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Level-1 nursing students at orientation
Dean’s Message

Welcome to the new academic year. In this issue, we celebrate the ever-growing accomplishments of our faculty, students and alumni. These successes have continued to work to advance a high level of clinical practice, scholarship and research at the College of Nursing (CON), aimed at the unique and diverse health care needs of New Mexico. Underpinning the growth of the CON is our successful and expanding partnership with the New Mexico Nursing Educational Coalition (NMNEC), which partners with community colleges and UNM sites across the state to award the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. This network serves to educate an exceptional nursing workforce that can remain in their hometowns across this vast state and increases future opportunities to these alumni to further their careers by moving into graduate programs. Our graduates now join a vast network of UNM CON alums—more than 7,000 undergraduate and graduate students—most in New Mexico and across the United States and the world. Our rigorous curriculum enables our graduates to have the knowledge and skills to deliver cutting-edge care to diverse populations in both unique and traditional settings. The CON faculty and supporting agencies are committed to student success and are dedicated to providing high-quality instruction, clinical supervision and mentorship. Clinical scholarship and research in the CON create the scientific underpinnings of advanced practice to benefit the state and the nation.

Please keep up with our many CON activities and events by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, or on our website at https://hsc.unm.edu/college-of-nursing/

I look forward to all of the success at the CON in the coming academic year.

Christine E Kasper, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACSM
Dean and Professor
VARGAS ACCEPTED INTO MES PROGRAM
LeeAnna Vargas, lecturer, was accepted into the Medical Education Scholars (MES) program for 2017-2019. The MES program provides opportunities for participants to develop a foundational understanding of the education literature while gaining experience in developing and implementing scholarly contributions to medical education. Accepted applicants spend the equivalent of one half-day every week in Year 1 and two half-days per month in Year 2 developing their academic leadership skills and educational expertise in curriculum development, teaching and assessment and educational research and scholarship.

LEVI AND LEADERSHIP ALBUQUERQUE
Dr. Amy Levi, director of Interprofessional Education for the Health Sciences Center and the Leah L. Albers Endowed Professor of Midwifery for the College of Nursing, was accepted into the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce’s Leadership Albuquerque Class of 2018. Leadership Albuquerque provides emerging community leaders with a forum to hone their skills and assess their own leadership strengths and opportunities for development. Each Leadership Albuquerque class is made up of 40 mid- to senior-level executives from the private, public and voluntary sectors of our community and is selected from a competitive pool of applicants.

FAREWELL DEAN RIDENOUR
The UNM College of Nursing said goodbye to Dean Nancy Ridenour at the end of July 2018. Her service to the UNM College of Nursing and the state of New Mexico significantly changed the landscape for nurses throughout the Land of Enchantment.

UNM SIMULATION LECTURE AND WORKSHOP
More than 30 attendees gathered for the UNM Simulation Lecture and Workshop to hear Dr. Mary Anne Rizzolo, founder of the Leadership Development Program for Simulation Educators, provide a special presentation on simulation evaluation. Dr. Rizzolo’s career has focused on exploring new technologies, determining how they can inform and educate nurses, operationalizing their cost-effective delivery and disseminating their value for education and practice. She pioneered the development of screen-based simulations, which have won national and international awards.

GOLDEN PAW AND QUALITY MATTERS
The UNM College of Nursing continually strives for academic excellence as one of its core values. The following College of Nursing faculty have received the Golden Paw Award, which indicates that their online courses have received UNM’s Quality Matters certification: Dr. Melinda Tinkle for N405 Genetic Literacy Across the Lifespan; Drs. Van Roper and Ruth De Rego for N526 Advanced Pathology; Nuzhat Ali for N409 Health Policy, Economics and Systems; Dr. Jan Martin for NURS 410 Foundations for Leading Change and Advancing Health; and Dr. Heidi Rogers for N501 Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing. The Golden Paw Award recognizes courses that are certified as a UNM Online Best Practice Course. Courses that meet the rigorous Quality Matters distinction were designed with the most up-to-date and research-based best practices in mind.

Dr. Herica Torres, Director of the Simulation Labs, and Dr. Mary Anne Rizzolo, Keynote Speaker for the 2017 Simulation Conference, pose with the simulation manikin
STUDENTS ATTEND ONS DINNER
Several College of Nursing students attended the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) dinner at Seasons Restaurant. The guest speaker was Rosalind Malhota from Bristol-Myers Squibb. ONS is a professional community for oncology nurses that has developed evidence-based education programs and treatment information and has advocated for patient care to improve the quality of life and outcomes for patients with cancer and their families.

PETER A. WINograd
THIRD ANNUAL VISITING PROFESSORSHIP IN NURSING
On September 14 and 15, 2017, the College of Nursing brought Dr. Victor Strecher to the University as a visiting lecturer. Dr. Strecher is a behavioral scientist, professor and director of Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship at the University of Michigan Schools of Public Health and Medicine. In 2015, he founded JOOL Health (www.joolhealth.com), a digital health solution company that integrates the science of health and well-being, advanced smartphone and biometric technology, and big data analytics. His lectures were titled “On Purpose: A New Direction in Health and Well-Being” and “Giving Yourself S.P.A.C.E (Sleep, Presence, Activity, Creativity, Eating).”

PRESIDENT STOKES TAKES OFFICE
Dr. Garnett S. Stokes was selected as the University’s 23rd and first female president on March 1, 2018. A first-generation college student, Dr. Stokes earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn., and her Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in industrial/organizational psychology from the University of Georgia in Athens. Read more about President Stokes and her background at https://president.unm.edu/about/index.html.

FLU CLINICS
UNM College of Nursing students, along with College of Pharmacy students, participated in a flu clinic, offering flu shots to Health Sciences Center employees. The clinic was held in partnership with University Hospitals. The 2017 year’s employee flu campaign ran from October 4 to November 16 at 21 clinics, including offsite locations and evening/night clinics.

