Five decades later, UR School of Nursing carries on legacy of founding dean Loretta Ford
Dear Friends,

Although it has been a very mild winter here in Rochester, I am so pleased that my husband Jeff and I were able to visit with some of our dedicated donors in Florida during the end of January. I certainly expected to see a little more sunshine down south, but instead, we were greeted with record rainfall, widespread flooding, and tornado warnings. I suppose there’s something ironic in coming home to Rochester to escape the harsh Florida weather, but I can tell you that no matter how cold and rainy, it was nothing next to the warmth of the School of Nursing’s alumni and friends that I had the pleasure of meeting with during my trip.

As many of you are aware, the University’s Meliora Challenge will be concluding on June 30. As dean of one of the University’s backbone academic units, I would like to thank each and every one of you who has contributed to the overall University campaign in its bid to raise $1.2 billion. It’s a mind-boggling goal in its size and scope, and we – as faculty, staff, alumni, students, and friends – are doing our part to meet the School of Nursing’s ambitious $25 million goal to help prepare for a future of continuing to educate the best and brightest minds.

That is what we do. As nurses, as educators, as researchers. We strive constantly for improvement, building and creating knowledge, and pushing and supporting our students to achieve more than they know they are capable of.

I am proud to represent a school with a wonderful history and tradition of innovation and transformative research and thinking. Thanks to those pioneers, we truly stand on the shoulders of giants today, and it’s exciting to be a part of the next generation of leaders taking nursing to the next level.

Evidence of our wonderful past and our bright future can be found right in this very issue of NURSING magazine. On these pages, you can read about:

• The School of Nursing’s role as a national model in the integrated structure of an academic health center;
• How Loretta Ford’s groundbreaking work creating the nurse practitioner role has had a far-reaching impact on health care;
• LaRon Nelson’s trip to Washington to advise the White House on how to combat HIV stigma;
• Highlights of the national and international visibility given to our faculty and staff;
• Our newest faculty;
• The latest alumni news;
• The August and December pinning ceremonies celebrating our newest graduates entering the profession;
• And, much more.

As always, I thank you for your continued interest and support of the School of Nursing.

Meliora!

Kathy H. Rideout, EdD, PPCNP-BC, FNAP
Vice President
University of Rochester Medical Center
Dean and Professor of Clinical Nursing and Pediatrics,
University of Rochester School of Nursing
A look at some recent media stories involving School of Nursing faculty, staff and students.

• A U.S. News and World Report story on how accelerated graduate degrees can smooth the transition into a career in nursing quoted director of admissions and co-director of the Accelerated Program for Non-Nurses Elaine Andolina and 2015 graduate Luke Angell. (Jan. 2016)

• An article on ADAMM, the asthma monitoring device developed based on research conducted by Associate Professor Hyekyun Rhee, was featured in Tech Times, a digital technology news site. (Jan. 2016)

• Kim Urbach, assistant professor at the School of Nursing and director of health centers at East High School and Frederick Douglass Campus, was a guest on WXXI public radio to discuss when schools and parents should begin educating children about sex. (Dec. 2015)

• A WHEC news story examined how weight gain during pregnancy can affect both the mother and child. The piece cited the research of Associate Professor of Nursing Susan Groth, who studied nearly 300 low-income minority women and found that excessive weight gain during pregnancy was associated with obesity and hypertension in the mother and a higher risk of obesity in the child and as well as future generations of children. (Dec. 2015)

• Mary Tantillo, professor of clinical nursing and director of the Western New York Comprehensive Care Center for Eating Disorders, was a guest on WXXI public radio to discuss her new research exploring group family therapy for young adults with anorexia nervosa. (Oct. 2015)

It was definitely one of the more busier times of my life. … Clinical started usually by 7 o’clock in the morning. So that meant getting up at 6 o’clock every morning to get prepared for that. And then there were some evenings where I would stay up till 10 o’clock at night studying and getting ready for my next clinical day. … It was definitely challenging. [I] just kind of took one day at a time.”
— Luke Angell, a pediatric nurse practitioner and May 2015 graduate of the University of Rochester accelerated master’s program for non-nurses, describing the demands of an accelerated master’s program in a January 2016 U.S. News and World Report article.

BY THE NUMBERS

#35 University of Rochester’s spot in the 2017 U.S. News and World Report’s first-ever rankings of Doctor of Nursing Practice programs.

#1 UR Nursing’s rank among Upstate/Western New York schools for both the U.S. News DNP and master’s programs rankings.

100% Percentage of UR Nursing master’s, DNP, and PhD students employed in the nursing field within a year of graduation.

100% Certification pass rates for the Family, Adult, Adult Gerontology Primary Care, and Family Psychiatric Mental Health nurse practitioner programs.

#25 University of Rochester School of Nursing’s spot in 2015 rankings of research funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

↑10 Number of spaces UR Nursing jumped from the previous year’s NIH ranking.

$2.73 Million Amount of sponsored research funding received by the University of Rochester School of Nursing in the 2015 fiscal year (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015).

75% Percentage of SON clinical faculty actively practicing in the nursing field.
Flannery research recognized by Conquer Cancer Foundation

Marie Flannery, PhD, RN, AOCN, an assistant professor at the School of Nursing, was one of 15 investigators honored for their research contributions by the Conquer Cancer Foundation of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Flannery received a Merit Award at the 2015 Palliative Care in Oncology Symposium last October. She presented a poster titled “Comparison of Older Adult Symptom Occurrence Rates in a Geriatric-Oncology Clinic with MetaAnalysis for Adults Receiving Chemotherapy” at the symposium. Flannery’s research team confirmed that significantly higher rates of many symptoms were present in older adults, highlighting the need for further research on the symptom experience of older oncology patients to advance palliative care and symptom science.

Blog tabs Groth one of 20 outstanding professors of women’s health nursing

Associate professor Susan Groth, PhD, RN, WHNP-BC, FAANP, was named one of the 20 outstanding professors of women’s health nursing, according to a July 2015 blog by Nurse Practitioner Schools. The post recognized Groth’s research, calling her work “some of the most ground-breaking in the women’s health nursing field.” It cited her study on the dietary choices of low-income pregnant African-American women, which earned her the Dr. Margaret Comerford Freda Saving Babies research award from AWHONN/March of Dimes in 2013, and her status as a frequent presenter at national conventions such as the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science and the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Maker of asthma monitoring device named Innovator of the Year for 2016

An asthma monitoring device developed with the help of Associate Professor Hyekyun Rhee, PhD, RN, PNP, took home the top honors at the Wearable Technologies annual conference in January. ADAMM (Automated Device for Asthma Monitoring and Management) was named the best innovation in the Healthcare and Wellness category, and the device’s maker, Health Care Originals, Inc., was named Innovator of the Year for 2016. A total of 28 products were recognized by an international jury at the Wearable Technologies Innovation World Cup with winners selected in categories such as Healthcare and Wellness, Smart Clothing, Safety and Security, and more. A lightweight, wearable iOS device, ADAMM records data vital to asthma management.

Her superpower? A vision for the future

Working as a public health nurse during the 1940s and ’50s, Loretta Ford envisioned a future where nurses received advanced education in clinical care and research. In 1965, she teamed with physician Henry Silver, and the first nurse practitioner program was born. Ford, the founding dean of the Rochester School of Nursing, returned to the school last November to mark the 50th anniversary of a model that ushered in a new direction in nursing and transformed the health care delivery system. See more from Dr. Ford’s visit on page 16.
The University of Rochester School of Nursing is offering 50 percent tuition support in scholarships for its Care Manager Education, RN-to-BS completion, and Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner programs to meet the educational needs of health care employees in the Finger Lakes region.

Infusing the region with graduates from the three programs will directly fill gaps in care to help patients achieve better health outcomes.

There’s a rising demand for nurses resulting from a transformation of the region’s Medicaid health care delivery system, through the New York State Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program, regionally organized by the Finger Lakes Performing Provider System (FLPPS). New York state is using the DSRIP reform model to improve clinical outcomes and reduce avoidable emergency department use and hospitalizations by 25 percent over five years.

FLPPS – a not-for-profit organization representing a network of 28 hospitals, 3,000 health care providers and more than 600 health care and community-based organizations in a 13-county region – aims to address current shortfalls in the health care system, including the role of behavioral health in primary care and skilled nursing facilities, patient care transitions, chronic disease management, and integrating health care services across multiple care settings.

Care managers, baccalaureate-prepared nurses, and mental health nurse practitioners are integral members of the health care team, able to respond to growing patient needs, said Elaine Andolina, MS, RN, director of admissions at the School of Nursing.

“We are excited to support students who want to pursue the next step in their nursing education,” Andolina said. “Nurses who graduate from our programs will play pivotal roles in strengthening care quality, improving prevention and management of chronic diseases, promoting health across populations, and controlling costs.”

