Joslin Scholarship Fund established

With a major gift of $250,000, Roger and Stevie Joslin of Bloomington have established the Joslin Scholarship Fund for Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University. This permanently endowed scholarship will provide the resources necessary to attract outstanding undergraduate and graduate students to the college, offering full-tuition scholarships and fellowships for recipients to complete their nursing education.

The Joslins, longtime civic leaders in Bloomington-Normal, are committed to high-quality nursing education as exemplified by the teaching and clinical experiences at Mennonite College of Nursing.

The Joslin Scholarship Award recipient will be announced annually in the spring semester. The recipient must be an undergraduate or graduate student either accepted or enrolled in Mennonite College of Nursing and must have earned an overall grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

Currently vice chairman of the board and treasurer of State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, Roger Joslin has served as chairman of the boards of BroMenn Health Care, Bloomington Board of Education, Western Avenue Community Center, Second Presbyterian Church Trustees, and the Taxpayers Federation of Illinois.

Stevie Joslin served as a member of the Mennonite College of Nursing Board of Trustees from 1991 to 1999, when the college became the sixth academic college and first professional school at Illinois State University. Since the early 1990s she has provided the leadership to reestablish and energize The Friends of Mennonite College of Nursing, who—from 1994 through 1999—raised nearly $50,000 to improve clinical laboratories, provide new furnishings for the graduate program, increase Internet sites in the college library, purchase a baby grand piano, and underwrite academic scholarships for students with a high entering grade point average.

She received the Lewis J. Burger Outstanding Fund-raiser Award in 1998, was named a Woman of Distinction by the YWCA in 1997, and received the Harriet Rust Volunteer Award. The Exchange Club recognized her in 1994 with its Book of Golden Deeds Award.

Cindy Murphy Ptasnik ’81 is director of International Adoption Agency Americans Adopting Orphans. After adopting their second child from China, she and her husband, David, decided they had to do more to help Asia’s orphans, so they created a licensed adoption agency, which as of July 1999 had placed more than 200 Chinese children for adoption. In the summer of 1999 they opened a branch office of their agency in the Midwest and began helping families adopt Vietnamese children as well as Chinese.

Cindy does much of the administrative work but still uses her nursing skills in interpreting Chinese medical reports and explaining them to parents, teaching infant care and travel-medicine classes to parents-to-be and helping them manage stress and anxiety.

Cindy also writes parenting and child care articles, several of which have been published in national adoption magazines. The Ptasniks’ two children are Katie Li, adopted at four months of age and now seven, and Joseph, adopted at eight months and now nearly six years old.
Dear Mennonite Alumni,

The transition to Illinois State University and the Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, the first upper-division independent college of nursing in the nation and president.

She also directed the development and implementation of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing. In addition to leading the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program, Dr. Hogan led the initiatives to establish an advanced placement program for registered nurses to earn the B.S.N. She also worked closely with the National League for Nursing and offered two professional sequences, one for the family nurse practitioner and one for nursing systems administration.

Dr. Hogan began her career in nursing education as an instructor in pediatrics at Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing. She assumed progressive leadership roles at Mennonite, including those of course chairman and director of the School of Nursing. She was the founding dean, associate professor of nursing, and chief operating officer of Mennonite College of Nursing, subsequently becoming vice president and chief executive officer and, finally, professor of nursing administration and president.

On June 21, 1999, the former Mennonite College of Nursing Board of Trustees adopted a resolution to honor Dr. Hogan with the title president emerita of Mennonite College of Nursing. During the fall semester, she completed special projects to ensure the continuing accreditation for Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

Under her leadership, Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing evolved into Mennonite College of Nursing, the first upper-division independent college of nursing to become accredited by the National League for Nursing. In addition to leading the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program, Dr. Hogan led the initiatives to establish an advanced placement program for registered nurses to earn the B.S.N. She also worked closely with the National League for Nursing and offered two professional sequences, one for the family nurse practitioner and one for nursing systems administration.

