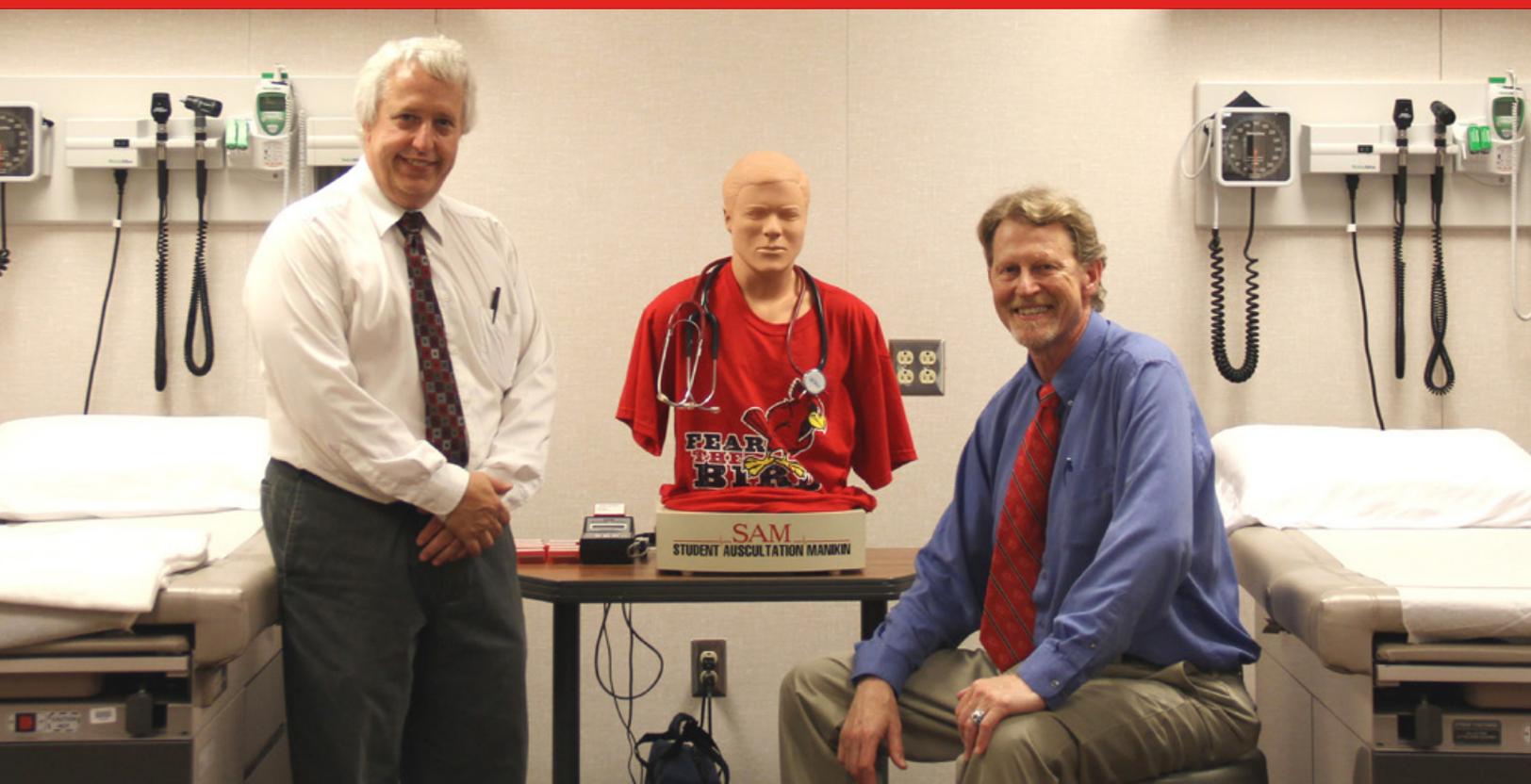


# The Flame

Mennonite College of Nursing

ANNUAL MAGAZINE

2014-2015 ISSUE



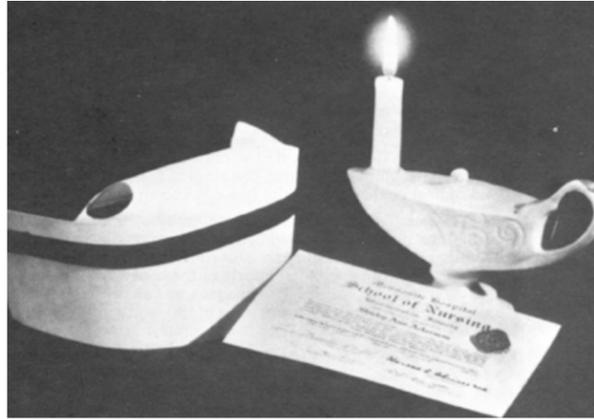
Faculty member Dave Jansen, *right*, talked with Assistant Professor Ed Reitz about the MCN M.E.N. (Men are Excellent Nurses) Group he created.



ILLINOIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
*Mennonite College of Nursing*

[Nursing.IllinoisState.edu](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu)

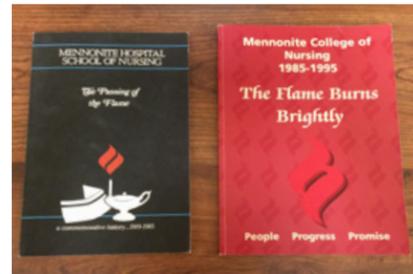
PLEASE HELP US WRITE THE  
100-YEAR HISTORY BOOK.  
WE NEED YOUR INPUT.  
See the survey on the  
inside back cover.



## Help us write our history

Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) became Illinois State University's sixth academic college on July 1, 1999. The rich heritage of MCN began in 1919. For 96 years the primary mission has been to prepare professional nurses by providing excellence in nursing education. This mission continues with incredible success through our talented administration, faculty, staff, students and friends. MCN creates a dynamic community of learning to develop exceptionally well-prepared nurses who will improve health outcomes locally and globally. Excellence in teaching, research, service, and practice with a focus on the vulnerable and underserved is promoted. Our flame does indeed continue to burn brighter and brighter.

A 100-year celebration of the founding of Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing, now Mennonite College of Nursing at ISU, is being planned for 2019. The college has gone through many changes. MCN has been and continues to be a very special place to so many people. As part of this celebration, a history book of 100 years of stories will be written. We would like to hear from you about what you think should be included. The 100-Year History Book committee, including the author, will make final decisions regarding inclusions, but we need YOU to provide the direction and suggestions. To assist you in submitting your stories and/or photos please see a survey form on page 23. Please complete the survey and return it with attachments and/or photos by September 15. Electronic and online submissions are also an option. Thank you.