TIGGES INDUCTED AS PRESIDENT OF STTI
UNM College of Nursing associate professor and Regents’ Professor Beth Baldwin Tigges, PhD, RN, PNP-BC, was named Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing’s (Sigma) 2017-2019 president. Dr. Tigges will oversee the 12-member Sigma Board of Directors and represent the organization at high-level meetings around the world, leading the Society to “Connect, Collaborate, Catalyze,” as presented in her Presidential Keynote Address at the Sigma 44th Biennial Convention 2017. Her stated focus will be urging Sigma members to use state-of-the-art technology to advance global health.

Nursing student administers flu shot
Year in Review

ANEW GRANT SUPPORTS STUDENTS
In early 2017, the UNM College of Nursing was awarded the Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) grant by the Health Resources and Services Administration. The ANEW program supports innovative academic-practice partnerships to prepare primary care advanced practice registered nursing students to practice in rural and underserved settings through academic and clinical training. As part of this grant, 10 graduate students, three in the Nurse-Midwifery Program and seven in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program, were provided with a computer tablet, medical applications and access to wireless technology to not only assist with their clinical education but also to allow them to create a video diary about their experience. Students are encouraged to capture the different places and cultural experiences they have had in these rural settings in an effort to help attract more primary care services to the area.

NEW MEXICO NURSING EXCELLENCE AWARDS
Nurses from all over New Mexico came together on October 21, 2017, to celebrate one another and honor their own. The New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence hosted its 13th annual New Mexico Nursing Excellence Awards. UNM College of Nursing faculty and alumni were in attendance, and several alumni, faculty and retired faculty received awards that evening.

Jessica Archibeque, BSN class of 2014
Maternal-Child/Women’s Health Nursing Excellence Award

Nancy Fryeweaver, BSN class of 1975 & MSN class of 2011
Ambulatory Care Nursing Excellence Award

Loren Kelly, MSN class of 2006 & Faculty Member
Community Service Nursing Excellence Award

Brenda Romero, BSN class of 1994
Public Health/Community/School Nursing Excellence Award

Carmen Vigil, BSN class of 2016
Nightingale Nursing Excellence Award

PJ Woods, MS class of 1996 & Faculty Member
Distinguished Nurse of the Year

Nancy Morton, Retired Faculty, New Mexico Nursing Legend Award
Debra Brady, Retired Faculty, New Mexico Nursing Legend Award

DELUCAS ON NMONL BOARD
Dr. Christine Delucas, assistant professor, was appointed to the New Mexico Organization of Nurse Leaders (NMONL). The NMONL shapes health care policy, promotes nursing excellence and fosters collaboration through advocacy, professional development and networking. Congratulations, Dr. Delucas!

LONG-TIME STAFF MEMBER RETIRES
Ana Vigil, Financial Aid Supervisor, retired on January 26, 2018. Ana served in various roles throughout her tenure, including providing support in the offices of the dean and associate dean, and serving as financial aid officer. Having spent close to three decades supporting deans, faculty and, most importantly, students at the College, Ana also worked with various departments across UNM, the Health Sciences Center, the New Mexico Higher Education Department and Health Resources and Services Administration, to name a few. The College wishes her well on her next adventure.

Faculty members, Dr. Karen Brown, Dr. Kristen Ostrem-Niemcewicz, Ms. Susan Koronkiewicz, Ms. Kathy Grand and Dr. Herica Torres at the Nursing Excellence Awards
CLINICAL INTENSIVE ROTATION IN COSTA RICA
Herica Torres, instructor and simulation director for the College of Nursing, along with nursing students Kristen T. Trujillo, Cassadee Hanson, Rachel Saladen, Grisell Garcia, Courtney Wolf, Crystal E. Archuleta, Marissa Trujillo and Sarah Gonzalez, spent two weeks in Costa Rica. Through a collaborative partnership with the Universidad de Iberoamérica, students learned about Costa Rica’s health system and worked with health care professionals to help screen some of the population to identify major health risks in the country.

VOLUNTEERS FOR ROADRUNNER FOOD BANK
UNM College of Nursing staff volunteered their own time to give back to the community at the Roadrunner Food Bank. Fifteen staff members came out to help process 8,000 pounds of tomatoes. The staff plans to continue its service efforts throughout the year.

STAFF AND FACULTY GIVING
This holiday season, the UNM College of Nursing Staff Service Committee wanted to brighten the days of those less fortunate in New Mexico by “adopting” children through New Mexico Kids Matter. The College was able to raise $1,675 to purchase gifts and clothing for eight children in a single foster care family. They also were able to purchase gift cards to donate to older foster care children who would not have received Christmas presents. Part of a complex system created to protect children in New Mexico, New Mexico Kids Matter is the only volunteer advocacy group working in the court system that provides a caring, consistent adult focused on the well-being of a single child in foster care.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE VISITS THE COLLEGE
The UNM College of Nursing concluded a federal review by the Indian Health Service (IHS) team from Rockville, Md., November 29 and 30, 2017. A preliminary debriefing with the IHS team indicated that the College is achieving desirable outcomes for increasing American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) student nurses. IHS awarded a grant of more than $300,000 to the College of Nursing to educate more AI/AN nursing students. The purpose of the American Indians Into Nursing grant, identified as the “Success in Nursing for Native Americans Through Collaboration” project, is to recruit, retain and graduate more AI/AN Pre-Licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing students at UNM and San Juan College and to increase the number of AI/AN nurses providing care to AI/AN patients in IHS facilities.

