill, DNP'13, MSN'08, BS'06, ACNP-BC**

*Senior Director for Advanced Practice  
Center for Advanced Practice  
Atrium Health  
Charlotte, North Carolina*

**B**ritney Broyhill worked alongside a mentor, Dennis Taylor, DNP, at Atrium Health's trauma program while he was completing his DNP in 2010. She witnessed firsthand how the skills he gained through the program were beneficial in the workplace.

"I really started to see the value of what he was learning," she said. "I was only 23 or so when I graduated with my master's. I knew I was really young and that I had my entire career ahead. To be competitive, even in a clinical world, I saw the importance of going back to get the terminal degree."

Broyhill was familiar with the learning culture at Vanderbilt University, having graduated from the College of Arts and Science with a bachelor's degree in neuroscience and psychology, then going directly into the VUSN PreSpecialty Program to earn her Master

of Science in Nursing in acute care in 2008. Choosing VUSN for her DNP was easy.

When she finished her DNP degree in 2013, she was quickly pulled into organizational and administrative projects for Atrium Health, one of the Southeast's most comprehensive nonprofit health care systems (then known as Carolinas HealthCare System). She was involved in redesigning the system's compensation plan and streamlining the onboarding of clinicians for more than 900 care locations. Broyhill was also asked to join a group that reviewed and updated institutional policies.

When her employer decided to create a new Center for Advanced Practice in spring 2013, Broyhill was selected as director of a new nurse practitioner fellowship program. She helped to grow the program quickly from five specialties to 22, making it the largest program of its type in the country. The fellowship program now graduates 50-70 NPs annually.

When Atrium Health reorganized their operational structure with multiple service-based committees that interact with each other as well as with a senior leadership team, Broyhill was asked to chair a new advanced clinical practice committee.

That work led to her selection for the newly created position of senior director of Advanced Practice, a role she calls "her dream job." Now she works closely with Atrium Health's senior physician leader and senior nursing officer to guide the practice of more than 1,000 advanced clinical providers.

"Once you get your DNP, I feel you have a professional obligation to do something with it," Broyhill said. "Having your terminal degree gives you a lot of credibility, and when employers see that degree comes from Vanderbilt, that helps open a lot of doors. It's up to you what you do with that opportunity. For me, personally, it's helped me achieve success in a leadership position."



BOB LEVERONE



## Part of the national dialogue

### **Mary Kate FitzPatrick, DNP'12, RN, ACNP, NEA-BC, FAAN**

*Senior Vice President, Chief Nursing Officer  
University of Vermont Medical Center  
Burlington, Vermont*

**M**ary Kate FitzPatrick wanted to build leadership skills while also becoming an advocate and influencer of better patient care delivery on a broad scale. Her exploration led her to Vanderbilt's DNP curriculum. Its focus on evidence-based practice, translation, quality, informatics and epidemiology aligned perfectly with her goals.

Today FitzPatrick is the senior vice president and chief nursing officer for the University of Vermont Medical Center. She is the executive leader of 1,800 nursing full-time equivalent (FTEs) employees, as well as associate dean for academic and practice integration at the University of Vermont College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

"I've drawn upon knowledge and skills I gained from my DNP program in countless ways, from leading a failure modes and effects analysis on two inpatient units, to working on a national project to expand awareness and knowledge of the impact of mindfulness for health care clinicians," she said. "I have always considered myself a

lifelong learner, and my DNP experience provided immense personal enrichment."

The impact of earning her DNP reached far beyond her own institution's walls.

"There's an implicit credibility that comes with having doctoral preparation," FitzPatrick said. "This credential has empowered me to be at tables and supporting important dialogue that is shaping health care locally, regionally and nationally. In 2014, I was very lucky to be selected to be part of the legacy Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellowship, a three-year, funded program. I am confident that my experience at Vanderbilt and the development I experienced during my DNP program helped me earn a place in that incredible program."

## Thinking like a leader

### April Kapu, DNP'13, MSN'05, RN, ACNP-BC, FAANP

Associate Chief Nursing Officer, Advanced Practice  
Director, Office of Advanced Practice  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Associate Professor  
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing  
Nashville, Tennessee

**A**s associate chief nursing officer for Advanced Practice, April Kapu, DNP, oversees an extensive program that includes more than 1,000 advanced practice professionals at Vanderbilt Health — one of the largest such groups in the United States.

These professionals provide care, education and leadership at clinical sites across the entire Vanderbilt medical enterprise. Those include the adult, children's and psychiatric areas (both inpatient and outpatient) and collaborative relationships throughout the Vanderbilt Health Affiliated Network, which contains more than 60 hospitals and 12 health systems.

Without knowledge she gained while earning her DNP, Kapu said she doubts she could be as effective a leader today.

As she began expanding her career from working as an acute care nurse practitioner, largely in cardiovascular surgery, into greater leadership roles, Kapu wanted more formal

training to better understand areas such as financial data and reporting, strategic planning, negotiation skills and professional relationship building.

Kapu had earned her master's degree in nursing from Vanderbilt in 2005, so familiarity with the faculty and the caliber of education made the school's DNP program a natural choice.

"Without the DNP, I would have had a much harder time figuring out how to navigate executive waters and manage large groups of clinicians," Kapu said. "The DNP changed my thinking. I think about everything in leadership differently now. I go about assessment, team dynamics and solving organizational issues differently."

**"I think about everything in leadership differently now."**



SUSAN URMAY



## Better-rounded and equipped

**Stuart Downs, DNP'13, MSN'10, MSA, RN, NEA-BC, CENP, CPHQ**

*Vice President, Chief Operating Officer  
WellStar Atlanta Medical Center, WellStar Health Systems  
Atlanta, Georgia*

**A**s chief operating officer for WellStar Atlanta Medical Center, a 762-bed Level I trauma center with two campuses in Atlanta, Stuart Downs draws upon his DNP education continually. In this role, as in his previous one as WellStar's chief nursing officer, he works alongside other members of the executive management team, collaborates with more than 50 nurse leaders, and guides the clinical practice of 1,100 FTEs.

"The DNP program elevated me to be better-rounded in my approach as an executive leader," Downs said, adding that the program's foundational elements equipped him with advanced knowledge to lead in a manner that produces optimal outcomes. "Today, I realize how each of the foundational competencies in the doctor of nursing practice curriculum has bridged my clinical and leadership experiences over a river of practice-based theory, practice inquiry and clinical research (evidence)."

Though he was already working in nursing leadership when he began the DNP program, having the highest clinical nursing degree designation behind his name has definitely opened doors for additional professional growth and inspired his leadership, Downs said.

"When I hear colleagues refer to me as 'Dr. Downs,' a certain sense of pride builds within, and I'm grateful for the opportunity of being doctorally prepared," he said. "The DNP journey was worth it, and included challenges coupled with joyous victories. I'm truly thankful for the hours of knowledge, lecture, coaching, teaching and guidance imparted to me by the School of Nursing faculty. They will forever be my heroes because they empowered me to be my best self throughout my academic preparation."

## Building from Vanderbilt's informatics strength

### Sheila Ochylski, DNP'16, RN-BC

Chief Nursing Informatics Officer  
Veterans Health Affairs  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Washington, D.C.

**V**anderbilt University School of Nursing has a reputation for educating nurses to both develop and apply informatics to improve patient care, and that was just one reason Sheila Ochylski decided to pursue her doctoral degree in Nashville.

"I needed to take my career to the next level in nursing informatics, and Vanderbilt is a known leader in advanced nursing practice," said Ochylski, who was named chief nursing informatics officer for Veterans Health Affairs (VHA) in April 2017. "I saw the need to translate sound scientific evidence into the health care setting, and a DNP from Vanderbilt allows me to accomplish this.

"Having a doctorate in nursing and attending Vanderbilt has given me an edge and opened the door. Of course, I had to be brave enough to walk through that door, and now, it is my privilege to encourage others to follow my lead."

Ochylski's background includes emergency room, intensive care and labor and delivery nursing, as well as owning and operating a large private duty and staffing com-

pany. Before joining the VHA, she led a complex electronic medical record implementation for a national nonprofit health care organization operating 92 hospitals in 22 states. As part of her VHA role, she continually looks for ways to use data and technology to provide evidence-based, patient-centered care to veterans. One of her first projects successfully established a governance structure for Nursing Informatics to engage stakeholders to work through critical decisions and ensure that changes in policy, technology and workflow are mitigated to improve quality of care. "The Nursing Informatics council establishes the voice of the staff nurse in decision-making to promote autonomy, foster accountability and encourage innovation," Ochylski said.

"Today, I have the honor and privilege to lead the practice of nursing informatics for the largest integrated health care system in the United States," she said. "The VHA provides care to 9 million veterans in over 1,000 facilities across the U.S. Over 90,000 nurses in this country work for the VHA. The leadership tools I gained at Vanderbilt allow me to lead teams who guide providers to improve health care for our nation's veterans and their families.

"VA is an innovative organization and I am excited to work with the experts in the field to plan cutting-edge technology for those who gave so much," she said.

**"I had to be brave enough to walk through that door."**



EUGENE RUSSELL/DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS



## Leading during critical response

### Nancye R. Feistritz, DNP'13, RN, NEA-BC

*Vice President, Patient Care Services  
Chief Nursing Officer  
Emory University Hospital  
Emory Wesley Woods Hospital  
Atlanta, Georgia*

**N**ancye R. Feistritz, DNP, was in a leadership role at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, serving as an associate hospital director and associate chief nursing officer over the Surgical Patient Care Center when she decided to pursue a DNP at Vanderbilt.

She had spent much of her four-decade nursing career working in and directing perioperative areas. During her more than 20 years at VUMC, Feistritz led areas beyond the operating room, including inpatient and critical care units; clinics; radiology; and the clinical laboratory. But even with her expansive training and experience, she thought something was missing from her skill set.

“I felt a need to be better prepared to assess and develop evidence about nursing best practice,” Feistritz said. “I wanted to think differently about old problems in order to seek fresh solutions. The VUSN program was perfectly tailored to meet that need, and I often say that pursuing my DNP was the best gift I have ever given myself professionally.”

In 2014 Feistritz was recruited to become the vice president of Patient Care Services and chief nursing officer for Emory University Hospital, a 733-bed academic medical center hospital, and Emory Wesley Woods Hospital, the inpatient behavioral health hospital for Emory Healthcare. She is also the interim vice president for the Emory Healthcare Perioperative Enterprise while a national search is underway for that position.

“In my current role I’m accountable for overseeing and enabling the practice envi-

**“I wanted to think differently about old problems in order to seek fresh solutions. ... I often say that pursuing my DNP was the best gift I have ever given myself professionally.”**

ronment for more than 1,300 nursing staff,” she said. “I’m actively engaged in representing the voice of the nurse in whatever forum I attend. I utilize professional governance, active leader rounding and interactive communication tools to ensure I am in touch with frontline nurses.”

One rewarding experience of her post-DNP journey — and an experience that tapped into her newfound skills — was being part of a quick-thinking leadership team on the frontline of the 2014 Ebola virus disease outbreak. Feistritz was just beginning her third week as CNO when the hospital received the first of four patients with Ebola. The four were successfully treated in Emory’s Serious Communicable Disease Unit.

“It has been one of the miracle moments of my career to be associated with this team and the wonderful work being done nationally and around the world to ensure ongoing readiness for serious communicable novel agents,” she said. “Now more than ever, nurses are full-fledged members of the interprofessional team. The DNP program is well-positioned to support leaders as we continue to convey the impact of nurses on patient outcomes, satisfaction and the need for increased resilience and joy in practice for the health care team.”

## A DNP TAILORED FOR EXECUTIVE LEADERS

When Vanderbilt launched its Doctor of Nursing Practice program a decade ago, all DNP students followed an advanced practice track that they tailored to their specific clinical interests.

Over the years, VUSN officials heard from potential applicants and students interested in a different curriculum, one focused on specifically strengthening leadership skills. VUSN had been attracting high-level nurses, chief nursing officers and associate chief nursing officers to its DNP program and tailoring the program of study to meet their needs. In 2017, the school launched an executive leadership DNP track for nurses in top organizational roles and enrolled its first eight students.

