

# VILLANOVA NURSING

SUMMER 2018



## THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DEAN FITZPATRICK

College of Nursing named  
for longtime dean





## What's in a Name?

In naming the College of Nursing for M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, Villanova University commemorates this visionary leader who died September 1, 2017. In Driscoll Hall's lobby the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, University president, and Interim Dean Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN unveiled a banner with the new logo January 16—that would have been Dr. Fitzpatrick's 40th anniversary as dean.





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Courtesy University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



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Following the death of Dean Fitzpatrick last September came an outpouring of tributes and support, an extraordinary anchor gift making it possible to name the College for her, a dedication ceremony and the inaugural Fitzpatrick Award.



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Villanova University's tagline—Ignite Change—certainly resonates with us in the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. We have experienced a number of changes during this extraordinary year. We have mourned our dear friend and colleague, Dr. M. Louise Fitzpatrick, who passed away September 1, 2017, after almost four decades of exceptional leadership on behalf of her beloved College.

Dean Fitzpatrick's vision and drive established a trajectory that has resulted in many successes and achievements. The College has been consistently named a National League for Nursing Center of Excellence in Nursing Education. Her support for the teacher-scholar model and her strategic initiatives led to expansion of the College's programs, including the establishment of the PhD in Nursing and DNP programs. This year our MSN and DNP programs were ranked among the top nursing graduate programs in the country, according to *U.S. News & World Report*.

The name of our College also has changed. We deeply appreciate the decision of Villanova's Board of Trustees to name the College for Dean Fitzpatrick and are grateful for the leadership and support in that process of the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, University president. Provost Patrick Maggitti, PhD, members of our Board of Consultors and our colleagues in University Advancement were instrumental in bringing the naming to fruition. I must thank our lead donors, Dee Silvers Adams '86 BSN and her husband, Nick, for their unprecedented gift—as well as thank countless other very generous donors who have created a valued foundation for the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. Your generosity and faith in us are greatly appreciated.

I was honored to offer remarks during the April 7 ceremony at Driscoll Hall, where Father Donohue dedicated the naming of our College for Dean Fitzpatrick, and equally proud, during our 29th Annual Mass, which preceded the dedication, to bestow the inaugural M. Louise Fitzpatrick Award for Transformative Leadership to Dr. Mary D. Naylor, our esteemed alumna and University trustee.

As we honor Dean Fitzpatrick, we look forward to welcoming Donna Sullivan Havens '83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, who was announced June 4 as our new Connelly Endowed Dean. Dr. Havens, a Villanova Nursing master's alumna, comes to the College with exceptional expertise and experience to lead us as we move the College forward. Our work and progress never cease, as we continue to advance our excellent academic programs, expand our research and scholarship to support improving nursing and health care, and educate compassionate and accomplished students who exemplify Villanova's values of *Veritas, Unitas* and *Caritas*.

In this issue you will read about Dean Fitzpatrick and her legacy, more about Dr. Havens, the events of the year, the accomplishments of our faculty and students and new initiatives that reflect our continuing pursuit of excellence.

Lastly, I want to thank our faculty, staff and students who innovate and educate every day, and, along with our alumni, further enhance our reputation that is the true legacy of Dean Fitzpatrick.



Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN  
Interim Dean and Professor

“Dean Fitzpatrick’s vision and drive established a trajectory that has resulted in many successes and achievements.”





Health-systems researcher, experienced leader and a Nursing alumna, she is a passionate advocate for the quality of nursing practice and of patient care.

## Dr. Donna Sullivan Havens Appointed Dean



“It will be exciting and my honor to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you—good, smart people—to create magic and ignite change,” observed Donna Sullivan Havens ’83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, the newly appointed Connelly Endowed Dean, at a June 4 welcome reception in Driscoll Hall. Her appointment to lead the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, effective June 30, had been announced that morning by the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, University president. This key appointment is the result of a national search with participation by faculty, students, administrators and alumni.

For the past decade, Dr. Havens has been at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing as a professor, division chair and, later, interim dean (2014-2016).

She notes about Villanova Nursing, “The College is where I was mentored to become the nursing professional that I am today, so returning to Villanova seems most appropriate. I am delighted to come home to the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing to collaborate with University leaders, faculty, staff, alumni and students to build on Dr. Fitzpatrick’s splendid legacy to educate the next generation of Villanova nurses.”

Dr. Havens’ two decades in the profession have blended nursing practice, academia, administration and research in the United States and abroad. “Over her career, she has established herself as a passionate advocate for improving the quality of health care for underserved populations and advancing nursing leadership,” Father Donohue commented.

In Australia, Dr. Havens was a visiting international scholar at the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work at the University of Queensland in Brisbane. In Canada, she served as the Frances Bloomberg International Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Toronto Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing. In England, she was a visiting professor in the National Nursing Research Unit at the King’s College Florence Nightingale School of Nursing, Midwifery and Palliative Care in London.

At Carolina Nursing, as interim dean Dr. Havens planned new academic programs to respond to health-care needs regionally, nationally and internationally and enhanced student enrollment and retention. Previously, Dr. Havens was the Eberly Endowed Professor of Research and associate dean for Research at the Pennsylvania State University College of Nursing.

Dr. Havens is committed to advancing the field through research and engagement with nurse leaders, practicing nurses and health-care organizations. She has served as principal investigator on federally funded studies focused on improving nursing practice and patient care. Her most recent work includes translating research findings to improve the quality of patient care and nursing practice in hospitals and enhancing the quality of patient care in the state’s rural emergency rooms.

“I am delighted to come home to the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing...”

— Donna Sullivan Havens ’83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN

Her groundbreaking Decisional Involvement Scale (DIS) is a well-known tool used nationally and internationally to enhance clinical nurse involvement in decisions about nursing practice and patient care. Her research has been honored by the American Organization of Nurse Executives with its National Nurse Researcher Award and by Villanova Nursing with its Medallion for Distinguished Contributions in Nursing Research. Dr. Havens was inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame, is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and has held leadership roles in professional organizations. She earned her BS in Nursing at Cedar Crest College, her MSN (Nursing Education) at Villanova Nursing and her PhD at the University of Maryland School of Nursing. ●



## College Continues to be a Center of Excellence

**A**gain this year, the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing has earned the designation of Center of Excellence (COE) in Nursing Education. The College has held this National League for Nursing (NLN) designation continuously since 2004, when it became one of three inaugural COE schools. This year, Villanova Nursing is a continuing designee in the category Creating Environments that Advance the Science of Nursing Education. The College was formally recognized last September at the NLN's 2017 Education Summit's Honors Convocation in San Diego. The COE designation provides national

recognition of the College's commitment to maintaining and advancing excellence in its educational programs, as well as fostering excellence in nursing education regionally and nationally.

In its application, the College demonstrated a shared vision among faculty utilizing pedagogical research to advance the science of nursing education. They use research and evidence-based findings in innovative ways for curriculum design and instructional strategies, systematically assessing evaluation methods, disseminating scholarly work, and engaging students in related projects and education. ●

## A Model Module for Nurse Educators Nationwide

**M**any health-care providers lack the education and knowledge to communicate with and care for the 60 million Americans with disabilities. To address this need, last September the National League for Nursing's (NLN) Center for Excellence in the Care of Vulnerable Populations, together with faculty at the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, launched a free online resource. Advancing Care Excellence for Persons with Disabilities (ACE.D) offers nurse educators nationwide the tools and professional resources to teach proficiency in disability care.

The newest curriculum in NLN's Advancing Care Excellence (ACE) educational modules, ACE.D content is downloadable from a dedicated NLN microsite. ACE.D expands on strategies and materials that the College's faculty have used successfully to teach students about caring for individuals with disabilities.

The program was developed by Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, the Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations and director of the College's Office of Nursing Research and Evaluation. Other faculty participating include Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, associate professor, and Colleen H. Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE, clinical

assistant professor and at the time director of the Simulation and Learning Resource Center. The Inglis Foundation of Philadelphia and Villanova University's VITAL program provided initial funding.

"The collaboration with NLN has enabled Nursing faculty to realize the goal of taking our successful Standardized Patients with Disabilities Project to a national level through ACE.D," noted Dr. Smeltzer. "Using materials based on our teaching strategies, nursing faculty across the country will be able to address disability in their own curricula, which ultimately will improve the health care and health status of people with disabilities."

Two case studies faculty developed for ACE.D are based on the real-world experiences of the College's standardized patients with disabilities: "Mary Lou," who is paralyzed and pregnant, and "Patrick," a veteran with an amputation.

In this simulation, new teaching strategies coach faculty in how to prepare students to assess properly patients with disabilities and to communicate with them effectively in the hospital and as they transition to other health-care settings and home. Faculty created videos on appropriate communication strategies.

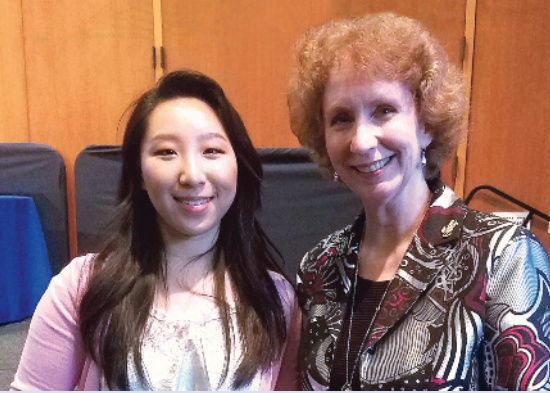
Other ACE.D materials developed by faculty include a history of disability, a guide to communicating about a variety of disabilities, definitions of relevant terms and an assessment guide for students. There is also information on the implications for modifications in assessment, pregnancy in women with disabilities, aging with a disability and other disability-specific resources. A tool kit will help faculty integrate related concepts and content into their curricula.

Visit [nlm.org](http://nlm.org)'s teaching resources section for the ACE.D content. ●

During a freshman capstone clinical simulation on communication skills for disability care, Rebekah Hamblett interacts with Lauren Shipman, a standardized patient in a wheelchair.







Agnes Cho '18 BSN (left) receives congratulations from Professor Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, mentor of the toddler gun violence research team.

## Undergraduate Researcher Recognized

Mentor, gun violence researcher and Fulbright alternate Agnes Cho '18 BSN pitched her way to a 2018 Meyer ICE Award at Villanova University's Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship Institute's 7th annual Pitch Day competition in April. Patrick Meyer '74 VSB created and endowed the awards to recognize Villanova's spirit of innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship.

Cho mentored first-year and new multicultural students as they acclimated to Villanova. Last summer, as a Villanova Undergraduate Research Fellow, she explored the role of pediatric nurses in preventing unintentional gun violence by toddlers. She is the first Nursing student in several years to complete the Honors Thesis track by writing a thesis on philosophy and nursing. A 2018 Falvey Scholar, Cho presented her research at the College's Undergraduate Scholars Day in April as part of the University's Spring Research Expo.

The toddler gun violence research team also included juniors Anika Nana, Lauren Munter and Katherine Mohr and sophomore Patrick Treacy. The students reviewed the literature and presented a poster at numerous conferences, including Villanova's Undergraduate Research session last September, the annual convention of the National Student Nurses' Association and a Johns Hopkins University public health conference in April. The team's mentor is researcher and pediatric safety expert Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and coordinator of undergraduate research. ●

## At West Point, NROTC Battalion Leader Presents on Strategic Deterrence

This spring, Justina Whearty '18 BSN served as Villanova University's Naval ROTC (NROTC) battalion commander, the second Nursing student to hold Villanova NROTC's highest rank. Whearty is the first Nursing student to blend her Honors and NROTC course work. She presented her Honors paper, "Nuclear Ethics: Strategic Deterrence in the North Korean Age," at the 4th annual Conference on the Ethics of War and Peace, held last October at the United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y. West Point and Villanova's Ethics Program co-sponsored the conference, which this year focused on the concept of just war.

According to its website, the conference "brings together undergraduate students, cadets, officers, scholars and interested civilians to discuss urgent ethical issues pertaining to the use of military force. The conference aims to create a constructive and open discussion of matters of great public interest that bridges the boundaries between civilians, officers, academics, and practitioners."

Commissioned as an ensign during Commencement weekend, Whearty will begin her career in the Navy Nurse Corps at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (Va.) ●



"Nuclear Ethics: Strategic Deterrence in the North Korean Age" was the timely topic of the Honors paper presented by Justina Whearty '18 BSN at a conference co-sponsored by Villanova at West Point.

## Two Nursing Students Named Forbes Under 30 Scholars

Junior Meghan Scanlon and Josie Pittman '18 BSN were among Villanova University's 28 students honored as *Forbes* Under 30 Scholars. Last fall, *Forbes'* second annual list named 1,000 students from the nation's top schools. Last September, the Under 30 Summit in Boston brought together these top young entrepreneurs and game-changers. ●



## SNAP-Villanova's Championship Year

At national and state conventions, the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's chapter of the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP) shone brightly. Late November, SNAP's 65th annual state convention, held in Pocono Manor, Pa., was dedicated to the memory of M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor.

Throughout the three-day convention, the College and its students were recognized by their peers for leadership and extraordinary achievement. Villanova's chapter, one of SNAP's largest voluntary membership ones with 100-200 members, was presented with SNAP's highest honor, the Chapter Excellence Award. The chapter's 26-member delegation, led by its president, Katrina Garzon '18 BSN, included all levels of BSN students.

Villanova Nursing students have served on SNAP's board since 1983. However, this is the first year they hold the top two offices:

- Junior Madeline Stadler was elected SNAP president and presented with its Leader of Tomorrow Award.
- Junior Meghan Scanlon, chapter president, was elected SNAP vice president and received the Jamey Thiel Miller Memorial Legislative Award.

In April, the College's delegation to the 66th annual convention of the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA), held in Nashville, Tenn., continued the championship year. The delegation was led by the chapter's 2017 president, Katrina Garzon '18 BSN, and accompanied by the chapter's advisor, Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, ANEF, associate professor. Last fall, Garzon completed an independent study in leadership linked to NSNA. Her article, "The Meaning of President: What Leadership of a Chapter Truly Entails," will be published in the Fall NSNA's *Imprint: The Professional Magazine for Nursing Students*.

The active involvement of these 25 Villanovans at the NSNA convention reflects their roles at the chapter, state and national levels. For example, Scanlon headed NSNA's Resolutions Committee. The chapter's resolution, adopted as NSNA policy, focused on education about attitudes toward the elderly. It was co-authored and presented by Meghan Chirichella '18 BSN, Cameron Cook '18 BSN and Garzon. Stadler, who at NSNA led Pennsylvania's delegation and chaired the state caucus meetings, served as the chapter's vice president and on NSNA's Scholarship Selection Committee.

Dean Fitzpatrick "founded the chapter and believed strongly that undergraduate professional involvement was critical to nursing education."

—Katrina Garzon '18 BSN

In NSNA's large Exhibit Hall, the many posters by Villanova Nursing students included ones on toddlers involved in unintentional shootings, relationship abuse in young adult college students and a nutrition program in Haiti.

Garzon observed, "Dean Fitzpatrick again would have been proud of SNAP-Villanova. She founded the chapter and believed strongly that undergraduate professional involvement was critical to nursing education. The chapter's excellence and championship year are part of her legacy." ●

At the NSNA convention in April, held at Gaylord Opryland Resort, SNAP-Villanova's 25 delegates reflected the diverse age and backgrounds of the nursing workforce.







During a capstone session at Philadelphia's Independence Blue Cross Foundation last August, Christal Ramharack '18 BSN (left) explains her research on pediatric vaccination adherence.

**“I got a ‘behind-the-scenes’ look at what goes on when patients are uninsured...”**

—Christal Ramharack '18 BSN

## IBC Intern Provides Care for an Overlooked Population

**C**hristal Ramharack '18 BSN devoted last summer to helping Philadelphians of lower socioeconomic status, immigrants new to the United States, and undocumented individuals and families. Taking part in the Independence Blue Cross (IBC) Foundation Nursing Internship Program, the Jackson, N.J., native was assigned to an IBC-affiliated clinic serving a population that would otherwise be overlooked. Her internship also included several leadership labs at IBC headquarters in Philadelphia to learn important skills revolving around networking techniques, being a young professional and cultural competency.

“I chose this internship because I wanted to educate myself on an aspect of nursing that I was unfamiliar with: public health nursing,” Ramharack observed. At ChesPenn Health Services

(CPHS) Center for Family Health, she divided her five days a week between its Chester and Upper Darby locations.

Alongside a registered nurse, Ramharack provided primary care to patients from newborns to older adults, including pregnant women. Based on her research project addressing an important issue at her site, last August during the capstone event she presented a poster: “Pediatric Vaccination Adherence in the Lower Socioeconomic Status Population at CPHS.”

“I got a ‘behind-the-scenes’ look at what goes on when patients are uninsured, and the role that social determinants of health play in that lack of insurance,” Ramharack noted. The skills and experiences she gained will inform her practice, she believes. She hopes to begin her career on a labor and delivery unit and eventually earn a master’s degree. ●

## BSN Students Learn to LEAD

**L**ast year, the professional development program LEAD (Learn, Engage, Advance, Develop) was piloted for freshmen and seniors in the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. This year, LEAD expanded to BSN students across all four years. LEAD events and exercises relate to concepts such as résumé-building, professional expectations, shaping a career, professional dress and behaviors, hiring, interviewing, networking skills, personal finances and becoming alumni. Enthusiastically supported by Nursing’s Board of Consultants, administrators and faculty, LEAD provides students with tools to enhance their academic education so that they can effectively represent Villanova University, the College and themselves in the workforce as successful nursing professionals. ●



At the March 16 LEAD event reception in Driscoll Hall, freshmen honed their new networking skills by interacting with seasoned professionals.



