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Dear College of Nursing Alumni and Friends,

The College of Nursing is in a time of transition with Dean Nancy Fahrenwald leaving to be the dean of Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. It is my privilege to return to the dean's position at SDSU in May 2018 after almost five years of retirement in July 2013. My goal is to keep all of the progress moving onward and upward and not let any projects fall through the cracks. A national search is in place to recruit a dean for the College of Nursing.

The strategic plan. Imagine 2023: Aspire. Discover. Achieve, is being implemented. The four goals reflect aspirations for continuing to:

I. Attain Academic Excellence;
II. Cultivate and Strengthen Partnerships;
III. Foster Innovation and Increase Research, Scholarship and Creativity Activity; and
IV. Be a Growing, High-Performing and Healthy College of Nursing.

Outcomes for this year include:

- Provisional accreditation granted for five years from the Council for Accreditation of Healthcare Simulation Programs for the College of Nursing Simulation Center on all four campuses. Leann Horsley led the self-study with assistance from faculty members Anne Buttolph, Paula Carson, Sandra Mordhorst, Mary Kay Nissen, Annette Ray, Danielle Schievelbein, Aaron Tonsager and Alyssa Zweifel.
- NCLEX pass rate for more than 300 prelicensure graduates of greater than 95 percent from the standard and accelerated undergraduate options.
- Continued 100 percent certification pass rate for all nurse practitioner graduates from the M.S. and DNP graduate program.
- Recruitment of two associate deans—Mindy Tinkle for undergraduate nursing and Debra G. Anderson for the Office of Nursing Research.
- Established the Population Health Evaluation Center, a service center within the Office of Nursing Research in the College of Nursing.
- Partnership with college leaders across campus with the SDState Health Coalition to foster a healthy environment and incentive for faculty, staff and students. Knowing that consistent and sustained daily exercise, sufficient sleep and balanced nutrition is important is one thing. Implementing this activity on a regular basis is the challenge!!
- Preparation of graduates to impact health care locally, regionally, nationally and globally.

This issue highlights student-athletes who are also nursing students. Any successful professional is a team player, highly organized, knowledgeable of the core competencies of the discipline of study, and an outstanding citizen.

Feedback I receive from clients who have been cared for by our graduates consistently report that they received competent care from a knowledgeable and confident registered nurse. The faculty, staff, administrators and I are very proud of the nursing graduates from the undergraduate and graduate programs. The care that is provided impacts the client’s road to recovery, or a comfortable death, in a positive manner and exceeds expectations for comfort.

Thank you for your continued support of the College of Nursing. Our focus is to raise additional scholarship monies to support students.

Roberta K. Olson, Ph.D., RN
Interim Dean and Professor Emerita
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ON THE COVER:
South Dakota State student-athlete Emma Johnson documents items in a patient’s electronic medical record with help from nurse Maggie Boe on Brookings Hospital's inpatient care unit.

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A game-winning kick. An attempt to win a Summit League Championship. The anticipation and unknowing of what condition the next patient has when they enter the emergency room.

According to five student-athletes currently enrolled in the College of Nursing, those pressures can be handled through practice and knowledge.

“With sports, there’s always pressure, always something that could go wrong. You have to be able to adjust and fight through that adversity,” said Anthony Andera, who is a pole vaulter on the Jackrabbits track and field team and was in his first semester in the college pursuing a bachelor’s degree in fall 2018. “Let’s say you’re winning a high school football game, but then it gets tied and then you’re losing. When you get the ball back, you run the two-minute drill to try to win. You have two minutes to figure out what you need to do, demonstrate what you have learned, and execute perfectly to score the last six points to win—now switch that thought to health care and the College of Nursing. The faculty test us to the point where we need to know what we’ve learned.
“With sports, there's always pressure, always something that could go wrong. You have to be able to adjust and fight through that adversity.”

Anthony Andera
Pole vaulter on the track and field team

and how to apply and execute what we've learned in a matter of minutes to save this person.”

How those student-athletes get to that point in their lives not only varies by sport but also by their own knowledge of what works for them.

One key ingredient is time management. Andera, placekicker Chase Vinatieri, defensive lineman Zach Dorgan and jumpers Emma Johnson and Chloe Holtz all say managing their time is what allows them to be successful in both areas.

“I just try to take it day by day,” Holtz said. “There are definitely some days when I'm overwhelmed and try to figure out how I'm going to get everything done. If I focus and get the things I need to get done first, I just keep chipping away at it, little by little.

“For the most part, I know you can't control what you can't control,” she continued. “When I'm in a situation, I try to control what I can and focus on that; do the best I can and move to the next thing. Once I get to a meet, my mind is all there. Once I'm done, I know I need to get back to studying because I have an exam or a project due.”

Vinatieri, who has had a long-term
interest in medicine, makes the most of little breaks. That path has allowed him to be named three times to the Missouri Valley Football Conference Honor Roll.

“It’s nice being a specialist as my obligations are a lot less than what others need to do,” Vinatieri said, noting he hopes to become a nurse anesthetist. “Others have to be here during the day for meetings, treatments and taping. I’m lucky enough that I don’t have to do any of that, so there again is another time slot where I can complete what I need to do for that day or for the next day.”

Dorgan, who was named to the 2015 Missouri Valley Football Conference Honor Roll, likes to use Sundays as a way to catch up or work ahead, if possible.

“When I have a clinical in Madison, I’m up at 4:30 a.m., do that, come back and go straight into meetings and practice. I don’t get a break until 8 p.m.,” Dorgan said. “We typically have exams on Thursdays and I typically don’t have time to study Wednesdays. After football, I try to study for 30 minutes before I fall asleep. If I try to do more than that, I’m too tired to process anything.

“Football sets you up for your future, learning integrity and leadership skills and on top of that, it teaches you some really good time-management skills, which help me pursue a degree in nursing right now,” he continued. “Some people might think you’re missing out on a lot but if it’s what you want for your future, you’re not. I’m probably the busiest I’ll ever be in my life. If I’m managing this time of my life well, I should be set up fairly well for the rest of my life.”

Johnson, who is in her third semester in nursing, says it gets easier balancing the two disciplines but it takes sacrifices. Johnson also competes in throwing events.

“You adjust and if you don’t, you fail one way or another—you either fail your classes or fail your sport,”
she said. “There’s no time for Netflix. In fact, there were a couple of football games last year where I’d see my parents for an hour but then go to the library to study and maybe go to the second half of the game. It’s tough, but it will be worth it.”

Andera, who is also in his first semester, agrees about setting priorities. He also understands how his time as a student-athlete could pay off when it is time to join the workforce.

“Being a student-athlete, I have to prioritize things, know where I have to be and what I have to get done,” Andera said. “In a sense, you’re working two jobs. There are definitely challenges. It’s definitely grueling. You’re tired after practice but you realize you have to study for these things.