The Executive Leadership DNP prepares nurses in leadership to bring evidence-based knowledge into the practice arena and to respond to emerging trends and issues in health care and nursing practice. It also emphasizes development of

*Thomasena Moore*



sustainable programs that are innovative, economically feasible and significantly affect health care outcomes.

Those enrolled in the executive leadership track must have an MSN in health care leadership or nursing administration, an MSN in another advanced nursing practice specialty, or a BSN with a master's degree in a non-nursing health-related field such as a health care MBA, Master's of Public Health or Master's in Health Administration.

Executive leadership doctoral work includes studies in lean methodology, epidemiology, advanced health care economics, informatics and evidence-based management, as well as the development of a DNP scholarly project tailored to each student's interests and that demonstrates the student's knowledge, practice application and original discovery.

Thomasena Moore, MSN, MHA, is a member of the first executive leadership class. A surgical quality management nurse consultant with the Durham Veterans Affairs Healthcare System, Moore said she intends to use her DNP education to visualize and implement ways to help the VA close gaps in care and shine in a positive light.

"I would like to highlight improvements in quality of care and help the organization sustain a healthy rela-



*The first group of Executive Leadership DNP students during orientation.*

tionship with veterans and the general public," Moore said. "I expect to be able to use the research and evidence-based techniques that I learn in my DNP program and apply them to making necessary improvements for the veteran population."

As with the advanced practice DNP track, the program's coursework uses a mix of brief, infrequent on-campus sessions and online and distance learning technologies. The ability to do the coursework on one's own time anywhere in the world and limited on-campus visits make the program particularly appealing to top nurse executives and their senior management.

Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Director Terri Allison, DNP, says that another draw for working nurse leaders is Vanderbilt's experienced and doctorally prepared faculty who have experience as nursing lead-

ers in complex health care organizations.

"Even with distance-learning students all over the country and some internationally, the faculty are accessible," said. "What sets us apart from other DNP programs is the level of engagement between our very experienced nursing leader faculty and students. We are there to walk down the path with them, mentor and guide them. It's really my philosophy that we maintain that culture."

Moore said she had several reasons for choosing to earn her DNP at Vanderbilt, but a key one was its DNP alumni and faculty. "I am interested in gaining as much information and experience as I can from them so I can, in turn, grow my leadership career in nursing, and keep the field of nursing growing in a positive direction," she said.

— Nancy Wise





# The evolution of the Emergency Nurse Practitioner

Jennifer Wilbeck couldn't find the academic training she wanted, so she created it.

BY JESSICA PASLEY  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOE HOWELL

**F**or years, Jennifer Wilbeck, DNP, PMC'06, MSN'99, FAANP, pieced together nursing knowledge much like working a jigsaw puzzle. Each course's curriculum interlocked with teachings from another to form a complete picture of what she wanted to learn.

Ultimately, Wilbeck gained instruction from a variety of nursing specialties to learn what she felt she needed to know to work as an emergency nurse practitioner (ENP).

Now nearly two decades later, she holds ACNP-BC, FNP-BC and ENP-C certifications and is responsible for starting Vanderbilt University School of Nursing's ENP specialty. She also championed the role of the ENP nationwide, establishing curricula and a certification for the specialty on the national level.

“**T**

he number of patients going to the emergency department (ED) is rising significantly and there are incredible gaps for providers to staff those emergency departments,” said Wilbeck, associate professor of Nursing and ENP specialty director at VUSN. “Nurse practitioners are filling those gaps, but in order to ensure that you have nurse practitioners providing safe care, they have to be educated in emergency care.”

“As far back as I can remember, I wanted to go into nursing,” she said. “I wanted to be in the emergency department so that I could help sick and hurt people. When I started my education, there was no direct path or program offering all of the specialty preparation I needed.”

### Three certifications, six years

Wilbeck began her career as an acute care nurse practitioner (ACNP). Although she could care for the sickest of adult patients, she was not trained to provide care for pediatrics or those needing routine care. Wanting broader preparation, she returned to school so she could see the large number of patients who frequented the ED for primary care. Armed as a family nurse practitioner (FNP) and an ACNP, she returned to the ED.

The frustration that neither program could adequately prepare her to care for all the types of patients seeking help in an emergency department setting put her on a personal mission.

“It took me three different certifications and about six years to get what has now evolved into a program that someone can do in two years,” Wilbeck said. “There was definitely a void in my education. When I joined the faculty at Vanderbilt in 2000, I knew a specialized nursing program for nurse practitioners with a focus on emergency medicine was something I was going to focus on building.”

Six years after she joined the faculty, the ENP program launched. VUSN offered the first dual specialty program in the country offering ENP education;

today, it’s one of 10 programs offered in the United States. The innovative specialty combines the FNP and Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) curricula to provide specific instruction preparing advanced practice nurses to provide emergency care across the lifespan for all acuties.

The VUSN program was first initiated with funds from a U.S. Health Resources and Services Administrative (HRSA) grant that allowed the nursing school to develop a blended program of study for nurses who wanted to work in an emergency setting.

“Jennifer saw a need to have people well prepared to work on both sides of the ED,” said Joan King, PhD’84, BSN’72, MSN’75, professor of Nursing at VUSN, who helped write the grant. “Our grant gave folks the opportunity to sit for both certification exams and shortened the program to five semesters.

“The HRSA grant allowed us to meet the growing needs of this group of nurses. Jennifer has taken the lead on this and shepherded it. It has evolved well beyond Vanderbilt.”

### Outside the ED

While the majority of emergency care is administered in EDs, the settings where ENPs can provide emergency care are diverse: jails and prisons, urgent care centers and mobile units in conjunction with EMS, for example.

Michael Gooch, DNP, MSN’05, PMC’08, assistant professor, emergency

nurse practitioner and flight nurse with VUMC LifeFlight, knows this well.

Gooch has spent all of his professional life providing emergency care. He originally obtained an associate degree in nursing, then a bachelor’s degree. He earned an MSN and a Post-Master’s Certificate (PMC) at Vanderbilt, then continued on for a DNP. He also obtained licensure as a paramedic to allow him to pursue a career as a flight nurse. He holds ACNP-BC, FNP-BC, ENP-BC, ENP-C and EMT-P certifications.

“When I first started as a student, there was no official ENP program,” recalled Gooch, MSN’05, PMC’08. “Some of the course work was there, but there was no structured program. Jennifer saw the need for a focused program, as well as the need for providing potential students with necessary knowledge and experience to be more proficient in emergency medicine.

“Over the past 10 years, the program has grown immensely and has been able to meet the growing demands of what practitioners need.”

Gooch said Wilbeck was also instrumental in creating a national professional organization for ENPs and standardization of the ENP curriculum and certification.

Wilbeck was the founding board chair of the American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners (AAENP), established in 2014. The organization provides education and professional networking and advocates nationally for appropriate licensure and credentialing. One of the

“As far back as I can remember, I wanted to go into nursing. I wanted to be in the emergency department so that I could help sick and hurt people. ... I can go from singing a cartoon show song with a 4-year-old while sewing up his face to talking with a family about their loved one’s last wishes.”



A 2017 study found that emergency departments deliver nearly half of all U.S. medical care. Jennifer Wilbeck, above with TriStar Spring Hill ED co-worker Clark E. Archer, MD, is driven to prepare advanced practice nurses with all they need to help deliver that care.

biggest accomplishments of the academy was the launch of the ENP certification exam in 2017.

“What started out as a small, small group of individuals has expanded to 1,000 members,” said Wilbeck of the academy. “What this organization has been able to see come to fruition blows me away. When we first started this process, we did not know what we were getting into. We referred to it as ‘ignorance on fire.’

“But it has taken off like wildfire and there is an infrastructure to support nurse practitioners in these roles. Now we can say ‘This is what the data shows’ and ‘Here’s the science behind what we are doing.’ The intricacies of the ENP practice are recognized.”

As awareness and growth of the specialty increase, more nurse practitioners will be academically prepared for emergency care practices, Wilbeck said.

### Options at VUSN

VUSN’s ENP specialty program is currently undergoing a curricular change that will enhance its programming and options for ENP students. Now that a national ENP certification exam is available, VUSN will not routinely offer the AGACNP portion of the dual program. The new program will offer a more streamlined FNP/ENP pathway, aligned with national standards.

For students who desire triple certification, the pathway that combines the AGACNP and FNP programs will remain

available. “The strength of our blended program is that it provides a firm foundation for more diverse advanced practice in the ED by combining the scope of practice of both an FNP and AGACNP while offering rural and global health compatibility, where the needs are great,” Wilbeck said. “Our students are better prepared for the variety of ages and varying levels of acuity that present in an ED.”

Available to applicants with at least two years of current RN experience, VUSN’s modified distance-learning curriculum is offered on a full-time and part-time basis to allow students to earn a degree without relocating or giving up employment.

Since the creation of Vanderbilt’s ENP program, 100 students have graduated. The largest increase in student volume is among nurses who already have graduate degrees and enroll in the program to earn an additional master’s specialization known as a Post-Master’s Certificate.

Wilbeck, who maintains a clinical practice within several local emergency departments in addition to teaching, directing the ENP specialty and mentoring DNP students, sees new opportunities arising for the specialty and herself.

“I’m definitely not slowing down,” Wilbeck said. “My role will just look different. You have to grow and support the people who will be the next round of leaders and providers, those who will further the ENP role and solidify it, whether that is at Vanderbilt or nationally.

“I still love taking care of ED patients,” she said. “I can go from singing a cartoon show song with a 4-year-old while sewing up his face to talking with a family about their loved one’s last wishes. It’s hard to walk away from that. For someone who has been doing it for a while, it becomes a part of who you are.”

# DESIGNED WITH HEALTH IN MIND

The soon-to-open Vanderbilt University School of Nursing expansion has the well-being of its occupants at the heart of its design, construction and operation. It is Vanderbilt's – and Nashville's – first full building constructed to rigorous WELL Building Standard requirements that consider a structure's impact on its occupants in the areas of air, water, nourishment, light, fitness, comfort and mind. A relatively new initiative, the WELL Building Standard is based on measurable scientific research regarding the connection between human health and the structures in which they work. The performance-based system measures, certifies and monitors building features that affect residents in the built environment.

Vanderbilt's Campus Planning team worked with Hastings Architecture Associates LLC, which developed the building's design and plans in conjunction with its green-Studio Sustainability Consulting division, to plan and evaluate how the building would be built to the WELL standards.

AXONOMETRIC SECTION ILLUSTRATION BY HASTINGS ARCHITECTURE ASSOCIATES, LLC

**Optimum reverberation**  
The balance of room shape, size and material absorption facilitates speech intelligibility.

**Green roof**  
An intimate green space on the roof provides a connection with nature, helpful for mind and physical well-being.



**Low-emitting materials**  
Materials used were tested to meet Volatile Organic Compounds standards so they support healthy indoor air quality.

**Wood feature wall**  
Décor includes a stunning wall composed of wood from trees removed from the site. The building uses natural finishes, colors and textures to support the occupants' connections with nature.

### Monumental stair

The striking five-story staircase encourages faculty, staff and students to take the stairs instead of the elevator, promoting physical health and casual interaction with others. The glass rails allow light to pass through.