Those eligible for the scholarships include employees at UR Medicine affiliate organizations as well as individuals who live or work in the FLPPS 13-county region (Allegany, Cayuga, Chemung, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates).

$1.65M Grant Earmarked for NP Residency, Clinical Training Programs

A $1.65 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will help prepare area clinicians to successfully practice in a fully transformed health care delivery system.

The award, $330,000 per year for the next five years, will create and manage a Nurse Practitioner Residency program, which will be integrated into the University of Rochester/Highland Hospital Family Residency Program, and the Finger Lakes Center for Primary Care Clinician Education (FLC-PCCE), which provides educational assistance to physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants to ensure they have adequate education, skills, and tools they need to succeed.

Highland’s Department of Family Medicine is one of only 32 organizations in the U.S. to be awarded funding for Health Workforce programs for primary care training and enhancement, and one of only five in New York state.

The Nurse Practitioner Residency program is being developed in collaboration with the University of Rochester School of Nursing. It will be the first program of its kind in New York state and one of only 40 across the country.

“We are very excited about incorporating a nurse practitioner residency into our Family Medicine Residency program, one of the most respected in the country,” said Tom Campbell, MD, chair, University of Rochester Department of Family Medicine. “Our goal is to support the transition of highly skilled nurse practitioners into leadership roles in primary care offices that will function as patient-centered medical homes.”

Recognition for Literary Excellence

Congratulations to Professor Mary Wilde and her research team for winning the Urologic Nursing 2014-2015 Catherine-Ann Lawrence Literary Excellence Award. Their article, “A Web-Based Self-Management Intervention for Intermittent Catheter Users” was unanimously considered the journal’s best manuscript of the year. Wilde was recognized with the award at the Society of Urologic Nurses (SUNA) 46th Annual Conference in Las Vegas last October. Pictured: Data Analyst Judith Brasci, MS, RN; Director of Information Technology Services Brian Harrington, MBA; Mary H. Wilde, PhD, RN; and Sarah Miner, MSN, RN. Not pictured: Eileen Fairbanks, MS, RN, PNP; Deborah Thayer; Jim McMahon, PhD; Dan Schneiderman; Robert Parshall; Feng Zhang, BSN, RN.
Arcoleo Returns to UR School of Nursing as Associate Dean of Research

Kimberly Arcoleo, ’96M (MPH), ’06M (PhD), associate dean for research and transdisciplinary scholarship and director of the Center for Women, Children and Youth (CWCY) at Ohio State University, has accepted a position as the associate dean for research and director for the Center for Research and Evidence-Based Practice at the University of Rochester School of Nursing.

She will begin her new role on July 1, 2016.

“I am absolutely elated that Kim has accepted our offer,” said Kathy Rideout, EdD, PPCNP-BC, FNAP, dean of the School of Nursing. “I have the utmost confidence that she’s the best person to assume leadership of our research mission and take it to the next level.”

An accomplished researcher specializing in health disparities in children with asthma, Arcoleo has extensive experience in clinical and social/behavioral research in industry and academia, including a 17-year stint at the University of Rochester School of Nursing (1989-2006). She has received numerous awards for her work, including Outstanding Researcher awards from both Ohio State and Arizona State and the 2012 Nursing Research Book of the Year from the American Journal of Nursing.

“Tired and honored to be returning home to Rochester and the School of Nursing,” Arcoleo said. “I look forward to being able to give back to the school by providing the vision and leadership necessary to propel the research enterprise to a position of national prominence.”

Arcoleo has been at Ohio State since 2011 and played a key role in developing the CWCY. She previously served as an assistant professor at Arizona State’s College of Nursing and Health Innovation, where she co-developed the Center for Healthcare Innovation and Clinical Trials and three master’s degree programs. She also received a $2.5 million NIH grant in 2009, the largest individual investigator award in the college’s history.

Prior to entering her academic career, Arcoleo spent a decade in FDA-regulated clinical research positions at Bausch & Lomb, Inc. She received her undergraduate degree in biology from the University at Buffalo.

Dozier Named an AAN Fellow

Ann Dozier ’77N, ’80N (MS), ’96N (PhD), a professor of clinical nursing and chair of the University of Rochester Medical Center Department of Public Health Sciences, has been named a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. Dozier was inducted on Oct. 17, 2015, during a ceremony at the academy’s annual policy conference in Washington, D.C. Selection to the academy is one of the highest honors in nursing and is based on an individual’s contributions to the profession, including improving the quality of care, promoting healthy aging, shaping healthy behaviors, and strengthening delivery systems. Approximately 2,200 fellows represent the field’s leaders in education, management, practice, and research.

Dozier’s research and fieldwork focuses on maternal and child health, with an emphasis on improving breastfeeding among low-income women and reducing infant mortality. She currently leads several projects that focus on reducing disparities in infant mortality and increasing breastfeeding rates among low-income and minority women. In 2015, she assumed leadership for the New York state-funded Maternal and Infant Health Center of Excellence, a five-year project that will provide training, technical assistance and evaluation to more than 40 community organizations across the state that serve at-risk mothers.

Attin Joins UR Nursing Research Faculty

The University of Rochester School of Nursing welcomed a new research faculty member in September 2015, with the hiring of Assistant Professor Mina Attin, PhD, RN.

Attin joined the faculty after serving nearly six years as assistant professor at San Diego State University.

She has experience in both clinical and experimental research in the field of cardiac electrophysiology. Her areas of research interest include the mechanism of cardiac arrhythmias and improving the quality of care for patients who experience cardiac arrest. She received pre-doctoral and postdoctoral fellowship support from the National Institute of Nursing Research and her dissertation was focused on the role of calcium transients in determining the defibrillation’s outcome using optical mapping techniques in rabbit hearts.

She independently conducted an in-hospital cardiac arrest study in San Diego investigating electrocardiogram predictors prior to cardiac arrest among cardiovascular patients. The findings have been presented at national meetings, including the American Heart Association.

Attin has received a number of scholarship and research awards, and formerly served as publication chair for the Los Angeles local chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nursing, and the results of her studies have been published in both medical and nursing journals.

She served as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Illinois at Chicago and earned her master of science and PhD at UCLA. She obtained her undergraduate degree from California State University, Los Angeles.
Kathy Rideout, EdD, PPCNP-BC, FNAP, dean of the School of Nursing and vice president of the University of Rochester Medical Center, was one of three honorees to receive a 2016 Presidential Diversity Award, recognizing her leadership and commitment to diversity and inclusion at the University.

Under Rideout’s leadership, the makeup of the School of Nursing has been transformed. The School of Nursing received New Careers in Nursing grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing for all seven rounds of funding, allowing the school to provide more than $900,000 in scholarships to 91 students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds who otherwise would not be able to afford switching career paths to pursue nursing. The number of underrepresented minority faculty and male faculty at the school has doubled in the past decade, and approximately 20 percent of nursing students at all levels are men, more than twice the average of male nurses in the workforce.

The School of Nursing has also been a University leader in promoting tolerance. Its Council for Diversity and Inclusiveness is the only diversity committee to have its own budget to organize school-wide activities, provide learning opportunities to enhance awareness of diversity issues, and serve as a liaison between school and University diversity initiatives. Students in the school were empowered to create the LIFT (Leading with Integrity For Tomorrow) program to help arm future nurses with the cultural awareness, leadership, and advocacy skills necessary to provide the best possible service to their communities.

“The faculty and staff really overextend their time and efforts to educate students to be great future nurses,” said Jose Perpignan Jr., a third-semester APNN student and chair of the LIFT program. “To the students, they stress the importance of diversity, leadership, and advocacy for us and as it pertains to our future patients.”

“Focusing on diversity and inclusiveness is especially important, as it allows for a broad array of viewpoints and ideas, allowing all to be heard and feel valued,” said Jonathan Wetherbee, staff co-chair with the Council for Diversity and Inclusiveness.

“It is imperative that the nurses of tomorrow reflect the community they serve,” said Karen Reifenstein, PhD, RN, faculty diversity officer with the Council, assistant professor of clinical nursing, and education coordinator with the Center for Lifelong Learning.

The Presidential Diversity Award was created in 2009 by President and CEO Joel Seligman to highlight faculty, staff, students, departments or teams that “demonstrate a commitment to diversity and inclusion through recruitment and retention efforts, teaching, research, multicultural programming, cultural competency, community outreach activities, or other initiatives.”

This year’s other winners, selected from seven nominees recommended by their colleagues, were Janice Holland, senior HR representative and diversity specialist/facilitator and community liaison; the One Community Program, an orientation program for first-year students exploring the intersecting identities in the Rochester community.
Lin Receives $2M NIH Grant to Investigate Dementia Risk

Feng (Vanny) Lin, PhD, RN, assistant professor at the School of Nursing, has earned a $2 million National Institutes of Health grant to determine if a computer-based training program can lower a person’s risk for dementia.