“It wasn’t until this year that I had that big realization of this is what I’m supposed to do,” he continued. “I’d say I was going into nursing, but never had that realization that this is what I’m going to do. It wasn’t until I got a message from my mom … a note that said you’re going to be the hands for so many people on earth and you’re going to be the answer to so many prayers. That is when it hit me that I can touch so many peoples’ lives with either being a friendly face or a kind smile when they’re going through something difficult. That was my big realization that this is what I’m supposed to be doing.” Whether one is studying, practicing or competing, there has to be a desire to do it.”

“You definitely have to love both,” Johnson continued. “It’s not something you can just do every day because you think you want to. You have to love it and have to make choices. You have to think positive and be positive, even though you have a lot going on. You have two choices—you can either be annoyed and pout or be positive and be thankful you’re able to do all of these activities and have a different college experience than most other people.”
LeBeau Receives Honorary Doctorate
Also known by her Lakota name as Wignuke Waste’ Win (Pretty Rainbow Woman), Marcella LeBeau’s accomplishments as a leader and as a registered nurse have spanned eight decades and have contributed to the health and well-being of diverse populations of people, including World War II soldiers and the Lakota people of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

Those are part of the accomplishments which allowed LeBeau to receive an honorary doctorate of public service from South Dakota State University in May 2018.

LeBeau completed a diploma in nursing at St. Mary’s Hospital in Pierre in 1942. Her career as a registered nurse began in a Michigan hospital but quickly changed when she willingly served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during World War II. Her fortitude and courage was recognized with the awarding of six highly distinguished medals, including the French Legion Medal of Honor, awarded in France in 2004 at the 60th Anniversary of D-Day.

“I was privileged to care for soldiers from D-Day and Battle of the Bulge. We had no idea what was going on then and what the outcome would be. D-Day was June 6, 1944. We crossed the English Channel in August 1944 and landed at Utah Beach,” said LeBeau, who lives in Eagle Butte.

The surgical nurse was assigned to a general hospital at Leominster, England, and all hospital personnel shipped across the English Channel.

Her 76th General Hospital unit followed the war and were set up at a 1,000-bed tent hospital at Liege, Belgium, near the war’s bloodiest battle—the Battle of the Bulge. “We were night and day under bomb attacks. We were close enough to the front lines that we could feel the concussion on the ground,” LeBeau said.

While being married and raising eight children, she served our country and her people for 31 years through the Indian Health Service. LeBeau provided high-quality health care and became the Eagle Butte IHS Hospital’s director of nursing. She inspired many to pursue a career in nursing and follow in her footsteps.

She was elected to the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council and served from 1991 to 1995. She is highly regarded for her health policy leadership, leading to the passage of a smoke-free policy in the tribal chambers. Her advocacy for wellness and health promotion inspired many subsequent leaders, and in 2015, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe became the first in the state of South Dakota to pass a smoke-free air act.

LeBeau was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame and received the Women in History Award in 2016 from the Spirit of the Prairie Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Opposite, Marcella LeBeau, right, former dean Nancy Fahrenwald at the 2018 commencement ceremony. LeBeau received an honorary doctorate of public service.

GRANT ALLOWS SDSU, OTHERS TO STUDY WORKFORCE NEEDS

While South Dakota is known for having shortages of doctors and nurses, does it also have shortages of other workers in health care? That’s the answer the South Dakota State University College of Nursing’s Rapid City site and others are attempting to learn. The college received a Rural Network Planning grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

South Dakota State, the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine, Great Plains Tribal Chairmen’s Health Board and Catholic Social Services Rapid City received a one-year, $100,000 planning grant and are partnering to study professional, technical and entry-level health-care workforce shortages on South Dakota’s Pine Ridge reservation. The survey was scheduled to be distributed in mid-November to approximately 20 health-care systems. Data collection will be in spring 2019.

“It really is an employers’ health-care needs survey. We need the employers to say how many open positions do you have and what type of open positions are available,” said Barbara Hobbs, assistant dean. “Health-care systems do not work with just doctors and nurses. Health-care systems are dependent on a citylike workforce, which offers everything from clinical care, technology and food service to environmental services to admissions and medical records and so on. The doctors and nurses provide care to the patients but they can’t work without the support service people.

“We know there’s a shortage of doctors and there’s a shortage of nurses, but we don’t know if there are nonprofessional staffing opportunities that local tribal members can fill and if so, what preparation and training they need,” she continued. “The long-range idea is by finding out what those job opportunities are, we can inform the K-16 education systems and help prepare local Native people to fill these health-care support positions.”

Findings from this study are important for curriculum planning as the Oglala Lakota County School District is planning to open two career and technical high schools on Pine Ridge.

“These schools can teach people to be paramedics, EMTs, LPNs or other positions in the medical fields. However, they need to know what positions to train people for. It isn’t going to be a quick fix,” Hobbs said.

Matt Schmidt
Morgan Ducheneaux, a freshman in the College of Nursing’s prenursing program, was selected as the first recipient of the Avera Wokini Scholarship. She was recognized at an October event at the McCrory Gardens Education and Visitor Center.

Avera Health and South Dakota State University are partnering on a scholarship program for undergraduate American Indian students at SDSU. The Avera Wokini Scholarship is part of a broader Wokini Initiative at the university that offers programming and support to enrolled members of the nine tribal nations in South Dakota interested in gaining access to educational and advancement opportunities. Translated from Lakota, Wokini means “seeking a new beginning.” Wokini-supported students will be given the resources and access to academic, personal, health and financial wellness knowledge needed to succeed at SDSU and in life after graduation. Along with the scholarship, recipients will also benefit from experiential learning, internship opportunities and a coordinated mentorship program. Through this mentor network, Avera Wokini scholars will be connected to an Avera Health leader for the purpose of gaining valuable guidance on career opportunities.
Ducheneaux, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, is from Timber Lake. She attended a SCRUBS camp as a high school junior and became interested in nursing. That interest led her to working as a certified nursing assistant at Selby’s Good Samaritan Society Nursing Home.

“I chose nursing because I love helping people and being able to make someone feel better or make their day just a little bit better,” Ducheneaux said. “I’ve always been a loving and compassionate person, and I think that this profession is the perfect fit for me. There are also a lot of job opportunities in nursing, and I can always further my education in many ways in nursing.

“I chose South Dakota State University because it has a great nursing program that is very well-known. The pass rates and success rates of SDSU’s nursing program are great, which is really what drew me to SDSU,” she continued. “I also love the fact that SDSU has satellite nursing programs in Rapid City and Sioux Falls. This gives me options on where I want to receive my education. I also chose nursing at SDSU just because I love the feel of the SDSU campus. Brookings is a lot larger than the town that I am from, but it still has the small-town feel, which I really love.”