### Skylights

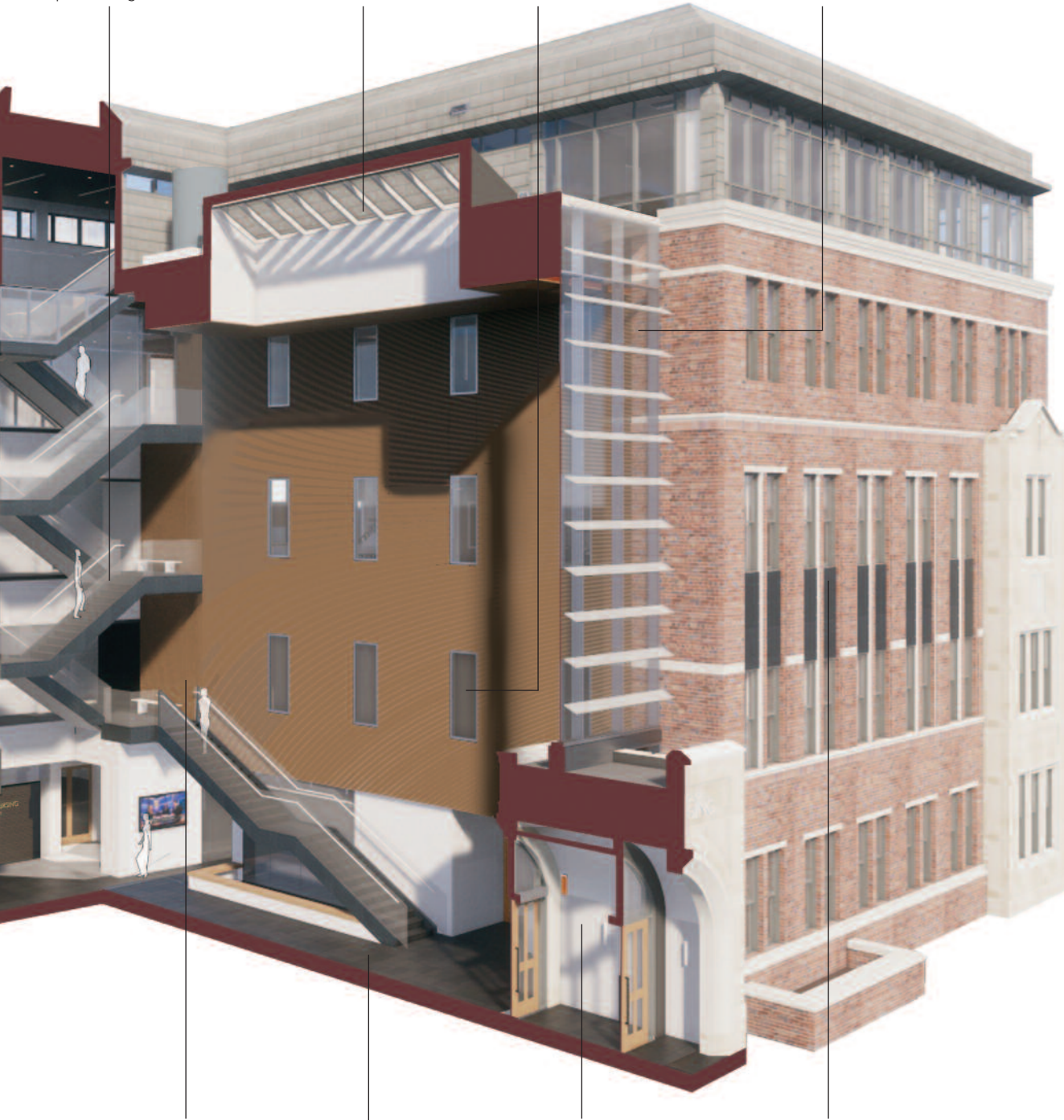
The atrium is flooded with natural light, which aids humans' circadian rhythm. It also saves energy.

### Flexible workstations

Inside the building's 44 offices, occupants can adjust their sit-stand desks and monitors, plus tune lighting to best suit their individual needs.

### Atrium glass wall fins

The floor-to-ceiling window at the front of the atrium has fins – blinds of a sort – that allow light to stream in, yet shade the glass to minimize solar heat.



### Interior windows

Light is a major component in the new building. Interior windows provide interior offices with natural daylight and views into the atrium.

### Radiant heating

The warm air from the atrium's heated floor naturally rises to occupant levels above. It will be welcoming on cold, raw and wet days.

### Building vestibule

The entry creates a new front door for the entire School of Nursing. Double doors and the vestibule capture dirt and particulates, reducing the amount of outdoor pollutants entering the building.

### Acoustical treatments

The entire structure is constructed to mitigate the background noise that is often caused by mechanical systems.



# Four gifts, one purpose

BY DEBORAH SETTLES

ILLUSTRATION BY HASTINGS INC.

The \$26.3 million Vanderbilt University School of Nursing expansion, which began last spring, is nearing completion at the intersection of historic Godchaux Hall, Patricia Champion Frist Hall and the Nursing Annex.

The project was aided recently by a range of supporters who together are helping raise the roof. Friends, foundations, alumni and past parents all support the opportunities growing along with the nursing building.

## An environment for innovation

Dean Linda D. Norman, DSN, FAAN, says faculty and staff are excited and eager to welcome students to the new building soon. She expects the new environment will also support new directions.

“We are one of the top-ranked nursing programs in the nation but we cannot rest on our achievements. We must continue to pursue innovative ideas that will secure our future,” said Norman, who also holds the Valere Potter Menefee Chair in Nursing. “By fostering more and better connections between students and faculty, this renovation will educate future health care leaders and, as a result, improve the human condition.”

“The new building will also assist our faculty and students in nursing research and in the university’s overall research mission by opening more space for discovery. Our numbers of nursing faculty actively engaged in research has grown significantly over the past five years and the renovation is important to supporting that trend,” Norman said.

## An iconic family

The Godchaux family has a long history of involvement with Vanderbilt University that spans five generations. Their support is iconic at the School of Nursing — the main entrance to Mary Ragland Godchaux Hall has long been the public face of the school.

In 2006, Vanderbilt Trustee Emeritus Frank A. Godchaux III and his brother Charles provided funding for the renovation of the school’s oldest building, which was named in honor of the Godchauxes’ mother, Mary Ragland Godchaux. The

family continues to support nursing education through scholarships they established. Their latest gift is for a learning or gathering space in the school to be named in honor of Frank's wife, Agnes K. Godchaux.

"We are proud to have such deep connections to not only the School of Nursing, but the University as a whole. It is exciting to see this expansion happening between the Godchaux and Frist halls and to see all the benefits it will provide to the talented nursing students and faculty," Frank Godchaux said.

### A building partnership

The Christy-Houston Foundation, Inc., which has supported VUSN scholarships, also saw significant merit in the building project as a means of supporting advanced practice nursing. Chartered as a private foundation in 1986, the Christy-Houston Foundation's mission is to enhance the quality of life in Rutherford County, Tennessee, particularly through an emphasis on health care.

"Rutherford County is one of the fastest growing areas in the country, and our health care needs are growing as well. Many of our county's employers and citizens depend on the highly qualified advanced practice nurses that Vanderbilt produces, especially in pediatrics, emergency, psychiatric and geriatric care," said foundation president Anne Davis. "We know that a partnership with the Vanderbilt School of Nursing will support a strong pipeline of talented practitioners in our area."

### A tour and a gift

Vanderbilt nursing alumna Janis Holeman Reynolds, BSN'68, MSN'89, loved her Vanderbilt nursing experience but recalls that even in the 1980s, the school's buildings did not match the quality of the faculty and programs. Last spring, Reynolds, who now practices law in West Virginia, toured the Owen School of Graduate Management with her husband and son who was considering attending Owen. They also dropped by

the School of Nursing for an impromptu mid-construction tour.

"I was excited to hear about the expansion and renovation plans and decided to support the effort in a meaningful way. I am very proud of my Vanderbilt nursing degrees and think the new building is going to bring the school's facility in line with its high academic quality," Reynolds said.

### Strengthening Vanderbilt

Anne and Hans Wachtmeister, EDD'86, were intrigued to learn of the nursing building expansion at their daughter's VUSN investiture ceremony in 2016.

"We heard Dean Norman speak about how the new facilities could support teaching and research needs and just felt moved to help. We are proud that our daughter Hannah (DNP'16, MSN'14) is an advanced practice nurse and that she attended Vanderbilt, because we are a Vanderbilt family. I graduated from Peabody in 1986 and my other daughter, Jane, also holds a bachelor's and master's from Peabody," Hans Wachtmeister said.

The Wachtmeisters endowed the Wachtmeister Chair in Teaching and Learning at Peabody in 2017 in honor of their family's experience at Vanderbilt.

"We are pleased to strengthen

Vanderbilt and that our gifts can impact so many people," he added.

### Naming spaces

For more information on supporting the nursing building expansion, contact J. Steven Barnes, Associate Dean for Development, at (615) 343-4474 or at [steven.barnes@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:steven.barnes@vanderbilt.edu). You can watch the construction progress online at [vu.edu/vusngrows](http://vu.edu/vusngrows).

Below, top: The Holeman-Reynolds Conference Room awaits only furniture. Bottom: The Wachtmeister Interactive Classroom incorporates technology for new learning experiences.



# MAKING AN IMPACT

Starting with its founding more than 100 years ago, Vanderbilt University School of Nursing has been committed to improving the health of individuals, communities and populations through education, discovery and care. Today more than ever, discovery is playing a larger role in health care. New issues call for new solutions. Standard methods may call for improvement. Advances require informed implementation. Our VUSN faculty are leaders who contribute knowledge, best practices, evidence-based solutions and advanced practice models that respond to health care trends and improve care. The following pages spotlight some of the research, scholarly works and faculty impact from the previous year.





# Currently Funded Grants and Contracts

## Research Grants

### Susie Adams

Child Protective Services  
Assessment Track Training  
Academy  
VUMC — State of Tennessee  
7/1/2018–6/30/2023  
\$147,727

### Michelle Collins

Use of Nitrous Oxide During  
Labor and Birth & Perinatal  
Outcomes, Development of a U.S.  
Repository of Nitrous Oxide  
Porter Instrument Division —  
Parker Hannifin Corporation  
1/2014–10/2018  
\$44,100

### Terrah Foster Akard

Impact of a Palliative Care  
Research Cooperative (PCRC)-  
Supported Legacy Interventions in  
Pediatric Palliative Care  
National Institutes of Health/  
National Institute of Nursing  
Research  
9/26/2014–6/30/2019  
\$1,857,880

### Leanne Boehm

Collaborative Assessment of ICU  
Recovery Needs (CAIRN)  
VUMC — Society of Critical Care  
Medicine/National Institutes of  
Health  
10/1/2017–9/30/2018  
\$17,476

### Leanne Boehm

Vanderbilt Scholars in T4  
Translational Research  
(V-STTaR) Program  
VUMC — National Institutes of  
Health/National Heart, Lung, and  
Blood Institute  
9/1/2018–8/31/2021  
\$460,500

### Mary Dietrich

Mitigating ACEs in Pediatric  
Primary Care and a Home  
Visiting Program  
State of Tennessee  
7/17/2017–6/30/2019  
\$6,749

### Mary Dietrich

Establishing Lymphedema and  
Fibrosis Measures in Oral Cancer  
Patients  
University of Pennsylvania —  
National Institutes of  
Health/National Institute of Dental  
and Craniofacial Research  
3/1/2018–2/28/2019  
\$313,070

### Mary Jo Gilmer

Canines and Childhood Cancer  
Animal-assisted Therapy  
Zoetis Animal Health  
7/1/2014–12/31/2018  
\$125,582

### Jennifer Kim

RCT to Deprescribe for Older  
Patients with Polypharmacy  
Transferred from the Hospital to  
Skilled Nursing Facilities  
VUMC — National Institutes of  
Health/National Institute on Aging  
11/1/2016–10/31/2020  
\$118,743

### Ruth Kleinpell

Demonstrating the Outcomes of  
NP Care Using a National  
Collaborative  
American Association of Nurse  
Practitioners  
8/1/2017–12/31/2018  
\$3,000

### Jana Lauderdale & Michelle Collins

Barriers to Initiating or  
Completing the HPV Vaccine  
Series: Perceptions of Hispanic  
and African American Women of  
Childbearing Age  
Vanderbilt Office for Equity,  
Diversity, and Inclusion  
10/1/2018–6/30/2019  
\$3,473

### Kanah Lewallen

RCT to Deprescribe for Older  
Patients with Polypharmacy  
Transferred from the Hospital  
to Skilled Nursing Facilities  
VUMC — National Institutes of  
Health/National Institute  
on Aging  
11/1/2016–10/31/2020  
\$100,946