## Flynn Fellows See Oncology Nursing's Breadth and Depth

Since the summer of 2015, Villanova Nursing rising seniors have been selected for the Susan D. Flynn Oncology Fellowship Program. The first was NyAsia White '16 BSN, then Catherine Considine '17 BSN and Kim Nowakowski '17 BSN, both of whom launched their careers in oncology, Considine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and Nowakowski at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP). Last summer brought three new Flynn Fellows from Nursing: at CHOP, Catherine Fuller '18 BSN and at HUP, Elizabeth Murtin '18 BSN and Louisa Elliott '18 BSN.

Fred Flynn, a Stamford, Conn., businessman, started the program after his wife, Susan, died from ovarian cancer in 2013.

They valued the care provided by her oncology nurses, thus this summer externship educates the future generation in cancer care by pairing top nursing programs and cancer centers. While caring for patients alongside experienced nurses, Flynn Fellows come to see the depth and breadth of oncology services and learn from a variety of lectures. They culminate the experience by presenting their evidence-based summer research.

"I am so honored to be a part of this program and am learning an incredible amount," Murtin noted about her summer at HUP. She and Elliott shadowed nurse practitioners, social workers and chaplains and interacted with chemotherapy, research and palliative care teams, among others.

Elliott, faced with cancers such as leukemia and multiple myeloma, found that "It was humbling to care for and develop strong relationships with patients who were so resilient, as well as inspiring to be able to work with such dedicated, compassionate and skilled health-care professionals. I felt as if my head and my heart were going to burst... but in the best way possible." Elliott is now working on the same unit.

Fuller observed, "I developed a better understanding of what it means to be a pediatric oncology patient and witnessed tremendous bravery as these children persevere through both the good and bad days. The skill set and mindset that I gained will have a lasting impact and have helped to prepare me to become the best pediatric oncology nurse that I can be." ●

**"I felt as if my head and my heart were going to burst... but in the best way possible."**

—Louisa Elliott '18 BSN

At the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Catherine Fuller '18 BSN (left) last summer worked with her Flynn Fellowship coordinator, Jeneane Sullivan '13 MSN, RN, CNOP, an oncology patient/family education specialist. Fuller appreciated how her fellowship gave her an "eye-opening experience of a deep and wide exposure to the facets of oncology nursing."







## A Perfect Pitch for Remote Health Monitoring

Three master’s-level students from the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing crafted a winning pitch to take the top award (\$1,500) at the Healthcare Leadership Network of the Delaware Valley (HLNDV). This third annual Health Care Management Case Competition took place in April at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. HLNDV is a chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives. The competition was open to full- or part-time undergraduate or graduate students.

The three Villanovans—(above, from left) Carol Devlin '16 BSN, '18 MSN, RNFA, CNOR (Nursing Education), Danielle Farer, BSN, RN (Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner) and Alanna Owens, BSN, RN (Nursing Education)—collaborated on a 500-word abstract. It was selected for presentation to a judging panel of public health and human resources leaders, MBAs and a nursing professor.

Participants had to identify one “recent or near-future change that will have a significant impact on the health of our population” and offer a “specific scenario to justify how that change will impact the health-care system.” The trio chose remote health monitoring. They were evaluated on their topic and rationale, supporting evidence, clarity and presentation style.

“The keys to our success were providing data to support each of our points and connecting the care to all levels of the health-care equation,” notes Devlin. Says Owens, “Having the opportunity to represent Nursing in a room full of interdisciplinary professionals and come away with the award is very special.” Observes Farer, who plans to pursue a PhD, “Watching the success of my peers and faculty inspires me to challenge myself and move out of my comfort zone. This competition was the opportunity I needed to prepare myself for the next step in my development.” ●

## Fuld Scholars Accelerate Their Path

Thanks to a grant from the Helene Fuld Health Trust, the nation will have additional talented bachelor’s-prepared nurses, which it critically needs.

The trust financially assists second-degree students (below) who arrive at Driscoll Hall with diverse educational backgrounds and work experience to complete the 14-month accelerated BSN program and launch their careers locally and nationally. The New York City-based trust focuses on the health, welfare and education of nursing students. ●



## JOIN THE CONVERSATION ONLINE

The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing launched an Instagram account in January by posting a photo of the new banner. Connect with us and one another on these social media platforms:

 Instagram: @villanovanursing

 Twitter: @VUNursing

 Facebook: @VillanovaNursing

 LinkedIn: Villanovans in Nursing



## MSN Students Demonstrate Their Expertise

**A**round the region and the country, the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's master's-level students have been sharing their scholarly work and expertise. For example, students from the Crozer-Chester Medical Center/Villanova University M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's Nurse Anesthesia Program represented the program at an annual two-day professional conference hosted in April by Allegheny Anesthetists of Hollidaysburg, Pa. During this Spring Student Anesthesia Seminar, held in Latrobe, Pa., Tiffany Harris, MSN, RN, SRNA presented "Anesthetic Management of the Pediatric Patient in the Non-Pediatric Institution" and Chelsea Runkle, BSN, CCRN, SRNA lectured on "Pediatric Massive Transfusion." The group's leadership commended the students on their level of professionalism and clinical expertise.

A veteran of 30 years in perisurgical nursing, Carol Devlin '16 BSN, '18 MSN, RNFA, CNOR, whose MSN concentration was in Nursing Education, knows that proper patient positioning in the OR and during transport is a must, for the safety of the patient and the perioperative team. Her appreciation of the need for urgency is based on her literature reviews and her experience, including as an RN first assistant. In a specialty where success or failure can be measured in millimeters, data show that safety must start long before the patient is anesthetized.

At the Global Surgical Conference & Expo, sponsored by AORN (Association of periOperative Nurses) in March in New Orleans,

Devlin co-presented on patient positioning in the operating room to avoid pitfalls. She believes all nurses can speak up to protect patients and staff with proper positioning through knowledge, assessment and awareness. AORN previously had featured Devlin in an online article.

**"Researchers are unanimous in their findings that tobacco use is linked to an increase in overall surgical complication rates."**

—from the October 2017 *AORN Journal* literature review co-published by Carol Devlin '16 BSN, '18 MSN, RNFA, CNOR and Professor Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN

Among Devlin's other presentations at AORN were "Temporary Tobacco Cessation for the Perisurgical Timeframe: A Literature Review," based on her October 2017 publication in the *AORN Journal*, co-authored with Suzanne C. Smeltzer,

EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, the Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations and director of the College's Office of Nursing Research and Evaluation. Devlin, who holds leadership positions in national and local chapters of AORN, has begun the College's PhD Program in Nursing to transition to a teacher-scholar. ●



## Villanova Nursing at the United Nations

Five posts and tweets flowed from the Second Annual International Nurses Day at the United Nations (UN) May 11. It was presented by Nurses With Global Impact, Inc. The College's Continuing Education (CE) in Nursing and Health Care Program awarded contact hours to attendees. Evelyn Lengetti, PhD, RN BC (above, on the right, outside the UN headquarters in New York City) is assistant dean and director of CE. With her are Ann Barrow McKenzie '86 BSN, '91 MSN, RN, director of College Relations (left), and Ruth A. McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN, who was honored at the event for her demonstration of exemplary practice by impacting the global delivery of health care. (Below) Dr. Levy, associate professor and director of the College's Center for Global and Public Health, is standing inside the UN conference room where the program took place. ●





## Community Cooks! Enlists Peer Mentors in Educating About Healthier Options for Emergency Food

“Many people using food emergency centers face increased risk of chronic disease as a result of food insecurity and having limited resources to purchase fresh, nutritious foods,” notes Rebecca Shenkman, MPH, RDN, LDN, director of the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing’s MacDonal Center for Obesity Education and Prevention (COPE). Traditionally, food pantries distribute pre-filled boxes of food with little input from recipients and that lack nutritional value. As a result, these families often consume more added sugars and total fats and fewer fruits and vegetables.

In 2016, Martha’s Choice Marketplace (MCM), a Catholic Social Services (CSS) food market serving 900 families a month in Norristown, Pa., challenged the typical way food is distributed. It developed a “choice market” model, similar to a grocery store. Patrons can access fresh ingredients while feeling the dignity of engaging in a normal shopping experience and making their own decisions about feeding their families.

With the goal of delivering sustainable, cost-effective nutrition education, as well as simple, effective cooking lessons using the market’s foods, COPE staff, faculty and Nursing students partnered with CSS to develop and launch Community Cooks! This collaborative approach trains peer mentors in strategies for improving nutrition and teaches recipes using fresh ingredients and healthy foods.

Amy E. McKeever ’08 PhD, RN, CRNP, WHNP-BC, assistant professor, who has a longstanding relationship with CSS, helped establish the connection with COPE. Consulting on the cooking program, she guided Nursing students in their Health Promotion

practicum who aided in cooking demonstrations and created educational materials. Dr. McKeever also assisted with grant writing and transcribing and analyzing focus group data. Rounding out the training team were Lisa K. Diewald, MS, RD, LDN, who is COPE’s program manager, and Tracy L. Oliver, PhD, RDN, LDN, associate professor.

Community Cooks! hosted winter and spring workshops, developing 10 peer mentors. After three training sessions they successfully demonstrated their knowledge and skills in their own workshops. These peer mentors understand the MCM community’s needs and are perceived as reliable and credible. ●



## PhD Students Named as Prestigious Scholars

- PhD in Nursing student **Monica J. Harmon, MSN, MPH, RN** is one of five students nationally to be named to the new cohort of Minority Nurse Faculty Scholars by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing’s Future. Launched to address the faculty shortage and enhance diversity among nurse educators, the program provides generous financial support, mentoring and leadership development to graduate students from minority backgrounds who aspire to teach nursing.
- Two incoming PhD in Nursing students, **Carol Devlin ’16 BSN, ’18 MSN, RNFA, CNOR** and **Jennifer Siebert ’12 BSN, MSN, RN, CCRN**, have been named to the fifth and final cohort of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Future of Nursing Scholars Program. It provides financial support, mentoring and leadership development to nurses who commit to earn the PhD in three years. The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing was one of only 31 schools of nursing selected to receive a grant to increase the number of nurses holding PhDs.
- Current RWJF Future of Nursing Scholar **Brittany Stark Koons ’12 BSN, ’15 MSN, RN** has been selected to receive a highly competitive RWJF Postdoctoral Fellowship to study “Outcomes of Lung Transplantation in the Older Adult Population.” ●



Monica J. Harmon



Carol Devlin



Jennifer Siebert



Brittany Stark Koons



## Three Leaders Join College's Board of Consultors

**W**e welcome three new members to the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's Board of Consultors. Established in 2007, the board serves in an advisory capacity to the dean and provides an external perspective on matters that affect the nursing profession, the College and its strategic direction. Members include College and Villanova University alumni and parents, as well as nursing, health-care and business leaders.

**GERARD LARocca**, based in New York, is a managing director and chief administrative officer, Americas, at Barclays. Having joined the organization in 1998, he was a previous managing director, manager of global operations and chief financial officer. He also serves as president of Barclays US Broker Dealer, Barclays Capital Inc. and the New York branch manager for Barclays Bank PLC. LaRocca has more than 35 years of experience in the financial services industry. His daughter, Allison, just completed her sophomore year at the College.

**RAY PITEK**, of Massapequa, N.Y., is retired from PricewaterhouseCoopers after 30 years as a partner. He and his wife, Linda, established the Ashley Rose Pitek Nurse Scholars Fellowship in 2014 in memory of their daughter Ashley. The gift provides tuition and research support to advanced practice students in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program who are committed to the care of children with spina bifida. The Pitek's are parents of three Villanovans: Rachel '16 VSB; Morgan, a rising junior in the Villanova School of Business; and Heather, a rising sophomore in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

**KELLY ANN ZAZYCZNY '94 BSN, '11 MSN** for 10 years has served as nurse manager of pediatrics, vascular access, radiology nursing services at Main Line Health's Bryn Mawr (Pa.) Hospital. She is a part-time faculty member at the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing and a member of its Nursing Alumni Association board. Zazyczny's clinical focus has been in pediatrics, radiology, vascular access and research. She is a consultant for 3M, clinical administrative advisor for Orca Care and serves on the executive board of Little Smiles Philadelphia. ●



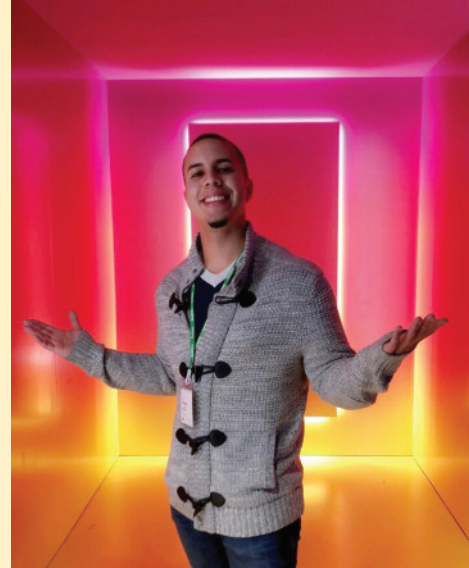
Gerard LaRocca



Ray Pitek



Kelly Ann Zazyczny



Picture this: While in Menlo Park, Calif., in January, junior Antonio "Tony" Garcia visited Instagram headquarters as part of the Villanova in the Valley program.

## Via Social Media and Research, Student Assists Latina Mothers

Intrigued by entrepreneurship, Antonio "Tony" Garcia is on the move in his quest to find innovative and effective solutions to eliminate health disparities. The Nursing junior launched his January on the West Coast, taking part in Villanova in the Valley, a six-day multidisciplinary immersion program in California's Silicon Valley. The program is sponsored by the University's Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE) Institute.

An undergraduate research assistant with Assistant Professor Linda Maldonado, PhD, RN, Garcia felt the pull to this home of high-tech innovation, venture capital and social media. His research uses social media as a form of support for Latinas in Philadelphia. As part of Dr. Maldonado's "Team Latina," he set up a Facebook page where new mothers can connect. (See page 36.)

During the trip, Garcia learned of potential career opportunities and drew parallels between Silicon Valley culture and the nursing profession. He noted "the importance of teamwork and open communication to cultivate innovation, as well as how companies are constantly seeking ways to market their innovations. I thought this was similar to nursing in that nurses must be able to market themselves to patients in a way that fosters trust." ●



## Knitting for Newborns

Thanks to Fitzpatrick College of Nursing students and faculty in the Craft Clinic, cozy knit caps for neonates, who can lose significant amounts of body heat through the scalp, are being donated to local hospitals. The clinic is a project of Linda Ruggiero, PhD and Villanova's chapter of the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP).

Ruggiero, whose hands are never still as a knitter and crafter, earned her doctorate in neuroscience and now is a student in the College's second-degree accelerated BSN program. She tutors classmates in math and metrology and teaches students and faculty how to knit. Their efforts benefiting Philadelphia area NICUs are another example of the life-affirming and lifesaving things nurses do with their hands.

Early last fall, Ruggiero e-mailed fellow knitters, "Thank you so much to everyone who came to Craft Clinic today to help make hats and blankets for preemies! We so far have 9 hats made and 1 blanket, which is great since we just started a few weeks ago. I am super impressed by those who are learning and are already so productive." An aspiring pediatric nurse, she hopes to combine Western medicine and complementary modalities such as yoga and meditation. ●

(Left) At the Craft Clinic, students and faculty create caps and blankets for newborns in Philadelphia area hospitals. As she accelerates through her Nursing second degree, Linda Ruggiero, PhD (right) not only teaches knitting to students and faculty but tutors students.



## Students Assess Health of Immigrants and Refugees

Nursing juniors are providing screenings to Philadelphia's immigrants and refugees to assess their health risks and problems. Their service-learning experience, part of the course "Imperatives for Global and Public Health," is offered through a partnership between the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's Center for Global and Public Health and Philadelphia's Nationalities Services Center (NSC).

The program, started last year, is co-led by Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, MPH, '08 PhD, RN, associate professor and director of the center, and Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF, associate professor. It was initially funded with a grant from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. For the convenience of clients, the screenings coincide with a legal clinic at the NSC. Faculty plan to increase the scale of the program and seek additional funding.

Working with on-site and remote interpreters and using a tool developed by fellow students, the juniors assess health history, risk factors, diet recall and health insurance. They provide care for people coming from Honduras, Mexico and around the world, including a recent refugee from Syria. The students also teach about health, alongside faculty if needed. Using a binder created by a previous Nursing group during its

Health Promotion practicum, they can print out patient education materials—in each client's language—on managing an array of chronic diseases.

"Students learn the difference between immigrants and refugees and how it affects their access to health care and other services that affect health," notes Dr. McDermott-Levy. "They meet the world." ●



(From left) Nursing juniors Megan Conway and Stephanie Yea use a glucometer to check the blood sugar of a diabetic Mexican immigrant. Guiding them is Associate Professor Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, MPH, '08 PhD, RN.







# A LIFE WELL LIVED, A LAUDABLE LEGACY

For almost four decades, Dean Fitzpatrick inspired students, faculty, alumni and colleagues around the country as she developed a premier program. Her influence on the profession, health care and education extends internationally. Villanova commemorates her extraordinary contributions through the naming of the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing.

During her more than 39 years guiding Villanova University's College of Nursing, M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, '15 DHL (Hon.), Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, embodied the spirit of what it means to be a Villanova nurse: competent and compassionate, fully committed to bettering the lives of patients and the community at large. Dean Fitzpatrick passed away peacefully at her home September 1, 2017. She was the longest-sitting nursing dean in the United States.