Lin will lead a four-year study testing vision-based speed of processing (VSOP) cognitive training and its effect on slowing cognitive decline in adults at risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of dementia. VSOP cognitive training features a series of computer exercises that simulate real-world activities aimed at sharpening a person’s attention and ability to process information. More than 5.3 million Americans suffer from Alzheimer’s disease, according to the Alzheimer’s Association. In the Finger Lakes region alone, that includes an estimated 25,000 people. That number is projected to grow unless significant progress is made in discovering ways to prevent, slow, or stop Alzheimer’s disease.

“I’m passionate about this field of research because the needs are very urgent due to our aging population,” Lin said. “Computerized training could be a very promising tool that individuals and families can draw from in their fight against cognitive decline and the development of dementia.”

Lin and her multidisciplinary team, including researchers from psychiatry, neurology, and brain and cognitive sciences, will test VSOP training in adults with mild cognitive impairment, who are more likely to develop Alzheimer’s and other dementias.

McMahon, Nelson Studies Breaking New Ground in Fight Against HIV/AIDS

On the observance of World AIDS Day on Dec. 1, optimism that HIV/AIDS could be largely eradicated in the not-too-distant future had reached an all-time high, thanks in part to School of Nursing researchers.

Weeks earlier, James McMahon, PhD and LaRon Nelson, ’09N(PhD), RN, FNP, FNAP announced they would be conducting separate studies aimed at preventing the spread of the deadly virus that afflicts approximately 2 million people each year, including 50,000 in the United States.

McMahon will be leading a $3 million, five-year project studying pre-exposure prophylaxis, or PrEP, as a viable prevention option for people who are at high risk of contracting HIV, specifically heterosexual partners of HIV-positive men and women. Nelson is co-principal investigator in a study led by the University’s HIV Vaccine Trials (also known as the Rochester Victory Alliance) that directly introduces an experimental antibody against HIV to those who are at high risk of acquiring the virus.

McMahon’s grant from the National Institute of Mental Health will take a deeper look at PrEP, also known as Truvada, a once-a-day medication that has been shown to be highly effective in preventing HIV transmission. The study will examine the clinical provision of PrEP and potential barriers to use that exist within a few dozen heterosexual couples where only one partner is HIV-positive.

The study also represents a shift in treatment for HIV-serodiscordant couples. Whereas treatment has traditionally focused on the infected partner, the drug in this study will be administered to the partner who is at risk of acquiring the virus.

“Before PrEP, the only reliable options people knew about to prevent HIV were condoms or abstinence,” said McMahon, associate professor in the School of Nursing and co-director of the Clinical and Translational Sciences Core of the URMC Center for AIDS Research. “This has the potential to be a game-changer in the fight against HIV/AIDS.”

Nelson is part of a team conducting the “AMP” study, which stands for Antibody Mediated Prevention. Rochester is one of 19 National Institute of Health-sponsored Vaccine Trials Network sites conducting the research in the U.S., with additional research being done in Africa and South America. It will enroll and follow nearly 4,000 participants, including approximately 80 in the Rochester area.

The antibody being tested, called VRC01, is manufactured in a laboratory and is not made from HIV-infected cells. The antibody will be given directly to subjects through an IV infusion. The goal of the study of healthy HIV-negative men who have sex with men and transgender individuals who have sex with men, is to gather more information about the safety of the antibody and to test whether the antibody can prevent HIV infection.

Because Black men who have sex with men (MSM) are at highest risk for HIV acquisition, Nelson says this research may lead to solutions for reducing disparities among populations that have a high burden of new HIV infections, particularly Black MSM.

“In Rochester we will engage individuals using a holistic, person-centered approach that isn’t typically done in randomized controlled trials,” said Nelson, the Dean’s Endowed Fellow in Health Disparities and assistant professor at the University of Rochester School of Nursing. “For example, we will work with study participants to address some of the social determinants, like housing instability and joblessness, which influence their vulnerability to HIV infection.”
Scholarly Publications

The following is a listing of research findings published by School of Nursing faculty from September 2014 through December 2015.

Mary G Carey, PhD, RN, CNS


Susan M. Curziynski, PhD, CNS, PNP


Robert Edward Cole, PhD, MS


Marie A. Flannery, PhD, RN, ACNP


Susan W. Groth, PhD, RN, WHNP-BC, FAANP


Amy M Karch, MS, RN


Margaret H. Kearney, PhD, RN, FAAN


Harriet Kitzman, PhD, RN, FAAN


**Dianne Liebel, PhD, RN**


**Feng Yankee Lin, PhD, RN**


**James McMahon, PhD**


**Sally A. Norton, PhD, RN, FNAP, FPCN, FAAN**


**Tobie H. Olsan, PhD, MPA, RN, CNL, NEA-BC, FNAP**

Bethel Powers, PhD, RN, FSAA, FGSA

Jill R. Quinn, PhD, RN, CS-ANP, FAHA, FNAP, FAAN

Hyekyun Rhee, PhD, RN, PNP

Joyce Ann Smith, PhD, RN, ANP

Karen F. Stein, PhD, RN, FAAN


Mary Tantillo, PhD, PMHCONS-BC, FAED, CGP

Jane Tuttle, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, FAAN

Mary H. Wilde, PhD, RN

Ying Xue, DNP, RN

Scholarly Presentations
The following is a listing of presentations by School of Nursing faculty at symposiums, conferences and meetings from September 2014 through December 2015.

Elaine M. Andolina, MS, RN

Caroline Bianchi, DNP, RN, MBA, ANP, CRNP
Pamela Brady, MS, RN, FNP

Mary G Carey, PhD, RN, CNS

Annual Health Professions’ Faculty Development Colloquium. (2015). "Strategies for ethnic minority recruitment and retention in clinical research.” University of Rochester, Rochester, NY.

Susan M. Czurzynski, PhD, CNS, PNP
Association for Nursing Professional Development Annual Convention. (2015). “Can nurses have fun and successfully prepare for specialty certification?” Las Vegas, NV.

International Paediatric Medical Congress. (2015). “Implementation of an interprofessional simulation training and experiential program (InSTEP) and its impact on sepsis management in the pediatric emergency department.” New Orleans, LA.

Robert James Dorman, MS RN-BC, CCRN, C-NPT

Marie A. Flannery, PhD, RN, AOCN

CANS. (2014). “Multiple symptoms in advanced cancer have a superadditive effect on quality of life and depression.” Washington, DC.


Jeanne Tuel Grace, PhD, RN, WHNP

Susan W. Groth, PhD, RN, WHNP-BC, FAANP


Margaret H. Kearney, PhD, RN, FAAN

Debra B. Kloesz, MS, RN, NE-BC
American Psychiatric Nurses Association Annual Conference. (2014). “Can undergraduate psychiatric nursing students benefit from learning and implementing group therapy?” Indianapolis, IN.

Dianne Liebel, PhD, RN


Maria A. Marconi, EdD, RN

James McMahon, PhD


LaRon E. Nelson, PhD, RN, FNP


18th Annual National Center for AIDS Research Conference. (2014). “Pathways from non-affirming childhood religious affiliations to adulthood HIV risk in black men who have sex with men.” Providence, RI.

Irene Pesis-Katz, PhD

Bethel Powers, PhD, RN, FSAA, FGSA

Jill R. Quinn, PhD, RN, CS-ANP, FAHA, FNAP, FAANP
Karen A Reifenstein, PhD, RN

Kathy H. Rideout, Edd, PPCNP-BC, FNAP


Madeline H. Schmitt, PhD, RN, FAAN, FNAP


Fourth Annual Health Sciences Schools IPE Symposium. (2015). "IPE to IPP: What are the missing links? Or ‘minding the gap.’" Kansas City, MO.

Craig R. Sellers, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, GNP-BC, FAANP


Karen F. Stein, PhD, RN, FAAN

Mitchell James Wharton, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, CN

Mary H. Wilde, PhD, RN


Ying Xue, DNSc, RN

Honors & Awards
The following faculty, staff and student honors were received between August 2014 and December 2015.

Elaine M. Andolina, MS, RN
GNAP Annual Award for Extraordinary Service (2014). Graduate Nursing Admissions Professionals (an AACN Network). Washington, DC.