### Melanie Lutembacher

Maternal Infant Health Outreach  
Worker (MIHOW) Program  
Evaluation RCT — Catholic  
Charities  
Tennessee Dept. of Health Services  
10/1/2017–6/30/2019  
\$306,828

### Ann Minnick

AANA Foundation Postdoctoral  
Health Services Research Award  
American Association of Nurse  
Anesthetists (AANA)  
10/1/2016–9/30/2018  
\$27,675

### Shelagh Ann Mulvaney

Increasing HPV Vaccine Uptake  
In Community-based Pediatric  
Practices  
National Institutes of Health/  
National Cancer Institute  
12/1/2017–11/30/2018  
\$18,741

### Julia Phillippi

Interpersonal Perinatal Consults to  
Improve Communication Quality,  
Satisfaction and Team Cohesion  
Health and Human Services  
Administration/Agency for  
Healthcare Research and Quality  
4/1/2018–3/31/2020  
\$421,023

### Bethany Rhoten

Body Image and Functional Status  
in Head and Neck Cancer Patients  
VUMC/Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer  
Center — American Cancer Society  
12/31/2017–12/30/2018  
\$30,000

### Sheila Ridner

A Randomized Trial Evaluating  
Bioimpedance Spectroscopy  
Versus Tape Measurement in the  
Prevention of Lymphedema  
Following Locoregional Treatment  
for Breast Cancer  
ImpediMed, Inc.  
6/1/2015–5/31/2019  
\$1,431,741

### Sheila Ridner

Pilot Study to Evaluate the  
Feasibility and Potential  
Effectiveness of the Flexitouch  
System Head and Neck Treatment  
Tactile Medical  
8/15/2017–9/30/2018  
\$324,649

### Deonni Stoldalorf

Implementing and Sustaining  
Complex Interdisciplinary  
Healthcare Interventions:  
Learning from Medication  
Reconciliation  
Health and Human Services  
Administration/Agency for  
Healthcare Research and Quality  
9/30/2017–9/29/2020  
\$424,270

## Nonresearch

### Rolanda Johnson & Mavis Schorn

Summer Professional Immersion  
in Nursing (SPIN)  
Promise of Nursing Grant Program  
Foundation of the National Student  
Nurses' Association and Tennessee  
Hospital Association  
12/14/2017–12/31/2018  
\$20,000

### Linda Norman

Nurse Faculty Loan Program  
(EO1)  
Health and Human Services  
Administration/Health Resources  
and Services Administration  
7/1/2018–6/30/2019  
\$1,283,679

### Bonita Pilon

Interprofessional Collaborative  
Practice: Behavioral Health  
Integration into the Mercury  
Courts Model  
Health and Human Services  
Administration/Health Resources  
and Services Administration  
7/1/2017–6/30/2019  
\$999,101

## Clinical-Community Partnerships Grants

### Susie Adams

"Health Care Trust" Scales for  
Use in Adult Women at The Next  
Door — a Community-based  
Substance Abuse Treatment  
Program  
Meharry-Vanderbilt Community  
Engaged Research Core  
7/1/2017–12/31/2018  
\$10,000

### Leah Branam

Collective Impact through  
Community Health Initiatives  
United Way of Metro Nashville  
7/1/2018–6/30/2019  
\$89,500

### Carrie Plummer

Medical-Legal Partnership:  
Counseling and Assistance to  
Seniors about Advance Care Plans  
and Powers of Attorney  
West End Home Foundation  
1/5/2018–12/31/2018  
\$49,000

# Welcome New Faculty

Key educators bring wealth of experience



**Leanne M. Boehm, PhD'16, MSN'09, ACNS-BC**  
Assistant Professor

Boehm focuses on strategies to improve outcomes for the critically ill. She has worked extensively on reducing ICU delirium using an inter-professional evidence-based ABCDEF bundle. Her research interests include interventions to improve interprofessional protocol implementation, adherence and fidelity; ICU peer support and diary programs; and reducing post-intensive care syndrome. She is a former Vanderbilt Postdoctoral Fellow and Veterans Affairs Quality Scholar. Boehm is affiliated with Vanderbilt's Center for Critical Illness, Brain Dysfunction and Survivorship and the Center for Clinical Quality and Implementation Research.



**Jo Ellen Holt, DNP, CEN, CCNS**  
Skills and Simulation  
Lab Director

Holt joined the School of Nursing from Arkansas Children's Hospital where she was responsible for process improvement projects. She has extensive clinical experience as a critical care nurse specialist and certified emergency nurse. Previously, she was a simulation instructor at Duke University School of Nursing's Center for Nursing Discovery, where she concentrated on conducting simulations and teaching skill development to pre-licensure students. Holt will direct VUSN's new 13-bed simulation lab and oversee skills and simulation experiences for the school's master's program students.



**Marshay N. James, DNP'17, PMC'15, CPNP-AC, CNE**  
Instructor

James brings more than a decade of experience in pediatrics to her teaching in the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner — Acute Care program. Her current practice is with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital where she works as an advanced practice provider in the Critical Care Division. Her research centers on pediatric delirium among critically ill children and her DNP project involved implementing a delirium screening tool in the PICU. She is also an experienced nurse educator and has taught at the

University of Memphis, University of Tennessee and Pellissippi State Community College.



**Melinda Johnson, DNP'18, MSN'16, FNP, AGACNP, ENP**  
Instructor

Johnson has spent her nursing career in acute care and emergency care settings, working in trauma and medical/surgical intensive care units, pediatric cardiac intensive care, and adult and pediatric emergency departments. She has also taught at Belmont University and served as an instructor and curriculum designer for Barkley and Associates' Emergency Nurse Practitioner board review course. In addition to teaching in VUSN's Emergency Nurse Practitioner specialty, Johnson is an emergency nurse practitioner at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.



**Kathryn McNabb, DNP, PMC'14, MSN'12, BS'10, AGACNP-BC**  
Instructor

McNabb teaches in the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner specialty. Her background is in neurology/neurosurgery intensive care and her interests include transitioning patients from acute care to community settings after carotid surgery. As part-time faculty at VUSN, she taught advanced health assessment with emphasis on patients in the acute care practice setting. She practices as an acute care nurse practitioner at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in its inpatient cerebrovascular service and previously had a faculty appointment with Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in neurological surgery.



**Lori Schirle, PhD, CRNA**  
Assistant Professor

Schirle combines extensive clinical care experience as a certified registered nurse anesthetist with a strong interest in genetics, health policy and health service. She plans to pair her current research — a study on hospital patient and provider factors associated with opioid prescription at discharge — with an investigation of genetic variants that influence patient pain perceptions and responses. Her

long-term goal is to determine which patients can safely and effectively use opioids for post-operative pain. Schirle recently finished a two-year postdoctoral research fellowship at VUSN.



**Clinton D. Leonard, MSN'14, AGACNP-BC**  
Instructor

Leonard specializes in the care of patients with acute burn injury. Most recently at the University of Southern Alabama's Burn Center, he has also worked as a provider in the Burn ICU at VUMC. In addition to clinical practice, Leonard has worked to improve pre-hospital care of burn patients and has developed and taught burn courses for first responders. His current scholarship includes using virtual reality for pain control during wound care and developing peer mentorship programs for burn survivors. He teaches in the PreSpecialty program.



**Marci Zsamboky, DNP'18, PMC'17, MSN'94, PMHNP/CNS-BC, CNE**  
Assistant Professor

Zsamboky teaches in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialty. She has more than 20 years of teaching experience at the undergraduate and graduate level with various schools of nursing. She served as a consultant for the National League for Nursing, Center for Excellence, and has a long history of national committee participation with the American Psychiatric Nurses Association. Her current research interests involve assessing the implementation of a depression-screening tool in oncology clinics and the use of simulations in mental health nursing and in nursing education.

# Selected Works 2017

VUSN faculty are recognized for discovery, scholarship and leadership in higher education and the nursing profession. Here is an abridged list of their work, followed by a sampling of student accomplishments.

(This information is reported by the most recent full calendar year. At press time, 2018 data was still being compiled.)

## JOURNALS

**Adams S**, Morse S, Choi S, Watson C, Bride BE. Substance use and mental health treatment retention among young adults. *Global Journal of Addiction & Rehabilitation Medicine*. Feb 2017;1(3):5555564.

Davidson BT, **Allison TL**. Improving heart failure patient outcomes utilizing guideline-directed therapy. *Nurse Practitioner: The American Journal of Primary Health Care*. July 2017;42(7S Suppl 1):3-14.

**Beuscher L**, Fan J, Sarka N, **Dietrich M**, Newhouse P, Miller K, **Mion L**. Socially assistive robots measuring older adults' perceptions. *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*. Dec 2017;43(12):35-43.

**Beuscher L**, **Reeves G**, Harrell D. Managing herpes zoster in older adults: Prescribing considerations. *Nurse Practitioner: The American Journal of Primary Health Care*. June 2017;42(6):24-30.

Brown A, **Beuscher L**, **Nelson B**. Access and barriers to utilization of palliative care in pediatric pulmonary hypertension. *Journal of Hospice & Palliative Nursing*. Oct 2017;19(5):474-479.

**Bowman E**. Use of online unfolding case studies to foster critical thinking. *Journal of Nursing Education*. Nov 2017;56(11):701-702.

**Boehm LM**, **Dietrich MS**, Vasilevskis EE, **Wells N**, Pandharipande PP, Ely EW, **Mion LC**. Perceptions of workload burden and adherence to ABCDE bundle among intensive care providers. *American Journal of Critical Care*. July 2017;26(4):e38-e47.

**Boehm LM**, Vasilevskis EE, **Dietrich MS**, **Wells N**, Ely EW, Pandharipande PP, **Mion LC**. Organizational domains are associated with variation in ICU provider attitudes regarding the ABCDE bundle. *American Journal of Critical Care*. May 2017;26(3):e18-e28.

Brummel NE, **Boehm LM**, Girard TD, Pandharipande PP, Jackson JC, Hughes CG, Patel MB, Han JH, Vasilevskis EE, Thompson JL, Chandrasekhar R, Bernard GR, Dittus RS, Ely EW. Subsyndromal delirium and institutionalization among patients with critical illness. *American Journal of Critical Care*. Nov 2017;26(6):447-455.

Giuseffi JL, Borges NE, **Boehm LM**, Wang L, McPherson JA, Fredi JL, Ahmad RM, Ely EW, Pandharipande PP. Delirium after transcatheter aortic valve replacement. *American Journal of Critical Care*. July 2017;26(4):e58-e64.

Wang J, **Boehm LM**, **Mion LC**. Intrinsic capacity in older hospitalized adults: Implications for nursing practice. *Geriatric Nursing*. Aug 2017;38(4):359-361.

**Collins M**. Nitrous oxide utility in labor and birth: A multipurpose modality. *Journal of Perinatal & Neonatal Nursing*. Apr 2017;31(2):137-144.

**Cook CJ**. Induced hypothermia in neurocritical care: A review. *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*. Feb 2017;49(1):5-11.

**Davis S**, **Moore G**, **Hande K**. Implementation of the female sexual function index adaptation for breast cancer survivors in an outpatient surgical breast practice. *Women's Health Care: A Clinical Journal for NPs*. Feb 2017;5(1):46-47.

McRackan TR, Noble JH, Wilkinson EP, Mills D, **Dietrich MS**, Dawant BM, Gifford RH, Labadie RF. Implementation of image-guided cochlear implant programming at a distant site. *Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery*. May 2017;156(5):933-937.

Monroe TB, Beach PA, Bruehl SP, **Dietrich MS**, Rogers BP, Gore JC, Atalla SW, Cowan RL. The impact of Alzheimer's disease on the resting state functional connectivity of brain regions modulating pain: A cross sectional study. *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*. Mar 2017;57(1):71-83.

Sohl SJ, **Dietrich MS**, **Wallston KA**, **Ridner SH**. A randomized controlled trial of expressive writing in breast cancer survivors with lymphedema. *Psychology and Health*. July 2017;32(7):826-842.