Mennonite School/College of Nursing history books

# CONTENTS

## The Flame

The magazine of Mennonite College of Nursing

2014-2015 ISSUE  
published annually

MCN interim dean · H. Catherine Miller,  
hmiller@IllinoisState.edu, (309) 438-2176  
Magazine coordinator · Amy Irving,  
amirvin@IllinoisState.edu, (309) 438-7418  
Copy editor · Kate Arthur  
Designers · Stacy Arvanitakis, Jeff Higginson  
Photographer · Lyndsie Schlink

Illinois State University  
Mennonite College of Nursing  
Campus Box 5810  
Normal, IL 61790-5810  
Nursing.IllinoisState.edu

- 3 DEAN'S MESSAGE
- 4 CELEBRATING MEN IN NURSING
- 8 MNAO AWARD RECIPIENTS
- 10 REUNION PHOTOS
- 11 MCN NURSES WEEK AND MCDOWELL STAFFORD HIGHLIGHTS
- 13 STUDENT AND FACULTY AWARDS
- 14 2014-15 GRADUATES
- 16 KOSSMAN RETIRES
- 17 NURSING ALUM HIKING IN NEPAL
- 18 ALUMNI NOTES
- 19 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
- 20 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS
- 22 TRANSFER OF NURSING ARCHIVES
- 23 HISTORY BOOK SURVEY



## Message from the interim dean

Greetings alumni and friends!

The 2014-15 academic year has been very exciting, challenging and full of changes at Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN). As many of you know, last July I was appointed as the acting dean of MCN, while Dean Janet Krejci served as interim provost. This past March Dean Krejci was named Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. We miss her daily presence at Edwards Hall, however, she will always have a special place in this college and her leadership and passion for nursing will continue. I am the interim dean for MCN, and a national search for a dean will take place this fall.

Our students continue to excel with the NCLEX pass rate – for 2014, MCN students had a **94 percent pass rate**. The state average is 84 percent and the national average is 82 percent. MCN graduates have exceeded the state and national averages for the NCLEX-RN for more than 10 years, as reported by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation in the governor's office. Our 2014 Family Nurse Practitioner graduates scored 100 percent on their certification test, and the national pass rate is 74 percent.

The renovations of Edwards Hall have been completed and the Office of Student and Faculty Services has moved back from Uptown Crossing. It is wonderful to have the faculty and staff back in the same building!

We are already planning for our 100th anniversary in 2019, and I'm thrilled to have Gail Lamb and Mary Ann Watkins working directly with author Susan Blystone for the development of the MCN 100 Year History Book, the sequel to the previous two history books. This book, yet to be titled, will document the history from 1995 through 2019, and focus on a collection of stories for the past 100 years of this beloved college. But we need YOUR help! Please see page 23 and complete the survey (it is also available online) to help with this very important project. We are also working with April Anderson, university archivist, who is cataloging every piece of historical information about Mennonite School/College of Nursing. If anyone has any MHSN/MCN historical items to donate to the University Archives, please contact my office at (309) 438-2176.

It is such an honor for me to serve as interim dean for this amazing college, and I want to thank everyone for their continued support. This college is very special, and as we continue to grow we will carry on our mission of promoting excellence in teaching, research, service, and practice with a focus on the vulnerable and underserved.

Please enjoy this issue of *The Flame*!

H. Catherine Miller, Ed.D., RN, CNE  
Interim Dean  
Phone: (309) 438-2176  
Email: hmiller@IllinoisState.edu



First floor of Edwards Hall after renovations

## Illinois State's online nursing program ranked in U.S. News and World Report

By Molly Hartrup

Illinois State University's online nursing program is ranked as one of the Best Online Nursing Programs in *U.S. News & World Report*.

"We are pleased to be recognized nationally for our online Nursing Systems Administration Program," said Mennonite College of Nursing Interim Dean H. Catherine Miller. "We have outstanding faculty members who are experts in online teaching, and we have a commitment to prepare outstanding nurses to lead in an era of growth and change."

The online nursing program is ranked 93rd on the list, and is the only public institution in Illinois to be ranked. This is the first time Illinois State has been ranked in the survey. U.S. News defines a nursing-distance education program as a program for which all required nonclinical courses can be completed via distance-education courses that incorporate Internet-based learning technologies.

Schools were ranked in five general categories; including student engagement, faculty credentials and training, peer reputation, student services and technology, and admissions selectivity. Other considerations included graduation rate, class size, tenured faculty and student debt.

## Celebrating men in nursing

### New group for male nurses forms at MCN

Instructional Assistant Professor Dave Jansen spearheaded a new group at Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN), the “MCN M.E.N. Group.” M.E.N. is an acronym to impress that MCN Men are Excellent Nurses. Men are a minority in nursing, representing only 7 to 10 percent, depending on where you live in the U.S. In other countries, such as Saudi Arabia, as many as 30 percent of nurses are men.

“As a male in the nursing profession, I wanted to put together a group that included students, alumni, and faculty that would address what it means to be a man in a profession where the majority is women,” Jansen said.

The group meets once a month during the fall and spring semesters and has been a positive opportunity for social networking. MCN M.E.N. explores the history of men in nursing, and invokes discussion about clinical and social issues men encounter as a minority in the profession. The group provides an open discussion of shared experiences plus nursing students’ thoughts of how they see men in nursing now and in the future. The group also participated in a teleconference with Patrick Hickey, an author and professor at the University of South Carolina School of Nursing.

Jansen already has plans for the coming academic year, including an invitation to female nursing students and faculty to attend a meeting and talk about their perspective on men in nursing, connecting with male nurses who are national leaders, setting up a teleconference with male alumni from MCN as well as other schools, and creating a monthly blog.

“I encourage male MCN students and alumni to join us and participate in this endeavor,” Jansen said. An average of 11 participate each month and 20 students attended at least one meeting last year. Men who are practicing nurses or would like to become a nurse are welcome.

*The following are highlights of stories that have been published for the MCN E-newsletter. To read the full articles, visit [Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/About/PR.php](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/About/PR.php).*

### Honors Program prepares nursing student for job market

By Jennifer Beemer

Garrett Sawyer '14 came to Illinois State with a sibling advantage. Based on his older brother's experiences as a Red-bird, Sawyer decided he wanted to be involved in the Honors Program.

“I knew going into Illinois State that there were great benefits to being in the Honors Program. Immediately there were scheduling benefits, but I also received several scholarships because of the Honors Program throughout my college career,” said Sawyer, who majored in nursing. “The greatest benefit I received from the Honors Program was it allowed me to complete independent research.”

With the aid of Mennonite College of Nursing Professor Susan Kossman, Sawyer explored the evolution from paper charting to electronic systems. He created a survey and analyzed the responses. Sawyer served as coordinator and communicator between the hospital and the University.

“It was a lot of work, and doing all of that work would not have been possible without the stipend that I got through the Honors Program for undergraduate research,” Sawyer said.

The effort resulted in Sawyer attending a Midwestern Nursing Research Conference. He was one of few undergraduates chosen to present.

“The research I conducted really showed me that I would be capable of going on to pursue more education. I don't think I would have had that realization without the Honors Program making it possible.”

Now ready to enter the job market as a registered nurse, Sawyer credits the Honors Program experience and his stellar nursing classes for his confidence.

“Progressively throughout the different semesters students get more and more independent. The nursing program prepared us really well for getting our licenses, working as a nurse, and how nursing really works.”



Garrett Sawyer, B.S.N. '14



Dave Jansen (middle) meets with the MCN M.E.N. Group. For more information, contact Jansen at [drjanse@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:drjanse@IllinoisState.edu).

### Accelerated B.S.N. student balances school and triathlons

Andrew Sepiol graduated from the Accelerated B.S.N. program last August. During his time as a student in an intense program, he still enjoyed participating in triathlons.