Margaret-Ann Carino, PhD, RN, DABS, PNP, FAAN
Josephine Crowtor Nursing Faculty Award (2015). University of Rochester School of Nursing: Rochester, NY

Yvette Conyers, MSN, RN, FNP
Outstanding Faculty Colleague Award (2014). University of Rochester School of Nursing: Rochester, NY

Marie A. Flannery, PhD, RN, AOCN
Merit Award (2015). Conquer Cancer Foundation of ASCO: Rochester, NY

Outstanding Oncology Nurse of the Year (2014). March of Dimes: Rochester, NY

Received pilot grant funding for Patient Prioritized Symptom Relief (2014). Wilmot Cancer Institute: Rochester, NY

Susan W. Groth, PhD, RN, WHNP-BC, FAANP
Terry Family Research Fund Award (2015). University of Rochester School of Nursing: Rochester, NY

Margaret H. Kearney, PhD, RN, FAAN
50th Anniversary Alumni Excellence Award (2015). UCSF: San Francisco, CA

Harriet Kitzman, PhD, RN, FAAN

Feng Vankee Lin, PhD, RN
R01 grant proposal titled "Neurophysiological Aspects of Vision-Based Speed of Processing Cognitive Training in Older Adults with Mild Cognitive Impairment" (2015). National Institute of Health: Rochester, NY

Maria A. Marconi, EdD, RN

James McMahon, PhD
NIH/NIH (2014). National Institute of Mental Health: Bethesda, VA


Sally A. Norton, PhD, RN, FAAP, PN
Elaine C. Hubbard Center for Research on Aging Endowed Award (2015). University of Rochester School of Nursing: Rochester, NY

Bethel Powers, PhD, RN, FSA, FGSA
Received $600,000 to provide scholarship and stipend support for 4 students each year for the next 3 years entering our MS/RPh or PhD programs (2015). Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN Program): Rochester, NY

Hyekyun Rhee, PhD, RN, FNP

Madeline H. Schmitt, PhD, RN, FAAN, FNAP
Nicholas A. Cummings Award (2015); The National Academies of Practice: Lexington, KY

Craig Sellers, PhD, RN, ANP-BC, GNP-BC, FAANP
Selected by ANCC to be an expert member of the Standard Setting Study Group for development of the Adult-Gero Primary Care NP certification exam

Mary Tantillo, PhD, PMHNS-BC, FAED, CGP
Hilda & Preston Davis Foundation (2014). University of Rochester School of Nursing: Rochester, NY

Dr. Jeremy A. Klainer Endowed Dean’s Discretionary Endowed Award (2015). University of Rochester School of Nursing: Rochester, NY

Mary H. Wilde, PhD, RN
CURE-UB Faculty Award (2014). First Congress of Urologic Research and Education on Aging Underactive Bladder: Washington, DC

Catherine-Ann Lawrence Literary Excellence Award Underactive Bladder: Washington, DC

Ying Xue, DNSc, RN
One of the top 10 journals in healthcare administration, Journal of Medical Care: 2013-15.
Pinning Ceremonies Celebrate Newest Nursing Grads

The School of Nursing welcomed more than 110 new nurses into the profession at its traditional pinning ceremonies in the latter half of 2015. Fifty-six students graduated from the Accelerated Bachelor’s and Master’s Programs for Non-Nurses (APNN) at the December ceremony, joining 58 who received their pins in August. Each cohort included an accomplished and diverse group of graduates, coming from as far away as Ethiopia and the Philippines, and included more than a dozen Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars. Many students already held advanced degrees and had established successful careers in other fields before deciding to switch careers and pursue nursing.

Photos by Jeff Witherow

August 2015

Class speaker and Robert Wood Johnson New Careers in Nursing scholar Nasim Hurd.

Six Robert Wood Johnson Scholars were part of the August 2015 graduating cohort. Pictured are Dean Kathy Rideout, APNN co-director Patrick Hopkins, Ryan Houghtalen, Nasim Hurd, Kashawmma Wright, Jeremy Mack, Faith Lambert, and Princewill Fonta.

Happy APNN grads celebrate at the post-ceremony reception.

December 2015

Fuld Scholars Ma Melita Hebert, Kaschief Johnson and Danielle Pasqualucci.


Friends and family play an important role helping students succeed in the accelerated program.

Students were all smiles as the pinning ceremony wound down, marking the start of their new careers.
Combatting HIV Stigma

UR Nursing professor’s research presented at the White House may lead to bold changes in health care

By Patrick Broadwater
Douglas Brooks set the tone at the start of the meeting.

At a White House symposium discussing HIV stigma, Brooks, then the director of the Office of National AIDS Policy and the president’s lead advisor on domestic HIV/AIDS issues, began by telling a roomful of researchers, policy makers, and community leaders about his own personal experiences. There were times, he said, that he felt judged, mistreated and discriminated against in a health care setting, simply because he is living with HIV.

Regan Hoffman, an author, editor, and policy officer for the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), did the same. So did Cornelius Baker, the chief policy officer of the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

The message was clear. “These are some of the most resilient, motivated people on earth, and their recent experiences with stigma nearly led them to disengage from the health care system,” said LaRon E. Nelson, assistant professor of nursing and associate director of international research in the University of Rochester Center for AIDS Research (CFAR). “If their motivation can be undermined, what happens to the average person struggling to get by who doesn’t have the kind of influence they do? Do they check out completely?”

Figuring out ways to reduce HIV stigma and keep patients engaged with their care was the main focus of the conference, Translating Research to Action: Reducing HIV Stigma to Optimize HIV Outcomes, March 3-4 at the White House.

Over the course of the event, Nelson and other scientists and stakeholders in the fight against HIV/AIDS from around the world focused on best practices for measuring and monitoring HIV stigma, as well as methods of intervention aimed at reducing stigma in order to improve HIV outcomes.

“We heard from people on the front lines. We all know that HIV stigma is there, but this was an opportunity to learn about who is doing what and to strategize about how we can take what we know to inform anti-stigma efforts and reduce disparities in HIV/AIDS mortality around the world,” said Nelson.

As one of the featured speakers at the meeting, Nelson offered insights from his research on HIV and related stigmas with men who have sex with men (MSM) and also discussed findings from a promising three-city study focused on optimizing patient-provider interactions in order to encourage HIV-risk reduction. The study targeted care providers in Los Angeles, Chapel Hill, and Washington, D.C., training them on how best to support the autonomy of Black MSM patients, a group that currently has a one in two lifetime risk of becoming infected with HIV, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“People often say we can’t change the world. We can’t make the world stop being racist. We can’t eliminate stigma, but maybe we can prevent some of it. In some situations that represent small worlds, like a clinic, why can’t we stop stigma at the source? It’s not a simple task, but we need to try bold solutions if we’re serious about ending this epidemic.”

— LaRon Nelson, associate professor of nursing and associate director of international research in the University of Rochester Center for AIDS Research (CFAR)

Nelson also moderated one of the four mini think tanks set up at the meeting to examine gaps and cultural differences in the measurement of stigma worldwide, as well as the design and evaluation of interventions to address stigma. He is hopeful that the symposium will result in more standard indicators for measuring stigma and additional funding for more multi-level intervention research.

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— LaRon Nelson, associate professor of nursing and associate director of international research in the University of Rochester Center for AIDS Research (CFAR)

“Maybe the men aren’t the problem. Maybe we’re an important part of the problem.”

— LaRon Nelson, on research suggesting that giving patients more autonomy helps to keep them engaged in their care.

Patrick Broadwater is a senior public relations associate in the School of Nursing and editor of NURSING magazine.
50 Years Later
UR Nurses Carry on Legacy of Innovation

Dr. Loretta Ford’s work a half century ago thrust the nursing profession in a new direction and transformed the health care system. Ever since, UR nurses have paved the way for generations of nurses to follow.

By Nora Hicks

Nursing superhero Loretta Ford, who co-developed the nurse practitioner model in 1965.
Sometimes it takes a superhero to bring about change.

For nursing, that superhero is Dr. Loretta “Lee” Ford, founding dean of the UR School of Nursing, whose vision and habit of questioning the status quo galvanized colleagues and other health professionals, and continues to inspire countless others who follow in her footsteps.

Working as a public health nurse in rural Colorado during the 1940s and ‘50s, Ford saw firsthand how a shortage of physicians often left children and families without access to care. To fill the gap, she envisioned a solution in which nurses received advanced education in both clinical care and research so they could better meet the needs of patients as well as practice to the full extent of their capabilities.

The nurse practitioner model she co-developed with Dr. Henry K. Silver at the University of Colorado Medical Center in 1965 expanded the scope of practice in public health nursing and led to the creation of the first pediatric nurse practitioner model of advanced practice.

“Coming to Rochester, I quickly realized how close the Medical Center was, not only physically, but technically and psychologically,” Ford said. “It had the philosophy and the interdisciplinary aspects to develop a team approach and establish a system that was receptive and responsive to new ideas.”

Harriet Kitzman, PhD, RN, FAAN, senior associate dean for research and a Loretta Ford Professor of Nursing from 1995 to 2005, was one of the early leaders in the nurse practitioner movement.

Shannska Atis, BSN, RN, a student in the MS-PhD dual program and a 2014 Loretta Ford fellow.