CON STAFF MEMBERS VOLUNTEER AT FOOD PANTRY
On March 16, several College of Nursing (CON) staff members volunteered at the Storehouse of New Mexico, a nonprofit organization that is committed to fighting hunger in our state. The organization provides free food to nearly 50,000 people each year. CON staff worked with individuals to select a variety of food products based on their family size and requirements, ensuring that each person felt welcomed and that his or her needs were met.
**Year in Review**

**NURSING PRESENTATION FOR IPE**
The Interprofessional Education (IPE) team has started a speaker series for Health Sciences Center (HSC) students. Members from each health profession are given a lunch hour to discuss their profession’s role in the health team and share their experiences with students across all health disciplines. On March 8, a College of Nursing panel of three nurses and two nursing students discussed the role of nurses. LeeAnna Vargas, Jason Baron, Dr. Van Roper, and Level-5 nursing students Donzlynn Worthington and Christina Deshayes gave presentations to the HSC community. The goal of this speaker series, as well as IPE, is to provide information about the expertise each profession provides, how to respect each other’s expertise with humility and integrity, and how to openly communicate with each other in a way that generates quality patient health care.

**CHRISTINE E. KASPER APPOINTED DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF NURSING**
Christine E. Kasper, PhD, RN, has been selected as dean of the University of New Mexico College of Nursing. She received her PhD at the University of Michigan, where she studied nursing and physiology. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at Rush University in physiology and biophysics, she served as professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and University of California, Los Angeles. She also held the M. Adelaide Nutting Research Chair at Johns Hopkins University.

**WOMEN’S RESOURCE CENTER HOSTS MIDWIFERY PANEL**
The UNM Resource Center hosted a panel of midwives, including Dr. Kristen Ostrem-Niemciewicz, Master of Science in Nursing program director and nurse-midwifery concentration coordinator, as well as two of our alumnae, Donyelle Miller and Brittany Simplicio. The panel discussed the history of midwives and the career path of midwifery.

**ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS**
College of Nursing alumni were asked to volunteer to play the role of a patient who has chronic health problems and is attending a virtual clinic. Eight alums came to campus on February 8 to help our Nurse-Midwifery students work on their primary care skills. Thank you to Susan Crowely, Marjorie Cypress, Shari Friedman, Lesya Lambros and Jackie Pamerleau for taking time out of your busy schedules to assist our students.

**WORLD CAFÉ**
On April 9, Level-2 nursing students came together in a World Café, where they worked in small groups to conduct a community assessment for selected neighborhoods in the Albuquerque metropolitan area. Students in the Health Care Participant course (N303), taught by Clinician Educator and Instructor Loren Kelly, shared their findings with each other, learned about the other neighborhoods and proposed interventions. The interventions were built on the strengths of the community. Students identified the desired health outcomes and how the intervention would result in a measurable impact and improvement of the health of the community.
DEAN’S RECEPTION
The 15th Annual Dean’s Reception was held April 5, 2018, at the Anderson- Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum. The event honored our Interim Dean, Dr. Carolyn Montoya, as well as all the incredible donors to the UNM College of Nursing. Attendees enjoyed speeches from Dean Montoya, as well as Connor Adams, director of development, and Sam Adamo, a longtime donor to the UNM College of Nursing. Student speakers Nikaya Potter and Abigail Velasquez also graced the podium, as well as faculty member Sue Koronkiewicz and the Simulation team (complete with an appearance by their mannequin, Susie). We are so grateful to everyone who attended and continues to support development at the College!

GOLDEN GRADS: CLASS OF 1968
Alumnae from the class of 1968 returned to the College of Nursing to celebrate their 50th class reunion. These Golden Grads participated in the College’s Convocation Ceremony by donning golden caps and gowns and being called on stage to receive a 50-year nursing pin. They were also treated to a dinner with their classmates at Bravo Cucina Italiana restaurant.

CANINE CUDDLES
Furry friends of all shapes and sizes came to the Health Sciences Center plaza outside of the College of Nursing on April 23rd. Local volunteers with the Albuquerque-based Southwest Canine Corps of Volunteers were on campus with their four-legged companions giving students some welcome stress relief as the semester wound down and finals took place.

SPRING 2018 CONVOCATION CEREMONY
Families and friends gathered on May 10th to honor the graduating nursing students from the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 classes. Between the two terms, more than 200 students graduated across four degree programs, including the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice and Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing. Congratulations to all our new alumni!

INDUCTION CEREMONY
Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Gamma Sigma Chapter’s Induction Ceremony was held April 29th at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center campus. Dr. Beth Tigges, president of STTI and associate professor at the UNM College of Nursing, was the guest speaker for the event. Students from the undergraduate and graduate programs, faculty and family came together to welcome the newest members of STTI.

PASSING OF DR. SHANE
Dr. Donea Shane passed away on May 13th. A beloved member of the UNM College of Nursing, Dr. Shane began working for the College in the mid-1970s. She is responsible for launching the RN to BSN Program and directed it for 10 years. At the time, there were only two baccalaureate schools of nursing in the state. Dr. Shane felt that there needed to be a way for nurses to graduate from two- and three-year programs and get into a baccalaureate program without having to start over again. She also wrote a book for returning RNs, titled Returning to School: A Guide for Nurses, in 1983. Dr. Shane served as associate dean for the baccalaureate program for twelve years, and one year before retirement, she served as interim dean of the College of Nursing. Dr. Shane was clearly an influential woman who helped shape our College’s history. She will be dearly missed.
Changing Lives—Donor Stories

NANCY RIDENOUR

With the single largest gift by an individual in the history of the College of Nursing, Dr. Nancy A. Ridenour made her dream of growing and sustaining the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC) a reality. In 2013, NMNEC began as a consortium of nursing education programs, organizations and individuals throughout the state with a commitment to implement a common statewide curriculum and increase Bachelor of Science in Nursing education. Credited with being an instrumental part of creating NMNEC, Ridenour’s gift will continue her legacy of providing a top-notch nursing curriculum and education to nursing students across the state. Over time, this gift will be allocated in a tiered model, starting with a faculty fellowship, visiting professorship, full professor and then endowed chair for NMNEC. The College of Nursing has seen such transformation because of the work of Dr. Ridenour’s tenure as a previous Dean at UNM. Without her vision, the College of Nursing would not be what it is today: an ever-growing, highly ranked flagship program for the state of New Mexico that has the ability to educate nurses across the state, including in rural communities. On behalf of the College of Nursing, the UNM Foundation, The University of New Mexico, NMNEC and all the other institutions, students, faculty and staff you have touched, we THANK YOU!