While the financial assistance helps, Ducheneaux is looking to get more out of the assistance.

“Being the first Avera Wokini Scholarship recipient means the world to me. The money that I’m receiving will allow me to focus more on my studies and school work instead of having to work,” she said.

“This scholarship will allow me to make connections with many people and allow me to be a successful nurse someday with a lot of experience and knowledge behind me.

“I am keeping an open mind and I think that I will really learn my likes and dislikes when I get into clinicals and real-life working experiences,” Ducheneaux continued. “I have always been interested in babies and children so I think that it would be awesome to be a neonatal nurse or a pediatric nurse. After gaining experience, I plan on going back to school to get a degree as a nurse practitioner. I would love to be able to diagnose my patients and help them in that way. Like I said I’m not 100 percent sure what I want to do, but I’m excited for my future as a nurse and nurse practitioner.”

Matt Schmidt
To help address access to health care for rural and underserved areas, registered nurses can take on expanded roles in primary-care delivery.

“Nurses can practice to the full scope of the RN license and expand their scope of influence within the community-based, primary-care team,” said South Dakota State University Associate Nursing Professor Heidi Mennenga. She pointed to care management, such as the hospital-to-home transition or management of chronic health conditions, and management of warfarin, a prescription medication designed to prevent blood clots, as examples.

However, many registered nurses have not been fulfilling these roles, which are within the scope of their licensing simply because they have not historically done so.

Mennenga will lead a nursing team that will train senior nursing students and practicing RNs to expand their roles in the primary-care setting through a four-year, nearly $2.8 million grant from U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

According to the 2011-2015 South Dakota Primary Care Needs Assessment, 48 of the 66 counties in the state are designated by HRSA as medically underserved areas/populations, meaning they have too few primary care providers, high infant mortality, high poverty or high elderly populations.

One of the goals of the grant project, IMPACT-RNS—Impacting Models of Practice and Clinical Training for Registered Nurses and Students, is to prepare 1,032 nursing students and at least 260 practicing RNs to function in these expanded roles.

Essentially, RNs will be doing some of the work that medical doctors, physician assistants and nurse practitioners are currently doing. The role that RNs can assume will be out of their ordinary practice, but fully within the scope of their RN license according to Mennenga, whose expertise is in nursing education, curriculum development and rural nursing.

“This will mean rearranging how the other members of the health-care team function,” she explained. It may also require a change in mindset regarding what nurses should be doing. Ultimately, Mennenga noted, this may aid in improving patient care and outcomes.

Developing curriculum to train students
The first year will involve capacity building, according to Mennenga. By the second year, the curriculum will be in place to begin training nursing students.
In addition to classroom instruction and laboratory simulations, a select group of nursing students will receive 150 hours of clinical training at one of 13 health-care facilities in South Dakota and Minnesota that serve diverse populations. “We currently use most of these clinical sites, just not in this capacity,” Mennenga explained. “That’s why it’s important to have site leaders as part of the research team on each campus who are the contact point for those clinical facilities.”

Other team members are Assistant Professor Alham Abuatiq; Assistant Professor Robin Brown; Assistant Dean Leann Horsley of the University Center site in Sioux Falls; Assistant Dean Linda Burdette in Aberdeen; Director of Academic Nursing Education Programs Christina Plemmons in Rapid City; and Brookings Clinical Site Coordinator Cassy Hultman. A full-time coordinator will also be hired to work on the project.

**Identifying opioid addiction**

Another major aspect of the project will be to train nurses regarding their role in addressing the opioid epidemic, including the assessment, intervention and evaluation of opioid-use disorders. “Opioid use is a public health concern, not only in the nation but in the state as well,” Mennenga said.

This will support the South Dakota Department of Health’s Prescription Opioid Abuse Prevention Initiative, which is funded through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The goal is to reduce hospitalizations and deaths due to opioid misuse and abuse and thereby reduce health-care costs.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse reported 42 opioid-related overdose deaths in South Dakota in 2016. Though that’s far below the national average, the S.D. Division of Behavioral Health website states “enough opiate doses were prescribed to South Dakotans in 2015 to medicate every adult in the state for 19 straight days.”

Health Systems Development and Regulation Division Director Tom Martinec, who chairs the opioid initiative advisory committee, will serve as a resource for the SDSU team developing the opioid content. The professional development training related to opioid use will be delivered online so it is accessible to practicing nurses at the participating facilities.

“By year four, we want to be able to have it more widely available to share with facilities across the state, not just those working with us during the grant project,” Mennenga said. Furthermore, she noted, “We will have lots of ways to evaluate the entire curriculum and training and will then make changes based on detailed program objectives.”

This training program will help strengthen the role that RNs play in primary care while addressing opioid addiction and, in the long run, increasing access to health care among rural, underserved populations.

Christie Delfanian
Shortly after Lori Wightman started as the chief nursing officer at Regional Health, she learned its Rapid City Hospital did not have a work room for students. Wightman, who is also the vice president of nursing for Regional Health Rapid City Hospital, rolled up her sleeves and went to work fixing that. Within six months, a student work room was created and opened in 2016.

"Lori came to one of our faculty meetings and overheard a few members talking about how students don't have a space to have postconferences or other meetings," said Barb Hobbs, assistant dean for the college’s Rapid City site. "While it wasn't perfect at first as some things needed to be moved and other furniture ordered, it was a room and open to students from any program."

From that start, the room has seen its share of South Dakota State students.

“The primary reason we developed the nursing student work room at Regional Health Rapid City Hospital was to create a welcoming environment for nursing students that supported their learning. Meeting space was at a premium within the hospital, and we knew that faculty were conducting postconferences in locations that were less than ideal for learning and student sharing," Wightman said, noting the room has space for two postconference meetings and space for a third can be arranged.

“The space is only available to students and faculty so there isn’t a need to reserve it or compete against meetings occurring at the hospital," she continued. “Regional
Health is committed to helping prepare the next generation of nurses and the work room is one way we can support nursing students and faculty.

The room also has a full-sized refrigerator, microwave, computers and an area with a couch and chairs.

“I believe the room is very helpful to our education as it provides a place for us to go to focus on classwork if we need it,” said Michael Lewis, who is in his second semester in the college and is from Fennville, Michigan. “The room is also utilized for our clinical experience as a place to meet and discuss our experiences in a safe location without anyone who should not hear our discussion being present.

“If we need to look up information we may not have remembered during clinical or really did not have time to acquire while on the floor for the day, we can use the computers in our room to finish our clinical requirements,” he continued. “For all these reasons, I believe the room is critical in our learning experience and there is no single best part, but all of the benefits are the best part.”