Dr. Hogan also is a charter member of Xi Pi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. She has served a variety of agencies, including the McLean County Health Department, Community Health Care Clinic, and the Margaret Esposito Scholarship.

Among her honors is the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award for McLean County. She also is a charter member of the Women in International Honor Society of Nursing.

At the legacy event in her honor, the Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan Faculty Development Endowment Fund for Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University was established with an initial gift of $40,000 from the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association. More than $58,000 has been pledged to the fund thus far. Interest earned on the endowment will be used to provide grants to the College of Nursing faculty with the purpose of additional learning, renewal, networking, and revitalization.

The Celebrating the Legacy Kathleen Hogan Planning Committee included Dorothy Devore, Gaye Stolman, Stephanie Joslin, Lynn Ken- nell, Janelle Molleenker, Karen Pachis, Mary Peterson, Carole Ringer, Mary Ann Watkins, and Gail Lamb (committee chairperson).

A ceremony of the legacy of Kathleen A. Hogan, president emerita of Mennonite College of Nursing, was held December 5 in the Ballroom at the Three Sisters Center. The event included the presentation of a video, Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Kathleen Hogan.

President emerita honored at legacy event

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Nursing: A reflection of social reality

Nursing historian Pat Donahue said the essence of nursing is constant change, but the beauty of the nursing profession is enduring. Donahue, an R.N. who has a doctorate in social foundations of education with an emphasis on history and philosophy, presented three lectures at Bloomington-Normal on April 6, focusing on her book, Nursing: The Font of Art.

"Nursing is a reflection of social reality," said Donahue, whose book and presentations use visual images of nursing through the ages to demonstrate that principle. Nursing, The Font of Art, a history of nursing, was published in 1985, a second edition was issued in 1995. Donahue is professor and associate dean at the College of Nursing of The University of Iowa. She began giving her program, Donahue invariably has nursing students and a parent or another community member approach her to tell her what an impact it has had on them. They tell her it makes them proud to be nurses, enables them to articulate what nursing is about, gives them good role models, and helps them appreciate the beauty of nursing.

The current social reality affecting nursing is one of managed care, cost containment, and a generation of college students who expect professional rewards at a level that nursing doesn’t offer, Donahue said. Understaffing of nurses is a big impact, Donahue said. Understaffing of nurses is a big impact, she said: "I really miss it," she said. "I miss being able to leave a patient room and just chat with them. We can’t sit back and let others do that for us.”

Donahue was 14, her mother took a piano lesson in favor of a career in nursing, preferring the profession will have the elements of uncertainty, ambiguity, chaos, and complexity. “What we need is nurses who have the skills to interpret the meaning of these elements, and who can act on them," said Donahue. "It is exciting when faculty willingly offer to share their experiences with others. This participation within our first year at Illinois State University shows the professionalism and quality of care that we have at Mennonite College of Nursing.”

Helping shape nursing leadership education

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University is one of a select few institutions nationwide helping to shape the future of nursing leadership. Donahue, a professor of nursing, along with faculty at Kent State University, College of Nursing at Illinois State University, District Six Nurses Association, and the Alice and Fannore Fell Trust sponsored Donahue’s lectures. Additional sponsors were the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Departments of History, Health Sciences, and Philosophy.

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Mennonite faculty member, alumna on nursing board

A family member at Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University and Mennonite alumna have been elected to the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) Board of Directors. Eileen Puch, a professor at Mennonite, and Ruth Oesch, a 1961 graduate and occupational health nurse for the city of Bloomington, were elected to two-year terms on the board. As board members they will help determine INA policies and procedures that influence nursing practice and health care throughout Illinois.

“A new state affiliate of the American Nurses Association, the INA works to set state health policy and improve health care in Illinois,” said Nancy Ridener, dean of Mennonite College of Nurses. The election of Eileen Puch and Ruth Oesch demonstrate the statewide recognition of their leadership. Mennonite College of Nursing is well represented at the state level.

