Diversity: Room for All

At the Forefront of Tech

Strategy Session: Engaging the Campus Community for the Future

Nursing Reunion April 15
I hope your new year has begun with a renewed sense of excitement for the future. Looking back over 2015, it was another wonderful year for DUSON. Our faculty continue to be recognized for their outstanding contributions to our profession. Kirsten Corazzini received a Fulbright-Schuman Fellowship Award. Tracey Yap, Cristina Hendrix, and Allison Vorderstrasse were inducted as Fellows into the American Academy of Nursing; Margaret “Meg” Carman was inducted as a Fellow into the Academy of Emergency Nursing; and Kathy Trotter was inducted as a Fellow into the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

The quality of our students consistently amazes me. I often say that here at Duke University School of Nursing, we don’t create leaders because our students already come to us as leaders. We simply develop and nurture the gifts and talents they already have. The quality of our students and the competition to come to Duke were evident this past Fall with our ABSN cohort performing at near record levels with an average GPA of 3.7. The 37 applicants for the 10 slots in our PhD program were exceptionally bright and enthusiastic. And our MSN and DNP classes represent leaders in nursing from 43 states and seven countries!

Our staff and clinical educators work tirelessly to support our faculty and students as we reshape the future of nursing. In this issue of Duke Nursing Magazine, you will see examples of innovations in how we educate our campus-based and distance-based students in our simulation labs. We will also take a snapshot and hear from a cross-section of our faculty, staff, and students about how we are striving to become a more diverse and inclusive community of nursing educators, clinicians, and researchers.

Recently, Duke University Chancellor for Health Affairs A. Eugene Washington, MD, MSc, Duke University Provost Sally Kornbluth, PhD, and I met to discuss our progress and plans for creating new strategic directions for the School of Nursing, the Health System, and the University. I hope you will enjoy seeing a glimpse of the future for Duke University and the Duke University Health System and the role that the School of Nursing is playing in shaping that future.

I know 2016 will be another wonderful year filled with excitement, challenges, and more success for our school. I am proud to serve as dean of this wonderful school and very much appreciate everything our School of Nursing community and our alumni and friends do every day to contribute to that success.

Sincerely,

Marion E. Broome, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Ruby Wilson Professor of Nursing,
Duke University School of Nursing
Vice Chancellor for Nursing Affairs, Duke University
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs for Nursing, Duke University Health System
**June Cho, PhD, RN**, is an associate professor of nursing. She comes to Duke from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, where she was an assistant professor in the School of Nursing and a senior scientist at the Civitan International Research Center. She taught evidence-based practice, research methods, and nursing informatics courses within the school’s undergraduate and graduate programs and taught applied statistics in the PhD program. Her clinical experience spans 20 years and has been primarily in pediatric nursing, although she also served as director of nursing education at St. Mary’s Hospital, an affiliate of Catholic University in Seoul, South Korea. She holds a BSN from Catholic University, an MSN from Yansei University in South Korea and earned her PhD at UNC-Chapel Hill in 2005. She also completed a two-year post-doctoral fellowship at UNC and successfully completed two pilot studies. Following completion of an NIH-funded R21 project, her research team was awarded an NIH R01 project titled “Testosterone and Cortisol Levels in Infant Health and Development.” In that study she is investigating associations of steroid hormonal levels with very low birthweight infant health and growth outcomes, mother-infant interactions, and infant cognitive, motor, and language development.

**Victoria Goode, PhD, CRNA**, is an assistant professor of nursing. She comes to Duke from the Georgetown University School of Nursing and Health Studies Nurse Anesthesia Program. She has been a course coordinator for health policy, advanced anesthesia principles, anesthesia concept, and basics of anesthesia, as well as coordinator of anesthesia simulation and cadaver experiences. She has also lectured in pharmacology and physiology. In addition to her teaching and research, she maintains an active clinical practice in a variety of clinical settings, including inpatient, outpatient, and office-based practice throughout Virginia, Washington, DC, and Maryland. Until Fall of 2006 she maintained a full-time clinical practice in Metropolitan Washington, DC, and Northern Virginia. She holds a BSN and an MSN in nursing from Virginia Commonwealth University and completed her PhD at the University of Virginia School of Nursing in 2015. Her research focuses on obesity and its influence on patient safety in the surgical population. She recently completed a study utilizing clinical and administrative data examining adverse outcomes in this vulnerable population. She received the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) Doctoral Research Fellow Award of $10,000 in 2013 from the AANA Foundation to support her doctoral work, and she received an AANA Foundation General Research Grant from the AANA Foundation to support her dissertation study.

**Schenita Randolph, PhD, MPH, RN, CNE**, is an assistant professor of nursing. She comes to Duke from North Carolina A&T State University, where she was an assistant professor and served in various leadership positions, including as interim director for community engagement and clinical translation, specialty leader for community health nursing, and chair of the student affairs committee. Prior to her work at NC A&T, she worked as a public health nurse at the Guilford County Department of Public Health, as a home health nurse, and as a staff nurse at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. She holds a BSN from NC A&T, an MPH from UNC-Chapel Hill, and a PhD in public health with a focus on community health education from Walden University. She is credentialed as a Certified Nurse Educator by the National League for Nursing. Her research focuses on the development of culturally and socially appropriate interventions that will decrease the incidence of HIV among African-American males. She has presented at national, state, and local conferences on population-focused nursing care and HIV among African-American college males. In 2014, she was recognized as a Great 100 Nurse recipient for the state of North Carolina and received the Elsevier Leading Stars in Education (ELSIE) Award. In 2013, she received the Interdisciplinary Research Award from NC A&T.
Ashley L. Schoenfisch, PhD, MSPH, is an assistant professor of nursing. She comes to Duke from the Department of Community and Family Medicine at Duke University School of Medicine, where she was an assistant professor. She holds a BS in biology and a BA in economics from UNC-Chapel Hill and an MS in public health from Emory University. She completed her PhD in epidemiology at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC-Chapel Hill in 2012. She is a member of the American Public Health Association, the North Carolina Public Health Association, the Society for the Advancement of Violence and Injury Research, the Safe States Alliance, and the Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health. In 2013 she became certified as an instructor in the Crisis Prevention Institute’s Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Program. As an occupational injury epidemiologist, her research interests include the surveillance of work-related injuries and violence, work organization, intervention, evaluation, and the use of quantitative and qualitative methods. For nearly a decade, her focus on the nursing workforce has enhanced the understanding of hospital workers’ experiences with patient- and visitor-perpetrated violence as well as the use of patient lift and transfer devices designed to prevent work-related injuries.

**Recent Grant Awards**

- **NIH UG1** “Addressing Tobacco Use Disparities in Older Adults Through an Innovative Mobile Phone Intervention: Testing the Feasibility of the Textto4gotobacco Intervention”  
  PI Devon Noonan,  
  April 1-March 31, 2016  
  $170,124

- **COG** (Children’s Oncology Group) Nursing Research Traineeship  
  PI Cheryl Rogers,  
  April 11, 2014-February 28, 2015  
  $189,000

- **Alex’s Lemonade Stand**  
  “Symptom Patterns during Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant”  
  PI Cheryl Rogers,  
  January 15, 2015-January 14, 2017  
  $98,528

- **American Association of Nurse Anesthetists**  
  “Postdoctoral Fellowship in Health Services Research”  
  PI Beth Merwin,  
  May 1, 2015-August 31, 2017  
  $140,000

- **NIHRO1** “Testosterone and Cortisol Levels in Infant Health and Development”  
  PI June Cho,  
  July 1, 2015-May 31, 2019  
  $1,457,718

- **NIHR15** “Addressing Tobacco Use Disparities Through an Innovative Mobile Phone Intervention: the textto4gosmokelesstobacco”  
  PI Devon Noonan,  
  August 1, 2015-July 31, 2018  
  $477,000

- **NIH Administrative Supplement Award to NIH P30**  
  “Stigma Experiences, Affective Symptoms, and Engagement in Care Among Women Aging with HIV”  
  PI Michael Relf, with Sharron Docherty, and Chip Bailey,  
  July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016  
  $164,085

- **Pfizer, Inc.**  
  “Reimagine End of Life: An Online, Personalized Coping and Decision Aid for Metastic Breast Cancer Patients and Providers”  
  PI Sophia Smith  
  January 1, 2016-December 31, 2017  
  $339,389

**Awards and Honors**

- **Christina Hendrix, DNS, GNP-BC, FNP, FAAN**
- **Allison Vorderstrasse, DNSc, APRN, CNE, FAAN**
- **Tracey Yap, PhD, RN, CNE, WCC, FAAN**

- **American Academy of Nursing**

- **American Academy of Nurse Practitioners**

- **Academy of Emergency Nursing**

- **Sigma Theta Tau Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame**

- **Endowed Professorship Appointment**
  Marion E. Broome, Ruby Wilson Professor of Nursing

**Promotions**

- **Ruth Anderson** promoted to Professor Emerita
- **Penny Cooper** promoted to Assistant Clinical Professor Emerita
- **Constance Johnson** awarded tenure as Associate Professor
- **Valerie Sabol** promoted to Clinical Professor
- **Julia Walker** promoted to Clinical Professor
- **Tracey Yap** promoted to Associate Professor
- **Brigit Carter** promoted to Associate Clinical Professor
- **Karin Reuter-Rice** promoted to Associate Professor
U.S. News Ranks Online Program 5th best in the U.S.

In January, U.S. News & World Report named the School of Nursing the 5th Best Online Graduate Nursing Program in the nation. The ranking is one step up from the 2015 ranking of 6th. Schools are ranked in five categories—student engagement, faculty credentials and training, peer reputation, student services and technology, and admissions selectivity.

NIH Ranking Climbs to 9th

Brigit Carter, PhD, RN, CCRN, has been appointed program director of the School of Nursing’s Accelerated BSN Program, effective November 1, 2015.

“Dr. Carter brings an impressive record of career and teaching experiences as well as a strong clinical background to directing the work of the ABSN program,” said Dean Marion E. Broome.

Carter currently serves as a commander in the U.S. Navy Reserves and is a leader and mentor to junior officers and enlisted personnel. In her new role, she will report to the associate dean for academic affairs and will join the school’s academic team.

School of Nursing Appoints Three to New Divisions

As the School of Nursing begins a new strategic planning initiative, Dean Marion E. Broome has announced three major new divisions—Health Care of Women and Children, to be led by Barbara Turner, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor of nursing and director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program; Health Care in Adult Populations, to be led by Valerie K. Sabol, PhD, ACNP-BC, GNP-BC, CNE, FAANP; and Clinical Health Systems and Analytics, to be led by Theresa Valiga, EdD, RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN. All faculty in the school are organized under these three divisions.

Hockenberry Named Associate Dean for Nursing Research Affairs

Marilyn Hockenberry, PhD, RN, PNP-BC, FAAN, the Bessie Baker Professor of Nursing, has been named associate dean for research in the Center for Nursing Research at the School of Nursing. Hockenberry is a national leader in pediatric oncology and evidence-based practice and outcomes. She also teaches in the DNP degree program and serves as one of the 11 chairs of Duke’s Institutional Review Board. The Center for Nursing Research provides the resources needed to support knowledge and discovery that further the science of nursing.

“Dr. Hockenberry is a distinguished expert in her field of pediatric nursing, and she’s made an enormous impact on nursing and health sciences, especially in the care of children with cancer,” said Dean Marion E. Broome. “She has been an asset to the school and to the research mission at Duke Health for several years, and I have full confidence that she will demonstrate exemplary leadership for our research mission.

Hockenberry is an internationally known expert in pediatric oncology whose work focuses on the symptoms associated with childhood cancer treatments. Her latest National Institutes of Health-fund ed research grant involves phenotypic and genotypic characteristics and their associations with symptom clusters experienced during treatment for childhood leukemia.

“This is an exciting time for nursing science,” said Hockenberry. “This position will play a key role in developing...
future nurse researchers and scientists at Duke. I have had a rich career as a nurse scientist with many mentors who have coached me along the way, and I am looking forward to paying it forward in my new role.”

School of Nursing Receives Grant for VA Academy Partnership

The School of Nursing, in partnership with the Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center, is one of six nursing schools nationwide selected for a five-year VA Nursing Partnership Graduate Education Program. The program will provide federal funding to support new faculty positions and increase enrollment each year in the school’s adult-gerontology nurse practitioner major in the MSN degree program.

Thirty or more new students will enroll during the five-year period and will complete most of their clinical rotations at the Durham VA Medical Center. The grant will fund two to three new faculty positions at the School of Nursing, provide stipends for trainees, and fund one to two faculty positions at the VA to support the development of six post-master’s certified adult-gerontology nurse practitioner residents.

First HIV/AIDS Nurse Practitioner Graduates

As a child, Amanda Paya, MSN, remembers being inundated with images in magazines and on television of people dying from AIDS. She recalls the panic conveyed through the media about the disease that was still so new that no one understood what caused it or how to treat it. “I’m a child of the ‘80s, so I remember seeing those images and wanting to help and wanting to make a difference,” Paya recalls.

After eight years as an emergency room nurse, Paya will finally get a chance to work specifically with patients—adolescents and adults diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. In 2015, she became the first student to graduate from the MSN program as an adult-gerontology nurse practitioner-primary care major with a specialty concentration in HIV/AIDS.

The specialty concentration is designed to fulfill the goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy to reduce the number of new infections, help people with HIV stay healthy by increasing their access to care, and reduce HIV-related health disparities.

Second Excellence in Nursing Education Designation Received

The School of Nursing joins Indiana University in being the only two schools to receive two designations as National League for Nursing Centers of Excellence in Nursing Education. Duke was recognized in the category “Creating Environments that Enhance Student Learning and Professional Development.” In 2013 Duke was the only school selected for “Creating Environments that Promote the Pedagogical Expertise of Faculty.”

Holditch-Davis Leaves Legacy of Research Excellence

Diane Holditch-Davis, PhD, RN, FAAN, stepped down as associate dean for research affairs and transitioned to full retirement in December. The holder of the Marcus E. Hobbs Distinguished Professorship in Nursing, she came to the School of Nursing in 2006 from her role as director of doctoral and post-doctoral programs at UNC-Chapel Hill School of Nursing. In 2007, she became associate dean for research affairs, with a vision to create the infrastructure to support faculty research and develop the Office of Research Affairs. Adding staff and building capacity helped the school move from 30th to 9th in National Institutes of Health funding.

Corazzini Receives Fulbright Commission Award

Kirsten Corazzini, PhD, FGSA, an associate professor of nursing and senior fellow at the Duke Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development, received a Fulbright-Schuman Fellowship Award to research how registered nurses in two European Union countries—Sweden and the United Kingdom—accomplish per-son-centered care for frail older adults in residential long-term care with assistive caregivers. The fellowship is one of the most prestigious and selective scholarship programs operating worldwide.

Corazzini’s areas of expertise include gerontology and nursing management in long-term care, especially delegation and the role of professional nursing in nursing homes. As part of her project, she spent time in more than one EU country and reported her findings to the United States Mission to the European Union as well as participated in the Belgian Fulbright Commission’s Annual European Union-North Atlantic Treaty Organization Seminar.