That news is just what Wightman wanted to hear when planning and arranging for the space.

“We consistently hear that students are appreciative of a location that is open 24/7, where they can go to study as a group or individually and access the computers,” she said. “Nearly anytime nurse educators stop into the room during the school year it is busy. The students have sent our nursing leadership thank you cards and faculty frequently mention it as ‘helpful and welcoming’ and that they feel valued as caregivers and team members to be included in the day-to-day operations of the hospital. They very much appreciate a practical space that is easy to access and specifically dedicated to them. We often see students gathered to study on their ‘off’ days from clinicals as well, which is promising and exciting.”

White boards and new furniture have been added to the room. In addition, a Jackrabbits flag, pennant and foam finger are on the wall.

Matt Schmidt
The Population Health Evaluation Center was newly named as an entity within the Office of Nursing Research in June, but has a 14-year track record that has been growing.

It is that growth, and a desire to build even more, that prompted college officials to create a separate identity for the center within the Office of Nursing Research. “We weren’t really conducting research, but rather providing services to our clients,” said center director Jennifer Kerkvliet, who has been with the program since 2011. At that time, the work was a two-person operation—Kerkvliet and the associate dean for research, Nancy Fahrenwald. Fahrenwald continued in that position after becoming dean in 2013.

Following Fahrenwald’s departure from SDSU to become dean at Texas A&M, Debra Anderson became associate dean for research and works closely with Kerkvliet and her team. Kerkvliet said it was Fahrenwald’s vision to see the center develop its own identity. During Kerkvliet’s seven-year tenure with the center, she has seen the scope of its work expand from two projects to nine. Three additional staffers have been added and another position is being created. In addition, three undergraduates and two grad students are employed.

“Undergraduate and graduate students, from varied disciplines, working together will promote rich opportunities for mentoring as their roles develop,” Anderson said. “The students will have opportunities to work with the Population Health Evaluation Center and Office of Nursing Research staff as well as research faculty.”

QuitLine: Center’s enduring project

One of the center’s longtime clients is the South Dakota Department of Health. The center’s longest-running project is evaluating the South Dakota QuitLine, a smoking cessation program. Kiley Hump, administrator for the Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion within the South Dakota Health Department, said the center has been doing follow-ups on QuitLine participants for more than 10 years. The user survey evaluates program success and satisfaction as well as learning what services were used and what services were preferred.

Based on this feedback, the department is able to tweak its programs or target other demographics. “For example, through the center’s assessment, we’ve recently made a priority to focus on individuals with mental health and substance abuse issues. We are serving a large population that is having a hard time quitting. The center
will assess what is currently happening and areas we can improve upon,” said Hump, adding within the last five years the center also has started evaluating the department’s cancer programs.

“They’re nothing short of amazing. All the staff, some of whom have been there a long time and some are really new, are just great people who are focused on improving the health of all South Dakotans. They have really great knowledge and expertise in areas of program assessment and evaluation, whether they’re working with health-care facilities, providers, patients or schools,” Hump said.

Evals ensure tax dollars spent wisely
All of the center’s work is paid by user fees—submitting bids and being offered contracts, Kerkvliet said.

“Program evaluation is a growing field,” she said. "Most federal funding now requires evaluation. The federal government wants to know that the funding is worthwhile. We identify ways to improve program implementation and share that with the client and the funding agency. We also share our findings at the community level with groups such as health-care agencies, schools or advocacy groups like the American Cancer Society.”

Other projects the center is involved in includes All Women Count!, a breast and cervical cancer screening program, a colon-rectal screening program and a cancer survivorship program, which assessed the process used to provide information to patients about the treatments they received during the oncology process. It’s useful in transitioning a patient back to the primary care provider, Kerkvliet said.

For that effort as well as most of the projects, the originating funding source was the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

University setting provides advantages
While program evaluation is becoming more common, the Population Health Evaluation Center is relatively unique, certainly the only university-based center in the state.

"Because we're in a university setting, we're able to partner with faculty to bring in the content expertise we need. For most of our projects, we partner with faculty to assist with analysis or writing. It allows our teams to really focus on our clients’ needs. Also, we have great hands-on opportunities for students. We try to give each of our students the chance to work on one project so they can see the project from beginning to end,” Kerkvliet said.

Anderson also emphasized the importance of the center’s placement, which allows the linkage between research and evaluation services. Several faculty members with specific expertise have written research manuscripts based on the data extracted during the evaluation process.

“Because we're in a university setting, we're able to partner with faculty to bring in the content expertise we need.”

—Jennifer Kerkvliet
Population Health Evaluation Center Director
PLEMMONS TO SHARE TRAINING WITH COLLEAGUES

Christina Plemmons has been learning a lot about herself, her peers, leadership and how all of that affects perception during the past six months.

Plemmons, an assistant professor and director of academic nursing education for the college’s Rapid City site, was one of 49 nursing faculty members who were selected to participate in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s 2018 Leadership for Academic Nursing Program. The selection follows her appointment to the leadership position in 2017.

She intends to take what she is learning from the yearlong program to implement a yearlong leadership training program within the college in fall 2019.

The association’s leadership program formally kicked off with a four-day training program in Chaska, Minnesota, July 29-Aug. 2, but the preparation began well before that, said Plemmons, who started clinical teaching at State in 2005 at Regional Health Rapid City Hospital and has been a full-time instructor in Rapid City since 2009.

Plemmons completed a Myers-Briggs personality indicator and invited colleagues and supervisors to complete a VOICES 360 assessment.

At Chaska, Plemmons was challenged to participate in intensive personal and professional assessment. She was then able to take what she learned about herself, her colleagues and supervisors as well as her team’s perception of her abilities and develop a specific plan for professional and leadership growth.

“I am currently working with Dr. Mary Minton and Dr. Leann Horsley as we pilot a leadership training program with the CON leadership team,” she said.

BUTTHOLPH HELPS REWRITE NCLEX

South Dakota State nursing graduates taking the next board exam may not realize it, but one of their own instructors had a role in writing the crucial exam.

This August, Anne Buttolph, a lecturer in the Aberdeen Accelerated Option, was in Chicago writing questions for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses, which is rewritten every three years. She was among 10 participants—seven from the United States, two from Canada and one from the Virgin Islands.

The four-day question-writing exercise was a new experience for Buttolph, who has been on the South Dakota State faculty since August 2012.

“I applied online to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing in 2017 because I wanted to learn how to be a better question writer and wanted to learn more about the behind the scenes at NCSBN,” said Buttolph, who also needed endorsement from the South Dakota Board of Nursing.

In late May, she was notified she was being considered for the Aug. 21-24 question-writing session at Pearson VUE Test Writing Center in Chicago. Four weeks before the session, the national council told her to pack her bags.