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Welcome home to Edwards Hall

When Illinois State University welcomed Mennonite College of Nursing as its sixth college last year, one of the big decisions was where to house the college on campus.

Edwards Hall, a 1909 structure that originally was the Industrial Arts Building, met the need well, said Richard Runner, assistant vice president, physical planning and operations. The University wanted the new home for the nursing college to have a visible presence on campus, and Edwards, renamed in the early 1960s in honor of Richard Edwards, a former Illinois State president, sits prominently on the corner of the Quad. The size was right, meaning the nursing college could take up most of the building with the exception of Capen Auditorium. “It creates an image of professional stature for their college and gives them a visible presence on campus by having much of the building devoted to them,” Runner said. Finally, Edwards Hall was dark, outdated, and needed to be renovated anyway.

In what might be described as a carefully planned and orchestrated blitz, the University turned the old building into a bright, pleasant space for Mennonite with laboratory, discussion, and classroom space on the first floor, faculty offices on the second floor, and administrative offices, a conference room of approximately 1,200 square feet, and classroom space on the third floor. The college moved into the first floor before classes started in August 1999 and into the second and third floors in December. The college’s laboratory space has more than doubled from when it was located in Bloomington. However, the college has gone from having seven classrooms there to three at Illinois State, so many classes are held in other buildings on campus.

Runner described a few of the things that had to fall into place before Mennonite could move into Edwards Hall. First, the University set the goals for renovation of the building. Runner worked with Karleen Hogan, former Mennonite College of Nursing president, to identify space needs, explore how Mennonite’s former building had been adapted to the nursing school’s uses, and learn about emerging trends in nursing education that would suggest special features for the building. The University’s plan was to preserve the architectural identity of the old building as much as possible.

Another goal was to have the first-floor laboratory ready to use by the first day of fall semester 1999 and to have the remaining space ready to move into by Christmas, which was the most challenging aspect of the plan. The University had less than a year from the time the decision was made to move Mennonite College of Nursing to campus to have a building ready for it.

Whenever something as big as a college moves on campus there is “a giant domino effect,” Runner said. To vacate Edwards for renovation, he and his staff found locations in Schroeder and Fell Hall for the Anthropology and Geology faculty who had been occupying Edwards Hall, and they moved a Curriculum and Instruction laboratory from Edwards to Fell Hall. Then there was the question of where to put the nursing faculty while Edwards was being renovated. Runner found offices for them in Moulton Hall.

Because Edwards Hall could not be vacated by Anthropology and Geography-Geology until the end of spring semester 1999, Runner and his operation had “a very restricted time frame.” He said, “We had 5+ construction days to get the lab ready” before the beginning of the fall semester.

More than one person went above and beyond the call of duty to accomplish that feat. For example, Aubrey MacCannell, assistant director of Facilities Planning, and his crew were in Edwards Hall for nine hours on commencement day 1999 emptying the building of trash and debris, getting ready for the contractor to arrive Monday morning. “There was no room for error,” he said. MacCannell, who had a major role in the move, said several factors made it particularly difficult for all involved. First, he said, Mennonite faculty and staff weren’t familiar with the Illinois State campus. “The most challenging thing was that we didn’t have a home for them” when it was time for them to move to campus,” MacCannell said. “They lived out of boxes for six months.” He marveled that “we’re still speaking” and concluded that all has ended well.

The University was able to achieve its vision for Edwards Hall despite the challenges of relocation and time. The University engaged Russell Francois Associates, who were coarchitects on the renovation and addition to Fell Hall, another historic building on the Quad. After the design was completed, the University sought bids for the renovation. “The work that we did recaptured the character of the original Edwards Hall,” Runner said. “We tried to use materials, color, and lighting to create a pleasant atmosphere.” Also, following a current trend in university buildings, Edwards was
The students miss their lovely Donna Stanwood, Catherine Ernst, Frances Haughey, Marge Keasley, and Florence above right, front row from left, Russell and Betty Shirk Foundation Elizabeth Davis Holder Foundation Jeanne and Gregory Widener Winifred and Glenn Maxwell Jacquelin and William Fader Gerald and Delores Simpson

Mennonite College of Nursing in the United States, according to her, is that “when you adopt simulation materials, you have to be sure to incorporate them into the curriculum so that they are used effectively.” She said Mennonite is able to look at these educational tools now “that we have such good space.”