ABSN Student Selected as Duke University Scholar

Sarah Free, a student in the 2015 ABSN cohort at the School of Nursing, was selected to receive a full-tuition scholarship as the 2015 Duke University Scholar. Students are selected annually from the ABSN, MSN, or DNP programs by program directors. “Among a group of highly qualified and deserving nominees, Sarah stood out for her strong history of teamwork, leadership, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking,” said Janice Humphreys, PhD, RN, FAAN,
Free began her health care career a decade ago in the biopharmaceutical industry. The desire for more direct interaction with patients led her to pursue a second career as a nurse. She has a passion for women’s health care, particularly in underserved populations.

As a University Scholar, she will have the opportunity to represent the School of Nursing working with other scholars across Duke University’s 10 schools.

Free graduated summa cum laude with a BS in biochemistry and minors in biology and chemistry from Virginia Tech. She worked as a senior associate in analytical technology at a Research Triangle Park biopharmaceutical company, authoring several scientific publications, and also worked as a research assistant at both Virginia Tech and Duke.

Two Nursing Students Receive RWJF Scholars Grants

Kristen Elmore, BSN, RN, and Ethan Cicero, BSN, RN, are among 46 nurses around the country to receive the 2015 Future of Nursing Scholars program award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The program is designed to increase the number of PhD-prepared nurses.

Elmore completed the ABSN degree program at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), where her passion for neonatal global health was sparked. Her PhD study will focus on thermoregulation of neonates in resource-limited countries. She currently works as a clinical nurse with Children’s National Health System in Washington, D.C., and previously worked as a clinical nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at MUSC.

Cicero is a critical care nurse on the Medicine Progressive Care Unit at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill. He also worked as a firefighter and emergency medical technician and in health care marketing and advertising. His PhD focus reflects his passion for creating health equity for all transgender patients. It will focus on health disparities as well as the variables associated with discrimination faced by transgender patients when they seek medical care.

Cicero and Elmore will each receive $125,000 as well as mentoring and leadership development during the three-year program.

Trotter Receives ONS Award of Excellence

Kathryn Trotter, DNP, CNM, FNP-C, FAANP, an assistant professor of nursing and the lead faculty member for the Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner major, recently received the 2016 Oncology Nursing Society Excellence in Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Award. She is being recognized for her contributions to the oncology nursing profession and to the Oncology Nursing Society.

Faculty Receive Hillman Foundation Grant for Homeless Care

Donna Biederman, DrPh, MN, RN, an assistant professor of nursing; Julia Gamble, MSN, a nurse practitioner in Duke Clinic; and Sally Wilson, executive director of Project Access of Durham County, received the Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation 2015 Hillman Innovations in Care Program Grant for their Durham Homeless Transitional Care Program in conjunction with Project Access of Durham County.

The nurse-led, community-based initiative provides safe and supportive respite housing to homeless persons following discharge from a hospital, behavioral health facility, or jail setting. The group is one of two Hillman grantees chosen from a field of more than 130 applicants and will receive $600,000 in funding for the project.

“This grant will allow us to expand our referral base and provide more transitional care services for persons experiencing homelessness,” said Biederman. “It will also assist us in conducting annual workshops for health care professionals who encounter housing instability and/or homeless people in their clinical environments.”

Short Selected for AACN Think Tank

Nancy Short, DrPH, MBA, RN, an associate professor of nursing, is one of 11 individuals selected for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Faculty Policy Think Tank initiative. The Think Tank is one of three new initiatives created by the AACN to promote greater engagement of nurses in the health policy arena and develop new thought leaders for the profession.
SAVE THE DATE

REUNION

APRIL

15

2016

Date: Friday, April 15, 2016
Place: Duke University School of Nursing
Time: 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Please join your classmates and renew old friendships!
Make your hotel arrangements now.
For more information and hotel accommodations in the area see:
nursing.duke.edu/alumni-giving/reunion
AT THE FOREFRONT OF TECH
iPad “On a Stick” is the Future of Telemedicine and Telehealth

To the casual observer, the device looks simply like an iPad on a motorized stick. But to Duke University School of Nursing educators, the robot fashioned by the company Double Robotics is a major next-generation step in the evolution of telemedicine and telehealth, in which the delivery of certain health services and information is conducted over an Internet feed.

The Duke robot, nicknamed JaMMeR, consists of an iPad mounted on a tall mobile pedestal whose movement around a room can be controlled from miles or even continents away by a health care provider. The iPad is the face of the robot, live streaming a two-way video feed of the provider as he or she has a conversation with a patient. The provider can raise and lower JaMMeR and turn and move it in any direction to get a full sense of a patient’s environment.

For rural communities where access to health services and specialized expertise is limited, this kind of Star Wars-like technology offers great potential.

“Telehealth is very real in the 21st Century,” said Jacqueline Vaughn, BSN, RN, CHSE, a clinical lab instructor in the School of Nursing’s Center for Nursing Discovery, one of the most sophisticated nursing education simulation centers in the country. “Medicare is now reimbursing for telehealth visits for home monitoring. Since this is being done in the real world, we need to teach our students how to use it.”

(See sidebar on page 12 for full description of telemedicine and telehealth.)

EMBRACING TECHNOLOGY

Embracing the most innovative nursing education technology is a core belief at Duke University School of Nursing. In 2010, the school won the national Campus Technology Innovators Award for embracing technology to explore new ways of teaching and learning. So it’s no surprise the school is adopting the Double Robotics platform and other ahead-of-the-curve technologies.

Another recent acquisition by the school is a new high-fidelity CPR machine that, along with feeling more realistic to the user, offers instant feedback on whether the user is correctly compressing the chest and ventilating.

“I’ve taken traditional CPR classes on a regular mannequin, and this is so much better,” said Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) student Monica Daeges. “The feedback is really focused. On low-fidelity mannequins you don’t get a realistic sense of how deep the compression should be.”

Duke’s all-in commitment to technology is profoundly illustrated by recent changes in the school’s Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program, which over the past two years migrated all of its

High-fidelity CPR machine gives instant feedback to learners.

Duke’s Center for Nursing Discovery is one of the most sophisticated simulation centers in the country.

By Jim Rogalski
campus-based offerings to a distance-based format in which students come to campus only for a few weekends of hands-on physical assessment lab training and scheduled three- to five-day campus intensives.

“We clearly heard that students wanted more flexibility. They wanted the convenience of studying on their own time around work and family,” said Michael E. Zychowicz, DNP, ANP, ONP, FAAN, FAANP, associate professor and director of the School of Nursing’s MSN Program.

The move has allowed the School of Nursing to attract more students from around the country and even the world. Enrollment in Duke’s MSN degree program grew from 308 in 2011 to 436 this year, with students hailing from Japan, Guam, Canada, Taiwan, and South Korea.

But that doesn’t mean Duke will open the gates to unlimited enrollment. Marion E. Broome, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean and vice chancellor for nursing affairs, said it’s important to limit enrollment to assure that students get the personalized attention that is the hallmark of a Duke nursing education.

“Having the most students doesn’t automatically equate to having the best education,” she said.

To be sure, the amount and sophistication of forward-looking educational technology is a major factor for many students deciding where to earn nursing degrees and best prepare themselves for the ever-changing world of health care.

“When you come here to the School of Nursing you are blown away by everything they have available,” said ABSN student Nicholas Cordeiro. “So yes, it’s definitely a factor to come to a place where you’re going to have access to all of this cool technology.”

**JAMMER A 21ST CENTURY TOOL**

The robotic iPad known as JaMMeR is named after the three School of Nursing educators who helped bring it to Duke: Vaughn; Margie Molloy, DNP, RN, CNE, CHSE, the director of the Center for Nursing Discovery; and Ryan Shaw, PhD’12, RN, an assistant professor who specializes in nursing health informatics and computer science.

A recent telehealth simulation class using JaMMeR that Vaughn teaches went like this: Vaughn and five ABSN students gathered in a small conference room equipped with a television and video camera. In a separate room, JaMMeR was placed in front of an 85-year-old patient named Rose who was played by a standardized patient scripted actress. With her was nursing student Michael Lister who played the role of Rose’s grandson.

The scenario was that several days earlier Rose had cut her hand at the assisted living complex where she lives and her doctor had ordered a daily nurse visit to do an assessment, wound cleaning, and re-bandaging. Rose’s grandson was the conduit by which that was done.

The ABSN students’ roles varied, including one student who made the initial introduction to explain to Rose what was going to happen. A second student led the wound care scenario, asking the grandson to remove the bandage and position JaMMeR close to the wound so she could see. She instructed the grandson how to clean the wound, apply disinfectant ointment, and re-bandage the wound.

Another student then performed a depression screening on Rose, asking questions related to her mood and motivation. And another student acted as the liaison with Rose’s primary care doctor, relaying information after the session about the wound, Rose’s mental status, and what follow-up the group recommended.

“The positive about telehealth,” says ABSN student James David Cook Jr., “is that you have the ability to see patients who might not be able to come in person. The challenge is you might not get a full assessment of the situation or what’s exactly going on with the patient.”

ABSN student Shannon Leigh Costello added, “The research just needs time to catch up with the technology. Technology is always going to develop faster than the research, so it will take time to [fine-tune the system].”

She agrees that challenges currently exist.

“The challenge today was not being able to have all of your senses available,” she said. “I couldn’t know if she had an odor, what her shoes were like, or get a good sense of how she was doing like you can with a one-on-one visit.”

Student Lacey Coniglio said, “Of course we wanted to be there, to touch and to feel. We want that patient interaction, but for things like this when we can’t always get to you, we need help.”

Cook observed that telehealth “might be
challenging for some traditional health care professionals, but the younger generations coming through will benefit from it. I think it’s a great thing.”

Vaughn said it’s a good tool for home visits. The visiting nurse can stay in close contact with his or her supervising nurse or doctor, who can remain at the clinic or hospital and continue with other duties as the nurse is en-route to the next patient’s home.

JaMMer has greatly enhanced the experience of the school’s off-site MSN students.

“We were faced with how do we keep our nurse practitioner students involved with simulation and with our ABSN students,” Molloy said. “So the robot became a great tool to have a presence for the nurse practitioner (NP) students here on campus.”

With NP students in a different part of the state, country, or world, and ABSN students in the simulation lab at Duke, using JaMMer, they can work through simulation scenarios, practicing their roles and teamwork skills.

“It really does add a presence to the simulation, even though it is an iPad on a stick,” Molloy said. “It actually makes you feel as if the person is in the room.”

NEXT-GEN CPR

The American Heart Association (AHA) has recognized that recertification every two years is not enough to maintain CPR skills. The AHA points to studies indicating that rapid CPR skills degradation happens as soon as six months after training.

The School of Nursing is partnering with the company Laerdal and the U.S. Air Force to perform a comprehensive research study on skills retention using Laerdal’s new high-fidelity CPR mannequin.

The study is funded by the National League for Nursing and Laerdal.

The high-tech mannequin guides students in how to perform proper chest compression and ventilation.

In each CPR session, students first perform CPR without any feedback from the mannequin. Then, students watch a video of correct CPR technique and practice CPR. A computer voice helps the student achieve proper technique by giving instructions such as, “Increase depth of compression; release between compression to allow chest to recoil; ventilate less forcefully;” or “You are doing well.”

And finally, students are tested on their CPR
WHAT IS TELEMEDICINE AND TELEHEALTH?

According to the American Telemedicine Association: “Telemedicine, broadly defined, is the delivery of any health care service or transmission of wellness information using telecommunications technology. Closely associated with telemedicine is the term telehealth, which is often used to encompass a broader definition of remote health care that does not always involve clinical services. Videoconferencing, transmission of still images, e-health, including patient portals, remote monitoring of vital signs, and nursing call centers are all considered part of telemedicine and telehealth.”

technique and graded by the machine. While 75 percent is passing, Danett Cantey, MSN, RN, CND, a clinical nurse educator in the Center for Nursing Discovery, said most ABSN students score in the high 90s.

“Often you don’t really know how deep you’re compressing. Based on just a sense, you don’t know if it’s deep enough. This mannequin tells you exactly how many millimeters you’re compressing,” said study leader Marilyn Oermann, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, the director of evaluation and educational research.

“Like anything, when you get real-time feedback, it’s very beneficial,” said Cantey. “It helps to boost confidence.”

Daeges added, “With a mannequin, if you mess up there’s no risk. It’s a safe environment.”

The study includes one group of students who receive an individual prescription for how often they need to practice CPR.

“What we’re going to look at is what does this mean for training people,” Oermann said. “This could be a game-changer.”

ELECTRONIC RECORDS TRAINING

Beginning this Spring, the School of Nursing will be one of a few nursing schools in the country to offer a specific training course on electronic medical records (EHR).

Its roll-out will allow ABSN and nurse anesthesia students who are on campus to work on 17 recently-acquired bedside computers loaded with the EPIC software used by the Duke University Health System.

“The students already receive training in preparation for their clinical experience, but our goal here is to include EHR into patient simulations so the students get a real-life experience in documenting,” said Michele Kuszajewski, DNP, RN, CHSE, assistant director of the Center for Nursing Discovery.

The training is essential since paper charting is all but obsolete at Duke and at most large hospitals in the U.S. Eventually, EHRs will become the norm everywhere.

“It’s silly to practice reading a paper chart and not know how to navigate through the electronic record of a patient,” Kuszajewski said.

One thing she will stress to students is not to forget about making eye contact and focusing on the patient.

“I think we all have experienced this when we see our own providers in the office or clinic,” Kuszajewski said.

Shaw summed up why Duke is so committed to new technologies: “As health care evolves, our students will graduate feeling comfortable using 21st Century technology,” he said.

An actress portraying a patient and nursing student Michael Lister take part in a practice simulation.

School of Nursing faculty involved in bringing new technology to nursing education at Duke include (left to right): Ryan Shaw, Margie Molloy, Jacqueline Vaughn, and Remi Hueckel.

“LIKE ANYTHING, WHEN YOU GET REAL-TIME FEEDBACK, IT’S VERY BENEFICIAL. IT HELPS TO BOOST CONFIDENCE.”

Danett Cantey
THE MAKING OF NURSING LEADERS

“My path to nursing has not been a straight one, but it is the experiences along that journey that have given me a fuller appreciation for diversity of thought.”

Scholarships help attract the best and brightest future nurses

Sarah Free was selected by Duke University School of Nursing as its 2015 Duke University Scholar, and she received a full tuition scholarship. Her role involved ensuring quality control of patient medications as part of a global team. Her path to nursing has not been a straight one, but it is the experiences along that journey that have given her a fuller appreciation for diversity of thought.

Your support of the Duke Nursing Annual Fund helps attract future nursing leaders like Sarah. Every gift to the Fund goes directly to student scholarships.

