



The University of New Mexico

# College of Nursing

2017 Annual Report

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 Nursing student working  
with sim baby.

# Dean's Message

**B**ienvenidos to the 2017 edition of *The University of New Mexico College of Nursing Annual Report*. My name is Dr. Carolyn Montoya, and I am the Interim Dean for the College. Over the past 30 years, I have served in many leadership roles at the College of Nursing, including most recently as Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. My passion for the nursing profession has led me to advocate for health care issues at the local and national levels. As President of the New Mexico Nurse Practitioner Council, I advocated for the legislation that allowed full-scope practice for nurse practitioners to improve health care for all New Mexicans. My activities on behalf of nursing at the national level have included being a Fellow and Past President of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, where I advocated for improving the health of children and families.

Our 2016-2017 academic year was one of many changes and exciting opportunities. Working alongside our faculty and staff, I can attest to the leadership, dedication, and creativity that they bring to the College on a daily basis. This year's Annual Report features the accomplishments of Dean Nancy Ridenour and her legacy over the past nine years, as well as the presidency of Dr. Beth Tigges, Associate Professor, of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. We also dive into

the career of Dr. Jennifer Averill, Associate Professor, who will be retiring at the end of 2017, and her impact on nursing and health care.

As we have mentioned in previous issues, our student body continues to grow. In spring of 2017, our total enrollment was 936 students. We strive to provide student-centered learning to produce the next generation of health care professionals. You will learn more about a specific program that is literally on the fast track to success. Our RN to BSN program was revamped to provide seven-week courses and allow working registered nurses to return to school online and complete their degree.

The College understands the demands of returning to school to pursue a master's degree. Many of our graduate students are working and have families. Our program is intense and strives to educate our students to be future nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, and nurse educators in a nurturing environment that promotes inclusion and compassion. We have a dedicated faculty member, Dr. Heidi Rogers, to help support these students and guide them to success.

Finally, we also share with you some stories of those individuals who support the College through philanthropic endeavors. One of our largest individual donors in the history of the College was Mrs. Sue Daulton. Her gifts to the College of Nursing supported a wide range of



areas in nursing, including student scholarships and faculty support. We are truly grateful for each and every one of our donors, who continue to change the health and lives of those in our communities with their support.

As we move forward in the search for our new dean, the College continues to thrive and grow. We are finding new and innovative ways to continue our long tradition of academic excellence as well as focus on the scholarship of nursing education, research, practice, and policy to inform and lead in the delivery and analysis of nursing and health care as a whole.

Carolyn Montoya  
PhD, CPNP, FAANP, FAAN  
Interim Dean

# Year in Review



## UNM COLLEGE OF NURSING AMONG TOP SOUTHWEST NURSING SCHOOLS

NursingSchoolsAlmanac.com ranked the UNM College of Nursing 15th out of more than 350 nursing schools in the southwest United States and one of the country's top nursing schools. NursingSchoolsAlmanac's research team evaluated more than 3,200 U.S. nursing schools and campuses based on the breadth and depth of nursing programs, student success, value, and other measures.

## UNM NURSING STUDENTS GAIN PRIMARY CARE EXPERIENCE IN NAVAJO CLINICS

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awarded UNM College of Nursing's Judy Liesveld, PhD, \$611,259 over the next two years to administer the Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention-Bachelor of Science in Nursing Practicum grant. Dr. Liesveld, Interim Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, is designing the program for students to experience primary care nursing in underserved communities, while increasing partnerships between the College and health clinics in the region.

Twenty-four select UNM Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) students were immersed in a clinical setting for two weeks as part of a federal Health Resources and Services Administration grant to promote nurse education practice, quality, and retention on the Navajo Nation. The program places BSN students from UNM and San Juan College at the Indian Health Service Unit in Chinle, AZ, to provide care for underserved populations and other high-risk groups.



## COLLEGE OF NURSING STUDY REVEALS U.S. SEX-TRAFFICKING CHARGES ON THE RISE

A research team from UNM's College of Nursing developed new statistical metrics that produced clear evidence that sex trafficking has been on the rise in the United States. Tracking the murky world of sex trafficking in the United States has been challenging, with unclear outcomes due to disparate and unconnected local, state, federal, and international reporting criteria, according to Shana Judge, PhD, the study's principal investigator and an assistant professor with the UNM College of Nursing. Judge and her colleague Blake Boursaw, a mathematician and applied statistician instructor at the UNM College of Nursing, performed extensive modeling and calculations on reconfigured data from the Federal Justice Statistics Program. They found that the proportion of all charges filed by federal prosecutors that involved sex trafficking and related cases increased significantly between 1994 and 2007.

## STUDENTS TRAVEL TO MEXICO CITY

LeeAnna Vargas, undergraduate faculty member, led a group of 12 level-four nursing students to Mexico City for a two-week clinical intensive. The clinical experience was in partnership with LaSalle University in Mexico City. The students stayed with host families and participated in primary care clinics, rehabilitation clinics, rural home visits, and specialty HIV community health clinics.

## 2ND ANNUAL PROFESSOR PETER A. WINOGRAD VISITING PROFESSORSHIP IN NURSING LECTURE SERIES

The Office of Development hosted the 2nd Annual Professor Peter A. Winograd Visiting Professorship in Nursing lecture series, featuring Cecily L. Betz, PhD, RN, FAAN, Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the University of Southern California, on September 22 and 23, 2016. Dr. Betz is a nationally recognized expert on the subject of transition of care. She gave lectures on Health Care Transition Planning.



## NURSING RECEIVES HEED AWARD

The College of Nursing was selected as a recipient of the prestigious 2016 INSIGHT Into Diversity Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award. This award is the only national recognition honoring health professions colleges and universities that exhibit outstanding efforts and success in the area of diversity and inclusion.

## INDUCTED AS FELLOWS INTO THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSING

Two College of Nursing-affiliated nurses were inducted as Fellows into the American Academy of Nursing. The prestigious recognition was bestowed on Carolyn Montoya, PhD, CPNP, Interim Dean for the UNM College of Nursing, and Kelly Buettner-Schmidt, PhD, RN, an associate professor at North Dakota State University and an alumna of the College of Nursing.

## CLINICAL PARTNER RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION

On November 12, 2016, the College of Nursing held an interprofessional collaboration and educational session for preceptors and clinical educators. Dr. Kiran Katira, Director, UNM Community Engagement Center, Faculty Peace and Justice Studies, discussed "Undoing Racism in Health Care."