Sepiol earned a degree in kinesiology with a specialty in exercise science at Northern Illinois University (NIU) in 2010. After graduation he worked as a coach specializing in general sports conditioning, and functional training.

“I decided to pursue nursing because during my tenure as a coach I found that I genuinely enjoyed helping people and tracking their improvements as I worked with them,” he said. “I have found nursing is slightly different, but I still get that fuzzy feeling when I'm able to make a difference in someone's life!”

After talking with some of his friends who are nurses and graduates of the Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN), he decided to look into his options, and learned about the accelerated B.S.N. “I chose MCN primarily because of the glowing recommendation I received from my friends who graduated from the program,” he said. “It also happens to be quite affordable, and I have found that the college has a very positive reputation with everyone I have encountered.”

Soon after being accepted into MCN, Sepiol learned about the Illinois State University Triathlon Club, the Tri Birds. This club was established in 2002 for anyone who is looking for a unique challenge in the multi-sport lifestyle.

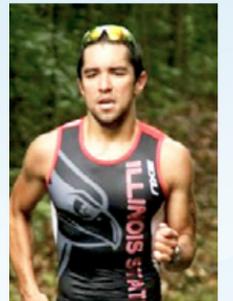
“Endurance sports, such as the triathlon, have become my favorite, despite it being easily the most painful event I have ever completed. They are designed to give the glory to the individual that has put in the most work, and has the gall to suffer the most.”

So, how did Sepiol balance being a triathlete as well as being a student in the intense 15-month accelerated program? “I worried most about how to balance training and school. Out of all of the sports I have competed in, the triathlon is the hardest, but also my favorite,” he said. “It is my main outlet for stress, and frustration.”

After the first few weeks in the program, Sepiol was able to find a balance at roughly 10–20 hours per week for training. His previous training schedule included 30 hours of sport-specific training in the three disciplines, as well as strength, flexibility, and physiotherapy to prevent injuries. Sepiol found that the reduction in training volume created additional stress, in an already stressful program.

“My ultimate goal is to compete professionally, and that would entail roughly 40–45 hours of sports training per week,” he said. “Right now with going back to school, I spend 10–20 hours on training and 10–20 hours on schoolwork every week. I had to craft some new solutions to make this all work, such as recording lectures to listen to while biking or running. I somehow manage to fit eating, sleep, class, clinical, study, commute, and homework around my workouts. You can pursue other passions you have while going to school; you just have to be dedicated and know how to balance your schedule.”

Sepiol would like to find a job where his schedule consists of three 12-hour shifts so he can continue to train as a triathlete. “When thinking about my future, I wanted a job where I could have a schedule that still allowed me to train, have a family, and also allow me to continue to help people,” he said. “Nursing is a perfect fit with my plan.”



### A passion for service: From the military to nursing

Matt Baxter's dream of receiving his B.S.N. came true as he celebrated graduating from Illinois State University's Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) in August 2014.

Prior to attending Illinois State, Baxter attended Western Illinois University and earned a bachelor's degree in law enforcement and justice administration. He initially wanted a career with the military and as a police officer, but after fighting a battle with a life-threatening illness, he changed his career path to nursing.

After high school, Baxter enlisted in the Illinois Army National Guard and was trained as a military police officer. He served from November 2000 through November 2009 in the 333rd Military Police Company out of Freeport, Ill. He was deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in April 2003. After 15 months he returned home with his unit.

When he decided to pursue a career in nursing, one of the biggest influences in his decision was his experience as a cancer patient.

“I was initially diagnosed in July 2006, and it is strongly believed that I got sick from serving in Iraq,” he said. “My unit deployed to Afghanistan in October 2008, but I was unable to go because I was in the hospital for three months battling a severe relapse of the cancer that nearly took my life. I was able to recover my strength and managed to return to my unit in early 2009 and achieve the rank of staff sergeant before receiving an honorable discharge.”

His time in Iraq helped him cultivate a strong mentality about never quitting and never accepting defeat. “I acknowledge that there are just some things in life that we don't have any control over, yet I have never allowed myself to be

anything but driven and dedicated to succeed and live the life that I know I am still capable of living.”

Baxter is passionate about helping others in need and selfless service. His first experiences with helping those in need came during his nine years of service in the Illinois Army National Guard. Prior to deploying to Iraq in 2003 with his military police unit, Baxter volunteered to receive additional medical training and serve as his squad’s Combat Lifesaver (CLS) and supplement their platoon’s combat medic. “As a CLS I was equipped to provide care to the wounded, injured, and sick until they were able to get to more definitive care. It was an honor being able to provide this additional support to those I served with.”

Many years later Baxter decided to pursue a license as an emergency medical technician. “I have worked on a volunteer ambulance service for over three years now, and have really enjoyed caring for people in a pre-hospital setting in an emergency medical services role.”

When Baxter could no longer serve in the military, he started exploring options for nursing school. During his many difficult and heart-breaking hospitalizations, he encountered several amazing nurses that had a positive impact on his holistic care.



Matt Baxter, B.S.N. '14

“There were very difficult moments throughout the years, and those nurses have always been the ones who truly helped me through them,” he said. “For this reason I felt that I would find a career in nursing extremely rewarding, and I genuinely want to be that great nurse for other patients. I know just how big a difference a good nurse can make on his/her patients’ and their families’ lives.”

“I choose to get my degree from Mennonite College of Nursing because I had always heard that it was a great nursing school and it offered a B.S.N., which I knew was what I wanted. Since my acceptance into the program, I have been very impressed with everything that this nursing school has to offer.”

When asked what his plans were after graduation, Baxter said he had family and friends in the Chicago area. “Being near them would be important to me. I really want to begin my nursing career in an Emergency Department.



Baxter serving in the Middle East

My experiences in the Army and also as an EMT have made me capable of remaining calm and performing effectively under extremely stressful events.”

## Accelerated B.S.N. student prepares for Navy deployment

Justin Johnson knew from the time he was a sophomore in high school that he wanted to be an officer in the U.S. Navy. So when the time came to begin college, he found the Navy ROTC program at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Happy to hear that the program accepted all areas of study, he pursued a major in healthcare while signing on with the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC).



Justin Johnson

Johnson chose to major in community health based on his interest in exercise, nutrition, and a desire to improve health through prevention. He graduated in December 2004 and received a commission in the Navy as a surface warfare officer.

His first ship was based in Pascagoula, Miss., and then Mayport, Fla. He completed one deployment with the Counter-Narcotics Trafficking (CNT) Operations, where he and his fellow officers searched for people smuggling drugs in the Caribbean Sea and the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

On his second ship he had the opportunity to provide humanitarian support to victims of Hurricane Felix in Nicaragua in September 2007. The following month he was on the first ship to deploy the V-22 Osprey, a military, tilt-rotor aircraft, to Iraq to participate in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As his time in the Navy was coming to an end, he thought about pursuing a career in healthcare and decided nursing would allow him to focus on holistic, preventative medicine. He read about the Mennonite College of Nursing, the Nursing Simulation Lab, the NCLEX success rate and comments from students and alumni “made my decision quite simple,” he said.

