



2015 ANNUAL MAGAZINE

University of Utah College of Nursing

Celebrating 50 Years of Nurse Midwifery Education
at the University of Utah

A Resource for Alumni and
Friends of the University of Utah
College of Nursing

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UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
COLLEGE OF NURSING

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Advancing health through successful collaborations

Our mission is to prepare all levels of professional nurses and scholars for diverse health care delivery and leadership. Put simply, it is to advance health. We are committed to acquiring knowledge that improves quality of life, educating the health care workforce of the future, and facilitating health care transformation.

Successful collaborations with partners such as U of U Hospitals and Clinics help us make serious strides in a “shift from volume- to value-based care,” says Health Sciences Senior Vice President Vivian Lee. Other examples include our participation in the Evidence-Based Practice Council, created to teach, mentor, and infuse evidence based practice into University of Utah Health Care provider locations.

I continue to be in awe of all the many accomplishments of our faculty and students:

- We moved from No. 36 to No. 26 out of over 600 schools of nursing in the nation ranked by the *U.S. News and World Report*.
- Seven faculty members hold endowed chairs, recognizing their academic distinction and commitment to inquiry and teaching.
- We were one of the first institutions to establish a synchronous distance learning model for our PhD program, and our graduates go on to profoundly impact the nursing care all over the world.
- Our Nurse Midwifery Program, which ranks in the *U.S. News & World Report* top 10, recently celebrated its 50-year anniversary.
- In fiscal year 2014, the College brought in \$2.6 million in research funding from the National Institutes of Health and is ranked 16th in the nation.
- Our faculty are creating tools to help youth with autism develop talents to assist in their job searches and our students are being recognized as innovators and as breakthrough leaders.

These accomplishments, among others, can be attributed to the hard work of faculty, staff, and students who are all committed to the College of Nursing and our mission.

Thank you for all that you do to support the College of Nursing as we continue working together to advance health.

Sincerely,

Patricia G. Morton

Patricia G. Morton, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, FAAN

Dean and Professor

Louis H. Peery Presidential Endowed Chair

Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow Alumna

Soaring to New Heights

Innovative PhD distance learning program makes recruiting the best and brightest possible

By Julia Lyon

When Deborah Himes decided to pursue a PhD in nursing, she chose the University of Utah knowing its strong faculty could mentor her in cancer and genetics research. She quickly learned that Utah enjoys rich student-professor interaction, even with students living all over the country.

"I would go to nursing conferences with other students taking online PhD programs, and I would tell them what we had, and they would just be amazed," said Himes, now a professor at Brigham Young University's College of Nursing.

The University of Utah College of Nursing's PhD program began in 1977, but since 2003 it has offered PhD programs via a synchronous distance learning delivery model. Students participate in a nationally renowned program without relocating to Utah. They attend class and interact with fellow students and professors via camera and computer monitor. Their screens may resemble the opening credits of *The Brady Bunch*, but it's an intellectual powerhouse.

Of the 48 students currently enrolled in the PhD program, only 24 are from Utah. The average time to complete the year-round program is 5.3 years. Students are expected to enroll in a minimum of two courses per semester over three semesters each year. After completing course work, students conduct a research study based on their individual interests. Graduate students have a variety of funding opportunities available to them to pay for tuition as well as their research studies. Periodically, specialty cohorts are offered. Expertise within the College of Nursing reflects strength in areas such as cancer, aging, end of life, women's health, health communication and informatics. Most recently, the program has offered cohorts in gerontology and oncology.

Less than 1% of American nurses have a nursing PhD, something Margaret Clayton, the director of the College's PhD program, wants to change. More nursing professors are needed to alleviate the national nursing shortage, she said. Practical research is also another way to serve patients. "Nurses often ask questions that really have to do with



Fall Semester 2014 cohort (left to right): Carrie Radmall, Shelley White, Marie Prothero, Echo Warner, Annie Jones, Monica Beck, Marc-Aurel Martial, Jonathan Dimas, and Mardie Clayton

benefiting people and patients, whereas lab researchers often deal with diseases at a cellular or molecular level," Clayton said.