Dean Fitzpatrick fearlessly led the College through its evolution, cultivating robust undergraduate, graduate and continuing education programs. Her leadership attracted the best and brightest in diverse faculty and students. Her vision extended the College's reach globally. During her tenure, the College developed into a premier nursing program and was recognized repeatedly by the National League for Nursing as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education.

Appointed by the Rev. John Driscoll, OSA, at the time University president, she arrived on campus as dean January 16, 1978, with a personal goal of beginning graduate nursing education at the College. She had gained experience in New York as an associate professor in the Department of Nursing Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, her graduate alma mater. There she also advised master's-degree students in curriculum development and community health nursing, directed doctoral study in nursing history and nursing education, and worked extensively with international students. That background foreshadowed some of her priorities for Villanova Nursing.

This photograph of M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor who died September 1, 2017, was taken by Paola Nogueras shortly before the dedication of Driscoll Hall in 2008. Garth Herrick's oil portrait, unveiled at the April 7 dedication of the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, is based on this photo she favored.



A source of solace during her almost three-year struggle with cancer, the “BelieVe” bracelet Dean Fitzpatrick wore reminded her of the unity Villanovans share.



With a driven, spirited approach, evident from her early years to her final hours, Dean Fitzpatrick inspired students, launched new programs, forged a research agenda and developed opportunities around the world. She was advocating—always advocating—for nursing. It was her life’s work. Even while undergoing an array of cancer treatments for nearly three years before her death, she traveled and spoke on behalf of the College.

## FUNERAL MASS SHARED GLOBALLY

Dean Fitzpatrick’s Mass of Christian burial, held in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church September 6, was streamed around the world to accommodate her global village. It was clear from the remembrances shared that all recognized her as someone who lived and breathed Villanova and her chosen profession. She loved nursing, the College, her students and everything Villanova.

Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Kail C. Ellis, OSA, PhD, special assistant to the president and dean emeritus of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, alongside numerous fellow Augustinians. He noted Dean Fitzpatrick’s three families: her cousins, the College and the Augustinians and the Augustinian Order to which she was affiliated. Referring to her as a “consummate academic,” he recalled that for almost four decades she was the only woman who sat on Villanova’s Council of Deans.

**“Dean Fitzpatrick truly shaped some of the best decisions of my life, both to come to Villanova as well as to pursue a nursing career. She gave me an opportunity as a Presidential Scholar that has changed my life for the better. She helped to ignite my own love and passion for the profession. I will cherish all of the time I had with her, whether it was hearing her speak at the SNAP convention when she won an award or just sitting in her office talking with her. She was a wealth of knowledge and was a true inspiration to me.”**

—Kristina Terzakis '17 BSN, RN, nurse at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital

“Her perspectives were important. She was clear, very forceful and insightful and we did indeed listen,” he said. Father Ellis commented on Dean Fitzpatrick’s determination in fighting her illness, noting the BelieVe bracelet she wore from Villanova athletics, in which she found inspiration. Referencing the first reading, he said, “As her family, the Villanova community and the Augustinians contemplate Louise’s death, I know that her life will be a record cut in rock for us.”

Also speaking at the Mass was Madeline McCarthy Bell '83 BSN, '15 DHL (Hon.), CEO and president of Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and a member of the College’s Board of Consultants. Dean Fitzpatrick “was a great strategist, a visionary...tenacity is what made her such an incredible leader,” Bell observed. Mentioning all the students the dean had educated, she asked “How many lives have they touched?... She had exponential impact.”

One example of that impact is personified in a first-generation college student from West Philadelphia who became a nurse leader: Stephanie Conners '93 BSN, MBA, NEA-BC. The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, University president, shared Conners’ story in reading an e-mail he received from her. Conners is now senior executive, vice president and chief operating officer/chief nurse at Cooper University Health Care and a member of the College’s Board of Consultants. She recalled how Dean Fitzpatrick helped her through the challenges she faced during the Nursing program. She “saw something in me that I never saw in myself,” Conners wrote to Father Donohue. “I truly believe all that I am and all that I have is a direct relationship to her believing in me.” Father Donohue summarized, “That’s what we remember most about Louise. She embodied everything Villanova constantly speaks about. She looked after the individual.”

## “NO MORE FITTING AN HONOR”

On December 13, Father Donohue announced the naming of the College in memory of this extraordinary dean: the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. He noted: “Her leadership set a course of greatness for the College of Nursing and our University—and through this naming, we are ensuring that such vision and excellence continue to be a hallmark of the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing.” He added, “Louise Fitzpatrick will be remembered as one of the most vibrant, transformative leaders in the history of Villanova, and I can think of no more fitting an honor than to name our College of Nursing after her.”

The dedication ceremony for the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing took place April 7 following the College’s 29th Annual Mass. During the Mass, the College presented the inaugural award named for Dean Fitzpatrick and conferred it on an outstanding Nursing graduate (see pages 21 and 22.)



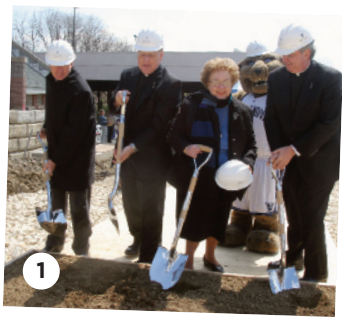
## TRUE BLUE VILLANOVAN

Dean Fitzpatrick ensured that Augustinian values informed every aspect of the College's work. She nurtured a culture of intellectual excellence in teaching and inquiry, service to others and nursing as a healing ministry. She shaped a transformative educational experience for Nursing students, energized by the people and profession she loved. She embraced the multitude of opportunities that came with the College's first permanent home in 2008: the newly constructed Driscoll Hall. She globalized the College through study opportunities for international students on campus and through study abroad and health promotion experiences for undergraduates in countries around the world. She also emphasized multicultural experiences in underserved areas in the United States.

The dean worked tirelessly to expand the College's academic programs, including initiating the master's (MSN) and doctoral (PhD and DNP) programs, as well as an accelerated BSN program for second-degree students. She developed the continuing education program as well as distance learning strategies and clinical simulation initiatives with a focus on scholarship and research. She established three special initiatives to bring together faculty and staff expertise: the Office for Nursing Research and Evaluation, the Center for Global and Public Health and the MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education.

A Wildcats fan, she held season tickets for Villanova's men's basketball. She could dissect game plays, enthusiastically watched the 'Cats win the 1985 NCAA national championship and from campus animatedly cheered their second national title in 2016.

Dean Fitzpatrick found daily strength and consolation in a special bracelet given to her during her illness by the Rev. Robert Hagan, OSA, JD, Villanova's associate athletic director. "The BelieVe bracelet is another reminder of the unity that we all share



1



3



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1: "This facility is not about brick and mortar," noted Dean Fitzpatrick breaking ground in 2007 for Driscoll Hall. "It is about what will happen inside—fostering the intellectual climate and continuing to cultivate a mature, energetic professional school with a commitment to the preparation of clinical

experts and leaders for health care within the context of a values-driven liberal arts education." Joining her were (from left) John Drosdick; the Rev. Donald F. Reilly, OSA, DMin; the Wildcat mascot and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, University president.

2: Student groups held a special place in the dean's heart. Villanova Nursing's Theta Delta Beta Chapter of Chi Eta Phi celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2016. 3: Everywhere Villanova nurses gather, the internationally-minded dean took delight in interacting with them. This 2009 alumni event was at the U.S. Ambassador's residence in Muscat, Oman. The first Omani students came to the College in 1993.

## THE LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

On September 18, 2017, Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN, associate dean and professor, was named interim dean of the College of Nursing, announced Patrick G. Maggitti, PhD, Villanova University provost, while the University conducted a national

search. That search resulted in the appointment, announced on June 4, of Donna Sullivan Havens '83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN as the Connelly Endowed Dean, as of June 30.



**1:** Surrounded by members of Villanova Nursing's chapter of the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania, Dean Fitzpatrick—the chapter's founder—was honored with the 2016 Leader of Leaders award at the convention of the National Student Nurses' Association, held in Nashville, Tenn.

**2:** Reviewing in 2006 the model for Driscoll Hall with Father Donohue (right) and others, Dean Fitzpatrick knew how important it was for the College to have a home of its own. **3:** Energized by interacting with alumni and hearing of their accomplishments, here she gathers with them in New York City. **4:** The PhD in Nursing Program, begun in 2004, fulfilled one of the graduate education goals of Dean Fitzpatrick (second from left), who is addressing the first cohort.



1



3



4



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Speaking at the celebration of the dean's 25th anniversary in 2003, Rose O'Driscoll '64 BSN, MSN, RN, then assistant dean for Administration, noted, "She exemplifies an unwavering spirit of generosity as she shares her time and wisdom with those around her. Demanding the best of her colleagues and students, she creates an atmosphere where they exceed even their own expectations and does so while remaining faithful to the College and University mission."

Professional development of students was important to the dean, and she undertook that through exemplary faculty, student groups, conventions and the LEAD Program. "I met Dr. Fitzpatrick when I was an undergraduate. She was new to her position and so was I," wrote Jocelyn Bessette Gorlin '80 BSN, PhD, CPNP, in an e-mail. Dr. Gorlin is assistant professor at St. Catherine University's School of Nursing in Minnesota. "I owe so much of my career decisions to Louise. She encouraged me to pursue my PhD and encouraged me through the process, and I supported her by frequent e-mails as she progressed through chemotherapy. She was a pioneer in nursing and my friend and I will miss her dearly."

When Dean Fitzpatrick listened to someone, she was fully engaged, a direct, no-nonsense individual who was also an exacting writer and editor, as well as a gifted extemporaneous speaker. She could spark an audience, provoking thought and action—and she never needed a microphone.

Setting the bar high for herself and others, Dean Fitzpatrick was never, ever complacent. Nursing history, public health and nursing education were central to her research preparation, scholarly interests and publications. Her books include *The National Organization for Public Nursing, Development of a Practice Field, Prologue to Professionalism: A History of Nursing* and *Nursing in Society: A Historical Perspective*, the latter co-authored with Josephine A. Dolan and Eleanor Krohn Herrmann. She edited

as Villanovans," Father Hagan explains. "The V in BelieVe is a Villanova V, and serves as a reminder when we are in the grind of life, the challenges of life. Whether we are practicing, studying, working, struggling, preparing, winning or losing, suffering...keep on believing! ...Believe that we are not working alone, but rather strengthened by God and one another."

## EDUCATOR AND EXEMPLAR

"Louise was the educator's educator—a dean who encouraged a multicultural experience. She was a visionary who stepped out ahead of the crowd, becoming a respected global citizen, recognized as a mentor by many worldwide," recalls Franklin A. Shaffer, EdD, RN, FAAN, FFMRCSE, who is CEO of CGFNS International. The nonprofit, based in Philadelphia, serves health care globally through its credential assessment services.

Across the country, Dean Fitzpatrick mentored many faculty members and deans, as well other nurse historians. That nurturing was evident as well with her colleagues in the College.



books, articles and chapters. She presented and keynoted at regional, national and global conferences, including the International Council of Nurses. Her strong interest in global health care and nursing education drew her to the Sultanate of Oman and other Middle Eastern countries, consulting there for many years.

Since 1972, Dean Fitzpatrick had been involved in higher education accreditation and active in professional and community affairs. She served on many boards and advisory committees. Her alma maters honored her for distinguished achievement and nursing education and leadership, as did professional organizations. She received the National League for Nursing Award for Outstanding Leadership in Nursing Education and, from Villanova in 2015, an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.

Observes Dr. Shaffer, “Her vision will live in the memories and practice of educators and nurses around the globe. We at CGFNS are grateful for the eight years she served as a trustee and for the contributions she made beyond the board meetings. For CGFNS, for the profession and for the global community, we thank you, Louise, for being you—for being our friend.”

## NURTURING FROM EARLY ON

A proud native of South River, N.J., Louise Fitzpatrick was the only child of John and Bettina Galassi Fitzpatrick, who demonstrated in their work and their lives the importance of caring for others. Two weeks before her death, the dean recalled how growing up in a diverse community, working as a camp counselor for underserved children and seeing poverty in nearby areas “made an impression” and sowed the seeds of two passions: nursing and international public health.

Earning her diploma at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing (1963), she focused on public health in Baltimore. “You thought you’d save the world,” she explained. She recalled a young boy waving to her, asking her to help a woman who had just given birth. Up those tenement steps she went with her black bag. She went on to practice as a public health nurse for the Woodbridge (N.J.) Department of Health and the Visiting Nurse Service of New York in Harlem.

In Washington, D.C., she earned her BSN (1966) at The Catholic University of America and in New York three degrees from Teachers College, Columbia University: MA (Supervision of Public Health Nursing Services, 1968), MEd (Teaching of Public Health Nursing, 1969) and EdD (Curriculum and Teaching in Nursing Education, 1972). At Harvard University, she earned a certificate from the Institute for Educational Management.

In the 1960s as a nursing student in Baltimore, Louise Fitzpatrick focused on public health.



**“Dean Fitzpatrick was the faculty advisor for the Student Nurses’ Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP) chapter in 1981. During my first meeting as a freshman, she sat at a desk about halfway up the amphitheater—with the students. The chapter president stood at the front of the room—at the teacher’s podium. That image says it all. Dean Fitzpatrick was an ever-present force behind and beside every student that passed through Villanova’s College of Nursing.”**

—Sandra Myers Gomberg ’85 BSN, ’90 MSN, RN,  
President of SLG-REG, LLC, Philadelphia

The fact that she wanted to be buried in her Columbia academic robe reflected how proud she was of those degrees and fond of her close, lifelong friendships forged there. A Columbia classmate recalls their friendship, based on “mutual respect,” that began in the late 1960s: “Louise brightened my personal and professional life and those of my family,” observes Lucille A. Joel, EdD, RN, APN, FAAN, Distinguished Professor, Rutgers-The State University of New Jersey School of Nursing. “It is because of Louise that I can count seven members among my immediate family as Villanovans. She embodied the Villanova spirit of caring, generosity and academic excellence...she will live in my heart forever,” Dr. Joel reflected.

Dean Fitzpatrick nurtured relationships, taking equal interest in all: prospective students, colleagues, ambassadors, prominent government officials, old and new friends. She genuinely cared about their lives, inquiring about their concerns and their family as she quietly worked behind the scenes to help those she knew. She attended weddings and held babies, threw showers, remembered birthdays, entertained in her home, and stayed up late to bake pies or cakes for birthday parties at the College. She relished hearing or telling a good story, often infusing it with her sense of humor. Through travel she cultivated her great interest in all cultures.

In each realm, Dean Fitzpatrick was a visionary whose heart and soul were dedicated to advancing nursing and health care. Her regional, national and international impact will last for generations through the 39 classes of Villanova nurses who graduated during her tenure. Her influence was extensive, her inspiration immeasurable, her leadership an enduring example for all who pursue the profession to which she dedicated her life. ●



# MAKING IT POSSIBLE

Dee Silvers Adams '86 BSN and her husband, Nick, make the largest gift in the College's history.

“What I remember most about Louise [Fitzpatrick] was her relentless pursuit of expanding the curriculum for her students,” observes Dee Silvers Adams '86 BSN. “My time at the Nursing school was invaluable. From the rigors of the academics to the challenges of patient care, the Nursing school taught me what I needed to know to be a true professional and a compassionate healer.”

On February 8, at their historic home in Palm Beach, Fla., Dee Adams and her husband, Nick, hosted Villanovans at a reception at which the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, University president, announced the couple's \$5 million commitment. Their generous gift provides anchor support for the naming of the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, which Father Donohue had announced in December 2017. The largest philanthropic commitment in the history of Villanova Nursing, the Adams' gift is in memory of M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN,

At their historic home in Palm Beach, Fla., Dee Silvers Adams '86 BSN and her husband, Nick, on February 8 welcomed Villanovans to a reception celebrating the announcement of their \$5-million commitment to Nursing.



## MEMORIAL FUND REFLECTS AN OUTPOURING OF GRATITUDE

We are grateful for the wonderful messages that have poured in this year. Some have asked about making contributions in memory of Dean Fitzpatrick. A memorial fund has been established to support a variety of initiatives within the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing that enshrine its namesake's culture and legacy. Visit [villanova.edu/nursing](http://villanova.edu/nursing) and click on *Give* at the

top of the page, then click *Support Villanova*, then click on the *M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing* and you will see a link to the Dean M. Louise Fitzpatrick Fund. You may also write a check to "Villanova University" and include "Dean M. Louise Fitzpatrick Fund" in the memo line. Mail to: University Advancement, Villanova University, 800 E. Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085.



FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, and enables her legacy to live on at the College and at Villanova. The naming was made possible through philanthropic support from alumni, parents and friends.

“We were inspired to make this gift out of our families’ dedication to medicine, medical research and compassionate care of patients,” noted Dee and Nick Adams. “Our family, having been in the field of health-care professionals and having lived through our own loss of loved ones, realized the critical importance of nurses on the frontline.

In the future we see nurses’ expanded roles as primary-care givers. Hence, the all-important role of the Nursing school in the future.”

In addition to their record-breaking gift, the Adams family in 2017 made a \$1 million commitment to the College, establishing an endowed doctoral scholarship and providing support for faculty and student oncology-related research projects. Their gift was made in memory of Dee Adams’ mother, Dr. Abigail Adams Silvers, who was a renowned oncologist at Main Line Health System’s Bryn Mawr (Pa.) Hospital.