The group was secluded in a room with all of the questions written on national council computers. “Throughout each day, we received feedback on our questions with specific emphasis on format. I was asked to write multiple choice, select all that apply, medication administration calculations and questions containing diagrams,” Buttolph said.

Buttolph left Chicago very satisfied with the experience.

“I highly recommend anyone who is interested to let their supervisor know and complete an application online. NCSBN covers all expenses (meals, lodging and airfare). They are always looking for new people to serve in one of the three capacities—item writer, item reviewer and the team that reviews for bias.”
Mary Isaacson, a certified hospice and palliative nurse, became the first South Dakota State faculty member to participate in the Palliative Care Retreat and Research Symposium, which was held Oct. 17-19 in La Jolla, California.

She was one of three to be chosen as Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association Research Scholars in 2018.

The 12th annual conference was conducted by the National Palliative Care Research Center with the goal of advancing the scientific endeavors of those who are or will become independent investigators actively involved in palliative care research. The meeting format included lectures, small group discussions, mock study sections, poster presentations and networking.

In addition to the research scholars, the conference drew about 100 other health-care professionals, including 54 physicians, 24 nurses and 27 nonclinical specialists, such as epidemiologists and exercise physiologists.

Isaacson’s research aims to develop an advanced care planning curriculum tailored to those working on American Indian reservations.

The assistant professor at the Rapid City campus, who has done hospice research since 2013, is trained in the COMFORT communication curriculum, which was developed for oncology nurses to incorporate seven key communication principles. It has since been used to train other health-care professionals.

Isaacson’s goal is to adapt it for use on reservations and plans to present it to tribal elders and tribal members with potentially life-limiting illnesses, who could suggest changes to the curriculum.

Her next step was a phone meeting with Native American nurse researchers from Oklahoma and New Mexico in early November.

Isaacson has applied for a National Institutes of Health grant for her work and hopes to develop a more competitive proposal through participation in the symposium and working with experienced Native American researchers. Currently, her work is focused on South Dakota, but she may modify that.

“It’s challenging when trying to present research specific to rural areas. There are very few doing research in this area. A lot of what you read is directed to large urban cancer centers,” Isaacson said.

Professor Polly Hulme, a State faculty member since 2013, was named District 8-9 Nurse of the Year at the South Dakota Nurses Association convention in Brookings Oct. 7-8. She was previously a faculty member at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha (1998-2013).

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Kay Foland, a professor at the Rapid City site.

Foland, an SDSU faculty member since 1982, was cited for nearly four decades of contributions to higher nursing education at State and for her career in psychiatric-mental health nursing and the care of adults and elderly in Western South Dakota.

The 1980 SDSU nursing graduate, who also holds master’s and doctoral degrees in psychiatric-mental health nursing, also was honored by South Dakota Nurses Association as its Pioneer recipient in 2009, its President’s Award recipient in 1996 and its District 1 Nurse of the Year in 1990 and District 1-3 Nurse of the Year in 2013.

South Dakota State College of Nursing presented Foland with its Excellence Award in 2008, the same year she was promoted to professor.

A member of the South Dakota Nurses Association since 1978, she has held numerous offices.

Also, Carman Timmerman ’89 M.Ed. received the Pioneer in Nursing Award.

The convention was chaired by interim dean Roberta Olson and retired faculty member Eileen Bruner-Halverson, District 8-9 president. Among the presenters was retired faculty member Linda Kropenske on disaster nursing. The convention theme was “Healthy Families, Healthy Clients, Healthy Nurses.”
Danielle Currier | Instructor

Currier finds herself teaching a wide mix of courses in her first semester as a full-time instructor.

She teaches first-year seminar on the Brookings campus, medical terminology online, clinicals for semester two students at Sanford in Sioux Falls, community clinicals for semester two students in Brookings, gerontology clinicals for semester three students in Brookings, community clinicals for semester four students and simulation lab on campus.

Currier earned her bachelor’s degree from State in 2008 and spent 10 years in the field before earning her master’s from Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha, Nebraska, in May and moving to Brookings in August.

After receiving her undergraduate degree, she moved to Reno, Nevada, and worked for four years on a telemetry/stepdown ICU unit. Currier spent the next year as a travel nurse, going to Fargo, North Dakota; Casper, Wyoming; San Antonio; and Springfield, Massachusetts.

Currier then moved back to Fargo, where she worked at Essentia Health on the cardiac unit as a lead RN. Currier and her husband, Dallas, moved to Omaha in January 2015, where she was a traveler at three local hospitals before taking a permanent position on the short stay unit at Methodist Hospital in 2016.

She also began the master’s program at Nebraska Methodist in 2016 and began teaching as an adjunct clinical instructor for the college in January 2017.

The South Dakota native is glad to be back in her home state. Her parents still live in her hometown of Cavour, her brother and his family live in Brookings and her sister and her fiancé live in Volga.

In addition to spending time with family and friends, Currier also enjoys cooking, baking, attending sporting events and concerts, walking her two dogs and, as one might guess, traveling.

Roger L. Habermann | Simulation and Learning Lab Technician

Habermann began work June 22, 2018, at the Rapid City campus, where his duties include setting up simulation rooms, ordering equipment and supplies, scheduling labs and simulations, updating simulators and related equipment, preventative maintenance, and set up and teardown of laboratory skills labs.

Prior to taking the position, he was the laboratory coordinator at the University of South Dakota Department of Nursing from Dec. 26, 2006, until June 21. While there he received the Nursing Excellence Award from the USD School of Health Sciences in 2014.

A native of Sturgis, Haberman and his wife, Cristi, have a son, Colin (Christina), and three grandchildren. Personal interests include camping and fishing.

Cori Heier | Instructor

Heier began Sept. 4 in Sioux Falls, where she teaches first- and second-semester courses, including Professional Nursing Concepts I, lab, simulation and clinicals. She also is the Sioux Falls faculty adviser for the Student Nurses Association.

The position marks a return to her alma mater. Heier is a December 2012 graduate who also holds an online master’s degree in nursing from American Sentinel University in Aurora, Colorado (May 2018). Heier also is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and Golden Key International.

She previously was working as a spine nurse navigator with Avera. She also has worked in the emergency room, the operating room and in urology.

Heier also passed the exam this fall to become a certified neuroscience registered nurse.

The Sioux Falls native is married to Shane. They have a daughter, Britton, 4, and a son, Anderson, 3. Personal interests include reading, playing card/board games, watching hockey and football, and spending time with her family.
Kacey Meador  | Academic assessment and evaluation coordinator

Meador began Oct. 22 in Rapid City, where she will implement the college’s plan for maintaining assessment and accreditation outcomes across all departments and programs, including four bachelor’s degree program sites and undergraduate and graduate online programs. She also will assist with the test proctoring system, teaching assignment and clinical schedule management, and in education support.