The challenge for potential PhD students is that established nursing careers and family situations make it difficult to relocate. That's why Utah's model is both practical and efficient for residents in Utah and beyond, Clayton said. Students come to campus for one week per academic year for the first three years of course work and attend one national conference per year. During their research, students can work from their hometown and are closely supervised either using technology or face-to-face as needed. Some students may collect new data where they live; others will travel to Utah. And others may access previously collected data to answer new research questions.

Clayton knows that some potential PhD students may be reluctant to trade the bedside for data collection. She points out that some faculty continue to see patients on a limited basis, and the research of graduates and faculty benefits patients directly. Current student Hilda Haynes-Lewis, studies older African Americans with advanced cancer, looking at their care coordination. She developed her research questions while working as a nurse practitioner at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx. "But I didn't really know how to formulate them," she recalled.

By the Numbers

The University of Utah College of Nursing, established in 1948, is Utah's flagship nursing program. It is the only program in the state offering both research and clinical education at the undergraduate and doctorate level. Below are just a few of the College's accomplishments.

7

The College of Nursing currently has seven endowed chairs. Appointment to an endowed chair recognizes professional achievements and promises institutional commitment to the chair holder's fields of inquiry and teaching.

20

For the third time in five years, the College of Nursing ranks in the top 20 for National Institutes of Health funding. In fiscal year 2014, the College brought in \$2.6 million in research funding from the NIH and was ranked 16th in the nation.

The College of Nursing is ranked No. 38 out of 800 schools of nursing with baccalaureate and higher degree programs by Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research.

38

26

The College of Nursing recently jumped from No. 36 to No. 26 in *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. The jump in ranking exemplifies commitment to excellence in education, research, and scholarship.

10

U.S. News & World Report ranks the College of Nursing's Nurse Midwifery Program number 10 in the nation. The nursing informatics program ranks 7th in its category.


The College of Nursing currently has nine Fellows in the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN) and is one of nine founding Hartford Centers of Geriatric Nursing Excellence.

Studying at the University of Utah introduced her to nursing innovators doing cutting-edge research. Now in her fourth year of the PhD program, Haynes-Lewis has learned how to develop research questions, activate a plan, gather information, and analyze it. Her ultimate goal is to become full-time nursing faculty. "It's important for us to have people who have advanced degrees," said Haynes-Lewis. "We can help each other push the profession forward."

Kathryn McCance was in the first class of PhD students when the program began in 1977. A clinical specialist in the coronary care unit at the hospital, she would complete her PhD in five years and go on to teach at the College of Nursing for more than 30. Her dissertation focused on families that had a higher incidence of premature heart attacks among

siblings. She counseled siblings how they might lower their risk of premature heart disease and followed up to see if their behaviors changed.

Having the PhD program at the University of Utah has positively impacted both the school and the community. "These nurses are now prepared as researchers, professors, and clinicians that are testing interventions to [improve] care," she said.

McCance's trajectory from student to researcher is something Clayton believes in. "We have a philosophy in this program that our students are our future research colleagues," she said. "We are highly dedicated to ensuring their success." 

Elevating Your Workforce

Rounding Out Professional Expertise

Shortly after settling into her new role as Dean of the College of Nursing, Trish Morton began hearing a common question from members of the community: If there's really a nursing shortage, why does the U reject qualified applicants? It seemed everyone Morton met had a friend or family member turned down by the nursing program. "It's hard to explain to folks that it's not only about the qualified and eager candidates," Morton said. "We are limited in the number of students we can accept because we have only so many faculty members to teach them."