“We are very moved by the generosity of our alumna Dee Silvers Adams and her husband, Nick,” noted Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN, interim dean. “Their gifts allow us to enhance and expand our academic programs, student support, and faculty and student research that were high priorities for Dean Fitzpatrick.”

The Adams’ gift is part of Villanova’s comprehensive capital campaign, “For the Greater Good: The Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change.” Dean Fitzpatrick made the College’s endowment a priority throughout her tenure. To date, nearly \$13 million in gifts and pledges of the initiative’s \$15-million goal have been made in her memory.

Dee Adams is a real estate investor, as well as a sales representative for Isagenix, a multi-level marketing company marketing dietary supplements and personal care products. Nick Adams is a senior managing director and Partner Portfolio manager at Wellington Management Company LLP, a private, independent investment management company. The Adams reside in Gladwyne, Pa. ●



In Driscoll Hall’s lobby (top photo), a plaque and the College’s new name pay homage to the extraordinary leadership of the late Dean Fitzpatrick. Father Donohue and Interim Dean Perry (bottom) addressed guests at the dedication and reception on April 7, where he blessed the new stone sign at the entrance of Driscoll Hall.

# FITZPATRICK COLLEGE OF NURSING DEDICATED ON APRIL 7

“Dean extraordinaire”: That was how the Rev. John E. Deegan, OSA, director of the Justice and Peace Office for the Province of St. Thomas of Villanova, began his homily during the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing’s 29th Annual Mass April 7. It was a beautiful beginning to a notable evening, culminating with the dedication of the naming of the College for the late M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. The Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, University president, celebrated Mass alongside fellow Augustinians. Following the Mass, guests proceeded to the tented lawn of Driscoll Hall for the dedication and reception.



During her remarks, Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN, interim dean, noted: “I need to thank Dean Fitzpatrick for her nearly four decades of leadership. She set this college on a trajectory that is unstoppable.”

Dr. Perry invited guests to tour Driscoll Hall’s first floor and note special additions, including the plaque honoring Dean Fitzpatrick beside the College’s new name on the lobby wall, banners with the new logo, a gallery of leadership since 1953 and the new portrait of Dean Fitzpatrick. Unveiled that evening, it was masterfully and sensitively painted by Philadelphia’s own Garth Herrick, who was in attendance.

The dedication ceremony concluded with Father Donohue blessing with holy water Driscoll Hall’s newly installed stone sign at the building’s entrance. ●

# NEW AWARD BESTOWED ON TRAIL-BLAZING ALUMNA

The College honored Dr. Mary D. Naylor with the inaugural M. Louise Fitzpatrick Award for Transformative Leadership.



Garth Herrick, who spends months capturing a likeness of the prominent subjects he depicts, works on Dean Fitzpatrick’s portrait in his Germantown, Pa., studio.

## A REMARKABLE LIKENESS

In December 2017, Villanova Nursing commissioned award-winning Philadelphia-based artist Garth Herrick to paint an oil portrait of the late M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. The painting was based on a photo she favored, taken by Paola Noguerras October 6, 2008, just before the dedication of Driscoll Hall.

Having never met his subject, Herrick learned more about her through other photos and comments from colleagues who knew her well. Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN, interim dean, and staff members visited Herrick’s Germantown, Pa., studio to see the work in progress. In March, he delivered the completed painting, in a gilded frame, to Driscoll Hall, where it is displayed in the administrative suite outside the Dean’s Office.

During the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing’s 29th Annual Mass April 7, colleagues, trustees, family, friends, students and alumni assembled in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church for an additional reason that evening: to pay tribute to the remarkable contributions of Mary Duffin Naylor ’71 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN. Villanova Nursing recognized the distinguished alumna during this extraordinary academic year that began with the death of its longtime dean and was highlighted by the naming of the College in her memory.

That evening, Interim Dean Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN presented Dr. Naylor with the inaugural M. Louise Fitzpatrick Award for Transformative Leadership. Dr. Naylor is the Marian S. Ware Professor in Gerontology and director of the NewCourtland Center for Transitions and Health at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. She serves as a Villanova University trustee.

Dr. Naylor is the architect of the Transitional Care Model—an advanced practice nurse-coordinated, team-based innovation targeting high-risk older adults. With the multidisciplinary team she has led since 1990, she has tackled the challenges associated with testing multidimensional interventions for these vulnerable elders and their family





(From left) At the 29th Annual Mass on April 7 are Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN, interim dean; Mary Duffin Naylor '71 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, inaugural recipient of the Fitzpatrick Award and its crystal bowl; and the Rev. Peter M. Donohue, OSA, PhD, University president.

caregivers. Dr. Naylor is relentless in her pursuit of improving the quality of care for them.

Most health-care systems in the United States and across the globe are not designed to address the complex health and social needs of the growing population of chronically ill older adults. Large gaps in care are the norm, resulting in tremendous and often avoidable human and economic burdens, such as frequent hospitalizations and poor health outcomes. In that environment, Dr. Naylor has done the unimaginable. She pioneered the design, evaluation and diffusion of health-care innovations that have improved significantly their outcomes while reducing health-care costs. Her research consistently has demonstrated the unique contributions of nurses in addressing the challenging needs of this complex population and their family caregivers.

Dr. Naylor leads a rigorous and sustained program of research. Three multi-site, National Institutes of Health-funded randomized clinical trials consistently demonstrated the effectiveness of the Transitional Care Model. It has improved patient health and quality of life while reducing costs. She then expanded the focus of the care model to hospitalized older adults with cognitive impairment and their caregivers. She also tested the model in the primary-care setting with a nurse-physician team approach to address the needs and goals of at-risk community-dwelling older adults.

In the face of barriers to the model's adoption, Dr. Naylor is a trail blazer in translating it into "real-world" settings to have a more immediate, positive impact on the care and outcomes of chronically ill people. She has partnered with leaders of health



systems, payers and other stakeholders to create a model for continuous, evidence-driven, performance improvement. Hundreds of health-care systems and communities throughout the United States have adopted the model to redesign their care systems. Dr. Naylor and her team also are working with health systems around the world.

Her approach informs health-care policies. She serves on policy-making groups such as the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, authors policy briefs and testifies before U.S. congressional committees. Today, the use of evidence-based transitional care is included in multiple policies designed to foster health delivery and payment reforms.

# ENDURING WORDS OF WISDOM FROM DEAN FITZPATRICK

Many of her most moving and inspiring talks came at Convocation as she reached out to Nursing students poised to begin their careers.

“I am hopeful, as has been our history and tradition, that the profession will make choices that are not professionally self-serving but that will translate into competent, compassionate and ethical decisions and clinical practice that improve the health, well-being and safety of recipients of our care and that the personal and humane qualities and character of our profession will endure.”

*(October 2016 paper at an international conference in Lebanon, sponsored by the American University of Beirut Hariri School of Nursing)*

“Our College has expressed the mission of Villanova in tangible ways that are rooted in the essential elements of a Catholic Augustinian tradition. We are an integral part of Villanova University.”

*(Final Perspectives column in Villanova Nursing, Spring 2017)*

“You are well prepared to face the ambiguities of the world we live in and you are nimble enough to change with the futures that you will influence, live in and live through—you are equipped to turn the prism and give clarity to the kaleidoscope of issues





Always the educator, Dr. Naylor has inspired and mentored numerous doctoral and post-doctoral students who have further translated the model to improve the lives of multiple patient populations. Her work will live on for generations.

The award will be presented annually to a person whose transformative leadership—through high standards of excellence

and extraordinary vision, creativity and inspiration—has ignited dramatic change resulting in the significant improvement of nursing, health or health care. Special preference is given to those with global impact and a spirit of intellectual inquiry, consistent with Villanova’s Augustinian values and whose endeavors and leadership benefit vulnerable and underserved populations. ●

and challenges that nursing and health care will continue to confront. You are our future and you are ready to take on the mantle of leadership.”

*(Convocation, May 2014)*

“Are you willing to be accountable for this College of Nursing’s future? For the even greater contributions that your profession can make to society? Will you do a job or develop a career? Will you be an exemplar for your colleagues and those that follow you into the profession? Will you

use the degrees you have earned to improve or squander your talents? Will you continue to have an inquiring mind and raise questions that you, or others can study to provide rationales and strategies that will improve nursing practice, education and research?”

*(Convocation, May 2014)*

“Wherever you go, remember that you are ambassadors of this College and this University, to the public and around the globe. You are the extension of our Augustinian mission and also, its stewards. You are Villanova’s evidence that *Unitas*, *Veritas* and *Caritas* are not merely Latin words on a seal or a logo—but are vibrant, living values that emanate all you do.”

*(Convocation, May 2014)*

“Being grounded, not only in scientific evidence as a basis for decision-making, but adoption of an ethical code rooted in humanistic and spiritual values takes on greater significance as change accelerates.”

*(Convocation, May 2013)*

“Use your education in the liberal arts and sciences and nursing to ignite positive change, while always respecting and protecting the legacies and essential values that should not be changed.”

*(Convocation, May 2013)*

“God bless all of you. You are the center of this Center of Excellence.”

*(Convocation, May 2013)*



From Oman, Jokha Al-Harthy '07 BSN, '13 MSN (Health Care Administration) served as a graduate assistant for Dean Fitzpatrick.



## Educating to End a Crisis of Epic Proportion

The numbers from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) tell a frightening story. Between 1999 and 2016, more than 350,000 Americans died from an opioid overdose, including from prescription drugs, heroin and fentanyl. How did we get here? The CDC describes three waves, starting in the 1990s with increased prescribing of opioids, followed by a sharp increase in heroin overdose deaths beginning in 2010, then three years later, significant increases in deaths from synthetics including illicitly manufactured fentanyl (IMF).

The opioid crisis has overburdened health-care systems. Most nursing and medical students have had only limited education on substance use disorder (SUD). Nurses find themselves on the frontlines dealing with the crisis. In response, the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing is offering Nursing seniors an elective course, “The Opioid Crisis in America.” In line with National League for Nursing priorities, Amy E. McKeever ’08 PhD, CRNP, WHNP-BC, now associate professor, and Sue Ellen Alderman, MSN, RN, PHMCNS, clinical instructor, developed and implemented this semester-long seminar, offered for the first time this spring.

“Our course addresses treatment as well as necessary policy changes, root causes of this crisis and what nurses can do to play a role in getting the crisis under control,” Alderman notes. “It has pervaded small towns, cities and even the Native American reservations across this country.”

The seminar prepares students to enter the health-care system with an overview of SUD, specifically the opioid crisis, and with the skill sets and a tool kit to screen, assess and refer patients to the appropriate level of care. The course covers the various challenges of patients with SUD, as well as the stigma associated with this brain disease.

The two colleagues have expanded their opioid focus into their senior-level Health Promotion and Community Health Education clinical practicum. At a local mental health treatment center and a residential treatment facility for adolescent girls, Alderman’s students teach neuroscience concepts and what effect illicit drugs have on the underdeveloped adolescent brain.



The opioid epidemic “has pervaded small towns, cities and even the Native American reservations across this country.”

— Sue Ellen Alderman, MSN, RN, PHMCNS

In a social service center, Dr. McKeever’s students focus on parenting education using an empowering curriculum for high-risk women in recovery.

Their efforts are examples of how opioid safety and best practice education are being implemented throughout the College’s programs, including:

- a multidisciplinary panel of opioid crisis experts hosted by the Center for Global and Public Health;
- Nurse Practitioner (NP) Continuing Education pharmacology courses with opioid education hours;
- a lecture for Nurse Anesthesia students on opioid-free treatments; and
- lectures for NP students on pain and addiction management, plus prescribing guidelines, as well as related clinical experiences in pediatric and adult settings that include substance abuse screening.

Believing in the power of nurses at many levels to stem the tide of overdoses, Dr. McKeever affirms: “It starts with education.” ●

## Weight Bias Sensitivity Training Now Part of the Curriculum

With two-thirds of American adults overweight or obese, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, weight bias can be found in the workplace, health care, education settings and the media. Negative stereotypes directed toward these individuals often lead to prejudice and discrimination. Research has shown that even nurses, physicians and dietitians can be biased about weight, and that can affect patient care, for instance less time

and discussion with the patient and fewer follow-up studies. Patients may avoid or delay preventative services because of embarrassment or provider attitudes.

To address this emerging topic, which is on the forefront of issues related to stigma, faculty and staff at the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing have created a training program for juniors on weight sensitivity and weight bias. The creators are two associate professors—Tracy L. Oliver, PhD, RDN, LDN and Bing Bing Qi



## Dr. Smeltzer Named Inaugural Kreider Endowed Professor

An internationally known advocate for health-care access and quality care for people with disabilities, Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN has been named the inaugural holder of The Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professorship in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations. At the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, Dr. Smeltzer is a professor and director of the Office of Nursing Research and Evaluation.

Citing Dr. Smeltzer's 30-year dedication to the health of people with disabilities and the education of nurses who care for them, Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN, interim dean, noted, "She is the ultimate advocate for this population."

Through her research, education and service endeavors, Dr. Smeltzer has brought national attention to the need for the nursing profession and faculty to prepare undergraduates, Nurse Practitioner (NP) students and health professionals to better care for people with disabilities—a vulnerable population whose needs are frequently ignored. She was instrumental in securing a grant from the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration to develop educational materials for NP programs nationally. To help undergraduates and NP students learn how to communicate and care for this population, she created a national model in integrating into clinical simulations experiences with standardized patients with disabilities. Dr. Smeltzer led a faculty team to obtain support from the National League for Nursing to develop the online module Advancing Care Excellence for Persons with Disabilities (ACE.D) (see page 4). She is a co-investigator for a research

grant examining the health needs and barriers to perinatal care for women with mobility disabilities. The grant is funded by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, part of the National Institutes of Health.

While also mentoring and collaborating with students and faculty, Dr. Smeltzer has published numerous research articles in high-impact nursing and interdisciplinary journals. She is a highly sought-after speaker and has served on national task forces to improve the education of providers. Notes Dr. Smeltzer, "The Kreider Professorship and its focus on vulnerable populations provide a unique opportunity to increase the visibility of health-related issues that these populations experience." ●

Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN has devoted her career to providing better care for people with disabilities.



'94 MSN, PhD, RN—and two staff members from the MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE)—Rebecca Shenkman, MPH, RDN, LDN, director, and Lisa K. Diewald, MS, RD, LDN, program manager. A Villanova University VITAL grant supports the program.

The training aims to raise student awareness of their own potential implicit bias toward the weight status of their patients. It addresses the provider biases and discrimination that these patients often experience during health-care visits. The goal is to reduce potential bias and enable students to provide equal and nondiscriminatory care to all patients. Students consider

their own views on obesity and learn the sensitive language needed to discuss weight status and avoid blame. This program is unique as it is a semester long, is tied to the clinical component and uses reflective journaling to reinforce the concept. Students keep logs and have discussions about patients they may have seen or incidents pertinent to the training, capped by an end-of-semester session.

Comparing pre- and post-test scores, faculty have found statistically significant reductions in bias as measured by two validated scales (attitudes and beliefs towards obese persons). ●



## TRANSITIONS

### **Christine Brewer, MSW, MSN, RN**

joined the faculty in January as a clinical instructor. She had been teaching health policy and global health part-time and was a lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. She anticipates completing her PhD in Nursing from the College in 2020. She received her BS in Elementary Education from Shippensburg University, her social work master's from Temple University, her BSN from Drexel University and her MSN from Penn Nursing.



### **Katherine Guinan Lucatorto, DNP, RN**

joined the College in January as a clinical assistant professor with expertise in psychiatric-mental health nursing. She received her BA in Early Childhood Education from Glassboro State College, her BSN from Fairleigh Dickinson University, her MSN in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing from Columbia University and her DNP from Thomas Jefferson University. At Gwynedd Mercy University, Dr. Lucatorto served as program director of the accelerated BSN program and assistant professor.



### **Jennifer Mondillo, ANP-BC, MSN, MBA, RN**

who joined the faculty in January, teaches in the Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner Program. She comes from Drexel University, where she served as FNP concentration co-director and assistant clinical professor. Mondillo is pursuing her PhD in Nursing Education at Widener University. She received her BS in Health Administration and her MSN from Gwynedd Mercy University, her ANS from Montgomery County Community College and her MBA from DeSales University.



### **Arlene Solnick, MSN, RN**

joined the College last October as director of the Simulation and Learning Resource Center. She has more than 13 years of experience in simulation and learning and most recently served as the simulation coordinator and assistant clinical professor at the Drexel University College of Nursing and Health Professions. She received her BSN from Thomas Jefferson University and her MSN in Nursing Education from Drexel. Solnick also has a BA in Speech, Language and Hearing Science from Temple University.



### **Jennifer Yost '00 BSN, PhD, RN**

joined the faculty in August 2017 as an associate professor, returning after eight years as an assistant professor at McMaster University in Ontario, Canada. She has built a program aimed at promoting the knowledge and skills necessary for the use of research evidence in health care. Dr. Yost teaches critical appraisal of research, research methods, statistics, and care of children and families. The BSN alumna received her MA in Nursing Education and her PhD in Nursing Research and Theory Development from New York University.



### **Colleen H. Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE, ANEF**

in January transitioned from director of the Simulation and Learning Resource Center to coordinator of second-degree programs. In her previous role Meakim had influenced the curriculum, helped write the international standards for simulation in nursing education, created state-of-the-art simulation labs and had a great impact on the education of Nursing students.



