College vision
The vision of Mennonite College of Nursing is to be a premier college of nursing dedicated to improving local and global health outcomes.

College mission
The Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University creates a dynamic community of learning to develop exceptionally well-prepared nurses who will lead to improve health outcomes locally and globally. We promote excellence in teaching, research, service, and practice with a focus on the vulnerable and underserved. We are committed to being purposeful, open, just, caring, disciplined, and celebrative.

About us
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 more than 90 years the primary mission has been to prepare professional nurses by providing excellence in nursing education. This mission continues at Illinois State University. MCN has offices in Edwards Hall, Uptown Crossing, and the Nursing Simulation Laboratory.

Accreditation
Accredited degree programs: baccalaureate and master’s
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530
Washington, D.C. 20036
Phone: (202) 887-6791
Fax: (202) 887-8476
Date of last review for both programs: April 2007
Both programs accredited through: December 31, 2017
Next review for both programs: Spring 2017

Contact us
Illinois State University
Mennonite College of Nursing
Campus Box 5810
Normal, IL 61790-5810
Phone: (309) 438-7400
Email: mcninfo-l@IllinoisState.edu

Visit us at
Nursing.IllinoisState.edu
A message from the dean

In my fourth year as dean of the Mennonite College of Nursing, I am continually amazed by the accomplishments of our incredible faculty, staff, and students. In this issue of the Annual Report, I hope some of the stories you read will inspire you.

In September 2011, we opened our new Nursing Simulation Lab. This facility, which tripled our lab space, has added immeasurably to our students’ learning experience. Our faculty members have once again demonstrated their unparalleled creativity and innovation in developing cutting-edge scenarios for our students to ensure competencies needed for the complexities of today’s health care. Our lab is also having an impact on our community partners, including Heritage Enterprises, which have been able to train their employees using state of the art technology and faculty expertise.

Our SUCCESS Plan continues to ensure our National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) pass rates are among the highest in not only the state but the entire country. Our pass rates have ranged from 97 to 100 percent over the last three years, even as our expansion continues, and we are now graduating well over 100 B.S.N. students each year. In July 2012, we were notified that we received a three-year $1.1 million grant from the federal government to increase nursing workforce diversity. We also received a $700,000 federal award to support our family nurse practitioner students. With these two federal grants and expanded SUCCESS Plan activities, we know that MCN will continue to have a very positive impact for individuals receiving care in Illinois and beyond.

In the near future, MCN hopes to begin offering the doctor of nursing practice (DNP). In 2004 the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) voted to move the current level of preparation necessary for advanced nursing practice from the master’s degree to the doctorate-level by 2015. In order to align with national standards, MCN developed the DNP curriculum, obtained internal approvals, and is awaiting approval from Illinois Board of Higher Education. We are very excited about this development and have already received many inquiries from students wishing to begin the DNP. We are in the fifth year for the Ph.D. in nursing program, and expect the first graduates from this program in May 2013.

I would like to thank our Strategy and Planning Council (SPC) for its support for the college. With the council’s help, we have been able to continue to deepen and widen partnerships with the community and spread the word about the impact MCN has on Central Illinois and beyond. The SPC membership includes MCN alums and health care and business leaders, as well as friends and supporters of the college. They have provided invaluable wisdom and insight into our endeavors.

I am humbled to lead a college that will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2019. As we begin to look ahead to this milestone, I think it is important to acknowledge that we have not lost sight of the roots and values that were established by our predecessors. In that vein, we were so fortunate to be graced by a visit from the founding president of MCN, Jacque Kinder. Kinder was at Mennonite from 1966 through 1984 and was instrumental in moving MCN to a B.S.N. program. The reception for Kinder was attended by many friends, faculty, and alums who all had stories of her powerful influence on nursing in Illinois. We were also honored to have Kathleen Hogan introduce Kinder. Hogan was the founding dean of MCN and took over for Kinder as president of MCN when she left. We know we stand on the shoulders of incredible leaders, faculty, and alumni who have made MCN what it is today, and we are eternally grateful!

Enjoy this wonderful Annual Report!

Janet Wessel Krejci, Ph.D., RN, NEA-BC
Dean and Professor
Nursing diversity coordinator receives national scholarship

Susana J. Calderon has been chosen to receive the 2012–2013 Johnson & Johnson/American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Minority Nurse Faculty Scholarship.

Calderon, MCN’s new diversity coordinator, was one of only five recipients in the nation to receive the competitive scholarship, which provides financial support to graduate nursing students from minority backgrounds who agree to teach in a school of nursing after graduation.

Calderon, who joined MCN’s faculty in spring 2012, is pursuing her doctoral degree while teaching at the college. She is an instructional assistant professor in the America’s Promise Schools Project, an initiative intended to improve the health of vulnerable children and youth in school through the efforts of nursing students in pediatric and public health nursing. She will also continue her research on vulnerable population and health disparities among minority groups. In addition, Calderon will be involved in the $1.1 million Workforce Diversity grant awarded to MCN.