Keim MC, Lehmann V, Shultz EL, Winning AM, Rausch JR, Barrera M, **Gilmer MJ**, Murphy LK, Vannatta KA, Compas BE, Gerhardt CA. Parent-child communication and adjustment among children with advanced and non-advanced cancer in the first year following diagnosis or relapse. *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*. Sept 2017;42(8):871-881.

**Gooch MD**, Roberts E. Changing the emergency department's practice of rapid sequence intubation to reduce the incidence of hypoxia. *Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal*. Oct 2017;39(4):266-279.

**Hamrin V**, **Sinclair VG**, **Gardner V**. Theoretical approaches to enhancing motivation for adherence to antidepressant medications. *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing*. Apr 2017;31(2):223-230.

**Hande K**. Strategies for screening and monitoring patients receiving chronic opioid therapy for cancer-related pain. *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*. Dec 2017;21(6):669-672.

**Hande K**, **Beuscher L**, **Allison T**, **Phillippi J**. Navigating DNP student needs: Faculty advising competencies and effective strategies for development and support. *Nurse Educator*. June 2017;42(3):147-150.

**Hande K**, **Christenberry T**, **Phillippi J**. Appreciative advising: An innovative approach to advising Doctor of Nursing Practice students. *Nurse Educator*. Nov/Dec 2017;42(6):E1-E3.

Gao C, Kho AN, **Ivory C**, Osmundson S, Malin BA, Chen Y. Predicting length of stay for obstetric patients via electronic medical records. *Studies in Health Technology & Informatics*. Dec 2017;24(5):1019-1023.

**Jones P**, Polanchich S, Steaban R, Feistritz N, Poe T. Transformational leadership: The chief nursing officer role in leading quality and patient safety. *Journal of Healthcare Quality*. May 2017;39(3):186-190.

**Kim J**, **Miller S**. Geriatric syndromes: Meeting a growing challenge. *Nursing Clinics of North America*. Sept 2017;52(3):ix-x.

**Kim J**, **Parish A**. Polypharmacy and medication management in older adults. *Nursing Clinics of North America*. Sept 2017;52(3):457-468

Simmons S, Bonnet K, Hollingsworth E, **Kim J**, Powers J, Habermann R, Newhouse P, Schlundt D. Reducing antipsychotic

medication use in nursing homes: A qualitative study of nursing staff perceptions. *The Gerontologist*. May 2017;00(00):1-12.

**King J.** Guidelines and implications for selecting preoperative cardiac stress tests. *Journal for Nurse Practitioners*. Sept 2017;13(8):505-514.

Piras SE, **Lauderdale J, Minnick A.** An elicitation study of critical care nurses' salient hand hygiene beliefs. *Intensive & Critical Care Nursing*. Oct 2017;42(2017):10-16.

**Leming-Lee S, Crutcher T, Kennedy B.** The Lean Methodology course: Transformational learning. *Journal for Nurse Practitioners*. Oct 2017;13(9):6.

Squiers A, **Lutenbacher M, Kaufman MR, Karp SM.** Transitioning to an adult health-care system: Barriers and opportunities for youth with spina bifida. *Pediatric Nursing*. Dec 2017;43(6):289-298.

Cooper Z, **Maxwell CA, Fakhry SM, Joseph B, Lundebjerg N, Burke P, Barracco R.** A position paper: The convergence of aging and injury and the need for a geriatric trauma coalition (GeriTraC). *Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery*. Feb 2017;82(2):419-422.

Javier AD, Figueroa R, Siew ED, Salat H, Morse J, Stewart TG, Malhotra R, Jhamb M, Schell JO, Cardona CY, **Maxwell CA, Ikizler TA, Abdel-Kader K.** Reliability and utility of the surprise question in CKD stages 4 to 5. *American Journal of Kidney Disease*. July 2017;70(1):93-101.

Karlekar MB, **Maxwell CA, Dietrich MS, Miller RS.** Creating new opportunities to educate fami-

lies on the impact of frailty and cognitive impairment in a trauma intensive care unit: Results of a quality improvement project. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*. Feb 2017;20(2):193-196.

**Moore G,** Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health. Human sex trafficking — NPWH position statement. *Women's Healthcare: A Clinical Journal for Nurse Practitioners*. May 2017;5(2):8-11.

**Heerman WJ, Jackson N, Hargreaves M, Mulvaney SA, Schlundt D, Wallston KA, Rothman RL.** Clusters of healthy and unhealthy eating behaviors are associated with body mass index among adults. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*. May 2017;49(5):415-421.

Hull P, Emerson JS, Quirk ME, Canedo JR, Jones JL, Vylegzhanina V, Schmidt DC, **Mulvaney SA, Beech BM, Briley C, Harris C, Husaini BA.** A smartphone app for families with preschool-aged children in a public nutrition program: Prototype development and beta-testing. *JMIR Mhealth and Uhealth*. Aug 2017;5(8):e102.

Mayberry LS, **Mulvaney SA, Johnson KB, Osborn CY.** The messaging for diabetes intervention reduced barriers to medication adherence among low-income, diverse adults with type 2. *Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology*. Jan 2017;11(1):92-99

Nelson LA, **Mulvaney SA, Johnson KB, Osborn CY.** mHealth intervention elements and user characteristics determine utility: A mixed-methods analysis. *Diabetes Technology & Therapeutics*. Jan 2017;19(1):9-17.

Tanenbaum ML, Adams RN, Hanes SJ, Barley RC, Miller KM,

**Mulvaney SA, Hood KK.** Optimal use of diabetes devices: Clinician perspectives on barriers and adherence to device use. *Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology*. May 2017;11(3):484-492.

**Neal JL, Lowe NK, Phillippi JC, Ryan SL, Knupp AM, Dietrich MS, Thung SF.** Likelihood of cesarean delivery after applying leading active labor diagnostic guidelines. *Birth*. June 2017;44(2):128-136.

**Phillippi JC, Neal J, Carlson N, Beil F, Snowden, J Tilden E.** Utilizing datasets to advance perinatal research. *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*. Sept 2017;62(5):545-561.

Freytsis M, **Phillippi JC, Cox K, Romano A, Cragin L.** The American College of Nurse-Midwives clarity in collaboration project: Defining midwifery care in collaborative care models. *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*. Jan 2017;62(1):101-18.

Hachey L, **Phillippi JC.** Identification and management of human trafficking victims in the emergency department. *Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal*. Jan 2017;39(1):31-51.

Fink AM, Dean C, **Piano MR, Carley DW.** The pedunculopontine tegmentum controls renal sympathetic nerve activity and cardiorespiratory activities in nembuto-anesthetized rats. *PLOS One*. Nov 2017;12(11):e0187956.

**Read A, Hicks J, Christenbery T.** Appreciative advising in nursing education. *Nurse Educator*. Mar 2017;42(2):81-84.

**Richmond A, Burgner A, Green J, Ridinger H, Bills J, Lizenbold D.** Discharging Mrs. Fox: A team-

based interprofessional collaborative standardized patient encounter. *MedEdPORTAL*. Mar 2017;(13):10539.

**Richmond A, Nelson B.** Hypermobility: A cause of joint pain in children and adolescents. *Journal for Nurse Practitioners*. Feb 2017;13(2):e101-e102.  
Donahue PM, Crescenzi R, Scott AO, Braxton V, Desai A, Smith SA, Jordi J, Meszoely IM, Grau AM, Kauffmann RM, Sweeting RS, Spotanski K, **Ridner SH, Donahue MJ.** Bilateral changes in deep tissue environment after manual lymphatic drainage in patients with breast cancer treatment-related lymphedema. *Lymphatic Research and Biology*. Mar 2017;15(1):45-56.

Novaleski CK, Carter BD, Sivasankar PM, **Ridner SH, Dietrich MS, Roussear B.** Apoptosis and vocal fold disease: Clinically relevant implications of cell death. *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*. May 2017;60(5):1264-1272.

**Rhoten B, Dietrich M.** Recurrent head and neck cancer: Body image and concerns about sexuality. *Cancer Nursing Practice*. June 2017;16(5):27-33.

**Rudy S, Wilbeck J.** Post-graduate ENP fellowships: Opportunities for specialty education. *Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal*. July 2017;39(3):224-230.

**Schorn MN, Dietrich MS, Donaghey B, Minnick A.** U.S. physician and midwife adherence to active management of the third stage of labor international recommendations. *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*. Jan 2017;62(1):58-67.

Stubbs C, **Schorn MN, Leavell JP,**

Espiritu EW, Davis G, Gentry CK, Friedman E, Patton T, Graham A, Crowder R, Wilkins CH. Implementing and evaluating a community-based, inter-institutional, interprofessional education pilot program. *Journal of Interprofessional Care*. Sep 2017;31(5):652-655.

Thornton P, McFarlin B, Park C, Rankin K, **Schorn M**, Stapleton S, Finnegan L. Cesarean outcomes in U.S. birth centers and collaborating hospitals: A cohort comparison. *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health*. Jan 2017;62(1):40-48.

**Stoldal DP**. Sustaining health care interventions to achieve quality care: What we can learn from rapid response teams. *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*. Jan 2017;32(1):87-93.

Smallheer B, **Stone E**, **Hicks J**, Galbreath C. Use of video recording to facilitate peer-to-peer learning in a prelicensure nursing program. *Teaching and Learning in Nursing*. Apr 2017;12(2):158-160.

**Vanderhoef D**, Delany K. National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties: 2016 survey of psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner programs. *Journal of American Psychiatric Nurses Association*. Apr 2017;23(2):159-165.

Akhoue SA, **Wallston KA**, Schlundt DG, Rothman RL. Psychometric evaluation of the short version of the personal diabetes questionnaire to assess dietary behaviors and exercise in patients with type 2 diabetes. *Eating Behavior*. Aug 2017;26:182-188.

Birdee GS, Ayala SG, **Wallston K**. Cross-sectional analysis of health-related quality of life and elements

of yoga practice. *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine*. Jan 2017;17(1):83.

Heerman W, Taylor J, **Wallston K**, Barkin S. Parenting self-efficacy, parent depression, and healthy childhood behaviors in a low-income minority population: a cross-sectional analysis. *Maternal Child Health Journal*. May 2017;21(5):1156-1165.

Moses KA, Hesop D, Griffith DM, Holmes A, Sherden L, Wilkins CH, **Wallston KA**. Development and initial testing of the FLOW instrument: A novel assessment of lower urinary tract symptoms in men. *Journal of Urology*. Sep 2017;198(3):657-662.

Nemeth LS, Stanley KM, Martin MM, Mueller M, Layne D, **Wallston KA**. Lateral violence in nursing survey: Instrument development and validation. *Healthcare*. July 2017;5(3):E33.

Osborn CY, Kripalani S, Goggins K, **Wallston K**. Financial strain is associated with medication nonadherence and worse health among cardiovascular patients. *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*. Feb 2017;28(1):499-513.

Silvestri DM, Blevins M, **Wallston KA**, Afzal AR, Alam N, Andrews B, Derbew M, Kaur S, Mipando M, Mkony CA, Mwachaka PM, Ranjit N, Vermund SH. Non-academic attributes predict medical and nursing student intentions to emigrate or to work rurally: An eight-country survey in Asia and Africa. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. June 2017;96(6):1512-1520.

Wild MG, **Wallston KA**, Green JA, Beach LB, Umeukeje EM,

Wright-Nunes JA, Ikizler TA, Steed JM, Cavanaugh KL. The perceived medical condition self-management scale can be applied to patients with kidney disease. *Kidney International*. Oct 2017;92(4):972-978.

**Wilbeck J**, Roberts E, **Rudy S**. Emergency nurse practitioner core educational content. *Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal*. Apr 2017;39(2):141-151.

Hoyt S, Evans D, Ramirez E, **Wilbeck J**. The "specialty" of emergency nurse practitioner practice. *Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal*. Oct 2017;39(4):231-235.

**Ziegler CC**, Morelli V, Fawibe O. Climate change and underserved communities. *Primary Care Clinics in Office Practice*. Mar 2017;44(1):171-184.

Morelli V, **Ziegler CC**, Fawibe O. Environmental justice and underserved communities. *Primary Care: Clinics in Office Practice*. Mar 2017;44(1):155-170.

