College of NURSING

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Dear College of Nursing Alumni and Friends,

I am pleased to announce that Mary Anne Krogh ’85/Ph.D. ’11 has accepted the appointment of dean for the College of Nursing. Dr. Krogh has extensive experience in higher education and brings a clinical perspective from her time as a certified registered nurse anesthetist. She is also one of our graduates who has been named a fellow to the American Academy of Nursing. Join me in welcoming Dean Krogh to the College of Nursing. She will begin her leadership in July.

This issue of the South Dakota State College of Nursing Magazine highlights the retirement of several longtime faculty leaders and scholars. A huge thank you goes out to Drs. Mordhorst, Mylant, Tschetter and Hobbs for their valuable contributions to the work of the college during their tenure. In addition, scholarship productivity from a variety of faculty members is listed; certification achievements are acknowledged; and a focus on the planned updates for simulation experience for students is highlighted. I want to thank Marv and Corinne ’65 Wastell for providing the lead gift for our simulation renovation plan. Read more about the plan starting on page 2.

And congratulations to Alyssa Zweifel, who recently became our third faculty member to be a certified healthcare simulation educator.

Mission: The College of Nursing strives for excellence in undergraduate and graduate education, research, scholarship and health services to diverse individuals, communities and populations across the life span. The college improves human health and quality of life for people in the state of South Dakota, the region, the nation and the world. The research outcomes support this mission with increased scientific knowledge that supports rural and underserved populations. Scholarship productivity with focused faculty research, presentations, and publications is highlighted in this issue.

The baccalaureate graduates continue to excel on the registered nurse licensing examination (NCLEX) with an overall 95.7 percent pass rate from the fall 2018 graduates (N=118) from Aberdeen, Brookings and Rapid City. Two more cohorts will complete the baccalaureate program in May (Brookings and Rapid City) and accelerated and standard option cohorts in August from the Sioux Falls campus. In addition, the nurse practitioner graduates continue to pass the national certification examination at 100 percent on an annual basis. I am very proud of all of our graduates who are consistently employed shortly after graduation.

Simulation scenarios provide practical experience for all students in a safe environment in the on-campus laboratories. Each student experiences 35 common scenarios for example: resuscitation from a cardiac arrest, postpartum hemorrhage, grief and grieving discussion with family members, and pediatric experiences.

In addition, Interprofessional Experiences (IPE) with other health-care team members such as pharmacy, medical lab science and medical students, provide collaboration on the team level that the new RN staff nurse will experience from the first day in their employment. Graduate students experience advanced level practice with simulation scenarios to hone their skills in assessment, differential diagnosis and intervention.

Research conducted on simulation scenario experiences provide evidence on the value of the experience during the debriefing conferences. Debriefing follows the hands-on learning by a team of two to four students with camera observation by remaining students as to what went well and what needed to be done differently. All students have experience with hands on and as observers. All provide critical-thinking critique for each scenario.

I look forward to transitioning into retirement again after having an opportunity to assist in orientation and support for incoming Dean Krogh.

Robert Olson Ph.D, RN
Dean and Professor Emerita
ON THE COVER:
The college plans to renovate Wagner Hall to accommodate more simulation scenarios. The college also plans to renovate facilities in Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Aberdeen.

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Simulation. While it’s not a brand-new topic in health care, it is a popular one, particularly when it comes to educating the next generation of care providers.

As part of its commitment to developing the best graduates, the College of Nursing plans to upgrade facilities to allow more simulations. Remodeling efforts will start in Brookings and extend to the Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Aberdeen sites.

“We had mannequins when I was a student, but they didn’t talk back like the ones today,” said Roberta Olson ’64, who is serving as the college’s interim dean. She led the college from 1994-2013. “When I look at where we were with our very limited models we had then in the campus lab and where we are today, it’s phenomenal.”
“If we could get some significant donations from all of our graduates, it would be extremely beneficial,” she continued. “As a graduate, I know I’m proud of this program and others are, too. We need outside help to move the simulation centers at each campus to the level they need to be and that’s why we are asking our alumni to step up and donate to the college’s simulation efforts.”

EARLY STEPS
The college was recently granted provisional accreditation by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. South Dakota State is one of the first land-grant universities to earn this achievement.
“It is a stamp of quality and excellence,” said Assistant Dean Leann Horsley, who led the college’s efforts toward
accreditation. She said the college sought provisional accreditation and will apply for full accreditation, after gathering two years of data showing its efforts.

“While our primary focus is education for our nursing students, we want to create a learning environment using simulation that other disciplines can use,” said Horsley, the college’s first-ever JoAnn and Eugene Goodale Nursing Faculty Scholar.

“We’re using the INACSL (International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning) standards of best practices for simulation as the foundation for everything we do,” she continued. “We have increased our professional development in the area of simulation to include an orientation and continuing education for faculty who teach in simulation.”

Several faculty members are pursuing credentials in simulation. Only Horsley and Paula Carson, an associate professor in Brookings, and Alyssa Zweifel, an instructor in Sioux Falls, were certified in simulation.

**A BELIEVER**

“I believe in simulation,” Carson said. “Simulation is nothing new in nursing. The fidelity we have now is really high, but we’ve done role playing in nursing forever. The closer we can make it to a clinical situation, the better.

“I expect the students to put a decent effort into simulation, because it’s costly in human and material resources,” she continued. “If the students truly use simulation as a learning opportunity, it is a time to prepare and learn because there’s always something new that’s going to happen. There’s a confidentiality of what happens in sim, stays in sim. You need to have a safe environment where you’re allowed to use or do something and possibly make an error. It’s that way so when the students get to clinicals, they’ll remember what they or
someone else did and know how and why that did or didn’t work.”

That mindset works for Annette Ray, too, when leading a simulation. An instructor in Brookings, Ray has had numerous graduates thank her for conducting various scenarios. “We have a responsibility in nursing education to graduate nurses who are knowledgeable, critical thinkers who can recognize immediately what action they need to take to prevent harm,” she said. “The focus is on the priorities to help our students be the best and safest nurses they can be when they graduate.

“I love simulation; I think it’s vitally important that we do it today,” Ray continued. “Aviation and the military started simulation. We need to get to the point of what is the human result from it. We haven’t reached that point in research yet; we’re babies in it. As experts, we have people who have 10, 15 or 20 years of experience of simulation and in practice, and we can see the difference that it is making in health care.”

Ray said simulation is changing health care in more ways than just providing learning opportunities.

“When I got into health care 25 years ago, if we had a crisis situation, we just went on,” Ray said. “Today, you huddle as a team and go through a possible grieving process about whatever just happened and talk that out; but also realize what could have been done better. We didn’t do that. There are times when you couldn’t do anything to stop what took place but having those conversations are an important part of the learning process.”

COLLEGEWIDE PLANS

Olson envisions the simulation labs to be modern and functional so that every student can receive the greatest benefit out of their experience.

“In any school of nursing today there is a clinical simulation lab. For us to be a leading-edge school, one that has highly productive and successful graduates, we need to stay on that leading edge or a little ahead so they all have similar clinical experiences,” Olson said.

“Each campus will have the same high-level simulation lab at some point, but we’re not there yet,” she continued. “We have beginning equipment and space at each campus but because of the number of scenarios we plan to do on simulation, we need to have the space and enough mannequins to make that happen, and the faculty prepared to lead those simulations. However, again, all that takes money.”

The facility upgrades would ensure a consistent education, regardless of location or program.

“It makes sense to renovate and grow our facilities to accommodate future growth in simulation as it is becoming more challenging to find good off-campus clinical sites and experiences,” said Anne Buttolph, an instructor at the college’s Aberdeen site. “Simulation allows for more consistency in clinical experiences, which is important as we have four program locations. By having better facilities, we will also be in a position to offer simulation-learning experiences to the community.”

However, the college isn’t there yet.

“Our plans, which will remodel spaces in addition to purchasing more mannequins, are going to allow our graduates to enter the workforce with greater practice skills,” Olson said. “This practice means they can start right away rather than watch first or wait a turn. However, it takes faculty, equipment, remodeling … and all of them need money to happen.”