Morton soon began re-examining the College's programs, reaching out to U of U Hospital leadership, and getting creative about opening up capacity. Expanding competencies in community and public health and health policy are key aims of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. And the Institute of Medicine has recommended that 80 percent of nurses be bachelor's-prepared by the year 2020. To Morton and her colleagues, that seemed like a good place to start. "Over the past several years we have been able to help more than 200 staff members from all over the organization become nurses," said U of U Chief Nursing Officer Margaret Pearce. "It was always our goal to help them continue their education here at the U."

Carolyn Scheese directs the College's RN-to-BS program and has helped leverage its long-standing online program to help practicing associate-level nurses obtain their baccalaureate degree. The online program flexibility



College of Nursing Dean Trish Morton and Assistant Professor Carolyn Scheese provide insightful feedback to a nursing student.

permits University of Utah Health Care nurses to fit education into their work schedules and finish in as few as 15-16 months. A potential new option will allow students who can attend full-time to complete the program in just two semesters, 8-9 months. In their first year of collaboration with the new dean, the U's health system has funded two additional faculty and expanded clinical slots by 40 percent. In turn, the College has increased RN-to-BS capacity by more than 60 percent, adding slots especially for University of Utah Health Care employees. Preparing for the future, Pearce and Morton agree on their shared responsibility.

"We must prepare nurses to be clinical experts as well as leaders," Pearce said. Morton added, "And be a voice for the health care system of the future."

Adapted from an article initially published in University of Utah Health Care's 2014 Nursing Innovation Report 

“ We must prepare nurses to be clinical experts as well as leaders and be a voice for the healthcare system of the future. ”

*Margaret Pearce, PhD, RN, MBA,
CNO of University of Utah Hospital
and Clinics*

*Patricia G. Morton, PhD, RN,
ACNP-BC, FAAN,
Dean and Professor, University of Utah
College of Nursing*

Generations of Generosity

The Lawrence T. and Janet T. Dee Foundation



In 1910 Thomas D. and Annie Taylor Dee founded Salt Lake City's first nonprofit hospital, the Thomas D. Dee Memorial Hospital, which housed a nursing school. Years later, the Dee family donated the aging facility to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. To allow for growth, a new hospital was built. The name of then-president of the LDS Church, David O. McKay, was combined with the Dee family name to create the McKay-Dee Hospital. In the '70s the LDS Church sold all of its hospitals to a nonprofit corporation, Intermountain Healthcare, and the nursing school established by Annie moved to Weber State College.

In 1963, the Dee family children established the Annie Taylor Dee Foundation. This Foundation furthered the Dee family's generosity, which extended to the University of Utah. In 1996 the Foundation set up a scholarship fund for financially vulnerable graduate students in the College of Nursing who excel academically. This scholarship has been, and will continue to be, awarded to hundreds of nursing students.

The legacy of charitable giving was passed down from Tom and Annie to their son Lawrence (Laurie) and his sisters at an early age and carried on for generations. In 1914, while returning by train to Utah after graduating from Cornell University, the 23-year-old Laurie met Colorado native Janet Sears Teller. One year later they married and made Ogden their home.

The Dees loved Ogden and its people, and they helped support the community's growth and prosperity — Janet with a sense of volunteerism that built and transformed local organizations, and Laurie through civic service and a successful career with Utah Canning Co.



In 1971 Janet and Laurie established their own foundation to further their charitable activities in Ogden and the surrounding area.

After 61 years of marriage, Janet died in 1976, followed by Laurie a year later.

Their only son, Thomas Duncombe Dee II (Tom), ran the foundation


In 1971 Tom Dee and his father were photographed with the portrait of Tom's grandfather, Thomas Duncombe Dee.



following his parents' passing. Tom and his wife Elizabeth had two sons: Thomas Duncombe Dee III (Tim) and David Lawrence Dee. As soon as Tim and David began college they joined their father in running the foundation. Laurie and Janet's legacy of giving is carried on today by a board of directors comprised of their two grandsons, Tim and David, and their great-grandson Matthew T. Dee (Tim's son).