He started the Accelerated B.S.N. program in May 2014, one of 19 students in this second-degree, 15-month program. As a member of the Navy Reserves he knew deployment was always a possibility. During his first 12-week summer semester he took 18 nursing credits. On August 7, after his last semester final, he got a call telling him he would be deployed in October.

“Justin’s B.S.N. education is interrupted but not over,” said Dianne Clemens, assistant dean for MCN’s undergraduate program. “MCN administration has assured Justin there is a ‘seat’ saved for him whenever his tour is completed.”

Johnson is a lieutenant with 4 1/2 years of active duty and 9 years of commissioned service. His unit has supported the Navy’s partnerships with European military, assisting with coordinating port visits for U.S. warships and training between U.S. and European navies. He was recently selected for promotion to lieutenant commander.

“I know there are many opportunities available to the B.S.N. prepared nurse,” Johnson said. He’s interested in working in intensive care but also learning about other areas. He also encourages students to serve in the military while attending college.

“The military can give great experiences and be an excellent career enhancer,” he said. “I have traveled to many places, worked with people from all walks of life, and developed skills that will prove to be extremely helpful in my civilian career. It can definitely be time consuming when trying to complete an education but many people choose to work while attending school so I always describe the Navy as my part-time job.”

The military can also help financially, he added, with tuition assistance and scholarships.

*Update: Johnson will be returning to MCN’s Accelerated B.S.N. program in August 2015.*



## Scholarship helps nursing student fight for his passion

By Ryan Denham

Illinois State’s nursing program is demanding. It’s even harder for Michael Binder.

The junior nursing major doesn’t have a left hand. For some, that kind of physical disability might have been enough to dampen a personal passion, or alter a career path. But not Binder.

From the moment he arrived on campus, the Downers Grove native has been deeply committed to his passion for nursing, exercising an unusually strong will to overcome obstacles.

Now, Binder’s will has been rewarded with the Bobbie McCambridge Endowed Nursing Scholarship. The scholarship recognizes a Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) student who hasn’t had an easy path but has refused to let those difficulties define them.

“My life has been about adaptation and change. I’m not going to be able to do everything by the book, and to me that’s perfectly fine,” said Binder. “I can’t thank the donor enough for this wonderful opportunity, for getting the financial burden off my back so I can pursue my dream.”

Binder, who is the first recipient of the McCambridge scholarship, is pursuing his Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree. He was always interested in science but wanted to serve others too. A career in nursing, where he could direct patient care and affect patient outcomes, will allow him to do that.

Nursing is a very difficult major at ISU. In addition to challenging classes, students have clinical training responsibilities that can involve travel and additional costs. Some don’t have time for a part-time job.

But the scholarship is more than just money to Binder. It’s personal validation.

“Michael has obviously overcome lots of obstacles, and he has lots of obstacles yet to overcome,” said Dianne Clemens, assistant dean for MCN’s undergraduate program. “But what’s important with a scholarship such as this for Michael is to know that somebody believes in him. There’s nothing more powerful than knowing that somebody believes in them so much that they will put down their money.”

The scholarship is named for Bobbie McCambridge, who suffered serious injuries in a car accident while she was attending nursing school. Despite that, she graduated as a diploma nurse on time in 1959. The nursing scholarship was established in 2014 to honor McCambridge’s perseverance and determination and to recognize a student, such as Binder, who lives up to that legacy.

“Scholarship support helps those students really focus on the important job of being the best nurse they can be,” said Jenny Ward, director of development for MCN. “Every student has a passion. Every student has a story. And every donor makes a difference in somebody’s life.”

**Visit [Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/StudentLife/Scholarships.php](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/StudentLife/Scholarships.php) to watch the video about Binder’s story.**



# Mennonite nurses alumni organization (MNAO) awards

## Distinguished Alumni Award

**Vickie Gasche Lannie** graduated from Mennonite School of Nursing in 1965 and began her long and impressive nursing career at Mennonite Hospital. As a student, she took special interest in dying patients. Her concern for their care led to a long-term study of death and dying through observation and education. In 1965 she attended a workshop on the subject and met Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, known as a pioneer in death and dying as well as hospice care in the United States. This grew Lannie's passion and led to a 5-year independent study with Dr. Kubler-Ross in her Chicago-area home. Her goal was to learn as much as she could about how to provide the best care possible to patients at the end of their lives.



After studying the hospice movement, Lannie was inspired to bring the same philosophy of care to Illinois. In 1974, she was employed at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center and worked with staff to put that philosophy into practice. This led to her serving as coordinator of the Community Consortium on Hospice, which included clergy, medical personnel and social workers working together to plan a hospice program in central Illinois. Although well represented within the medical community, the consortium was met with quite a bit of skepticism and difficulty. At that time the medical community was based solely on the art of healing and curing and in that definition there was no room for the care of those patients who were dying. Lannie wanted to change that.

She became Methodist Hospital's first hospice coordinator. Lannie continued to fight for this form of care that was so needed, educating staff workers in hospice, advocating its need to physicians, and working directly with dying patients to hone her own skills. She spent 35 years comforting more than 9,000 families in the Peoria area and helped bring hospice care to thousands more. In 2000, Lannie was recognized as one of the 25 Women in Leadership for her hospice work. Her care for those who need it most is exemplary and her dedication has greatly influenced central Illinois.

"Behind every dripping IV, hissing oxygen, intubation tube or surgical incision lie human beings with stories," said Lannie. She explains how their needs are simple: Look at ME, touch ME, listen to ME, include ME, smile at ME, and know ME. She recommends taking just a minute to let people tell their stories. It may be their last chance to tell it, leaving their legacy.

"My experience as a Mennonite student nurse included the teaching and skills to look past all else to see the patient, to listen in reverence to their story," she said. "I am grateful for that kind of humane compassionate training from the best school ever and always. I am both humbled and honored to receive this award and do so because of all the nursing leaders on whose bold and broad shoulders I have stood for the last 50 years."

## Early Career Achievement Award

**Lauren Park Nelson** graduated cum laude from Illinois State University's Mennonite College of Nursing with her B.S.N. in 2006. She went on to earn her M.S. as an adult nurse practitioner from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2010.

After graduating from MCN, Nelson began her career at the Mayo Clinic Hospital, St. Mary's Campus in Rochester, Minn., caring for a variety of post-operative patients. While she was going to graduate school, she was an RN at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics in Madison, and was also a teaching assistant at the School of Nursing. Nelson is a nurse practitioner at Fairview Geriatric Services in Edina, Minn.

Working as a nurse practitioner, she explored her passion for nursing and focused her interests on geriatric care. She began working at a senior living/advanced memory care center in Minnesota caring for over 100 patients. Nelson continues to provide dedicated care to the geriatric population throughout the Minneapolis metro area.

Nelson volunteers for a local food pantry, and the Minnesota Twins First Aid Team. She also recently traveled to rural India with a team of fellow healthcare professionals to volunteer in village clinics – an experience she calls challenging, eye-opening, and one of the most important achievements of her life.