STEPHEN AND ANGELA HERNANDEZ

Stephen Hernandez, PhD, and his wife, Angela Hernandez, have made the first gift to the College of Nursing that will support PhD student veterans, as well as those who are active reserve members of the armed forces. This is a population of students that hits close to home for the Hernandez family, because Dr. Hernandez was an active reserve armed forces member as he earned his doctoral degree. This gift shows a vision for the future by increasing support for our military personnel and giving those individuals in pursuit of a terminal degree a step up financially. There is a national trend to support more nursing students who are veterans, and the College of Nursing is excited to be one of those institutions leading the charge. Thank you to the Hernandezes for their vision, support and service to our country!
MARYANN EVANS

Maryann Evans and Edwin Roos are instrumental and life-changing supporters of College of Nursing students. “Edwin and I are very passionate about nurses. We appreciate their work and understand they hold stressful positions and work long hours,” Evans said. “For us, there’s nothing better than being able to help someone succeed.” Evans and Roos showed their support again this year with a gift to support students immediately, as well as continuing to grow their endowment. They wanted to see students receive more immediate funding to reduce their financial obligations, but at the same time support more nursing students year after year. We are so appreciative and thank them for all the support and love they share with our students and UNM.

KRISTEN OSTREM-NIEMCEWICZ

Sometimes we do not think about the hidden costs associated with fulfilling nursing education requirements. For example, there are annual membership dues to national organizations in the specialty areas of nursing. Kristen Ostrem-Niemcewicz, DNP, concentration coordinator for the Nurse-Midwifery Program, wanted to make it easier and more cost-effective for students to pursue professional development and educational requirements. She made an endowed bequest gift to the College of Nursing to support nurse-midwifery students’ membership fees to the American College of Nurse Midwives’ national organization. Students can now focus on their curriculum and practice, and become a practitioner scholar without the financial worry of the fees that are associated with professional organization membership. Thank you, Dr. Ostrem-Niemcewicz, for thinking creatively and putting College of Nursing students at the forefront of this amazing gift!

MARIBETH THORNTON

When asked, “What type of legacy do you want to leave?” Maribeth Thornton, PhD, and Chris Thornton thought of UNM immediately. The College of Nursing, Anderson School of Management and UNM Hospital are forever grateful for a transformational gift donated by the couple. The Thorntons have a strong connection to the University as whole, but especially these three institutions. Benefiting so many individuals at the University, they will be creating an even greater place of learning, working and teaching. The College of Nursing and all of UNM extend a huge thank you to the Thornton family for aligning their passions with the mission, vision and goals of the University of New Mexico.

Nursing students Xiao Hua, Janet Abernathy, Shradha Bisht, with Maryann Evans

Dr. Kristen Ostrem-Niemcewicz

Lori Valero, Maribeth Thornton, Chris Thornton
Class Notes

1960s
The class of 1968 returned to the College of Nursing to celebrate their 50th anniversary.

1970s
Nancy FryeWeaver, '75 BSN and '71 MSN, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence 2017 Ambulatory Care Nursing Excellence Award.

1980s
Sheena Ferguson, '83 BSN and '88 MSN, was honored by Albuquerque The Magazine as a Top-Notch Nurse.

Maria Keppler, '85 BSN, received the UNM College of Nursing 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award.

1990s
Brenda Romero, '94 BSN, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence 2017 Public Health/Community/School Nursing Excellence Award.

Michael Shannon, '95 BSN and '97 MSN, won the USA Powerlifting Association Military Competition.

Shari Friedman, '95 BSN, returned to the College and volunteered to help our nurse-midwifery students in a simulation exercise.

1990s
PJ Woods, '96 MSN, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence 2017 Distinguished Nurse of the Year Award.

Loretta Garrett, '97 BSN, '03 MSN and '08 PMC, was a guest lecturer for our nurse-midwifery students.

2000s
Abigail Eaves, '00 BSN and '02 MSN, received the 2017 American Association of Birth Centers' Professional Award.

Kathie Maxwell, '01 MSN and '06 PMC, was a guest lecturer for our nurse-midwifery students.

Rachel Theobald, '03 BSN and '13 MSN, returned to the College and volunteered to help our Post-Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students in a simulation exercise.

Lucas Enslin, '04 BSN, received a new family nurse practitioner position at Lovelace in Albuquerque.

Claire Bettler, '05 MSN, was a guest lecturer for our nurse-midwifery students.

Loren Kelly, '06 MSN, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence 2017 Community Service Nursing Excellence Award.

Marjorie Cypress, '08 PhD, returned to the College and volunteered to help our nurse-midwifery students in a simulation exercise.

Jessica Neff, '03 BSN, received the UNM College of Nursing 2017 Undergraduate Preceptor Award.
2010s

Anne Karlovitz, ’10 MSN and ’16 PMC, was hired by Presbyterian Healthcare Services.

Linda Neal, ’10 MSN, returned to the College and volunteered to help our Post-Master’s Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students in a simulation exercise.

Lindsey Hall, ’10 BSN, was honored by Albuquerque The Magazine as a Top-Notch Nurse.

Alyssa Pena, ’10 BSN, traveled to Keyna to provide medical assistance to those in need.

Laura Bush, ’11 MSN, received the UNM College of Nursing 2017 Graduate Preceptor Award.

Brittany Simplicio, ’11 BSN and ’13 MSN, participated on a panel for the UNM Women’s Resource Center regarding pursuing a career as nurse-midwife.

Jackie Pamerlau, ’11 MSN, returned to the College and volunteered to help our nurse-midwifery students in a simulation exercise.

Keyna Kester, ’11 MSN, returned to the College and volunteered to help our Post-Master’s Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students in a simulation exercise.

Esther Lucero, ’12 BSN, was honored by Albuquerque The Magazine as a Top-Notch Nurse.