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Room for All

Duke University School of Nursing strives to look beyond differences to forge connections among students, faculty, staff, and patients from all walks of life

COURTNEY RAMSEY, BSN’15, became seriously interested in nursing after her grandmother broke her hip. “The nurses in the hospital were fabulous,” she says. “They made sure she was comfortable and paid attention to her needs as a person. It was great to see how involved nurses are with patients. They are true collaborators in each patient’s care.”

Ramsey, a native of Greenwood, Mississippi, is a Health Equity Academy Scholar at Duke. In addition, she has served as co-president of Spectrum, a student organization committed to the advancement of the health of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and other individuals of minority status through nursing advocacy. Spectrum has sponsored workshops, such as student-facilitated training that aims to engage everyone in preventing gender violence on Duke’s campus. The organization has also hosted more lighthearted events, such as a fashion show of sorts in which students were invited to get creative in decorating their scrubs. “The MC of the event dressed in drag. I thought that was interesting because I’d never seen anyone dressed in drag before,” Ramsey says. “I think sometimes we take offense to things simply because we haven’t been exposed to them. Spectrum does a good job of introducing that type of diversity to our community of student nurses. It has been really fun.”

by Angela Spivey
Brigit Carter, PhD, MSN, RN, CCRN, associate clinical professor of nursing

Jasmine Alexis, BSN’15

Barbara Neto, BSN’15

Julie Cusatis
senior manager of international programs

photographs by Les Todd
“When you think about the concept of diversity, it’s not just skin color. It’s anything that makes us different. The key is learning how to accept those differences and look for things that are alike about each person,” Ramsey says. “That’s how people connect. You have to address the biases that you have, but don’t let those stand in the way of a great relationship.”

BARBARA NETO BSN’15 just might be hard-wired for change. Born in Portugal, she was raised in Massachusetts. When she decided to apply to nursing schools, she knew she wanted to go somewhere away from home. “I wanted to be away from the northeast, just to be somewhere different, out of my comfort zone,” she says. “I like change and surprises.”

When she visited the Duke School of Nursing, “I fell in love,” she says. “I felt it was such a supportive environment. The faculty really want you to succeed. I knew that would be important with me leaving my home and family.”

Neto received the Helene Fuld Health Trust Scholarship and was a scholar in the Health Equity Academy, the nursing school’s summer immersion diversity program. “I’m very grateful for the opportunity to be in the Health Equity Academy. I like that we explored different wellness resources that are available in our communities that we can pass along to patients,” she says.

Neto has family in Portugal and visits there often. She did her community health rotation in Nicaragua, and she served as co-president of Duke Nursing Students Without Borders, an organization that has organized volunteer trips and distributed medical supplies to countries such as Guatemala. “I’ve always felt like a global citizen,” Neto says.

After graduation, Neto will bring all she has learned to her new job in the emergency department of Duke Regional Hospital. Some people might find that setting stressful, but not Neto. “I like being on my toes,” she says.

JASMINE ALEXIS, BSN’15 was afraid of the doctor’s office when she was in elementary school. Then the nurses won her over. “I was scared of the shots and would run from them at first,” she says. “But the nurses took the time to talk me through things.” Later, she would confide in her nurses, rather than her doctor, in part because she spent more time with them. “A nurse is all I ever wanted to be,” Alexis says.

Alexis was one of six Health Equity Academy Scholars in her ABSN class at Duke. The academy is funded by a Health Resources and Services Administration grant intended to increase nursing education opportunities for people from disadvantaged backgrounds, including racial and ethnic minorities who are underrepresented among registered nurses. In addition to receiving scholarships and academic support, the scholars participate in a six-week summer immersion at the School of Nursing to learn about social determinants of health—how education, culture, socioeconomic status, and the environment where patients live affects health.

Alexis says the academy taught her to look beyond the outward appearances of patients. “There is more to your patient than what you’re seeing on the bed. This person is a mother, a sister, or a father. This person could be the primary breadwinner. Or this person may not have a job or a car. Our job as nurses is to see what obstacles our patients face. I may have a diabetic patient, and I’m telling them they need to eat fruits and vegetables and they need to exercise. But I have no idea if they have access to a grocery store or if they have the money to pay for fruits and vegetables. So it’s not so much giving people a list of things that you want them to implement in their lives, but trying to figure out what their obstacles are and why these needs haven’t been met before, and how can we help them find the resources in the community so they can start making healthier choices. I think the Duke University School of Nursing is definitely taking steps toward what needs to happen in health care—focusing not just on treating illness but
“...it’s not so much giving people a list of things that you want them to implement in their lives, but trying to figure out what their obstacles are and why these needs haven’t been met before.”

JASMINE ALEXIS

“...it’s not so much giving people a list of things that you want them to implement in their lives, but trying to figure out what their obstacles are and why these needs haven’t been met before.”

JASMINE ALEXIS

on wellness and preventing illnesses before they start.”

In 2016, Alexis begins a job in Duke’s medical intensive care unit, realizing her childhood dream of becoming a nurse.

As she moved from serving in the military to attending nursing school at NC Central University to working as a nurse at Duke University Hospital, then earning a PhD and becoming a nursing professor, BRIGIT CARTER, PhD, MSN, RN, CCRN, associate clinical professor of nursing, always had her eye on her next challenge.

“I felt supported while earning my degree and as I moved into administrative leadership at the school. So I understand how important support is,” Carter says. She and other scholars have documented in the literature that social isolation can be a big problem for students from underrepresented populations in the nursing field. It’s a problem she tries to address as director of the Duke School of Nursing Health Equity Academy. “I’m concerned that some students will fade into the background, which is why I believe in the work that I’m doing, because it addresses social isolation,” Carter says. “Everybody should be afforded the opportunity to grow.”

For the scholars in the Health Equity Academy, just as vital as the academic support and summer immersion program are the Sunday dinners that Carter hosts at her home. There is no shop talk. They just get to know each other. “It really gives the students a network of people to trust and depend on,” she says.

Having nurses in the workforce from all backgrounds can encourage patients to feel safe seeking health care, Carter says. “But we will not be able to have enough minorities in nursing or in any other health care field to match our population. So

TOTAL ENROLLMENT: Represents an unduplicated headcount of students enrolled in at least one course and their primary academic programs are represented. Overall enrollment may not match the aggregation of academic programs if students are enrolled in more than one academic program.

ENROLLMENT BY UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITY: Represents an unduplicated headcount of students. “Underrepresented Minority in Higher Education” includes: US citizen and resident alien males, and American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latina, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and two or more races.

ENROLLMENT BY GENDER: Represents an unduplicated headcount of students.

Reports/Statistics produced by: Duke University School of Nursing Institutional Research Office

TOTAL ENROLLMENT

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Enrollment by Underrepresented Minority FALL 2015

- 31% Underrepresented (306)
- 65% Not Underrepresented (638)
- 2% Not indicated/Unknown (19)
- 2% Non-resident (22)

Enrollment by Gender FALL 2015

- 87% FEMALE (860)
- 13% MALE (124)
“These experiences help our nursing students realize the value and importance of tapping into different cultures, customs, people, and perspectives.”

JULIE CUSATIS

PhD student Ethan Cicero’s first academic publication brings to light health disparities among the transgender population

IN HIS FIRST SEMESTER AS a Duke nursing PhD student, Ethan Cicero brought attention to a problem that has largely been in the dark. His first academic publication—a case study of a transgender man’s experience of mistreatment in an emergency department—was covered by CBS News, the Huffington Post, and other national media.

Cicero began the work that led to that publication as a BSN student at UNC-Chapel Hill School of Nursing. “I wanted to do a research project, and I realized we’re not talking about transgender identities at all,” he says. “I wanted to show the nursing field why this is important, how many people it’s impacting, and what’s happening to people’s health because of it.”

He began reviewing the literature, which shows, for example, that 28 percent of transgender people in a survey had been harassed at a hospital or doctor’s office, and 19 percent of them had been refused medical care because of their transgender identity. When Cicero put out a call to interview people about their experiences, he got a response from a transgender man who had received shockingly bad treatment at an emergency department.

The man, Brandon James (a pseudonym), is in his late forties. He had lived as a woman for much of his life but had transitioned to a male using hormones. His driver’s license and medical record identifies him as female, but he appears very masculine. He went to the emergency room for high blood pressure and anxiety, but the staff at the reception desk focused only on his appearance. As Cicero wrote in his publication, “After consulting with a colleague, the check-in staff member walked away, but soon returned with three or four additional staff members. Brandon recounted his humiliation: ‘They come up and she’s like, ‘That’s a girl.’ Pointing at me saying, ‘No, that’s really a girl.’ It wasn’t business-like at all. I was a spectacle. I was a freak show at the circus.’”

The man ended up leaving the hospital without seeing a doctor, and a friend who had accompanied him filed a complaint. Cicero published the case study in the Journal of Emergency Nursing.

“Health care is supposed to be a space where we take care of others,” Cicero says. “But if you think about putting yourself in a position where

“People are dying because of lack of simple preventative measures. Because providers are not aware and are uncomfortable.”

ETHAN CICERO
The international programs that Cusatis currently manages can help to create a more inclusive environment by expanding nursing students’ self and social awareness, Cusatis says. “Global immersions give students a unique opportunity to experience a different way of life and broaden their worldview,” she says. “For example, students often make initial judgements of the disparities that they see in resource-limited countries, where access to care and medical equipment that they are accustomed to can be non-existent. While students arrive with a desire to make a difference, they begin to notice that although these global sites do things very differently, there is much more to learn than to teach. They witness the extraordinary physical assessment skills that local nurses have developed out of necessity, and the ingenuity that stems from doing much with very little. These experiences help our nursing students realize the value and importance of tapping into different cultures, customs, people, and perspectives.”

In 2015, Cusatis was recognized with the Duke University Diversity Award.

you feel very vulnerable, you need someone to care for you, but you don’t have a great experience because you’re being discriminated against, you’re not going to put yourself in that position again.”

“People are dying because of lack of simple preventative measures. Because providers are not aware and are uncomfortable,” Cicero says. He gives the example of someone who was born as a female but now identifies as a man. “Let’s say they have transitioned, they’re on hormones. Well, they may still have a cervix. Are they getting a pap smear? Are they able to find a provider that’s comfortable to do that? Are they comfortable seeking one out?”

Cicero, who is a Robert Wood Johnson Future of Nursing Scholar, will focus his PhD research project on some of the larger issues surrounding health disparities for transgender people. “We’re still trying to understand the problems that are happening,” he says. “Sometimes discrimination is actual and sometimes it’s perceived, and it’s about really getting to the root of what’s going on.”

The bottom line for nurses, he says, is that it’s good to ask questions. “It’s okay not to know. But now’s the time to start really getting educated on how to best care for the population that you’re serving,” he says. “Most people have had interactions with a transgender person whether they know it or not. And moreover, for nurses, it’s about meeting our patients where they’re at and caring for them, and really focusing on their health.”
STRATEGY SESSION

From left, Dean Marion E. Broome, Chancellor Eugene Washington, and Provost Sally Kornbluth
A joint interview with Chancellor Washington, Dean Broome and Provost Kornbluth

As part of a comprehensive strategic planning process that involved diverse groups of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and donors from across the university and medical enterprise, the name Duke Medicine is changing to Duke Health, Chancellor A. Eugene Washington, MD, MSc, announced in January. “The decision to update our name stems from widespread deliberations involving many groups within Duke, and signals the health system’s renewed focus on health improvement,” said Chancellor Washington. “Duke Health signals our intention to explore more comprehensive approaches to health that extend beyond medical care and into other areas of population health improvement. Duke Health also represents a more inclusive and synergistic approach to maximizing contributions to health improvement from the diverse array of disciplines and schools that comprise Duke University, as well as our external partners.”

What do you see as the benefits of an all-inclusive strategic planning process?

Provost Kornbluth: First of all, to make sure we are putting our energies and efforts towards the most important things rather than the most urgent things. Also, in a time of constrained resources, we really want to think ahead about where we can strategically place our best bets. With this process, we have a School of Medicine, School of Nursing, and Duke Health writ large that’s well aligned with what’s going on in the larger campus community. Reaching across the aisle to medicine and nursing is an incredibly high priority for the university.

Chancellor Washington: I would add that, in addition to helping us with resource allocation and prioritization, this process becomes a rallying point for the whole enterprise—for nursing, for all aspects of what we now call Duke Health as well as what for we’re doing across the campus, including Trinity College.

Dean Broome: The advantage it’s bringing to nursing is that having the university and Duke Health frameworks almost finalized helps our faculty to see the big picture. Now they’ll be able to put their work in the context of the whole university and Duke Health and I think they’re really excited about it.

When you think about aligning resources and creating synergies, what do you see as the major challenges for each area over the next three to five years?

Provost Kornbluth: I think the most important thing is to keep increasing faculty excellence. This means putting infrastructure and tools in the hands of the faculty to help them get the best out of their work, and offering the kind of mentoring and professional development that will enable them to be their best.

Chancellor Washington: Institutionally we’re quite vertical. Whether we’re in a nursing school or whether we’re in Trinity College, we’re vertical. So what we’re talking about in terms of drawing on the assets of Duke is actually being more horizontal. One of the significant challenges is getting our faculty, as collaborative and collegial as we are, working in groups in a more horizontal way. To overcome these barriers we need to show examples of where we’re already succeeding, and other areas that are ripe for some early victories.

What are some areas that you see as ripe for that?

Dean Broome: I can think of several—one is in the area of interprofessional education. That is the group I convened for the Chancellor’s strategic planning initiative. There’s already a fair amount of work in this area but the group’s feeling is that education needs to be more valued. At Duke, we don’t want to have an initiative that will make us look like everyone else. We want to know how we can uniquely lead in interprofessional education so that everybody’s going to say, oh, talk to Duke, they are doing it that way. That’s going to take a lot of creativity on the part of the faculty, but I’m convinced they can do it.

Is this about faculty educating other faculty?

Dean Broome: That’s part of it, but now faculty in medicine and nursing are looking at putting students together. And that is no easy task. Everybody in the
country has struggled with it. The different disciplines are constrained, frankly, by their individual accrediting bodies. We also need to bring basic science into those health professions schools in a way that is integrated and not separated.

As you bring these various perspectives together to create energy around this interdisciplinary work, how do you ensure that you’re getting the right people around the table?

**Provost Kornbluth:** We all took a very broad catchment area and opportunity for faculty involvement. On the campus side, we did this through many, many open faculty dinners. Anybody could give input—faculty, students, and staff—and that continues.

**Chancellor Washington:** In Duke Health, we similarly started with focus groups and then we eventually established working groups in each of the core mission areas: education, research, community health improvement, global health, and clinical care. But we didn’t feel that was enough. Based on input and the work of those small groups we developed a survey that went out to all 32,000 people in Duke Health. The response rate was encouraging. Over 10,000 individuals responded, and over 2,000 wrote written comments. I agree with Sally, the process from our perspective was as important as the outcome, because we tapped into the voices all across the organization—that’s where our talent, our greatest asset is.