The renovated Edwards Hall is wired for distance technologies, she said, which will permit Mennonite to eventually expand possibilities in that area.

Ridenour takes pride in the fact that Mennonite’s new home “is right up there in terms of size, space, confidence, and technology among schools of nursing in the United States, according to her observations and feedback from nurses and educators from outside the University.”

She is eager to have Mennonite alumnae see their alma mater’s new home. “Let us know when you’re coming,” she said. “We would love to have you around.”

“Illinois State has really treated us well as Edwards Hall. The labs are remarkable. They offer far more than anything you could imagine to practice clinical situations. This is very helpful as a nursing student. You want to make sure you are fully prepared and as confident as possible before you try a new procedure on a live patient. It is nice to have the facility all in one building too. It makes it much easier to search out instructors.”

“I am currently using the labs to practice clinicals for my emerging nursing rotation. It helps us have close to real situations with the mannequins, beds, and equipment. Some students in my class have practiced starting IVs and drawing blood on each other as well as on mannequins. It offers great equipment for first- and second-year students to learn more about EKG and practice giving shots. I think the new facility will be very helpful with recruitment of new students.”

Susan Nelson, master’s student in the family nurse practitioner track and president of the Mennonite Graduate Student Organization: “My experience of the nursing laboratory suite at Mennonite College of Nursing had been a positive one. The one thing I miss about the former site is a place to get together as a group. This is a sound lab, however, the former site had a grandiose lab where we all could gather for studying and exchanging ideas about our experiences with the simulations, world situations that will be such a place in Edwards Hall to help our facility of unity as a program and college.”

“With everyone scattered into different buildings, for instance, it’s hard to maintain ties with other graduate students. As graduate students coming from all over central Illinois with established lives and responsibilities off campus, it’s important for the program to find ways to promote connections among the students and the college.”

Note from Dean Nancy Ridenour: “The students miss their lovely space, and we’re working to get it fixed in the new building, which requires some construction next month.”

She added that the graduate student lounge will use the sixth floor of Edwards Hall, with computers, computer carrels, and television. The Friends of Mennonite have already donated furniture for the lounge. “It’s next in line,” she said.

*Faculty, students reflect on new home*

One Mennonite College of Nursing faculty member and two students had observations about their new home at Illinois State University.

Denise Wilson, associate professor: “I have been especially pleased with our laboratory facilities. I teach in the family nurse practitioners (FNP) sequence of our graduate program. It is very important to have dedicated space for the FNP students to practice advanced assessment skills. Previously we had a relatively small room divided into five small cubicles. For discussion, students pulled up chairs and sat and talked at a desk since there was not enough room to stand, let alone walk about. However, we were pleased that we now have a separate graduate lab at that time.

“Edwards Hall has one large lab designated for the grad- uate students’ use. It contains six practice areas, each one quite realistic of what the students will encounter in the clinical setting. We have a separate area adjoining the practice area that has tables and chairs where both students and faculty can congregate and discuss practice issues. It is a much better situation for all.”

“It is also rewarding to compare our facilities with those available at other colleges of nursing. I am currently involved in writing a nursing textbook with four other authors. This summer we will need to have a photo shoot in a simulated practice setting. When I described our new facilities, the other authors said we needed to have the photography done at Illinois State because their available facilities could not compare. Sometimes there is a tendency not to appreci- ate what you have until you see what others have. All Illinois State, however, we appreciate the excellent facilities we have been given by the University and by the state legislature.”