## BOOKS

**Christenbery T**. *Evidenced-Based Practice in Nursing Foundations Skills and Roles*. 1st ed. New York NY: Springer Publishing; 2017.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

**Gooch MD**. Toxicologic Emergencies. In: Holleran RS, Wolf AC Jr, Frakes MA, eds. *Patient Transport: Principles and Practice*. 5th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier; 2017:415-428.

**Phillippi JC**. Diagnosis of pregnancy and overview of prenatal care. In: Schuiling KD, Likis FE, eds. *Women's Gynecologic Health*. 3rd ed. Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning; 2017:781.

**Phillippi JC**, Castillo M. Facilitating access to midwifery-led prenatal and postpartum care. In: Anderson BA, Rooks JP, Barroso R, eds. *Best Practices in Midwifery: Using the Evidence to Implement Change*. 2nd ed. New York, NY: Springer; 2017:67.

**Phillippi JC**, Danhausen K. Clinical Outcomes in Birth Centers. In: Cole LJ, Avery MD, eds. *Freestanding Birth Centers: Innovation, Evidence, Optimal Outcomes*. 1st ed. New York, NY: Springer; 2017:99.

**Widmar SB**. Heart Transplantation. In: Fitzpatrick, Alfes, & Hickman, eds. *A Guide to Mastery in Clinical Nursing*. 1st ed. New York, NY: Springer; 2017:86.

**Widmar SB**. Ventricular Assist Devices. In: Fitzpatrick, Alfes, & Hickman, eds. *A Guide to Mastery in Clinical Nursing*. 1st ed. New York, NY: Springer; 2017:165.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Beard K, **Akard TF**, DeGroode D, Duffy M, Fallon A, Sanders A, **Gilmer MJ**. "All Heart" animal-assisted interventions with hospitalized children with cancer: A case description. *Association of Child Life Professionals Bulletin*. Apr 2017: 20-26.

**Rhoten BA**. Connection, intimacy, and sexual activity after treatment for cancer of the head and neck. *News from Support for People with Oral Head and Neck Cancer*. Feb 2017.

**Vanderhoef D**. Registered nurses' role in pre-discharge suicide and behavioral health assessment. *SAMSHA White Paper*. 2017.

## EDITORSHIPS AND APPOINTMENTS

**Adams S.** Editorial Board Member, *Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association*, Mar 2017

**Andrews, S.** Pediatric Nursing Certification Board, Institute of Pediatric Nursing, Member 2017

**Christenbery T.** Editorial Board Member, *Nurse Educator*, Jan-Dec 2017

**Collins M.** American Society for Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology, Co-chair Assessment Committee, Apr 2017-Apr 2018

**Collins M.** HRSA — ACOG, Women's Preventative Services Initiative, Mar 2017-Mar 2018

**Evans M.** American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation, Infectious Diseases Special Interest Group, Feb 2017

**Evans M.** Association of Pediatric Hematology Oncology Nurses Nashville Music City Chapter, Chapter President, Jan 2017-Dec 2018

**Evans M.** Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research, Pediatric Cancer Working Committee, Jan 2017

**Evans M.** Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Consortium, Supportive Care Committee Member, Jan 2017

**Hande K.** National Organization for Nurse Practitioner Faculties, Member Resource Committee, Member, Apr 2017

**Hande K.** TN State Board of Health, Turning the Tide on the Opioid Epidemic, Prescriber

Education Committee, Committee Member, Nov 2017

**Kim J.** Aging Patients and Health Professionals: New Roles in a Changing Health System (Massachusetts General Hospital), Advisory Board Member, Nov 2016-Aug 2018

**Kim J.** Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association, Treasurer, Oct 2017-Oct 2019

**Lambert M.** USPHS Commissioned Officers Foundation, Chair, Education Committee, Jan 2017-Dec 2018

**Moore G.** Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, Nominating Committee Member, Dec 2017-Dec 2019

**Parish A.** Editorial Board Member, *Geriatric Nursing*, Dec 2017

**Pilon, B.** National Nurse-led Care Consortium, Board of Directors, Chair, 2017

**Schirle, L.** American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, State Organizational Development Committee Member, 2017

**Smith M.** American Association of Heart Failure Nurses, Membership Committee Chair, June 2017

**Vanderhoef D.** American Psychiatric Nurses Association, Chair — APRN Practice Steering Committee, Oct 2017

**Waynick-Rogers P.** American Interprofessional Health Collaborative, AIHC National Faculty Mentor Program, Mar 2017

**Wilbeck J.** Editorial Board Member, *Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal*, 2017

**Wilbeck J.** Editorship, *Advanced Emergency Nursing Journal*, Oct 2017

**Young C.** National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, Board Member at Large, Apr 2017-Apr 2019

## AWARDS

**Akard, T.** American Academy of Nursing, Fellowship, 2017

**Collins, M.** American College of Nurse-Midwives, Newton Long Research Award, 2017

**Dietrich, M.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Dean Colleen Conway-Welch Award, 2017

**Dowdy, D.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Excellence in Patient Experience Award, 2017

**Evans, M.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Sara K. Archer Award, 2017

**Gilmer, MJ.** March of Dimes, Tennessee Chapter Nurse of the Year for Research, 2017

**Gordon, J.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Sara K. Archer Award, 2017

**Hande K.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Dean Coleen Conway-Welch Award, 2017

**Ivory C.** American Academy of Nursing, Fellowship, 2017

**Johnson, R.** Vanderbilt University Pioneer, 2017

**Kim J.** Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association, Rising Star Award, 2017

**Kleinpell, R.** Vanderbilt University, Independence Foundation Chair in Nursing Education, 2017

**Kraft, N.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Sara K. Archer Award, 2017

**Lauderdale J.** Joseph J. Johnson Jr., Distinguished Leadership Professor Award. Vanderbilt University. 2017

**Maxwell, C.** National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence, Innovation Award, 2017

**Moore G.** Hands On Nashville, Hands On Nashville Mary Catherine Strobel Volunteer Award Finalist — Capacity Building Volunteer, 2017

**Moore G.** March of Dimes, Tennessee Chapter Nurse of the Year for Women's Health, 2017

**Moore-Davis, T.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Sara K. Archer Award, 2017

**Morris M.** Tennessee Nurses Foundation, TNF Music City District 3 Scholarship Award, 2017

**Morris M.** Tennessee Nurses Foundation, TNF Nursing Research Grant Award, 2017

**Morris M.** University of Tennessee, Knoxville Graduate School, Student/Faculty Research Award, 2017

**Morris M.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, VICTR Resource Award, 2017

**Nelson, B.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Sara K. Archer Award, 2017

**Parish A.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Sara K. Archer Award, 2017

**Phillippi, J.** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, K08 Career Development Award, 2017

**Piano M.** University of Illinois at Chicago, UIC College of Nursing Distinguished Researcher Award, 2017

**Piano M.** Vanderbilt University, Nancy and Hillard Travis Endowed Chair in Nursing, 2017

**Pilon, B.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Ingeborg Mauksch Award for Faculty Mentoring, 2017

**Pope J.** Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Fellow of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 2017

**Ridner, S.** Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame, Inductee, 2017

**Shifrin, M.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Sara K. Archer Award, 2017

**Shifrin M.** Wolters Kluwer, National Conference for Nurse Practitioners Poster Award, 2017

**Stolldorf, D.** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, K01 Career Development Award, 2017

**Stolldorf D.** Vanderbilt University, Provost Research Studio, 2017

**Vanderhoef, D.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Sara K. Archer Award, 2017

**Vick, R.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Faculty Achievement in Clinical Practice Award, 2017

**Waynick-Rogers P.** American Interprofessional Health Collaborative, AIHC Scholar Award, 2017

**Widmar, B.** American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Fellowship, 2017

**Wilbeck J.** March of Dimes, Tennessee Chapter Nurse of the Year for Advanced Practice, 2017

**Wilbeck J.** Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Dean's Award for Achievement in Academics, 2017

#### STUDENT JOURNALS

**Anderson AR,** Deng J, Anthony RS, Atalla SA, Monroe TB. Using complementary and alternative medicine to treat pain and agitation in dementia. *Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America.* Dec 2017;29(4):519-537.

**Beckmann NB,** Miller WP, **Dietrich MS,** Orchard PJ. Quality of life among boys with adrenoleukodystrophy following hematopoietic stem cell transplant. *Child Neuropsychology.* Sep 2017;23:1-13.

Newell AC, **Davis K,** Wang L, Bichell D, Clay MA. Obesity: Risk factor for increased resource utilization at bidirectional glenn. *Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition.* Nov 2017;42(1):49-55.

Creary S, O'Brien S, Stanek J, Hankins, J, **Garee A,** Ball K, Andrews T, Chisolm D. A retrospective review to determine if children with sickle cell disease

receive hydroxyurea monitoring. *Pediatric Quality & Safety.* Apr 2017;2(3):1-6.

**Hittle K,** Jenks C, Tweed J, **Gigli K H,** Venkataraman R, Raman L. An international survey on ventilator, tracheostomy and extubation practices among extracorporeal membrane oxygenation centers. *ASAIO Journal.* Nov/Dec 2017;63(6):787-792.

**Myers L,** Anderlid BM, Nordgren A, Willfors C, Kuja-Halkola R, Tammimies K, Bölte S. Minor physical anomalies in neurodevelopmental disorders: A twin study. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health.* Nov 2017;57(11):1

Hoffman R L, **Saucier J,** Dasani S, Collins T, Holena DN, Fitzpatrick M, Tsypenyuk B, Martin ND. Development and implementation of a risk identification tool to facilitate critical care transitions for high-risk surgical patients. *International Journal for Quality in Health Care.* June 2017;29(3):412-419.

Dayan PS, Ballard DW, Tham E, Hoffman JM, **Swietlik M,** Deakynne SJ, Alessandrini EA, Tzimenatos L, Bajaj L, Vinson DR, Mark DG, Offerman SR, Chettipally UK, Paterno MD, Schaeffer MH, Wang J, Casper TC, Goldberg HS, Grundmeier RW, Kuppermann N. Use of traumatic brain injury prediction rules with clinical decision support. *Pediatrics.* Apr 2017;139(4):2016-2709.

Hyman D, Neiman J, Rannie M, Allen R, **Swietlik M,** Balzer A. Innovative use of the electronic health record to support harm reduction efforts. *Pediatrics.* Apr 2017;139:e20153410

Wild MG, **Wallston KA,** Green JA, Beach LB, Umeukeje E, Wright Nunes JA, Ikizler TA, **Steed J,** Cavanaugh KL. The perceived medical condition self-management scale can be applied to patients with chronic kidney disease. *Kidney International.* Oct 2017;92(4):972-978.

**Zsomboky M.** Sleep and pregnancy: Understanding the importance. *International Journal of Childbirth Education.* Jan 2017;32(1):22-24.

#### STUDENT BOOK CHAPTERS

**Caruso AM,** Tyler A, Malkowicz SB. Bladder Cancer. In: Newman DK, Wyman JF, Welch VW, eds. *Core Curriculum for Urologic Nursing.* 1st ed. *Pittman, NJ: Anthony Jannetti, Inc;* 2017:325-338.

#### STUDENT OTHER PUBLICATIONS

**Caruso, AM.** Redefining the culture of NP-physician collaboration. *Urology Times.* Feb 2017. [www.urologytimes.com/modern-medicine-news/redefining-culture-np-physician-collaboration](http://www.urologytimes.com/modern-medicine-news/redefining-culture-np-physician-collaboration)

#### STUDENT APPOINTMENTS

**Abanes J,** American Psychiatric Nurses Association, Member-at-Large CA Chapter, Nov 2016-Nov 2018

**Lorch T,** Kentucky Nurses Association, Professional Practice & Advocacy Cabinet — Clinical Practice, Jan 2018-Dec 2019

# Class Notes



**Evelyn Manoogian Biles, '73**, is founder and president of

**Global Mosaic International**, a nonprofit Christian organization in Yorktown, Virginia.

## 60s

**Donna Townsend Maddox,**

BSN'61, is president of Marketing and Business Consultants Inc. in Sarasota, Florida.