Meador holds a bachelor’s degree in health-care administration and management from the University of Phoenix (2014).

For the past 2½ years, she has been executive assistant to the dean of Arizona College School of Nursing in Las Vegas. Meador spent three years as the health unit admissions counselor at Shannon Medical Center, Women’s Imaging, in San Angelo, Texas.

While Meador was raised in Las Vegas, where her family still lives, she has a large extended family in Rapid City.

“I say the stars were aligned for me to receive the experience and training working in health care in Texas and then using that experience in higher education in Las Vegas. I really fell in love with higher education,” Meador said. “And then this position opened. South Dakota State University has always been my dream place. It’s a dream come true. I’m really excited for the assessment and evaluation piece.”

She moved to Rapid City with pets Phoebe (puppy) and Daisy (cat). Meador plans to acquaint herself to the Black Hills through hiking, kayaking, antiquing, traveling and going to movies and concerts.

She also plans to continue to follow the Las Vegas Golden Knights hockey team.

Takara Schomberg  | Instructor

Schomberg began Aug. 22 in Sioux Falls, where her focus is mental health. She teaches mental health concepts in third semester as well as mental health clinicals. She also does a lot of teaching in simulation as well as teaching skills lab, community clinical and medical terminology.

Schomberg served as an adjunct lecturer at Augustana University in Sioux Falls this summer and broke into the educator role by serving as an assistant professor of nursing at Aurora University in Williams Bay, Wisconsin, from August 2017 to May 2018.

Other experience includes clinic RN at Avera Medical Group Functional Medicine, Sioux Falls, April 2012–June 2017; staff nurse at Grand Village, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, July 2011–March 2012; and human services nurse in the chemical dependence/adolescent program at the South Dakota Human Services Center, Yankton, July 2009–April 2011.

Schomberg is a two-time graduate of South Dakota State, receiving her bachelor’s in nursing in May 2009 and her master’s as a nurse educator in December 2016, when she was honored as the program’s outstanding graduate student.

The Pella, Iowa, native is married to John Schomberg, a native of Houston and director of youth ministries at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls. They have a daughter Keziah, 4.

Schomberg enjoys cooking new healthy recipes, trips to the gym, crocheting, reading, grabbing coffee or sushi with friends and time with her family, especially at the zoo.

Barb Terry  | Senior Secretary

Terry began July 2 in the Office of Nursing Research in Brookings. She also provides administrative support to the Population Health Evaluation Center and Continuing Nursing Education.

Terry, who has an associate degree in paralegal studies from Arapahoe Community College in Littleton, Colorado, comes with a wealth of experience (30-plus years). Positions include Colorado Department of Agriculture Plants Division administrative assistant, federal government contract paralegal, legal secretary in law firms and oil and gas corporations as well as medical transcriptionist.

Terry is a South Dakota native (born in Sisseton and raised on a farm north of Sisseton until second grade). After 42 years, she said she is thankful to be back in her home state and out of Denver, where she lived for 35 years.

Interests include being able to unwind and spend time with her family and dog on Lake Traverse, quilting and reading. She will still visit Denver, where a son, 20, and a daughter, 18, remain.
Reneé Zacher | Instructor

Zacher began Aug. 27 in Rapid City as a clinical and lab skills instructor after serving as a clinical educator for Black Hills Receiving, a nursing home operator, from 2014 to 2018. She served as a nursing educator at Western Dakota Tech in Rapid City from 2011 to 2014.

She is a 1994 SDSU graduate who received an online master’s degree in nursing education from Chamberlain College of Nursing in Downers Grove, Illinois, in 2016. It was a shaping experience.

“There was quite a difference between the two schools. SDSU had the more close-knit, family-type atmosphere. I wanted to teach at my alma mater (SDSU). Luckily for me, there was a position open. I want to be there for the students and be supportive and encouraging toward them, just like the current staff is with me,” Zacher said.

The Rapid City native has two children, a daughter, Megan, 31, and a son, Jarrett, 9. She enjoys attending Rapid City Rush hockey, her son’s sporting events, reading and spending time with family and friends.

Debra Anderson | Associate Dean

Anderson and Tinkle Named Associate Deans

Addressing social justice. Those three words on a South Dakota State University College of Nursing advertisement caught Debra Anderson’s attention. Several months later, she has that as one of her goals as the new associate dean of research following a national search.

Addressing social justice, or fair treatment of populations regardless of economic status, age, ethnicity, citizenship, disability or sexual orientation, has been called one of the responsibilities of the nursing profession.

“The core of public health nursing is social justice,” said Anderson, who started at State in May after serving as an associate professor and director of work-life engagement at the University of Kentucky. “It’s part of the public health concept that was engrained in me as a kid by my mom (Jean). She was a nursing assistant. She wanted to be a nurse but got married and had five kids instead.”

Anderson worked in public health at the Marion County Health Department in Indianapolis before moving into academia. She has been an assistant or associate professor at the Intercollegiate Center for Nursing Education in Spokane, Washington, the University of Portland and Washington State University. She was a postdoctoral scholar in family nursing at Oregon Health Sciences University.

“I’m excited about joining the college’s work in outreach activities with the state’s tribes,” Anderson said. “I’d like to build on the successes already at the College of Nursing.”

Melinda Tinkle started as the college’s associate dean for undergraduate nursing in July.

Tinkle comes to South Dakota State after serving nine years as an associate professor with the University of New Mexico’s College of Nursing. She also was the chair of the college’s research and doctorate studies program. Tinkle has also worked at the National Institutes of Health, the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, the University of Texas, the University of Texas at El Paso, the University of Mary-Hardin, the Texas Department of Health and the U.S. Army Nurse Corps.

As the associate dean for undergraduate nursing, she coordinates the planning, implementation and evaluation of the department, and manages standard undergraduate students, RN Upward Mobility, accelerated options and the health science minor in all locations. Tinkle oversees approximately 25 full-time and 50 temporary clinical faculty.

Tinkle, president of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics, would like to incorporate more genetic- and genomic-related material into the college curriculum.

“As a profession across the country, we’re woefully behind. We’ve done a lot here already in that area but there’s a lot more we still can do,” said Tinkle, who would like to add clinical experiences in those areas. “We need to be ready for the challenges of genetics and genomics now and in the future.”
For her dedication, professionalism and efforts in her role as College of Nursing’s development director, Stacey Tait-Goodale received the 2018 Distinguished Service Award.

The award, which was initially given to R. Esther Erickson in 1980, recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to the improvement of health care and overall quality of life or to the advancement of the South Dakota State University College of Nursing.