At MCN, Nelson was in the Honors Program, was a Collegiate International Scholars Laureate (she traveled to South Africa to study nursing) and a scholarship recipient of the LaRue Sloan Endowed Scholarship. She is a certified adult nurse practitioner and is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Nelson's advice to students is to take advantage of as many opportunities as possible. Her transcultural experience to Eastbourne, England, gave her the chance to see firsthand the differences between socialized and privatized healthcare. Her first nursing clinical at a long-term care facility made her consider a career in geriatrics. Working on research with Professor Caroline Mallory made her carefully analyze the actions she executes as a nurse. "I would not be where I am today without the experiences I had at MCN," she said.

A Redbird through and through, Nelson remains glad she started her career at MCN. The clinical and critical thinking skills she developed in school made her feel confident and prepared.

"I am extremely humbled to receive the Early Career Achievement Award," she said. "Each time I read *The Flame*, I am overcome with pride to see what Mennonite College of Nursing, and the graduates produced, have accomplished. In almost every situation I have encountered in my career, I feel prepared and attribute this to my education at MCN. From my experience in the classroom, encounters during clinical rotations, and interactions with faculty, I could not ask for more from my education."



## Service Award

**University President Emeritus David Strand** began his career at Illinois State University in 1978, serving as vice president for business and finance as well as vice president and provost and executive officer prior to becoming president in 1995. Of his many accomplishments, the most influential to Mennonite College of Nursing was facilitating the college's transfer to ISU.



He recognized the great potential in adding MCN to the university's colleges and saw the mutual benefit that had previously been overlooked.

In 1999, MCN arrived at the university during a severe nursing shortage with 181 undergraduate students and 49 graduate students. The college needed a financially stable and supportive home while Illinois State gained a college renowned for producing graduates who are exceptional clinicians and tireless advocates for their patients. With dramatic changes on the horizon for healthcare, this merger proved constructive for all involved – thanks to his efforts.

Since its arrival, MCN has grown in numbers and programs. In 2015, the undergraduate program has 583 students enrolled across the traditional and accelerated B.S.N. programs as well as the online RN-B.S.N. The graduate program has 123 students enrolled across the family nurse practitioner and online nursing systems administration programs and the Ph.D. in nursing and doctor of nursing practice programs. The nearly 100-year-old reputation has continued to flourish as the college's alumni put

their outstanding training into practice across the state and nation.

MCN is grateful for all of the support and dedication Strand has shown for the college. Our vision to be a premier college of nursing dedicated to improving local and global health outcome will continue thanks to his service.

"I am honored and humbled by this recognition, especially since Mennonite College of Nursing has distinguished itself in so many ways following the transition, and become such a great asset to Illinois State University," he said. "Numerous constituencies, including the citizens of Illinois and the nursing profession, have benefited from this partnership."

## Spirit of Nursing Award

Two alumnae received the 2015 MNAO Spirit of Nursing Award – **Delores Miller Carter '60** and **Diane Binder Johner '74**.

Delores Miller Carter graduated from Mennonite School of Nursing in 1960 and began her 43-year nursing career. She spent 42 of those years working at Mennonite/Brokaw Hospitals. As a nurse, her passion and dedication shone brightly every day and the care she gave to hundreds of patients made an impact that still resonates years later.

Throughout her career, she worked nights in an acute hospital setting in medical-surgical, orthopedic, rehabilitation, hospice, urology, and gynecological units, displaying extraordinary diversity, resourcefulness and strength. She also adapted to many dramatic changes in healthcare technology. Committed to staying abreast, Carter attended continuing education programs so she could continue to provide the best care possible to her patients and shared her wisdom with those who worked with her.

Carter continuously inspired and shared her faith and kindness with those around her. Her commitment and impressive career is a true embodiment of the spirit of nursing.

"Entering Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing in the fall of 1957 was one of the best decisions of my life," said Carter. "Little did I know it would be a career that would last a lifetime, and I am humbled by this award and share it with all who have RN after their name."

Diane Binder Johner graduated from Mennonite School of Nursing in 1974. She serves as a health facilities surveillance nurse with the Illinois Department Public Health surveying long-term Care facilities in the Champaign region of Illinois.

She served for 20 years at the Macon County Health Department as director of Health Promotion and public relations coordinator. During her time as a public health nurse, she was actively involved in promoting health throughout the county and her accomplishments have greatly influenced many lives.

Johner facilitated the formation of one of the first active Safe Kids Coalition in Illinois, and served as chairperson for the annual Safe Kids Day for over a decade hosting up to 1,500 kids and parents with the help of 150 volunteers each year. The purpose of the event was to prevent unintentional injuries, the number one killer of kids. For several years she chaired Project



ReLEAF, a grass-roots committee that promoted a community-wide educational program encouraging residents to "choose not to burn." She and members of the committee testified at city council meetings on the health hazards of leaf burning and in 2000 Decatur voted to ban leaf burning. She facilitated the Macon County Smoke-Free Restaurant Recognition Program promoting smoke-free restaurants prior to the state law.

Johner has sought to serve the vulnerable throughout her career. She implemented the Macon County Prostate and Testicular Cancer Screening Program reaching underserved and underinsured men in Macon County. She was presented the Legislative Award by State Representative Bob Flider for her efforts to create legislation for men's health to mirror the breast and cervical cancer program for women.

Johner is passionate about nursing students. She served as a nursing instructor at Richland Community College, Milliken University, University of Illinois and her alma mater Mennonite College of Nursing, where she served as adjunct faculty since 2000. She believes in and empowers each student and works tirelessly to provide them with new experiences.

"The Spirit of Nursing is doing what you love and loving what you do and enjoying every minute of it!" said Johner.



## Milestone Class Reunions



### 60th Reunion

Front row, from left: Viola Kinne Huber, Shirley Fasking Jackson, Barbara Atkins Donaldson, Marleen Glawe Williams. Back Row, from left: Doris Schrier Haas, Mitzi Simmons Carr, Helen Wuebbens Dohleman



### 50th Reunion

Front row, from left: Marilyn Bachman Litwiller, Sharon Irion Schertz, Vickie Gasche Lannie. Back Row, from left: Lynne Beutel Romyn, Mary Kuenzi Calhoun, Marilyn Sancken Hasty, Donna Baughman Leonard, Cinda Roth, Christine Leman Klopfenstein and Dotti Baer Ulrich



### 40th Reunion

From left: Janice Mangan Parker, Vickie Keene Butler, Denise Brubeck Mears, Linda Westfall, Janette Frahm Toliver



### 20th Reunion

Sue Collins Albee Grant

## MCN Nurses Week

MCN Nurses Week was celebrated April 21-25. The faculty and staff potluck, a new event, kicked off the celebration. The Student Nurses Association held their Candlelighting Ceremony on April 23, and Vickie Gasche Lannie '65 was the keynote speaker. Lannie also received the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization (MNAO) Distinguished Alumni Award, the highest award presented to an alum, at the MNAO Awards and Reunion Banquet.

The Golden Jubilee celebration was held April 24, honoring alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. Interim Dean H. Catherine Miller and MNAO President Jenifer Patton recognized the Class of 1965, and special 50-year pins were handed out.

The final event was the MNAO Awards and Reunion Banquet. Five awards were presented and milestone reunion classes were recognized: Distinguished Alumni Award—Vickie Gasche Lannie '65; Early Career Achievement Award—Lauren Park Nelson, B.S.N. '06; Service Award—David Strand; and Spirit of Nursing Award—Delores Miller Carter '60 and Diane Binder Johner '74.