### **Theresa M. "Terry" Valiga, EdD, RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN**

returns to the College as a fellow working with the PhD in Nursing Program, co-teaching and serving on dissertation committees and the PhD Advisory Committee. A respected scholar and nursing education expert as well as a published author, Dr. Valiga has held many nursing education leadership positions, including director of the College's Graduate Program from 1987-1995 (she had been on the faculty since 1983), and chief program officer of the National League for Nursing. She earned her BS in Nursing from what is now The College of New Jersey and her MEd and EdD from Teachers College, Columbia University.



## Honors at NLN Education Summit

The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing and its faculty were honored for broad and deep contributions to nursing education at the National League for Nursing's (NLN) 2017 Education Summit, held in San Diego last September.

Three Nursing faculty were inducted into the NLN Academy of Nursing Education: Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, PhD, RN, FAAN, ANEF, professor; Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF, associate professor; and Colleen H. Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE, ANEF, coordinator of second-degree BSN options and clinical assistant professor. The latter two delivered a podium presentation, "Advancing Care Excellence for People with Disabilities through Simulation (ACE.D)."

Dr. Mariani accepted NLN's Ruth Donnelly Corcoran Research Award on behalf of herself and Mary Ann Cantrell '89 MSN, PhD, RN, CNE, FAAN, professor and director of the PhD in Nursing Program. Their study is "A Clinical Simulation Program to Increase Graduate Nurses' Clinical Competency and Clinical Judgment in the Practice Setting." ●



# M. LOUISE FITZPATRICK COLLEGE OF NURSING



(Below) Maryanne V. Lieb '84 MSN, RN retired in December 2017 and four colleagues retired this spring: (from left) Joyce S. Willens '83 BSN, PhD, RN-BC; Sara J. Reeder, PhD, RN; Catherine Todd Magel, EdD, RN-BC and Marita Frain '69 BSN, EdM, RN.

## Five Outstanding Colleagues Retire

**M**aryanne V. Lieb '84 MSN, RN retired in December 2017 as clinical assistant professor and coordinator of the second-degree BSN options. Since her arrival in 2003, she had demonstrated passion for nursing and excellent management skills. Her background in the education of adult students led to shepherding from its infancy the College's highly successful and well-regarded accelerated second-degree BSN program. An outstanding teacher, advisor and role model, in her memorable speeches at Summer Convocation she would challenge graduates to "think carefully and care thoughtfully."



The following four were celebrated in May for their decades of service:

- **Marita Frain '69 BSN, EdM, RN**, assistant professor, began teaching at her alma mater in 1980 and served as the College's director of the Undergraduate Program. She has been a major force in driving Nursing's technology agenda and many related curricular initiatives as she focused on IT's health care and academic applications and generously shared her expertise. Her clinical interests include adult health and disability, disaster preparedness, health promotion and spiritual dimensions of health care. She has been a tireless advocate for improving the educational process and developing innovative ways for students to learn.
- **Catherine Todd Magel, EdD, RN-BC**, assistant professor, joined the faculty in 1978 and went on to teach at every level of the Undergraduate Program. She also has taught graduate students as an expert in education, sharing her knowledge in curriculum development and teaching strategies and directing their teaching practicum. Dr. Todd Magel's areas of interest included nursing program development and evaluation, test construction, and adult health/acute and chronic nursing care. She has researched program development and cardiovascular health and has been a lifelong mentor to many alumni.
- **Sara J. Reeder, PhD, RN**, associate professor, began teaching at the College in 2000, reaching both undergraduate and graduate students and fostering clinical partnerships. She was one of two faculty advisors who in 2006 guided students in establishing the Theta Delta Beta Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc. and since then had continued to develop, advise and support the chapter. Dr. Reeder researched women with cardiovascular disease, heart failure and childhood obesity and cardiovascular risk factors. She guided numerous evidence-based practice projects and published several studies related to her research.
- **Joyce S. Willens '83 BSN, PhD, RN-BC**, assistant professor and a loyal and generous alumna, joined the faculty in September 1986. An RN-to-BSN graduate, she went on to coordinate that campus-based program for years with a commitment to her students. She shared her expertise in CPR, the essentials of nursing practice and as a longtime advocate of pain management. Dr. Willens is former president of the American Society for Pain Management Nursing, a past editor of *Pain Management Nursing*, and author of countless articles and book chapters on the subject. ●

## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

**Angelina Arcamone '82 BSN, '86 MSN, PhD, RN**, assistant dean and director of the Undergraduate Program, published with **Jaclyn Parkinson '12 MSN, RN, PCCN** and **Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN**, associate professor, "A Pilot Study Exploring Rehabilitation Nurses' Perceptions of 12-Hour Shifts," in *Nursing2018*, 48 (2), 60-65.

**Frances Amorim, MSN, RN, CCE**, coordinator of Clinical Education and clinical assistant professor, contributed Chapter 2, "Understand the Rules: What Every Nursing Instructor Needs to Know About the Nursing Program's Policies," in *Fast Facts for the Clinical Nursing Instructor* (third edition), by Eden Zabat Kan, PhD, RN and **Susan Stabler-Haas, MSN, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, part-time faculty member.

**Sherry A. Burrell '15 PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, CNE**, assistant professor, published with Jerome-D'Emilia, B.; Kushary, D.; Suplee, P.D. and Hansen, K., "Breast Cancer Stage at Diagnosis in a New Jersey Cancer Education and Early Detection Site," in the *American Journal of Clinical Oncology* (Epub. ahead of print, January 22.)

**Mary Ann Cantrell '89 MSN, PhD, RN, CS**, professor and director of the PhD in Nursing Program, published:

- with **Susan Birkhoff '10 MSN, '17 PhD, RN; Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, professor and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research; and Lustig, R., "The Usability and Acceptability of a Patient-Centered Mobile Health Tracking App Among a Sample of Adult Radiation Oncology Patients," in *Advances in Nursing Science* (Epub. ahead of print, February 22);
- with Franklin, A.E. and Leighton, K., "The Evidence in Simulation-based Learning Experiences in Nursing Education and Practice," in *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 12 (13), 634-667; and
- with Wise, N.J.; Hadley, F. and Joyce, K., "Development of an Interactive Pregnant Adolescent Nutrition Education Workshop," in *The Journal of Perinatal Education*, 26 (3), 154-164.

**Theresa "Teri" Capriotti '95 MSN, DO, RN, CRNP**, clinical associate professor:

- published with Nursing juniors **Julia Noel** and **Simone Brissenden**, "Multiple Sclerosis: An Update for Home Healthcare Clinicians," in *Home Healthcare Now*, 36 (3), 169-180;
- published with then-sophomore **Meghan Scanlon**, "Shingles: A Complete Guide for the Primary Care Clinician," in *Clinical Advisor*, 20 (2), 13- 20 and
- was clinical editor for *Nursing Care Planning Made Incredibly Easy* (third edition).

**Linda Carman Copel, PhD, RN, PMHCNS, BC, CNE, NCC, FAPA, ANEF**, professor, published:

- with Sacco, T.L., "Compassion Satisfaction: A Concept Analysis in Nursing," in *Nursing Forum*, (53) 1, 76-83 (Epub. June 29, 2017);
- the chapters "Assessment and Management of Problems Related to Male Reproductive Processes," "Individual and Family Homeostasis, Stress, and Adaptation" and "Health Promotion and Health Education," in *Brunner & Suddarth's Medical-Surgical Nursing* (14th edition), edited by Janice L. Hinkle and Kerry H. Cheever; and
- the chapter, "Disorders of Children and Adolescents," in *Psychiatric Nursing Made Incredibly Easy* (14th edition), edited by Carolyn Gersch, Nicole M. Heimgartener, Cherie R. Rebar and Laura M. Willis.

**Elizabeth B. Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor, published with Brush B.L.; Gultekin, L.E.; Saint Arnault, D.M. and Satterfield, K., "Understanding Trauma Normativeness, Normalization, and Help Seeking in Homeless Mothers," in *Violence Against Women*, November 29, 2017, 1-17.

**Diane M. Ellis '84 BSN, '92 MSN, RN, CCRN**, clinical assistant professor, published with **Colleen Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE, ANEF**, coordinator of second-degree programs; **Trisha Prieto MBA, BSN, RN, CHSE**, nursing simulation operations specialist; and **Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN**, associate professor, "Transitional Care Experience in Home Health: Exposing Students to Care Transitions Through Scenarios and Simulation," in *Nursing Education Perspectives*, 39 (1), 48-50.

**Sunny G. Hallowell, PhD, PPCNP-BC, IBCLC**, assistant professor, published:

- with Lake, E.T. and Rogowski, J.A., "How Nurse Work Environments Relate to the Presence of Parents in Neonatal Intensive Care," in *Advances in Neonatal Care*. (Epub. ahead of print, September 23, 2017);
- with Darcy Mahoney, A.; Zauche, L.; Weldon, A. and Stapel-Wax, J., "Leveraging the Skills of Nurses and the Power of Language Nutrition to Ensure a Better Future for Children," in *Advances in Neonatal Care*, 17 (1), 45-52; and
- with Froh, E.B., Spatz, D.L. and the American Academy of Nursing Expert Panel on Breastfeeding, "Human Milk and Breastfeeding: An Intervention to Mitigate Toxic Stress," in *Nursing Outlook*, 65 (1), 58-67.

**Tamara M. Kear '09 PhD, RN, CNS, CNN**, associate professor, published three articles in the *Nephrology Nursing Journal*:

- "Fluid and Electrolyte Management Across the Age Continuum," 44 (6), 491-496;
- with Park, S., "Current State-of-Practice: Transportation for Patients with End Stage Renal Disease," 44 (4), 309-315; and
- with Ulrich, B., "The Health and Safety of Nephrology Nurses and the Environments in Which They Work," 45 (2), 117-139, 168.

**Michelle M. Kelly '94 BSN, '12 PhD, CRNP, RN**, assistant professor, published two articles in the *Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners*:

- "Health and Educational Implications of Prematurity in the United States: National Survey of Children's Health 2011/2012 Data," 30 (3), 131-139; and
- with **Elizabeth Blunt, PhD, RN, APRN-BC**, coordinator of Nurse Practitioner programs and assistant professor, and **Kelly Ann P. Nestor '96 BSN, '08 MSN, ANP-BC**, then-clinical instructor, "After-hours/On-Call Experience During Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Education Utilizing Standard Scenarios and Simulated Patients," 29 (12).

**Meredith MacKenzie Greenle, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, CNE**, assistant professor, published:

- with Hanlon, A., "Healthcare Utilization after Hospice Enrollment in Heart Failure and Cancer Patients," in the *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine*, (Epub. January 11, 2017);
- with Meghani, S.H.; Kang, Y.; Morgan, B.; Wasim, A. and Sayani, S., "Clinician-targeted Mobile Apps in Palliative Care: A Systematic Review," in the *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, (Epub. ahead of print, May 30, 2017), 20 (10) 1139-1147; and
- with **Emma Max '17 BSN, RN**, "Just in KASE: Evaluating Nursing Student Knowledge, Attitudes and Self-Efficacy Towards Care for the Dying Patient," in the *Journal of Hospice and Palliative Nursing*, 19 (4), 356-362.



**Linda Maldonado, PhD, RN**, assistant professor, published Chapter 11, "Health Care as Women's Rights: The Maternity Care Coalition—The Philadelphia Story," in *Nursing History for Contemporary Role Development*, edited by S. Lewenson, A. McAllister and K. M. Smith.

**Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN**, associate professor, published:

- with **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE**, assistant professor; **Susan Fretz Paparella '86 BSN, '02 MSN, RN**; and Allen, L., "Medication Safety Simulation to Assess Student Knowledge and Competence," in *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 13 (5), 210-216;
- with **Stephanie Jeffers '11 PhD, RN**, "The Effect of a Formal Mentoring Program on Career Satisfaction and Intent to Stay in the Faculty Role for Novice Nurse Faculty," in *Nursing Education Perspectives*, 38 (1), 18-22; and
- with O'Rourke, J.; Horsley, T.L.; Doolen, J. and **Christine Pariseault '95 BSN, MSN, RN, CEN**, "Integrative Review of Interprofessional Simulation in Nursing Practice," in the *Journal of Continuing Education for Nurses*, 49 (2), 91-96.

**Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN**, associate professor and director of the Center for Global and Public Health, published:

- with Jeffers, J.; Nicholas, P. and Sweeney, C., "Mandate for the Nursing Profession to Address Climate Change Through Nursing Education," in the *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 49 (6), 679-687; and
- with Murphy, K.J.; Leffers, J.M. and Jordan, L., "Integrating Climate Change into Nursing Curricula," in *Nurse Educator*, (Epub. ahead of print, March 28).

**Colleen M. Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE**, coordinator of second-degree programs, published with Rockstraw, L.J. the chapter "Lights, Camera, Action! The Process of Evaluating, Acquiring, and Implementing an Audio/Visual Capturing Solution to Enhance Learning," in *Simulation Scenarios for Nursing Educators. Making it Real* (third edition), edited by S.H. Campbell and K.M. Daley.

**Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, professor and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research, published:

- with Yanke, E.; Carayon, P. and Safdar, N., "A Qualitative, Interprofessional Analysis of Barriers to and Facilitators of

Implementation of the Department of Veterans Affairs' *Clostridium difficile* Prevention Bundle Using a Human Factors Engineering Approach," in the *American Journal of Infection Control*, 46 (3), 276-284;

- with Winter, L., "Quality of Relationship Between Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury and Their Family Members," in *Brain Injury*, 31 (4), 493-501;
- with Winter, L. and Short, T., "Beyond Anger: Emotion Regulation and Social Connectedness in Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury," in *Brain Injury*, 32 (5), 593-599; and
- with Dillon, P. and Lipschik, G., "Using Simulation with Interprofessional Team Training to Improve RRT/Code Performance," in the *Journal of Interprofessional Education & Practice*, June 2018, 67-72.

**Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN**, associate professor, published:

- with Hanlon, A.L.; Mauer, E.; Meghani, S.; Masterson-Creber, R.; Marcantonio, S.; Coburn, K.; Van Cleave, J.; Davitt, J.; Riegel, B.; **Kathryn M. Bowles '90 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI**; Keim, S.; Greenberg, S.A.; Sefcik, J.S.; Topaz, M.; Kong, D.; and **Mary Duffin Naylor '71 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN**, "Identifying Distinct Risk Profiles to Predict Adverse Events Among Community-Dwelling Older Adults," in *Geriatric Nursing*, 38 (6), 510-519;
- with Lee, T., "The Home Health Groupings Model: Should Historical Practice Shape Future Payment?," in *Home Health Care Management and Practice*, 29 (2), 126-129; and
- with Chase, J.-A. D.; Russell, D.; Huang, L.; Hanlon, A. and **Dr. Bowles**, "Relationships Between Race/Ethnicity and Health Care Utilization Among Older Post-Acute Home Health Care Patients," in the *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, (Epub., February 19).

**Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE**, assistant professor, published:

- with **Sherry A. Burrell '15 PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, CNE**, assistant professor, "Standardized Patient Simulations to Teach Evidence-Based Oncology Symptom Management," in the *Journal of Nursing Education*, 57 (4), 250-253;
- with **Shannon Myers '17 BSN**, "The Current Use of Social Media in Undergraduate Nursing Education: A Review of the Literature," in *CIN: Computers Informatics Nursing*, 35 (7), 338-344; and



## Villanova Honors Two Scholars

(Left) Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor, is the first Nursing faculty member to receive Villanova University's Outstanding Faculty Mentor Teaching Award. Presented at Commencement, it honors a full-time faculty member who has excelled at mentoring undergraduates or graduate students, especially in scholarly research. (Right) Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, associate professor, in April was the inaugural recipient of the Villanova University Scholarly Achievement Award. The award recognized her previous honors from the Gerontological Society of America for the most outstanding paper published in *Research in Nursing & Health* (2015), Sigma Theta Tau International research awards (2015 and 2016) and the Eastern Nursing Research Society's Rising Star Research Award (2017). Dr. O'Connor has received grants and published frequently in peer-reviewed nursing and inter-professional journals. ●

- with **Elizabeth A. Bruderle '90 MSN, PhD, RN**, clinical assistant professor, "The Effect of Active, Student-Centered Teaching Strategies on Sophomore Baccalaureate Nursing Students' Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes, and Comfort Related to Patient Safety," in *Nurse Educator*, 43 (1), 2-3.

**Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor, published:

- with **Christina Reilly Whitehouse '04 BSN, '16 PhD, AGPCNP-BC, CDE** and **Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, FAAN**, professor, director of the Center for Nursing Research and Evaluation, and The Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations, "Supporting Transitions in Care for Older Adults with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and Obesity," in *Research in Gerontological Nursing*, 11 (2), 71-81;
- with **Pennie Sessler-Branden '12 PhD, CNM, RN**, "Growing Clinical and Academic Nursing Leaders: Building the Pipeline," in *Nursing Administration Quarterly*, 41 (3), 258-265;
- with **Jennie Ryan, MSN, CPNP-AC**, a PhD in Nursing student, "The Experience of Medical Marijuana Patients: A Scoping Review of the Qualitative Literature," in the *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*, 49 (3), 185-190; and
- with **M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN**, at the time Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, "Distance Learning for PhD Education: Experiences and Outcomes," in *Advances in Nursing Doctoral Education and Research*, 6 (1), 5-10.

**Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, FAAN**, professor, director of the Center for Nursing Research and Evaluation, and The Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations, published:

- with Wint, A.J.; Ecker, J.L. and Iezzoni, L.I., "Labor, Delivery, and Anesthesia Experiences of Women with Physical Disability," in *Birth*, 44 (4), 315-324; and
- two articles with **Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor; **Mary Ann Cantrell '89 MSN, PhD, RN, CS**, professor and director of the PhD in Nursing Program; **Mary Ann Heverly, PhD**, associate adjunct professor; **Nancy Wise '09 MSN, '15 PhD, RN**; and **Amanda Jenkinson '18 PhD, RN**, "Perceptions of Academic Administrators of the Effect of Involvement in Doctoral Programs on Faculty Members' Research and Work-Life Balance," in *Nursing Outlook*, 65 (6), 753-760 and "Nursing Doctoral Faculty Perception Related to the Effect of Increasing Enrollments on Productivity," in *Nursing Education Perspectives*, 38 (4), 201-202.