For more information on how to donate, contact Alan Bahe, the college’s development director, at (605) 697-7475 or at Alan.Bahe@SDStateFoundation.org.

Matt Schmidt
Since 1957, only six individuals have served as the dean of the College of Nursing. Come July, Mary Anne Krogh’85/Ph.D ‘11 will add her name to the list. While she will add her name to the list that includes Inez Hinsvark, Genevieve Johnson, Carol Peterson, Carman Westwick, Roberta Olson and Nancy Fahrenwald, Krogh never thought of leading the college during her undergraduate or graduate school days.

“No ... I’m still pinching myself,” said Krogh shortly after being named dean. She was the dean of nursing and health sciences at Mount Marty after leading its nurse anesthesia program. “I have a little unconventional background when compared to most people who become deans of a college of nursing. Until a year ago, I wasn’t even in a college of nursing. I’m just honored and really excited about this opportunity.”
Since she was named dean at Mount Marty in June 2018, Krogh didn’t initially think of applying for the position at her alma mater. However, a discussion with Fahrenwald—now the dean at Texas A&M—helped convince her it was time to apply.

“I talked to Mary Anne at our national meetings and reminded her that she was such an amazing leader and there wasn’t a reason why she should not consider applying at South Dakota State,” Fahrenwald said. “I said, ‘as a certified registered nurse anesthetist, she represented advanced practice nursing and that she could bring that clinical relevance, which is so important, and a perspective health-care systems needed today. I told her to think about applying; I admitted it’s a big job but it’s one where you have a great team to help and support you.’

Knowing both finalists, I was happy for Mary Anne but also sad for Mary Minton,” Fahrenwald continued, noting both finalists. “I knew that whomever was hired in the spring that I’d feel a huge relief knowing the college would be in good hands with a solid leader. As an alum, and the college’s former dean, the College of Nursing is so special to me. Mary Anne will do a fantastic job and part of me can stop worrying about what will happen to the college.”

Krogh’s arrival at South Dakota State came after discovering a call to nursing after working as a nurse’s aide in Custer, her hometown. A talk with then-University of South Dakota Nursing Dean Ben Suga convinced Krogh to pursue a four-year nursing degree at State.

“I consider him one of my guardian angels. He said I’d be much better off going to SDSU and getting a four-year degree. Without that advice, I’m not sure I’d have even known to do that,” Krogh said. “I’ve spent my entire career being so thankful that he steered me in the right direction.

“Going to SDSU was just a phenomenal experience for nursing,” she continued. “I made lifelong friends there, and I had faculty who said I needed to go on and get a graduate degree and do bigger things. As you can see, I tend to listen to people when they tell me what I need to be doing.

Her time as a nurse’s aide, when combined with her degree, allowed Krogh to see how impactful nurses could be in the overall care of the patient.

“Nurses are the ones who make sure patients get what they need, whether it be more medical care or a dignified end of life. It just really spoke to me about how I wanted to impact health care and peoples’ lives,” she said. “People go into nursing because they have a desire to serve people and that really touched me.”

Krogh worked as a certified registered nurse anesthetist at Hennepin County Medical Center and North Memorial Medical Center and continues to do so with Avera McKennan Hospital. She has also taught at the Minneapolis School of Anesthesia and served as an adjunct and assistant professor at Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota, where she earned her master’s degree.

The Minneapolis School of Anesthesia gave Krogh her start in academia while serving as a clinical coordinator.

“To be really relevant to students, the culture there was that we needed to still do clinical. I’ve always done clinical one day a week. However, I will stop doing that when I start at SDSU,” she said. “I love doing clinical; it gives me a different perspective of the health-care environment. It’s just tough to get everything done I need to do at Mount Marty and do a day each week of clinical.’

In addition to her degrees from State, she met her husband, Jim ‘84, while in Brookings. She has two daughters, Megan and Ellen. Ellen earned a Bachelor of Science in nursing at State in 2011, graduating the same year as when Krogh completed her doctorate.

“My husband had been pushing me for years to go back for a doctoral degree. Our kids were young when I went to anesthesia school and I didn’t want to put them through that again. I started my Ph.D. when our youngest daughter (Ellen) graduated from high school,” she said. “What I loved about it was they were so accommodating in helping people do things they were passionate about; it was a great program.

“I always think when you go for a doctoral degree, whether it’s a clinical doctorate or a Ph.D., you’re thinking about changing things. It helped me develop more of an analytical mind, really helped me think big picture ideas and how do we get there; it helped me grow in my role,” continued Krogh, who was inducted as a fellow to the American Academy of Nursing in 2015. “My vision for the future is one that empowers people and students to meet the changes and growing opportunities in the health-care industry. We will continue to prepare future generations of nurses and hospital administrators to be leaders in South Dakota, the region and beyond."

—I, College of Nursing Dean

“My vision for the future is one that empowers people and students to meet the changes and growing opportunities in the health-care industry. We will continue to prepare future generations of nurses and hospital administrators to be leaders in South Dakota, the region and beyond.”

—Mary Krogh

Matt Schmidt
Alyssa Zweifel claims simulation is her passion. Zweifel, an instructor at the College of Nursing’s Sioux Falls campus, started working with simulation when employed at Avera.

“I had trained nurses and observed what goes well and what doesn’t go well with interprofessional teams during simulation events,” she said. “When I started looking into the topic, I saw team skill decay was the smallest breakdown to define. My goal is to figure out what intervention works to retain those skills when working with other teams, and I hope to present that in my dissertation.”

Before that day comes though, Zweifel will present at the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) Conference in Phoenix, June 19-22.

“This presentation will be my first big conference,” she said. “I’m excited. It’ll be a good experience. I hope it grows into other presentations.”

Zweifel’s introduction into simulation was not planned. After doing some impromptu simulation experience at Avera, she went to Minnesota West’s campus in Pipestone. Zweifel eventually became comfortable running various mannequins and then got her students to interact with the mannequins. She then saw how the students’ abilities grew after working with them in an in-class clinical setting.

“There was a huge reward seeing the students become comfortable and more confident when they were interacting with patients. That was one of the first real hands-on
Alyssa Zweifel states simulation is her passion. An instructor at the college’s Sioux Falls campus, Zweifel will present at June’s International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning Conference in Phoenix.

“Experiences about the benefits of simulation,” she said. “Avionics has used simulation training for years, but it’s only become big in health care in the last five to 10 years. “As a result of the short timeframe and the complexity of the health-care teams, we, in terms of the health-care profession, really haven’t found a great concept to figure out how frequently teams need to practice so they don’t lose their skills,” Zweifel continued. “We’ve seen that medical errors happen in a hospital setting because only two of the six disciplines communicate well together. When there’s a breakdown in team skills, such as communication and collaboration, patients are at risk. We need to work now on having six, eight or 10 disciplines training together so our students can practice those potential team breakdowns, work on them and be ready before they go into practice after graduation. Communication and teamwork just don’t happen; they need to be practiced to be done effectively. I’m looking forward to being part of making simulation more effective.”

Since starting at State in fall 2016, Zweifel has continued working on her doctorate in nurse education. “Along the way, I want to help build simulation at South Dakota State,” she continued. “We’re planning to make South Dakota State a place where people go to learn the latest about simulation. We want to have physicians, nurses, pharmacists, the entire health-care spectrum, come to us to learn. When that happens, it will benefit the College of Nursing, and I hope my dissertation is part of the beginning of it.”

Matt Schmidt
Of the many hats nurses wear, none compare to the joy of working as a maternity/newborn nurse, according to Lois Tschetter. “You get to experience families in the best situation; they’re happy. Plus, seeing the miracle of birth over and over again was awesome,” said Tschetter, assistant dean for undergraduate nursing, who retired March 21 after 36 years at the college. She co-taught the maternal newborn nursing class for almost her entire career and until 2001 also taught the clinical sections at the Sanford and Avera hospital maternity wards in Sioux Falls.