Calderon received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in nursing from Millikin University, where she also taught nursing. Before coming to Illinois State, Calderon was a flight nurse with the Air Force Reserve and worked at St. Mary’s Hospital and the Macoupin County Health Department, both in Decatur.

An advocate for the Latino community in Decatur, Calderon has been active with the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program at the Logan County Health Department, assisting in Spanish translation and output of information. She has been honored with scholarships from the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Hispanic Scholarship.

Calderon is a member of the Illinois Nurses Association, the Transcultural Nursing Association, and the National Association of Hispanic Nurses.
Outreach projects

July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012
Cultivating learning and service experience beyond the traditional classroom setting is an everyday occurrence at Illinois State. Student Nurses Association (SNA) members participate and volunteer at several outreach activities, as MCN faculty and staff do.

September 17, 2011
Heart Walk
SNA members participated in the setup and had a team of walkers.

October 1, 2011
Meadows Mennonite Retirement Community Annual Fall Fest
SNA members conducted blood pressure screenings and worked with children’s activities.

November 3–13, 2011
Annual Regional Nursing Conference
James Bender, B.S., EMT-P, and Beth Kimmerling, M.F.S., B.S.N., RN, D-ABMDI, were the speakers for this event. Bender’s presentation, “Mythbusting Disasters,” investigated popular myths, facts, and truisms of disaster response. Kimmerling’s presentation, “Forensic Nursing and Disasters,” discussed the role of the forensic nursing and nurse coroner’s role in disaster management. This event is co-sponsored by nursing schools, colleges, and organizations in Bloomington-Normal.

November 30, 2011
Blood drive
SNA members worked at this event and donated blood.

January 26, 2012
Oakland School Health Fair
SNA members participated in several displays at this event, including those covering hand-washing, soda, nutrition, bingo, and blood pressure.

February 12, 2012
Play for Kay
SNA, MCN, and Athletics participated in the Play for Kay event at a women’s basketball game.

March 17, 2012
Fifth Annual Mennonite Relief Fund
SNA participated in blood pressure screenings at this event.

April 11, 2012
Sixth Annual Evidence-Based Practice Conference: Evidence for Nursing Practice at the Bedside
Becky Trella, M.S.N., RN, was the keynote speaker. She has a degree in gerontological nursing and is a certified dementia care trainer. She has been with Advocate Health Care for 30 years in clinical and administrative positions and works in the Alzheimer’s Support Center. This event was coordinated with Advocate Health Care and Sigma Theta Tau International’s Epsilon Epsilon, Tau Omicron, Theta Pi, and Xi Pi chapters.

April 14, 2012
Nutrition Fun for Parents: Stevenson Elementary School Carnival
Instructional Assistant Professor Mary Cranston’s public health nursing students created a game of true/false for good nutrition for Stevenson School parents and students.

April 27, 2012
Relay for Life
SNA created a team for this event.

May 6, 2012
MS Walk
SNA created a team for this event.
Undergraduate program highlights

It has been a busy and productive year for the undergraduate program. The Nursing Simulation Lab (NSL) was officially opened in September 2011. We have been focusing on increasing the number of hours students are in the lab doing scenarios and simulations, and working with faculty to increase their comfort and skill in leading simulations and debriefings. Support faculty members, who have special training and interest in simulations, have been used to help clinical faculty in the lab with their students. Jenn Mool, lab coordinator, and Isaac Akins, technology specialist, have been instrumental in the success of the lab. The NSL has been a highlight of multiple campus and community tours.

The prelicensure B.S.N. plan of study went through revisions and (in fall 2011) successfully moved through the Illinois State approval process. The prelicensure B.S.N. curriculum was changed to better prepare nurses in today’s workforce; the plan of study was changed to accommodate the larger number of students in our program and allow for one-time-a-year admissions.

The RN-B.S.N. curriculum and plan of study were changed and successfully moved through the Illinois State approval process in fall 2011. The RN-B.S.N. curriculum was changed to align more closely with the traditional prelicensure curriculum and to build more clearly on the RN’s previous education. The plan of study was changed to allow part-time students to be able to apply for financial aid each semester with a more consistent, workable number of hours. With changes in health care, it is anticipated this sequence will continue to grow.

The accelerated B.S.N. option was changed to a 15-month program, and the first class was admitted in May 2011 and graduated in August 2012. This was a diverse group of 18 second-degree students who had their first and last semesters as a separate cohort; in semesters two and three these students were integrated into the larger class of prelicensure students for the purpose of socialization. Already, we have seen accelerated students participating in committee representations and will be better able to participate in committees, the Student Nurses Association, and student leadership positions.

Dianne Clemens, M.S.N., RN
undergraduate program coordinator

Graduate program highlights

The graduate programs continue to be a source of pride and accomplishment for faculty, students, and staff. In alignment with our strategic map, we enrolled our fifth cohort of Ph.D. students this year and submitted our application for the doctor of nursing practice program to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Enrollment in the graduate programs has stabilized after a period of moderate growth the past two years, but with the addition of the DNP, we will expect renewed growth in the coming three years.