## POST-MASTER'S PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM

The UNM College of Nursing, in collaboration with the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, CO, is offering a Post-Master's Certificate program to become a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. The program is designed for master's-prepared nurse practitioners and nurse-midwives to add the necessary knowledge and skills for assessment, diagnosis, and management of mental illness to their scope of practice.

# Year in Review

## COLLEGE OF NURSING RECEIVES IHS GRANT TO INCREASE NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS

The Indian Health Service (IHS) awarded a grant of more than \$300,000 to the University of New Mexico College of Nursing to educate more American Indian and Native Alaskan nursing students. The three-year “American Indians Into Nursing” grant brings together the UNM College of Nursing, San Juan College in Farmington, NM, and UNM Center for Native American Health. It is hoped that the collaboration will increase the number of Native American nurses in communities at IHS centers in New Mexico.

## FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE PRESENTATION

On February 9, 2016, the College of Nursing hosted Dr. Jeffery Bauer, health futurist, author, and medical economist. His presentation was entitled “Forecasting the Future of Healthcare Delivery: A New Era for Academic Nursing.”



## NURSE-MIDWIFERY PROGRAM RANKED 7TH IN NATION

*U.S. News and World Report* ranked the UNM College of Nursing Nurse-Midwifery program 7th in the nation for 2016.

## PREMATURE DEATH RATES RISE FOR SOME U.S. ETHNIC GROUPS

A study of U.S. mortality data by researchers at the National Cancer Institute, the UNM College of Nursing, and other research organizations has shown that premature death rates actually rose for whites and American Indians/Alaska Natives between 1999 and 2014, and that these disparities are growing. Lead researcher Meredith S. Shiels of the National Cancer Institute called on Emily A. Haozous, PhD, RN, a Native American researcher and Associate Professor at the UNM College of Nursing, to help in the study. The increase is due largely to drug overdoses, alcohol-related deaths, and suicide, the researchers concluded, and parallels the rise in heroin and opioid use over the last two decades.

## KICK-OFF RECEPTION

The UNM College of Nursing held a reception to kick off the 2016-2017 academic year on September 16, 2016, at the Mercedes-Benz of Albuquerque dealership. Students, faculty, staff, donors, alumni, and preceptors all came together to hear about the many accomplishments of the College.



## CAROLYN MONTOYA SERVES AS INTERIM DEAN

Carolyn Montoya, PhD, CPNP, was named to serve as Interim Dean of the University of New Mexico College of Nursing when Dean Nancy Ridenour retired in the summer of 2017.



## THE PASSING OF A LEGEND

Dr. Marion Fleck, one of the co-founders of the UNM College of Nursing, passed away on August 29, 2016. She would have been 100 years young on September 4. Dr. Fleck was the exemplar of intelligence, grace, and perseverance. A memorial was held in her honor on October 18 at the Alumni Memorial Chapel on the University of New Mexico Campus. Dr. Estelle Rosenblum, Dean Emerita, hosted the ceremony. Dr. Fleck's hospice nurse in Houston, Natalie Penner, spoke at the service and shared her memories of Dr. Fleck. A commemorative tile memorializing Drs. Martin and Marion Fleck was placed in the Alumni Memorial Chapel Garden Celebration Wall. The Celebration Wall serves as the University community's spirit and provides a historic record of the many celebrations, memorials, and important events held at UNM Alumni Chapel.



## NURSING STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN PRIDEFEST

Nine pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing students and four faculty members participated in the 41st annual PrideFest, celebrating the lesbian, gay,

bisexual, transgender, intersex, and questioning community in New Mexico, on June 10, 2017 at the New Mexico State Fair Grounds. Their booth provided information on safe care of tattoos and piercings. The students combined information with applying temporary tattoos. This was the second year that College of Nursing students have participated in PrideFest. These efforts were part of the College's outreach to serve the citizens of the state.

## NEWBORN BEHAVIORAL OBSERVATION CERTIFICATION

This summer, Drs. Barbara Overman and Dorinda Welle, faculty at the College of Nursing, hosted a Newborn Behavioral Observation (NBO) training and certification provided by the Brazelton Institute and sponsored by the Rosenblum-Weiss Endowment for Women's and Children's Health. The NBO system was designed to give parents the confidence to read and understand their baby's capabilities and cues. The NBO interactive process promotes positive interactions between parents and their infants from the very beginning. Practitioners who use the NBO in hospital, clinic, and home settings can help parents learn about their baby's competencies and their baby's ability to communicate.

## ADDRESSING SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH IN RURAL SETTINGS

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services held their fall meeting in Albuquerque, NM, on September 14-16, 2016, at the Albuquerque Marriott. The committee is charged with providing recommendations on rural health issues to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. The Committee includes two members from New Mexico: Ms. Christina Campos, MBA, Administrator of Guadalupe County Hospital in Santa Rosa, NM, and Dr. Carolyn Montoya, Interim Dean for the College of Nursing, University of New Mexico.

## FIESTA DE FLU

College of Nursing and College of Pharmacy students participated in the annual Fiesta de Flu, delivering nearly 600 flu shots to UNM students, employees, and their families. This is the 12th year the two colleges have joined together to bring this preventive service to the UNM community.



# Year in Review



## TINKLE PRESIDENT OF ISONG

Dr. Mindy Tinkle, Associate Professor, assumed the role of President of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics (ISONG) in November 2017, after serving one year as President-Elect. Dr. Tinkle has been on the ISONG Board of Directors for the past four years as the organization's Treasurer. ISONG is an international community of nurses and others who advocate for the promotion of the public's health and well-being through the discovery, interpretation, application, and management of genomic information. The organization also works to develop and promote nurse leaders in genetics and genomics in relation to education, research, practice, and health policy.

## UNM REGENT PROFESSOR & LECTURER

Dr. Emily Haozous has been selected as a UNM Regent's Professor and Dr. Mindy Tinkle has been selected as a UNM Regent's Lecturer for the College of Nursing. Faculty were nominated by their peers and recommended by Dean Dr. Nancy Ridenour. These prestigious appointments last for three years.

## WOODS NEW INTERIM PRACTICE CHAIR

PJ Woods, PhD, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, was named the new Interim Practice Chair for the UNM College of Nursing. Amy Levi, CNM, WHNP-BC, PhD, stepped down from that position to focus on her role as Director of the UNM Health Sciences Center Office of Interprofessional Education. Thank you, Dr. Woods and Dr. Levi, for your service.