Plans have already been made for MCN Nurses Week for 2016! See the calendar of events on page 19.



Vickie Gasche Lannie '65 was the keynote speaker at the Candlelighting Ceremony



Candlelighting Ceremony



Class of 1960 at the Golden Jubilee



Golden Jubilee Celebration



Awards and Reunion Banquet



President Larry Dietz at the banquet

## Breastfeeding expert keynote speaker for McDowell Stafford Lecture

Diane Spatz, Ph.D., RN-BC, FAAN, was the keynote speaker for the McDowell Stafford Lectureship Series in Child and Family Health, and provided educational and community presentations on April 30 at Illinois State University.

Spatz is a professor of perinatal nursing, the Helen M. Shearer Professor of Nutrition, and faculty advisor to students at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. She is director of the lactation program and a nurse researcher at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). She also serves as faculty for the Sigma Theta Tau and the Johnson & Johnson Maternal Child Leadership Academy.

Spatz is an internationally renowned clinical nurse scientist who has translated the science of human milk and breastfeeding worldwide. At CHOP, she developed the breastfeeding resource nurse program to better educate and train nurses to provide the most current and evidence-based care to families.

For the educational presentation, she spoke on "Translating the Science of Human Milk and Breastfeeding Into Clinical Practice." This continuing nursing education activity was approved by the Ohio Nurses Association and the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.



Interim Dean H. Catherine Miller, Diane Spatz and Lynn Kennell

"Breastfeeding is a Public Health Issue-Solutions for Improving Breastfeeding in the United States" was the topic of the community presentation. She talked about how the "mommy wars" undermine the health of our nation. A reception followed.

These events were sponsored by the Marion McDowell Stafford Lectureship Series Fund, Harold K. Sage Foundation Fund, and Illinois State University Foundation.



McDowell Stafford educational lecture

## Student and faculty honors and awards

The following awards were presented at the Commencement Ceremony in December 2014

Dr. Herman Tiedeman Memorial Award

**Temidayo Ademokoya**

Senior Excellence Award

**Kate Alleavitch**

Geriatric Excellence Award

**Kayla Kellogg**

Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence Award

**Temidayo Ademokoya**

Kathleen A. Hogan Teaching Excellence Award

**Instructional Assistant Professor Dianne Clemens**

The following awards were presented at the Commencement Ceremony in May 2015

Dr. Herman Tiedeman Memorial Award

**Paige Suva**

Senior Excellence Award

**Kaitlyn Ventura**

Geriatric Nursing Excellence Award

**Kaitlyn Tykal**

Outstanding Graduate Student Achievement Award

**Lindsay Otero**

Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence

**Jessica Carroll**

Kathleen A. Hogan Teaching Excellence Award

**Associate Professor Susan Kossman**

Graduate Program Teaching Excellence Award

**Professor Denise Wilson**



2015-16 SNA Officers: Marnie Johnson (treasurer), Spencer Simpson (president), Nicole Norris (vice president), and Becca Harris (secretary)



SNA President Spencer Simpson talks about what it is like being a nursing student—visit [IllinoisState.edu/Nursing](http://IllinoisState.edu/Nursing) to see her video

## 2014–2015 graduates

### December 2014 Baccalaureate Degree

Ademokoya, Temidayo  
 Alleavitch, Kate  
 Allen, Michelle  
 Barla, Nikki  
 Barnes, Mary  
 Bergamini, Lauren  
 Bess, Megan  
 Bothast, Morgan  
 Bowden, Stacie  
 Braun, Olivia  
 Burdsall, James  
 Burns, Kaitlyn  
 Butler, Michael  
 Cielocha, Lauren  
 Clutteur, Darrin  
 Correll, Samantha  
 Decroix, Brittany  
 Diamante, Rumer  
 Dirksen, Krista  
 Dodd, Zachary  
 Easterling, Nina  
 Ferreri, Sara  
 Fisher, Katie  
 Gallagher, Fallon  
 Gorda, Taylor  
 Green, Jami  
 Henkel, Molly  
 Hoffstadt, Jackelyn  
 Jimenez, Cristina  
 Jiskra, Elora  
 Kellogg, Kayla  
 Kimlicka, Jake  
 Krauth, Kirsten  
 Lavallier, Jenae  
 Lempke (Lewis), Amanda  
 Malan, Sarah  
 Mammarella, Michelle  
 Mardoian, Melissa  
 Matusiak, Diana  
 McDarrah, Fiona  
 Newton, Rebecca  
 Niles, Amanda  
 Olaguez, Jaime  
 Padilla, Liliana  
 Pearson, Mary  
 Perri, Nicholas  
 Philip, Kevin  
 Prokop, Connor  
 Resler, Rachel  
 Reynolds, Gabrielle  
 Rochkus, Robyn  
 Ross, Kaitlin  
 Santonacita, Rosie  
 Sarrazine, Alyssa  
 Sebade, Lindsey  
 Siemiawski, Brittany

Stenger, Stephanie  
 Stimson, Anna  
 Tabungar, Jamila  
 Troike, Lindsay  
 Trumbo, Jessica  
 Weyforth, Peter

### RN/B.S.N.

Smith, Zantraquilla

### Ph.D. in Nursing

Abdulreham, Munib Said

### May 2015 Baccalaureate Degree

Baffoe, Brianne  
 Bardach, Leah  
 Bauling, Bryn  
 Bila, Jessica  
 Bollin, Emily  
 Branescu, Rebecca  
 Brennan, Maggie  
 Carr, Lauren  
 Carrano, Andrew  
 Carroll, Candace  
 Carroll, Christa  
 Carroll, Jessica  
 Cassidy, Keeley  
 Catanese, Jaclyn  
 Coleman, Sarah  
 Colgan, Caitlin  
 Conway, Nicole  
 Curley, Michelle  
 D'Acquisto, Nicole  
 DeBatty, Bonnie  
 Deedrich, Megan  
 Dennis, Jessica  
 Dickman, Amanda  
 Dolezal, Lindsey  
 Eaton, Colleen  
 Eickmeyer, Macee  
 Gallagher, Nichole  
 George, Lauren  
 Haney, Lisa  
 Hanley, Allison  
 Henderson-Connolly, Anastasia  
 Hetlinger, Jaclyn  
 Hoban, Carly  
 Holesha, Allison  
 Horney, Kristin  
 Izquierdo, Theresa  
 Jacobs, Alyssa  
 Johnson, Stephanie  
 Jones, Valerie  
 Kalupski, Brittany  
 Keith, Kaitlin  
 Kenny, Erin