While much of the Lawrence T. and Janet T. Dee Foundation's giving remains with the McKay-Dee Hospital in Ogden, both Tim and David and their families have contributed to many organizations, including the University of Utah. Tim has focused on the College of Nursing, serving on the Development Board for over 20 years and now chairing the Advisory Council.

During the economic downturn in 2008, the College needed funding to hire more faculty members in order to adequately staff clinical rotations. The Dee Foundation brought together their interests and resources to meet the need. When the building was renovated in 2010, The Dee Foundation funded part of the Intermountain Healthcare Simulation Learning Center (IHSLC), located on the first floor. And in September 2014, The Dee Foundation gave the College of Nursing \$25,000 to support clinical faculty recruitment.

Generosity and thoughtfulness are qualities passed down through generations of the Dee family. Tim says the Foundation's substantial support of nursing advances the commitment his grandparents made to education and health care during their lifetimes. As a result, many nursing students have been and will continue to be positively impacted. 



A Thriving Culture of Research

The University of Utah College of Nursing was among the first nursing research institutions in the western US. It continues to enjoy a culture of engaged investigation and is a nursing research leader. The College's #16 National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding rank is partly due to securing prestigious P01 and T32 research grants. The grants support scholarly inquiry and help recruit the country's nursing research standouts.

"The College of Nursing is part of an academic health science center [and has] missions of research, scholarship, teaching, service, and practice," said College of Nursing Dean Patricia Morton.

Faculty and students advance health for diverse issues, including cancer symptom management and quality of life, hospice and palliative care, bereavement, falls, chronic disease and disabilities, health information exchange, clinical decision support, patient safety, genetics, and women's health.

Explaining that nurses are involved with research is common for Ginette A. Pepper, associate dean of research. While it may be news to some, nursing research focuses heavily on improving the patient experience, says Pepper.

Morton agrees. "Research is a priority because our faculty are very committed to helping solve the health issues facing patients and families," she said.

One example is Kathi Mooney, a distinguished professor and award-winning nursing researcher. Mooney is co-leader of Cancer Control and Population Sciences at Huntsman Cancer Institute. According to Mooney, cancer research has mostly been about new treatments and extending life with less attention on decreasing symptom burden. Even with advances, Mooney says there is more to learn about developing effective treatments and about the mechanisms that cause symptoms.

Mooney's ability to lead, energize and inspire collaboration among diverse scholars has resulted in consistent funding from the NIH and the National Cancer Institute, as well as the college's first Program Project Grant (P01).

"At the University of Utah, I have been blessed by dedicated research staff and collaborators," said Mooney. "Our work is demonstrating how cancer symptom burden can be significantly reduced. Success is the work of many, not just the leader."

BUILDING EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE COUNCIL PARTNERSHIPS

The Evidence-Based Practice Council of the University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics (UUHC) teaches, mentors, and infuses evidence-based practice into UUHC's hospitals and clinics. Led by Sue Childress, Director of Nursing Services for Huntsman Cancer Hospital and U of U Health Care, and with help from two College of Nursing faculty, Drs. Linda Edelman and Barbara Wilson, the council is committed to enhancing quality and improving outcomes. In addition to providing staff education and resources on evidence-based care, the committee also:

- conducts annual poster fairs for employees and students to share projects and research initiatives
- facilitates "lunch and learn" activities
- provides quarterly EBP newsletters for employee education
- selects recipients of the Daisy Award, a national recognition program honoring the work nurses do for patients and families



TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT AVAILABLE FACULTY POSITIONS

Available positions include Cancer, Aging and/or Palliative Care tenure-line faculty positions.

Please visit nursing.utah.edu/faculty/faculty-positions-available.php


RANKED 16TH IN NIH FUNDING

For the third time in five years, U of U College of Nursing (CON) ranks in the top 20 schools for NIH funding. In fiscal year 2014, CON brought in \$2.6 million in research funding from the NIH.