## STUDENTS VISIT CASA ESPERANZA

Students from the UNM College of Nursing, along with members of the Albuquerque Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society, joined together to bring dinner to guests at Casa Esperanza. Casa Esperanza works with area hospitals to provide housing and emotional support for patients and their families residing temporarily in Albuquerque while receiving treatment.

## COLLEGE OF NURSING FACULTY AND STUDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS AT WIN

The Western Institute of Nursing (WIN) celebrated its 50th anniversary at its annual conference at the end of April in Denver, CO. Several UNM College of Nursing faculty members and students, along with New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium partners and nursing executives from UNM Hospitals, were



in attendance. The keynote speaker was Doris Kearns Goodwin, PhD, a Pulitzer Prize winner. The College of Nursing is proud to announce that the following faculty and students received awards at the conference:

- Dr. Marie Lobo, Professor, received the Anna M. Shannon Mentorship Award.
- Dr. Jane Chung, Assistant Professor, received the Regional Geriatric Nursing Research Award for a New Researcher.
- Lenora Littledeer, PhD student, received the Ann M. Voda America Indian/Alaskan Native/First Nation Award.

## MIDWIFERY PROGRAM RE-ACCREDITED

The Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education awarded the UNM College of Nursing's Nurse-Midwifery program 10-year re-accreditation. The mission of the Nurse-Midwifery concentration is to educate graduates to serve the needs of rural and underserved populations. Students are placed outside of the Albuquerque metropolitan area for two thirds of their clinical rotations, with more than 1,000 hours of clinical experience on graduation.

## DEAN'S RECEPTION

This year marked the 14th Annual College of Nursing Dean's Reception. Nearly 50 alumni, faculty, and donors were in attendance, as well as several scholarship recipient students. Dean Ridenour thanked College of Nursing supporters for their generous donations year after year and provided a report on the current state of the College of Nursing and how it has changed over the nine years that she has been Dean. Dean Ridenour said that she is proud of what the College has become and knows it will be in strong, capable hands on her departure. Thank you to the Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum for once again hosting the affair and to Slate Street Catering for the fabulous food that accompanied the event.



## DR. LIESVELD NAMED INTERIM ASSOCIATE DEAN

Judy Liesveld, PhD, PPCNP-BC, RN, Associate Professor and Education Chair, was named Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for the UNM College of Nursing. Dr. Liesveld earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Iowa, a Master of Science in Nursing of Children degree from Arizona State University, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing degree from the University of New Mexico. She has been a pediatric nurse practitioner since 1991. Her passions include exploring the potential of children with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and neurodevelopmental disabilities, with a research interest in implementing new knowledge in nursing education and practice.



## STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER FOR ONS

Mikayla Meyers, a UNM College of Nursing student, volunteered for and has been accepted to serve as a Student Advisory Board member of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS). The ONS is the professional home of frontline oncology nurses. Since 1975, ONS has provided a professional community for oncology nurses, developed evidence-based education programs and treatment information, and advocated for patient care.

## ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION WORKFORCE PROGRAM GRANT AWARDED TO COLLEGE OF NURSING

Carolyn Montoya, PhD, CPNP, Interim Dean at the UNM College of Nursing and Principal Investigator, was notified that the College has been awarded the Health Resources and Services Administration 2017 Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Program Grant. Year 1 funding is \$509,306, and \$473,970 is recommended for Year 2. This grant is designed to support three-month rural clinical placements for advanced practice nursing students and further development of rural-based clinical sites for the future.

## TESTING THE NMNEC MODEL

Through the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC), the UNM College of Nursing now has five partnering community colleges offering the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN) on their campuses with co-enrolled students. In October 2016, the College was awarded \$192,481 from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing to test the effectiveness of the NMNEC model. The study will determine whether any outcome differences occur in Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN), BSN, and ADN/BSN co-enrolled students in the areas of clinical judgment, professional values, and motivation. Judy Liesveld is co-principal investigator with Beth Rodgers from Virginia Commonwealth University. Mary Wright is the project manager.

# Engagement, Education & Expansion

## DEAN NANCY RIDENOUR'S LEGACY

“Our nursing students tend to be really interesting people,” Dean Nancy Ridenour stated. “The science and the emotional aspects are challenging and intense. Dealing with human health issues and crises, nurses do and see things at an early part of their career that most people will never experience.”

As Dean Ridenour was preparing to retire from UNM this past August, she reflected on her nine-year tenure

serving these unique students, leading the College of Nursing, and addressing New Mexico's critical health care needs.

When she arrived in 2008, Dean Ridenour was prepared to address several important challenges: increasing the nursing workforce, with an emphasis on educating more BSNs and advanced practice nurses; growing the nursing faculty; and securing sustainable funding to fulfill the College's mission.

Her most ambitious project was the creation of the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC). Working with nursing programs and administrators at community colleges, legislators, and regulatory agencies, Dean Ridenour led a collaborative effort to create a statewide core curriculum in nursing education. Students enroll at UNM and their local community college, and graduate with a BSN.

“We didn't have the space to accept more students in Albuquerque,” she noted, “so we expanded enrollment by sharing faculty, resources, and a standard curriculum. Communities around New Mexico, especially rural areas, benefit from this increase in BSN graduates,” she added. “Overall, the outcomes for patients are statistically much better.”

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation recognized NMNEC as an emerging model for the nation. Facilitating this complex project required patience, persistence—and nursing skills. “As nurses, our daily work life is all about coordination and communication with families, patients, and other health care professionals,” the dean explained. “For a project like NMNEC, you just add in governors, business people, legislators, educators, and community leaders,” she laughed. “Everyone has skin in the game when it comes to health care.”

“NMNEC has exceeded expectations,” the dean said, “and because a



bachelor's degree is required for graduate school, we've also addressed our needs for advanced practice nurses."

With visionary determination, the dean also instituted a new Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program for future leaders in clinical and administrative roles. Another of her passions is reflected in the growth of a major in Health Policy at the doctoral level that is also gaining national attention.

Endowment funding at the College of Nursing increased by \$6 million under the dean's guidance. "The lives of most people in the world have been impacted by a nurse, directly or through the care given to a friend or family member," Dean Ridenour declared. "Nurses have great stories to tell, and we need to continue communicating them, so donors understand the importance of their gifts."

"Financial stability is critical to the College," she noted. "Endowed funds help recruit the best faculty, support programs, and serve students through scholarships."