Ford continued to lead the nurse practitioner movement when she became dean in 1972, helping to further establish the School of Nursing as an independent school.

The nurse practitioner model flourished at the University of Rochester due to the collaborative and progressive environments at the Medical Center and in the community.

“Meeting Dr. Ford is an experience I will never forget. She told us, ‘You will learn more from mistakes than you ever will from success.’ That advice resonated with me,” said
developing a continuing education program in 1967 and the first graduate nurse practitioner program at the University of Rochester in 1971.

“Dean Ford captured the readiness of nursing and the university to move forward with an adventurous agenda in the development of nursing and interprofessional alliances,” Kitzman said.

Working alongside Ford, Kitzman paired early nurse practitioners with pediatricians, allowing them to continue their education and obtain master’s degrees. Today, nearly 200,000 nurse practitioners are practicing in the United States, with more than 400 at Strong Memorial Hospital.

“The project kept the nurse practitioner vision alive,” Ford said. “It demonstrated that nurses, once given the extra education, could do more safely and competently and were a key part of providing comprehensive patient-centered care.”

Kitzman became the first clinical chief/chair in the School of Nursing’s unification model, which brought together the nursing services in the Medical Center with nursing education and research, and became a national model for other nursing schools.

“The marriage of education and practice allowed us nurses to do our own research – focused on the well-being of the patient,” said Ford. That partnership across disciplines remains an integral component of interprofessional education today.

“The School of Nursing has always had its finger on the pulse of what was currently happening as well as what is in the future,” said Dean Kathy Rideout, EdD, PPCNP-BC, FNAP. “And not only seeing what the future could be, but actually designing what that future needed to be. We are continuing as generations of innovators because we had that foundation modeled for us by Dr. Ford.”

For researcher and 1992 Loretta Ford fellow Mary Wilde, PhD, RN, coming to the University of Rochester as a faculty member in 2005 to pursue urinary catheter research was “a dream come true.”

“It demonstrated that nurses, once given the extra education, could do more safely and competently and were a key part of providing comprehensive patient-centered care.”

Eleven years later, she attributes her success in improving the lives of individuals with long-term catheters to the strong intersection between research, practice, and education.

“We have to build science but we also have to reach patients and make the best evidence available to them and to nurses,” Wilde said.

Loretta Ford delivers a speech in the Helen Wood Hall auditorium last November.
“Meeting Dr. Ford is an experience I will never forget. She told us, ‘You will learn more from mistakes than you ever will from success.’ That advice resonated with me.”

— Shannska Atis, a Loretta Ford fellow enrolled in the MS-PhD program, pictured at left with Loretta Ford and Katie Chaung (right), a PhD student and 2015 Ford fellow.

You have to talk to the patients to know what is going on. In every level of my research, I ask patients, ‘What’s it like to live with this?’”

Today – in line with Ford’s vision – advanced practice nurses are developing and leading innovations to ensure access to care for vulnerable populations, prevent disease, promote health, manage chronic disease, and improve end-of-life care. And, more than ever, they are at the table where key health care decisions are being made.

Holly Brown, DNP, RN, NPP, PMHCS-BC, assistant professor of clinical nursing and a 2000 Loretta Ford fellow, says it’s an exciting time to prepare students for a complex and evolving health care environment.

“Mentorship is key in all of this,” said Brown, who is specialty co-director for the Child/Adolescent Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Program, one of six nurse practitioner specialty programs at the school. “We provide students with the crucial knowledge, guidance, and support to take their nursing careers to the next level and work hard to match preceptors with students’ clinical skills. Our students are able to actualize their roles and become true leaders in the nursing profession.”

Students in the program, for example, learn to take care of patients across the lifespan to help address the critical need for mental health services across the state and country.

“We have the right mixture of structure, effective program delivery, and clinical experience to ensure the future of the mental health nurse practitioner workforce is strong and well-prepared to understand what challenges patients face,” said Brown. “We’ve designed the program to restore the health and well-being of the community.”

As the landscape of health care continues to change, more innovations will emerge. Technology has already put information in the palm of patients’ hands, triggering a tremendous power shift. But nurses, on the front lines of health care, are well-positioned to leverage their knowledge and their relationship with patients to help determine which of those innovations will ultimately have the most impact on patient care. But, Ford says, they must bring energy, imagination and courage to their work.

“We have opportunities for nurses to be innovative, to be inquiring, to ask some really tough questions.”

Nora Hicks is a public relations associate in the School of Nursing.

Timeline

1974 The Burlington Randomized Trial Study finds that nurse practitioners make appropriate referrals when medical intervention is necessary. The American Nurses Association develops the Council of Primary Care Nurse Practitioners, helping legitimize the role.

1979 There are approximately 15,000 nurse practitioners in the U.S.

1985 The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners is established.

1987 The federal government has spent $100 million on nurse practitioner education.

1989 The School of Nursing is the first in the country to offer an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program. Its graduates are now able to use the newly state-legislated title of “nurse practitioner.”

1999 There are approximately 68,300 nurse practitioners in the U.S.

2004 The U.S. Congress recognizes National Nurse Practitioner Week, held annually in November, in a proclamation. There are approximately 106,000 nurse practitioners in the U.S.

2009 There are approximately 130,000 nurse practitioners in the U.S.

2014 There are approximately 192,000 nurse practitioners in the U.S.

2015 New York State’s Nurse Practitioner Modernization Act goes into effect, eliminating the need for a written practice agreement between physicians and nurse practitioners who have more than 3,600 hours (about two years) of practice experience. The change gives nurse practitioners more freedom about where they practice and enables them to operate independently to meet the growing need for primary care providers.

Sources: School of Nursing and American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
A seat at the table

By Robin L. Flanigan

Health center collaboration
Innovation starts at the top
Shared leadership
Facilitating partnerships
A powerful voice for nursing
At the University of Rochester Medical Center, innovation starts at the top.

And the School of Nursing is strategically positioned there, to help pave the way for new and more effective responses to a dramatically shifting health care system. In fact, nursing’s role in the Medical Center is recognized as one of three exemplars in the country achieving a truly successful, integrated leadership model.

In addition to her role as dean of the School of Nursing, Kathy Rideout, EdD, PPCNP-BC, FNAP, is a vice president of the Medical Center, with a spot at the senior leadership table alongside the CEO, COO, the hospital CEO, and the CEO of the faculty practice. The dean also sits on the Medical Center executive team and the Nursing Practice Executive Council. This structure gives nursing a powerful voice in the strategic and operational decisions of the overall Medical Center, and has made the School of Nursing a national role model – one sought out last August for the “Elevating the Role of Academic Nursing in Academic Health Centers” executive leadership summit in Washington, D.C., hosted by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and co-hosted by the American Association of Medical Colleges. During their presentation, Rideout and Mark B. Taubman, MD, CEO of the University of Rochester Medical Center and dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry, discussed the opportunities for collaborative workforce development, the idea that shared leadership and governance brings shared accountability, and the need to facilitate collaborative partnerships between nurses and physicians.

“We’re committed to the goals we have as an organization to make things work and work well,” said Patricia A. Witzel, ’75N, ’84S (MBA), chief nursing officer at Strong Memorial Hospital, assistant dean for clinical practice at the School of Nursing, and associate vice president of the Medical Center. “You can’t find that in a lot of places.”

The close relationship between the School of Nursing, the School of Medicine, and the University of Rochester’s other schools – all in one setting, another rarity– has helped alleviate many concerns that afflict other academic health centers: inefficiency affecting patient care, insufficient resources, and under-resourced research programs.

As a result, integrated leadership is nothing new for students. In 2014, a local chapter of Primary Care Progress, a national initiative in which medical students provide community care for the underserved, formed with the participation of School of Nursing students. The chapter is the only one in the country that has incorporated nursing students in this project.
“That is what has been modeled for our students,” explained Rideout. “For them, this is just how it has to be.”

“We’ve tried to move away from siloed departments into multi-disciplinary programs of excellence,” said Taubman. “That has become the number one highest priority university-wide.”

Witzel, Taubman and Rideout met recently for a roundtable discussion on why greater collaboration is necessary and best for the future of education and health care.

‘There’s no hierarchy’

PATRICIA WITZEL: This sort of thinking started in the early 1970s, when Loretta Ford set up the School of Nursing. Everyone had a practice appointment and a faculty appointment within their practice area, so we all felt like we were one entity. As a practicing clinical nurse specialist, I wasn’t a guest on that unit; I was a member of that unit. We were designed to be integrated, and now that integration is really enhanced … Decisions here aren’t made in isolation. They’re made from an innovative point of view, taking into account the impact on other disciplines or areas.

KATHY RIDEOUT: It would be hard for me to conceptualize not working in this type of a structure.