P01 GRANT

Collaborations among scholars from diverse backgrounds helped deliver the College's first Program Project Grant (P01) from the NIH.

T32 GRANT

Several urgent priorities including preparing of the next generation of nurses, cultivating health care researchers, and developing cancer and end-of-life care resources are converging at the College through a T32 Grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR). The grant assists in recruitment of predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows in nursing. It also addresses NINR strategic areas: health promotion and disease prevention; improving quality of life through self-management, symptom management and caregiving; and end-of-life research. As a national leader in using technology to deliver doctoral education in nursing to distance-based students, the College recruits highly-qualified students from diverse backgrounds and geographic locations. 

CONGRATULATIONS

Our Newest Fellows of the American Academy of Nursing



Mollie Cummins
PhD, RN, FAAN
Associate Professor



Patricia A. Murphy
CNM, DrPH, FACNM, FAAN
Annette Poulson Cumming
Presidential Endowed Chair



Pamela F. Cipriano Receives 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award

In September 2014 Pamela F. Cipriano, PhD '92, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN returned to the College of Nursing to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award. Dr. Cipriano, current president of the American Nurses Association (ANA), was chosen in honor of her professional achievements and her dedication to the nursing profession. Prior to serving as ANA president, Dr. Cipriano was senior director at Galloway Advisory by iVantage and was the inaugural editor-in-chief of America Nurse Today, the official journal of the ANA. 📺

Pamela Cipriano, PhD '92

Mentoring Program Launch

The College of Nursing's new mentoring program, coordinated by the alumni board, held a program launch and networking event on January 27, 2015. Participants met their mentors and were able to network with nursing professionals. The program provides support for current nursing students, recent graduates, and alumni seeking to enhance their careers. Learn more about the program at nursing.utah.edu/alumni/mentoring. 📺

Students with their mentors.



The Quiet Heroines: Nurses in Wartime with Diane Carlson Evans

On October 30, 2014, the College of Nursing welcomed Diane Carlson Evans, a former Army combat nurse. As a guest at "The Quiet Heroines: Nurses in Wartime" event, Diane shared her experience as a nurse in Vietnam and her decade-long effort to establish the Vietnam Women's Memorial. The site memorializes the more than 265,000 women who served during the Vietnam War. A panel of nurse veterans provided additional messages and answered questions as part of the program for alumni, students, and faculty. 📺

Evans addresses event attendees.

Celebrating
50
years of

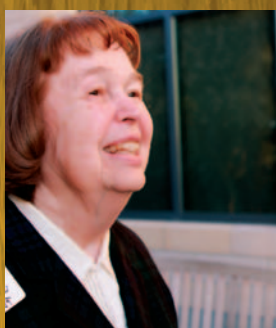


Nurse Midwifery Education at the U



By Gwen Latendresse, PhD, CNM, FACNM, Assistant Professor, Director, Nurse Midwifery and Women's Health Program

In 1965, the Children's Bureau funded a plan for a new graduate nurse midwifery program at the University of Utah College of Nursing. Little did they know that the program would go on to celebrate its 50th year in 2015. The current first-year class of nurse midwifery students, the school's 50th, will join nearly 500 program graduates who have provided exceptional midwifery care to thousands of women, babies, and families in Utah, across the country, and around the world. Many have also gone on to make significant contributions in other areas, including education, policy, research, and leadership.



Joyce Cameron Foster,
Founder of the Nurse
Midwifery Program.

Give to the Joyce Cameron
Foster Scholarship which
directly supports nurse
midwifery students at the
College of Nursing.

Call (801) 581-5109 for
more information.

When the Program admitted its first cohort of three nurse midwifery students in 1965, Joyce Cameron (Foster), the Program's founding mother, was the Program Director and the only program faculty. Fifty years later, the Program has 36 students, 16 faculty members, 5 faculty practice clinical sites, and attends hundreds of births every year at the University Hospital! It is ranked among the top 10 of all nurse midwifery programs in the US. It is also the oldest continually existing nurse midwifery program west of the Mississippi.