On September 1, Dean Ridenour began serving as dean of the Goldfarb School of Nursing and president of Barnes-Jewish College in St. Louis, MO.

“ Her vision and leadership have been instrumental in securing grants and establishing programs, like NMNEC, which have been beneficial for students, faculty, and the entire state. Dean Ridenour is an inspiration to all of us.”

—Judy Liesveld, PhD, PPCNP-BC, RN  
Interim Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

“ Dean Ridenour exemplifies what it truly means to be a nurse. She empowered me to continue my education and become a new nurse leader. Without her advice and guidance, I would not be the nurse I am today.”

—Ryan Harris, DNP(c), RN  
University of New Mexico Hospitals, Family Medicine  
RN Inpatient Supervisor (BSN 2013, DNP[c] 2018)

“ Dean Ridenour truly proved that one person with a voice can make a difference in the future of health care and nursing, and that one must never give up championing for change.”

—Rosa Matonti, DNP, RN, NE-BC  
University of New Mexico Hospital  
Clinical Manager of Home Care (BSN 1986)

“ She really embraced the culture here. Dean Ridenour understood our unique challenges and worked with us. She improved education for all our students and increased our ability to educate advanced practice primary care NPs and CNMs to enhance health care for the people of New Mexico.”

—Carolyn Montoya, PhD, CPNP, FAANP, FAAN  
Interim Dean, UNM College of Nursing (BSN 1976, PhD 2013)

# Education

## INCREASING THE BSN WORKFORCE

**A**dvances in technology, the evolution of clinical practices and health policies, and the rising responsibilities of patient care impact nurses to a greater degree now than ever before. Registered nurses (RNs) who have practiced for decades and nurses with an Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) from a growing number of community colleges may possess excellent technical and bedside skills, but in today's fast-paced world of health care, many are realizing the value, and necessity of, seeking a baccalaureate degree.

The UNM College of Nursing (CON) is committed to supporting the advancement of health care education and health care delivery by enabling busy RNs to achieve greater professional success through

an accelerated online RN-Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program (RN-BSN).

Jacqueline Wuellner, MPH, MSN, RN, CNE, is the director of this innovative 16-month program, designed to be accessible to nurses with jobs, families, and financial concerns. "Each course is seven weeks long," she explained, "and we recommend students take one at a time. Since we can enroll new students every seven weeks, any time a student is ready to step in, were ready to take them."

By increasing their knowledge of patient assessment and management, communication, and community health perspectives, students develop greater professional and leadership skills, expanding their proficiencies and career opportunities. All of this

leads to a notable improvement in patient outcomes.

"I'm very proud of this program," Wuellner stated. "Our graduates are better prepared to work in clinics, as school nurses, or for the Department of Health, for example. Former students have told me they are happier—they feel they are better nurses, with a much deeper understanding of their role and their profession."

In collaboration with Academic Partnerships, a company with expertise in online course delivery and student recruitment strategies, CON faculty have developed a highly interactive curriculum and provide instruction as well as student advisement.

"Our courses are standardized and follow best practices for online education," Wuellner noted. "We pay close attention to faculty-student interaction, and the students connect and work with each other through assignments and projects as well."

Progress is being made toward the College's goal of increasing the number of bachelor-prepared nurses working across New Mexico and the Southwest. Wuellner notes that the number of BSNs in New Mexico has recently just risen above the number of RNs. "We've tipped the scale," she said. "It's an exciting time—the need is always there. It requires the best-educated nurses we can have, and I think we fill that role."





## Practice MASTERING SUCCESS

**A**t every level, nursing education is rigorous and challenging, but compared with undergraduate work, students seeking advanced practice registered nurse licensure through a master's degree program often encounter exponential intellectual, emotional, and time management demands. As a result, they may experience doubts, struggles with coursework, or difficulty balancing life, work, and school, which can jeopardize their advanced practice aspirations.

Thanks to Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Success Coordinator Heidi Honegger Rogers, DNP, FNP-C, APHN-BC, students at the UNM College of Nursing have an advocate dedicated to helping them attain their academic and professional objectives. Rogers designed a Bachelor of Science in Nursing-level introduction to holistic

nursing course and is the course lead for evidence-based practice and theoretical foundations in the MSN program. Her holistic approach enables her to grasp myriad factors involved in supporting student achievement, linking students and faculty in mutually beneficial ways.

Funding from the New Mexico legislature allowed the MSN program to expand and accept more nurses; the program's leadership team recognized the value of having a faculty member focused on student needs and progress. Rogers' responsibilities include coaching and encouraging students who come from a wide variety of backgrounds and all regions of New Mexico.

"Some have been nurses for 20 years, others didn't get writing instruction in their undergrad program, and some have difficulty

with testing," she said. "I work with students on a one-to-one basis and also consider how we support them in becoming advanced practice nurses."

Director of MSN Programs, Kristen Ostrem-Niemcewicz, FNP, PNP, recognizes Rogers as a perfect fit for Success Coordinator. "Heidi is an experienced clinician educator, dedicated to building our health care work force with excellent, caring advanced practice nurses and nurse-midwives. She's a community organizer with unique gifts and a warm smile—we are very lucky to have her."

Rogers works with the coordinators of all the MSN concentrations to proactively assess courses and methods to ensure that students become adept at diagnostic reasoning, thoughtful cultural care, and utilizing community resources. "We look at competency-based outcomes," she explained, "not just what our students need to learn, but how we are teaching and the best time to introduce concepts to make sure students are really getting it."

Her strategies for success also include community-building among students, bringing them together to talk about their challenges. "The students in the MSN program are incredible nurses with great visions for serving New Mexicans," Rogers remarked. "They support each other through friendships and collaborations, and it's an honor and privilege to work with them."

# Research

## AVERILL'S IMPACT ON RURAL HEALTH



**H**er parents were ranchers in Colorado, her formative years were spent in a diverse neighborhood in Albuquerque's North Valley, and her passion is researching health care access and service challenges in rural communities. Associate Professor Jennifer Averill, PhD, RN, will retire from the UNM College of Nursing (CON) at the end of this year, and the experiences of her youth were a springboard for her professional interests.

Averill's nursing career began with an Associate Degree in Nursing from a Denver community college, but she had greater intellectual and clinical aspirations. In the mid-1980s she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing at the UNM CON, and her clinical rotations included serving as a public health nurse in diverse communities.