The quality of the programs remains outstanding. Graduates of the family nurse practitioner sequence continue to pass the certification examination at a very high rate, and employment rates are also very high. In fiscal year 2012 we were successful in obtaining a two-year $700,000 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to support graduate students with tuition and fees.

Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN
graduate program coordinator
New faculty and staff

Chris Boicken ’89

Chris Boicken is the office manager in the Office of Student and Faculty Services. Her responsibilities include being the primary resource person to the assistant dean for Student and Faculty Services; providing calendar support for the associate dean for research; preparing admission, advising, attrition, and other reports; maintaining the collective college database for the college; assisting faculty research investigators in report and proposal preparation; and supporting the Digital Measures database for faculty and staff. She also supports faculty and staff in the planning and submission of grant applications, poster/conference presentations, and other college scholarly activities. She supervises student-workers and monitors the work of graduate assistants, inputs course-scheduling options into the Registrar’s scheduling system, and answers graduate and doctoral inquiries.

Susana J. Calderon, M.S.N., RN

Susana Calderon is an instructional assistant professor and diversity coordinator at MCN. She received her M.S.N. and B.S.N. from Millikin University. Her research interests include oral health in diverse and underserved adolescents, and culture and diversity. Calderon is part of the America’s Promise Project and teaches a clinical in junior high and high schools.

Elaine C. Hardy, Ph.D., RN

Hardy joined MCN in the fall of 2012 as an assistant professor. She received her doctorate in nursing from the University of Illinois at Chicago, her Master of Science in nursing from Purdue University Calumet, and her Bachelor of Science in nursing from Indiana University Northwest. She also has an Associate of Science in nursing from Purdue University North Central. Her research interests include midlife African-American women, physical activity, racial identity, and chronic illnesses. Hardy is teaching the adult II class and clinical.
Nanette J. Marx, M.S., RN, CNE
Nanette Marx is the clinical practice coordinator at MCN. She received her M.S. from Northern Illinois University. She has two B.S. degrees from the College of St. Francis and Bradley University. She also received a diploma from the Passavant Area Hospital School of Nursing. Marx teaches health assessment and adult nursing clinics.

Carla Pohl, D.N.P., CNM
Assistant Professor Carla Pohl joined MCN in fall 2012. She received her doctorate of nursing practice and certificate of nurse midwifery from the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing, her Master of Science in nursing from Arizona State University, and her Bachelor of Science in nursing from California State University. She is involved with the America’s Promise Project at MCN.

Nancy Wagler
Nancy Wagler is an office support specialist in the Office of Student and Faculty Services. She provides faculty and staff support services, orders textbooks, responds to telephone inquiries and MCN information emails, photocopies exams, performs data entry, and assists with the undergraduate and graduate nursing licensure process.
Development

For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2012, all of our supporters combined to invest more than $1.1 million in our College of Nursing. In addition, some of our alumni and friends made a difference by making MCN a part of their estate plans, thereby helping to ensure the future of the college is as healthy as it is today.

Gifts this year were generally directed to three main areas of support: clinical excellence, scholarship support, and nursing for community impact.

Support for our labs means that our faculty continually hone the skills necessary to make the most out of the educational experiences available, and our students practice in a lab that is so real that their transition to the clinical setting is seamless. Each semester faculty is adding more case-based studies to our curriculum. Thank you!

Scholarship support also increased. This year, we added scholarships not only for dear alumni who are being remembered—Lois Philpott ’40, Erma Mae Liddle Borchers ’48, and Joan Tutoky ’54—but also for others added to already established scholarship endowments, so they could make a more substantial impact on the students they help. This year more than $92,000 was awarded in student scholarships to 57 students. Though our number and amounts of scholarships are increasing, so are the needs of students. This year 186 students applied for nursing scholarships, representing an unmet financial need of more than $2 million. We wished we could have helped all of them.

The third area of significant financial support is nursing for community impact. Projects, such as our America’s Promise Project, simply would not exist without the financial backing and partnership of those in our community. And with new funding, faculty and community partners will work with students to meet community goals, in projects of varying sizes.

Our friends, our families, our co-workers, and their families all deserve the very best nursing care whenever they need it. Thank you for your support in continuing to make a Mennonite College of Nursing degree equated with the very best in clinical excellence and compassionate care!

Jenny Ward
director of Development
(309) 438-7178
jsward@IllinoisState.edu

Senior Spirit Tassel Challenge 2012

Senior nursing students warmed our hearts with gifts to the 2012 Spirit Tassel in honor of parents, faculty members, and others who were important to them on their journey to become a nurse.