This year we are celebrating our Golden 50th Anniversary to thank all those who have contributed during these five decades, and to share dreams for the next 50 years. We pay tribute to the hundreds of faculty and students who have gone before to make our nurse midwifery program as strong, vibrant, and dynamic as it is today! 🎉



Kara Dassel, PhD, Director of the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Program, has been named president-elect of the Utah Aging Alliance. Dassel has also been appointed to the board of directors of the Alzheimer's Association Utah Chapter.



Lauri Linder, PhD, APRN, CPON, has been awarded with a two year, \$25,000 research grant from the Oncology Nursing Society Foundation. The grant will support her project, "Medication Reminder App to Promote Oral Medication Adherence by Adolescents and Young Adults."



Katherine Supiano, PhD, LCSW, FT, has been accepted as a Scholar of the Advanced Research Institute in Geriatric Mental Health. The National Institutes of Mental Health and Weill Cornell Medical College sponsor this two-year mentorship program.



Jia-Wen Guo, PhD, RN, received a University of Utah Research Committee Faculty and Creative Grant of \$6,000 for her proposal, "Using Cognitive Interviewing to Enhance Translation Equivalence of the Mandarin Version of the Pain Care Quality (Pain CQ) Surveys."



Jennifer Clifton, DNP, FNP-BC, CNE, was accepted as a Duke-Johnson & Johnson Nurse Leadership Program Fellow for the 2015-2016 program year. Jen will receive leadership and management training geared specifically to nurse leaders who are ready for advancement and have a passion for improved care.



Sara Hart, PhD, RN, was selected as a Gold Humanism Scholar at the Harvard Macy Institute to continue her work on an IPE Collaborative Policy Action Model. The Institute brings together health care professionals, educators, and leaders to discuss the critical challenges of the day and design innovative solutions that have a lasting impact on medical education and practice.



Erin Rothwell, PhD, was awarded an R21 grant in the amount of over \$400,000 from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Her two-year study is titled "Improved Prenatal Genetic Screening Decision Making through Interactive Technology." This research involves developing a gaming application prototype for prenatal screening.



Kim Friddle, Ph.D, NNP-BC, clinical nurse specialist in the NICU at Primary Children's Medical Center received the Excellence in Advancing Nursing Science Award from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) for her study, "The Effect of Oxygen Saturation Targets on the Development of Retinopathy of Prematurity."



Linda Edelman, PhD, MPhil, RN, received the Western Institute of Nursing Regional Geriatric Research Award for a New Researcher for fostering and showcasing geriatric nursing research. She received this award for her exceptional potential and demonstrated commitment to a career as an academic geriatric nurse researcher.



Ginette A. Pepper, PhD, RN, FAAN, FGSA, received the Western Institute of Nursing's (WIN) Jo Eleanor Elliott Leadership Award for her outstanding leadership at WIN and in the profession. Her efforts support WIN's mission of bringing together a diverse community of nurses in a shared commitment to advance nursing science, education, and practice.



Danielle Pendergrass, WHNP, DNP, and **Ann Marie Walton, a current U of U College of Nursing PhD candidate** were selected as two of only ten winners of the Breakthrough Leaders in Nursing award, sponsored by the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action.




Sue Chase Cantarini RN, DNP, CHSE, accepted the Elsevier Leading Stars in Education Award in the Clinical Education Category. The Award recognizes outstanding nursing faculty members who show exceptional skill, innovation, and effectiveness in promoting student learning, professionalism, and self-confidence.



Mollie Cummins PhD, RN, FAAN, received the Harriet Werley Award for Nursing Informatics for a paper presented at the American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium. This award recognizes paper making the greatest contribution to advance the field. Cummins' paper is titled "Information Requirements for Health Information Exchange Supported Communication between Emergency Departments and Poison Control Centers."