"Because my roots are rural, I felt at home on reservations, in labor camps, and being the only nurse miles from anywhere," she declared. "When you do home visits, you see great disparities and barriers." A profound summer experience working with Colorado's Migrant Health Department gave her a broader perspective.

"To make changes, you need to get involved with local organizations, communities, and policy, and engage with the people who live there," she explained. "I wanted to continue to work in underserved areas. Instead of approaching it as a clinician, I saw public health research as my process." In 1997, Averill earned her Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree at the University of Colorado, then returned to New Mexico to support the CON's fledgling PhD program; her expertise as a researcher and ethnographer progressed.

Ethnography involves observing and analyzing cultures and societies, honoring the experiences and points of view of the people being studied. "I worked with hospital and home health staff, and I'd sit and have lunch with elders at organizations that provided services and gathering sites for them," Averill said.

As a Senior Fellow on the New Mexico Center for the Advancement of Research Engagement and Science (NM CARES) Health Disparities grant-funded project at the School of Medicine, Averill served with personnel from UNM Departments of Sociology, Psychology, and Education as well as the Health Sciences Center. This six-year endeavor has been one of the highlights of her career. "We focused on Hispanic and American Indian communities because there were such huge disparities," she said. "I was a qualitative methods and analysis expert on the research core of that interdisciplinary group, helping them understand what communities needed in order to resolve issues in our state."

CON Interim Research Chair Mark Parshall, PhD, RN, FAAN, appreciates Averill's many contributions. "Dr. Averill was among the founding faculty of our PhD program, and chaired numerous dissertation studies for our PhD students," he noted. "In addition to her expertise in critical ethnography, she maintains an abiding commitment to rural health and community-based participatory research. Her caring nature, advocacy for students, and dedication to nursing scholarship are exemplary."



## Leave a Lasting Legacy at the College of Nursing

Would you like to create a lasting legacy at the College of Nursing and help educate future generations of nurses?

Individuals can establish a named endowment at the College of Nursing for \$25,000. This can be done through either a one-time cash gift or in payments to the endowment for up to 5 years until the principal balance is reached.

You can also choose to leave a portion of your estate to the College of Nursing through your will. Many people believe they are not “wealthy” enough to make an impact on the College. This simply is not true. Dedicating a portion of your estate to the College will allow your legacy to continue on and support student education for generations to come.

If you are interested in either establishing an endowment or including the College of Nursing in your estate plans, please contact Connor Adams at 505-272-0200 or [connor.adams@unmfund.org](mailto:connor.adams@unmfund.org).

“ Because my roots are rural, I felt at home on reservations, in labor camps, and being the only nurse miles from anywhere...When you do home visits, you see great disparities and barriers.”

—Jennifer Averill, PhD, RN



## TIGGES PRESIDENT OF STTI

**S**igma Theta Tau International (STTI) was originally established at Indiana University in 1922 as a small nursing honor society. Nearly a century later, it has achieved prominent status as a global organization whose mission is to advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service.

STTI's 135,000 members include practicing nurses, instructors, researchers, and policymakers in more than 90 countries and territories, and there are 530 chapters at more than 700 institutions of higher learning.

UNM College of Nursing (CON) Associate Professor and Regents' Professor Beth Baldwin Tigges, PhD, RN, PNP, BC, was inducted as a member of STTI in her junior year of college, and her involvement with the organization has evolved through local, regional, and international levels for almost four decades. In November 2017, she will assume the office of STTI President.

"STTI fosters, celebrates, and capitalizes on global nursing excellence in all areas of nursing," Dr. Tigges stated. "It's been a tremendously positive part of

my professional life. We provide incredible resources for continuing education, career development, and leadership, including the Virginia Henderson Global Nursing e-Repository."

STTI biennial conventions attract more than 1,500 participants, and the organization hosts the annual International Nursing Research Congress. The United Nations Economic and Social Council granted STTI special consultative status, recognizing its commitment to and competence in the field of nursing, which extends to global

health. “This is a big deal,” Tigges noted. “It allows us to participate on committees and have a global voice.”

Dr. Tigges joined the UNM CON as a Lecturer in 1989, taught in the Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse-Midwifery concentrations for 17 years, served as Interim Senior Associate Dean for Research, and teaches in the PhD program. She is the current Director of Evaluation for the National Institutes of Health-funded UNM Clinical and Translational Science Center, and Interim CON Dean Carolyn Montoya, PhD, CPNP, FAANP, FAAN, acknowledges the College’s appreciation of her latest accomplishment.

“Dr. Tigges brings exceptional leadership skills to the STTI Presidency, and the entire College of Nursing is proud

of this milestone achievement,” Montoya stated. “As a valued faculty member for more than 20 years, she excels in teaching, advocacy for faculty governance, and efforts to support interdisciplinary research throughout the UNM Health Sciences Center.”

Dr. Tigges looks forward to advancing STTI’s focus on global leadership, career development, research, and scholarship. “We recently convened the Global Advisory Panel on the Future of Nursing and Midwifery, which reported on nurses’ priorities in their global regions,” she said. “We’ll be developing partnerships and collaborating to implement recommendations. One of the most exciting aspects of being President of STTI is to be able to help the organization grow in a way that helps members and chapters to thrive.”



“ One of the most exciting aspects of being President of STTI is to be able to help the organization grow in a way that helps members and chapters to thrive.”



## What if you could make a difference?

- In the education of advanced practice nursing students.
- In the quality of care for all New Mexicans.
- In the future of health care for decades to come.

## Become a Preceptor

By volunteering as a preceptor, you can share your knowledge and skills with our students who are studying the most up-to-date clinical practices and partner with our faculty to help train the next generation of advanced practice nurses.

Training opportunities are available for Family Medicine, Pediatric, Acute Care, and Nurse-Midwifery rotations.

## Preceptor Perks

- Adjunct Faculty appointment
- Access to UNM libraries
- Credit for NP national re-certification
- Annual Preceptor Recognition event
- Invitations to trainings and activities offering complimentary CEU’s
- Special discounts, including UNM Recreational Services Membership

**Information: Robyn Mintz at [rmintz@salud.unm.edu](mailto:rmintz@salud.unm.edu) or (505) 272-1184.**

# Faculty Publications

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Marie Lobo

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Kim Cox

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Beth Tigges

Sood, A., **Tigges, B.**, & Helitzer, D. (2016). Mentoring early-career faculty researchers is important—But first “train the trainer.” *Academic Medicine*, 91(12), 1598-1600. doi: 10.1097/ACM.0000000000001264

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Mindy Tinkle

## Changing Lives

### IN MEMORY OF SUE DAULTON



**H**ow do you change the world? If you do it Sue Daulton style, quietly and respectfully. Sue's passions included playing bridge, playing golf, and anything having to do with the Lobos. She was a wonderful friend, fantastic mother, loving wife, energetic grandmother, and faithful supporter of the UNM College of Nursing (CON). Sue was always happy no matter the circumstances. You would never find her without a smile on her face or a laugh to share with all.