Thank you to the following seniors for directing gifts to Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University:

Camele Altenbernd
Mary Bahl
Caitlin Bull
Jennifer Cali
Sheeba Cherian
Deia Daly
Kayla Dreger
Kaitlyn Edwards
Courtney Ferry
Angela Fiorelli
Rosemarie Gassner
Kathleen Gates
Heather Giarraputo
Molly Giertz
Amanda Gregorich
Sacha Helregel
Christina Hitz
Sarah Isett
Kaley LaPorta
Emily Larke
Hayley Madigan
Sarah Maurer
Jessie McKinley
Alicia McMakin
Kirsti Mitchell
Jennifer Mool
Allison Mortenson
Cheryl Nafziger
Edmund Netten
Pooja Patel
Ashley Quinn
Ashley Renner
Kylie Rieser
Suzette Rush-Drake
Catherine Sawyer
Andrea Smith
Cristina Smith
Ann Sparks
Jenna Sunderland
Kelli Vaughn
Gabrielle Washburn
Lyndsie Watson
Mary Weber
Robin Weissman
Seth Williams
Lauren Wolf
Stacey Zuba
Mennonite Nurses Alumni Organization

Board of Directors
July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012

- Jenifer Patton ’04 • president
- Linda (Meints) Cooper, M.S.N. ’99 • past president
- Donny Bounds ’97 • past president
- Alice (Kumler) Deavers ’52 • past president
- Sue (Collins) Albee ’95 • director
- Ashley Coffin ’08 • director
- Lori (Stoller) Gibbs ’02 • director
- Elizabeth (Guth) Madlem ’09 • director
- Larae (Wagener) Jackson ’02 • director
- Sarah (Kaiser) Lindsey ’00 • director
- Karen (Roop) Magers ’79 • director
- O. Ed Reitz ’82, ’94, M.S. ’85, M.B.A. ’89, Ph.D., RN., NEA-BC • director
- Sonia (Hetman) Wernsman ’98 • director

Advisory members

- Janet Wessel Krejci • dean, Mennonite College of Nursing
- Jamie Sennett ’94 • assistant director, Alumni Relations
- Jenny Ward • director, Development

Friends Steering Committee
July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012

- Janella Cooley
- Barbara Efatw ’59
- Marilyn Freedlund ‘62, M.S. ’68
- Betty Frisch
- Nancy Froelich
- Stevie Joslin
- Betty Knuckles ’51
- Meredith Lovelass
- Harriet O’Daffer ’55, M.S. ’57
- Margaret Randolph
- Carole Ringer
- Julie Smith

Strategy and Planning Council
July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012

- Billy Adkisson ’78
- Cindy Blackburn
- Kellie Clapper
- Dan Deneen
- Deanna Frautschi
- Nancy Froelich (member emeritus)
- Elizabeth Madlem ’09
- Russ Hagen, M.A. ’80
- Kelli Hill ’85
- Cheryl Jackson
- Stevie Joslin (member emeritus)
- Beth Kimmerling
- John Lawrence
- Meredith Lovelass ‘73
- Dave Magers ’77, M.B.A. ’86
- Karen Magers ’79
- Margaret Randolph
- Laurie Round
- Deb Smith
- Rose Stadel ’01
Support your passion

By giving back to the school they love, MCN alumni and friends make a difference. Every gift matters and has a direct and immediate impact on Illinois State University students and programs at a time when private support has never been more critical.

Find out how a 1940 Mennonite School of Nursing graduate used her life and quiet leadership to care for patients for more than 40 years and has left a lasting legacy to the college, and discover how a man with no ties to Illinois State University gave back after experiencing the compassionate care of Mennonite College of Nursing students during his wife’s illness.

Lois Hoobler Philpott

Lois Hoobler Philpott ’40 graduated at the top of her class from the Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing and was known for her compassionate nursing for four decades. She demonstrated quiet leadership, and no task was beyond or beneath her.

She enjoyed caregiving and took a special interest in children. Philpott was called the nurse’s nurse, bringing comfort to so many. She worked as a nurse at the Gailey Eye Clinic in Bloomington and as a private nurse for founder Dr. Watson Gailey during his illness.

She remained connected to her school, receiving the Outstanding Alumni Award in 1984 and volunteering for the college’s Alumni Association. When she passed away October 28, 2011, at the age of 92, her family suggested that memorials be made to the Mennonite College of Nursing. These gifts, combined with Philpott’s planned gift, established the Lois E. Hoobler Philpott Endowed Scholarship in Nursing.

Philpott was known for her spirit of hope and willingness to get things done. She loved all types of wildlife, especially birds, and traveled to ecologically unique places of the world. She simply loved the world she lived in.

Compassionate care turns into an endowed scholarship

When John Lawrence’s wife, Winifred, was in a nursing home, he noticed how attentive and compassionate Mennonite College of Nursing student nurses were. After she died, the family decided they wanted to give back to the college.

Knowing he wanted to make a gift, Lawrence met with Director of Development Jenny Ward and began working on the Winifred G. Lawrence Memorial Scholarship. The initial scholarship was funded by Lawrence and his family. He attended a scholarship event where he had an opportunity to meet the Winifred G. Lawrence Scholarship recipient, and his appreciation for the college deepened. He decided to find a way to make Winifred’s scholarship permanent, and he made a gift to the Illinois State University Foundation in exchange for a charitable gift annuity.