Sherry Archer, senior nursing student and president of Stu- dent Nurses’ Association: “We were in two separate buildings when it was a private college in Bloomington, but all of our classes were primarily in the one building. This was nice because we were primarily in the one building. This was nice because everyone really got to know each other. We had a really quaint student lounge that allowed us to get in between classes and have some fratern- ity and, just to share stories from our clinical experiences. Our lab was also in this building, but it was fairly small. Compared to Edwards Hall, it was a match.”

Cindy Malinowski, nursing laboratory coordinator: “I have been especially pleased with our laboratory facilities. I teach in the family nurse practitioners (FNP) sequence of our graduate program. It is very important to have dedicated space for the FNP students to practice advanced assessment skills. Previously we had a relatively small room divided into five small cubicles. For discussion, students pulled up chairs and sat and talked at a desk since there was not enough room to stand, let alone walk about. However, we were pleased that we now have a separate graduate lab at that time. The lab replicates a hospital down to the smallest detail with 11 exam tables and equipment relating to physical exams, including a blood pressure simulator, scale, room replicating a hospital down to the smallest detail with 11 exam tables and equipment relating to physical exams, including a blood pressure simulator, scale, and thermometers. This suite, which also more than doubles the number of exam tables of the old Mennonite facility. That was the photography done at Illinois State because their available facilities could not compare. Sometimes there is a tendency not to appreciate what you have until you see what others have. All Illinois State, however, we appreciate the excellent facilities we have been given by the University and by the state legislature.”

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Friends and members of the families of new inductees into Xi Pi chapter gathered to honor the inductees at a ceremony December 5 in Edwards Hall, the new home of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

The inductees came from the undergraduate baccalaureate program, R.N./B.S.N. program, graduate program in the family nurse practitioner and nursing service administration sequences, and community leadership. Susan Curt, vice president and program chairperson, and her committee, Gay Dolan and Mary Petersen, planned a memorable inaugural induction on the Illinois State campus. Nancy Bidenoir, dean of Mennonite College of Nursing and a new member of the Xi Pi chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, was the keynote speaker.

We welcome Dr. Bidenoir to our chapter and appreciate her willingness to address the inductees and guests. She focused on three words—love, courage, and honor—the key words of Sigma Theta Tau International. She reflected on how rapidly the world is changing and how the health care environment needs love, courage, and honor to carry us into the new millennium to meet the needs of people throughout the world.

Kim Astroth, chapter president, reviewed Sigma Theta Tau International goals, emphasizing that membership reflects excellence in nursing through superior scholarly achievement, leadership, and practice. Faculty counselors Jane McCray and Cindy Sullivan pinned the new members and invited them to sign the Xi Pi Book of History.

The new inductees, listed below, were encouraged to become involved in the chapter and enjoy the benefits of networking and collaborating with other members.

**Undergraduate students**
- Sherry Archer
- Cynthia Ash
- Rebecca Blair
- Melissa Borik
- Colleen Doyle
- Tiffany Engleken
- David Kessler
- Amy Lepper

**R.N./B.S.N. students**
- Emily Davison
- Patricia E. Espin
- Carrie Fanning
- Rebecca Ferguson

**Graduate students**
- Laura Frimond
- Judith M. Banning
- Tina Barber
- Deborah Fronsefer
- Ann Gorey

**Community leaders**
- Marcia Laesich
- Cindy Paterson
- Sarah Lindsey
- Megan Martuzzo
- Deanna Pleil
- Jennifer Salmin
- Marie Thornton
- Carrie Walles
- Christy Yeter
- Jessica Young