Sue was passionate about many things, one of them being nurses,

especially the nurses at the CON. She witnessed the care her family received from nurses and understood how important they were to the state of New Mexico. This understanding and her love for UNM motivated her to make a difference in the lives of students pursuing their nursing degrees at UNM through her generous donations.

Sue continues to make a difference in the lives of students, faculty, and staff at the UNM CON, even though she is no longer with us. Although she passed away in February 2017, her spirit, attitude, and laughter

roam the hallways and contribute to making the CON the wonderful place that it is. Her name is known throughout the College, yet her support is known by few. She was not boastful, but humble and modest. The CON is a top-ranked program in the country, and in large part, Sue is responsible for this achievement. She is missed by everyone at the CON, her family, and everyone who knew her. We thank her and her family for their generosity as they continue her legacy at the CON. Sue, you are one of the reasons we are here today. Thank you.

# Changing Lives

## DONOR STORIES

### BARBARA OPPENHEIMER

Barbara Oppenheimer received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN) in 1987 from the UNM College of Nursing. Her husband, Bill Oppenheimer (descendent of J. Robert Oppenheimer), graduated from the Colorado School of Mines with a master's degree in geology. They have been married for 31 years and adopted two children from Guatemala. Barbara had a passion for Global Health ever since she spent two years in West Africa serving in the Peace Corps. The couple wanted to make a difference in lives of others globally and thought that the Judith Harris Global Health Endowment would be the perfect place to make an immediate and direct impact. This gift will continue to provide greater health care to underserved populations throughout the globe and allow different parts of the world to become the classroom for UNM College of Nursing students. Dean Nancy Ridenour commented, "This very generous donation will assist the College of Nursing to prepare nursing students and faculty in the growing need for expertise in global health. As our world becomes ever more global in business and travel, nurses need continuous information and high-level skills in working with global health issues. By supporting the Judith Harris Global Health Fund, Barbara Oppenheimer is helping us meet the needs of the future."



### BRENDA IZZI

Brenda Izzi is tackling the shortage of nurses in New Mexico by investing in the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC). Izzi has recently created a second endowment to provide scholarships to students to help them graduate with a BSN degree and move into the workforce. This endowment has made a large impact on our students each year. In addition to creating an endowment for NMNEC, Izzi also wanted to support another part of the College of Nursing. She has decided to make a gift to the Simulation Lab to purchase equipment each year to keep up with the latest technology to help create the highest-quality education for our students.



### KAREN BROWN

Dr. Karen Brown, faculty member at the College of Nursing, asked, "How can I leave a legacy at the College and what does it entail?" A few weeks later, Dr. Brown created an endowment for NMNEC to support nurse educators and help retain and recruit nurse educators in the state of New Mexico. We are thrilled to have Dr. Brown support NMNEC and nurse educators, and to leave a wonderful legacy to the College of Nursing.



# Donor Stories

## CHERYL LEARN

Dr. Cheryl D. Learn graduated with a BSN from the University of Toronto, Faculty (Department) of Nursing, in Ontario, Canada. After moving to Albuquerque, she worked at St. Joseph's and Presbyterian Hospitals. She started her Master of Science in Nursing degree at the University of New Mexico when the program was fairly new. After obtaining her degree, she was offered a teaching job at the University of Albuquerque. Dr. Learn says that some of the most wonderful experiences she has had include teaching interactive television classes to registered nurses located at various sites around the state and being honored as an outstanding graduate program alumna in 1997. She says she owes tremendous thanks to the faculty who nominated her and encouraged her, as well as to her students, who trusted her. Dr. Learn left an estate gift to the College of Nursing to create the Cheryl and Emerson Learn Endowment for Faculty Support. This gift will help faculty with research, professional development, travel to conferences, registration, and other expenses associated with faculty development.



## PATRICIA HIGGINS

Dr. Patricia Higgins retired from the College of Nursing as a full professor teaching in the Maternity Nursing program. She prided herself in her relationships with her students. She always went out of her way to ensure that her students were becoming the best possible versions of themselves. When confronted with a challenge, Dr. Higgins sets a goal and accomplishes it. She, in turn, instilled that same characteristic in her students. Dr. Higgins and her husband Neil Higgins graciously created the Dr. Patricia Higgins Professorship in Nursing. This professorship will support the teaching, research, leadership, and service mission of the UNM College of Nursing and the goal of having predominantly doctoral-prepared faculty at the College, which is the main reason she provided this wonderful gift.



MSN Nursing  
Administration Program  
COMING SOON

# Class Notes



Class of 1961

## 1960s

The **Class of 1961** returned to the College of Nursing to take a tour of the simulation labs.

**Patsy Duphorn**, '66 BSN, volunteered to observe our nurse-midwifery students during a simulation exercise and provide them with feedback.

**Dina Reid**, '66 BSN, volunteered to observe our nurse-midwifery students during a simulation exercise and provide them with feedback.

The **Class of 1967** came back to the College of Nursing to celebrate its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Mary Boning**, '67 BSN, and her husband Terry celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## 1970s

**Carolyn Montoya**, '76 BSN and '13 PhD, was named Interim Dean for the UNM College of Nursing.

Class of 1967



## 1980s

**Dorothy Posey**, '85 MS, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence Legend Award.

**Jamie Silva-Steele**, '86 BSN, was named a 2017 Woman of Influence by Albuquerque Business First.

**Lorena Beeman**, '88 MS, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence Legend Award.

**Erin Doles**, '83 BSN, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence Legend Award.



## 1990s

**Mary Byrn**, '91 BSN, volunteered to observe our nurse-midwifery students during a simulation exercise and provide them with feedback.

**Cristi Jurata**, '93 BSN and '00 MSN, is a certified family nurse practitioner for Vessel Health.

**Bryan Krumm**, '93 BSN, received the Author of the Year award for an article he published in Nurse Practitioner titled "Cannabis for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: A Neurobiological Approach to Treatment."