That means every nursing student who went through the Brookings program would have had Tschetter as an instructor. The total would be in the thousands. Among them is Heather Coon, a 2002 graduate and a same-day care nurse at Brookings Health System. “Lois pushed students to perform at their utmost potential. Her knowledge and real-life experience in OB was so helpful and greatly appreciated.”

THE LOCAL BREASTFEEDING EXPERT

Part of the course included being assigned an expecting family in Brookings or Sioux Falls. Student nurses would visit the families a couple of times before delivery and once after. At each visit, the students would offer practical lessons about fetal development or newborn care. Since 1997, they also would share information about breastfeeding.

After attending a weeklong course, completing a dozen modules and passing the test, Tschetter became a certified lactation consultant in 1997.

“I saw it was an opportunity to offer students something additional they could offer the parents. The more information I could give them, the more help they could provide families,” said Tschetter, who was the only lactation consultant in Brookings for many years. That expertise also meant teaching classes to the public at Brookings Hospital for many years.

“It was not unusual to get phone calls at home from new moms,” Tschetter said. “Occasionally, I would go to people’s homes. More often I would just meet people at the hospital where we had access to a scale” to weigh the not-nursing-well-enough newborn.

CREATOR OF RURAL NURSE FELLOW PROGRAM

While Tschetter may be best known to two generations of SDSU nursing students as the OB instructor, she considers a more recent facet as her legacy. Tschetter and Nancy Fahrenwald, then associate dean for research, wrote a federal grant to provide new ways to prepare students to practice in rural health-care environments. One of the activities the grant created was the Rural Nurse Fellow program, which has continued even though grant funding ended in 2014.

“I came up with the idea of the program as an opportunity for interested students in their final semester to spend the 120
hours of the senior semester clinical practicum course in a rural hospital setting. The purpose of the Rural Nurse Fellow Program is to strengthen the college’s partnership with rural health facilities and equip students with a deep appreciation for the complex role of rural nursing.

“Before this program, most students were selecting larger acute-care settings for their clinical practicum experiences. “As part of the Rural Nurse Fellow immersion experience, coursework completed in the final semester focuses on the unique aspects of rural health care and the course assignments have been modified to focus on unique aspects of rural health. This program continues at each of our locations with the students who choose this opportunity.

“Each Rural Health Fellow student receives a special medallion at the pinning ceremony and is listed in the pinning program along with the rural hospital location,” Tschetter said.

FACULTY IGNITES SPARK FOR LEARNING

Tschetter’s ties to SDSU nursing date to fall 1971, when the sophomore transfer student enrolled in pre-nursing classes. Genevieve Johnson was dean then as well as in 1974, when she received her bachelor’s degree.

“Even before I completed my degree, I knew that my long-term goal was to continue my education and join the small group of RNs who had a master’s degree in nursing. That was a lofty idea at a time when a graduate degree in nursing was not available in South Dakota. I credit the faculty I had as an undergraduate student for igniting the spark on the value of an M.S. in nursing,” Tschetter said.

It was Carol J. Peterson, who became dean in 1977, that provided the fuel for that spark to expand.

“I was living in Sioux Falls and teaching at Sioux Valley School of Nursing. Carol came and told the nurses that there was going to be a graduate program in South Dakota and that was a pretty exciting prospect. I thought ‘I’m going to figure out how to make that work in my life,’” said Tschetter, who had not yet married her now-husband of 40 years, Wes.

The Tschetters married in 1979, the same year the master’s program was offered. They were living in Pierre, where Wes worked with the Legislative Research Council.

By the time they moved to Brookings in 1982, Tschetter was a new mom and had begun earning graduate elective course credits that ultimately became part of her transcript. She enrolled in the SDSU program in 1983, accepted an offer from Peterson to join the faculty as a lecturer/teaching assistant in 1983 and received her degree in 1985.

“The professional satisfaction of working as a faculty member for the college led me to seek out the next level of education, and that opportunity was right here with the cohort group of SDSU faculty and administrators who enrolled in the doctorate in education program through the University of South Dakota in the late 1990s,” Tschetter said.

That degree was received in 2001. Nine years earlier she had earned her second master’s degree from State, this one in parent-child nursing.

GRANDKIDS CENTRAL TO RETIREMENT PLANS

“The College of Nursing has been my professional home for almost my entire nursing career. and I have had opportunities to be part of many important decisions that have had an impact on nursing education and health care in this state,” said Tschetter, a member of the South Dakota Board of Nursing. She served 1993-2003 and was appointed for a three-year term in February 2018.

That will keep her connected with nursing for a couple more years. and she plans to nurture others in the coming years.

The Tschetters have four grandchildren with a fifth arriving in April, which made March a good time to retire. Paul and his wife. Krista. have two sons and live in Sioux Falls, where both are attorneys. Jane Lucas, a 2007 State grad, and her husband, Chris, have a daughter. They live in Washington, D.C., where both are attorneys.

Emily Willett, a 2010 State grad, and her husband Ryan, also a 2010 State grad, live in Lincoln, Nebraska, where she has a solo orthodontic practice. They have a daughter and didn’t have a reveal party for their April arrival.

While the Tschetters plan to enjoy traveling the grandkid circuit, they plan to keep their roots in Brookings.

Dave Graves
Barbara Hobbs’ tenure with State’s Rapid City nursing program dates back to when O.J. Simpson was being arrested, Nancy Kerrigan was being attacked and Bill Janklow was being elected.

That was 1994—a quarter-century ago. Hobbs started that August as the fourth-semester critical care nursing instructor and the summer student adviser. Now, nearly 50 years after her career began as a staff nurse at Hillside Hospital in San Diego, the college’s assistant dean for Rapid City (formerly West River) is ready to retire.

Actually, Hobbs was ready in 2018, but decided to stay to provide stability when Dean Nancy Fahrenwald took a position at Texas A&M.

This time, the retirement date—June 21—is firm. But she isn’t totally leaving behind the field that has become her driving source.

“I will be retired from here, but I won’t be retired from what I do,” Hobbs said. In other words, she will continue to pursue her research field—sleep deprivation and shift work—and health education consulting work in the field of leadership and management in faculty administration.

There couldn’t be a better person for that, according to Interim Dean Roberta Olson, whose tenure at State also began in 1994.

Olson said, “Assistant Dean Hobbs has been an extremely effective leader, manager and faculty member at our Rapid City campus. She has been influential in establishing sustainable partnerships with Rapid City Regional Health System for clinical experiences for students and with the Vucurevich Foundation for funding for student scholarships.

Christina Plemmons, director of academic nursing programs for the college, has been preparing to succeed Hobbs. Plemmons said, “Dr. Hobbs has been very supportive of my transition. Early on, she made it clear to faculty and staff that I would be responsible for administering, leading and managing the Rapid City site’s day-to-day operations.

“She has been available to me as a mentor, offering guidance and suggestions, and taken the time to introduce me to key stakeholders, indicating her support and confidence.”

As the assistant dean for Rapid City, Hobbs oversees 15 faculty members and six staff members as well as around 230 students in the undergraduate, graduate and doctoral nursing programs.

Hobbs also headed up the initiative to develop the Native American Education Center in Rapid City on Mount Rushmore Road to create a welcome and supportive environment for undergraduate and graduate Native American nursing students. During the past 10 years, 42 Native American nurses have graduated from the Rapid City campus. There were six doctoral, five RN to bachelor of nursing, and 31 bachelor of nursing standard graduates.

GRAVEYARD SHIFT RESEARCH

In addition to administrative duties, Hobbs has continued to conduct the research she began when entering her satellite doctoral program through the University of Nebraska in 1997.

“My research is based on all of the staffing issues I managed. How to ensure I had the right number of nurses on each nursing unit to care for patients? How do I retain enough nurses? Do I have enough nurses on the floor? How alert are the nurses in the midst of a graveyard shift?” said Hobbs, who had hospital positions in San Diego and Bakersfield, California, and Reno, Nevada, before moving to Rapid City.

When working in Reno, she learned that the gaming industry actually provided their employees classes on how to stay up at night, work the gaming tables and sleep during the day.