**Jennifer Yost '00 BSN, PhD, RN**, associate professor, published:

- with Eldh, A.C.; Almost, J.; DeCorby-Watson, K.; Gifford, W.; Harvey, G.; Hasson, H.; Kenny, D.; Moodie, S. and Wallin, L., "Clinical Interventions, Implementation Interventions, and the Potential Greyness In Between: A Discussion Paper," in *BMC Health Services Research*, 17 (1), 16; and
- with Newman, K.; Dobbins, M. and Ciliska, D., "Information-Seeking When Problem-Solving: Perspectives of Public Health Professionals," in *Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing*, 14 (2), 145-153.



Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN (right) receives the Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS) award from Dr. Anne Marie Mauro, chair of the ENRS Awards Committee.

Courtesy Eastern Nursing Research Society

## ENRS Salutes Dr. Moriarty's Research with Veterans and Their Families

"I have been honored to serve those who have served our country through my work at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center over many years. The 2018 Suzanne Feetham Nurse Scientist Family Research Award is very special to me because it affirms the importance of research that addresses the needs of both veterans and their families," noted Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN as she received the award from the Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS) April 12 in Newark, N.J. Dr. Moriarty, professor in the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, holds the Diane L. & Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research. She also is a nurse researcher at Philadelphia's Corporal Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center and co-chairs the ENRS Family Research Interest Group.

Dr. Moriarty's career has focused on improving the understanding and care of individuals and families experiencing severe stressors, with a special emphasis on veterans and their families. In psychiatric-mental health nursing, she gained a background in family systems. A highly regarded and collaborative researcher and prolific scholar, she has numerous publications and presentations to her credit. Her recent study, funded by the National Institutes of Health, evaluated the impact of an innovative in-home intervention for veterans with traumatic brain injury and their families. Through leadership roles and serving as primary investigator, co-investigator or mentor on more than 100 VA studies, Dr. Moriarty has advanced science and practice around the complex challenges faced by this population. She shares her deep commitment to veterans by educating students about their unique health concerns and engaging doctoral students in related research. ●



## LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENTS

**Elizabeth M. Blunt, PhD, RN, APRN-BC**, coordinator of Nurse Practitioner programs and assistant professor, gave two podium presentations:

- “Incorporating Variations of Aging, Ethnicity and Disability into the Physical Assessment Lab: Patient Teaching Associates,” at the 5th International Conference on “Interdisciplinary Aspects of Beauty, Health and Disease,” which took place in Jaroslaw, Poland, May 2017; and
- “Primary Care On-Call: Nurse Practitioner Students Taking After Hours Call,” at the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, Washington, D.C., in April 2017.

**Patricia K. Bradley PhD, RN, FAAN**, associate professor, in May received the Wildcat Crossing Faculty Award at Villanova University’s Wildcat Crossing Recognition Ceremony, which honors underrepresented students for their achievement in earning their degree. The award is given through student nomination in recognition of commitment, dedication and service to students.



**Sherry A. Burrell '15 PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, CNE**, assistant professor, is co-investigator with **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE**, assistant professor, on a grant they received last November, “Standardized Patient Simulation as an Active Learning Strategy in Oncology Symptom Management,” from the Alpha Nu Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International.

**Mary Ann Cantrell '89 MSN, PhD, RN, CNE, FAAN**, professor and director of the PhD in Nursing Program, in September 2017 was elected vice president for research for the International Association of Clinical Simulation in Nursing. She is the principal investigator for a grant from the National League for Nursing, “A Clinical Simulation Program to Increase Graduate Nurses’ Clinical Competency and Clinical Judgment in the Practice Setting.”

**Theresa “Teri” Capriotti '95 MSN, DO, RN, CRNP**, clinical associate professor, was chosen by Villanova University seniors to deliver their “Last Lecture” and honored as “Teacher of the Year” by the Villanova Student Government in April 2017.

**Linda Carman Copel, PhD, RN, PMHCNS, BC, CNE, NCC, FAPA, ANEF**, professor, gave two podium presentations: “The Perceptions of Stigma by Parental Caregivers with Mentally Ill Family Members” at the 28th International Nursing Research Congress of Sigma Theta Tau International, held in Dublin, Ireland, in July 2017; and “Abuse Experiences of Adults with Chronic Mental Illness Reported by Their Parental Caregivers” at the 30th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Eastern Nursing Research Society, held in Newark, N.J., in April.

## Case Study Educates on Parkinson’s Medication Safety

**Diane Ellis '84 BSN, '92 MSN, RN**, clinical assistant professor, (standing in front), has been named a Villanova Institute for Teaching and Learning (VITAL) Faculty Associate for the Fall Semester. She is the first Fitzpatrick College of Nursing faculty member to be awarded this distinction.

Building on her expertise in the care of patients with Parkinson’s Disease (PD), Ellis will develop simulations to enhance learning in both the clinical simulation laboratory and clinical settings. Her project, involving other faculty members and two research seminar students, aims to increase awareness and educate Nursing undergraduates and faculty about the impact of patients’ missed or omitted PD medications. Their innovative case study—on incomplete medication

reconciliation and omission of time-sensitive medications—explores quality improvement strategies focused on safe and timely medication administration and reconciliation during care transitions. While they will conduct their simulated unfolding case study within the academic setting, it holds great potential for dissemination among clinical nurses.

Colleagues joining Ellis in the College’s simulation laboratory are (from left) **Shelley Hickey '07 MSN, RN**, clinical assistant professor; **Meghan Galvin**; **Melissa O’Connor, PhD, MBA, RN**, associate professor; and **Addie Doyle**. Galvin and Doyle will continue assisting during their senior year. In May, the three faculty members delivered a podium presentation on their medication safety research findings at the 2018 Quality and Safety Education of Nurses International Forum, held in Bonita Springs, Fla. ●



**Sunny G. Hallowell, PhD, PPCNP-BC, IBCLC**, assistant professor, presented a paper, “How Nurse Work Environments Relate to the Presence of Parents in Neonatal Intensive Care,” at Sigma Theta Tau’s 44th Biennial Conference, held in Indianapolis, Ind., last October; and at the 29th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Eastern Nursing Research Society, held in Philadelphia in April 2017. Dr. Hallowell’s appointments include serving on the Editorial Board and as social media editor for *Advances in Neonatal Care*; on the Executive Board of Education Plus Health, a non-profit operating more than 15 school-based health centers in partnership with the National Nursing-Led Care Consortium; and as national representative of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP), representing the organization and the nation’s children. She received funding to attend the first national summit of the Helene Fuld Health Trust National Institute for Evidence-based Practice in Nursing and Healthcare, held in Columbus, Ohio, in October 2017.

**Tamara M. Kear ’09 PhD, RN, CNS, CNN**, associate professor, in December 2017 joined the 10-member Technical Expert Panel assisting the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in examining the feasibility of a Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems Survey for home, peritoneal and pediatric patients on dialysis. In April Dr. Kear began her term as president-elect of the American Nephrology Nurses Association. She serves on the Scientific Advisory Board for Kibow Biotech, Inc.

**Michelle M. Kelly ’94 BSN, ’12 PhD, CRNP, RN**, assistant professor, is the 2017-2018 president of the Pennsylvania Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP).

**Meredith MacKenzie Greenle, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, CNE**, assistant professor, was the principal investigator for “A Culturally Tailored Approach to Lifestyle Modification” (May 2017-December 2017), funded by the Nurse Practitioner Healthcare Foundation/Astellas “Promoting Heart Health Across the Life Span Award” Program.

**Catherine Todd Magel, EdD, RN**, assistant professor, received the Excellence in Nursing Education award from the Alpha Nu Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International, in November 2017.

**Linda Maldonado, PhD, RN**, assistant professor, presented “Exploration of Intergenerational Caregiving Related to Puerto Rican Women’s Pregnancy Outcomes” at the 13th International Family Nursing Conference, sponsored by the International Family Nursing Association in Pamplona, Spain, in June 2017.

**Bette A. Mariani ’82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF**, associate professor, is the 2018-2019 president of the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning. With **Kate Morse ’13 PhD, RN**, Dr. Mariani guest-edited the January special edition of *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, which featured PhD studies and DNP projects.

**Ruth McDermott-Levy ’96 MSN, ’08 PhD, MPH, RN**, associate professor and director of the Center for Global and Public Health, was honored last December when the open-access textbook she co-edited, *Environmental Health in Nursing*, was named the *American Journal of Nursing’s* “Book of the Year” in the environmental health category. She helps coordinate climate change outreach for the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments and represents nursing on a subgroup of the Council of Territorial and State Epidemiologists. In March, she was a visiting scholar at Penn State’s College of Nursing, addressing planetary health, climate change, sustainability and nursing responses.

**Helene Moriarty ’77 BSN, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, professor and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research, was re-appointed co-chair of the Research Committee of the International Family Nursing Association. She was an invited presenter, with J. Robinson, of “Nursing Solutions: Recognizing the Impact of Genitourinary Symptoms in PD,” a webinar sponsored by the Edmond J. Safra Foundation at the Parkinson’s Foundation, May 23, 2017. Dr. Moriarty presented, with L. Winter and K. Robinson, “The Contribution of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder to Functioning and Psychological Wellbeing in Military Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury” at the 30th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Eastern Nursing Research Society, held in Newark, N.J., in April.

At the 13th International Family Nursing Conference, sponsored by the International Family Nursing Association in Pamplona, Spain, in June 2017, Dr. Moriarty gave three podium presentations: with L. Winter, “Quality of the Relationship Between Military Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury and Their Family Members”; with L. Winter, Robinson, K., Newhart, B. and T. Short, “Factors Related to Depression in Family Members of Military Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury”; and with S. Meiers, L. Smith, B. Ostergaard, A. Brodsgaard, C. Danford, K.H. Anderson, C. Edds-McAfee, V. Swallow, J. Honda, S. Feetham, J. Konradsen and C. Feeley, “Defining Family Nursing: An International Perspective.”

**Melissa O’Connor, PhD, MBA, RN**, associate professor, was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia. In December 2017, she was appointed to the Advisory Committee of the Connected Health/Telehealth Professional Issues Panel by the American Nurses Association Department of Health Policy. She was an expert panelist at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement’s think tank on “Advancing Patient Safety in Home Health,” held in Boston last November.

Dr. O’Connor gave two presentations at the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics, held in San Francisco in July 2017. One was a paper with **Helene Moriarty ’77 BSN, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC**, professor and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research; **A.L. Hanlon, Elizabeth B. Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor and **Kathryn M. Bowles ’90 MSN, PhD, RN**,

“It is encouraging to see so many emerging scholars dedicated to advancing the science of simulation. Simulation continues to be an ever-evolving field with endless possibilities; however, evidence derived from rigorous studies and projects in the academic and clinical settings are critically important. Patient safety and quality outcomes continue to be a high priority in health care, and it is evidence-based practice and research that move this agenda forward.”

— Bette A. Mariani ’82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF and Kate Morse ’13 PhD, RN, from their editorial in *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*



## On a Fulbright to Finland

“Climate change is our greatest public health threat,” observes Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN, associate professor and director of the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's Center for Global and Public Health. Funded by a Fulbright-Saastamoinen Foundation Health and Environmental Sciences Award, she will spend August to December teaching and conducting research at the University of Eastern Finland (UEF).

“The Finnish population is at risk due to significant increases in air temperature,” Dr. McDermott-Levy explains. “My teaching and research grant will focus on the health impacts of climate change in Finland.” UEF has three campuses, 30,000 degree and adult students, an interdisciplinary research focus and agreements with 100 universities internationally. Dr. McDermott-Levy will teach two courses related to global health and the impacts of climate change on human health. She will collaborate with UEF faculty to develop an Environmental Health course that will bring together UEF and Villanova University students in the same online classroom.

Her research study at UEF involves Finnish health-care professionals' observations of their patients' health impacts related to climate change, as well as their recommendations for schools of nursing, medicine and public health to address these impacts. The study will also inform medical and nursing educators of areas of professional and curricular development to address the impacts. ●

Next semester, at a prominent Scandinavian research university, Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN will teach, conduct a study and develop an online course for students in Finland and at Villanova.



## Worth Quoting

**“If we can improve our air quality, we can see immediate effects of decreased respiratory diseases and early death, and a healthier population. Health professionals must take a leadership role to advocate for policies that promote improved air quality.”**

—Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN, quoted by Miranda Spencer in her “Get to Know a Climate Champion: Ruth McDermott-Levy” online Climate for Health blog, May 25, 2017

**FAAN, FACMI**, “Determining Readiness for Discharge from Skilled Home Health Services: A Mixed Methods Study,” and the other presentation was “Clinical Decision Support: Improving Care, Improving Outcomes.”

**Tracy L. Oliver, PhD, RDN, LDN**, associate professor, in March became chair-elect of the Weight Management Dietetic Practice Group of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Assistant professors **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE** and **Sherry A. Burrell '15 PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, CNE** were co-investigators for “Undergraduate Nursing Students' Attitudes Towards Nursing Research and Nursing Education Research, and Perceptions of Participation in Nursing Education

Research,” sponsored by the College's Center for Nursing Research (November 2017 through May). In May, Dr. Ross and **Colleen M. Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE**, coordinator of second-degree programs, were awarded a Villanova Institute for Teaching and Learning (VITAL) minigrant for their project, “The Integration of TeamSTEPPS® Teamwork Training into Nursing Courses.” With additional faculty input and support, they are working over the summer to implement these performance and patient safety strategies throughout the Nursing curriculum.

**Jodie Szlachta '07 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CRNA**, director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program, last fall became president of the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists.



# Supporting the Next Generation

## Davis Scholars Disseminate Their Science

Student scholars who complete summer research projects with support from the Hugh M., Pamela S. and Olivia M. Davis Fund for Undergraduate Research have been taking their work to the next level with publications, lectures and poster presentations. Meet four of the Davis Scholars.

**Elizabeth “Liz” Long ’15 BSN, RN, CEN** was the first of the Davis Scholars to publish in a tiered nursing journal. In her article, based on her Summer 2014 project, she observed “Human trafficking is estimated to surpass the drug trade as the leading illegal industry in the world. According to a recent study, over 87.8 percent of trafficking survivors came into contact with a health-care professional while they were enslaved and were not identified as a victim of human trafficking.” Long now practices in a Philadelphia Emergency Department (ED) as Clinical Nurse III at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Long published her data-driven article, “Nurses’ Perceptions of Victims of Human Trafficking in an Urban Emergency Department: A Qualitative Study,” in the January *Journal of Emergency Nursing*. Her co-author was her faculty research mentor, Elizabeth B. Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and coordinator of undergraduate research for the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. The authors parsed six themes from interviews with ED nurses, who are “in key positions to identify and provide care to victims of human trafficking, violence, and prostitution” and who desire more education on the resources available to victims.

(Right) As a student, Elizabeth “Liz” Long ’15 BSN, RN, CEN looked into what RNs in an urban emergency department (ED) knew about human trafficking victims. She now practices in a Philadelphia ED.



Junior Antonio “Tony” Garcia discusses the poor maternal/child outcomes of Puerto Rican women in a Philadelphia neighborhood.



Presenting her poster at the Villanova Undergraduate Research Symposium, Carolyn Astrup ’18 BSN discussed strategies for assessing and improving nutritional status for older adults receiving home health care.



Right from her freshman year, Lucy Andersen ’18 BSN took an interest in research. Later, volunteering in Haiti, she realized she wanted to learn more about how access to clean water could improve daily life for Haitian women.

**Carolyn Astrup ’18 BSN** as a sophomore was mentored by Melissa O’Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, associate professor, researcher and home health care expert. Astrup conducted a systematic search and critique to focus on a gap in nutrition literature: assessment and education for older adults receiving home health care. Astrup and Dr. O’Connor co-published “Fuel for Life: A Literature Review of Nutrition Education and Assessment Among Older Adults Living at Home” in the February *Home Health Care Management & Practice*. The two pointed out several strategies to assess and improve nutritional status, such as individualized nutrition counseling and identifying malnutrition indicators.

**Lucy Andersen ’18 BSN**, who graduated with minors in Honors and Global Health, through the Villanova Freshman Match Research Program served as a Spring Semester research assistant for Dr. O’Connor. Then in July following her sophomore year, in Haiti she began asking questions based on her volunteer work at the free medical clinic in Pont Morel and villages nearby. Returning to campus, mentored by Dr. Dowdell, she knew she

wanted to learn more. The Davis Fund supported her proposal, “Access to Clean Water and Urinary Tract Infections in Haitian Women.” From her research, Andersen developed a data-based abstract, poster and podium presentation. She presented her poster in April at the 30th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Eastern Nursing Research Society and at the College’s Undergraduate Scholars Day, part of the Fifth Annual Villanova Spring Research Expo. She also gave a podium presentation there.

Junior **Antonio “Tony” Garcia** researched “Social Media as a Mechanism for Social Support in Vulnerable Communities of Childbearing Puerto Rican Women,” mentored by Linda Maldonado, PhD, RN, assistant professor. As part of the “Team Latina” she guides, Garcia and other Nursing students study the poor maternal/child outcomes in Philadelphia communities of Puerto Rican women and build interventions to improve their access to and participation in prenatal care. At the research expo, Garcia gave a podium presentation and he and Astrup joined Andersen in presenting their posters. ●



# Donors Advance Education Through Scholarships

Generous donors make possible the education of future Villanova nurses. The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, and our students, are grateful for the support of these alumni, parents and friends.