**Shari Friedman**, '95 BSN, volunteered to observe our nurse-midwifery students during a simulation exercise and provide them with feedback.

**PJ Woods**, '96 MSN, was named Interim Practice Chair for the UNM College of Nursing.

Are you an  
alumnus  
who has  
something  
exciting to  
share?

Please email Marlena  
Bermel, Director of  
Alumni Relations, at  
mbermel@salud.unm.edu.  
You could be in the  
next Annual Report!

## 2000s

**Rebecca Mance**, '02 BSN, received the UNM College of Nursing 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award

**Rochanda Chee**, '03 BSN, volunteered to observe our nurse-midwifery students during a simulation exercise and provide them with feedback.

**Annette Wihl**, '06 BSN, volunteered to observe our nurse-midwifery students during a simulation exercise and provide them with feedback.

**Judy Liesveld**, '07 PhD, was named Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for the UNM College of Nursing.

**Brenda Beck**, '09 MSN, is working in prenatal care at Lovelace Women's Hospital Clinic



(L to R) **Dr. Joanne Haeffele, Aaron Skiles, Dr. Nancy Ridenour**

**Aaron Skiles**, '09 BSN and '12 MSN, received the UNM College of Nursing 2016 New Alumni Award.

**McKenzie Lake**, '09 BSN and '16 MSN, returned to the College of Nursing to talk to the nurse practitioner students who graduated in the spring of 2017.

## 2010s

**Devin Clem**, '13 BSN and '16 MSN, returned to the College of Nursing to talk to the nurse practitioner students who graduated in the spring of 2017. She also started a new position at Presbyterian Medical Group in Belen, NM.

**Jackie Good**, '13 MSN, returned to the College of Nursing to talk to the nurse practitioner students who graduated in the spring of 2017.

**Ryan Harris**, '13 BSN, volunteered to observe our nurse-midwifery students during a simulation exercise and provide them with feedback.



**Ashley Burson**, '16 PMC, returned to the College of Nursing to talk to the nurse practitioner students who graduated in the spring of 2017.

**Greg Kidwell**, '16 PMC, returned to the College of Nursing to talk to the nurse practitioner students who graduated in the spring of 2017.

**Catherine Lukes**, '16 MSN, joined the Lovelace Women's Hospital Clinic.

**Robert Perry**, '17 MSN, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence Award in Emergency Practice.



2017 Dean's Reception  
Endowment Boards

# Current Endowments

## CURRENT FACULTY AND PROGRAM ENDOWMENTS

Aladino and Nellie Matteucci  
Faculty Fellowship

Aladino and Nellie Matteucci  
Faculty Fellowship-Match

Brenda and Stephen Izzi Nursing  
Education Consortium Fund

Carlson/Petty Endowment for  
Innovative Nursing Education

Carter Fleck Endowed  
Professorship in Nursing

Cheryl and Emerson Learn  
Endowment for Faculty Support\*

College of Nursing Education  
Endowment

College of Nursing  
Organizational Services Endowment

College of Nursing  
Practice Endowment

College of Nursing  
Research Endowment

College of Nursing Senior  
Administration Endowment

College of Nursing  
Student Services Endowment

College of Nursing  
Technology Endowment

David C. and Annie L. Olson  
Endowment

Delores Thompson NM Nursing  
Education Consortium Endowment\*

Dr. Patricia Higgins  
Professorship in Nursing\*

Giddens Neighborhood Endowment

Judith Harris Global Health  
Endowment in Nursing

Julie Gorwoda  
Endowed Nurse-Midwifery Fund

Leah L. Albers  
Professorship in Midwifery-Match

Leah L. Albers  
Professorship in Midwifery

New Mexico Nursing Education  
Consortium Endowment

NMNEC Nurse Educator  
Endowment\*

Nurse-Midwifery  
Education Endowment

Professor Peter A. Winograd Annual  
Visiting Professorship in Nursing

Professor Peter A. Winograd Annual  
Visiting Professorship  
in Nursing-State Match

Ridenour Staff and Faculty  
Development Endowment

Ridenour/Mason  
New Mexico Nursing  
Education Consortium Fund

Rosenblum-Weiss Endowment for  
Women's and Children's Health

Ruth H. Franklin  
Endowment for Geriatric Nursing

Shuster-Beach Research Fund\*

UNM Midwives of Color Fund

Virginia P. Crenshaw  
Endowed Chair in Nursing

Virginia P. Crenshaw  
Endowed Chair in Nursing-Match

\*New Endowments for 2016-2017

# Current Endowments

## CURRENT STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS

Agnes Ripple Adams  
Memorial Scholarship in Nursing

Aladino and Nellie Matteucci  
Endowed Scholarship

American GI Forum of Albuquerque  
Endowed Scholarship in Nursing

Blanche Ausley Montgomery  
Memorial Scholarship in Nursing

Brodmerkel/Brown  
Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Carl H. Feak, Jr., and  
Joy N. Feak Nursing  
Endowed Scholarship Fund

Carolyn Dooley Martinez  
Scholarship Endowment  
in Nursing

College of Nursing Senior Class  
Endowed Scholarship Fund

Dale and Ivan Melada Endowed  
Scholarship in Nursing

Dean Eleanor King Memorial  
Scholarship Endowment

Debra Baker Mauney Memorial  
Nursing Scholarship

Diane Adamo  
Memorial Scholarship Fund

Diane Doherty  
Memorial Scholarship

Donea and Bill Shane Return to  
School Nursing Scholarship

Dorothy Landgraf  
Memorial Scholarship  
Endowment in Nursing

Dr. Kristen Ostrem-Niemcewicz  
Advanced Practice  
Nursing Scholarship Endowment

Emma M. Olson  
Memorial Endowment

Endowed Nursing  
Scholarship Fund

Estelle H. Rosenblum  
Dissertation Award

Evelyn Marlin Fisher Endowment for  
Awards to Nursing Students

Federated Woman's Club of  
Albuquerque Scholarship

Friends of Nursing Scholarships  
Hall-Carper, Huntsinger, and  
Martinez Scholarship Endowment