“At the time there were no such resources for nurses. For my research, I looked at scheduling patterns and the challenges each staffing pattern brings. Sleep was a big part of that. In fact, the number one complaint from shift workers is sleep loss or daytime sleepiness. My interest in research was really driven by the challenges of keeping nurses on staff when working long hours,” she said.

The research also has had personal application.

“I have had to try to not burn the candle at both ends and get enough sleep. Research shows that the total sleep in 24 hours is more important than the eight hours in a night. I’m telling that to nurses. If they can’t get eight consecutive hours, try to find other times in the day when they can nap and or get some sleep,” Hobbs said.

Olson said, “Dr. Hobbs’ research has made an impact on an international level that health systems have integrated areas where night nurses can get a short ‘power nap’ as needed to remain alert during their 12-hour night shift.”

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE TO CONTINUE

Hobbs has partners in this research niche. The Working Time Society has existed since 2001 and Hobbs is a member.

“I received such support from (College of Nursing) administration while doing my doctoral work. I was supported to present at conferences and attend a boot camp for the study of sleep and fatigue,” she said.

Hobbs notes that the Working Time Society’s biannual
Assistant Dean Barbara Hobbs is retiring from the College of Nursing come June but she claims she won’t stop working as a researcher in the fields of sleep deprivation and shift work. Photo courtesy of Kacie Jo Marta Nickles.

symposiums are held internationally and rarely in the U.S.

However, 2019 will be an exception. The conference is at a secluded area at Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, in September and Hobbs will be attending. Idaho won’t be her only destination after June 21. Her husband, Don, has been retired for years from his position at the Veterans Affairs. The Hobbs have a motor home and “grandkids all over the place,” she said. There are seven from ages 5 to 30 and five great-granddaughters as well as three children.

She will be traveling with fond memories of the students she taught, the colleagues she worked with and the programs developed.

SENIOR-TO-SOPHOMORE EXPERIENCE

One ongoing program she recalls is the Senior-to-Sophomore Experience, in which one senior teaches clinical skills to two sophomores. While the experience started in the skills lab, it moved to the clinical setting around 2006. The student experience dates to a proposal she submitted in fall 1996 to college leadership. “First-semester students were nervous, scared about practicing new skills. Fifth-semester students were confident and articulate. I thought ‘Wow. How can I bridge that feeling?’” Hobbs asked. The bridge she built has become “embedded” and popular with students on each end of the learning curve.

“During senior exit interviews, students say the senior-sophomore experience helped them recognize how much they knew and that they could answer the sophomore’s questions; how as sophomores they felt comfortable asking questions because the seniors were their peers,” Hobbs said.

She adds that the program is unique to the Rapid City campus because it has fewer clinical sites. In Brookings and Sioux Falls, with a larger number of clinical settings, the experience is less practical.

Hobbs, an associate professor, has served as assistant dean since 2012 and served as department head for the nine years prior to that. She began not long after the undergraduate nursing program was established in Rapid City. Classes began in 1988 with the first graduate in 1992 and Hobbs arrived in 1994.

She said she is thankful for Olson’s “visionary” leadership in guiding faculty members and her to earn a doctorate and how that shaped her career.

Dave Graves
Though never a mom herself, the recently retired Mary Lou Mylant says her fondest memories as a nursing professor center on the years she spent working with teen moms.

She arrived at the Rapid City site of South Dakota State’s College of Nursing as a pediatrics instructor in 1992 after teaching the topic for 10 years at the University of Wyoming while also serving as a pediatric nurse practitioner in Fort Collins, Colorado. Seeing the problems caused by substance abuse guided her into the field that would become her specialty—family psychiatric mental health nursing.

She started teaching in this field a couple of years after arriving at SDSU. The topics of addiction and substance abuse became her classroom favorites.

“I can bring a perspective not only from the person who is addicted, but also from the family,” Mylant said. It is a third-semester undergraduate class in the psych/mental health section. Her time in Wyoming gave her a strong foundation to teach the class.

“When in Wyoming, I received funding for an afterschool support program for children, educating them about substance abuse and how they and their families may be affected by that. I ran groups for preschool and school-age children in Wyoming for 10 years,” she said.

In South Dakota, she worked on projects with Rural America Initiatives, a Rapid City program that targets the Native American population. Her most notable effort was Project Takoja (Lakota for sacred child), which was designed for teen parents. Mylant served as project evaluator and intervention consultant for the project and teen survivor circle from 2000 to 2005.

“There was a special emphasis on teens who had been abused themselves; how the trauma affected them and what their needs are and how they could then meet the needs of their children. We worked together to improve attachment and the parenting behaviors of the moms and their partners,” Mylant said.

MEMORIES MADE AT RED SHIRT

Among her lasting memories from her 27 years at State, Mylant lists taking senior students to Red Shirt School on the Pine Ridge Reservation for their community immersion experience. She was impressed by the impact it had on her students as well as the kindergarten to eighth-grade students only 45 miles from Rapid City.

“Our students were able to see the ‘why’ for the health disparities they might see in the hospital in Rapid City and how the disparities are even deeper than what they assumed,” Mylant said.

She added that what made the immersion experience particularly special was the SDSU students, including Wiyaka Sawin Hudson, who is now an RN. Without a nurse at the school, the nursing students did health screenings and assessments. “You saw the change in the Red Shirt students’ faces, as well as, Wiyaka. There was so much joy. She was a great role model for the students to see what they can become in the future,” Mylant said.

Also, in 2009 Mylant was named the college’s Distinguished Researcher at the South Dakota State Celebration of Faculty Excellence for exploring the preventative effects of trauma treatment among Native American youth.

KEEPING FOOT IN CLASSROOM, HAND ON HORSES

While Mylant retired in January, she is continuing part time to help launch the new online psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program.

She is developing courses and will teach one course. The first class is to be taught in the summer and repeated in the fall. The two-year, 27-credit program is designed for those nurses already holding a master’s or doctoral degree as a family nurse practitioner and prepares graduates to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center exam for psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners.

In addition to that, Mylant and her husband keep busy with their two horses on the 25 acres they own near Hermosa. Mylant is trained in equine-assisted learning and would like to move on to the next level.

She is currently training in the Tellington TTouch for humans and animals, a form of body work based on the intention of activating cellular function. It results in a deeper trust between people and animals, reduces stress and supports the body’s ability to heal as well as improve behavior, performance and well-being, Mylant said.

“This is a perfect fit with my interest in attachment, which started with my involvement in the Takoja program,” said Mylant, who is said to be an occasional horse rider.

Continuing as a researcher, she said, “I want to complete my assessment of how a project assessment of attachment applies to Native American adults and adolescents.”

Dave Graves
Sandra Mordhorst was motivated to become a nurse by a desire to "help people ... as well as to be able to make a difference in lives."

Turns out the lives she ended up making a difference in were the lives of future nurses. After earning a bachelor’s degree in nursing from South Dakota State University, the longtime Rapid City resident began working at what was then Rapid City Regional Hospital in July 2005. By August 2006, she was teaching clinicals for State's Rapid City nursing students. “The more clinicals I taught, the more I loved teaching. So, I went back to get my master’s so I could do it full time,” said Mordhorst, who plans to retire in May.

Mordhorst earned her master’s from State in 2010, but continued working part-time as a staff nurse at Regional Health until July 2014. On the academic side, she became the simulation site coordinator on the Rapid City campus scheduling simulations, arranging and scheduling human standardized patients, leading faculty training sessions for simulation and set up and break down of simulation mannequins and equipment. Mordhorst also served as the simulation and informatics committee chair from 2014 to 2018. In that role, she advocated for and facilitated the increased use of simulation within the West River nursing program.

Mordhorst also helped author several grant proposals, including the Simulation, Informatics, Technology Enhancement grant to develop and evaluate simulation scenarios using the “Jackson” family to improve quality care of rural and underserved populations. She also co-authored the proposal to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources for the Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment grant to help train students through simulation to identify, reduce and prevent problematic patient use of alcohol and illicit drugs.