Manuelita Chapman, ’12 MSN, volunteered to be on a committee to assist the College of Nursing in relaunching the Nursing Administration concentration in the Master of Science in Nursing program.

Michelle Peacock, ’12 MSN, was named a 2018 Woman of Influence by Albuquerque Business First. She also received the 2018 American Association of Nurse Practitioners Advocate State Award for Excellence from New Mexico.

Jessica Archibeque, ’14 BSN, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence 2017 Maternal-Child/Women’s Health Excellence Award.

Amy Rohr, ’14 BSN, received the UNM College of Nursing 2017 New Alumni Award.

Beret Ravenscroft, ’15 MSN, came back to the College and volunteered to help our Post-Master’s Certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students.

Carly Nathan, ’16 MSN, was a guest lecturer for our nurse-midwifery students.

Carmen Vigil, ’16 BSN, received the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence 2017 Nightingale Nursing Excellence Award.

Catherine Lukes, ’16 MSN, was a guest lecturer for our nurse-midwifery students.

Lyudmyla Kostyk, ’16 BSN, returned to the College and volunteered to help our Post-Master’s Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students in a simulation exercise.

Susan Crowely, ’16 BSN, returned to the College and volunteered to help our nurse-midwifery students in a simulation exercise.

Catherine Mahoney, ’17 MSN, participated in an alumni panel that spoke to the UNM College of Nursing’s graduating class of Spring 2018.

Celia Brown, ’17 MSN, participated in an alumni panel that spoke to the UNM College of Nursing’s graduating class of Spring 2018.

Donyelle Miller, ’17 MSN, participated on a panel for the UNM Women’s Resource Center regarding pursuing a career as a nurse-midwife.

Jassmine Safier, ’17 MSN, participated in an alumni panel that spoke to the UNM College of Nursing’s graduating class of Spring 2018.

Noah Bankhurst, ’17 MSN, participated in an alumni panel that spoke to the UNM College of Nursing’s graduating class of Spring 2018.
Current Endowments

SCHOLARSHIP
Agnes Ripple Adams Memorial Scholarship in Nursing
Aladino and Nellie Matteucci Endowed Scholarship
Alex O. Romero Family Fund
American GI Forum of Albuquerque Endowed Scholarship in Nursing
Blanche Ausley Montgomery Memorial Scholarship in Nursing
Brenda M. Izzi NMNEC Scholarship Endowment
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 Mauneys 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
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
Kristen Ostrem-Niemczewicz Advanced Practice Nursing Scholarship Endowment
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
Nursing Emergency 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

Lisa A Rossi Nursing Scholarship recipient
Marisol Maldonado

Lisa A Rossi Nursing Scholarship

UNM College of Nursing Annual Report 2018
FACULTY SUPPORT
Aladino and Nellie Matteucci
Faculty Fellowship
Aladino and Nellie Matteucci
Faculty Fellowship-Match
Anita Reinhardt
NMNEC Faculty Endowment
Carlson/Petty Endowment for Innovative Nursing Education
Carter Fleck
Endowed Professorship in Nursing
Cheryl and Emerson Learn
Endowment for Faculty Support
Dr. Patricia Higgins
Professorship in Nursing
Giddens Neighborhood Endowment

Kristen Ostrem-Niemciewicz
Midwifery Professional Development Fund
Leah L. Albers
Professorship in Midwifery-Match
Leah L. Albers
Professorship in Midwifery
Professor Peter A. Winograd Annual Visiting Professorship in Nursing - State Match
Virginia P. Crenshaw
Endowed Chair in Nursing
Virginia P. Crenshaw
Endowed Chair in Nursing - Match

PROGRAM SUPPORT
Brenda and Stephen Izzi Nursing Education Consortium Fund
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
Judith Harris
Global Health Endowment in Nursing
Julie Gorwoda Endowed Nurse-Midwifery Fund
New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium Endowment
NMNEC Nurse Educator Endowment
Nurse-Midwifery Education Endowment
Professor Peter A. Winograd Annual Visiting Professorship in Nursing
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
UNM Midwives of Color Fund

RESEARCH
Shuster-Beach Research Fund

Scholarship recipients at the 2018 Dean’s Reception
By The Numbers

ENROLLMENT

1,091 Students
Spring 2018

208 qualified applicants applied for 72* slots in the Pre-Licensure BSN Option in Spring 2018

No. of Students

379 RN to BSN
288 Dual Degree
255 Pre-Licensure BSN
111 MSN
35 PhD
21 DNP
2 BSN to PhD

GRADUATION NUMBERS

353 2017-2018 Academic Year

FACULTY/STAFF GIVING

32% of Staff give back to the College of Nursing

35% of Faculty give back to the College of Nursing

$263,252 Total raised for 2017-18

$292,942 Total Scholarship Dollars Awarded

- 606 Students Awarded Scholarships
- Cost to Fund an Endowed Scholarship: $25,000

$11,733,182 Size of the total endowment for the College of Nursing as of June 30, 2017

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

*Number includes 64 at the HSC Albuquerque location and 8 at the HSC West location


Publications


More than 1,000 Students

The College of Nursing has come a long way since 1955, when it began with 17 students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) Program. As of Spring 2018, the College has enrolled 1,047 students and offers 13 different programs leading to the following degrees: BSN, Master of Science in Nursing, Post-Master’s Certificate, Doctor of Nursing Practice and Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing.
Contracts, Grants, and Sponsored Research

(ACTIVE IN FY 2017–2018)

Cogil, Christine (Co-Author), Adams, Connor (Co-Author), CVS Health Foundation Grant, CVS Health, $2,000.00

Cox, Kim (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Hearst Scholars Program, Hearst Foundation, $150,000.00

Cox, Kim (Co-Principal Investigator), Kivilghan, Katie (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Predictors of Successful Early Postpartum Breastfeeding During the Transition to Baby Friendly Status, UNM School of Medicine Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology, $9,575.00