**Did you feel** like you got a mandate, a clear directive?

**Dean Broome:** In education, I was amazed at how quickly people came to the priorities and what was important. There were fascinating discussions that I think influenced all of us in that room. We got a lot of diverse perspectives, but in some magical way it all came together around interdisciplinary education and professional development.

**Chancellor Washington:** Each of these groups developed a mission statement. And I can tell you they labored over every word. In fact, the education group labored over whether we are about education or learning. It was a rich discussion. I actually went to the dictionary to make the distinction. I agree with Sally, the process from our perspective was as important as the outcome, because we tapped into the voices all across the organization—that’s where our talent, our greatest asset is.

**How do we engage** diverse alumni groups in this conversation?

**Dean Broome:** We sent the survey to our alumni, and I think to date 384 responded. Our pre-1984 alumni don’t ever hesitate to e-mail me. They are very invested. They remember Duke as one campus. They don’t think just about Duke Health. Many married Trinity grads, and they are very dedicated to Duke University as a whole, so we can’t forget that. That’s going to only reinforce the notion that we have to continue to build these collaborative groups across the campus and across Duke Health.

**Chancellor Washington:** We have engaged with alumni across the health enterprise, but I’ve also had the opportunity to address the broader Duke University leadership, the Duke University Alumni Council. Many of them have health care backgrounds but most are from other sectors—business, philanthropy, education. They have said they want to be engaged, especially given that we’ve articulated that when we think of Duke Health it starts with the health enterprise, but at Duke University there are major health programs in the other schools, including divinity, law, engineering, public policy, business, and certainly major programs in the college.

**How did the decision** to change from Duke Medicine to Duke Health evolve and what is the advantage of the word “health” over the word “medicine?”

**Chancellor Washington:** It came out of the process. Which was great! Quite simply, the ultimate goal is health, not medicine. That’s one advantage, and two, it’s more inclusive.

**Dean Broome:** I think it really fits well with the whole University’s strategic plan, because health is much more than just not being sick. It’s actually much more than promoting health. It involves all the social determinants of health: education, spirituality, all of the legal system and the support or not that we have there, engineering and the kind of support structures in our society that do or don’t facilitate the use of new technology. I think our society is becoming more cognizant of the fact that health is not just the responsibility of health professionals. But rather, individuals, society as a whole, we really have to spend more energy taking care of ourselves. So I think the timing of this just really perfect.

**What’s the importance** of transparency in a process like this?

**Provost Kornbluth:** Getting diverse input is going to lead to a much better plan. You can lead all you want, but you can turn around and nobody’s following. Plans are only going to be executed if there’s great
buy-in. People are going to buy in if there’s a good element of grassoots input.

Dean Broome: All of us have been part of strategic plans that came
from the top down, because that’s the way it used to happen. Then
people splinter off, and the really outstanding people just do their
outstanding work, but it’s not really connected to the whole. I don’t see
that here, and it’s a real credit to Duke. I keep going back to when I read
the biography of the Duke family. The phrase “knowledge in service
of society” constantly comes up. Duke is a university that’s really living
what it’s always believed at its core.

What do you wish people understood better about just
what is happening here?

Chancellor Washington: A couple of things jump out for me. One
is, as a community and organization, I would like for us to have a keen
appreciation for the moment—just how special this moment is, in
health, in science, in education. In terms of what we know about hu-
man biology, what we know about care delivery, also in terms of what’s
happening in health care reform—the Affordable Care Act, but also the
changing demography and the need that’s there. Another is that this
moment there are really only a handful of institutions that are as well
positioned, as well resourced, and have the traditions that we enjoy. For
us this is not just an opportunity, it’s an obligation to take advantage of
this moment—drawing on who we are, so that we become greater, and
in the process we do greater things.

Provost Kornbluth: For me, part of the process is having people artic-
ulate their finest aspirations without necessarily thinking about what the
resources will be. Resourcing will be important, but we also want people
to dream, and then we can figure out what things we can actually do
within our resource envelope.

How is this moment an opportunity for the School of
Nursing and the nursing profession? How is nursing positioned to lead
in this new universe of collaboration?

Dean Broome: There are many schools in the top 10 that have put all
their eggs in the research basket. There are challenges there. Our school
put a lot of people on the faculty who are so dedicated to improving
clinical practice. They work with heart failure patients, they work with
cardiac patients. They teach, they run entire programs, but what gets
them up in the morning are those heart failure patients or whatever pa-
tients their clinic specializes in. To have nurse leaders who are grounded
in education and can say “There are better models of care that we can
evaluate” embedded with other top practitioners—very few schools in
the top 10 have that kind of clinical faculty leadership. Of course we also
have stellar researchers who are very well funded. The challenge is get-
ning those two groups together and helping an NIH-funded researcher
understand that it’s really important to test out this new model of care
with patients. Now people are getting on board with that and getting
really excited.

What excites you about the future?

Provost Kornbluth: We have a lot of great raw material here—great
faculty, great programs! We have the sort of Duke special sauce, where
collegiality, collaboration, and the ability to work together can constant-
ly spin up new ideas that are difficult to anticipate.

Chancellor Washington: I like what we’re doing across our mission
areas. The one that’s not completely new but that we’re adding a
dimension to is community engagement. We want to evolve beyond
community engagement to what we’re now calling community health
improvement. It’s not enough to have our faculty, students, and staff
engaged in lots of projects. That was an important first step. Now we
want to collect them all and assemble them in a manner that allows us
to form the partnerships needed to actually improve health of the com-

...in some magical way it all came
together around interdisciplinary
education and professional
development.”

DEAN BROOME
1940s

Lucy Slade Libby, BSN’42, says she still stays very busy socially. She is active with the Provisional Education Organization, which raises money to educate third-world women to advanced degrees, after which they return home and teach. Lucy enjoys playing bridge and attending church. She has a son and two daughters, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. She lives in Annapolis, Maryland.

Helen Greenlee Habernick, BSN’43, says she’s glad her son lives near her so that she’s been able to remain in her own home in Spruce Pine, North Carolina. She enjoys keeping in touch with other shut-ins and friends in nursing homes. She has two granddaughters.

Alice R. Black, N’45, celebrated her 60th wedding anniversary with her husband, Donald, on September 3, 2015. She is retired and enjoys doing needlework, playing cards, and reading. A native of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, she says she’s pleased that Duke University Hospital has joined with Conemaugh Memorial Health Center, which was established by Clara Barton and the American Red Cross after the Johnstown Flood in 1889. She has two children and lives in Lewistown, Pennsylvania.

Gene Harlow Lewis, N’45, of Atlantic Beach, Florida, was a founder of Hospice of Northeast Florida and was with the organization for 35 years. She teaches Bible study once a week and plays bridge. She also enjoys reading, movies, and trying “good restaurants.” She has four sons, nine grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. One of her grandsons graduated from Duke University School of Medicine in 1977.

Mary Willcox, BSN’45, retired in 1987. She still lives in her own home with her daughter as caretaker. She reads, watches television, and enjoys phone calls. She is the second of four girls, all still living. She has two daughters and a grandson. Her husband died in 2013 after almost 67 years of marriage. She lives in Houston, Texas.

D. Eileen Blaylock, N’47, enjoys playing bridge, getting her hair done, and watching television. She has one godchild and a cousin and lives in Rome, Georgia.

Mary Francis Moore Martin, N’47, lives in Sarasota, Florida, where she is retired and living independently. She says she is “89 and still dancing!” She enjoys crossword puzzles, reading, and spending time with family: five children, 11 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Betty Burrow Osborne, N’47, says she volunteers at Duke Raleigh Hospital — she was voted Volunteer of the Year a few years ago — and she also does some church work. She was a cadet nurse in World War II, during which she says she received the “most wonderful education.” She lives in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Alice F. Pratt, N’47, sponsors a knitting group for shut-ins and enjoys caring for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She lives in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, and has four children, including Sallie Bartholomew, BSN’80, along with eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Audrey Hatcher Vaughan, BSN’47, is now a homemaker. She noted that her husband recently had a hernia operation at their large local hospital and observed the change in bedside nursing that she said seems to be the norm now. “There was no bedside care,” she said. Vaughan, who lives in Roanoke, Virginia, has a daughter and two sons, 12 grandchildren, and was expecting her first great-grandchild at the time she wrote.

Jean Bundy Scott, N’47, gives programs on a volunteer basis based on her past experience as a psychiatric nurse. Since she can’t walk long distances any more, she bought a “bright RED” electric scooter, which allows her to get sunshine and fresh air. Scott still enjoys shopping, seeing friends, and hearing from old friends. She has two daughters and a son and lives in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Wanda White Spears, N’47, says she never worked. She was a stay-at-home mom. She now reads, plays golf and bridge, and gardens. Spears is a hospice volunteer with eight patients whom she visits weekly. She has two sons, including Harold “Hal” Spears, T’76, L’79; two daughters, nine grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. She lives in Ironton, Ohio.

Flora Mary “Flavy” Weeks Todd, N’47, is now professionally retired but enjoys doing volunteer work and spending time with her five children, nine grandchildren, 11 stepchildren, 11 stepgrandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. She says her greatest achievement is having reached the age of 89 “hale and hearty.” She reads and loves her little dog. She lives in Micanopy, Florida.

Myra Virginia Bland House, BSN’49, is the owner of a jewelry shop. She likes to play bridge and mahjong. She has a son and a daughter, who manages her store. She lives in Portsmouth, Virginia.

1950s

Hilda Olive Nelson, N’50, BSN’80, is retired and enjoys the fitness and recreation activities in her retirement community. She began her nursing career in 1974 at the Mayo Clinic Hospital after 23 years as a stay-at-home mother and housewife. As a member of Santa Filomena honorary society at Duke, she was inducted into the Beta Epsilon chapter of Sigma Theta Tau in 2007. She and her husband, Norman K. Nelson, T’48, G’49, live in Rochester, Minnesota. They have five children, nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Mar Jo Herron, N’51, gave up her nursing license at age 84 due to hearing and vision problems. “Getting up every morning is an accomplishment,” she says, but she still loves to cook and she does water aerobics and sings in a choir. She has four children, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Kathryn McCullough, N’52, lives with her granddaughter — who is also a nurse — in Statesboro, Georgia. Her hobbies include rug hooking, knitting, and reading. She especially enjoys walking in water, as she is otherwise unable to walk without a cane or walker. She has two daughters and a son, and her granddaughter has four children.

Annette Kohlmeier Rulon, N’52, lives in Flagstaff, Arizona, where she continues to recuperate from the death of her husband, Dr.
Philip Reed Rulon, who died in October 2014. She has five children, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Margaret “Peggy” Taylor, N’53, is retired but still volunteers at Edgecombe Vidant Hospital in Tarboro, North Carolina, where she greets and helps patients and visitors. She and her husband, Jim, have one daughter, who is a nurse, and three sons, all of whom married nurses.

Anne Barnes McKelvey, N’54, WC’54, has been retired since 1997 from her position as vice president for nursing at Presbyterian Hospital System (now Novant Health) in Charlotte, North Carolina. She has taken six mission trips to Bolivia and Ecuador and is a volunteer registered nurse at Charlotte Community Health Clinic. A widow since 1998, McKelvey has four children and seven grandchildren.

Mary Elizabeth Campbell Adams, BSN’56, is living in an assisted living retirement community in Frederick, Maryland. Her husband, Bill Adams, died in 2010. She has one son, four stepdaughters, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Judith “Judy” Hudson Lefkowitz, BSN’56, has been practicing “every skill I’ve ever learned” after her husband, Lewis, recently had lumbar spine surgery and received a new left hip. She enjoys piano lessons, painting, gardening, reading, and spending time with her granddaughter, Charlotte. She has three sons, David, Jerry, and Paul, all married.

Margaret Payne, BSN’56, recently became a great-grandmother for the first time. She lives in West Columbia, South Carolina, and has a son, a daughter, three stepsons, and a total of 12 grandchildren.

Jo Ann Baughan Dalton, BSN’57, MSN’60, is retired from Emory University’s School of Nursing, where she worked from 2003-2009. She is an active professor emeritus, participating in MedShare, which repacks medical supplies to be shipped to countries in need. She continues to review grants and publishes an occasional article. She spends her free time volunteering at her church; doing yard work and needlepoint; attending book club meetings and movies; playing bridge; exploring new restaurants; and visiting with friends and family. Dalton has three married daughters and eight grandchildren. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

Joan Worrall Seifred, N’57, is active in her church and enjoys knitting, container gardening, dabbling with watercolors, and reading. Her three children live near her so they are able to get together with her for holidays and birthdays. She lives in Moneta, Virginia.

Sue D. Winston, BSN’57, moved to Richmond, Virginia, in 2011, after 29 years in Covington, Virginia, where her husband, Patrick Henry Winston, was CEO and president of First Virginia Bank Highlands.

Bobbie Lynn Cockrell Bell, BSN’58, and Phillip, T’57, her husband of 56 years, recently moved after being in their home for 33 years. She said she is glad she was trained as a nurse because she is helping to take care of her husband who has health issues. She teaches and volunteers at her local Red Cross chapter and is staying active in her church. The couple has five children and 10 grandchildren and lives in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

Julia Ann “Julie” Gardner Parks, BSN’58, retired as a postmaster in 2014 and enjoys “being a homebody.” She and her husband, Dennis, live in Tuscarora, Nevada (population 10). Her son, Ben, also lives in Tuscarora, works as an intensive care unit nurse nearby and teaches a summer workshop at tuscarorapottery.com. Her son, Greg, and his family live in Los Olivos, California, where he practices equine veterinary medicine. Parks has three grandchildren.

Katherine “Kay” Mitchell Bunting Randolph, BSN’58, retired in 2004 from Sarah P. Duke Gardens as director of fundraising. She and her husband recently moved to the Forest at Duke retirement community in Durham, North Carolina. Randolph enjoys health-related volunteer opportunities. She has five grandchildren, Alexandra, T’10; Stuart; Sara, T’14; Matt; and Andy Couch.

Julia “Sandie” H. Parks, BSN’59, has been retired since 2003-2009. She is active in her church and spends her free time volunteering at the Forest at Duke retirement community in Durham, North Carolina. Randolph enjoys health-related volunteer opportunities. She has five grandchildren, Alexandra, T’10; Stuart; Sara, T’14; Matt; and Andy Couch.

Ann Cannon Rollins, BSN’58, enjoys investigating ancestry and computers for seniors and is a hospice volunteer. She has three children and five grandchildren. She and her husband, Hal Rollins, MD’58, live in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Rebecca Froneberger Collins, BSN’59, is beginning to phase out some of the volunteer work that has kept her busy since retirement from her faculty position at Clemson University. She still works on her computer to address poverty issues, especially hunger. She keeps busy doing yard work, playing bridge, travelling, and serving on several boards. Rebecca has four sons and five grandchildren and lives in Tryon, North Carolina.