Other responsibilities included being a part of the faculty team to achieve provisional accreditation through the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. Mordhorst helped develop simulation policies and support simulation activities through mentoring of faculty to achieve best standards of simulation practice.

While her tenure as an educator only stretches 13 years, she said she has seen much change in how education is delivered. “When I started teaching, it was primarily teaching theory. It has transitioned to concept-based learning, active learning through group work, simulated experiences and audience response questions. Learning is now more student-led than faculty-led,” Mordhorst said.

She said she loves to teach simulation groups, regardless of the level. “I complete simulations for all students, first semester through fifth semester. Simulations are structured to the knowledge of each group. With first-semester students, they’re eager and nervous. The students are just learning how to talk and assess a patient. You get to see this ah-hah light as they begin to understand the value of simulation. By fifth semester, they deal with complex multitrauma simulations, handling care for four different patients. There’s a sense of accomplishment. I like it all.

“In every simulation, in every semester, the students have things they need to overcome and problems to resolve,” Mordhorst said.

Her lasting memory of SDSU will be its supportive faculty, particularly Barbara Hobbs, assistant dean for Rapid City Nursing. “They’re eager to assist; always supporting you to advance to the highest level. Whatever you dream, they help you to achieve.

“I went to Boise State University to achieve a health-care simulation certificate. I was supported by Dr. Hobbs who accommodated my workload. She was always asking me how classes were going, if I was getting what I needed and encouraged me to achieve what I wanted to,” which Mordhorst did in summer 2017.

She also had a coordinator role in introductory nursing through the Rapid City School District’s Beyond the Books afterschool program and the SDSU Jackrabbits Nurse Camp from 2012 to 2017, which are designed to give middle and high school students a taste of being a nurse through hands-on learning activities. These programs expose students to a health-related career to help them decide which career path to choose.

For Mordhorst, “If I had it to do over a thousand times, I’d be a nurse.”

But after May, she will restrict her nursing to her four grandchildren—ages 1, 3, 5 and 7, who all live in Rapid City. Mordhorst and her husband, Tim, a retired mechanical and environmental engineer, have three daughters, Meghan, a GED teacher; Katelyn, a businesswoman; and Sarah, an optometrist.

Dave Graves
Janice Schardin, an instructor in the Sioux Falls program, retires from nursing after 42 years in the field, but she isn’t saying goodbye to caregiving. When her days of teaching classes and coordinating the RN and LPN refresher courses are completed, she will focus on being the caregiver for her mother and being more involved with her five grandchildren ages 3 through 13.

Since May 2017, she has been coordinator of the online refresher courses, teaching Interprofessional Issues in Health Care online, teaching clinicals for second-, third-, and fourth-semester students, and lecturing in Professional Nursing Concepts.

She has been an adjunct faculty member on two other occasions: in Brookings (1986-88, 1996) and Rapid City (1995).

Schardin, now of Baltic, said her lasting memory from SDSU can be summarized in a statement: “The talented nurses who have dedicated their careers to educating the next generations of nurses are amazing. The leadership from deans and the work of other managers and staff to position SDSU as a top

nursing educational program is amazing. SDSU is making a difference.”

Schardin’s career includes 20 years (1996-2016) as assistant administrator and then hospital administrator in De Smet, which is a critical-access hospital.

She received her bachelor’s degree in 1976 from SDSU and did front-line nursing duties in the areas of orthopedics, geriatrics, surgical, cardiac, rehabilitation and community health nursing at facilities in Sioux Falls, Brookings, Rapid City and then back home to De Smet.

As for her teaching experience, Schardin said, “Gerontology and community clinicals were stimulating because these two areas are my favorite areas of practice throughout my 42 years of nursing.” She also said she enjoyed “working with the LPN and RN refresher courses to make improvements and support participants who want to return to the practice of nursing.”

Schardin gained a master’s degree with a focus on geriatrics and management in 1993 from SDSU and completed a postmaster’s nurse educator program with a focus on online education in 2005 from State. She has been a member of Sigma Theta Tau since 1991 and member of Phi Kappa Phi since 2002.

Schardin has two children—a daughter, Jennifer, who lives in De Smet and teaches at Huron High School; and a son, Ryan, who lives in Baltic and teaches at Sioux Falls Lincoln.

Dave Graves
With only 37 certified and licensed psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners practicing in South Dakota, the College of Nursing was recently approved to offer a postgraduate certificate program to address that shortage.

The 18-credit, part-time online program is ideal for advanced practice registered nurses, particularly family nurse practitioners, who want to enhance their practice. The certificate can be completed in four semesters.

South Dakota has more than 1,100 certified nurse practitioners but only 3.3 percent of them are in the psychiatric mental-health area, according to the South Dakota Center for Nursing Workforce’s publication, South Dakota Nursing Workforce Supply and Employment Characteristics: 2019.

“This certificate will enhance the scope of practice for the nurse practitioner to provide more holistic health care,” said Kay Foland, a professor in the College of Nursing and an advanced practice psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner. “Persons needing health care more than likely have a number of health concerns, including emotional and mental-health issues. Completing the psychiatric mental health certificate will better prepare the family nurse practitioner to provide a more comprehensive, competent and evidence-based practice level of care.”

According to Foland, psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners are in high demand. After earning the certificate, individuals can work in outpatient clinics, primary-care units, private practices, community health and community mental-health centers, and hospitals. They may also provide services in substance abuse programs, high-risk pregnancy centers, schools, prisons and trauma centers.

“We know family nurse practitioners assess for mental-health needs across the life span but are limited in treating the needs without the specialized certification,” said Mary Minton, associate dean of graduate nursing for the college. “The proposed certificate prepares graduates to provide much needed high-quality mental-health care in a variety of settings in rural and urban South Dakota. It increases much-needed access to psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners in our state where a serious shortage currently exists.”

Classes start fall 2019.

For more information, visit www.sdstate.edu/nursing/graduate-nursing/.

Two faculty members recently have become certified nurse educators.

Robin Arends, clinical assistant professor in Sioux Falls, gained the designation in December 2018 to bring the total to three certified nurse educators among the Sioux Falls faculty. Lecturer Mary Vockrodt gained the designation in January, bringing to five the total number of certified nurse educators at the Brookings campus.

Part of the College of Nursing’s strategic plan is to increase the number of certified nurse educators and “I also wanted to challenge myself,” Vockrodt said.

Arends added, “As I did not have specific education courses as a part of my Master of Science coursework, I felt it was appropriate to learn about teaching pedagogy and theory to apply to my teaching practice. Obtaining certification was the next step in this process.”

In preparing for the exam, Arends and Vockrodt studied review books and did practice questions. “Our undergraduate students are encouraged to study practice questions to prepare for their licensure exam so I could relate to how they feel as I also studied many practice questions before the CNE,” Vockrodt said.

The designation, bestowed by the National League for Nursing, recognizes the experiential and academic preparation faculty have to educate the next generations of health-care providers, Arends said.
Cassy Hultman ’13/M.S. ’16 can describe her job in three simple words: “It’s very complex.”

Going beyond that is like opening the box on a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle. You know from the box top what the finished product looks like but fitting all of the pieces together seems like an impossible challenge. Fortunately for Hultman, who has served as academic clinical site manager since January 2017, she loves puzzles.

Lois Tschetter, assistant dean of undergraduate nursing, previously handled many of the duties in addition to her other responsibilities before Hultman started with the college.

In the broadest of terms, Hultman’s job is to ensure clinical experiences are in place, including affiliation agreements.

Given the large number of full-time faculty members, clinical instructors, clinical teaching assistants, semester coordinators and students, the task to coordinate clinical placements becomes gargantuan. Add in crowded schedules at clinical agencies and you’ve created a hair-pulling array of details to balance. She serves as the primary point of contact for most of the clinical agencies rather than having the facilities communicate with numerous clinical teaching assistants and instructors, she said.

However, the effervescent Hultman still has a full head of hair.
“I do love my job. It’s like a big puzzle to me. It’s a challenge to make everything fit and work.”