Yonas, Howard (Principle Investigator), Dixon, Elizabeth (Project Assistant), Access to Critical Cerebral Emergency Support Services (ACCESS), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Medicaid and Medicare, $2,712,541.00

Dixon, Gloria (Principal Investigator/Project Director), CO-APEX Collaborative Advanced Psychiatric Education eXchange, University of Colorado, Denver, $195,916.00

Judge, Shana (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Faculty Research Grant, The University of New Mexico Feminist Research Institute, $1,000.00

Levi, Amy (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Creating a Unified Sexual and Reproductive Health Nursing Organization, Anonymous Sponsor, $136,385.00

Liesveld, Judy (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Success in Nursing for Native Americans Through Collaboration (SNNAC), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Indian Health Service, $1,067,059.00

Liesveld, Judy (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Are There Outcome Differences Between NMNEC ADN, BSN, and ADN/BSN Co-enrolled Students? National Council of State Boards of Nursing Center for Regulatory Excellence, $192,481.00

Liesveld, Judy (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Nurse Education, Quality, & Retention: BSN Practicum With Navajo Indian Health Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Health Resources and Services Administration, $611,259.00

Liesveld, Judy (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Dixon, Elizabeth, New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium Statewide Planning, New Mexico Board of Nursing, $23,825.00

Montoya, Carolyn (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Advanced Nursing Education Workforce Program, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Health Resources and Services Administration, $983,276.00

Montoya, Carolyn (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Nurse Faculty Loan Program, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Health Resources and Services Administration, $103,437.00

Cahill, Anthony (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Overman, Barbara A. (Project Manager), Cogil, Christine (Co-Author), Martin, Jan (Supporting), Perinatal and Infant Oral Health Quality Improvement Expansion Grant, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services/Health Resources and Services Administration, $749,853.00

Faulkner, M. (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Overman, Barbara A. (Supporting), The University of New Mexico Rural Urban Health Professions Student Training, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, The University of New Mexico, $13,423,588.00

Ruyak, Sharon (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Pipeline to Proposal, Tier A: A Journey to Empowerment and Health: Building the New Mexico Perinatal Mental Health Improvement Network, Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, $41,138.00

Ruyak, Sharon (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Embodiment of Maternal Distress: LINKS in the Maternal, Placental, and Fetal Environment, The University of New Mexico, $20,000.00

Ruyak, Sharon (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Healthier Mothers and Infants: Expanding Telehealth to Improve Symptom Management of Perinatal Maternal Distress, The University of New Mexico, $10,000.00

Ruyak, Sharon (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Ruyak, Sharon (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Tiggles, Elizabeth (Co-Investigator), Clinical and Translational Research Infrastructure Network (IDEA-CTR), National Institutes of Health, $19,915,508.00

Sites in IDEA State Pediatric Clinical Trial Network, National Institutes of Health, $41,230,106.00

Shuttleworth, William (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Tiggles, Elizabeth (Co-Principal Investigator), Clinical and Translational Science Award, National Institutes of Health, $7,799,767.00

Larson, Richard (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Tiggles, Elizabeth (Co-Investigator), Clinical and Translational Research Infrastructure Network (IDEA-CTR), National Institutes of Health, $13,423,588.00

Langer, Robert (Principal Investigator/Project Director), Tiggles, Elizabeth (Co-Investigator), Clinical and Translational Research Infrastructure Network (IDEA-CTR), National Institutes of Health, $19,915,508.00

UNM College of Nursing Annual Report 2018
Retirements

**DR. MEIZE-GROCHOWSKI**

Regent’s Professor Robin Meize-Grochowski, PhD, RN, CNE, retired from the College of Nursing on August 1. During her 39 years at UNM, Meize-Grochowski taught across undergraduate and graduate programs, and served as associate dean of Graduate Programs, senior associate dean for Academic Affairs, and PhD program director at the Health Sciences Center. She also served as associate dean of Graduate Studies on main campus for seven years. Originally from Farmington, N.M., Meize-Grochowski earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (BSN) from Creighton University in Omaha, Neb., and her Master of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from The University of Texas at Austin.

During her tenure in the College, Meize-Grochowski received recognition and teaching awards from entry-level BSN students and Registered Nurse to BSN students, and four times was voted the Outstanding Graduate Faculty. She was named UNM’s Online Teacher of the Year in 2011 and received Quality Matters certification and UNM’s Golden Paw for online courses. She was one of the original members appointed by the provost to the Online Course Advisory Council, which developed the standards for online courses at UNM.

Meize-Grochowski says it has been a privilege to be part of the education of so many students and to work alongside exceptional faculty and staff. She will especially miss teaching and mentoring students to be the best nurses they can be as clinicians, educators and researchers. She now looks forward to spending more time with family and friends, traveling and working on home projects.

**DR. P.J. WOODS**

P.J. Woods, PhD, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, retired from the College of Nursing on August 1. Woods earned her Associate Degree from the College of Santa Fe, her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Phyllip Y. Hahn in San Diego, her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) from the University of New Mexico, her Master of Business Administration from The University of Phoenix, and her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

She has focused her clinical, teaching and research trajectory on nursing workforce issues, including recruitment, retention and the professional development of nurses. She is a nationally recognized speaker and has published her research on these topics. Woods served at the national level in health policy and had a presidential appointment to the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality. She has been with the University of New Mexico (UNM) system for 34 years, 21 of which were spent at UNM Hospitals, where she served in progressive administrative positions, serving as chief nursing officer for her last eight years. She developed the first Academic Nurse Residency Program in the United States. Woods’ teaching experience includes teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels. She assumed administrative positions at the College, including concentration coordinator for the MSN in Nursing Administration Program, director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program and interim chair of the Practice Team.
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 CEUs
• Special discounts, including UNM Recreational Services Membership

For more information, contact Robyn Mintz at rmintz@salud.unm.edu or (505) 272-1184.

Visit https://hsc.unm.edu/college-of-nursing/ for information about all of our programs
Practicing medicine in rural New Mexico presents special challenges. Clinicians must manage language barriers, understand different cultural customs and practice in isolation from other clinicians who could offer support.