*Donna DiPalma Cassidy Doctoral Nursing Scholarship*  
**Mary Kloster**, Hinsdale, Ill.

*Pamela M. and John W. Cembrook Family Endowed Scholarship*  
**Kristal Kim**, sophomore, Cresskill, N.J.

*Beatrice A. Chase '54 Scholarship for Nursing*  
**Adam Boroughs**, senior, Swedesboro, N.J.  
**Christina McCusker**, senior, Newtown Square, Pa.

*David and Christine Clark '94 Endowed Scholarship*  
**Emilio Ponciano**, sophomore, Los Angeles

*Richard W. and Martha B. Coyle Nursing Scholarship*  
**Jazmine Lima**, junior, Randolph, Mass.

*Jill Laura Creedon Scholarship for Nursing*  
**Maryrose Purdue**, senior, Hopatcong, N.J.  
**Victoria Grant**, senior, Staten Island, N.Y.

*The Frances Farrell D'Ambrisi Endowed Nursing Scholarship*  
**Jennifer Kim**, senior, Palisades Park, N.J.  
**Jonathan Tran**, freshman, Manville, N.J.

*The Eileen A. Dowdrick and Joseph Cassidy Doctoral Nursing Scholarship*  
**Claire McKinley Yoder**, PhD student, Milwaukie, Ore.

*Dumais Family Scholarship*  
**Austin Lin**, freshman, Philadelphia

*The Linda D. and James W. Eastwood '68 Family Endowed Nursing Scholarship*  
**Alexandra Arrigale**, freshman, Philadelphia

*James W. and Linda D. Eastwood Scholarship*  
**Sammantha Chiu**, freshman, Philadelphia

*The Eastwood Family Nursing Scholarship*  
**Stephanie Wainwright**, senior, Atco, N.J.

*The Memorial Endowment of Margaret S. and Jeremiah J. Enright*  
**Daniel Lin**, senior, Flushing, N.Y.  
**Catherine Fuller**, senior, Lafayette Hill, Pa.

*The Father John J. Farrell, OSA and Robert J. Capone Scholarship*  
**Kara Klement**, sophomore, Huntington, N.Y.

*The Daniel M. and Christine A. Finnegan Endowed Nursing Scholarship in Memory of Eileen S. Lupton '03*  
**Kerlyn Rodriguez**, junior, Darby, Pa.

*Dean M. Louise Fitzpatrick Endowed Nursing Scholarship*  
**Emily Haining**, sophomore, Rockport, Maine

*Lisa Smith Freer & Bradford Freer College of Nursing Scholarship*  
**Madison Montague**, senior, Coronado, Calif.

*Lisa Smith Freer '91 and Bradford F. Freer Restricted Scholarship*  
**Cynthia Carlos**, freshman, Los Angeles

*Jeanne Gallagher Endowed Scholarship in Nursing*  
**Rachel Flynn**, sophomore, West Deptford, N.J.  
**Ha Min Kim**, sophomore, Flushing, N.Y.  
**Geraldine Genovese**, junior, Huntington, N.Y.  
**Jennifer Hernandez**, junior, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
**Antonio Garcia**, junior, Manalapan, N.J.  
**Karen Suzuki**, senior, Tivoli, N.Y.

*Eileen Greyson Hoffman '61 Scholarship for Nursing*  
**Antonio Garcia**, junior, Manalapan, N.J.

*Mary Alice Holland Memorial Scholarship*  
**Stephanie Yea**, junior, Tenafly, N.J.

*Christina Larson Kelly '74 Scholarship*  
**Haley Morrissey**, freshman, Braintree, Mass.

*The Kreider Family Endowed Nursing Scholarship*  
**Yuna Kim**, junior, Newtown, Pa.

*John and Maureen Lloyd '84 Nursing Scholarship*  
**Agnes Cho**, senior, Yonkers, N.Y.

*The Eileen S. Lupton '03 Endowed Memorial Scholarship*  
**Margaret Dixon**, sophomore, Wilmette, Ill.

*Thomas and Rita McCreesh Endowed Scholarship*  
**Priscilla Acquah**, senior, Bronx, N.Y.

*Gerald M. and Carolyn A. Miller Family Scholarship*  
**Tiffany Pearson**, freshman, San Antonio, Texas

*The Mother Theresa Endowed Nursing Scholarship Established by Peter and Colleen Schleider in Memory of Richard and Eileen Wright*  
**Cynthia Carlos**, freshman, Los Angeles

*Theresa Wilson & Michael J. Mruz Scholarship in Nursing*  
**Hayes Marcus**, junior, Fairfield, Conn.

*Mullany Scholarship*  
**Claire Leroux**, junior, York, Maine

*NMK Educational Enrichment Scholarship*  
**Frances Steadman**, sophomore, Nantucket, Mass.

*The Mary V. O'Donnell Endowed University Scholarship*  
**Vathana Oukan**, sophomore, Hershey, Pa.

*The Julia B. Paparella Endowed Nursing Scholarship*  
**Julia Peters**, junior, Binghamton, N.Y.

*Daniel D. Peschio, Jr. Memorial Endowed Scholarship*  
**Anika Nana**, junior, Orlando, Fla.

*The Ashley Rose Pitek Scholarship*  
**Tracy Widmer**, DNP student, Franklinville, N.J.

*The Pompizzi Family Endowed Scholarship for Nursing*  
**Margaret Dixon**, sophomore, Wilmette, Ill.

*PPJOC Endowed University Scholarship*  
**Joanna MacIntosh**, senior, Prospect Park, Pa.

*Carina Joy Rogerson Endowed Memorial Graduate Nursing Scholarship*  
**Naeta Farr**, MSN student, Pottstown, Pa.  
**Erin Kane**, MSN student, Philadelphia  
**Nicole Miller**, MSN student, Chester, Pa.

*The Alexis Rosenberg Foundation Endowed Scholarship*  
**Jessica Meehan**, junior, San Diego

*Doris Clark Schley Scholarship*  
**Katrina Garzon**, senior, North Potomac, Md.

*Dr. Abigail Adams Silvers Endowed Nursing Scholarship*  
**Joseph Vena**, PhD student, Philadelphia

*The Margaret Mary Starzynski Memorial Fund Scholarship*  
**Addison Hillard**, junior, Newton, N.J.  
**Kylie Needham**, Aliso Viejo, Calif.

*Lisa Thiemann Restricted PhD Nursing Scholarship*  
**Emily Scheff**, PhD student, Bedford, N.H. ●

## College Receives Broad and Inspiring Support

The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing is supported by the generosity of alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends who have helped the College surpass its comprehensive goal as part of “For the Greater Great: The Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change.” A multitude of options aligns our benefactors’ passions with the College’s priorities. Below are a few recent highlights:

**The Michael S. and Carol Toussie Weingarten Endowed Professorship in Nursing Leadership**, established by Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, ANEF, associate professor, and her husband, Michael S. Weingarten, MD, '96 MBA, FACS. The fund will support work undertaken by this endowed professor, with a focus in the areas of Nursing student advisement and the development of nursing leadership among undergraduate and graduate students. *Endowed professorships and endowed chairs* provide the College with the resources necessary to recruit and retain the best faculty to educate future generations of nurses and patient advocates.

**The Charles A. and Geraldine C. Ruibal Endowed Nursing Scholarship Fund**, established by Charlie '68 COE and Gerry Ruibal. The fund supports Nursing students who actively volunteer in the community. *Growing the number of endowed and term scholarships* increases access to the College for high-achieving students with financial need.

**The Dr. M. Louise Fitzpatrick Nurse Leaders Endowed Fund**, established by Michael J. '67 CLAS and Theresa M. Mruz '67 BSN in memory of M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. Resources from the fund will be leveraged with external grant-making organizations and

longstanding initiatives, such as the Jonas Nurse Scholars Program, to advance doctoral research in nursing education. *Advancing the science of nursing education and the development of new nurse faculty* is of critical importance within the profession.

**Thomas F. and Marie B. Schaible '72 BSN** generously pledged their support over the next five years to the *Standardized Patients with Disabilities Program*. Disability affects one in every four or five people in the United States. This program was established to ensure that students gain experience in communicating appropriately with people with disability; become comfortable in interacting with patients with disability; and are prepared to provide comprehensive, sensitive and appropriate nursing care to this population across settings wherever nurses encounter them.

**The A.P. Kirby, Jr. Foundation**, through the generosity of Jessie Lee P '17, continued its support for the College's *Simulation and Learning Resource Center (SLRC)*. The SLRC provides students mannequin-based and standardized patient opportunities to practice new skills or to carry out simulation activities in health assessment, essentials of nursing, adult health, maternal/child health, critical care, community health, leadership, primary care and nurse anesthesia.

**Christina Larson Kelly '74 BSN** made a generous contribution to support the College's *LEAD Professional Development Program*, which focuses on mentorship, networking, communication skills and personal enrichment. Kelly is a member of the College's Board of Consultants and the LEAD Program advisory team. She is a certified financial planner™ and president of Larson Financial Planning, Inc. and also volunteers her time teaching strategies for financial success to Nursing seniors. ●

## We Thank Our Generous Donors

The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing is grateful for the contributions and support of our alumni, parents and friends over the years. Since the beginning of Villanova University's comprehensive capital campaign, “For the Greater Great: The Villanova Campaign to Ignite Change,” the College has raised more than \$33.9 million for our students and programs—the largest amount in our history. We continue to welcome all gifts in support of ongoing and future initiatives to ensure the growth of Nursing's scholarly environment and the best education for undergraduate and graduate students.

This list reflects donations to the College and the College of Nursing Fund in calendar year 2017. If you have questions about giving, or find an omission or error in this list, please contact Steve Grouke at (610) 519-3587 or by e-mail at [stephen.grouke@villanova.edu](mailto:stephen.grouke@villanova.edu).

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## Smartphones Help Adults Track Oncology Care

“Technology touches many facets of our daily lives and I believe it can be leveraged to support health and wellness in a variety of ways, especially for patients fighting cancer,” affirms Susan Birkhoff ’10 MSN, ’17 PhD, RN, whose diverse clinical background includes radiation oncology. Dr. Birkhoff is a nurse scientist with Christiana Care Health System in Delaware, where she provides guidance, support and mentoring in all aspects of research and evidence-based practice while cultivating her research agenda in mobile health technology.

It all started with her fierce patient advocacy as she witnessed the devastating toll cancer can take on pediatric patients and their families when she was working at The Roberts Proton Therapy Center in Philadelphia for the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). With the idea that technology could improve patient self-care and quality of life, Dr. Birkhoff pursued her PhD in Nursing at Villanova University. Her dissertation was “Examining the Usability and Acceptability of a Patient-Centered Mobile Health Tracking App for Adult Patients Undergoing Radiation Therapy for Cancer Treatment.” She has published

three articles: in the *Journal of Informatics Nursing*, the *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* and *Advances in Nursing Science*.

Dr. Birkhoff collaborated with the tech industry, specifically with Self Care Catalysts, Inc. to use Health Storylines™, which facilitates patients in tracking their health and wellness outside of the clinical setting. Her study is the first to examine mobile health tracking among adults receiving oncology radiation. The study launched in 2016 with the tremendous support of two Nursing faculty members: Mary Ann Cantrell ’89 MSN, PhD, RN, CNE, FAAN, professor and director of the PhD in Nursing Program, and Helene Moriarty ’77 BSN, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, FAAN, professor and the Diane L. and the Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research. Also helping to smooth her way was Penn Medicine’s Robert Lustig, MD, FACR, professor of clinical radiation oncology and chief of Clinical Operations, Department of Radiology, Perlman School of Medicine.

As lead investigator, Dr. Birkhoff managed all aspects of the study in Penn Medicine’s research-intensive environment. “The patients who enrolled in my study were truly inspiring,” she says, having particularly enjoyed recruiting them.

The study evaluated the app using the Technology Acceptance Model as a theoretical framework. Overall, participants found the app usable and acceptable. Eighty-one percent reported Health Storylines™ easy to use, with medication, appointment, mood and symptom trackers receiving the highest usability ratings. Dr. Birkhoff notes that the use of the symptom tracker is significant, as oncology patients experience an array of side

## Innovative Tool to Identify a Stealth Disease

The past year has been one of extraordinary success for Monica Cades ’17 DNP, CRNP. A nurse practitioner with Lehigh Valley Physicians Group Family and Internal Medicine in Allentown, Pa., Dr. Cades recently graduated from the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program after presenting her scholarly project, “Identifying and Staging Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) in Patients with Hypertension and Diabetes in Primary Care Through Pre-Visit Screening.” DNP projects offer the opportunity to apply advanced empirical and theoretical knowledge to design, implement, evaluate and intervene in the clinical environment based on evidence.

An estimated one in seven U.S. adults (30 million people) has CKD, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its two leading factors are diabetes and hypertension. Early identification and treatment can slow and perhaps prevent progression to kidney failure.

Through a pre-visit planning tool, Dr. Cades sought to identify and appropriately stage CKD in adult patients with diabetes and hypertension who have decreased glomerular filtration rate or elevated micro-albumin. This tool would significantly improve the identification of CKD, since symptoms don’t usually appear until the later stages and approximately 90 percent of patients are asymptomatic and 95 percent are stage 2 or 3.

Her superior project earned Dr. Cades the first-place DNP Student Poster Award at the 30th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Eastern Nursing Research Society, held April 13 in Newark, N.J. She plans to disseminate these important findings at professional conferences. ●



The doctoral project undertaken by Monica Cades ’17 DNP, CRNP—a pre-visit planning tool—would significantly improve identifying chronic kidney disease.





Nurse scientist Susan Birkhoff '10 MSN, '17 PhD, RN, shown in the proton therapy center, conducted the first study of mobile health tracking with an adult oncology radiation population.

effects during their treatment and tracking them would be helpful during that time.

In addition to her research position, Dr. Birkhoff remains at the bedside as a clinical nurse at CHOP at the Roberts Proton Therapy Center and as a pediatric clinical simulation instructor at Penn's School of Nursing. "I want to make a positive impact in patients' lives through the power of technology," she notes, "by researching meaningful apps that truly help patients manage their health." ●

“ I want to make a positive impact in patients' lives through the power of technology...”

—Susan Birkhoff '10 MSN, '17 PhD, RN

## Welcome to the Profession and the Nursing Alumni Association!

Sunshine and the completion of their last final (in Leadership) on May 9 made for some happy members of the Class of 2018. These BSN alumni are the first to graduate from the newly named M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing.





## Three Villanovans Inducted into Research Hall of Fame Congratulations

to our three alumnae who in July 2017 were among 23 nurse researchers from six countries inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International International Nursing Research Hall of Fame at its 28th International Nursing Research Congress, held in Dublin, Ireland. The honor recognizes nurse researchers who have achieved significant and sustained national or international recognition and whose research has improved the profession and the people it serves.

- **Kathryn H. Bowles '90 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI**, director of the Center for Home Care Policy and Research at the Visiting Nurse Service of New York and professor of nursing and the van Ameringen Chair in Nursing Excellence at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in Philadelphia;
- **Veronica D. Feeg '71 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor and associate dean, Molloy College's Barbara H. Hagan School of Nursing in Rockville Centre, N.Y.; and
- **Donna Sullivan Havens '83 MSN, RN, PhD, FAAN**, then-professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing. On June 30, the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing welcomed Dr. Havens as Connelly Endowed Dean. ●

### Networking with 'Nova Nurses

Last fall, Nursing alumni re-connected in Washington, D.C. (top photo) and New York City while learning more about the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's initiatives from Lesley A. Perry, PhD, RN, interim dean. Special thanks to our generous hosts of both events.

On October 19 in the Nation's Capital, Villanova nurses shared many memories and made new connections. Antoinette Hazlett '74 BSN opened her home for the reception, joined by co-host and classmate Rear Adm. (Ret.) Christine M. Bruzek-Kohler '74 BSN, EdD, RN, a member of the College's Board of Consultors.

On November 29 in Manhattan, Terri '74 BSN and Gerry '74 CLAS Bernaz once again hosted Villanova nurses—more than 40—at their wonderfully welcoming Rossini's Restaurant. Joining Dr. Perry was Marguerite K. Schlag '68 BSN, EdD, RN, assistant dean and director of the Graduate Nursing Program.

Keep the conversations going among yourselves and with the College! ●





# Nursing Alumni Notes

## 1970s

**Eileen Thomas '79 BSN, EdD, RN, CEN** in February 2017 became an assistant professor and simulation educator for the Helene Fuld Trust Simulation Center at Columbia University's School of Nursing in New York City. She earned her doctorate at Teachers College, Columbia University in 2016. Her dissertation was "Memories of Simulations Gone by: Perceptions of Newly Graduated Nurses' Undergraduate Simulation Experiences, and Simulation's Influence on Their Nursing Practice."

## 1980s

**Maribeth Schreder LeBreton '81 BSN, DNP, RN, CRNP, APRN-BC**

as a nurse practitioner is part of an interprofessional team in an innovative clinic at Penn Medicine's Lancaster General Health, serving high-risk patients with an increased use of health-care services.

She received the 2017 Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year award from her employer in October 2017. In March 2017 she received a Lancaster Catholic High School Alumni Citation Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement. The high school's highest alumni award, it recognizes her dedication, understanding of each patient's health literacy, and continued efforts to increase health and well-being in Lancaster County. Dr. LeBreton has been instrumental in implementing a health literacy assessment across the Lancaster hospital and with the team implementing the teach-back method.