A charitable gift annuity is a way to make a gift that benefits the donor in the short run and the charitable organization in the long run. In exchange for his gift, Lawrence receives a fixed stream of income for the rest of his life. The amount of his annual income is determined by the size of his gift and his age. In addition to the income, he received an income tax deduction for a portion of his initial gift and pays taxes on a portion of each annual annuity payment. Lawrence may keep the annual income, or he may gift it back to fund Winifred’s scholarship annually while he is living. As part of his estate planning, Lawrence has directed the foundation to use the remaining funds to create the Winifred G. Lawrence Memorial Endowed Scholarship.

Although Lawrence is not an Illinois State graduate, he has become a part of the University through his involvement. “I don’t think anything has ever given me or my family any more pleasure than to help somebody with their college education,” he said. Lawrence has met his scholarship recipients, mentors student-nurses, and is a member of the college’s Strategy and Planning Council.

“If I were just giving a scholarship and walking away, that would be something well done but I’m not happy with that,” he said. “I like working with the school and take a great interest in Illinois State. We’re working on the future of the College of Nursing.”
New scholarships

The Erma Mae Liddle Borchers Endowed Scholarship

Erma Mae Liddle Borchers ‘48 was born in rural Cropsy/Sibley, where her family had a long history of military service to this country. She was a Daughter of the American Revolution (DAR) in the Governor Thomas Ford Chapter in Ford County and a member of numerous genealogical societies. Her father served in World War I, and her future husband, Warren, was in the Army Air Forces. Prior to entering nursing school, Borchers worked in an essential World War II industry for nearly nine months. She attended the Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing from 1945–1948, as a U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps member. All corps members made a pledge to serve in essential nursing for the duration of the war. Borchers’ 44-year nursing career was diverse. At the beginning of her career she served in three different Peoria hospitals and was the director of nursing for five years at the Washington Nursing Center. This organization was very progressive at the time in the area of rehabilitation. When her husband’s career took them to the California, she brought her new passion for rehabilitation nursing and helped introduce it to the Bay Area as the director of rehabilitation nursing/acute rehab center at Mills-Peninsula Hospital in San Mateo. This 28-bed unit had a client base of stroke and accident victims. There Borchers created a support group for stroke victims. Borchers was a lifelong learner who continued her education by receiving her bachelor’s degree in health services administration in 1982 and her certificate in rehab nursing (CRRN) in 1984. She was a charter member of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN), which was formed in 1974. It was the ARN that sponsored the CRRN certification as a nursing specialty. The first exam was in 1984. She encouraged all of her colleagues to pursue this advanced certification.

Borchers’ influence and encouragement was also felt at home. Her son, Steve, followed her into the medical profession as a dermatologist, and her daughter, Lori, once worked in a hospital setting and transitioned to the care of animals as a registered veterinarian technician. Their vocations were no doubt influenced by their mother, not by demand, but simply by observing her life.

Throughout her career, Borchers was known as an innovator, encourager, mentor, and teacher. When talking to her husband about what she valued most about nursing, he said that she never forgot the foundations taught to her at MCN. Above all, she cared about taking care of the patient at the bedside.

Joan L. Tutoky Memorial Scholarship

Joan L. Tutoky ’54 was born in 1933 in Hopedale, the daughter of Arthur and Eva Britton. She was inspired to enter the field of nursing as a result of experiencing the sudden death of her mother while she was a young teenager.

Tutoky entered nursing school as a self-motivated individual coming from a modest and humble background. She was a 1954 graduate of the Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing and during her career served in a variety of roles as a registered nurse. She balanced her time between her nursing career and her family. She and her husband, Bob, raised three children. She worked various shifts in order to be an active parent and to accommodate her spouse’s job.

Tutoky began her nursing career at Mennonite Hospital as a floor nurse and later worked at Heritage Manor Nursing Home, Brokaw Hospital, and Dr. George Chesley’s office. She finished her career at the Illinois State University Health Center and enjoyed helping Illinois State students by applying her nursing skills and reaching out to them by listening and caring. During her working years she, herself, battled a number of health issues, yet worked as long as her health allowed before disability and retirement. The last six months of her life were especially challenging, not only with physical struggles, but with emotional struggles as well. She remained a determined woman despite those challenges. During her numerous emergency room treatments, medical staff quickly observed her keen medical knowledge. However, the staff appreciated the family’s “gentle caution” about the special challenges of a patient who is a retired registered nurse.
Mennonite College of Nursing appreciates all of the financial assistance provided by scholarships to students pursuing a career in nursing. Scholarship donors are invited to a scholarship banquet to meet with the recipient(s) of their gifts. In September 2011, President Al Bowman and MCN scholarship donors and scholarship recipients attended the banquet.
Scholarship recipients

July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012

Helen A. Bender Scholarship
Recipient: Elizabeth Gemberling

Erma Borchers ’45 Nursing Scholarship
Donor: Warren Borchers
Recipient: Kaitlin Gollon

Esther Lyon Brock Scholarship
Donors: family of Esther Lyon Brock
Recipient: Holly Shelton