The UNM College of Nursing (CON) Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) Program educates nurse practitioner and nurse midwifery students to overcome those challenges and introduces them to the benefits of practicing rural medicine. “There is a great need for primary care providers throughout New Mexico, particularly in rural areas,” explains Carolyn Montoya, PhD, RN, CPNP, FAAN, FAANP, Project Director of the ANEW Program and associate dean for the CON. “This is an incentive to have students spend time in a rural community so they’re more likely to choose to work in a rural part of New Mexico.”

The ANEW Program is a partnership between community clinics and academic institutions. A two-year grant funding the program was awarded in 2017. UNM students who participate receive special training and support from CON, plus $22,000 toward their education. In return, they spend an extended period—three months—working in a rural clinic. Ten nursing students participated in the ANEW Program in 2017, and 11 are participating during the 2018-2019 school year. In total, more than 50 students have applied to the program.

In the Fall semester, participants take a medical Spanish class and attend workshops to expand their horizons. The 2017 cohort attended a workshop in Flagstaff, Ariz., hosted by N-NURSE (Navajoland Nurses United for Research, Service, and Education). Montoya says it was a highlight. “It is important to recognize the diversity that we have in our state and really respect that diversity,” she says. “The more our students are going to work with Native Americans and Hispanics, the more they need to understand those cultures.”

During the ANEW Program, students participate in a Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) clinic, a virtual mentoring platform that uses case-based learning to teach participants. They also receive iPads loaded with applications to use in the clinic and for coursework. In the Spring semester, with special training, new language skills and technology in hand, the students are placed in primary care clinics in rural communities throughout New Mexico.

The ANEW Program is already paying dividends. Four of the 2017 graduates are practicing in rural or underserved areas. Asked about the benefits of working in rural communities, participants say they have more time to connect with patients, develop broader knowledge, appreciate less hectic shifts and feel good about helping people who don’t have the means to travel for medical care.
Technology is shrinking the distance between patients in rural areas and the specialty medical care they need. Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes), developed at The University of New Mexico (UNM) in 2003 by Sanjeev Arora, MD, is a perfect example. The virtual mentoring platform, which focuses on case-based learning, lets clinical specialists share their expertise with primary care clinicians in remote areas who then use that knowledge to treat their patients.

Project ECHO is now used in more than 30 countries. Back at UNM, faculty and staff at the College of Nursing continue to use Project ECHO in new ways to teach more students and help clinicians reach more patients.

Van Roper, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, associate clinical professor at the College of Nursing and medical director for the Primary Care TeleECHO Clinic, saw the potential for using Project ECHO to help graduates and students expand their skillsets.

“The goal is to support graduates who are working in rural areas or in situations without a lot of resources,” he explains. He believes it is the only Project ECHO clinic in the country run by nurses and focused on primary care. Participants attend in person, via computer or by phone to hear two or three case studies presented by students or new graduates.

Now, two new initiatives are expanding the clinic’s reach. The UNM Health Sciences Center Office of Interprofessional Education is including the Primary Care TeleECHO Clinic as one of four programs offering credit to students interested in interprofessional education. Students from different programs, including the School of Medicine, School of Pharmacy and Occupational Therapy program, can participate and share their perspectives. “We hope to get more students involved regardless of which school they’re from,” Roper says.

The second initiative expands the clinic’s geographic reach. In January 2019, students and faculty from Area Health Education Centers around New Mexico, including Silver City, Las Cruces and Las Vegas, will be able to join the Primary Care TeleECHO Clinic and benefit from the collaborative learning experience.

This shared, interprofessional approach is critical for the next generation of clinicians, says Roper. “Research shows that interprofessional management of patient care is, by far, the most efficient and best way to deliver care.” He says only a small percentage of the current student population has exposure to interprofessional education. “We need all of our students exposed to this approach so that it becomes the expectation, not the exception.” The College of Nursing is proudly helping lead the way toward achieving that goal.
Pregnancy and the weeks after a woman gives birth are joyous, fulfilling and exciting times for mothers and families. At least that’s the commonly held belief. But for many women suffering from depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder, becoming a new mother can be a time of stress, depression and uncertainty. Studies show that 15 percent to 20 percent of women report suffering from a perinatal mood disorder. Experts agree the actual number is likely much higher.

The repercussions are far-reaching. Untreated mood disorders during pregnancy and the perinatal period can cause attachment issues, lead to cognitive and behavioral problems for the infant and negatively impact the extended family. “It’s not just about the mom,” says Sharon Ruyak, PhD, assistant professor at the UNM College of Nursing. “This is about the health of the infant, the family and even the community when you consider how these issues affect children’s development.”

Ruyak is addressing this important problem on several fronts. She has just completed a one-year program funded by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), an independent, nonprofit research organization authorized by Congress in 2010, that supports efforts to engage patients and community members in the research process to create better outcomes.

The Capacity-Building Award brought stakeholders, including women and families who have experienced perinatal mental health disorders, health care providers and researchers together to determine priorities around perinatal mental health care in New Mexico. “By having all stakeholders at the table, the changes that are made and the interventions that are developed reflect the context and desired outcome,” says Ruyak.

Because New Mexico is a federally designated Health Professional Shortage Area, particularly in mental health care, expectant women and new mothers can wait for months for specialized mental health care—if it is available in their area at all. To increase the resources available to them, the PCORI group agreed that the priority should be finding ways to educate current providers so they feel comfortable caring for women struggling with perinatal mental health disorders. Now the group is searching for funding to support additional research.

In two other studies, Ruyak is researching the effects of chronic stress in pregnancy and the symptoms of maternal stress using behavioral and biological markers. “The goal is to understand the mechanisms of how environmental, behavioral and biological influences lead to those outcomes for moms and infants,” she says. “If we can understand the mechanisms, we can find ways to interrupt them and improve the outcomes.” Ultimately, that would lead to brighter futures for families and communities in New Mexico.