Helene Fuld Health Trust  
Scholarship Fund for  
Baccalaureate Nursing Students

Idolia Hawkins Award in Nursing

Joan Marie Tippeconnic  
Endowed Memorial

John Meredith  
Endowed Scholarship

Julie Mann Scholarship in Nursing

Lisa A. Rossi Nursing Scholarship\*

Louise Grey Kiger  
Nursing Scholarship Endowment

Maggie Ferguson  
Nursing Scholarship Endowment

Marie C. Caton Memorial  
Scholarship Endowment

Marie Hoch Scholarship

Marty and Dave Evans Scholarship  
Endowment in Nursing

Mary Craig Endowed Scholarship

Maryann and Edwin G. Roos  
Scholarship in Nursing

Michelle L. Teachout Student  
Scholarship Fund

Pedrick Endowment in Nursing

Peter and Geneva Meerdink  
Endowment Fund

Portia Irick Trust

Rob Rayner  
Dean's Scholar Endowment

Robin Armell  
Endowed Memorial Scholarship

Rufus Carter Scholarship for  
Nursing and Engineering

Sharon Lee Smoker  
Nursing Scholarship Endowment

Shirley and Frank Gilliam  
Endowed Scholarship in Nursing

Sigma Theta Tau Gamma Sigma  
Chapter Nursing Scholarship Fund

Tara Fletcher Endowed Scholarship  
Fund\*

Thomas A. Plein Memorial  
Scholarship Endowment  
Fund for Navajo Students

Viens/Montoya  
Nurse Practitioner Fund

Virginia S. Jackson  
Endowed Scholarship in Nursing

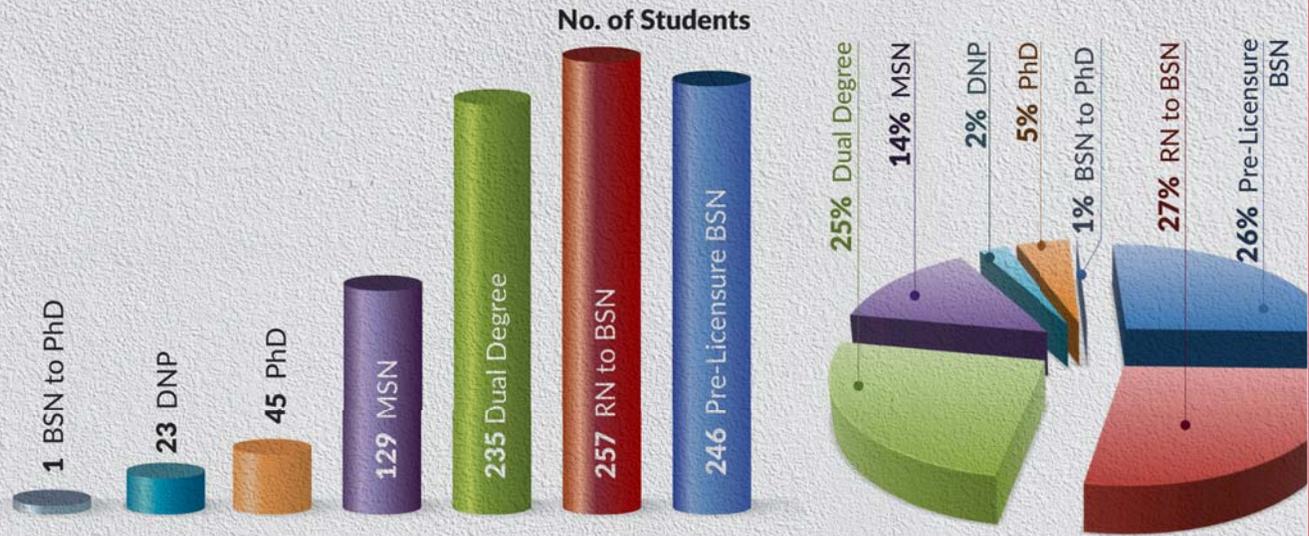
\*New Endowments for 2016-2017

# By The Numbers

## ENROLLMENT

**936** Students  
Spring 2017

**138** qualified applicants for **64** slots in the Pre-Licensure BSN Option in Spring 2017



## FACULTY/STAFF GIVING

**20%** of Staff  
give back  
to the College of Nursing

**32%** of Faculty  
give back  
to the College of Nursing

**\$9,707** Total raised  
for 2016-2017

**\$275,316** Total Scholarship  
Dollars Awarded

- 711 Students Awarded Scholarships
- Price to Fund an Endowed Scholarship: \$25,000

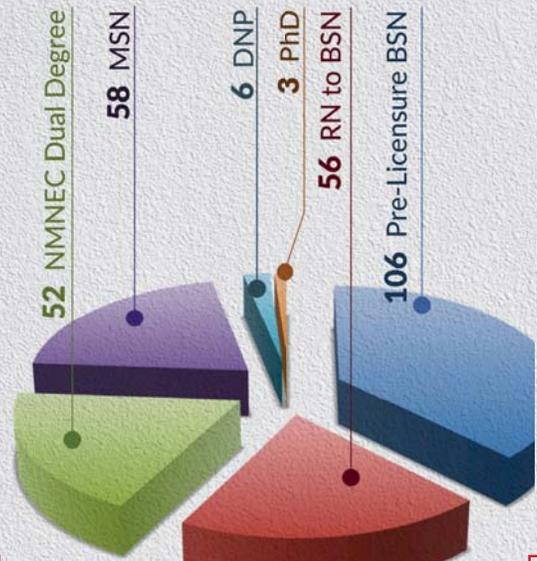
**\$11,007,812**

Size of the total endowment for the College of Nursing  
as of June 30, 2017

- Price to Endow a Visiting Professor: \$250,000
- Price to Endow a Professor: \$500,000
- Price to Endow a Chair: \$1,500,000

## GRADUATION

**281** Students 2016-2017  
Academic Year





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Albuquerque, NM 87131

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# UNM College of Nursing Programs

## Bachelor of Science in Nursing

- Pre-Licensure Option
- RN to BSN Option
- Dual Degree Option

## Master of Science in Nursing

- Nursing Education
- Advanced Practice Nursing
  - Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
  - Family Nurse Practitioner
  - Nurse-Midwifery
  - Pediatric Nurse Practitioner
  - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner-  
Post Master's Certificate Only

## Post Master's Certificate

- All Advanced Practice Concentrations

## Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

- Individualized Plan of Study
- Health Policy Concentration
- BSN to PhD

## Doctorate of Nursing Practice

- Nursing Executive Organizational Leadership (NEOL) Concentration
- Clinical Concentration



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UNM College of Nursing Alumni Community on:



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