Dean’s Endowed Scholarship
Current dean: Janet Wessel Krejci
Recipient: Sean Henderson

Jana L. Edge Endowed International Transcultural Nursing Scholarship
Donor: Jana Edge ’91
Recipient: Kylie Rieser (summer 2011)

Ralph and Mary Esch Endowed Scholarship
Recipients: Lynsey Jones, Kevin Lessard, Maureen Moloney, and Edmund Nettey

Jenny Lu Etcheson Endowed Scholarship
Donor: Jerry Etcheson
Recipient: Delia Daly

Helen Tuxhorn Evans Scholarship
Donors: Vickie Hefferman, Sue Oetjen, and Janet Worthington
Recipient: Laura Groeper

The William E. and Nancy Froelich Endowment for Long Term Care
Donor: William and Nancy Froelich
Faculty recipient: Mary Dyck (spring 2011)

Clara E. Gerhart Endowed Scholarship
Recipients: Alexandra Mueller, Paweena Panananon, and Kimberly Smith

M. Rudelle Goodwin Endowed Scholarship
Donor: Mrs. M. Rudelle Goodwin
Recipients: Mary Bahl and Keith Bowers

The Jeanette Gorecki Endowed Scholarship
Donors: Monte Fisher ’75 and Gary and Faroke Haluska
Recipient: Carly Novak

Curtis and Mary Ellen Griggs and William Morlan Annual Scholarship
Donors: Larry and Joyce Morlan
Recipient: Kaitlin Gollon

Elizabeth Davis Holder Endowed Scholarship
Donor: Susan Sears
Recipient: Christina Hitz

Dr. Kathleen A. Hogan Endowed Faculty Development Award
President Emerita: Kathleen Hogan ’70, M.S. ’72, Ed.D. ’85
Faculty recipient: Marlena Gabrielson (spring 2011)

Richard and Julia Johnson Endowed Scholarship
Donor: Richard Johnson ’57 and Julia Johnson
Recipient: Sean Henderson

Roger and Stephany Joslin Endowed Scholarship
Donors: Roger and Stevie Joslin
Recipient: Casey Patton

Lois C. Kaufmann ’39 Endowed Scholarship in Nursing
Donor: estate of Lois Kaufmann, and Vi Mathis, sister
Recipient: Molly Bane

Winfred Lawrence Scholarship
Donors: John Lawrence Family
Recipient: Christina Block

Meredith Lovelass Annual Scholarship
Donors: Tom Lovelass and Meredith Lovelass ’73
Recipient: Sasha Smith

Karen and David Magers Scholarship
Donors: David Magers ’77, M.B.A. ’86, and Karen Magers ’79
Recipient: Amelia Bunton

Lena Maxwell ’28 Endowed Scholarship
Donor: F. Dick Maxwell ’64
Recipient: Lindsay Jozefat

Janie McCray RN-BSN Endowed Fund
Donor: Larry McCray
Recipient: Julie Yaeger

E. Dale Mellon Annual Scholarship
Donor: E. Dale Mellon
Recipient: Jana Benjey

MCN Endowed Transcultural Fund
Donors: Karrie Ingalsbe and Lynn Kennell
Recipients: Andrea Hemphill, Christina Hitz, and Sarah Prehn

MNAO Endowed Scholarships
Donors: combined gifts of MCN alumni
Recipients: Cheryl Giles, Desirea Hunsley, Kellie James, and Alison Kirchgesner

Virginia Mosbacher Endowed Scholarship
Donor: Curtis Mosbacher
Recipient: Andrea Hemphill

Karen Griffith Parker Scholarship
Donors: Keith Smith ’97 and Julia Smith ’89, M.S. ’92
Recipient: Khara Holland

Anna Ropp Scholarship
Donors: family of Anna Ropp ’31
Recipient: Michelle Bates

Russian Exchange Travel Fund
Donor: Wendy Woith

Peter A. & Ella G. Schertz Scholarship
Donors: Cinda Roth ’65, ’72, Debra Roth, and Dayn and Darlene Schertz
Recipient: Jenna Daugherty

Rachel Rogers Schilling Scholarship
Donor: Roy Schilling ’35, ’40, M.A.’43
Recipient: Emily Briggs

Jesse and Louise Schmied Scholarship
Donor: Judy Schmied ’70, M.S. ’75, and ’90
Recipient: Susan Zobrist

Seeley-Barton Endowed Scholarship
Recipient: Shibli Rentmeister

Gertrude E. Skelly Charitable Foundation
Donor: Gertrude E. Skelly Charitable Foundation, Erik Joh, trustee
Recipients: Makiko Asato, Khara Holland, Marina Mendoza, and Maureen Moloney

The LaRue Sloan ’28 Scholarship in Nursing
Donor: Vivian O. Stockdale
Recipient: Stephanie Vitale

Star for Nursing Endowed Scholarship
Donors: Joe Talkington, Charlotte Talkington ’61, M.S. ’66, and Michael Talkington ’80
Recipient: Pooja Patel