Patricia G. Morton, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, FAAN, Dean, University of Utah College of Nursing, has been honored by the University of Maryland School of Nursing (UMSON) as one of twenty-five Visionary Pioneer alumni. Dean Morton is a nationally recognized expert in nursing education, critical care, and cardiovascular nursing. 

On the Shoulders of Giants

Neighborhood House and Gerontology Rotation

The nonprofit Neighborhood House offers affordable daytime care and support services for older adults. University of Utah College of Nursing's community health rotation program with a gerontology focus has teamed up with them for a rotation experience that changes lives. Instead of skill building, the gerontology rotation's unique focus is on proficiencies like compassionate care, person-centered care, and therapeutic communication.

Through interactions with older adults the students learn that these individuals have stories and are people of value. Dementia and other conditions often occurring in later life do not remove personhood or need for respect and dignity.

Nanci McLeskey is a clinical instructor in the College of Nursing's Gerontology Interdisciplinary Program (GIP) and the creative force behind the partnership with Neighborhood House. McLeskey is passionate about caring for individuals as they age. "While there are many points of learning for students from this experience," McLeskey says, "the collaboration ultimately teaches students that geriatric nursing is complex and a great nursing specialty."



Students in this rotation often remember many positive experiences with clients and come away resolved to provide the same care to older adults that they would want for themselves and their families as they age. One student wrote: "This is a fascinating rotation that encompasses the mind, body and soul. The gerontology rotation afforded me



“I was moved to tears so many times by the stories of these sweet people and their families. One of my favorite quotes is from John of Salisbury: 'We are like dwarfs on the shoulders of giants, so that we can see more than them, and things at a greater distance.' I am so grateful I had the chance to learn from these giants! ”

College of Nursing Student

clinical nursing skills, but the gerontology rotation also afforded a different set of skills such as therapeutic communication, compassion, empathy, hope and so much more.”

Our aging population is increasing rapidly. One in seven Americans is over age 65. That's 13.7 percent of the U.S. population, and that is projected to increase. By 2030, one in five Americans will be over age 65. Nursing students must be educated to meet the needs this complex patient population will present. In partnership with Neighborhood House, the College of Nursing is working to make it happen. 🏠


Faculty Turning Research into Viable Tools

Salt Lake City's Columbus Community Center (CCC) provides support services for people with disabilities. Last November CCC awarded its Social Enterprise Award to the University of Utah's Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute and NeuroVersity, a startup designed to help youth with autism develop talents to aid in finding jobs. Autism is a rapidly growing developmental disability, and students with autism often graduate from high school without the proper skills to get employment. NeuroVersity uses 3-D modeling software called SketchUp to assist students in developing technical and social skills employers are seeking. NeuroVersity launched in 2013 in partnership with the Lassonde Institute and support from husband and wife faculty team, Scott and Cheryl Wright. Scott is a professor in the College of Nursing's Gerontology Interdisciplinary Program, and Cheryl teaches family and consumer studies at the U. 



Bench-to-Bedside (B2B) Competition



Nursing students Joey Vokas and Christy Van Atta participated in the 2014 Bench-to-Bedside (B2B) competition with a project that integrates mobile technology and cultural information to better prepare providers for patient interaction. The B2B competition is a vibrant program designed to introduce health sciences students, engineering students and business students to medical device innovation. Student teams form "start-up" companies and are given the task of identifying an unmet clinical need. Vokas and Van Atta's team created an app named C.H.A.M.P, meaning Cultural Health Awareness for Medical Personnel. The app is designed to reduce cultural disparities with a patient-physician interaction. Additional team members included Curtis Wheelwright, Jonathan Wheelwright, Bryce Wilson, and Minna Wang. 



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The College of Nursing was recently recognized for excellence by *U.S. News and World Report*, ranking among the top schools in the nation. Moving from No. 36 to No. 26, the jump in ranking exemplifies commitment to excellence in education, research and scholarship.