**Xi Pi inductees**
- Tiffany Engelken, new inductee, left, approaches table to sign the Xi Pi Book of History.
- Beverly Richison Harms and her husband, Ulmer, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, are the parents of David Gerber of Raleigh, North Carolina, Barbara of Naperville, and Amy Hill of Normal. Deland, of Springfield, is a medical assistant and her husband, Kevin, of Bloomington, is a staff nurse at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield. They were previously employed as charge nurse on the renal/urology unit at Memorial Medical Center in Springfield.
- Susan Curt, vice president of Sigma Theta Tau International, gives welcome remarks! Loretta is employed as a registered nurse in dialysis training and support program. She also conducted in-house training for mental health and substance abuse treatment centers on dealing with aggressive and out-of-control clients. She has received certification as a certified addiction counselor, and certified mentally ill/substance abusing clients nurse. She has three children: Brian, 13, Jenna, 11, and Kate, 8.
- Our sympathy to Sheila Odilshagler Voigt, Alpharetta, Georgia, on the loss of her husband, Richard, who was killed July 2, 1999, in a motorcycle accident. They have four children, ages 8-12. Sheila would love to hear from classmates.
- Our congratulations to Charlene J. Tiffin Leach, Bloomington, on the loss of her husband, Deland, on February 23, 2000.
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Marriages
Kari Zarwell ’95 married David Lampat on April 17, 1999. They reside in Rochester, Minnesota.

Laura Lockenwitz Miller ’94 and her husband, Vincen, of Milford welcomed a daughter, Hunter Briscoe Elizabeth Klopfenstein Endress ’95 and her husband, Bruce, of Galva and their son, Matthew, welcomed a new baby girl, Sarah Christine, on November 8, 1999.

William Kilpatrick ’93 and his wife, Tamara, of Danville welcomed their second child, Matthew William Kilpatrick, on December 31, 1998. He is the brother of Miranda, 3. Bill is employed as an emergency department registered nurse at Carle Hospital as an ACLS and a BLS instructor. He is also a flight nurse with CareForce 1 in Urbana.

Kelly Puckett Berry ’90 and her husband, Thomas, of Maroa have a new addition to their family, Maddison Elizabeth, born October 8, 1999. Her big brother is Zachary, 6, and big sister is Alexandria, 3-1/2.

Kimberly Witheft Mau ’96 and her husband, Dan, of Herscher welcomed their first child, Allison Rose, on September 29, 1998. Kim is employed as an office nurse at Provena St. Mary’s Hospital.

In memoriam
The following alumni have died since the last issue of The Flame.
Gladys Wasburn Hacker ’27, 2/27/00
Alice Anshary Donher ’37, 4/30/99
Frances Garrett Finch ’37, 12/27/99
Katherine Kent Mishler ’37, 12/21/99
Rachel Hinton Rutcher Overman ’39, 8/19/99
Evelyn Barclay Gaskill ’42, 1/1/00
Phyllis Head Jacobsen ’51, 12/29/99
Terry Hardman Aldridge ’57, 7/4/00

Dean establishes professorship award
Nancy Riderout, dean of Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, has made an initial gift establishing the Mennonite College of Nursing Endowed Professorship Award for Chronic Disease.

The endowment for this award, like that for the Joslin Scholarship, is an open account, which means that the fund administered by the Illinois State University Foundation may be increased through additional contributions of cash and proceeds from bequests, trusts, life insurance, real estate, and personal property. When the fund reaches an agreed-upon amount, the name will change to the Riderout Endowed Professorship Award for Chronic Disease.

Dean Riderout has established this award to help provide financial resources to attract researchers and clinicians in the field of chronic disease to the college. The award will honor individuals who possess extraordinary teaching skills, professional commitment, and dedication to excellence.

The amount of awards will depend on the annual net investment earnings produced by the endowment’s principal. A portion of the annual investment earnings may be used to support salary and professional development of the outstanding professor(s) at the discretion of the dean of Mennonite College of Nursing. Guidelines for the selection and announcement of the award are being established.