The Paul Stoddard Endowment
Donors: Alma Stoddard and Linda Sorrells
Recipient: Mallory Steffen

Clara Stutzman ’23 Endowed Scholarship
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Marie Yoder Endowed Scholarship
Donor: estate of Marie Yoder ’35
Recipient: Samantha Werkau
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continued on page 18
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continued from page 17
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Mennonite College of Nursing research mission

Mennonite College of Nursing faculty engage in research and scholarship to address the nursing and health care needs of urban and rural populations and to identify effective strategies to reduce health disparities in vulnerable and underserved populations. Faculty strive to engage the community served through research in a reciprocal relationship to ensure research practices are attentive to the special needs of vulnerable populations during all phases of the research process, including study planning, recruitment, obtaining consent for research, data collection, and reporting findings.

Message from the associate dean of Research

Mennonite College of Nursing has been working toward meeting our strategic goal of strengthening and focusing research capacity, and I am pleased to report that fiscal year 2012 was a year of major improvements for us.

In fiscal year 2012 faculty were successful in
• Submitting 13 external grants to private foundations and federal agencies.
• Publishing 17 articles in refereed/peer-reviewed journals.
• Presenting 32 scientific papers or posters at conferences, including six with Ph.D. students.

Consistent with our strategic map we have been supporting research team efforts within the college and these efforts are highly productive. One collaborative effort includes professors Kim S. Astroth, Sheryl Jenkins, Stephen Stapleton, and Wendy Woith, Ph.D. student R. Joseph Degitz, and B.S.N. student Stephanie Zitella, who are conducting research to investigate the implementation of Rapid Response Teams in hospitals. Thousands of patients die in hospitals every year because health care professionals fail to rescue those who become unstable. Rapid Response Teams (RRT’s) are designed to intervene early to prevent cardiac arrest and reduce mortality rates among hospitalized patients. However, we do not fully understand the factors that influence nurses’ decisions to activate the rapid response team. The RRT collaboration is conducting research to examine these factors and ultimately to increase the likelihood of nurses activating the RRT to save lives.

Another excellent example of an important team effort that cuts across our strategic map is the America’s Promise Project. This collaboration between the Mennonite College of Nursing and local school districts is making a difference in children’s health with an emphasis on physical activity and oral health. Led by Advocate BroMenn Endowed Professor Shelly Malin, team members Carla Pohl, Mary Cranston, Ph.D. student Susana Calderon, and M.S.N. student Yvette Pigman are conducting evaluation research to determine the influence of student nurse led interventions to promote physical activity and oral health. This team has presented their work at the prestigious American Public Health Society annual conference.

These are just two of the many exciting scholarly projects that are underway in the college. We continue to emphasize scholarship that focuses on vulnerable populations, quality and safety, and nursing education science with an eye toward projects that make a difference locally and globally. It is a privilege to work with such talented faculty, students, and staff.

Caroline Mallory, Ph.D., RN
associate dean of Research
MCN awarded nearly $700,000 to help train nurse practitioners

The Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) at Illinois State University has received a grant of nearly $700,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to support the training of nurse practitioners.

The two-year grant, part of the Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship, is geared toward increasing the number of advanced education nurses trained to practice as primary care providers. The funds will be used for graduate students in the family nurse practitioner (FNP) sequence at the college.

The FNP sequence prepares students to provide primary care for patients across their entire life. “Family nurse practitioners generally can take care of about 80 to 85 percent of the types of patients physicians see, freeing the physicians to see the patients with the most complex needs,” said Associate Professor of Nursing Denise Wilson, leader of the FNP sequence and project director for the grant.

The grant will go toward tuition, fees, and stipends for FNP students. There are currently 60 students in the sequence.

“In the past we have received this funding but it was formula-based and distributed to most who applied across the country, but the funds were much more limited,” Mennonite College of Nursing Dean Janet Krejci said. “This new process has a more competitive review, and the number of grantees was much smaller than previous years. This grant is a huge success for MCN and will greatly benefit our students.”

Mennonite College of Nursing receives $1.1 million grant

Mennonite College of Nursing (MCN) at Illinois State University has received a grant of more than $1.1 million from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to support developing diversity in the nursing workforce.

The three-year Nursing Workforce Diversity grant will annually allot $370,000 for the purpose of increasing nursing education opportunities for individuals who are from disadvantaged backgrounds, including racial and ethnic minorities who are underrepresented among registered nurses. Money will be put toward recruitment and retention of these individuals in the nursing profession and for leadership development throughout the education experience.

“The grant will support the infrastructure necessary to ensure that MCN can help to prepare the workforce needed for the future,” Mennonite College of Nursing Dean Janet Krejci said. “Currently, the health care workforce does not mirror the population.” According to data from the 2008 National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses, nurses from minority backgrounds represented 16.8 percent of the registered nurse workforce.

The grant will ensure scholarships and programming that will positively impact the entire College of Nursing and MCN’s partners in the community. These will include community outreach to area schools, working with mentoring programs at area hospitals, and providing academic support structures, Krejci said.