Knobloch, Wyatt  
 Kois, Margaret  
 Kooistra, Carrie  
 Koszewski, Marissa  
 Kraemer, Jessica  
 Kreisman, Jamie  
 Kuhlmann, Allison  
 Laurie, Andrea  
 Lindgren, Krista  
 Logar, Sara  
 Luberda, Kaylie  
 Lucas, Hayley  
 Malone, Christine  
 McNaught, Andy  
 McNulty, Amanda  
 Mendoza, Alberto  
 Miller, Ashley  
 Miller, Madisen  
 Morgan, Christina  
 Murga, Lindsay  
 Musial, Kelsey  
 Nischbach, Nicole  
 Ollry, Samantha  
 Pagluica, Nicholas  
 Pastwa, Michelle  
 Pendola, Ashlee  
 Perez, Paula (Nico)  
 Pettit, Carley  
 Pulido, Angel  
 Roberts, Mary  
 Shaak, Sarah  
 Shimon, Brooke  
 Smith, Ashley  
 Smith, Kristen  
 Smith, Shannon  
 Soria, Elysia  
 Suva, Paige  
 Thielen, Brooklynne  
 Thomas, Emily  
 Tykal, Kaitlyn  
 Ventura, Kaitlyn  
 Wetzell, Ellen  
 Wieties, Lauren  
 Wigfall, Janay  
 Woare, Jennifer  
 Yuhars, Lindsey

### RN/B.S.N.

Varghese, Sherin

### Master's Degree Family Nurse Practitioner

Ambrose, Jessica  
 Anderson (Bell), Kendra  
 Bachtold, Catherine  
 Bonds, Stacy  
 Caywood, Brandy  
 Elliott, Colleen

Galey, Diana  
 Gonzalez, Miranda  
 Hubbert (Ghrist), Aubrie  
 Irle, Jennifer  
 Jarvis, Ellyn  
 King, Angela  
 O'Brien, Amy  
 Otero (Hedge), Lindsay  
 Parke, Karina  
 Severado, Angela  
 Tharp, Andrew  
 Thorne (Bratcher), Lyndsey  
 Tracy, Angela  
 Trost (Shaffer), Robin  
 Wilson (Smith), Maureen

### Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate

Hudgins, Rachael

### Nursing Systems Administration

Ewing, Kathleen

### August 2015 Baccalaureate Degree

Bell, Theresa  
 Boser, Alison  
 Brown, Adam  
 Cannon, Tonia  
 Cloud, Natalie  
 Del Greco, Phoebe  
 Esparza, Sarah  
 Foley, Maureen  
 Fusinato, Alyssa  
 Goranson, Haley  
 Hand (Kaupp), Lindsey  
 Hlavach, Joseph  
 Jones, Brandi  
 Kenyon, Bearnard  
 Krise-Evans, Kelly  
 Kusturin, Joy  
 Larkin, Anna  
 Lesnik, Hayley  
 O'Brien, Alex  
 O'Malley, Mackenzie  
 Petrini, Julia  
 Quadree, Sana  
 Ruff, Lindsey  
 Sitton, Kates  
 Szklany, Kelly  
 Torello, Katie  
 Wils, Brittany  
 Yee, Kevin

### RN/B.S.N.

Alexander, Laura  
 Artega, Tasha

Baxter, Delaine  
 Bodmer, Beth  
 Brucki, Jessica  
 Egleston, Monika  
 Gennicks, Keith

Henderson, Lindsay  
 Kraft "Lesemann",  
 Dannilyn  
 Latona, Michelle  
 Miller, Gregory

Montalvo, Florence  
 Redman, Echo  
 Sampson, John  
 Schmuck, Kristina  
 Sedlock (Talty), Rebecca

Strong, Kristin  
 Tordoff, Steven  
 Underhill, Emily  
 Wicklein, Marianne  
 Woitynek, Jolene



December 2014 graduation reception



May 2015 BSN graduates



May 2015 MSN graduates

## Associate Professor Susan Kossman retires after 22 years



Susan Kossman, Ph.D.,  
RN associate professor

After 22 years of teaching at Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN), Associate Professor Susan Kossman retired in May. Kossman and her family moved from Texas to the Bloomington/Normal area in 1993. Over the years, she has taught almost all of the programs offered at MCN, including the traditional B.S.N., accelerated B.S.N., online RN-B.S.N., M.S.N and Ph.D. Her research interests included nursing and consumer informatics and simulation in nursing education.

When asked what her favorite memory was while at MCN, Kossman replied, “There are so many and they all revolve around our students and graduates. I love running into them out in the community and especially love when my family or I am receiving care from them—it is very comforting and I know we’re getting excellent care. When my husband had a heart attack years ago, our grads took care of him in the Emergency Department, cath lab and critical care unit – I was so relieved! When my granddaughter was born three years ago, Lynn Kennell’s clinical group took care of her and my daughter, and Caitly said she learned more from them than from the staff nurses! And it’s really great to see former B.S.N. students finish their graduate degrees and come back to teach with us.”

Being one of the many beloved faculty members, other faculty and students wanted to give Kossman a proper sendoff...and organized a flash mob in Edwards Hall. Assistant Professor Charlene Aaron recruited faculty, staff and students to participate, and worked with Kossman’s family to make sure she would be there. As the Kossman family walked down to the first floor of Edwards Hall, everyone was in their hiding places – wearing their ISU/MCN red and when the music started they really surprised her. “I can’t believe so many students, faculty and staff took part in this... and managed to keep it a secret!” said Kossman.

Her plans after retirement include becoming a master naturalist and volunteering in local parks doing conservation and wildlife work, volunteering at the free clinic and learning to play the accordion. She also would like to work more in her garden and with her crafts, and of course being a fantastic GiGi to her grandchildren.

“It was a wonderful 22 years with my MCN family—and while I’m retired, I’m not gone. I hope we all stay in touch!”



Visit [Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/About/PR.php](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/About/PR.php)  
to watch the flash mob video.

## Nursing alum hiking in Nepal when earthquake struck

By Ryan Denham

An Illinois State nursing alum who was hiking in Nepal in when the earthquake struck on April 25 has returned safely to the U.S., and she’s urging Americans to support relief efforts.

Caitlin Bull '12 and her small hiking team were on an 80-mile, 13-day round trip to Mount Everest Base Camp—a dream come true for this world traveler. The quake hit while the Mennonite College of Nursing grad was on a steep hill near Tengboche, Nepal, forcing her to grab a tree to brace herself.

“At first it was interesting but as it shook harder and lasted over a minute, tree branches were falling all around and we heard landslides across the valley and I felt my eyes widen in concern,” she said. “As an adrenaline seeker, I never want to seek out earthquakes. It’s a very helpless and powerless feeling.”

Bull wasn’t injured, but her Nepali guide and porter both lost their homes. The death toll from the 7.8-magnitude earthquake is at 5,800 and rising, with 600,000 homes destroyed or damaged.

Bull and her friend, Ashleigh Stumler from North Carolina, saw the increasing extent of the damage as they moved toward a larger village. Once there, they had Internet access and told their families they were safe. (Stumler and her family were featured in an ABC News story about their reconnection.)

“People around the world have awful drinking water, but Wi-Fi is everywhere,” she said. Bull and Stumler kept moving, eventually arriving in the Himalayan nation’s capital, Kathmandu. She saw huge cracks in the roads, demolished buildings, and tent cities. Bull, who works around the U.S. as a traveling emergency room nurse, volunteered at a hospital before tourists were told to go to their embassies.

“Compared to the happy bustling place I witnessed prior to my trek, the city felt like a sad ghost town with far less activity,” Bull told STATESide in an email.

Bull flew back to the U.S. and arrived in Washington State. “My thoughts go to the people in Nepal who are sleeping on the cold, wet ground with limited and increasingly scarce resources,” Bull said. “These people have not hesitated to risk and give their lives for trekkers and mountaineers from our country and others. I hope that we do not hesitate to give aid now that they are in a time of desperation and need.”