MARK TAUBMAN: It’s not easy. There are differences. The School of Nursing has many more, many different programs, but to the extent that we can integrate parts of the curriculum, particularly the parts that relate to mission-wide issues – developing effective health care teams, quality, patient engagement – we do. There’s nothing inherently different in how you go about taking care of patients.

WITZEL: If everybody knows what the plan is and works together, that leads to safer outcomes and better communication, and that leads to better patient engagement. It’s why we use the training technique TeamSTEPPS (Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety) – to get people thinking about working together, so no one entity takes sole responsibility.

RIDEOUT: There’s no hierarchy among our disciplines and areas. And because I sit at some of these tables, even when conversations aren’t directly related to the School of Nursing, I can start thinking about how to provide other opportunities for support. Just yesterday an email was sent from one of the nursing managers about developing a new leadership series, and I replied back to ask how we could help. Having that visibility, being involved in the conversation, is really critical. We know it’s important to work together as a leadership team and model for other providers that this is what we’re passionate about. This is a commitment.

TAUBMAN: We and all of our peers have not historically taught people how to work in teams – how to lead a team, how to be part of a team, how to make sure you are utilizing people to the maximum of their abilities. We’ve said there are elements of education that need to be system-wide. Maybe the first example of that was the electronic medical record. There’s not one part of the workforce that didn’t need to be trained for that, and that’s going to be true for other areas. There are pressures in the health care system that make it even more important than ever to try to integrate as best we can from the beginning.

Stronger collaboration

RIDEOUT: There are now three faculty from the School of Nursing who play a leadership role in the Center for AIDS Research. One recent initiative is a research pilot award, jointly funded by the School of Nursing and the School of Medicine and Dentistry, with the stipulation that applicants have to have two lead investigators, one from each school. Both schools contributed $50,000 toward the award. We awarded the first funds this year, to an application
co-led by LaRon Nelson from the School of Nursing and Amina Alio from the Department of Public Health Sciences at the School of Medicine and Dentistry. It’s a global AIDS research study set in Africa. The different perspectives that come out of the collaboration between researchers from different disciplines strengthens the science. And it is through this type of collaboration that our researchers grow in further understanding and respect of each other.

TAUBMAN: We’re looking for a new head of the Medical Center’s Office of Human Resources, and someone from the School of Nursing is on the search committee. I can tell you that hasn’t been true in the past. It will be the same when we look for a chief information officer. Making sure major decisions are made in the Medical Center with the School of Nursing at the table allows us to find out what issues we haven’t thought about.

RIDEOUT: And for our nursing and medical students to learn in that environment, to witness it and be part of it, is critical for their education.

WITZEL: This is about more than educators educating students. Our nursing staff members have become clinical instructors, and getting physicians to see practicing nurses who have clinical experience working with students really helps formulate in their mind how practice and patient care should be done in the future.

RIDEOUT: When it makes sense, nursing is also integrated into working groups that focus on specific issues in the strategic plan, which is complex. That structure is new. We’ve tried to create groups that are more project-oriented.

WITZEL: In our Unit Performance Improvement Program, for example, teams are made up of physician and nursing leadership, as well nurses and residents on each unit. The teams focus on enhancing patient care, safety and engagement. It’s the first time these people have worked together to achieve a set of goals, whether it’s reducing hospital-acquired infections or complications, or improving lean processes. We based it on a model from Johns Hopkins Medicine, but made changes so it fits the way we do things. It has been exciting to see nurses and physicians working together with all members of the health care team.

“Getting physicians to see practicing nurses who have clinical experience working with students really helps formulate in their mind how practice and patient care should be done in the future.”
– Patricia Witzel, chief nursing officer at Strong Memorial Hospital and associate vice president of URMC

RIDEOUT: We have some more work to do in this area for sure, but having nurse practitioner students placed within our own primary care network has provided physicians the opportunity to work with nurse practitioners as an integral member of the team and to experience how this care enhances the practice. Highland Family Medicine received a five-year, $1.65 million grant from HRSA (the Health Resources and Services Administration) to start a nurse practitioner residency program directed by one of our School of Nursing faculty. This program will prepare NP graduates to provide expert care to meet the diverse needs of clinically complex patients. And another goal of the program is to have nurse practitioner residents integrated with the ongoing education of medical residents. This way, they all see the breadth of the skill sets each provider brings to the table. From what we can find, it is the only truly interprofessional residency program for nurse practitioners in the U.S.

A look ahead

TAUBMAN: As we move more toward managed care and being a large network, it’s becoming increasingly clear that we are not going to solve the workforce issue by producing more doctors. The growth is going to have to be more on the nursing side, and I think that is becoming acutely obvious in this region. We don’t know yet what it will look like, but we’re developing a stronger and stronger relationship with a large health care system in New York state. We’re talking about how to potentially use our educational system.
Our advantage as an academic health care system may be far more related to our ability to generate a nursing workforce than a physician workforce.

— Mark Taubman, dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry and CEO of URMC

The Institute for Innovative Education

The School of Nursing performs a fundamental role in the University of Rochester Medical Center’s Institute for Innovative Education, created in 2013 to develop and oversee education that supports intentional team building and other aspects of a successfully integrated health care system.

“We presented this idea at the AACN summit last August, and people were pretty overwhelmed when we talked about what we do here,” said Rideout.

The institute’s interprofessional educational programs and state-of-the-art technologies give clinicians of all types the knowledge and resources to provide the highest quality, most comprehensive and most efficient care to patients. And its broad senior leadership – including Rideout and Witzel – is the foundation for its success.

“If I didn’t work here, this would be unconventional to me,” said Taubman, “It even includes the dean of the Warner School [of Education]. I don’t think this exists in any other institution in the country.”
Reach out and touch someone Both nurses and patient seem to be taking a hands-on approach to an examination in this undated photo. If you know the story behind the photo, where or when it was taken, or can identify any of the individuals pictured, we’d love to hear the details! Visit our Facebook page (facebook.com/UofRSchoolofNursing) and leave a comment on the post of this picture to let us know.

SAVE THE DATES! October 6-9, 2016

Meliora Weekend!

Please join us in Rochester for a special Reunion during Meliora Weekend.

All alumni and friends are welcome.

Meliora Weekend features many cross-discipline programs and guest speakers. Registration materials will be available in August.

For more information visit www.rochester.edu/college/alumni/reunion/, call (800) 333-4428, or e-mail sonalumni@admin.rochester.edu

SON Alumni Recognized for Extraordinary Impact

The School of Nursing celebrated and recognized individuals who have made lasting contributions to the school and community at the annual Dean’s Diamond Circle dinner held Oct. 7 at Monroe Golf Club.

Robert Sutherland and Karen Webb Sutherland received the Dean’s Medal. A devoted caretaker and clinician, Karen’s career included extensive experience in not-for-profit fundraising and working with children with special needs. She is past president of the Association of Auxiliaries to the Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford University and former director of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health.

Bob’s distinguished international career includes the management and direction of biomedical research in academia and business. He was a founding faculty member and associate director for experimental therapeutics at the James P. Wilmot Cancer Institute and currently serves as consultant at the Ontario (CA) Institute for Cancer Research.

The Sutherlands established the Karen Webb Sutherland and Robert M. Sutherland Endowed Nursing Scholarship at the University of Rochester in 2011.

Patricia Witzel, ‘75N, ‘84S (MBA), chief nursing officer at Strong Memorial Hospital, assistant dean for clinical practice at the School of Nursing, and associate vice president of the University of Rochester Medical Center, received the Distinguished Alumna Award.

A highly respected administrator, mentor, and nurse-leader, she has taught undergraduate and graduate courses at the School of Nursing and continues to serve as a preceptor for students. She is also co-director of quality and patient safety at Strong Memorial Hospital and serves on the School of Nursing’s National Advisory Council and the Clinical Nurse Leader Steering Committee.

She is a fellow of the National Academy of Practice and a member of the American Organization of Nurse Executives. She is also an appraiser for the American Nurses Credentialing Center Magnet program and an active contributor to the ongoing evolution of the program.

The John N. Wilder Award was presented to Lisa Norsen, ‘77N, ‘83N (MS), ‘92N (PMC), ‘07M (PhD), professor of clinical nursing.

Norsen’s 38-year career reflects a deep commitment to the advancement of the profession and support of the unification model. She has held various clinical, administrative, and leadership positions within the University of Rochester Medical Center, most recently as associate dean of the Center for Nursing Entrepreneurship and director of the Sovie Institute for Advanced Practice, Scholarship, and Innovation.

She was one of the first nurse practitioners in the nation to practice in an acute care setting, and her work in cardiac surgery is regarded as an early model of advanced practice. Norsen oversaw the expansion of the nurse practitioner’s role at the Medical Center, making it an essential component of the interdisciplinary team, and also helped establish the Center for Employee Wellness.

She has served on the University’s OneRochester Leadership Council since 2013.