Nurses Alumni Association establishes endowment
Working closely with Gail Lamb in Development and through the Illinois State University Foundation, the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association has voted to create the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund from the former Alumni Scholarship Fund. The purposes of the new fund are to promote academic excellence and eliminate financial barriers that might prevent the enrollment of highly qualified students. The fund will also assist students who participate in the college’s transcultural educational studies.

The amount of money for the fund has been transferred from the BrotMenn Foundation as part of transfer agreements. All contributions made to the Alumni Scholarship Fund have been honored.

This new fund, like the Joslin Scholarship and the Mennonite College of Nursing Endowed Professorship Award, is an open fund that may be increased through additional gifts.

President Emerita Karlsteen A. Hogan, former alumni director Dorothy Orton, and other volunteers were instrumental in the establishment of the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Scholarship. By action of the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association Board, the former Alumni Loan Fund, which maintains a substantial amount of money and to which several students are repaying loans, will be added to the principal of the Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association Endowed Scholarship Fund. Students and graduates repaying loans to this account have been directed to make payment to Diane Folken at Mennonite College of Nursing.
Scholarly activities
Kim Astroth, instructional assistant professor, attended the Sigma Theta Tau International biennial convention in November 1999 in San Diego. Kim has served as president of SIG Pi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International.
Eileen R. Fowles, associate professor of nursing, has received a $3,800 research grant from Illinois State University to support the writing of an Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) Grant to the National Institute of Health (NIH) on the topic “Facilitators and Barriers to Adequate Nutritional Intake in Low-Income Rural Pregnant Women.” Fowles wrote an article titled “The Bathe Project: Neonatal Behavior Assessment Scale and Maternal Role Attainment,” which appeared in Maternal Child Nursing Journal, 24 (6) 287-293.

Brenda Jeffers, associate professor of medical-surgical nursing, received a $3,800 university research grant to explore surrogate decision-makers’ preferences for information and desire for participation in treatment decision-making and to develop a tool to assess these preferences. It is anticipated that the tool could be used in both long-term and acute-care settings. Jeffers presented a poster titled “Integrating and Presenting Clinical Research: A Learning Activity for Baccalaureate Nursing Students” at the Northwest Indiana Sigma Theta Tau Consortium Research Conference on November 9, 1999. She also presented “Applying Pulmonary Research” on March 16, 2000, at the Memorial Center Medical research day in Springfield. Jeffers also is one of two nurses in the nation to be selected as a fellow at ANA’s Center for Ethics and Human Rights. She will be working on a project related to biotechnology and end-of-life decisions.

Donna K. Konradi, interim director graduate and assistant professor, coauthored a poster presentation titled “Behavior Specific Measures of Self-efficacy in Unique Populations” (Anglin and Konradi). It was presented at the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) convention in October 1999. Konradi also presented “The Development of Nursing Science” at the fall 1999 seminar series “Past Matters Refraining the History of Science, Technology, and Health” sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Departments of History, History of Science, Health and Philosophy, and Mennonite College of Nursing. Konradi has coauthored an article titled “Measuring Adherence to a Self-care Fitness Walking Routine.” It has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Community Health Nursing.

Jamie Cray, associate professor, presented a peer-reviewed paper titled “Learning for Meaning: The Lived Experience of Returning Registered Nurse Learners” at New Nursing. Convening Committees of Education, Research, and Practice, the third biennial international nursing conference in Madison, Wisconsin, in July 1999. At the same conference she and M. Iadar presented “Nursing is a Whole Pile of Things: Testing and Challenging Our Thinking About the Nature of Nursing.”

Donna Redding, instructional assistant professor, recently completed her doctoral dissertation titled “The Relationship Between Critical-Thinking Disposition and Academic Achievement in Baccalaureate Nursing Education.” She graduated from Illinois State University on December 18, 1999, with a Ph.D. in educational administration and foundations in counseling.

In addition, Redding was selected by the graduating class of December 1999 to receive the Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan Teaching Excellence Award. In February 2000, Redding’s collaborative grant proposal with Jim Broadbent and Tom Berma of the Health Sciences Department was funded by the Small Grant Proposal Fund from Instructional Technology Services in the amount of $1,822. The grant will fund the study on “Critical Thinking Disposition Assessment: Among Nursing and Health Science Majors.”