## 70s

**Diane Cody Roberts,** BSN'73, is a school nurse in the Spring Branch Independent School District in Houston, Texas.

**Ann Hotter Tescher,** BSN'77, received the Best Poster Award from the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) in March 2017, and the Research Merit Award from the Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society in May 2017. In January 2017, she began a three-year term on the NPUAP board of directors.

**Katherine Power McCrea,** BSN'78, is a certified post-anesthesia nurse at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Nashville.

## 80s

**Suzanne McMurtry Baird,** BSN'84, MSN'95, is a maternal



**Kelly McCampbell Gentry, BSN'84**, is director at the Oklahoma Center for Adult Stem Cell Research in Oklahoma City, and represents VUSN on the Vanderbilt University Alumni Board.

quality improvement specialist at Tennessee Initiative for Perinatal Quality Care in Nashville.

**Scarlett Hackman West,** BSN'84, is an adjunct instructor of nursing at Indian River State College in Fort Pierce, Florida.

**Mary McDevitt,** MSN'85, joined the Buckelew Programs board of directors in August 2017. The company provides behavioral health services to people in California's Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Lake and Mendocino counties.

**Paula Day Bennett,** BSN'88, is a registered nurse at Summit Surgery Center in Hermitage, Tennessee.

**Aimee Carabin,** BSN'88, is a registered nurse and office administrator at Houston Foot and Ankle in Texas.

**Rachel Ricafort, MD,** BSN'88, is a physician in a private pediatrics practice in Smyrna, Tennessee.

**Betsy Babb Kennedy,** BSN'89, MSN'93, was promoted to professor at VUSN in January 2018.

## 90s

**Sara Duvall,** MSN'90, graduated from A.T. Still University in Mesa, Arizona, as a doctor of health sciences in June 2017.

**Ginny Moore,** MSN'90, presented a poster at the 28th International Nursing Research Congress in Dublin, Ireland, in July 2017. She also received the

Women's Health Nurse of the Year Award from the March of Dimes Tennessee Chapter in November 2017.

**Rebecca Wingard,** MSN'91, is vice president of Fresenius Medical Care North America's Innovations Group in Chattanooga.

**Pam Waynick-Rogers,** MSN'92, received an American Interprofessional Health Collaborative Scholar Award in October 2017.

**Katie Dremann Justice,** MSN'93, PMC'14, is on staff at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City.

**Nancy Kraft,** MSN'93, received VUSN's Sara K. Archer Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning in the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner specialty in August 2017.

**Wendy Johnson Araya,** MSN'96, DNP'12, is the NICU Nurse Practitioner Team Lead at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.

**Cindy Waller,** MSN'97, PhD'11, is dean of health care professions at Nashville State Community College.

**Patricia Detzel,** MSN'98, received the Public and Community Health Nurse of the Year Award from the March of Dimes Tennessee Chapter in November 2017.

**Beth Levi Garrison,** MSN'98, is a clinical educator at Rush Copley Medical Center in Aurora, Illinois.

**Becky Goldwasser,** MSN'98, is lead certified registered nurse anesthetist for obstetrics at three hospitals in the Sheridan Healthcare system in Jacksonville, Florida.



**Jonathan Cole, MSN'96**, is associate medical director at

**Saint Thomas Medical Group's Hypertension Institute** in Nashville.

**Rene Love,** MSN'98, DNP'10, is president of the International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses.

**Melissa Ott,** MSN'98, is owner/operator and psychiatric nurse practitioner at Genesis Psychiatric Services in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

**Julia Cain Phillippi,** MSN'99, received a \$399,374 award from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in January to study an interdisciplinary team-based maternity care model.

**Jennifer Ezell Wilbeck,** MSN'99, PMC'16, received the Advance Practice Nurse of the Year Award from the March of Dimes Tennessee Chapter in November 2017.

**Todd Warren,** MSN'99, is a nurse practitioner at Orthopedic Specialists in Arrington, Tennessee.

**Angela Wilson-Liverman,** MSN'99, received the Advance Practice Nurse of the Year Award from the March of Dimes Tennessee Chapter in November 2017.

## 00s

**Holly Gillon,** MSN'00, retired in August 2017 from her career with the Veterans Administration in Nashville.



**Sheila Ridner**, MSN'00, PhD'03, was inducted into the University of Kentucky College of Nursing Hall of Fame in November 2017.

**Dawn Vanderhoef**, MSN'00, PMC'13, received VUSN's Sara K. Archer Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specialty in August 2017.

**Terrah Foster Akard**, MSN'01, PhD'08, was honored in October as a 2017 fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

**Keeley Roberts Bowman**, MSN'01, was promoted from instructor to assistant professor at VUSN in 2017.

**Jean Markie**, MSN'01, is an assistant professor at the Jeanette C. Rudy School of Nursing and Health Professions at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee.

**Brittany Huffman Nelson**, MSN'01, received VUSN's Sara K. Archer Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning in the Pediatric-Primary Care Nurse Practitioner specialty in August 2017.

**Traci Turner Boswell**, MSN'03, is a psychiatric nurse practitioner at Genesis Psychiatric Services in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

**Patricia Wells Haeberle**, MSN'03, is an acute care nurse

practitioner at Saint Thomas Medical Partners in Nashville, specializing in adult cardiothoracic and vascular medicine.

**Keri Revett**, MSN'03, is a program manager with Vanderbilt Network Services, a division of Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

**Shara Mayberry**, MSN'04, is a lead nurse practitioner at Emory Coordinated Care Center in Stockbridge and Decatur, Georgia.

**Edyie Cloyd**, MSN'05, and her wife welcomed a son, Warner Strong Cloyd, in October 2017.

**Michael Gooch**, MSN'05, was promoted to assistant professor at VUSN in January.

**Abby Bowen James**, MSN'05, BA'04, is a women's health nurse practitioner with Cumberland Skin in Nashville, a private practice dermatology office.

**April Kapu**, MSN'05, DNP'13, received funding from the Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners for an expanded advanced practice registered nurses Choosing Wisely collaborative study at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

**Abigail Morgan**, MSN'05, is a women's health nurse practitioner at the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation clinic in Bethel, Alaska.

**Abby Luck Parish**, MSN'05, received VUSN's Sara K. Archer Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning in the Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner specialty in August 2017. She and her husband welcomed a daughter, Anne Luck Parish, in September.

**Melissa 'Missi' Willmarth Stec**, MSN'05, DNP'10, was inducted as a 2017 fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She recently joined the State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Nursing as professor and associate dean for evaluation and education innovation.

**Shawana Crawford**, MSN'06, DNP'12, is a medical scientist with Gilead Sciences, studying liver disease.

**Megan Shifrin**, MSN'06, received VUSN's Sara K. Archer Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning in the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner specialty in August 2017. She and her husband welcomed a daughter, Alden Grace Shifrin, in October.

**Jacqueline Kunz**, MSN'07, is a neonatology hospitalist at HSHS Medical Group in Breesee, Illinois.

**Theresa Wilson Monroe**, MSN'07, is a psychiatric nurse practitioner at Genesis Psychiatric Services in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

**Deonna Moore**, MSN'07, PhD'17, is now the administrative director of Transplant Clinical Services in the Vanderbilt University Medical Center Transplant Center.

**Letizia Baxter Smith**, MSN'07, welcomed a daughter in October 2017. She is an instructor at VUSN and a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner at the Mental Health Cooperative in Nashville.

**Tiffany Terrill**, MSN'07, is a women's health nurse practitioner in the office of Bruce R. Goodman, MD, in Hermitage, Tennessee.

**Rob Anderson**, MSN'08, is an assistant in General Internal Medicine and Public Health at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

**Anabel Robertson Atkinson**, MSN'08, is a school nurse at University Park Elementary in Dallas.

**Autumne Bailey**, MSN'08, is administrative director of performance, management and improvement at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.

**Trina Corley**, MSN'08, is a provider and the owner of Advanced Family Medical Clinic in Nashville.

**Haley Hoy**, PhD'08, is the associate dean of graduate programs, associate professor and acute care nurse practitioner at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

**Matt Schroer**, MSN'08, completed his doctor of nursing practice at Maryville University in St. Louis in September 2017.

**Dederick Yeargin**, MSN'08, is an advance practice nurse at the Veterans Administration clinic in Dover, Tennessee.

**Lauren Drees**, MSN'09, opened Haven Birth and Wellness in Nashville in May 2017.

**Vikki Pedigo**, MSN'09, is a women's health nurse practitioner at Urology Associates in Nashville.

**Courtney Young Pitts**, MSN'09, DNP'11, and her husband welcomed a son, John Paul Jamieson Pitts, in August 2017.

**Melissa Weinand Purvis**, MSN'09, was named chief



**Kuei-ru Chou**, PhD'97, is dean of the Taipei Medical

University College of Nursing in Taiwan.



**Trish Baise, MSN'12, DNP'16, was promoted to chief executive officer of Mountain States' Franklin Woods Community and Woodridge Hospitals, as well as administrator of Overmountain Recovery, in Johnson City, Tennessee, in December 2017.**

nursing officer in October 2017 for Greystone Healthcare Management, which operates health care centers in Florida and Ohio.

**Bethany Andrews Rhoten, MSN'09, PhD'13, was awarded a \$30,000 American Cancer Society grant to investigate the impact of head and neck cancer treatment on a patient's sexuality. She is an assistant professor at VUSN.**

**10s**

**Sharon Holley, DNP'10, is the first advanced practitioner named to a faculty appointment in the University of Massachusetts Medical School, where she is a clinical associate professor. She is also chief of the Baystate Health's midwifery division.**

**Angela Morris-Manning, MSN'10, was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force. She is presently serving in Texas while pursuing a doctorate degree.**

**Clare Storck, MSN'10, is a certified nurse-midwife at Mount**



**Brenna Gillis, MSN'15, DNP'17, is a psychiatric nurse practitioner at Genesis Psychiatric Services in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. She was VUSN's 2018 Founder's Medalist.**

Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Lindsay Piper Tedder, MSN'10, is a nurse practitioner at Maven Clinic, a virtual medical clinic for women.**

**Cathy Ivory, PhD'11, was honored in October 2017 as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.**

**Kim Kuebler, DNP'11, is editor and author of the textbook, "Integration of Palliative Care in Chronic Conditions: An Interdisciplinary Approach."**

**Natasha McClure, MSN'11, was promoted from instructor to assistant professor at VUSN in 2017.**

**Jocelyn Stauffer McGuire, MSN'11, is a nurse practitioner at Middle Tennessee Neurology Associates.**

**Ken Nelson III, MSN'11, DNP'13, was appointed chief nursing officer at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, Wisconsin, in November 2017.**

**Shaunna Parker, MSN'11, is an instructor in women's health at VUSN.**

**Stephanie Abbu, MSN'12, received the Graduate Student Nurse of the Year Award from the March of Dimes Tennessee Chapter in November 2017.**

**Carol Gray, DNP'12, joined volunteers from Emory University Medical Center Midtown to assist residents of**

St. Croix with chronic kidney disease who were unable to receive dialysis due to Hurricane Irma. She is a nurse practitioner at Emory Midtown.