Tait-Goodale, who now works with Avera as its director of eCare business development, was not expecting the honor. “That was very nice and very unexpected,” she said. “You could say it was a cherry on top of what was a really rewarding position. The award was a nice culmination of my work trying to make an impact for the College of Nursing, which provides quality education across the state. Everyone—students, faculty and donors—are phenomenal to work with as they are all very passionate individuals who care so much about the College of Nursing. I feel fortunate to have worked with all of them, in particularly deans Nancy Fahrenwald and Roberta Olson.

“Helping people make gifts that impact things they are passionate about is not only rewarding but is also a great privilege that I never took lightly,” Tait-Goodale continued. “One donor told me she was willing to go without certain things so that she could make a difference in the lives of others.”

Her efforts while with the SDSU Foundation resulted in several new scholarships for the college’s four sites. In all, the college awarded more than $300,000 in scholarships for the 2017-18 academic year. Her work also resulted in millions of dollars in planned gifts and direct contributions.

“Stacey worked with both new and existing donors to expand scholarship opportunities for our students and many in this room will feel the impact of her work as they receive a scholarship later this afternoon,” said interim dean Roberta Olson at the college’s scholarship reception.

Matt Schmidt
Clockwise from top: The Class of 1959, the classes went on a tour of facilities, and the Class of 1968.
VANDERWOUDE HONORED AS Distinguished Alumna

Diana VanderWoude '82/M.S. '91, was honored as a Distinguished Alumna of South Dakota State University during activities on Hobo Day weekend Oct. 12-13.

VanderWoude, whose degrees at State were in nursing, served as executive director of the South Dakota Board of Nursing for 11 years (1991-2002) and since that time has been with Sanford Health. She is a senior executive director of human resources, overseeing leadership, education and development, managing a multimillion budget and more than 100 professionals.

Roberta Olson, who served as SDSU dean of the College of Nursing and now is serving as interim dean, said VanderWoude “is by far one of the most dedicated and highly accomplished executive nursing leaders in the state.”

Deb Soholt '90 M.S., a state senator from Sioux Falls and a 2007 SDSU Distinguished Alumna, said, “I have seen firsthand the respect that Diana commands from legislators and the executive branch. She has been involved in public policy change since the genesis of her career and recently was appointed by the governor to the Build Dakota Board and the South Dakota Board of Technical Education.”

Diana Berkland '72/'94 M.S./'14 Ph.D., vice president of nursing and clinical service at Sanford, said, “I recall vividly the first time I met Diana and knew immediately there was a connection. Diana was a quality leader at was then-Sioux Valley Hospital, where she led clinical improvements with point-of-service staff. She is a brilliant leader with a unique ability to connect immediately with others.”

The Sioux Falls native began her career as a registered nurse in the neurology unit at Sioux Valley Hospital in Sioux Falls in 1982.

DAMGAARD RECOGNIZED McManus Award

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing recognized Gloria Damgaard '88 M.S. with the R. Louise McManus Award at the NCSBN Annual Meeting and Delegate Assembly, held in Minneapolis in August. Damgaard is the executive director of the South Dakota Board of Nursing. The R. Louise McManus Award is the NCSBN's most prestigious award. Individuals nominated for this award shall have made sustained and significant contributions through the highest commitment and dedication to the mission and vision of NCSBN.

Deb Soholt '90 M.S. received the Distinguished Achievement Award, which is given to an individual whose contributions or accomplishments have impacted NCSBN's mission and vision. Soholt is the director of women's health at Avera.
As a clinical liaison for the Advanced Care Hospital of Montana in Billings, Marcy Morrison spends her days educating patients, families and the medical community about how a long-term acute care hospital can benefit complex and critically ill patients. Her routine is something that she’s always adjusting. For one, she works from her home in Rapid City but her position requires she be in contact with patients in South Dakota, North Dakota, Wyoming and Montana.

However, that’s not an issue for Morrison, a 2001 grad.

“Long gone are the days of health care where you stay in a short-term hospital, heal and go home. It’s pretty rare that someone just comes to get the appendix out. They tend to have diabetes or high-blood pressure or something else; there’s always something going on,” Morrison said.

“The purpose of the short-term type of hospital is for people to come in, figure out what’s wrong with them, get all of their diagnostics done and figure out where they get to go from there. Everyone’s goal is to go home but not
everybody’s health allows for that. As a result, I get to help patients, families and providers realize we have to give interdisciplinary care, and everyone has to be involved in a patient’s care. “The longer I’m in nursing, the more I realize I’m not an innocent bystander,” she continued. “Families are seeking opinions, and I’m very honored when asked ‘what would you do?’ I answer with open-ended questions to determine what’s best for their family. Health-care workers serve patients better when one can guide them. I always say my advice is always free.”

Morrison’s current position came after working 17 years as a floor nurse and case manager for Regional Health’s location in Rapid City. While she enjoyed working as a case manager, she realized she preferred working with complex, critical patients and wanted to focus her skills and knowledge on that patient population. Morrison found that as a clinical liaison. She reviews patient records, helps determine the next level of care and ensures a smooth patient transfer to the Advanced Care Hospital of Montana.

“I try really hard to see each patient in their referring hospital and talk to them and their families to make sure they understand the trade-off of getting expert care at a hospital outside of their home area,” Morrison said, noting she travels frequently. “I really enjoy helping patients and families understand what they’re going through. I always tell my patients that I sleep better at night knowing I gave them all of their options. I help patients realize what types of care they will benefit from so they can make an informed decision.

“To me, it’s just like diet and exercise—you always overestimate how much you exercise and underestimate how much you eat. Patients are similar in that they overestimate their abilities and underestimate their illness or condition. It’s not right or wrong, it’s just how it is,” she continued.

Patient interaction is something Morrison saw her grandmother, Jeanne Radway, do in her hometown of Philip. Radway worked more than 50 years as a nurse and helped get Morrison thinking about nursing. In addition, Morrison’s mother and aunts worked in nursing.

“My grandmother was one of the reasons why I became a nurse,” Morrison said. “I remember being in a car accident and calling my mom, who came with Grandma to pick me up out of the road and take me to the hospital. When I was in high school, I worked as an aide at the nursing home because she had suggested the role. She was just an extremely respected member of the community.

“Because of her, I knew what I wanted to do, and I wanted a four-year degree,” she continued. “Without my bachelor’s, I would not have been able to apply for the case manager role and from that, I probably would not have discovered LTACHs, and I wouldn’t have been able to have my current position. I like the bedside part of nursing, and I like how nurses relate to patients. I like balancing the psychological/sociological piece with the medical piece. I think nurses do that best.”

Morrison’s transition in different health-care roles allows her to see how things have changed since graduation.