**MaryJane Finnegan '82 BSN, MSN, RN** in June 2016 became chief nursing officer (CNO) of St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center in Smithtown, N.Y., where she has practiced nursing for more than 28 years. Previously she served as a leader for both the Psychiatric and Emergency departments and was acting CNO and assistant vice president of Nursing Administration.

**Jeanne Venella '82 BSN, MS, DNP, RN, CEN, CPEN** in 2017 was appointed to a two-year term on the Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania (NAP) Board of Trustees. A nonprofit, NAP engages in activities to recruit and retain nurses in Pennsylvania. Dr. Venella teaches part-time in the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice Program and is a member of the Nursing Alumni Association board.

**Madeline McCarthy Bell '83 BSN, '15 DHL (Hon.), RN**, president and CEO of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, was named one of *Modern Healthcare's* "100 Most Influential People in Healthcare" for 2017. She is a member of the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's Board of Consultants.

**Cynthia Blank-Reid '83 BSN, MSN, RN, CEN** transitioned this spring from president to immediate past president of the Society of Trauma Nurses, which has more than 3,200 members internationally. A member since its founding in 1990, for two years she served on its board as director at large, then treasurer and president-elect. A trauma clinical nurse specialist, Blank-Reid has practiced at Temple University Hospital for 14 years. Reflecting on her BSN education, she says, "Villanova recognized something in me that I had not even recognized—leadership, knowledge and a drive to get things done."

**Pam DeCampi '88 MSN, RN, NEA-BC**, a member of the College's Board of Consultants, was honored with a 2017 Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania's Take the Lead Lehigh Valley Award for her longstanding support of the organization, her leadership and her mentorship.

## 1990s

**Tonya Creglow Stafford '92 BSN, RN, CPN**

is a clinical nurse on the Pediatric Surgery and Trauma floor at the University of North Carolina Medical Center in Chapel Hill. She is a member of the Pediatric Family Advisory Board and the Retention and Recruitment Committee, as well as a validator for pediatric competencies and a frequent preceptor. The hospital's leadership recognized her as the 2017 Children's Service Nurse of the Year. Earlier that year she received the American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association's Spotlight Award for her professional contributions.



**Juli Curcio-Abati '92 BSN, MSN, CNL** in January became director of Nursing Administration for Alliance Homecare, a concierge home health care provider serving individuals and families in New York City, Long Island, Westchester County and the Lower Hudson Valley. Bringing more than 25 years of nursing and more than 17 years of management experience, she directs the nursing program and oversees clinical care.

## Three Ways to Connect with Students and Alumni

Many of you have gotten in touch asking how you can give back to Nursing students. Here are a few ideas:

- **Join** our LinkedIn group "Villanovans in Nursing" so students and alumni can network with you.
- **Join** the new NovaNetwork, Villanova University's new social and professional networking platform at [alumni.villanova.edu](http://alumni.villanova.edu).
- **Volunteer** to be an alumni ambassador at your institution so an interested student can learn more about nursing practice there. Interested? Please e-mail [ann.mckenzie@villanova.edu](mailto:ann.mckenzie@villanova.edu) with your name, preferred e-mail, phone, employer, role and unit/specialty. ●

## DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

Stay in touch—tell us about your latest job, award and other news.

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E-mail Ann Barrow McKenzie '86 BSN, '91 MSN, RN, director of College Relations, at [ann.mckenzie@villanova.edu](mailto:ann.mckenzie@villanova.edu).

**Nezam Al-Nsair '97 MSN, PhD, RN** this July became the inaugural dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions at York College of Pennsylvania. He is the second dean appointed under a new model to consolidate York's departments into five schools. The school offers a BSN and an accelerated RN to BS in Nursing, as well as a certificate, master's and doctoral programs.

**Nada Hussain Al Moosa '99 BSN, '03 MSN, '14 PhD**, head of Quality Assurance in Oman's Ministry of Health, presented "A Change Management Framework for Social Responsibility of Higher Education Institution" at the 6th Change Management Conference, hosted by the Dubai Quality Group in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, in April 2017.

## 2000s

**Catherine Loper McDonald '00 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN** was inducted into the American Academy of Nurses in October 2017 in Washington, D.C. An assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Nursing, Dr. McDonald researches adolescent injury prevention and health promotion.

**Hilal Alrahbi '02 BSN, '06 MSN, '13 PhD** co-authored the article "Factors Influencing Diabetes Self-management Among Omani Patients with Type-2 Diabetes: Patients' Perspectives" in the *Journal of Nursing Education and Practice*, 7 (12), 64-71.

**Raja Jadelhack '02 MSN, '14 PhD** is director of Administrative Affairs at the Saudi Health Mission, Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in Washington D.C.

**Brian C. Peach '04 BSN, '10 MSN, PhD, RN, CCRN** in March successfully defended his dissertation, "Urosepsis in Older Adults:

Incidence and Risk Factors Associated with Mortality," at the University of Florida. He graduated in May.

**Lt. Cmdr. Elyse Braxton USN, NC, '06 BSN, RN** published a book, *Haiku of Love and War*, a collection of poetry written during her Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment.

**Stephanie Jeffers '06 MSN, '11 PhD, RN** was awarded tenure in February and promoted to associate professor at Widener University School of Nursing, effective this fall.

**Terri-Ann Kelly '09 BSN, '13 MSN, PhD, RN, CPT** successfully defended her dissertation in April 2017 and graduated with a PhD in Nursing Science from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. She is an assistant professor at the Rutgers School of Nursing-Camden.



## 2010s

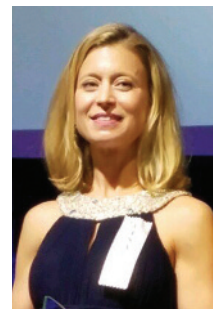
**Haley Werkheiser Hlela '12 BSN, MSN, RN, ACCNS-P, CPHQ** is the safety quality specialist in pediatric pulmonary and ICU stepdown nursing at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. In May 2017, she gave a podium presentation, "Breathing Better: Creating Developmentally Appropriate Literature for Children with

Cystic Fibrosis," at the Child Life Council's 35th annual Conference on Professional Issues, held in Las Vegas.

**Julie Kurkowski '14 BSN, RN** last summer was named Nurse of the Year for the Emergency Department (ED) at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP). Kurkowski, a Level 3 staff nurse, was commended by the Emergency Medicine Physician Residency Class of 2017 for her excellence in all aspects of ED nursing. She has continued her outstanding work at HUP, where she was elected president of the ED's Unit Council and represented the ED at a national Magnet® conference.

**Katie Hooven '16 PhD, MBA, RN, CAPA, CNE** published the article "Development and Testing of the Collaboration in the Clinical Learning Environment Tool" in the *Journal of Nursing Measurement*, 25 (2), 353-369. In Ewing, N.J., she is an assistant professor at The College of New Jersey's Department of Nursing.

**Shannon Rutberg '06 BSN, '12 MSN, RN-BC** was honored in the Nursing Education-Staff Development category at the 2017 Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania gala, held last November in Camp Hill, Pa. She is employed by Main Line Health's Bryn Mawr Hospital.



## DON'T MISS NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE COLLEGE

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## Reflections from the Nursing Alumni Association President

Dear Fellow Alumni:

With gratitude for the vision and life of the late M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, I recall our leader's almost four decades of guiding our alma mater—and so many of us—into our future. How appropriate that the College she loved so much was named for her, along with a new transformative leadership award. Congratulations to its inaugural recipient, Mary Duffin Naylor '71 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, in recognition of the impact of her research and advocacy.

The April 7 Annual Mass and the dedication ceremony for the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing were beautiful events, as were so many comments on social media from fellow alumni remembering how wonderful Dean Fitzpatrick—

“a woman of substance,” “a dear friend,” a mentor—was about people. They recalled how she gave a personal tour to an out-of-town family, offered support to a student who faced adversity and was a proud cheerleader when learning of the successes of Villanova nurses. With that inspiration and our shared bond in mind, we continue the work, caring and leading, advocating for Villanova Nursing, connecting with each other and driving our profession forward. Thank you for all you do to make our 'Nova Nursing Nation so strong.



Mary Ellen Boyle Lorenz '83 BSN, RN  
Interim President, Nursing Alumni Association

## In Memoriam

### Alumni

**Anne P. Gallagher '54 BSN**, longtime resident of Springfield, Pa., died peacefully at the Residence of Glen Riddle July 19, 2017, at age 89. A member of the Army Nurse Corps, she served in VA and civilian hospitals.

**Virginia L. “Ginny” Lee McQuillan '60 BSN** died peacefully at age 91 September 4, 2017, at Brittany Pointe Estates in Lansdale, Pa. She practiced in hospital, school/school district and academic settings.

**Theresa Stremba Boyce '64 BSN**, of Ocean City, N.J., died June 3 at the age of 88. She was passionate about the environment, social justice, and health and wellness.

**Carol Trevisan Lillis '64 BSN, MSN**, of Landenberg, Pa., died November 14, 2017, at home at age 74 after a four-year battle with cancer. Her 40-year nursing career included serving as nursing dean at Delaware County Community College and co-authoring eight editions of the popular textbook, *Fundamentals of Nursing*.

**Mara Horan Schwenk '64 BSN, PhD**, of Hatfield, Pa., died April 21 at age 91. At the

College, she served as a faculty member in obstetrics for many years, from 1966-1992. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Dr. Schwenk's memory to the Villanova University Nursing Scholarship Fund, 800 E. Lancaster Ave., Villanova, PA 19085.

**Regina “Jean” M. Quinn '65 BSN, MSN, EdD** died suddenly November 18, 2017, at her home in Springfield, Pa., at age 77. She served in clinical, managerial and educator roles.

**Roberta Danza '70 BSN**, of Stratford, Conn., and New York City, passed away peacefully in her sleep November 4, 2017, at age 74 following a three-year battle with pancreatic cancer. She practiced psychotherapy for many years and treated those who were present at the attacks on the World Trade Center and Sandy Hook Elementary School.

**Kathleen “Kathy” Ruane '72 BSN**, died February 24 in Baltimore at age 67. Known for her compassion, she was a nurse practitioner, had a master's degree in public health and provided primary care to seniors in low-income facilities.

**Margaret “Peggy” Curtin McDevitt '81 BSN**, of Glen Mills, Pa., died July 24, 2017,

at age 85. She practiced in hospitals in Reading and the Philadelphia suburbs.

**Anna Marie Bonfini Burgio '83 BSN**, of Ardmore, Pa., died September 17, 2016, at age 55.

### Faculty

**Gale Robinson-Smith, PhD, RN**, of Berwyn, Pa., died March 5 at age 69. She taught at the College for 18 years. An associate professor, she was a researcher and clinical specialist in psychiatric-mental health nursing.

“Students are critical,” she noted. “It's important to meet them where they are and go from there.” She was the sister of retired faculty member Elise Pizzi, MSN, CRNP and former faculty member Dr. Zane Wolf. Contributions in her memory may be made to Villanova University Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, Driscoll Hall, 800 Lancaster Ave., Villanova, PA 19085. ●



# THREE NEW SITES FOR GAINING A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

**IN LOCATIONS WORLDWIDE**, the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing has globalized learning through a new Global Health minor as well as study abroad, health promotion experiences and international field experiences (see map). Last year, the College launched opportunities in three new countries: China, France, and Madagascar. The other 10 are in the Dominican Republic, England, Ghana, Ireland, Japan, Nicaragua, Peru, Poland, South Africa and Spain. Each offers a unique purpose and experience, and all provide a life-changing, dynamic learning environment, helping students build a foundation of cultural understanding and growth as they embark on their professional careers.

Villanova University challenges students and faculty to “ignite change,” whether stateside or in a remote village 8,700 miles away. The College continues that challenge by nurturing nurses who will advocate and innovate to address health-care issues internationally. As Cynthia Jones '18 BSN noted upon her return from Madagascar, “This program helped me gain a better and broader understanding of the state of health care around the world.”



During the 2017 Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Brian Muscarella '80 VSB (seated) found support from fellow Villanovans Kevin Scanlon '81 CLAS and then-juniors Sarah Hannan '18 BSN (left) and Kelsey Goldstoff '18 BSN. Muscarella volunteered to help during this year's pilgrimage.

The students were able to go to Lourdes through the generous support of Craig and Nancy Gibson, whose daughter Caroline is a rising junior at the College. The Gibsons, members of the Order of Malta Boston Area, co-chaired the 32nd pilgrimage, held May 3-9, 2017. This May on the pilgrimage, Nursing juniors Meghan Sarles and Kate Dowdle assisted *malades*.

## Caritas in France

In May 2017, Sarah Hannan '18 BSN and Kelsey Goldstoff '18 BSN, then juniors, took part in the national Order of Malta American Association's 32nd annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Each year, 5 million pilgrims make their way to this market town in southwestern France. Lourdes holds a deep religious significance for Catholics. In its Grotto, beginning in 1858, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared 18 times to a peasant girl, later canonized as St. Bernadette. In its baths, men and women of all ages seek the healing strength of its naturally flowing spring.

Goldstoff and Hannan volunteered to assist the *malades*, the pilgrims who despite their health limitations seek respite from illness. A volunteer accompanies a *malade* and his or her caregiver to daily Mass, the baths, and other religious and social activities.

After sharing so many experiences and conversations with her *malade* and caregiver, Hannan affirmed how “Their struggles gave me greater respect and humility for those suffering from illness. This incredibly touching and prayerful experience allowed for me to combine my love of nursing care with my love of faith and service to others.” Kelsey noted how she “returned from Lourdes feeling recharged and excited, no doubt filled with the Holy Spirit.”



## Veritas in China

Half-way around the world in Beijing, eight Villanova Nursing students toured seven teaching hospitals and participated in timely workshops on geriatrics, the care of cancer patients, management of chronic diseases, health promotion and management of diabetic patients within the community. They compared Chinese and U.S. health-care delivery mechanisms and the nurses' roles within each system. They identified socio-economic and political impacts on Chinese health and articulated public health and health promotion opportunities in China.

Leading their 10-day international field study in May 2017 were Bing Bing Qi '94 MSN, PhD, RN, associate professor, and Catherine McDonald, MSN, RN, who teaches part-time at the College. The contingent of eight rising seniors were: Jordan Barrett, Rachel Heckler, Cara Mallowney, Corey Snow, Madeline Stadler, Kristen Strand, Molly Turner and Claire Welzant.

Reflecting on his time in Beijing, Snow observed, "When I first began my work in this field study for International Health, my knowledge of how things functioned and operated in China was limited to what I read in history books, as well as what I was exposed to in the American media. I was astounded by what I learned from actually being there and immersing myself in the culture. My experience allowed me to gain a great deal of detailed cultural insight, which in turn allowed me to grow as a person."

Students also explored the rich culture and historical significance of several sites, including the Great Wall of China, the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square and the Summer Palace.



POLAND

JAPAN

## Unitas in Madagascar

Off the coast of Africa, on the large island of Madagascar, Carolyn Astrup '18 BSN and Cynthia Jones '18 BSN, rising seniors at the time, witnessed how factors such as clean water, sanitation, food security, cultural beliefs and practices, micro-financing and sustainable agriculture fit together to impact one of the poorest countries in the world. For eight weeks in Summer 2017, they immersed themselves among the Malagasy people as part of a team of 10 Villanova University students from Nursing, the Villanova School of Business, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Engineering.

Through Villanova's partnership that began in 2005 with Catholic Relief Services (CRS), an international humanitarian organization, the students shared their classroom skills and knowledge to contribute to important projects benefiting local communities.

"Through working with CRS," Jones noted, "I had the chance to see firsthand what international development work looks like and the problems that these organizations address." She spent most of her time in the port of Toliara (population 157,000), while Astrup was based in the town of Mananjary, seat of a Catholic diocese. Madagascar, which gained independence from France in 1960, consists of the large main island and numerous smaller ones.

One of this republic's greatest challenges is malnutrition. According to M. Frances Keen, DNSc, RN-BC, a retired faculty member and trip advisor, many Madagascar children face the severe issue of stunted growth due to undernutrition and poor sanitation. At their respective sites, the two Nursing students focused on developing educational materials; teaching mothers about communicable disease prevention, nutrition, growth monitoring and food distribution; and learning how these factors fit together to improve the health of a nation. The students also joined a Harvard University research team in a very remote village, studying factors affecting nutrition and communicable disease. Astrup and Jones were active observers in a pop-up clinic and participated in the blood draws and data analysis within their project's research component.

"All of these experiences have allowed me to imagine myself in the field and further globalizing the efforts to provide healthier, cleaner and more sustainable solutions to those that need them," Astrup wrote during her weekly reflections.

Based on the Nursing students' contributions and the benefits received by the communities in which they were involved, CRS requested Villanova Nursing to double the number of students this summer. The four now in Madagascar are rising seniors Emilia Dresser, Erin Gibson and Gaby Molina and rising junior Rachel Zlotnick.



Some 90 percent of Madagascar's very diverse plants and animals are found only in these islands, including lemurs. Carolyn Astrup '18 BSN learned close-up about this unusual primate.



Last summer, 10 Villanova undergraduates, through a partnership with Catholic Relief Services, served as volunteers improving conditions such as malnutrition and lack of clean water.

SOUTH AFRICA





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**“ Let me tell you, it is  
my great privilege,  
the privilege of  
my life, to serve  
as your dean. ”**

— the late M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN  
Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor  
From her Convocation Address, May 14, 2016