Caitlin Bull, B.S.N. '12



The room Bull stayed in on her way up to Everest Base Camp

## Alumni Notes

The following notes are from May 2014 – April 2015

### 1992

Ronna Pierce Buck works at the LaSalle County Health Department with the Women, Infants and Children program (WIC). Buck has been with WIC since 1992, and MCN students come for the community health rotation. She said it is a great honor for her to work with these students.

### 2006

Jennifer Stouffer received her M.S.N. from St. Francis Medical Center College of Nursing and completed the Clinical Nurse Specialist program in family-child nursing. She is a patient care manager for the Pediatric Intermediate Unit at OSF St. Francis Medical Center. She is part-time clinical faculty at MCN for pediatric clinicals.

### 2011

Jana Benjey moved to Texas and works private duty pediatric home health, and was accepted into the FNP program at Texas A&M Corpus Christi.

Kelli Neargarder Dietrich works as the clinical lead at OFS Medical Group—Critical Care, Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine in Bloomington.

Molly Giertz Ford was accepted into the FNP program at Texas State University.

### 2012

Jessica Muller is an RN at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

### 2013

Amelia Bunton Clark got married last December and works at Meadow Lakes in Mooresville, Ind.

Maggie Tonkin works in the nursery at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield.

Stephanie Zitella accepted a position at Weiss Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

### 2014

Kelsey Schluntz accepted a position at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington as a surgical nurse.

Nicole Zayner accepted a position as a NICU nurse at Advocate Illinois Masonic Hospital in Chicago.

## Calendar of events—save the date!

### Summer 2015

August 7 MCN Summer Graduation Celebration

### Fall 2015

September 17 Scholarship Banquet

October 3 Family Day

October 23 Alumni Day

October 24 Homecoming

December 1 MCN Holiday celebration

### Spring 2016

April 19-23 MCN Nurses Week

April 19 Potluck and Candlelighting Ceremony

April 21 Alumni/Student Networking Social

April 22 Golden Jubilee Celebration

April 23 MNAO Awards and Reunion Banquet

May 6 MCN Commencement Ceremony

For more information about MCN events, visit [Nursing.IllinoisState.edu](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu).



Visit [Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu](http://Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu)

## In memory...

Our sympathies go to the family and friends of the following:

1943 Myrna Slagell Park – March 19, 2015

1944 Thelma McAnelly Singley – July 29, 2014

1947 Mary Porzeliug Augspurger – November 28, 2014

1949 Shirley Dehm Peeken – December 23, 2014

1952 Carolyn Sommer Zehr – July 27, 2014

1953 Alice Gerber Jiles – March 12, 2014

1958 Joan Stoller Gaston – October 15, 2014

1959 Sandra Williams Smith – November 30, 2014

1975 Judith Giller Walsh – October 7, 2014

1990 Denise Shoemaker – January 12, 2015

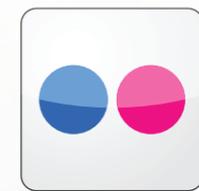
1991 Stacy Ledbetter – October 29, 2014

1997 Rebekah Imig – July 28, 2014

2010 Emily Fredbloom – September 19, 2014



Like us on Facebook!  
Mennonite College of Nursing  
at Illinois State



View more photos on the  
MCN Flickr account!  
[Nursing.IllinoisState.edu](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu) and scroll down  
to the bottom and click the Flickr button.

# 2014-2015 event highlights

Faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends participated in several events throughout the year. Below are some highlights.



PROUD Summer Camp 2014



Alumni Day 2014



ROTC Military Ball



2015 Founders Day bell ringers



SNA collected donations for the Community Health Care Clinic



All ages attend the MCN Homecoming social



Xi Pi Spring Induction Ceremony



Alumni/Student Mix and Mentor in Downers Grove



A chilly, but fun Homecoming tailgate



Student Nurses Political Action Day in Springfield

## Transfer of nursing archives

By April Anderson

The archives of the Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) have officially been transferred to the University Archives. We are excited to have the MCN materials join the rest of our archival collections and are looking forward to preserving this extremely important historic record. A big thanks to Jean Ann Dargatz of MCN for help in coordinating the move and another big thanks to Ross Griffiths, Jenna Self, and Samantha Wolter for packing and taking inventory on over 100 boxes of Mennonites archives. Way to go, everyone! If anyone has any MHSN/MCN historical items that they would like to donate to the University Archives, please contact the Dean's Office at MCN at (309) 438-2176.



## 100-Year History Book Survey of MCN alumni current and past faculty/staff, students, donors and friends

The 100th-year celebration of the founding of Mennonite College of Nursing (originally Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing) is fast approaching in 2019. In preparation for that event we are interested in gathering information for a book that will include the early history and also the years from 1995- present.

Two previous books cover 1919-1995. The vision is that a history book sharing 100 years of stories will be written. We would like to hear what you think should be included as we tell the story of a century of nursing education through MCN and its people. The 100-Year History Book committee, including the author, will make final decisions regarding inclusions, but we need YOU to provide the direction and suggestions. Your input is very important as we embark on the gathering of stories that will reflect our past and help celebrate and continue to build on the excellence that is MCN.

Please complete the following survey, and submit this form in the attached envelope. (Send us your update as well since it is on the other side of this form.) You may also fill out the form online at [Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/History](http://Nursing.IllinoisState.edu/History), or email the Dean's Office at [hmwinfre@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:hmwinfre@IllinoisState.edu) with your responses and attachments by September 15.

1. What five to 10 stories/ideas/innovations, etc. should be included in the history book?
2. When you think of significant people in MCN's history, who must be included or mentioned as particularly influential?
3. What other information would you like to see included?

If you would like to submit a story idea and/or photos, please fill out the following:

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Alumni: please include the year of the program(s) you graduated: \_\_\_\_ Diploma \_\_\_\_ B.S.N. \_\_\_\_ M.S.N. \_\_\_\_ Doctoral

Current/former faculty/staff: please include: title(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Years employed: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary phone \_\_\_\_\_ Primary email address \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: By submitting content covered by intellectual property rights (story ideas, photos, documents, etc.), you grant the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University a non-exclusive, transferable, sub-licensable, royalty-free, worldwide license to copy, sell, use, distribute any IP content submitted for any purpose through any and all media. You also agree to release the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University, its agents and assigns, from any and all claims of any kind or nature arising out of, in any way, the use of content.





**ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
*Illinois' first public university*

**Mennonite College of Nursing**  
 Campus Box 5810  
 Normal, IL 61790-5810

## Alumni updates

We welcome updates from alumni for *The Flame*. We want to know about your activities, career news, family news, and other significant activities (weddings, births, honors and awards, promotions, changes in employment, personal accomplishments, etc.). We will also submit your information to *Illinois State* magazine. Please return this form to Illinois State University, MCN Public Relations Office, Campus Box 5810, Normal, IL 61790-5810, or email [amirvin@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:amirvin@IllinoisState.edu). Thank you for sharing your news!

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Maiden name (if applicable) Class year

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City State ZIP

(            )

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Present occupation/Employer

\_\_\_\_\_  
 News/Comments

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_