The Legacy Award was presented to The Spindler Family Foundation, a private foundation that supports a number of charitable causes, including the Barbara Smith Spindler Nursing Scholarship at the School of Nursing.

The scholarship, established in 1999 by Howard A. Spindler ’35, ’38M (MD), ’43M (Res), honors the late Barbara (Smith) Spindler ’42N, who was deeply devoted to nursing at the University of Rochester Medical Center. To date, more than 30 nursing students have been named Spindler Scholars.

Dr. Spindler, who died in 2004 at age 91, was formerly clinical professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology at Rochester. A pioneer in the use of natural childbirth, he was known for his personal approach to the practice of medicine. In 1987, Strong Memorial Hospital named in his honor its newly renovated obstetrics unit, the Howard A. Spindler Birth Center.

For more alumni news, visit son.rochester.edu/alumni.
Call for Alumni Award Nominations

The University of Rochester School of Nursing recognizes the achievements of School of Nursing alumni through the alumni awards program. Awards are presented annually at the School of Nursing’s signature event, the Dean’s Diamond Circle. All School of Nursing alumni, faculty, staff, and friends are encouraged to nominate SON graduates for the awards listed below:

- Established in 1984, the **Distinguished Alumna/Alumnus Award** recognizes a graduate whose exceptional professional achievements, contributions to one’s chosen field, and service to the School of Nursing have brought honor to the individual and to the University of Rochester.

- Established in 2013, the **Humanitarian Award** honors a graduate whose work as a practitioner, administrator, volunteer, or researcher has had a profound impact on those most in need.

The deadline for nominations is December 31, 2016. For instructions and to submit a nomination, please visit: [www.son.rochester.edu/alumni/nomination-form.html](http://www.son.rochester.edu/alumni/nomination-form.html)
Professorship to Sustain Carol Brink’s Extraordinary Work on Aging

Carol Anne Brink ’56N, ’62N, MPH, RN has always liked a good challenge.

In 1975, she was director of nursing at the Anthony L. Jordan Health Center and an instructor in the University of Rochester School of Nursing, when founding dean Loretta Ford teamed her up with a new faculty member to teach a master’s level program in aging.

Brink and Thelma Wells, a nurse scientist and educator who was recruited by Ford from the University of Manchester (UK), formed a partnership that led to the first continence clinic in the country.

“The two of us recognized urinary incontinence as a serious health problem in older people,” said Brink, who had gained a wealth of experience working with the chronically ill and older individuals at the Visiting Nurse Service of Rochester.

“We had a paper accepted at the annual Gerontological Society conference in Boston and we were amazed at the turnout. We were assigned a small room, and there were many more people than it could hold. People were lined up in the hall and out back. We couldn’t believe how many people were interested in our research.”

Within a few short years, Brink and Wells, along with urologist Ananias Diokno, collaborated at the University of Michigan on the opening of the first continence clinic, while developing new instruments and protocols. Brink was the practice’s clinical coordinator, and as a nurse practitioner, created a new role as a specialist in urinary incontinence. Brink and Wells returned to the UR School of Nursing in the late 1980s and continued their pioneering research for nearly two more decades. For their groundbreaking work, Brink and Wells were honored by the Gerontological Society in 2002 with the prestigious Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award, which recognizes visionary and exemplary contributions to the field of geriatric nursing research.

“There was always something new coming around the corner that was challenging and enjoyable,” said Brink, now an associate professor emerita of clinical nursing at the University of Rochester.

“At the time I was absorbed in doing it. There wasn’t a point when I said, ‘Aha! This is wonderful and marvelous.’ I just felt genuinely challenged and stimulated.”

Brink’s friends and colleagues at the UR School of Nursing also recognized her achievements, and in 2005, they established an endowed fund in her honor. The Carol Anne Brink Professorship is an evolution of that fund. Both Brink and Wells created provisions in their estate plans helping to elevate it to the level of a professorship, which can be awarded to a researcher in the areas in which Brink devoted so much of her professional career: nursing education and research on aging.

“I never intended to have a fund established in my name,” Brink said. “I didn’t set out to do it, it just happened. But I’m grateful, I’m honored, and I’m appreciative.”

“We’re very grateful for the support of Carol and her colleagues and friends, which will have a perpetual impact on the School of Nursing as it continues its mission of educating leaders and transforming the delivery of health care,” said Kathy Rideout, dean of the University of Rochester School of Nursing. “The Carol Anne Brink Professorship will not only allow us to attract and retain expert faculty and enhance our reputation and national visibility, but it’s a fitting honor for one of the school’s pioneering innovators, whose body of work has had a dramatic effect in our understanding of aging.”

For Brink, the professorship offers her the opportunity to sustain her legacy in aging research, while supporting in perpetuity the UR School of Nursing, the faculty members who are recipients of the funding, as well as those in the community and beyond who benefit from the research.

“I’m hoping that it provides opportunity and that it provides incentive for people – educators, researchers, students of nursing – to become interested in aging. To have the enthusiasm and interest in looking at ways we can help people grow old in a healthy way – as healthy as possible – and deal with the issues that relate to the problems of aging. It’s to spark an interest in trying to look at ways we can make things better.”

To learn more about Carol Brink and her impact on the School of Nursing, read the profile of her in the Spring 2016 issue of Endeavor at campaign.rochester.edu/endeavor/spring-2016.

Contributions to the Carol Anne Brink Professorship can be made by contacting Andrea Allen, director of advancement and alumni relations at 585-276-4336 or andrea.allen@rochester.edu.
Ensuring the Tradition of Innovation

As the end of The Meliora Challenge approaches, your gift to the School of Nursing is more important than ever to prepare the next generation of leaders in innovative nursing education, research, and bedside care.

There are many ways you can help. One way is to include the School in your will. Doing this today makes a powerful impact on tomorrow’s faculty, students, and programs, and allows you to make a significant gift without affecting your current income.

If you have already included the School of Nursing in your will, but haven’t informed the University, please call today to find out how you can be recognized for your generosity, and help make a strong statement in support of nursing.

Fay W. Whitney ’60, ’61N, Co-Chair
School of Nursing Campaign for The Meliora Challenge

Roger Friedlander ’56, Co-Chair
School of Nursing Campaign for The Meliora Challenge

To learn more about how you can invest in the future of the University of Rochester School of Nursing, please contact Andrea Allen, director of Advancement and Alumni Relations at (585) 276-4336 or andrea.allen@rochester.edu

Commitments made before June 30, 2016 can be counted in The Meliora Challenge. Thank you!
Morrison-Beedy Inducted to International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame

Dianne Morrison-Beedy ’93N (PhD), senior associate vice president of University of South Florida Health and dean of the College of Nursing, was recently selected for induction into the 2015 International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame by Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). She is one of 19 nurse scientists from around the world to receive this coveted award.

Created in 2010, the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame recognizes nurse researchers who have achieved significant and sustained national or international recognition and whose research has improved the profession and the people it serves. Morrison-Beedy was presented with the award during STTI’s 26th International Nursing Research Congress on July 25, 2015, in Puerto Rico, joining winners from across the United States, Australia, Belgium, and Canada.

STTI recognized Morrison-Beedy for her outstanding achievements in research and leadership, and for her continuous efforts to help transform health care. Her research on the Health Improvement Project for Teens (HiPTeens), an effective program that reduces sexual risk behavior among adolescent girls, was a big reason behind this recognition. HiPTeens was recently recognized by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention for significant outcomes in reducing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections.

The author of more than 200 publications, Morrison-Beedy is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and the National Academies of Practice.

STTI is a global nursing organization which helps advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service. The organization has more than 135,000 members from more than 85 countries.

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Did you get a new job? Get married? Complete a triathlon? Let us hear about it! Send us your news and we’ll put it in an upcoming issue of NURSING magazine!

Online: son.rochester.edu/alumni/class-notes.html

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Mail: School of Nursing Office of Advancement and Alumni Relations Larry and Cindy Bloch Alumni and Advancement Center P.O. Box 278996 Rochester, NY 14627-8996

Please note: Photos: We encourage you to send along a photo with your class note. Please note that for digital photos we require high-resolution files (a minimum of 300 dpi) saved in JPEG or TIFF format. Photos that have a lower resolution are usually not acceptable for print reproduction.
School Mourns Loss of Professor Emerita Carol Henretta

School of Nursing professor emerita Carol B. Henretta, EdD, RN, who left a lasting impact as an enthusiastic educator and a longtime advocate for nursing professionals, died Feb. 10, 2016.

“Carol was one of the first faculty members that welcomed me to the School of Nursing in 1986,” said dean and professor of clinical nursing Kathy H. Rideout, EdD, PPCNP-BC, FNAP. “She was far more than a colleague; she was a dear friend whose friendship I cherished. She was deeply committed to the success of our school, and we are grateful for her kind smile and encouragement over the years.”