Cynthia H. Sullivan, instructional assistant professor, presented “Nursing Student Perspectives About Nursing History” at the spring 2000 seminar series “Past Matters Refraining the History of Science, Technology, and Health” sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Departments of History, Health Sciences, and Philosophy, and Mennonite College of Nursing.

Barbara Reed Walpole, associate professor of nursing, attended Sigma Theta Tau International biennial convention in November 1999 in San Diego. She has been president-elect of SIG Pi Chapter during the past year. Barbara also has been selected to participate in the John Eulino Fund Summer Institute for Rural Health Community Nursing. She will be involved in an extensive program to develop curricula and clinical practice for rural community health.

Denise Wilson, associate professor of nursing, attended the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NONPF) 26th annual conference in Washington, D.C., April 13-16, 2000. She presented a poster titled “From History-Taking to Coding: A Process Tool.” She also presented on a medical-surgical nursing text for Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins.

Alumni awards
The Mennonite Nurses Alumni Administrative Board is seeking nominations for the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Young Alumni Award.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to a graduate who has demonstrated a dedication to the nursing profession, demonstrated leadership, shown outstanding professionalism, promoted and elevated the general nursing image, and who is held in high regard by peers and the community.


The Young Alumni Award is presented to an alum who has graduated within the past 15 years and who has demonstrated continued interest in and support for the college, demonstrated professional achievement, participated in distinguished community service, and personified the values of the college.

The award was established in 1996, and Douglas Brown ’81 was the first recipient. Mary Anne Kitchner ’92, ’97, received the award in 1997. Mary Stilt ’83 received the award in 1998, and Diane L. Radner Whipple ’85 received the award in 1999.

Nominations for either or both awards may be made by anyone and sent to the Alumni Office. The Alumni Board will review the resumes of nominees and select no more than one recipient for each award each year. The awards will be presented during Homecoming in October.

Nomination Form

| □ Distinguished Alumni Award | □ Young Alumni Award |

Mail to: Illinois State University Mennoine Nurses Alumni Association Campus Box 3821 Normal, IL 61761-3821

Diane Whipple, right; Diane Gentes, John Mil, Diane Whipple, John right; Diane Gentes, right; Diane Gentes of Bloomington received Men- nonite’s 1999 Alumni Service Award. Gentes gradu- ated from Mennonite in 1970 and works in the orthopedic surgical unit at BroMenn Regional Medical Center. Gentes has served on the Men- nonite Nurses Alumni Board for the past six years and has been active in working with Mennonite students.

Diane L. Whipple of Minneapolis, Minnesota, is the recipient of the 1999 Young Alumni Award. Whipple, a 1985 graduate of Mennonite, works for the International Diabetes Center in Minneapolis as a research clinician, studying the effectiveness of diabetes medications. She is a member of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals, Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society, and Mennonite Nurses Alumni Association.
Gifts are used to increase funding in:
- Mennonite College of Nursing Endowment Fund
- Mennonite College of Nursing Endowed Scholarship Fund
- Mennonite College of Nursing Endowed Professorship Award for Chronic Disease
- Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan Faculty Development Endowed Fund
- General Fund

Every gift helps strengthen the college’s ability to accomplish its mission of educating beginning and advanced practitioners of nursing.

Yes! I want to give:
- $1,000
- $500
- $250
- $100
- Other $ ________________

Indicate the amount and the designation of your gift above. Please make your check payable to Illinois State University Foundation–Mennonite College of Nursing and mail to Illinois State University, Carrie Dougherty, Director of Development, Campus Box 5810, Normal, IL 61790-5810.

NAME  GRADUATION YEAR  DEGREE(S)  POSITION  MAILING ADDRESS  CITY  STATE  ZIP

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