“MCN has a very unique program because of the amazing expert faculty who are tirelessly committed to student success. As health care continues to increase in complexity, our program will meet the changes,” Krejci said.
Presentations
July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012

Local/regional
Charlene Aaron


Kim S. Astroth


Mary J. Dyck


Elaine Hardy

Sheryl Jenkins

MyoungJin Kim

Janet Krejci


Sarah Lindsey


H. Catherine Miller

Stephen Stapleton

Teresa Valerio


National/peer-reviewed/refereed
Charlene Aaron

Kim S. Astroth


Mary Dyck
Jeff Grabb

Elaine Hardy
Koharchik, L. (author and presenter), Hardy, E. (author), “Evidence-based Initiative to Improve Influenza Immunization Rate Among Undergraduate Student Nurses,” 19th National Evidence-Based Practice Conference, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa. (May 4, 2012).


Sheryl Jenkins


Cynthia Kerber


Myoungjin Kim


Susan Kossman


O. Ed Reitz

Stephen Stapleton

Wendy L. Woith


Teresa Valerio


Marcena Gabrielson

Elaine Hardy


Sheryl Jenkins

Lynn Kennell

Cynthia Kerber


MyoungJin Kim

Susan Kossman

Janet Krejci

O. Ed Reitz

Deb Stenger

Wendy Woith


Conference proceedings
MyoungJin Kim


Susan Kossman

Other intellectual contributions
Denise Wilson

Contracts, grants, and sponsored research
July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012
Kim S. Astroth
Astroth, K.S. “Facilitators and Barriers to Nurses.” Xi Pi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. (June 2012).

Susana Calderon

Melissa Moody

Denise Wilson
Wilson, D., “Expanding the Primary Care Workforce,” Advanced Education Nurse Traineeship Fiscal Year 12, Health Resources and Services Administration. (April 2012).
Awards and Honors
July 1, 2011–June 30, 2012

Dianne Clemens
Received the Dr. Kathleen Hogan Teaching Excellence Award for undergraduate teaching. (May 2012)

Jean Ann Dargatz
Participated in the University Leadership Initiative program at Illinois State University.
Selected as Illinois State University’s Civil Service representative on the State University Retirement Member Advisory Committee.

Susan Kossman
Received the Dr. Kathleen Hogan Teaching Excellence Award for undergraduate teaching. (December 2011)

H. Catherine Miller
Participated in the University Leadership Initiative program at Illinois State University.

Steve Stapleton
Selected by President Al Bowman to sit on the task force for reviewing Illinois State University’s strategic plan, Educating Illinois.

Teresa Valerio
Received the 2011 Distinguished Service Award—Illinois Society for Advanced Practice Nursing.

Denise Wilson
Received the Graduate Program Teaching Excellence Award—Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

Wendy Woith
Received the Meridean Maas Faculty Research Mentor Award—Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.
In memory

Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University would like to remember two wonderful supporters who passed away.

In December 2011, Bill Froelich passed away. Froelich and his wife, Nancy, established the William and Nancy Froelich Fund at the Mennonite College of Nursing to ensure that nursing excellence in long-term care remains a cornerstone of the Mennonite College of Nursing.

In 1960 he realized the need for a nursing home designed for and dedicated to providing quality services to meet the wide variety of needs of its residents. As a funeral director and operator of an ambulance service, his compassion and understanding for the needs of older adults and their families were profound. He always aimed high, believing in “quality above everything else.” He presented his idea of a comprehensive care facility to his first partners, and soon thereafter, Heritage nursing home became the first full-service nursing home in Bloomington in 1963.

The Froelichs have long known that quality care in the nursing home is closely associated with quality nursing. Heritage Enterprises’ reputation is growing as a leader in long-term care nursing. Recipients of their scholarship will continue the tradition of innovation and compassion in long-term care the Froelichs inspired in the 1960s.

In July 2012, longtime MCN supporter and friend Dave Wiant passed away. The Dave and Jo Wiant Endowed Scholarship Fund was created in 2006 by their children with gifts in celebration of their father’s 80th birthday. Dave Wiant’s relationship with Illinois State University started in 1958, when he was appointed as the first director of personnel. In 1967 he was asked to join the staff of the Board of Governors where he served as an executive assistant to the chief executive officer. In 1974, President Gene Budig asked Wiant to return to the Illinois State campus where in 1984 he became assistant vice president for Administrative Services. On August 31, 1986, he retired after spending 33 years in Illinois higher education.

After retirement Wiant served as legislative liaison for the State Universities Retirement System for several years. In July 1997 he was asked to serve as the facilitator for discussions with the trustees of the Mennonite College of Nursing and BroMenn Hospital. The trustees were considering the future of the College of Nursing. During these discussions, Wiant was instrumental in guiding the trustees to their ultimate recommendation that Illinois State University be asked to consider the incorporation of the Mennonite College of Nursing as a new college at Illinois State University. This recommendation was ultimately approved by the Board of Regents and the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The Mennonite College of Nursing officially became the sixth college of Illinois State University in July 1999.
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