-Cassy Hultman

Academic Clinical Site Manager

I do love my job. It’s like a big puzzle to me. It’s a challenge to make everything fit and work,” said Hultman, who was working as a registered nurse on the pediatric unit at Avera McKennan in Sioux Falls before seeing the posting for the job at her alma mater. Her master’s degree in nursing specialized in nursing administration. Much of what she learned during those studies has been very useful to her position in the College of Nursing.

Hultman estimates affiliation agreements are in place with 850 to 1,000 facilities. She pays particularly close attention to the requirements of the students as those can be different for each agency, especially if partnering with an agency from another state. The typical checklist includes drug screening, background check, immunizations, CPR certification and health insurance. She works closely with Nursing Student Services to ensure students stay current on these requirements.

She collaborates with the semester coordinators to determine student clinical hours and agency placements based on the current curriculum and required number of clinical hours. She then contacts the clinical agencies that are needed for each semester to secure placement.

Another big piece of Hultman’s role is hiring the clinical teaching assistants and clinical instructors who play an important role in the students’ learning. She typically works four to six months in advance to bring the instructors onboard. Once the slots are filled, the semester coordinators are notified who will be assisting with each semester.

Hultman has worked closely with regional hospitals and other universities/colleges to make the process of requesting clinicals a more efficient process.

An online spreadsheet allows Hultman and others to fill/request available clinical hours. She helped lead the change from a paper system, which required many more hours to request and continually review which clinical hours and sites were available.

PRECEPTORSHIPS REWARDING FOR HULTMAN

For the fifth and final semester, a 120-hour preceptorship is required. Students can choose where to fulfill that requirement.

“I enjoy working with students throughout the semesters, but specifically find working with fifth-semester students rewarding,” Hultman said.

She cites the case of former Jackrabbit offensive lineman Charlie Harmon, who took his preceptorship at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children’s Hospital in Iowa City because it was an hour away from where his new wife was going to school. He returned excited about the opportunity and the great experience he had been through.

“To hear those stories and think, ‘I played a role in that,’ is a very satisfying part of this job,” Hultman said.

The spring semester can be a very busy time for her as she works on finalizing 65+ preceptorship placements and also works at finding placement for another 160+ students for summer and fall preceptorships.

SNOWY ROADS CAN CHANGE SCHEDULING

Winter creates an additional challenge for the puzzle crafter. All of the uniquely cut pieces could be fit together only to see an unwelcome storm come through the room and bump the table. “The associate dean, in conjunction with the assistant deans, make the final no-travel call in winter weather, but then it is up to me to help make alternative arrangements to ensure our students get their required clinical hours in,” Hultman said.

Given the complexities of the job, scheduling life at home is comparatively simple. She and her husband, Bryan, a welder in Tea, have two (Kinley, 5, and Beckham, 3) children and call Dell Rapids home.

-Making the Pieces Fit

“I do love my job. It’s like a big puzzle to me. It’s a challenge to make everything fit and work.”

-Dave Graves
Highway 14 has been a well-traveled road for Heidi Meyer and Jessica Stadick. The three-hour drive between St. Peter, Minnesota, where both are on faculty at Gustavus Adolphus, and Brookings has somewhat served as additional class or study time for the two as they’ve pursued doctorates in the College of Nursing.

“Our one-way, three-hour commutes for the executive weekend classes were some of the most stimulating conversations I’ve had,” said Meyer. “I’ve had informal conversations with classmates before, but our discussions were at another level. Commuting together allowed us to look deeper into what we were learning and stimulate further interests and passions.”

The combination of in-person and online classes drew them to enroll at South Dakota State. While the past five years have been tough attempting to balance their adult, academic and professional lives, there have been benefits.

“I’ve always known I wanted to go back to school, to enhance my knowledge in theory and research, to better prepare students and to contribute to nursing science to improve patient outcomes,” Stadick said. “I’ve been able to apply what I’ve learned already in my teaching and practice.

“It’s been challenging and rewarding,” she continued. “It’s been a major time commitment reading and writing and preparing for class while also preparing for the courses I teach. However, I’ve enjoyed each class and been able to use it to be better in the classroom.”

Meyer has also seen improvement when in front of a class. “When I got into a faculty role, I felt that a Ph.D. would be a great way to continue my lifelong learning,” she said. “But how beneficial it has been, how it’s translated into being an academic and how I can bring so much more to my baccalaureate students has been a very pleasant surprise, an unexpected one.”

While the two researched doctoral programs separately and together, it made sense for them to attend South Dakota State.

“It’s hard to know what the experience would have been like doing it without Jessica,” Meyer said. “I do wonder if I would have persevered without the professional support of someone who is empathic and sympathetic. When Jessica said she was going to pursue a doctorate, I said let’s do this together. It worked out really well to jump through this together.

“I feel her going through the same thing elevated the experience,” she continued. “I definitely recommend others find someone to go through this journey with; it’s definitely beneficial.”

Stadick, who worked as a medical/surgical, emergency room and public health nurse before moving into academia, agreed.

“We’ve been able to help each other out not only in classes but the collaboration extended to our work at Gustavus, too,” she said. “I do feel like I would have more moments of feeling isolated if Heidi wasn’t in the same program.”

Stadick’s idea to pursue advanced degrees came after precepting students while she was a public health nurse.

“I found I really enjoyed working with students, watching them learn, seeing their passion for nursing and how everything was new and interesting to them. It was fun to work alongside them as they learned the roles of nursing,” she said.

“I then got my master’s in nursing education with the thought I’d teach clinicals at hospitals or in public health,” Stadick continued. “I did my student teaching with Heidi and found I also liked teaching in the classroom. I was able to see the light bulb go on with students and could see how that translated into real patient care; I have a lot of joy in watching the students connect the dots.”

Meyer’s transition into academia was part of a career that she said always was going to have her being a nursing faculty member.

“Patient education is so much of nursing and I could see it was more of a natural piece of my nursing role and translated very well into an academic setting,” she said. “The education pedagogy was something I never thought of as a nurse. However, there is so much similar in nursing and education that it’s hard to separate the two; I feel I’ve combined the best of both worlds.”

Matt Schmidt
NCLEX RESULTS

**92.36%**

**PASS RATE**

2018

**PAST RESULTS**

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<th>YEAR</th>
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<td>316</td>
<td>278</td>
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**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY**
PUBLICATIONS


AWARDS/HONORS


Hendrickx, L. and Pelzel, H. were awarded the Dawley Seed Grant Award for “Determining Nursing Students’ Knowledge of Specialized Nutritional Needs of Children: A Rural Summer Camp Clinical Experience.”

Hendrickx, L. and Pelzel, H. were awarded first prize in the poster contest at the annual SDNA convention, October 2018.

Horsley, T.L. Goodale Nursing Faculty Scholar at SDSU, April 5, 2018.

Huber, E., SDSU Online Teaching Master Certification, November 2018.

Hulme, P.A., Nurse of the Year, South Dakota Nurses Association Districts 8 & 9, Oct. 8, 2018.

Isaacson, M.J., Selected as a 2018 HPNA Research Scholar and a participant at the 12th Annual Kathleen Foley Palliative Care Retreat. (2018, Fall). LaJolla, California.


Monson, M. received Crisis Prevention Institute’s Nonviolent Crisis Intervention certification.

Warne, B. received 32nd Annual Spirit of South Dakota award. Honored Oct. 6, 2018, at the Huron Event Center.

FEDERAL GRANTS

APRN Traineeship Immersion: Enhancing the Academic/Practice Partnership for Rural Primary Care. Funding Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (T94HP30879). Amount Awarded: $1,494,572 over two years (2017-2019). Britson, Victoria, project director.


Impacting Models of Practice and Clinical Training for Registered Nurses and Students (IMPACT-RNS). Funding source: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Nurse, Education, Practice, Quality and Retention-Registered Nurses in Primary Care (UK1HP31729). Amount Awarded: $2,751,222 over four years (2018-2022). Mennenga, Heidi, project director.


Rural Telehealth: Enhancing the Academic-Practice Partnership for APRN Education. Funding Source: Health Resources and Services Administration, Advanced Nursing Education (D09HP28685). Amount Awarded: $1,236,870 over three years (2015-2018). Arends, Robin, project director.

