Now in its third iteration, the Provost's Banner Project highlights researchers from across campus who are impacting our world. We are proud of Dr. Kara Dassel for being one of the 24 faculty awardees. The banners, which were installed early in May, are displayed on South Temple, between 1300 East and 500 East, and on University Street between 400 South and 200 South and are listed at @THEU. From studying cognitive aging and discovering new ways to tap into sustainable energy to understanding what drives customer decision-making, the researchers of the University of Utah are exploring and developing solutions to issues that reach beyond campus into every aspect of our community.
Earlier this year, University of Utah Health presented **Language of Care**, an incredible story of how a community of Deaf patients are breaking barriers by co-designing their own care with Dr. Michelle Litchman, members of her research team – Dr. Murdock Henderson, Nic Miller, Dr. Nancy Allen, Dr. Eli Iacob, Dr. Shinduk Lee, and Zach Howes – and members of her Community Advisory Board – Lorne Farovitch, Jeremy Quiroga, Dianna Rivas, Tamiko Rafeek, and Michael Tyler. **Language of Care** premiered on January 23 during the 2023 Sundance Film Festival. The Telly Awards – now in its 44th annual season – honor excellence in video and television across all screens. This year, Telly honored “those who use their creativity and ingenuity to Break Through The Static of the ever-increasing ubiquity of video in our lives.” **Language of Care** received three Telly Awards: Gold award class for General-Social Impact, Silver award class for General-Documentary: Short Form (under 40 minutes), and Bronze award class for General-Health & Safety.

**Events:**

The College of Nursing Lamp of Learning ceremony was held on May 25, 2023. The ceremony is a tradition in which we recognize incoming prelicensure students and acknowledge their decision to enter the profession of nursing. **Mikayla Dalley** – Student Services Academic Advisor – planned and directed the ceremony. The Spring 2023 pre-licensure cohort and their invited family and friends met in the Student Union Ballroom for a meaningful evening that included hearing from Dr. Sharifa Al-Qaaydeh, Lisa Barry, Dean Marla De Jong, Dr. Valerie Flattes, Abbey Hafen, and Dr. Melody Krahulec. Staff members Vianney Alcala, Mindy Francis, Sonja Jensen, Ben Jones, Faye Leapai, and Miriam Lovin; and College Student Council leaders Anna Eldred, Ariana Marshall, and Lauren Russell supported Mikayla and the event.

**Caring Connections** team members Dr. Kathie Supiano, Adrienne Bott, Laura Bradbury, Anna Fetzer, and Kimberly Ponce Gonzalez recently held their annual **Seeds of Remembrance** event for the community. This year’s theme was “Just Keep Swimming: Lighthearted Lessons in Grief.” The event was supported by Dean Marla De Jong, Systems and Technology – Cole Wandler, and Office of Advancement – Mindy Francis from the College of Nursing, as well as by the Caring Connections Advisory Board, Larkin Mortuary, The Rose Shop, and Ruby Snap Cookies. The featured guest speakers were Anita Coyle and Mel Shore, creators of the podcast **Widow We Do Now?**. Musical performances were provided by Cori Connors, Mark Robinette, and Mel Shore.

**Faculty Spotlight:**

**Kirsten Schmutz** is a clinical instructor in Nursing 3410 Acute Care Nursing Practicum, the second-semester clinical practicum for prelicensure students. Like all programs, clinical placements are tight, especially in the Salt Lake Valley. Placements for Summer Semester are unusually tight. On short notice, Kirsten designed and implemented an “Alternative Clinical Day.” Instead of missing a clinical day, students meet with a clinical instructor for an hour and present topics, using a flipped classroom approach. In the second hour, clinical and content experts present about topics such as respiratory therapy, aviation medicine, and intravenous access. The day ends with students meeting with their clinical groups for post-conference and debriefing, facilitating continuity. **Course Lead Dr. John Nerges** wrote, “Kirsten’s vision turned a difficult situation into an exceptional learning experience for prelicensure students. Kirsten’s Alternative Clinical Day idea and implementation showed us how to think outside the classroom box.”
Dr. John Nerges wrote, “I want to take a moment to recognize four members of the search committee. Like most committees, the work ebbs and flows. However, the search committee business is booming and has been for months. Search Committee members Dr. Bob Wong, Dr. Jenneth Doria, Dr. Rebekah Perkins, and Dr. Sheila Deyette have gone above and beyond to make sure the College of Nursing hires and inspires great candidates. In addition to screening applicants, the search committee is responsible to sell our organization to the candidates, as candidates interview us as much as we interview them. Their efforts to improve our diversity and inclusion are stellar. Thank you for all you do.”

In the Media:

Dr. Sharifa Al-Qaaydeh was featured in the @THEU article “What does anti-Muslim bias look like at the U? A Q&A with Sharifa Al-Qaaydeh” by Matilyn Mortensen in an ongoing series about discrimination and how to prevent it. Dr. Al-Qaaydeh described ways that people can be better allies to Muslim members of the campus community by, for example, asking questions about people rather than making assumptions, not always using students as examples of the underrepresented group they belong to, and realizing that the University has students from a wide variety of backgrounds and life experiences who are Muslim.

Presentations:

Drs. Linda Edelman, Brenda Luther, and Larry Garrett conducted a student summit on rural health and substance use disorders. The two-day summit was held in Price, Utah, and featured presentations from clinicians and community organizations from across the State. The summit was conducted as a part of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) funded Utah Opioid Healthcare Consortium – Collaborative Care Model initiative that is focused on reducing opioid usage and dependence in Carbon, Emery, and Wayne counties.

Dr. Larry Garrett presented Building, Training, and Diversifying the SUD Workforce at the 2023 Summer Institute on Substance Use, Ethics, and Culture. The University of Alaska Anchorage sponsored the Summer Institute.

Publications:


**Student Spotlight:**

Samantha Greenberg – PhD student – was selected as Reviewer of the Month for *The Journal of Urology*, and interviewed about her academic background, reasons for reviewing, tips for authors, recommendations for future research, and more.

**Professional Service:**

Since her retirement in 2021, Dr. Mardie Clayton (Professor Emerita) served as an invited panelist for the National Institutes of Health Pathways to Prevention (P2P) Workshop: Nutrition as Prevention for Improved Cancer Health Outcomes. After the workshop, she and other members of an independent panel wrote a report based on their assessment of the systematic evidence review, expert presentations, and public comments. The panel's final report, recently accepted for publication in the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, summarizes the workshop and outlines research gaps. In April 2023, the report was presented to the Federal Partners Meeting to begin to develop an action plan and implement the recommendations. The report also provides a conceptual framework to help researchers, funders, and policymakers move the field forward.

Best Regards,
Marla