**Kimberly Waldrop Hill, PMC'12, is a pulmonary nurse practitioner at Saint Thomas Medical Group in Nashville. She is adjunct faculty at VUSN and Belmont University in Nashville and South College in Knoxville, Tennessee.**

**Sarah Jenkins, MSN'12, is a women's health nurse practitioner at Women Obstetrics and Gynecology in Nashville.**

**Erin Kyle, MSN'12, DNP'14, is a perioperative practice specialist for the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses.**

**Cathy Maxwell, PhD'12, received the National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence Innovation Award in July 2017.**

**Laura Sidlinger, DNP'12, was named chair of the Kansas Community Mental Health Centers' Organization of Medical Directors and Psychiatric Staff in August 2017. She is director of Medical Services at Valeo Behavioral Health Care in Topeka.**

**Sarah Sexton Walters, MSN'12, is a nurse practitioner in the pediatric otolaryngology division of Vanderbilt University Medical Center.**

**Karen Hande, DNP'13, was promoted to associate professor at VUSN in 2017. She also received the student-voted Dean Colleen Conway-Welch DNP Faculty Award.**

**Karen McIntosh, MSN'13, was named vice president of Care**

Transition at Washington Regional Medical System in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

**Jessica Rogers Searcy, MSN'13, DNP'15, received VUSN's Sara K. Archer Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning in the Women's Health Nurse Practitioner specialty in August 2017.**

**Melanie Scott Krishnamurthy, MSN'14, married in July 2016. She is on staff at Womens Group of Franklin (Tennessee).**

**Nicole Erridge Sovey, MSN'14, DNP'16, presented at the Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health national conference in Seattle in October 2017. She is a nurse practitioner at Detroit Medical Center Hartland Obstetrics and Gynecology in Michigan.**

**Lacey Cross, MSN'15, is a family nurse practitioner with Vanderbilt Health at Metro Nashville Public Schools, an employee health center serving MNPS employees and their dependents.**

**Misty Evans, DNP'15, received VUSN's Sara K. Archer Award for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning in the Pediatric-Acute Care Nurse Practitioner specialty in August 2017.**

**Katelin Hollingsworth, MSN'15, is a nurse practitioner at East Arkansas Family Health Center.**

**Polly Jackson, MSN'15, is a nurse practitioner within a hospitalist group at Mercy Hospital Washington in Missouri. She joined the group as its first nurse practitioner after presenting its providers with a research proposal.**

**Danica Ninkovic**, PMC'15, was the first recipient of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center Advanced Practice Emergency Medicine Fellowship in September 2017.

**Leslie Price**, MSN'15, is a women's health nurse practitioner at Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest.

**Alethea Robbins**, MSN'15, joined PeaceHealth's obstetrics and gynecology team in Bellingham, Washington, in October 2017.

**Sunny Bartholomew**, MSN'16, DNP'17, is a certified nurse-midwife in the U.S. Navy.

**Colleen Conway-Edwards**, MSN'16, joined the geriatrics team at PeaceHealth Medical Group's Barger Clinic in Eugene, Oregon, in October 2017.

**Katie Davidson**, MSN'16, is a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner at Centerstone in Nashville.

**Stephanie Gustman**, DNP'16, is an assistant professor at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan.

**Natalie Paul**, MSN'16, was awarded a Washington State Student Achievement Council Health Professional Loan Repayment Program grant. She works at the Family Health Center, a federally qualified health center in Woodland, Washington.



**Sharon Hodges**, MSN'15, is an adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner at Mercy Urology in Paducah, Kentucky.

**Lara Rivera**, DNP'16, is a certified nurse-midwife at Lawrence Memorial Hospital in Lawrence, Kansas.

**Abigail Boynton**, MSN'17, is a certified pediatric nurse practitioner at the Pediatric Health Care Alliance in the Tampa, Florida, area.

**Margaret Brown**, DNP'17, is a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner in the Veterans Administration Boston Healthcare System in West Roxbury, Massachusetts.

**Erin Coale**, MSN'17, is a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner at Lourdes Behavioral Health and Mercy Medical Associates in Paducah, Kentucky.

**Daniel Ferguson**, MSN'17, is a family nurse practitioner at Citizens Memorial Hospital's Neurology Clinic and Missouri Memory Center in Bolivar, Missouri.

**Jami Hicks**, MSN'17, is head of the Children's Clinic of Rusk in Florida.

**Elizabeth Howland**, MSN'17, is a clinician at Planned Parenthood in San Diego.

**Alvin Jeffery**, PhD'17, is a post-doctoral research fellow with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Nashville.

**Taylor Johnson**, MSN'17, is a fellow at Nemours Children's Hospital in Newark, Delaware.

**Danielle Lenz**, MSN'17, is a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner for Indiana University Health in Fishers.

**Robin Mickelson**, PhD'17, and her co-writer received the Alphonse Chapanis Student

Paper Award from the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society in October 2017.

**Brooke Patteson**, MSN'17, is at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, working with pediatric neuro-oncology patients.

**Maggie Roberts**, MSN'17, is on staff at Baptist Health in Lexington, Kentucky, treating labor and delivery, postpartum, antepartum, cesarean and high-risk patients.

**Amy Stvartak**, MSN'17, is a family nurse practitioner at Healthy Connections Inc., a lifespan primary care clinic for rural, underserved populations in Mount Ida, Arkansas.

#### IN MEMORIAM

**Rosa Paxton Payne**, N'44, December 2017, Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

**Martha Jenkins King**, BSN'47, December 2017, Augusta, Georgia.

**Nell Rehberg Palmer**, BSN'49, September 2017, Bryan, Texas.

**Dean Lowrey Stout**, BSN'49, September 2017, Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

**Betty Rabun Stroup**, BSN'49, September 2017, Nashville.

**Emma Hutto Reiss**, BSN'53, August 2017, New Haven, Connecticut.

**Margaret Lisby Melville**, N'51, January 2018, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Sylvia Farrell Alderson**, BSN'53, MSN'76, November 2017, Taneytown, Maryland.

**Sandy Travis Collier**, BSN'56, June 2017, Highlands, North Carolina.

**Sally Clark Green**, N'57, February 2017, Mobile, Alabama.

**Wilma June Putman Kaufman**, N'57, October 2017, Ozark, Missouri.

**Erna McAninch Pelok**, N'58, July 2017, Wauseon, Ohio.

**Candy Luckhardt LeMay**, BSN'67, December 2017, Knoxville, Tennessee.

**Laura Gerow Bramlette**, BSN'69, November 2017, Houston, Texas.

**Rebecca Bruning Manyak**, BSN'75, October 2017, Chevy Chase, Maryland.

---

SEND ALUMNI NEWS AND PHOTOS TO [vsun-alumninursing@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vsun-alumninursing@vanderbilt.edu)  
(615) 936-3046  
Toll Free: (800) 288-0028  
VISIT US ON THE WEB [vanderbilt.edu/vanderbiltnurse](http://vanderbilt.edu/vanderbiltnurse)

# Making a WORLD of difference

BY NANCY WISE  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SUSAN ANDREWS AND SHELZA RIVAS, DNP'17, MSN'15, BA'12

Two groups of Vanderbilt nursing students and faculty spent spring break in Latin America. One — a cohort from the Enhancing Community and Population Health course led by instructor Shelza Rivas, DNP, WHNP-BC, AGPCNP-BC, and assistant professor Natasha McClure, DNP, CPNP — traveled to Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, to assess Primeros Pasos, a rural community clinic for which they would plan a new

health care delivery model. The second, consisting of Psychiatric-Mental Health (PMHNP) student Alexandra Taylor, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care (AGPCNP) student Helana Anderjack Garrett and instructor Susan Andrews, DNP, CPN, were part of a medical mission team headed to San Eduardo, Ecuador, through Nashville's Center for Contemplative Justice.

Two groups, comprising two sides of advanced practice nursing: one, assessment and planning; the other, hands-on clinical practice. Both trips involved hard work, language barriers, cultural differences, comprehension of overwhelming need and being embraced by the warm, welcoming people they served.





1. Nurse-Midwifery (NM) student Abigail Jones reflects on the view. 2. Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) student Todd Baer and NW student Caroline Booth with local girls. 3. Santa Catalina Arch, Antigua, Guatemala. 4. From left, Jones, Booth and NM student Samantha Bellamy. 5. The trip included a visit to a volcano. From left, Booth, Baer, FNP students Mariah Ramirez and Aline Studstill, VUSM professor Brent Savoie, MD, JD, and Vanderbilt Institute for Global Health coordinator Elizabeth Rose. 6. Students outside Primeros Pasos, the non-profit clinic where they assisted.

1. PMHNP student Alexandra Taylor (right, white shirt) translates for Whit James, MD in San Eduardo, Ecuador. 2. Villagers wait for medical services. 3. Taylor listens to a local boy. 4. The community where the team served. 5. Taylor with local children. 6. The full medical team gathering before the first day's clinic start. 7. AGPC-NP student Helena Anderjack Garrett (far left) working in triage. 8. Standing, Susan Andrews (left) and her daughter, Morgan, flank a local resident and her daughters. Morgan served as an interpreter on the trip, now in its 20th year.

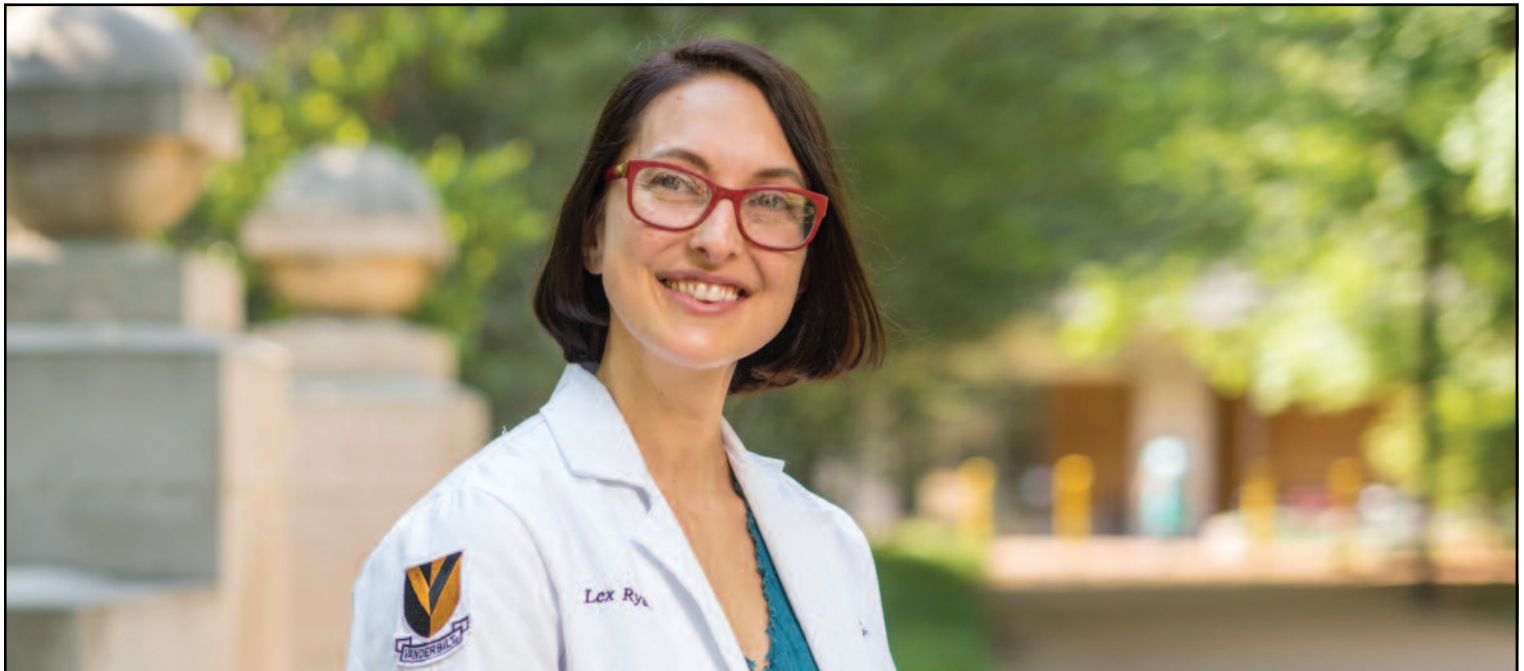




Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

PMB 357737  
2301 VANDERBILT PLACE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37235-7737

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
NASHVILLE, TN  
PERMIT NO. 1460



## CHANGING LIVES

**Former musician Alexis Ryan was used to being on stage,** but she traded in her microphone for a white coat when she decided to become a psychiatric nurse practitioner. Her future health care career was made possible by the generous supporters of the Pass it On Scholarship.

To learn more about supporting scholarships for nursing students, contact J. Steven Barnes, Associate Dean for Development, at 615-343-4474 or [VUSNgiving@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:VUSNgiving@vanderbilt.edu).