Presentations and additional scholarly outcomes can be found on the Our People page at the College of Nursing website: www.sdstate.edu/nursing/directory.
Nationally Certified
COLLEGE OF NURSING FACULTY

BROOKINGS
Certified Nurse Educators
Susan D. Bassett M.S., RN, CNE
Heidi Mennenga, Ph.D., RN, CNE
Annette Ray, M.S.N., RN, CNE
Lois Tschetter, Ed.D., RN, IBCLC, CNE
Mary Vockrodt, M.S., RN, CNE
Public Health Clinical Nurse Specialist
Debra Anderson, Ph.D., PHCNS, BC
Clinical Nurse Leader
Theresa Garren-Grubbs M.S.N., RN, CNL
Certified Medical-Surgical Registered Nurse
Theresa Garren-Grubbs M.S.N., RN, CMSRN, CNL
Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner
Melinda Tinkle, Ph.D., RN, WHNP-BC, FAAN
International Board Certified Lactation Consultant
Lois Tschetter, Ed.D., RN, IBCLC, CNE
Chemotherapy Biotherapy: Fundamentals
Becka Foerster, M.S., RN
Trauma Nursing Core Course
Becka Foerster, M.S., RN
American Nurses Credentialing Center
Polly Hulme, Ph.D., CNP, RN
Thomas Stenvig, Ph.D., MPH, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN
Family Nurse Practitioner
Polly Hulme, Ph.D., CNP, RN
Holistic Nurse: American Holistic Nurses Credentialing Corporation
Elizabeth Pasquariello, M.S.N., RN, HN-BC, RYT
Nurse Executive, Advanced
Thomas Stenvig, Ph.D., MPH, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN
Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse
Mary Minton, Ph.D., RN, CNS, CHPN
Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator
Paula Carson Ph.D., RN CCRN, CHSE
Certified Critical-Care Registered Nurse
Paula Carson Ph.D., RN CCRN, CHSE
Nursing’s License, No Certifications
Alham Abuatiq, Ph.D., RN
Robin Brown, Ph.D., RN
Nicole Carlson, M.S.N., RN
Erika Huber, M.S. RN
Jody Ness, M.S., RN
Danielle Schieveldbein, M.S., RN
Venita Winterboer, M.S., RN
ABERDEEN
Certified Nurse Leader
Lori Hendrickx, Ed.D., RN, CCRN, CNL
Critical Care Registered Nurse
Anne Buttolph, M.S.N., RN, CCRN
Lori Hendrickx, Ed.D., RN, CCRN, CNL
Trauma Nursing Core Course
Anne Buttolph, M.S.N., RN, CCRN
Heidi Pelzel, M.S.N., RN
Lyncee Monson, M.S.N., RN
Lori Hendrickx, Ed.D., RN, CCRN, CNL
RAPID CITY
Certified Nurse Educators
Janice Conlee, M.S., RN, CNP, CNE
Sarah Mollman, Ph.D., RN, CNE
Christina Plemmons, Ph.D., RN-BC, CNE
Certified Adult/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Kay Foland, Ph.D., RN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCSNS-BC, CNP
Certified Advanced Nurse Executive
Barbara B. Hobbs, Ph.D., RN, NEA-BC
Certified Family Nurse Practitioner
Janice Conlee M.S., RN, CNP
Certified Heart Math Trainer
Jo A. Voss, Ph.D., RN
Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse
Mary Isaacson, Ph.D., RN, CHPN®
Certified Medical-Surgical Nurse
Christina Plemmons, Ph.D., RN-BC, CNE
Certified Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist
Kay Foland, Ph.D., RN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCSNS-BC, CNP
Certified Women’s Health Care Nurse Practitioner
LeAnn Lamb, M.S.N., RN
SIOUX FALLS
Certified Nurse Educators
Robin Arends, DNP, CNP, FNP-BC, CNE, FAANP
Victoria Britson, Ph.D., APRN, CNP, FNP-BC, CNE
Leann Horsley, Ph.D., RN, CHSE, CNE
Certified Family Nurse Practitioner
Nicole Gibson, DNP, RN, NP-C
Certified Family Nurse Practitioner
Robin Arends, DNP, CNP, FNP-BC, CNE, FAANP
Victoria Britson, Ph.D., APRN, CNP, FNP-BC, CNE
Mary Kay Nissen, DNP, ARNP, CNP, FNP-BC, COHN-S
Brandi Pravecek, DNP, RN, CNP, FNP-BC
Certified Healthcare Simulation Educators
Leann Horsley, Ph.D., RN, CHSE, CNE
Certified Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
Cynthia Elverson, Ph.D., RN, NNPC-BC
Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse
Cori Heier, M.S.N., RN, CNRN
Certified Occupational Health Nurse - Specialist
Mary Kay Nissen, DNP, ARNP, CNP, FNP-BC, COHN-S
Certified Women’s Health Care Nurse Practitioner
Mary Beth Johnson, M.S., CNP, CNS, RN
VALERIAH BIG EAGLE

Valeriah Big Eagle, a native of the Yankton Sioux Reservation at Lake Andes, began work March 6 as diversity outreach and engagement coordinator in Rapid City.

The job involves outreach and engagement with schools, tribal programs and health-care organizations as well as the recruitment, advising and retention of nursing students.

Specifics under that umbrella include collaborating with College of Nursing faculty to plan and implement health career camps in Rapid City and tribal communities and exploring new opportunities for educating K-12 students in tribal communities about pursuing health careers.

Big Eagle also is to develop relationships with health professionals to support the recruitment and mentorship of students interested in nursing education at SDSU.

She took the job after serving almost three years as student success adviser at the Rapid City campus of Black Hills State University.

Big Eagle earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology (2014) and a master’s degree in student affairs administration (2018) from State. She anticipates earning a doctorate in adult and higher education administration from the University of South Dakota in summer 2021.

Her early success has been well recognized. Among her awards:

• Rapid City Collective Emerging Leaders, 2019;
• Prairie Business Magazine 40 Under 40 Award, 2018;
• Native Nation Rebuilder, Native Governance Center, Bush Foundation, 2018;
• Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, spring 2018;
• Chi Sigma Alpha, Student Affairs/College Counseling National Honor Society, fall 2017;
• AAUW Success Award, spring 2017.

GALE FOLSLAND

Gale Folsland, a longtime resident of Rapid City, began work Jan. 17 as assistant director of Nursing Student Services in Rapid City.

Her duties include advising nursing students and linking them to services, recruiting students, collaborating with Brookings Nursing Student Services, planning various academic ceremonies, such as pinning, and leading the Rapid City student services office team.

She comes to State after 15 years at National American University, working in a few different positions in the field of academic advising. Folsland holds a bachelor’s degree in secondary education from Black Hills State University (1979) and a master’s of business administration from Wichita State University (1995).

She shares her home with husband, Richard, two dogs and a cat. Outside interests include church activities, clogging, baking pies and walking dogs because the cat does not go on walks.

PATRICK VERLEY

Instructor Patrick Verley, a Sioux Falls native, joined the Sioux Falls faculty March 11.

In his work with undergraduate students, he is co-teaching a medical-surgical course and a pharmacology course as well as working in a simulation lab and accompanying students in tours of local acute care units.

Verley has worked as an adjunct faculty member at National American University and Dakota Wesleyan University for the last couple years as well as working for Select Specialty Hospital in Sioux Falls. His background also includes working in a rehabilitation unit in a long-term care facility. He began his career as a licensed practical nurse at the Minnehaha County Jail seven years ago and has worked at Keystone Treatment Center in Sioux Falls for the past four years.

Verley gained his LPN licensure at Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls in 2012 followed by a bachelor’s degree from Dakota Wesleyan in 2016 and in September 2018 completed his master’s in nursing with a concentration in nurse education from the University of Phoenix. He also joined Sigma Theta Tau nursing honor society last year.