Patricia Broadway Culp, BSN’59, of Charlotte, North Carolina, is still working 20 hours per week as a nurse and counselor at a substance abuse treatment center. “I have been at my present employer for 14 years. I love what I do,” she writes. Previously she retired from teaching at a school of nursing. Her husband, Julian Culp, T’59, died in January 2014. She has two grown children.
10 grandchildren. She and her husband, W. Banks Anderson Jr., MD, HS'59-62,’56-’57, live at the Forest at Duke. They have three children, including Mark Anderson, T'85.

1960s
Margaret “Peggy” Borcherdt Bollenbach, BSN’60, says she is learning to live without her husband, Bill, who died in 2014. Describing him as “the love of my life, my best friend,” she says trying to survive alone is hard, though her faith helps with the loss. Peggy has five children and 20 grandchildren. She lives in Alderson, West Virginia.

Katherine Painter Groff, BSN’60, tutors first and second grade public school students, volunteers at her church, and enjoys being with her family, reading, and travelling with her husband, Dick. She has 11 grandchildren, ranging in age from 2 to 22. Katherine lives in Louisville, Kentucky.

Sandra Walsh, BSN’60, is an adjunct professor at Florida International University and the University of San Diego Hahn College of Nursing and is also an award-winning watercolor artist. She had a one-person show at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Guayaquil, Ecuador, in 2014 and has won numerous awards for her art. She lives in Miami and has three children, including Duke graduate Michael Taylor, T’88, and four grandchildren. Her husband, Thomas Moore, died in 2011.

Elaine Welsh, BSN’60, says she is “finally having time to enjoy family.” She and her husband, Norman, recently celebrated the birth of their first great-grandchild. They live in Hendersonville, North Carolina, and have three children.

Kay Neve Keogh, BSN’61, continues to work part time. In her spare time, she plays platform tennis, swims, and walks, Duke, her golden retriever. She also volunteers in her church and community. She has a son, Michael, a daughter, Lynne, and eight grandchildren. She lives in Pittsford, New York.

Jeanne A. Molzon, BSN’61, was named the 2014 Citizen of the Year in Clarkston, Michigan, for her work with the Friends of the Library. She is also active in the Clarkston Garden Club. She lives in Clarkston and has three children, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Diane Reed Pratt, N’61, retired in January 2015 after a nursing career of more than 50 years. She’s now writing her life story, taking classes, gardening, and volunteering. She has four children and nine grandchildren and lives in New Market, Alabama.

Carol Kreps Sackett, BSN’61, this year moved with her husband, Jim, into Croasdaile Village, a continuing care retirement community in Durham, North Carolina. Downsizing was tedious, she says, but the couple is now “happily ensconced” in their apartment. She takes weekly cello lessons, practicing daily, works out, and reads. She and Jim are involved in many of the Village’s activities.

Betty Shore Shackleford, BSN’61, says, “It’s hard to believe I’m still working at 76, but I am, and enjoy every minute of it.” She had surgery at Duke last summer and was very impressed with her care. Betty says her class is very bonded and her classmates always call or meet her for dinner when they come through North Carolina. She says she doesn’t have a lot of free time but does most of her yard work, housekeeping, and cooking. She loves to read, assist at church, and visit with her six grandchildren. She lives in King, North Carolina.

Ellis Quinn Youngkin, BSN’61, received the American Journal of Nursing’s first place 2014 Book of the Year Award as co-author of NP Notes: Nurse Practitioner’s Clinical Pocket Guide, second edition. She is a first responder for the community in which she lives. Youngkin enjoys cross-country swimming, equestrian riding, golf, and theater. She recently took up the ukulele again after 60 years. She lives in The Villages, Florida.

Deanna Barber Little, BSN’60, is enjoying retirement. She and her husband, Tom Little, T’60, travel several months out of the year and traveled 500,000 miles by RV in the last 20 years. They have also traveled to all the countries of Europe. They have three children, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Margaret Plockelman Richardson, BSN’62, says she is now happily retired after 50 years of nursing in many fields. She lives in Knoxville, Tennessee, close to her two grown children and 13-year-old granddaughter, Megan. She continues her hobbies of photography and visiting historic sites and hopes to visit her sister and brother in West Palm Beach, Florida, soon.

Patricia Taylor, MSN’63, is retired but says she is actively involved in playing and teaching duplicate bridge, in her church, and as a volunteer at Ronald McDonald House. Her recent accomplishments include being made a deacon and becoming a bridge Gold Life Master. She enjoys travel, reading, being with friends, and going out to lunch and dinner. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

Elizabeth “Bette” Buder Buffington, BSN’64, was named the Business Person of the Year for 2014-2015 in Olney, Maryland, and won the RE/ MAX International Distinguished
A Teacher’s Teacher: Billings Given Legendary Status for Shaping the Course of Nursing Education

Whether occurring in an actual classroom or a virtual one, it’s nearly impossible to imagine a course being taught in this day and age without the aid of computers. And many within the world of nursing education credit Diane M. Billings, BSN’64, EdD, RN, FAAN, with making the technology commonplace in nursing school classrooms across the country.

The distinction is a far cry from the first-ever, rather low-tech nursing course Billings had to prepare soon after graduating from Duke. While working as a community health nurse in Indianapolis, Indiana, she was asked to teach a class of nursing students how to make baby formula. “I enjoyed it,” she says. “I knew I was going to be a better teacher than a nurse.”

From then on Billings, currently the chancellor’s professor emerita at Indiana University School of Nursing, has devoted her entire career to nursing education.

To recognize her pioneering work in online education and numerous other achievements that have shaped the national agenda for nursing education, the American Academy of Nursing honored Billings as a Living Legend during the academy’s annual policy conference held in Washington, D.C., in October 2015. She was one of five honorees to receive the designation, the academy’s highest honor.

In the late 1980s, Billings began to develop expertise in technology use in the classroom and established best practices for nursing school educators. At a time when some faculty members were beginning to learn how to use computers and experiment with incorporating them into the classroom, Billings saw great potential in the devices, going further than most by formally testing the effectiveness of teleconferencing with graduate students.

As usage of the Internet became more prevalent, Billings built on her success with teleconferencing. She went on to influence the research of online education in nursing, publishing a major article in the Journal of Nursing Education and conducting several seminal, multi-site studies to determine best practices for teaching online courses.

Of course, Billings recalls a time when computers weren’t so commonplace in the classroom and is pleased to have played a role in helping shift attitudes and perspectives over the last few decades.

“Faculty back in the day came in the classroom and gave us a lecture, and we took good notes. It’s much more exciting today.” She adds:

“Today our students learn in high-tech, Internet-connected classrooms that are ‘flipped’ and global. They’re online and on campus.”

But beyond students’ excitement over using technology, Billings says the ultimate purpose behind her work is to ready students for the current health care system, which can only be done if their teachers are sufficiently prepared.

“Nurse educators must be able to prepare students for patient care that will be increasingly community-based, managed in the home, personalized and person-centered, multicultural, and global, and connected by technology that we can only dream of today. Nurse educators will be the pivot point for making the shift in patient care.”

Aside from focusing on technology-based education, Billings, who was described by one of her Living Legend Award nominators as “the teacher’s teacher,” has also been a leader in helping nurse educators integrate best practices into their own teaching. Some might even say she literally wrote the book on teaching, as she is co-editor of Teaching in Nursing, the first comprehensive textbook for nurse educators. The book has been used in most master’s and doctoral nursing degree programs with an educator focus.

Billings has received numerous local, state, and national grants, most notably a grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education to develop an online community of practice for three critical care courses that became a model of how to design online courses with a clinical component.

Her other honors include being named an honorary member of the Academy of Nursing Education Fellows and receiving a Founders Award for Excellence in Education from Sigma Theta Tau International.

Now retired and living in Brownsburg, Indiana, Billings continues to work as a consultant in faculty development and is currently revising two textbooks.

— BERNADETTE GILLIS
Service Award in 2014. She is broker and owner of RE/MAX Realty Centre in Olney and also owns a Curves women’s gym in Olney and a Bennigan’s Restaurant in Clarksburg, Maryland. She and her husband, Joseph Buffington, MD’71, live in Gaithersburg, Maryland, and have three children and 11 grandchildren.

Judith Oelschlegel Richard, BSN’66, says she is “finally fully retired” and living in Easton, Maryland. With her free time, she enjoys genealogy research, travelling to see friends and family, and volunteering at the Talbot County Historical Society and Talbot County Hospice. She has five children. Two of her daughters welcomed newborns in 2014.

Robin Shumway Gunning, BSN’65, is a member of the RB&C Ethics Committee, a pediatric association with University Hospitals in Ohio. In her free time, she gardens, reads, and takes long walks with her husband, David, with whom she recently celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary. Gunning has three children, David, Beth, and Paul — all of whom are happily married and working — and seven grandchildren. She lives in Beachwood, Ohio.

Dorothy Merrow, MSN’65, of Leland, North Carolina, retired from nursing in 1994. She owned and operated a retail gift and antique shop in Farmville, North Carolina, until 2005. She is now enjoying retirement with family and friends at the North Carolina coast.

Elaine Turner Deppe, BSN’66, is a volunteer Medicare counselor with Seniors’ Health Insurance Information (SHIIP) and coordinates all SHIIP volunteers in her county of Transylvania (North Carolina). She is an executive board member of the Brevard Music Center Association and a member of the Transylvania County Council on Aging. She was selected by the American Association of University Women as a recipient of its “Women Who Make a Difference” award. Deppe enjoys singing, travelling, and gardening. A widow, she lives in Brevard, North Carolina.

Fran Bellew DeHart, BSN’66, is retired, and likes travelling, sailing, and doing watercolors. She also enjoys reading, knitting, cross-stitch, and “especially being a grandmother.” She lives in Greenville, South Carolina.

Sheila Rice Evans, BSN’66, has completed the Orange County North Carolina Council of Aging’s Project Engage program, a 13-week course to teach seniors how to become senior leaders in their communities and to help address issues of aging. She lives in Carrboro, North Carolina.

Eliza “Liz” Kennedy Kendall, BSN’66, is retired from teaching and coordinating the gerontology program at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. She now involved in a multitude of activities, including grant writing pro bono for the Hendersonville Symphony; doing governance, board work, and notecard photography for the Blue Ridge Humane Society and Foothills Animal Rescue; arranging care and support for elderly friends and family; and caring for her two granddaughters. She and her husband, M. Eugene Kendall, T’62, MD’67, HS’72, have three grown children and split their time between residences in Scottsdale, Arizona, and Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Jacquelyn C. Campbell, BSN’68, was recognized with Sigma Theta Tau International’s highest award, the Episteme Award, in November 2015. She is the Anna D. Wolf Chair and professor in the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing in Maryland and the national program director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholars Program.

Patricia Kohms Ketcham, BSN’68, says she survived Hurricane Iselle with no power or phone for a week, with the additional threat of lava from volcano Kilauea. She says she moved from Waikoloa to Hilo, Hawaii, after that. And, she says, thanks to being displaced, she found love again after 11 years of widowhood. After being retired for a long time, she found a niche — a part-time job in a neurologist’s office and says she loves having patient contact again. Ketcham has a son, daughter, and three grandchildren.

Jane Haggstrom, BSN’69, is a full-time nurse manager in behavioral health at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center in Berkeley, California, where she lives with her husband, Brad Richards. She received an MEd in psychiatric nursing education from Columbia University in 1974 and a PhD in education from University of California, Santa Barbara, in 1994. She likes volunteering in the reading program at her neighborhood school, hiking, reading, camping, walking, and doing Pilates. She also enjoys travelling — most recently to England, France, and Italy.

Betsy Grier Varborough, BSN’68, has retired from teaching maternal child care and mental health at Mitchell Community College in Statesville, North Carolina, where she lives. She enjoys golf and bridge and is in a fitness group three days a week. Recent and planned travel includes Australia, New Zealand, Italy, the South Pacific, and Hawaii. Varborough has a daughter, son, two step-daughters, and seven grandchildren. Her husband, Mike, stills works as a Realtor.

Linda Craig, BSN’69, is retired and has taken up fly-fishing, which she does in the many local trout, salmon, and bass streams in upstate New York. She continues as a deacon and Stephen Minister at First Presbyterian in Cooperstown, New York. Her husband, Peter, is also retired and, she says, “grows a mean vegetable garden.” They have two children, including Anna Craig, T’02, and four grandchildren.

Linda Murphy Sneed, BSN’68, worked for almost 30 years in public health and school nursing and is now retired. She lives with her husband, John, also retired, in Wilsonville, Oregon. She has two daughters, a son, and two grandchildren. Sneed
The African nation of Malawi is in desperate need of trained nurses. With nearly one million of its 15.9 million citizens HIV positive, the country is at the epicenter of the HIV/AIDS crisis. However, there are only three nurses per 10,000 people. In comparison, the U.S. has nearly 100.

The dire need for nurses is perhaps rivaled only by the Malawians’ determination to fill it. Take Kaboni Gondwe, whose father died when she was three years old and her mother when she was 11. Suffering from numerous bouts of malaria as a child—sometimes up to three times a year—Gondwe witnessed early on the healing and hope that nurses can offer. That’s what led her to want to become one.

Being an orphan with limited resources didn’t keep Gondwe from finishing high school, but it did make it difficult for her to get into college. Eventually, she was accepted into Kamuzu College of Nursing at the University of Malawi on a partial scholarship. However, over time, covering the remainder of her tuition, let alone paying for basic expenses like paper, pens, and soap, became nearly impossible.

Fortunately, Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance (GAIA), co-founded in 2000 by the Reverend William “Bill” Rankin II, T’63, PhD’77, G’79, gave her the help she needed. Becoming the organization’s first nursing scholarship recipient allowed her to not only complete a bachelor of science in nursing degree at Kamuzu, but it also gave her the freedom to go on to study in the Netherlands and then earn a master’s degree in nursing administration on a Fulbright Scholarship at Ohio University.

Today Gondwe is a third-year PhD nursing student at Duke researching emotional responses and mother-infant interactions of Malawian mothers with preterm and full-term infants. Once she finishes her doctorate, she hopes to return to Malawi to continue her research.

“None of this would have been possible without GAIA’s visionary support to empower women in Malawi,” Gondwe says. “Because of my achievements, I can influence other students to set goals and improve their study skills. I really want to help women to see life differently and realize their potential.”

Gondwe’s story is just one of thousands Bill Rankin and his wife, Sally Heller Rankin, WC’66, MSN’78, PhD, RN, FAAN, say they have encountered over the years while working with GAIA in Malawi. Sally Rankin says Gondwe’s story particularly illustrates the power of GAIA’s nursing scholarships, which can “change lives and give the students a chance to make a decent wage and support their families.” She predicts that Gondwe “will be a major health care leader in Malawi.”

The Rankins’ efforts to help bring hope to Gondwe and others like her led Duke University to recognize them with the Beyond Duke Service and Leadership Award in the Global Community category in October 2015.

Bill Rankin was inspired to create GAIA while working with an interfaith peace-building organization in 2000. At the time, he learned that a meager $4 dose of an anti-retroviral drug could halt the transmission of HIV from mother to newborn. That information was transformative for him, motivating him to partner with his colleague Charles Wilson to start an organization to help bring HIV/AIDS care and education to Malawi.