“Since becoming a clinical liaison, I’ve joined the West River Jacks Alumni Association as a board member and hope to help nursing students and graduates continue feeling a part of State despite not being on the Brookings campus,” she said. “This has led me to working with Dr. Barbara Hobbs on how to make sure nursing students in Rapid City feel joined to all of what State can offer them. Dr. Hobbs is vital to the nursing community, not only in Rapid City, but to all of South Dakota. I was introduced to her passion for all areas of nursing when I went through the SDSU West River Nursing program in the late ’90s and have quickly been reminded of all that she does for State while in my role with the West River Jacks. She’s a very talented lady.”

Opposite: Marcy Morrison ’01, left, and Devi Hale, a case manager with Regional Health Rapid City Hospital, point to a few places in Morrison’s territory as a clinical liaison for the Advanced Care Hospital of Montana in Billings, Montana.
Tearing a knee ligament in high school might have been a bump in Mike Salter’s basketball days, but it was a launching pad to a great career.

The Lake Preston High School junior ended up in McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls for a knee operation in 1969. He left with a reattached ligament and an idea of how he would spend his adult years. The role of a nurse anesthetist—putting patients to sleep so doctors could perform what otherwise would cause intolerable pain or be technically unfeasible—intrigued him.

Salter enrolled at State in 1971 as a premed major and spent another day at McKennan as he explored health occupation careers.

The time he spent there shadowing nurse anesthetists, who had been medics in Vietnam, convinced him to change his major to nursing. When he was admitted into the College of Nursing program, there were 45 females and five males.

Some faculty, notably Barbara Dougherty and Ruby Mason, were “very supportive of men being in nursing,” said Salter, who played one year of junior varsity basketball and three years as a baseball relief pitcher.

“Nursing wasn’t designed for athletics. I would have three-hour labs and have to miss practice or come late. My teammates asked me what kind of class I was taking that had three-hour labs.

“When I told them I had switched majors to nursing, they said ‘What? Why would you go into nursing?’”

His friends’ incredulous response didn’t deter Salter. “I was on a mission.”

After graduating with a nursing degree in 1975, he spent a year as a surgical nurse at McKennan and then took the 24-month nurse anesthetist program through the University of South Dakota at McKennan. Following graduation in 1978, he spent a couple of years in Texas and then 30 years in solo and partnership practice in Washington and Pella, Iowa.

In 2008, Salter and wife, Carole, a nurse, semi-retired and moved to Scottsdale, Arizona, where he continues to practices two to three days a week.

“My nursing career has been so good to me. It was such a good career choice,” Salter said. It was a choice one of his sons has chosen to follow. Ryan Salter now is a joint owner in a practice in Scottsdale. Mike Salter does contract work for that partnership.

The elder Salter also has established another long-term relationship with his alma mater. Through a $1,000 donation that Salter plans to make annually, he created a student emergency fund that the college will oversee. “I remember what it was like being a student. You’re low on meal money, expenses come up that you weren’t prepared for … ,” he said.

The college already put the 2018 donation to good use. Nursing faculty learned that a student had spent many months moving from sofa to sofa with her peers and was struggling to afford food. The emergency fund was tapped into so the student could buy groceries and pay her share of the rent for an apartment she was able to share with a peer.

The even better news? She graduated in August and has passed her NCLEX.

Dave Graves
The passage of the Federal 2017 Tax Cuts & Jobs Act doubled the standard income tax deduction for the next five years. According to the Joint Congressional Committee on Tax, the number of itemizers is expected to decline from 45 million Americans to just under 18 million, effectively making cash gifts to charities the least tax-wise way to give.

Gifting assets like tangible personal property (farm equipment, grain and livestock), the Charitable IRA Rollover for those over age 70 ½, or utilizing innovative methods like directing your broker to swap a highly appreciated stock with a charity to reduce future capital gains exposure when you eventually do sell it, can have tremendous benefits for almost everyone. Learn how SDSU alumnus, Linda Stodghill, chooses to make her charitable gifts.

Appreciated Assets
Linda Stodghill ’70 of Minneapolis, each year chooses to gift appreciated stock rather than write a check to support the College of Nursing. She had a successful career in nursing and gives credit to her education.

“Gifting the stock handed down from my father to SDSU brings me full circle,” Stodghill said. “As a very young girl we lived in the Quonset huts while my father attended SDSU. Later I returned to SDSU as a student. SDSU offered a nursing program not available at other universities in the Midwest at the time.”

Now that capital gains taxes have effectively increased in over 40 states since the passage of the new tax act—since Americans can no longer deduct them on their Federal return—gifting appreciated assets like securities has more tax benefit than ever, especially for Minnesota residents like Stodghill. When a taxable asset like stock is gifted to SDSU, the charity pays no tax when it is sold. Also, the donor is entitled to a charitable income tax deduction.

For more information on any of these gift options, please contact:
SDSU Foundation
Office of Gift Planning
1-888-747-7378 (toll-free) or visit www.sdstatelegacy.org.

This is not intended as professional advice. Consult with a qualified tax professional before making a charitable gift.
Historically, two of the cornerstones of the SDSU College of Nursing have been quality and collaboration. For generations, students, faculty, industry partners and proud alumni have forged strong relationships that have shaped our college and the profession. This spirit of cooperation has led to high academic achievement and outstanding performance.

This team-oriented focus on excellence has made a profound impact at SDSU and around the world. Over the years, team members have changed, but the mission has not. Our campus leaders created a culture that embraces change and sees them as opportunities to grow and improve.

The SDSU Foundation is a proud partner with the College of Nursing. We also embrace transition and are relentless in our pursuit to provide the best support possible for the university.

In September, Al Bahe began his role as development director for the college. He will lead the Foundation’s development efforts on behalf of the college. By working closely with Interim Dean Roberta Olson, her leadership team and all of you, he looks to provide resources necessary to fulfill the vision and mission of the College of Nursing.

Al brings a breadth of marketing and communication experience. He will bring new thoughts and ideas to our development team, while embracing our rich tradition.

This transition provides an excellent opportunity for all of us to engage at a deeper level. Thank you for your devotion and loyalty. Your continued commitment is greatly appreciated. Help us welcome Al to our team. Happy New Year!
Al Bahe began work Sept. 6 as the development director for the College of Nursing with the SDSU Foundation.

Bahe received his degree in speech communication from the University of Minnesota-Morris. He has spent his career in customer relations, communication and marketing, most recently as director of sales and marketing for the Edgewood Senior Living Center. He and his wife, Lisa (Kannegieter), a former Jackrabbits basketball standout, have recently returned to Brookings from Mitchell.
Congrats to

BEV WARNE

winner of the 2018 Spirit of Dakota Award.

From left, Ginger Thompson, Bev Warne, Glenna Fouberg and Marilyn Hoyt. Fouberg and Thomson are on the selection commission while Hoyt served as the chair of the committee.