He met his future wife, Alannah, while she was working as a medication aide and he as a nurse at the county jail in Sioux Falls. “While I have never made it a habit of dating co-workers, it has turned out quite well for us,” he said. They have a son, Connor, 4.
Shawn Dunlap ’81 had a couple other careers in mind before landing on nursing and then he spent a few years as a nurse before finding his niche. But even after 26 years in pediatric nursing, Dunlap never expected he would be stepping into the pediatrician’s traditional role of performing circumcisions.

However, that’s exactly what Dunlap and his colleagues at Mayo Health Clinic System-Franciscan Healthcare in La Crosse, Wisconsin, have been doing since December 2013.

The rather radical change in standard operating procedures came when Dennis Costakos, a neonatologist at the hospital, thought outside the box to find a more efficient method of delivering neonatal-pediatric services.

Dunlap explained that Costakos’ plan was to have pediatricians only see patients in the clinic with neonatal nurse practitioners and a neonatologist handling hospital duties.

“The neonatal nurse practitioners manage the newborn nursery and attend deliveries as well as help manage a neonatal intensive care unit. This is a very unique role here; there are no pediatricians on the floor,” Dunlap said. The neonatal nurse practitioner has a 24-hour shift with one always on duty whereas pediatricians were often on call, he said.

“Patient satisfaction went way up because there was always a provider on staff. There’s always a provider in the hospital to resuscitate a baby in an unfortunate situation,” he said.

STEPPING INTO NEW TERRITORY

But if the pediatrician isn’t working the birth and newborn floor, who is going to circumcise all those male babies? The hospital has about 1,000 births a year.

Costakos supposed that surely somewhere else neonatal nurse practitioners were performing circumcisions. But a review of peer-reviewed medical literature found no articles citing the use of neonatal nurse practitioners for this high-volume surgery. So, what’s the next option? YouTube videos, of course. The next step was then watching pediatricians perform circumcisions.

Finally, nurse practitioners performed 10 observed-but-independent circumcisions to become hospital credentialed for the procedure.

The neonatal nurse practitioner staff kept records on the first 200 circumcisions and applied to the International Review Board at Mayo Clinic for a research project.

The findings were “very positive,” Dunlap said. According to the study, “No baby had sufficient bleeding to warrant a urologist consult or penile suture” and Dunlap said urology didn’t report any follow-up visits either.

THE STUDY SAYS …

The study conclusion: “Having an NNP perform the circumcision is safe and results in a 2 to 9 times reduction in professional salary expenses compared to other specialists doing the procedure.” That’s because the hourly compensation for a neonatal nurse practitioner is $53.74 compared to $94.41 for a pediatrician and $248 for a urologist in 2015, when the study was done.

If the entire U.S. applied this model for the 1.1 million newborn circumcisions, the cost savings would be $10 million annually, according to the study.

Dunlap, Costakos and five other team members presented their study at the 2016 gathering of the American Academy of Pediatricians in San Francisco. The poster presentation was titled “Neonatal Nurse Practitioners as Surgeons,” a title, that while attention-grabbing, didn’t set well with some doctors, Dunlap said. The academy is almost exclusively made up of pediatricians, he said. Only recently did it start accepting nurse practitioners.

“It was a feather in our cap to be able to make a presentation at this conference,” said Dunlap, adding a follow-up study is planned.

DISCOVERING NEONATALOGY

Dunlap stepped into neonatology after working as a critical care nurse, a camp nurse and a traveling nurse in his first years. His introduction to neonatology came in 1985, when he was working with the open-heart unit at Gundersen Lutheran in La Crosse. Two of the three surgeons left and Dunlap was left with little work.

The hospital also had several pediatric nurses take maternity leave so Dunlap received a six-month assignment and discovered “this is a cool world.

“If you’re a nurse, you want to take care of people and help them through something tough in their life. When you have a premature baby, that’s a pretty big stress. It’s very rewarding to take someone and walk them through a stressful time in their life. At the end, you hand them a healthy product and send them home. Plus, you meet lots of nice people.”

In 1991 Dunlap married and became the director of pediatrics at Arnot Ogden Medical Center in Elmira, New York, an upstate hospital.

“It was during that period of time in administration that I realized that I missed my clinical time working with babies and their families so I went back to school to become a neonatal nurse practitioner,” he said.
In 1993 Dunlap moved back to his home state and entered the neonatal nurse practitioner program at State, which was the second school in America to offer the program. It was a 12-month certificate program offered in partnership with the University of South Dakota School of Medicine. Sioux Valley Hospital (now Sanford) was the partner in Sioux Falls. The College of Nursing provided the organizational structure. Neonatologists and neonatal nurse practitioners from the NICU at Sioux Valley Hospital taught the clinical and theory content. Content related to nursing research and nursing roles was taught by Lois Tschetter, who coordinated the program from 1985 to 1993.

Dunlap notes that 1994 was the last year for the certificate program. Then a master’s degree was required. Now a doctorate is required.

He regrets not getting his master’s degree, which would have allowed him to teach.

The 1976 Brookings High School graduate recalled visiting his sister, Marla Dunlap, in the Twin Cities in the 1970s while she was doing clinical rotations as a nursing student and seeing ex-medics working as nurses.

“If you’re a nurse, you want to take care of people and help them through something tough in their life.”

-South Dunlap ’81
Recently, I had a firsthand opportunity for that simulation lab experience. With a $1.3 million renovation project on the horizon for the third floor of Wagner Hall, my primary objective was to learn how SDSU nursing students are being prepared for real-world situations. Over a four-hour span, I observed eight students go through a series of grief and loss scenarios. What a powerful experience, not only for me, but also for our nursing leaders of tomorrow.

Working in teams of two, the students progressed through four scenarios with an elderly couple dealing with a variety of medical issues. It began with home visits to the wife, who had been home for about a week from a short hospital stay. Her husband had been hospitalized with a terminal illness. The final two visits were in his hospital room setting as he moved toward the end of life.

During each simulation, the other six students listened and watched closely from a closed-circuit observation room. Faculty in a control room guided and steered the sequence of events, monitoring and assessing every step. Emotions intensified as each team maneuvered through necessary clinical procedures yet displayed such human compassion, respect and understanding of a difficult situation. There were tears and prayers during the end-of-life scenario. What's more real than that?

That's exactly why we're talking about the renovation and construction project to create the On Campus Clinical Learning Environment (OCCLE). When complete, the high-tech clinical learning environment will provide nursing students with direct, hands-on opportunities for an unparalleled educational experience. In that safe, controlled environment and under guidance of SDSU faculty, students will take part in scenarios they will very likely encounter in their nursing career.

Plans have been in the works for years to upgrade and enhance Wagner Hall’s third floor. Approximately 3,500 square feet of existing classrooms will be transformed into a state-of-the-art clinical learning suite, including space for home, hospital and clinical care simulations as well as debriefing rooms and technology control rooms. The OCCLE will feature an innovative combination of high-tech and human touch, blending two of the most critical elements for patient care. In addition, it will allow:

• Integration of care transitions from the clinic, to the home and to the hospital;
• Incorporating telehealth education resources;
• Interaction with sophisticated adult, child and infant mannequins as well as patient-care technology; and
• Nursing functions with the same expectations as an actual clinic setting.

Similar projects are being planned for the College of Nursing locations in Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Aberdeen. With a teaching focus on patient-centered, holistic care, the OCCLE will enable students to learn the delicate balance of clinical/medical needs with the emotional needs of a patient and the family. Each simulation is followed by faculty leading a debriefing session with the entire group. The student nursing team has time to talk about what it was like in the room and classmates share observations as well ... teachable moments hitting home.

What part do you play in this unique learning experience at SDSU?

You can help create those teachable moments for the next generations of nurses. With your generous support, our nurses of the future will receive this invaluable experience, as each becomes prepared and equipped for what awaits in their career. Every gift will help create an environment where the outcome is truly priceless.

Please contact me to talk about your next step toward impacting greatness at the SDSU College of Nursing.
MAKE A LASTING IMPACT

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Save the Date
SEPT. 21

The College of Nursing would like to remind you of its football tailgate when the Jacks play Southern Utah in the 53rd Beef Bowl.