Just one year later, Sally Rankin traveled to Africa to support her husband’s work, but the trip had a profound effect on her own career as well. A researcher at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), she completely shifted her research interests from diabetes and heart disease to HIV/AIDS.

She has spent the past 15 years working closely with her husband through GAIA on numerous projects, including mentoring and training (continued on page 30)
programs for nurses and nursing students. Currently a professor emerita at UCSF and the MacArthur Foundation Chair for Global Health Nursing, Sally Rankin has received research and service grants from the National Institutes of Health, the Doris Duke African Health Initiative, USAID, the U.S. State Department, and other agencies.

GAIA operates three programs, including the nursing scholarship program, which has funded the education of nearly 450 nursing students, many of whom are orphans.

Through its GAIA Villages Program, the organization works to prevent the spread of disease and improve community health by empowering local women in villages to provide orphan care and education, home-based care for the ill, and other services.

GAIA’s third program, the GAIA Elizabeth Taylor Mobile Health Clinics Program, deploys vehicles staffed by health providers and loaded with medical supplies to remote villages. Each mobile clinic serves 100 to 225 patients daily.

Although the Rankins have helped to save and transform countless lives through GAIA, they are quick to point out that the organization is much greater than the two of them. “We have a staff of about 50 Malawian people,” Bill Rankin says. “They know 100 times more than we do about cultural issues, and they design the cultural interventions.”

He adds that while receiving accolades like the Beyond Duke Service and Leadership Award is nice, the couple—who lives in Tiburon, California, and travels to Malawi with GAIA once or twice each year—the honor truly belongs to the people in Malawi.

“We never did our work to obtain any recognition,” Bill Rankin says. “We do it to prolong the lives of some patient and brave people.”

— BERNADETTE GILLIS

enjoys hiking, reading, and music — she sings in a band in her free time. She has four grown sons: Daniel, Zak, Dylan, and Brian.

1970s

Elizabeth Brunson Meyer, MSN’70, is working as a nurse practitioner in internal medicine in Greenville, South Carolina, where she lives. She has three grown children and six grandchildren.

Pamela Compton Shea, BSN’70, has been retired since 2004 and says she recently found the love of her life on match.com. They enjoy travel, going to the gym, museums, plays, and movies, and sundry other activities in the San Francisco Bay area. She lives in Fremont, California.

Lynette Wechsler Teague, BSN’70, retired in 2010 after a 40-year career at Duke in emergency services and Duke Family Medicine. She maintains her North Carolina nursing license and certification as an ambulatory care nurse. Since retiring, she has joined the Duke University Retirees Association and Duke University Retiree Outreach and has been active in that group’s project to support Lakewood Elementary School. She has two sons and two grandsons and lives in Durham.

Judith Reagan Craggs, BSN’71, has retired after 43 years in nursing. She and her husband, Tom, have been married 46 years and recently moved to Weaverville, North Carolina, near Asheville, where she grew up.

Carol Dykstra, BSN’73, is participating in physical and occupational therapy as she recovers from the amputations of both legs due to vascular insufficiency resulting from lupus. It is, she says, “not what I expected to be doing at this time in my life!” She and her husband, Ken, live in Matthews, North Carolina. They have two children and, as of her writing, were expecting their second grandchild.

Deborah Crum Starnes, BSN’72, is retired from nursing but says her five young grandsons keep her and her husband, Tom, on the go. She also keeps busy with photography and travel and volunteers with The League of Women Voters and other community groups. She spends a good part of her summers at her lake cottage in Interlochen, Michigan. “If anyone is nearby, please look me up,” she adds. She lives in East Lansing, Michigan, and can be reached at deborahcstarnes@icloud.com.

Carolyn Ames Steuart, BSN’72, enjoys working for Durham Connects, providing post-partum home visits for new mothers and their newborns in Durham County. Her hobbies include photography, and she recently had her first show at Chatham Hill Winery Gallery in Cary. Her website is lynsteuartphotography.com. She lives in Durham.

Carol Dykstra, BSN’73, is participating in physical and occupational therapy as she recovers from the amputations of both legs due to vascular insufficiency resulting from lupus. It is, she says, “not what I expected to be doing at this time in my life!” She and her husband, Ken, live in Matthews, North Carolina. They have two children and, as of her writing, were expecting their second grandchild.
Judith Gordon Heimann, BSN’73, works full time as senior director of corporate compliance for Emblem Health. In her free time, she enjoys travelling, especially to Mexico. Her family includes husband Roger and daughters Heather and Dana. She lives in New Rochelle, New York.

Laura Lynn Patterson, BSN’74, works part time as a critical care registered nurse at the Pinehurst Surgical Center in Pinehurst, North Carolina. She has received recognition for her years worked as a Duke University Medical Center nurse. When she’s not nursing, she trains horses for competition in dressage and jumping. She and her husband, Clif Patterson, MD, live in Pinehurst and have a grown daughter living in Boston.

Katherine Shelden Ziegler, BSN’74, is the office manager for the St. Louis, Missouri dermatology practice of her husband, Robert Eliot Ziegler, MD’80, PhD’80. In her spare time, she is a volunteer parish nurse at her church. “Faith-based nursing is a wonderfully fulfilling way to practice nursing,” she says. In her free time, she quilts, reads, gardens, and travels. She lives in Webster Groves, Missouri.

Kim Lawrence Christopher, BSN’75, lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and works at the Carrboro Community Health Center as a family nurse practitioner and lead provider. She has been married for 36 years and has three grown sons living on the West Coast who she and her husband love to visit.

Frances Wilmer Richardson, BSN’75, lives in Atlanta, Georgia, with her husband, Clinton Richardson, L’75. They have two children and four grandchildren, and she is one of three generations of Duke women, including her mother, Lena Smith Wilmer, WC’51, and her daughter, Ann Richardson Goode, T’02.

Donna Denny Bleck, BSN’76, is retired and spends her free time ballroom and country western dancing, gardening, swimming, playing tennis, travelling, and doing church activities. She is a member of the Albuquerque Daylily Society, where she won best large daylily this past year. She has been married to her husband, Mark Bleck, PhD’78, for 39 years and has two grown children, Brian and Lara. She lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Glenn Thomas “Tom” DeMaria, BSN’76, has lived at Abhayagiri Monastery in Redwood Valley, California, as an ordained Buddhist monk since 1996. He says he is still using his nursing skills as well as the communication skills he learned in nursing school.

Debra Gottel, BSN’76, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, works at the University of New Hampshire as an assistant clinical professor. Her youngest daughter, Emily, recently got married, and she is the “proud grandmother” to Aubrey, who was born a year ago to her son, Robert, and his wife, Robyn.

Karen Nowak Hendrickson, BSN’76, works full time as the head gymnastics coach at the Philadelphia Gymnastics Center. She and her husband, Gordon, D’76, recently celebrated their 42nd anniversary. They have a daughter and two grandchildren and live in St. Peters, Pennsylvania.

Catherine “Cackie” Harrison Kelly, BSN’76, has mostly retired from her position in the preadmissions/outpatient department at Moore Regional Hospital near Whispering Pines, North Carolina, where she lives. She says she is “catching up on years of maintenance and cleanup of her home.” Kelly has two adult daughters.

Ann Kirk, BSN’74, has worked for the city of Smyrna, Georgia, for the past 20 years as the director of Keep Smyrna Beautiful, a department dedicated to bringing resources to execute programs and projects that promote the protection of the environment and quality of life in the community. She and her husband, Dan Kirk, T’72, have been married for 44 years and have two daughters and one granddaughter. They live in Smyrna.

Donna Denny Bleck, BSN’76, is a clinical nurse manager in the rehabilitation unit of Porter Adventist Hospital in Denver, Colorado. She was recently certified in rehabilitation nursing and nursing administration. She enjoys hiking, camping, reading, and skiing, and she has two grandchildren. She lives in Fairplay, Colorado.

Elizabeth Watson, BSN’76, is a family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner at Sandhills Pediatrics in Southern Pines, North Carolina. She has been married for almost 30 years to her husband, Michael, and has two sons and three grandchildren.

Brenda Ronk Martin, BSN’77, of Salisbury, Maryland, is a nurse practitioner and runs the Lung Cancer Program at Peninsula Regional Medical Center. In her free time, she enjoys travel, paper crafts, gardening, weight training, kayaking, and opera. She’s married to husband Jim and has three stepchildren and a two-year-old granddaughter.
Patricia Rieser, BSN’77, is retired from nursing but says she keeps her registered nurse license active. She teaches a healing/movement exercise technique called Nia six days a week, is active with several groups, including the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Duke, and recently received a Neighborhood Hero award from Durham’s Inter-Neighborhood Council. Rieser knits, watches movies, walks in the woods, reads the New Yorker, and plays with Nanoblocks. Her son, Adam, recently got married (“Hooray for marriage equality! she adds.) She and her husband, Joe, said goodbye to family member, “Joe the Carolina Dog,” last January. She lives in Durham.

Katie Oppenheim, BSN’78, is in her third term as president of the University of Michigan Professional Nurse Council/Michigan Nurse Association nurse’s union, which has 5,000 members and continues to grow. She lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Anne Nuttle Sensibaugh, BSN’78, is a certified ambulatory perianesthesia nurse and works in a presurgical service area at INOVA, where she has been for 34 years. In her free time, she quilts, sews, and volunteers with homeless groups. She is married to Rodney W. Sensibaugh, T’77, and has two grown daughters, Katelin and Erin. She lives in Fairfax Station, Virginia.

Corinne Schultz Ellis, BSN’79, is working as an associate professor of nursing at Farleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, New Jersey. She recently presented at the International Nursing Research Council in Prague, Czech Republic. She and her husband, Robert, have three children and live in North Haledon, New Jersey.

Molly Morris Joffe, BSN’79, is currently nurse manager of the Endoscopy Center of Marin and lives in Marin County, California, with her husband. They have three grown children. Outdoor adventurers, she and her husband enjoy hiking, kayaking, and cross-country skiing. On their last trip, they hiked the Haute Route from Chamonix, France, to Zermatt, Switzerland.

Elizabeth Ann Whitmore, BSN’79, GNC’97, left her clinical nurse specialist role to become practice manager for two groups of surgeons in Raleigh, North Carolina. She presented posters at the National Magnet Conference in Dallas, Texas, in 2014 and at the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses’ National Teaching Institute in San Diego, California, in 2015. She has two children and lives in Durham.

Anne Mostrom Wietstock, BSN’79, has worked as a camp nurse, in hospital and physician offices, and in university and public school nursing. Most recently, she has worked caring for retired priests and brothers on the Congregation of Holy Cross in Notre Dame, Indiana. Her husband, Steve, teaches at the University of Notre Dame. Anne enjoys spending time with her two Cairn terriers, reading, doing needlework, quilting, and travelling — she and Steve just returned from a trip to Alaska and a cruise through the Inside Passage. Her parents, who died in 2013, enjoyed 68 years of marriage.

Carol Smith Beaver, MSN’80, is a nursing instructor and course coordinator at Rowan-Cabarrus Community College in Kannapolis, North Carolina. In 2014, she won the Outstanding Excellence in Teaching Award at the college. She and her husband Trip live in Salisbury, North Carolina. They have three adult children.

Beth Russell Ballhaussen, BSN’81, and her husband, Peter Ballhaussen, E’78, B’85, have bought Town Hardware and General Store in Black Mountain, North Carolina. “We would love to have everyone come visit the beautiful mountains of N.C. and come see our store,” she writes. The couple lives in Swannanoa, North Carolina.

Barbara Springer Edwards, BSN’81, works as a staff nurse on the inpatient psychiatric unit of an Asheville, North Carolina, hospital. She re-entered nursing after taking a 15-year break to raise her children. Her husband, Richard, T’78, is an assistant U.S. attorney in Asheville. Her 18-year-old son, Nathaniel, attends public high school, and she home schools her 17-year-old daughter, Sarah. Edwards lives in Arden, North Carolina.

Catherine Hamilton, BSN’81, is an associate professor of nursing at Santa Fe College and is currently working on her doctoral dissertation at the University of Florida. She enjoys her relationships with her husband, engineer Steve Saunders, her 17-year-old son (a high school senior they adopted from Latvia), friends, and colleagues. In her free time, she gardens, volunteers, and goes kayaking. Hamilton has one sister and three brothers, with whom she is very close. She lives in Micanopy, Florida.

Margaret “Peggy” McGinnis, BSN’81, works in the ambulatory surgery unit at Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, South Carolina, where she lives. She has renovated several homes in the past 20 years and says she thoroughly enjoys the process and the results. McGinnis stays busy with her daughter, Elizabeth, a fifth grader who plays piano and sports and is attending cotillion. She says she and her husband are trying to figure out “how to retire!”
Karin Sofia Bannerot, BSN’82, is a full-time student again, pursuing her certified addictions counseling degree as part of her licensed social work studies. She works at Shadow Mountain Recovery in Basalt, Colorado. She was certified as a yoga instructor in April 2015 and teaches yoga part time. In her free time, Bannerot enjoys mountain biking, hiking, attending outdoor music festivals, and travelling. She is currently in a long-term relationship and lives in Carbondale, Colorado.

Laurie Sayers Jeffers, BSN’82, DNP’14, recently accepted a position at New York University teaching across undergraduate and graduate programs as an assistant professor. She was the student commencement speaker at her DNP graduation. She enjoys paddle board, yoga, and travelling. Son, Peter, 20, is at Rutgers University, and son Nicholas, 24, works for the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research. She lives in Rumson, New Jersey.

Michelle “Shelly” Putter Barnea, BSN’84, is an early childhood educational consultant, is involved in New Jersey’s Race to the Top Quality Improvement Program, and teaches as an adjunct professor at Bank Street Graduate School of Education. She has provided workshops at the local, state, and national level. She enjoys photography, genealogy research, and keeping in touch with classmates through social media. She has two grown daughters and lives in Millburn, New Jersey.

Lynne Russell Brophy, BSN’84, recently accepted a position as oncology clinical nurse specialist for the Stephanie Spielman Center for Breast Care in Columbus, Ohio. This past year, she won a “Best Nurses in Cincinnati” contest through a regional radio station and was nominated by her peers for the Oncology Nursing Society Excellence in Nursing Education Award. She enjoys hiking, reading, and cooking. Her daughter, Erin, a high school junior, is a part of the Cincinnati Children’s Choir, with which she travelled to Italy last year. Her 20-year-old son, Ned, is taking a “gap year” to jump start his comedy career.

Sandra Pettit Durgin, BSN’84, is the performance improvement coordinator for trauma at Crozer Chester Medical Center in Pennsylvania. She is a member of the Emergency Nurses Association’s Institute for Quality, Safety, and Injury Prevention. Her two sons and daughters are “all active and busy.”