Dr. Sharon Ruyak
Five years ago, the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (pre-licensure BSN) was offered in two state-funded universities in New Mexico (the University of New Mexico [UNM] and New Mexico State University [NMSU]). Today, through the efforts of the statewide New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC), the BSN is offered in 13 locations throughout the state. This is made possible through partnerships between universities and community colleges. UNM’s BSN degree option is now offered in seven community colleges (Central New Mexico Community College, San Juan College [SJC], Santa Fe Community College, New Mexico Junior College, UNM-Taos, UNM-Gallup, and UNM-Valencia), as well as UNM’s satellite campus in Rio Rancho. Other universities in New Mexico have extended their program locations as well. NMSU offers its BSN in Alamogordo and Grants. Western New Mexico University will soon offer its BSN in Las Vegas in partnership with Luna Community College.

New Mexico is recognized as the leader in the nation for building a coordinated system of nursing education. The Consortium, comprising all state-funded (pre-licensure) nursing schools, developed a statewide nursing curriculum that is currently taught in 15 different Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) and BSN programs. This provides a resource-efficient system that affords students seamless transferability. The curriculum is concept based, producing nurses who are patient-centered, think critically and are able to recognize the needs of patients—a professional nursing workforce that employers value.

Bernard Williams, a dual-degree student from UNM-Taos, said he didn’t have to relocate or travel to receive his BSN because of the coordinated system in New Mexico. “I found the common nursing curriculum to be quite comprehensive and benefited from a wide variety of clinical experiences that deepened my understanding of concept-based nursing,” Williams said. “I will soon sit for my RN licensure exam and enter the workforce. As a 2018 dual-degree recipient, I’m proud to be an alum of UNM and UNM-Taos!”

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing has provided grant funds for a two-year project to measure the outcomes of this innovative state nursing education system. The study will determine whether there are outcome differences among NMNEC ADN, BSN, and ADN/BSN co-enrolled students and will conclude in 2019.

Employers recognize the value of a BSN-prepared nursing workforce that provides better outcomes for patients (as documented in the Institute of Medicine’s report, “The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health”). The nursing shortage in New Mexico is significant, greatly affecting the rural areas.

Patricia Maule, a UNM alumna from Farmington and clinical scholar for San Juan Regional Medical Center, said having a BSN program in the Four Corners has greatly benefited her hospital and community. “In the past, students who wanted to earn their BSN had to leave our community to attend a university,” Maule said. “Giving students the opportunity to earn their bachelor’s degree here in Farmington allows students to stay in their hometown surrounded by their support system. Our hospital appreciates all the work NMNEC has done to provide our rural communities this tremendous opportunity.”
Diverse Clinical Opportunities

Faculty members at the UNM College of Nursing are providing Pre-licensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) students with vastly different cultural experiences that they might not otherwise receive. As part of the Nursing 402 Clinical Intensive class, select students in their fourth term have the opportunity to travel to Costa Rica and Chinle, Ariz., to increase their cultural awareness and understanding in working with diverse patients, families and communities.

COSTA RICA
Through a collaborative partnership with the Universidad de Iberoamérica, students travel to Costa Rica to learn about their health system from the community health perspective. There, students reflect on how health systems affect individual and community health and how social determinants of health help or deter the health of individuals and communities. Some of the activities students are exposed to include visiting primary care clinics, homes, regional hospitals, an elderly center and a traditional healer. This two-week cultural immersion rotation helps students broaden their perspectives about health and illness.

NAVAJO NATION
With nearly 250,000 members, the Navajo Nation covers 27,000 square miles, including a large portion of northwestern New Mexico. The Chinle Service Unit has a 60-bed hospital and provides inpatient and outpatient primary care, adult intensive care, general surgery, obstetrics, 24-hour emergency department services, and public health nursing services. In addition to building nursing students' cultural awareness and understanding in working with diverse patients, families and communities, providing care in this rural region of the Navajo Nation teaches students how the environment, culture and government manifest in various ways to affect health.

The exposure to both these areas and the people who live there creates the needed understanding to care for different cultures, with respect and trust developed on both sides.

Graduation Numbers Increase

The UNM College of Nursing has seen an increase in graduation numbers over the past couple of years, in part, due to the success of the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium, increase in state funding to expand the nurse practitioner programs and the focused efforts to grow enrollment in the RN to BSN program. In the 2014-2015 academic year, the College graduated 185 students across all programs. The 2017-2018 academic year saw 353 students complete their degrees. That’s a 91 percent increase in three years. And the numbers are only expected to grow, with current enrollment of more than 1,000 students.
Successful Native Americans Into Nursing

While working at the lab at the VA Hospital, Dwayne Lucero began thinking about a career change. He enjoyed being a member of the health care team, but wanted more interaction with the patients he helped. After speaking to a few nurses, and at their recommendation, he began to consider becoming a nurse. A father of three, Lucero knew it would not be easy for him or his family. So when presented with the opportunity to apply for the Success in Nursing for Native Americans Through Collaboration (SNNAC) program, he did.

In 2016, the College of Nursing was awarded more than $300,000 to implement a program to recruit, retain and graduate more American Indian/Alaska Native pre-licensure nursing students. In partnership with San Juan College and the Indian Health Service, the SNNAC program offers cultural, academic and social support, group mentorship, career planning and advisement, and enrichment activities, such as student success workshops and trainings; it also offers scholarships that include coverage of tuition, fees, required books and a monthly stipend for living expenses.

Lucero is the first graduate of the SNNAC program. He is preparing to take the National Council Licensure Examination–Nursing. Per the service agreement for SNNAC, he will be working with the Indian Health Service. He hopes to obtain a job as a nurse at the Albuquerque IHS location to be near his children. Lucero is grateful for the opportunities the College of Nursing and SNNAC have afforded him. He would recommend the UNM College of Nursing and the SNNAC program to anyone considering it.

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.
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 Administration
- 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
- 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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