Henretta – who earned her master’s degree in nursing in 1962 from the School of Nursing and doctorate in education from the Warner School in 1994 – worked for nearly 40 years as a nurse and leader in the profession, and through her varied roles inspired countless students to pursue careers in nursing.

In 1977, she served as nurse educator for Strong Memorial Hospital Pediatric Department’s Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Project. She joined the University’s nursing programs in 1979 at a time when a national push for continuing education for nurses was taking hold.

Close friend and colleague, Marilyn McClellan, RN, EdD, former assistant director of nursing practice for staff development and assistant clinical professor, selected Henretta to implement the Regional Nursing Continuing Education Project to address educational gaps in the 13-county region.

“Carol led the way and touched so many lives with her sincere interest in each individual, her caring and concern for each, her generosity, her humor, and her loyalty,” McClellan said.

Henretta then joined the Nursing Practice Staff Development Program. As an instructor, she worked diligently with nurses in staff, management, faculty, and administrative positions to encourage them to develop and reach career goals.

Henretta’s former colleague Ann Marie Brooks, RN, DNSc, MBA, FAAN, FACHE, associate dean for practice at the school and director of nursing at Strong Memorial Hospital during the ’80s and early ’90s, says it was Henretta’s passion for nursing and commitment to excellence that improved the learning and working environment.

“She willingly shared her wisdom and expertise and was respected for her generous spirit, optimism, and passion for nursing and patient care,” Brooks said.

In 1984, Henretta received an award from the American Business Women’s Association for her contributions to women’s educational and employment advancements. These successes with educational and support programs at the Medical Center led to a new role as assistant dean for recruitment and director of admissions at the School of Nursing.

It was here that the school’s efforts in recruiting new, non-traditional students from across the country – including individuals with a degree in another field, those making a career change, men, and minorities – flourished. Henretta recognized the importance of educating future nurses who were representative of the patient populations they serve. During her time as assistant dean, Henretta also served as director of the New York State Nurses Association.

After retiring as an assistant professor of clinical nursing in 1997, Henretta continued to generously devote her time to the UR School of Nursing and was chair of the Lifelong Learning Advisory Council at the UR. She also chaired the New York State Nurses Association’s Council on Human Rights and was a consultant to the Ethnic Nursing Association of New York City. She was actively involved in a number of community organizations, including the Mercy Outreach Center Board, Mother of Sorrows Church Parish Council, Finger Lakes Community College department of nursing, and Nazareth College.

She was a caring wife to her husband Elmer of 55 years, a mother, grandmother, sister, and friend.

Esther Webster Sweet ’36N

Esther Webster Sweet ’36N, died Sept. 27, 2015 in Cincinnati, Ohio. While Barbara’s original intent was to earn her nursing degree en route to becoming an airline “stewardess,” she enjoyed nursing so much that she made it her career for 40 years. She began at Strong Memorial in Rochester, then moved to Oneida General where she met and married Roy Taylor Jr., her husband of 49 years. When the temperatures reached 40 below in the winter of 1957, they decided to move to Florida. They eventually settled in Orlando where Barbara worked as a surgical nurse at the naval base hospital, Orange Memorial Hospital and Winter Park Hospital. She completed her career in geriatric nursing. With her sweet, caring demeanor, she was beloved by her patients and coworkers. She retired in 1993. Her greatest joy came in spending time with her daughter, Diane, and her family: husband Tom and children Mark, Lindsey, and Jennifer. When her husband died in 2004, Barbara moved to be with Diane’s family in Cincinnati. She was an active chair volleyball player and sang in the choir. One of her favorite memories was attending a U of R School of Nursing reunion in 1993.

Barbara Barlow Taylor ’53N

Barbara Barlow Taylor ’53N, died Sept. 27, 2015 in Charlotte, N.C. Born May 26, 1915 in Philadelphia, she married Charles J. Sweet on June 5, 1938, and they made their home in the Rochester area for 57 years. She began a 37-year career as an emergency room nurse and retired in 1978 as nursing supervisor in the University’s Strong Memorial Hospital Outpatient Clinic. She continued to attend to friends and residents when she moved to the Park Vista retirement community in Youngstown, Ohio.

Memorials may be made to the University of Rochester School of Nursing, 255 Crittenden Blvd. Rochester, N.Y. 14642
Word has reached us of the passing of the following alumni and friends. The School of Nursing expresses its sympathy to their loved ones.

**Barry (Zeder), Elizabeth ’45N**  
Sept. 24, 2015, Victor, NY

**Beardsley (Bocskay), Barbara E. ’66, ’66N**  
Nov. 30, 2014, Alexandria, VA

**Broadhurst Jr., Arthur W. ’78N**  
May 15, 2015, Amherst, NH

**Demo (Bochsler), Mary Ann ’56, ’57N**  
June 12, 2015, Rochester, NY

**Dewald (Stewart), Virginia S. ’39N**  
Dec. 12, 2014, Rochester, NY

**Dowdell, Helen R. ’95N (MS)**  
July 20, 2015, Rochester, NY

**Emirbayer, Sharon Joette ’96N**  
April 27, 2015, Rochester, NY

**Falanga, Patricia Anne ’68N, ’70N (MS)**  
May 2015, Rochester, NY

**Fiaretti (Empey), Joanne M. ’56N**  
March 12, 2015, Henrietta, NY

**Fox (Wesselmann), Verna ’58N**  
Nov. 15, 2015, Clifton Park, NY

**Franks (Bauernschmidt), Eleanor A. ’36, ’37N**  
Feb. 22, 2015, Lakewood, NY

**Frediani, Hilda Mary ’71N (MS)**  
Sept. 27, 2015, Geneseo, NY

**French (Reed), Marlene R. ’60, ’61N**  
May 25, 2015, Monroe Township, NJ

**Gibbons (Coffman), Barbara J. ’55, ’56N**  
March 6, 2015, Wenatchee, WA

**Harkness, Gail A. ’60, ’61N, ’63N (MS)**  
July 19, 2015, Falmouth, MA

**Henderson (Koenig), Carol ’46N**  
Sept. 25, 2015, Stone Mountain, GA

**Hoechner (VandenHeuvel), Jennie A. ’50, ’51N**  
Nov. 4, 2015, Mooresville, NC

**Holmberg, Sharon Kay ’94N (PhD)**  
April 24, 2015, Rochester, NY

**Jensen (Wilson), Margaret E. ’50, ’51N**  
March 21, 2015, Pittsford, NY

**Johnston (Owen), Roberta O. ’52N**  
June 9, 2015, Charlotte, NC

**Keeler (Antunes), Genevieve L. ’49, ’50N**  
July 12, 2015, Spokane, WA

**Kelly (McGinn), Mary M. ’59, ’59N (DPL)**  
July 10, 2015, Escondido, CA

**Ketner (Short), Ruth L. ’46N**  
Dec. 18, 2014, Escondido, CA

**Liess (Boldt), Marlene Boldt ’87N, ’92N (MS)**  
March 31, 2015, Penfield, NY

**McCloskey (MacMillan), Nancy J. ’55, ’56N**  
Feb. 2, 2015, Frazer, PA

**McDonald (Durfee), Evelyn ’50N**  
Nov. 20, 2015, Pittsford, NY

**Norman (Lotze), Barbara L. ’47N**  
Dec. 27, 2014, Massena, NY

**Petro, Rita S. ’87N**  
July 20, 2015, Churchville, NY

**Rohman, Emma R. ’53N, ’57N**  
Dec. 17, 2014, Westfield, NY

**Rooney (Kalinowski), Johanna ’45N**  
Sept. 12, 2015, Rochester, NY

**Shay, Mary Catherine ’79N (MS)**  
June 13, 2015, Rochester, NY

**Smith (Geiger), Gail ’58N**  
Oct. 21, 2015, Durham, NC

**Stratton (Senseney), Ruth A. ’77N**  
July 31, 2015, Bedford, NH

**Sullivan (Folker), Louise F. ’48N**  
April 12, 2015, Victor, NY

**Tyler (Moore), Thelma ’44N**  
June 29, 2015, Penfield, NY

**Urlaub (Brooks), Mary B. ’57N**  
Nov. 21, 2015, Victor, NY

**Wojcik (Guarino), Mary T. ’65N (MS)**  
July 1, 2015, Rochester, NY

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**Information Update**

Have you moved, changed email address, or have news you want to share with School of Nursing alumni and friends? Fill out the form below and mail it back to us at School of Nursing Office of Advancement and Alumni Relations, Larry and Cindy Bloch Alumni and Advancement Center, P.O. Box 278996, Rochester, NY 14627-8996. Or submit your news online at [son.rochester.edu/alumni/class-notes.html](http://son.rochester.edu/alumni/class-notes.html).

- [ ] This is new information which I’ve not submitted before
- [ ] Please publish my news in **NURSING**
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