Margaret Buck Gallagher, BSN’84, is involved with her church, including choir and teaching. She enjoys artistic endeavors and has had two pieces exhibited at an arts center and one named a finalist in “The Art of Giving” exhibition in Dalton, Georgia. Gallagher’s daughter is a freshman at the University of Tennessee. Her son, a high school junior, is pursuing an international baccalaureate diploma and is section leader in his school’s marching band. Her husband continues at AT&T. Her family lives in Peachtree Corners, Georgia.

Susan McLean Whitehurst, MSN’87, is director of consulting at Teletracking Technologies, Inc., which provides lean, rapid-cycle patient flow engagements in the United States, Canada, and London. She served as a 2009-2013 Joint Commission Resources senior consultant on patient safety. She lives in Rocky Point, North Carolina.

1990s

Lisa Archer, MSN’91, has worked 32 years as a Duke University Health System pulmonary clinical nurse specialist as well as programming manager of Duke’s Special Constituent Patient program. In her free time, she enjoys working in her yard, beach time and playing golf. Lisa has a seven-year-old Golden Retriever, Molson.

Cheryl A. Brewer, PhD, MSN’94, was named director of nursing for Duke’s Private Diagnostic Clinic (PDC). In this role, she provides oversight of development and practice of nursing for PDC practice sites and services. Since 2011, Brewer has served as manager of clinical trials operations and project management at the Center for Learning Health Care/Duke Cancer Care Research Program in the Duke Clinical Research Institute.

Christine Basile McDonnell, MSN’96, completed her DNP degree at the University of Minnesota in 2013 and is now in her 18th year of nurse practitioner practice with the same company — Health Partners. She considers herself a champion/liason of mental health integration into primary care. She enjoys theater, music, and crafting. She, her husband, Steve, and two sons, Ian and Luke, live in Andover, Minnesota.

2000s

Thomas Kane, MSN’00, is director of surgical services at St. Francis Hospital in Bartlett, Tennessee, where he lives. He has become a fellow of the American College of Health Care Executives and is board certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as a nurse executive, advanced. In his free time, he enjoys kayaking and cycling.
Alice Munyua, MSN’00, continues to work for state government at Central Regional Hospital as a staff nurse in mental health, but she has also been enrolled in nurse practitioner refresher courses with the North Carolina Board of Nursing and planned to be back in nurse practitioner practice by October 2015. Alice was awarded a Humanitarian Award from Duke University School of Nursing in April 2015 and is planning another mission trip to Kenya in August, 2016. She likes to travel and recently went on a cruise to the western Caribbean with ports of call in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. She is a single parent to two daughters and lives in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Denene Parsons Smith, MSN’00, opened her own office, Trinity Urgent Care & Family Practice, in Pembroke, North Carolina, in 2009. She and her husband, Webster Smith, live in Pembroke and have three children and two grandchildren.

Linda Alphin Heath, MSN’01, is now working as the first provider at the Veterans Affairs Wilmington Health Care Center, providing home-based primary care to veterans. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family at her vacation home in Sneads Ferry, North Carolina. Her husband has retired and enjoys assisting with friends’ farming. The couple has four grandchildren. They live in Clinton, North Carolina.

Melinda Huitt, MSN’01, is working full time in primary care and women’s health with the U.S. Veteran’s Administration. She also is a preceptor for nurse practitioner students. She lives in Farmington, Missouri.

Kori Pennington Woodruff, MSN’03, works with a cardiology team through Traverse Heart and Vascular at Munson Medical Center in Michigan. Outside of work, she enjoys cooking; reading; running; learning about and supporting local, sustainable agriculture; and spending time with family and friends. She lives in her home state of Michigan in Traverse City with her husband and daughters.

Stacey Bennett, MSN’04, works as an acute care nurse practitioner in the Duke University Medical Center Neurosciences Intensive Care Unit, where she has been employed for 10 years. A clinical associate professor, she is also celebrating 10 years of teaching students and employees in the health system. She and her husband, Tate Bennett, have a daughter and live in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Cynthia Hales Herndon, MSN’04, works for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services’ Division of Public Health, North Carolina Cancer Prevention and Control Branch. She received her PhD from East Carolina University in 2014 and recently received a certificate in clinical breast exams, which will allow her to train others. She enjoys spending time with her grown children, Jennifer and Benjamin, granddaughters, Alaina and Caroline, gardening, and bee keeping with her husband, Michael. She lives in Parkton, North Carolina.

April Taylor, MSN’04, Certificate’07, is CEO and a nurse practitioner at A Brighter Future Health Care Services, Inc., and is completing her DNP degree at Walden University. In her free time, she enjoys exercise, reading, and spending time with her family — husband Timothy Gant, a 22-year-old son and a three-year-old daughter. Timothy is the therapist and April’s business partner at A Brighter Future.

Katy Raymond, BSN’05, has been attending the certified registered nurse anesthetist program at the University of Pennsylvania to become a nurse anesthetist. She spent 10 years as a nurse in the medical/surgical intensive care unit at the University of Washington in Seattle. She enjoys concerts, travel, and the outdoors. Regarding family, she says, “Still not married, no kids — just as I intended! Love every minute of it!” She lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sue Adamson, MSN’06, is a retired Navy commander. Prior to retirement, she worked as a pediatric primary care nurse practitioner at the Naval Regional Medical Center in Portsmouth, Virginia. The activity she most participates in now is “Being Grandma!” At the time she wrote, she had 15 grandchildren and was expecting her 16th at Christmas.

Katie Mitchell, MSN’06, works as an adult hematology/oncology nurse practitioner with the group she joined after graduating from Duke, comprising 13 physicians and five nurse practitioners. In 2012, she earned her advanced oncology certified nurse practitioner certification, and she was appointed the nurse practitioner team lead of her group. She and her husband, Mike, have two boys, Noah, 3, and Isaiah, 2, and a daughter, Chloe, 1. The family lives in Holly Springs, North Carolina.

Lynnea Piotter Myers, MSN’06, is completing her PhD in nursing science at Vanderbilt University and starting a position as a doctoral student in development neuroscience at Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. She was awarded this competitive position conducting early autism research and will be fully funded for four years. In her free time, she enjoys travel, cooking, and spending time with family and friends. She lives in Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

Matthew Rogers, MSN’07, of Bahama, North Carolina, works at the Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center. He attends one anesthesia conference a year. In his free time, he enjoys caring for his four children.

Clare Wechter Bremer, BSN’08, MSN’11, is an oncology nurse practitioner for Rex Cancer Center in Cary, North Carolina. She recently received advanced oncology certification. In her free time, she enjoys running — having run in her 14th marathon this past October — and spending time outdoors with her family. She and her husband, Mike, have two boys, Noah, 3, and Isaiah, 2, and a daughter, Chloe. The family lives in Holl Springs, North Carolina.

Aviva Okun Emmons, BSN’08, and her husband, Laney, welcomed a daughter, Reina.
Jewel, in July 2015. Emmons lives in Durham and continues to work as a registered nurse in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) at Duke University Hospital. She renewed her certified post-anesthesia nurse certification in November 2015 and continues to serve as a PACU representative for the Hospital and Health System Clinical Practice Council.

Ketti Piersol Flickinger, MSN’08, says that after working with Duke’s Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant program for close to six years, she moved to Kentucky to be closer to her family. This has allowed her to take some time off work to raise her three young children, a boy and two girls. She is enjoying spending time with her family, including her sister and her two children. She got married in 2010. Flickinger lives in Shelbyville, Kentucky.

Susan Daansen Sander, GNP'08, of North Fort Myers, Florida works at her local Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in its home-based primary care program. She is pursuing a DNP degree at the University of North Florida. She has been married to her “soulmate” for 37 years. She enjoys spending time with her husband, three children, and six grandchildren — cruising, bicycling, and swimming.

Wendy S. Fields, BSN’09, T’93, have three children and live in Durham.

Kristin Holland, BSN’09, is an operating room registered nurse in an Alaska Native hospital in Anchorage, Alaska. A recent achievement was her acceptance into Duke’s family nurse practitioner program. She and her boyfriend enjoy pursuing adventures together with their “fur buddy” Naluq, such as biking, skiing, camping, and exploring Alaska.

Chelsea Glessner Olson, BSN’09, recently took a position as the hematology nurse coordinator in the outpatient clinic of Seattle Children’s Hospital, where she has worked for five years. In her free time, she enjoys biking and recently completed a 150-mile cancer charity fundraiser ride. She and her husband, Andrew, have been married for four years and have a labradoodle puppy that is the love of their lives. They live in Seattle, Washington.

Kristi Ryan, MSN’09, works as a nurse practitioner in the Congenital Heart Center at Children’s Hospital of Illinois. She recently presented at the Midwest Pediatric Cardiology Associates meeting. She “enjoys every minute” she gets with her four-year-old daughter, Samantha, and one-year-old son, Zachary. She and her husband, Matt, like participating in triathlons of various distances. She lives in Dunlap, Illinois.

Valerie Ross Lapham, BSN’10, left her job as a nurse manager at a private clinic in Scarsdale, New York, to be a full-time mom to her “amazing” son Bradley. She hopes to return to the nursing field later down the road. She enjoys going to the beach and “anything OUTSIDE!” She also enjoyed planning her September 26, 2015, wedding. She met her husband, Jay, 11 years ago and says he is a wonderful father. They have one son.

Julee Waldrop, DNP’10, has completed her first year as editor of the Journal for Nurse Practitioners. She is also a new coach in the Duke Johnson & Johnson Nurse Leadership Program. She lives in Mobile, Alabama.

Vanessa Ethridge, BSN’11, is working PRN (as needed) at Johnston UNC Health Care and splitting time between the medical-surgery and cardiac catheterization recovery units. She and her husband, John, celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary in 2015. They have a son and live in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Susan Chambers Hamilton, BSN’11, is currently working on 5300 at Duke University Hospital. She lives with her husband and three “fur children” in Raleigh, North Carolina, and just celebrated her first marriage anniversary. She has gone back to school at UNC-Chapel Hill for her pediatric nurse practitioner primary care degree. In her free time, she and her husband work on renovating their downtown 1920s home, travel, and go to their family lake house in Virginia.

Chad A. Helton, BSN’11, is enrolled in the post-baccalaureate doctor of nursing practice program at the University of Minnesota. He will graduate in the summer of 2016 with a DNP nurse anesthesia specialty. In 2013, he was commissioned under the U.S. Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program that provided stipends for his education. He will serve active duty in the U.S. Air Force as a staff certified registered nurse anesthetist after graduating. He and his wife, Deneige, have two young sons. They live in Minneapolis.
Geoffrey Thompson, BSN’11, currently resides in Winnipeg, Canada with his spouse, Nathan, and works as an occupational health nurse at the Manitoba Federation of Labor’s Occupational Health Center, which provides direct medical care to injured workers, helps clients navigate the workers’ compensation claims process, and provides medical expertise during the appeals process. He and Nathan have a black lab named Apollo and recently purchased an Edwardian-style duplex, which they’re spending “all of our free time” renovating.

Lauren Saito Beck, MSN’12, is a hematology/oncology/bone marrow transplant pediatric nurse practitioner at Akron Children’s Hospital. She and her husband, Randall, live in Sagamore Hills, Ohio.

Katharine Wiebe Cahill, BSN’12, moved back to Burlington, Vermont, with her husband this past spring and started working at the University of Vermont Medical Center in its surgical/neurosurgical/pediatric intensive care unit.

Casey Reddel Carter, MSN’12, lives in Morehead City, North Carolina. She currently works part time for a diabetes and endocrinology clinic that also does diabetes research. “It is a very fun practice and very rewarding,” she says. Casey enjoys spending time with her family, including two-year-old son Everett, at the beach and on the family boat.

Eugenia Gil, BSN’12, is currently working as a circulator in an operating room in Miami, Florida. She will be travelling to Senegal in March, 2016 to serve as a health educator with the Peace Corps. In her free time, she is preparing for her first full marathon. She lives in North Miami, Florida.

Alison Theis Goltermann, T’08, BSN’12, married fellow Dukie, Drew Goltermann, T’07, in May 2015 in Durham. Bridesmaids were Kenzie Sybert Gardner, BSN’12, and Kristen Vincent McClean, BSN’12, and also in attendance was Bridget Casey Booher, BSN’12. Goltermann is pursuing a master’s degree in nursing anesthesia at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine in Los Angeles. She and her husband live in Santa Monica, California.

Desiree Johnston, BSN’12, just began working at Children’s Hospital of Colorado in the cardiac intensive care unit. Prior to this, she worked at the North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She enjoys snowboarding and photography. She lives in Denver, Colorado.

Ariella Singer Jolly, BSN’12, MSN’15, is a family nurse practitioner at Clinica Family Health in Denver, Colorado, where she lives with her husband, Travis, also a nurse, and their border collie/lab, Cooper. In her free time, she enjoys snowboarding and running.

Michelle King, MSN’12, DNP-current, is working as a pediatric nurse practitioner in the inpatient pulmonary department at Children’s Medical Center of Dallas. She will earn a doctor of nursing practice degree from Duke in 2016, and she is scheduled to be married that year as well. She lives in Dallas, Texas.

Melanie E. Mabrey, DNP’12, is vice president of clinical practice for Glytec Inc., based in Greenville, South Carolina. She works with hospitals committed to improving inpatient diabetes and hyperglycemia care. She teaches diabetes elective classes at Duke University School of Nursing and works in inpatient diabetes care in the Duke University Health System. She lives in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Rose Madden-Baer, DNP’12, is senior vice president of population health and clinical support services at Visiting Nurse Service of New York. She is married and the mother of a college-aged daughter studying abroad whom she enjoys visiting in Europe. She likes reading, sports, travel, and spending time at her beach house.

Kiersten N. Okine, BSN’12, loves her job as a psychiatric nurse at UNC Hospitals. Her twins are now in kindergarten and her eight-year-old daughter recently made “Most Competitive” in her year-round swim team. She got a full scholarship for the psychiatric nurse practitioner program at UNC, which she recently began. She resigned from teaching in order to create more time for herself. Kiersten enjoys hanging out with her husband and children, going to movies, and eating out.

Anne Schmelzer, BSN’12, was a nurse in the Duke pediatric cardiac intensive care unit until April 2015 and was selected as one of 100 “Greatest Nurses in North Carolina” for 2015. She relocated to Miami, Florida, and now serves as the nurse coordinator for the Neurocardiac and Development Program at Nicklaus Children’s Hospital.

Angelia Trammell, MSN’12, specialized in nursing informatics and is currently a Stars/HEDIS clinical business lead at Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield. She has a “passionate love of dogs” and has three dachshunds — Leo, Rusty, and Mosby — that she enjoys training. She also loves to travel, mainly to beach locations. Angela has been married for 13 years and lives in Bryant, Arkansas.

Susan Becker, DNP’13, who lives in Woodbridge, Virginia, is an assistant professor at Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia. She was on the planning committee for the “Spotlight on Critical Care” conference and presented at the Sigma Theta Tau International conference in Las Vegas in 2015. She enjoys hiking, reading novels, gardening, and hugging her four cats. Her husband, Phil, is a professor at George Mason University, and she has a son and daughter.
Patterson Launches Care.Stat!
Start-Up Aims for On-Demand Staffing

Like many recent grads, Will Patterson, BSN’12, was eager to go straight to work after earning his degree in 2012. However, after taking a full-time position as a trauma surgery nurse at a hospital in San Diego, California, it didn’t take long for a few realities to set in. One, despite having a good job, his salary just didn’t cover the cost of living in San Diego. And two, the demanding 12-hour shifts led to burnout quicker than he imagined.

To help make ends meet, Patterson took on extra work through a temporary staffing agency, working nights as a critical care transport nurse. To his surprise, not only did the temporary job lead him to rethink his own career, but it also prompted him to start a company that he hopes will be a game-changer in the temporary staffing market.

When he took the part-time job, Patterson found himself enjoying it more than his full-time job. Even though the work didn’t help alleviate the burnout, it did expose him to the positives associated with temporary work, such as the ability to make his own hours and the satisfying experience of serving an immediate need. It also awakened his inner entrepreneur.

“A lot of people I was working with in the hospital were burned out,” Patterson says. “I thought to myself, if I enjoy doing this, maybe other people would too.”

So Patterson took a gamble and moved to San Francisco, where he partnered with a friend of a friend to create a temporary nursing staffing company called Care.Stat!

Temporary staffing isn’t new to the nursing field. For some time hospitals and health care facilities have looked to staffing companies and travel nursing agencies to help relieve staffing shortages. But Patterson says his company, which was incorporated in October 2015, is different from other agencies, largely because of the technology it uses to match nurses with health care facilities and the careful attention it devotes to screening highly qualified nurses.

Patterson and his partner created an on-demand platform that allows hospitals in the San Francisco area to request qualified nurses for jobs, check the credentials of the nurses online, and pay them.

“We are a group of subcontractors,” Patterson explains. “Each nurse is contracting directly through the hospital off our platform.”

As he was developing the company, Patterson says he talked with hospital and medical center administrators and discovered they were often disappointed with the quality of the nurses they got through travel companies. They sometimes found the temporary nurses they hired weren’t as qualified for the jobs as promised.

Patterson set out to guarantee his company’s nurses were highly qualified. Care.Stat! has a strict screening process. Nurses’ backgrounds are thoroughly vetted, and their credentials are validated. They must be invited to join the company’s pool of nurses and are required to have at least a bachelor’s degree and a minimum of two years of experience.

“My big focus is keeping the quality up,” Patterson says. “My second focus is using technology to keep it fair. I’m only taking a small percentage of the bill rate.”

Handling every step of the staffing process through the online platform helps keep costs down; therefore, Patterson says, the nurses are able to make more. “An agency nurse earns $40 to $45 an hour max. Our nurses are making $70 an hour.”

Care.Stat! currently has a small core group of more than a dozen qualified nurses. Patterson says, currently, the majority joined Care.Stat! to supplement their full-time income, much like he did when he was working in San Diego. However, he says, “In the future I do see this as a full-time option for some people.”

Six surgical centers in the San Francisco area had signed on with Care.Stat! by the end of 2015. Patterson anticipates having at least 10 surgical centers and one major community-based hospital system on board in early 2016.

The startup company is not focused solely on meeting the health care facilities’ needs. Patterson says he and his partner have built a system that fits the nurses’ needs too, allowing them to work when they want and where they want. In addition to choosing the days and hours they work, nurses can specify a number of other preferences, including minimum and maximum lengths of shifts; maximum number of shifts per day, week, or month; and whether to return to medical centers previously worked.

(continued on page 38)
Amy Ryan, MSN’13, BSN’09, recently traveled to India to teach pediatric cardiac intensive care unit nurses as part of a nurse residency program. She is a nurse practitioner in the cardiac intensive care unit at the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. She lives in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Stephen David Spainhour, BSN’13, is working as a clinical research registered nurse specialist in the hematology division of University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center in Cleveland, Ohio, where he lives. He primarily leads multiple myeloma, lymphoma, and chronic lymphocytic leukemia trials. He recently played the role of “Rod” in Avenue Q at a local community theater and is a member of the Singer’s Club of Cleveland.

Elizabeth Walton, MSN’13, is working as a family nurse practitioner in a federally qualified health care center in Nebraska. She recently took a trip to Europe, where she reports that she broke a few ribs and “got to see the Irish health care system up close.” She lives in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and has two daughters and two granddaughters.

Heather Leigh Williams Watson, MSN’13, is working as a health information management assistant at Center Avenue Health and Rehab that is part of the Columbine Health System in Fort Collins, Colorado. She and her husband Ryan Watson have two children ages 11 and 9. The family lives in Bellvue, Colorado.

Morgan von Drehle Cameron, BSN’14, lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She works at Rex Hospital in Raleigh, and her son, Mason, recently turned one.

Sage Owens Davis, MSN’14, DNP’15, works as an family nurse practitioner at Covenant Community Care, a federally qualified health center in Detroit, Michigan. She participated in three triathlons this past summer. She, her mother, brother, sister-in-law, two sisters, and brother-in-law ran the Chicago Rock ‘n’ Roll races together this year as well. Davis has been married to her husband, Caleb, for two years. She lives in Dearborn, Michigan.
Kayla Delk, MSN’14, works as a hospitalist in internal medicine at Laughlin Memorial Hospital in Greeneville, Tennessee, where she lives with her husband, Kevin and her dachshund, Oscar. She recently published an article on the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act and continues her biannual lecture on advance directives at East Tennessee State University College of Nursing. Kayla and Kevin recently completed their first 100-mile race from Key Largo to Key West, Florida, and are training to qualify for the Badwater 135 in Death Valley in July 2016. Kayla enjoys going to national parks, camping, hiking, and kayaking — and taking photographs of all of these activities.

Karl Cristie Figuracion, MSN’14, is currently working as a gastrointestinal oncology nurse practitioner at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. She is working on the Puget Sound Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society’s annual symposium to be held in May 2016. She enjoys hanging out with her boyfriend and two dogs. She says it’s nice to be back on the West Coast since most of her family lives in southern California. She lives in Kirkland, Washington.

Roxanne Gheorghiu, MSN’14, is an adult-gerontology nurse practitioner and research director of BG Neurology, working to bring Alzheimer’s disease trials to the upstate South Carolina region. She received her certified diabetes educator certification and originated the first and only U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-recognized Diabetes Prevention Program in the upstate. She and her husband have two children and live in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Meredith Gibboney, BSN’14, of Lakeport, California, recently started as an emergency department/-intensive care unit nurse at Sutter Lakeside Hospital, a 25-bed critical access hospital. She completed the trauma nursing core course at University of California, Davis, this past year. She enjoys yoga, bicycling, running, hiking, and exploring northern California. She was the maid of honor at her twin sister’s wedding in Albuquerque, New Mexico, this past year. She and her boyfriend, Matt, have a rescue cat, “Fraidy Cat.”

Erin Gooden, BSN’14, is working as an emergency department nurse at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina. She has begun competitive ballroom dancing and was voted the Shining Star of her unit at the hospital. She lives in Greensboro with Cleopatra, her pet Dalmatian.

Jocelyn Hoffman, MSN’14, is living in Atlanta, Georgia, working for pediatric plastic surgery at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. She is starting as a nurse practitioner and learning her role in the operating room.

Alexandra Vill Jackson, MSN’14, is working as the only nurse practitioner at Duke Children’s Primary Care Southpoint, which she says is very exciting. She and her husband, Jeremy, welcomed their first child, Annaliese Lynn in July 2015. They live in Durham.

Kathryn Koepfgen, BSN’14, has moved back to California after working for a year in Charleston, South Carolina. She’s now working on a surgical floor at Stanford Medical Center. She lives in Palo Alto, California.

Amy Liljestrand, BSN’14, works as a registered nurse at Children’s National Hospital in Washington, D.C., on the pediatric general acute floor. She enjoys contra dancing and exploring the city. She lives in Washington, D.C.

Hillary Mennella, DNP’14, is associate dean of the Student Health and Wellness Center at Cerritos College in Los Angeles, California. She is starting a meditation program at the center and has successfully commissioned the architects of the new building to include a meditation room. She lives in Long Beach, California.

Amber Cox Rafferty, MSN’14, worked as an adult-gerontology primary care nurse practitioner (AGPCNP-BC) with Doctors Making House Calls, which provides primary and specialty care to homebound patients in their homes, in independent assisted living facilities, and in dementia units until October, when she joined the UNC emergency department team. She and her husband have enjoyed time at the beach and in the mountains this past year. “We love to explore new restaurants, breweries, wineries, and events,” she says. They recently welcomed their first puppy, a mini-Australian Shepherd named Riley. Rafferty lives in Raleigh, North Carolina.

John Barrett, BSN’15, is attending the University of Pennsylvania to become a nurse practitioner. He says he participated in the largest bicycle ride in the world and rode across the entire state of Iowa in seven days. He lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Matthew Crabtree, BSN’15, works at the medical intensive care unit at UNC Hospitals. He says his preceptors are great, adding, “Duke did a great job preparing me for this, too!” He has a wife and three children. He just started training for a strongman competition, likes to be outside, go on walks, lift weights, and read.

Lorraine Kime Perkins, DNP’15, is working as a family nurse practitioner in Williamsburg, Virginia. She was appointed to the Advanced Practice Clinicians (APC) Committee to look at ways to improve hiring, onboarding, and retention of APCs. She says
she’s married to her best friend, John. They have three children and live in Williamsburg.

Danielle Rourke, BSN’15, is currently in the nurse residency program at Cook Children’s in Fort Worth, Texas, where she lives. She has rotated through several units, is completing an evidence-based practice research project, and will be sitting for the certified pediatric nurse exam. This is her first job, so she is “just getting (her) feet wet,” hoping to volunteer in the community soon. Rourke is training for her third half-marathon and is enjoying being closer to her family and visiting her boyfriend in Nashville. Her sister is a prosecutor in Austin, her father works for Home Away, and her mother volunteers on several boards, including the Seedling Foundation, which provides children of incarcerated parents a community mentor.

▲ Casey Thompson, MSN’15, is a nurse informaticist at Lantana Consulting Group and is also a wife and mother of two children (ages 20 and 5) and two “furbabies.” She recently passed the American Nurses Credentialing Center board certification exam in informatics. In her free time, she enjoys being in nature, particularly hiking and gardening. She lives in Yukon, Oklahoma.

Melody Wilkinson, DNP’15, was the 2015 recipient of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses’ Novice Clinical Faculty Teaching Award. She is a faculty member at Georgetown University and lives in Washington, D.C.

1930s
Mary Gregory, BSN’39

1940s
Esther Steffel, BSN’40, MSN’46
Dorothy Kamin, N’42
Florrie Mercer, BSN’42
Louise Phillips, BSN’42, N’42
Emma Schutz, BSN’42, N’42
Margaret Dittmar, N’44
Edith Caviness, BSN’48, N’45
Frances Hayes, BSN’46
Mary Campbell, BSN’47
Rublee Knight, N’47
Jeanie Thistlethwaite, N’47
Sara Wollstein, N’47
Barbara Carr, N’49
Helen Waller, BSN’49, N’49
Katie Hodge, BSN’43

1950s
Mary Boynton, BSN’50, N’50
Johanna Britt, BSN’50
Laura Alice Curry, N’50
Betty Johnson, BSN’51
David Webber, N’51
Barbara Welch, BSN’52
Jeanne Williams, N’53
Faye Hudson, N’54
Louis Elam, BSN’55, MSN’55
Gladys Hayworth, N’55
Lois Deiss, BSN’56
Donna Burgess, N’57
Martha Davis, BSN’57
Sue MacNary, BSN’57
Mary Anne Ocker, BSN’57
Carol Barbee, BSN’58
Elizabeth Stavnitski, BSN’58
Sally Austin, BSN’59

Former Dean Rachel Booth

Rachel Booth PhD, RN, the seventh dean of Duke University School of Nursing and assistant vice president for Health Affairs for Duke University Hospital, died on June 24, 2015. She served as dean from 1984 to 1987.

“As many alumni, faculty, and friends will recall, Dr. Booth served during a particularly difficult time in our school’s history, and her dedication and commitment helped to set us on the trajectory of success that we enjoy today,” said Dean Marion E. Broome.

Following a retrenchment period from 1979 to 1984, the BSN program was eliminated and the School of Nursing was effectively closed from 1984 to 1985. The faculty, which at one point numbered more than 25, dwindled to approximately 10. Booth led the development of the MSN program based on her vision of future needs for MSN-prepared nurses. She created the plan that refocused the MSN program and offered three specialty areas—oncology, critical care, and nurse leadership. The first class of 17 full-time and six part-time students was admitted in 1985.

Before coming to Duke, Booth was at the University of Maryland-Baltimore, where she was associate dean of undergraduate studies. After Duke, she went on to serve as dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Alabama before retiring in 2005.

“We owe Dr. Rachel Z. Booth a debt of gratitude for her leadership and vision in helping reshape the future of Duke University School of Nursing,” said Dean Broome. “I hope each of us can take a moment to reflect on how, like Dr. Booth, our work today will contribute to the future of our school.”

Rosalie Le Fontaine, BSN’59
Gail M. Pullen, BSN’59

1960s
Zoe Peterson, BSN’61
Amanda Sprenger, BSN’61
Emma Troutman, BSN’62
Douglas Banks, BSN’64
Barbara Bertrand, BSN’65
Mary Culp, BSN’66
Paula Hayes, BSN’68

1980
Patricia “Patti” Buckley, BSN’80

2000s
Christopher Downey, MSN’00
Laura Turkel, MSN’09
Kathleen Viall Gallagher, N’75, feels that her time at Duke prepared her to do anything she wanted. “Being part of that fabulous university gives you confidence to do anything,” she says. “That is a real gift. I felt prepared as a nurse, and for life.”

Gallagher has indeed enjoyed a successful and varied career, including working as a nurse, a college professor, a fundraiser, and a volunteer champion for Duke.

Gallagher recently made a bequest commitment to help fund the Catherine Gilliss Endowed Scholarship in the Duke University School of Nursing.

In addition to helping other students have the same opportunity she had, Gallagher wants to help ensure there are more Duke nurses in world. “Duke nurses are thinking nurses, and we need more thinking nurses. And as we all gray, we need nurses that are top notch.”

As a professional fundraiser, Gallagher has insight into this type of gift. “I know how important planned giving is. I also know how easy it is to make a planned gift through your IRA, 401K, or other retirement account. All I did was change the beneficiary.”

Alumni and friends of the School of Nursing have given $299,000 to the Catherine Gilliss Endowed Scholarship Fund in honor of former dean and vice chancellor for nursing affairs Catherine L. Gilliss, BSN’71, PhD, RN, FAAN.

“\textit{I know how important planned giving is. I also know how easy it is to make a planned gift through your retirement account.}”
2015 Winter Graduation

133 students in the Accelerated BSN, MSN, Certificate and Doctor of Nursing Practice received degrees on December 12, 2015.