



▶ LEADER TRANSITIONS	1
▶ ACADEMIC PROGRAM NEWS	9
▶ ACCREDITATION NEWS	11
▶ AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS— INSTITUTIONAL .....	12
▶ AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS— FACULTY & STAFF .....	17
▶ AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS— STUDENTS & ALUMNI .	23
▶ FACILITIES .....	28
▶ PHILANTHROPY .....	31
▶ MÉLANGE .....	33



Issue 6 July 2017

# AHSEC Member News

AMERICAN HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

## Leader Transitions

### Adventist University of Health Sciences' Provost to Succeed Founding President



ORLANDO, FL—Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) Board of Trustees' has announced that **Dr. Edwin Hernández**, ADU's current provost and an educator with over 30 years of experience, will succeed Dr. David Greenlaw, ADU's founding president, upon his retirement on July 31, 2017.

"Preparing healthcare professionals who are clinically outstanding, leadership-oriented, and mission-focused to serve the growing needs of Adventist Health System and Florida Hospital is our

highest priority," Dr. Hernández said. He envisions the University growing its student body, taught by faculty who are exceptional educators, engaged scholars, and leaders in their field.

A leading scholar and strong advocate for Christian education, Dr. Hernández is also an ordained minister in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. After earning his

undergraduate Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Loma Linda University, Dr. Hernández earned his Master of Divinity (M.Div.) at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. He also holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Notre Dame.

In the two years since ADU welcomed him as Provost, Dr. Hernández has solidified his reputation on campus as a caring, dedicated educator, and a servant leader who has the credentials, passion for mission, and heart to successfully lead ADU. His focus for ADU's future is centered on mission and leveraging the opportunities available to the University through its connection with Florida Hospital and Adventist Health System.

Dr. Hernández has made notable contributions to the education field, including authoring multiple books and articles, serving as vice president of academic affairs at Antillean Adventist University, program officer at The Pew Charitable Trusts, founding director of the Center for the Study of Latino Religion at the University of Notre Dame, and leading a multi-million-dollar urban education philanthropic initiative on behalf of the Doug & Maria DeVos Foundation.

# Leader Transitions

## Dr. Amy DeMelo Named President of Cox College



SPRINGFIELD, MO—

After a nationwide search, the trustees of Cox College are pleased to announce that **Dr. Amy DeMelo** has been chosen as the college's next president.

"I am honored to have been given this great opportunity," says Dr. DeMelo. "This is an exciting time to be involved in health care and education, and I'm looking forward to being involved in the many opportunities ahead of Cox College. We have a wonderful group of people dedicated to making a difference for our students and the community as a whole, and I'm privileged to be part of those efforts."

While she's new to the role, Dr. DeMelo is a familiar face at Cox

College. She has served as the college's vice president for Academic Affairs since 2014, and has led the institution through significant development. Two particular examples include growth of the Master of Science in Nursing and the Master of Occupational Therapy programs, which attract students nationwide. She has also developed the region's only night and weekend program for students seeking to earn an Associate of Science in Nursing degree, which is set to begin in January 2018.

Dr. DeMelo will lead Cox College through a time of great renewal at the institution. A landmark in the Springfield community since 1907, the college is actively working towards realizing a \$6.6 million capital campaign, which will completely revitalize the campus through renovated classroom space, new equipment and greater learning environments. One of Dr. DeMelo's key goals is to increase enrollment, which will ultimately benefit the region by helping supply more health care professionals locally.

"We are very excited about the ideas and initiatives Dr. DeMelo will champion in her role as president of Cox College," says Jan Harris, chair of the Cox College Board of Trustees. "We wanted to find the perfect candidate for this position, and even

though we looked across the country to find the right fit, we were blessed to find the right person already here at Cox College."

Dr. DeMelo's influence on Springfield's educational community goes back even further than her time at Cox College. From 2007 to 2014, Dr. DeMelo served as the director of Springfield Catholic Schools (SCS). While at SCS, Dr. DeMelo helped Springfield Catholic High School become nationally recognized as one of the top 50 in the country. She also led a \$13.9 million dollar renovation and expansion of the high school campus, and added a three-year-old preschool program to the school system.

On a personal note, Dr. DeMelo was raised in southern New England. She has degrees in history and administration, as well as an Ed.D in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from the University of Missouri-Columbia. She was selected as one of the Springfield Business Journal's Most Influential Women in 2010, and is an alumna of the Leadership Springfield Class 24.

Dr. DeMelo lives in Springfield with her three children.

# Leader Transitions

## Dr. Nancy Ridenour Named Dean of Goldfarb School of Nursing and President of Barnes-Jewish College



SAINT LOUIS, MO—

**Nancy Ridenour**, PhD, APRN, BC, FAAN, named the next dean of Goldfarb School of Nursing and president of Barnes-Jewish College

Nancy Ridenour, PhD, APRN, BC, FAAN, has been named the next dean

of Goldfarb School of Nursing and president of Barnes-Jewish College. She is set to join the College on September 1, 2017.

Ridenour joins the College from the University of New Mexico College of Nursing, where she has served as the dean and professor since 2008. She has also held senior leadership roles at other academic institutions including Illinois State University College of Nursing in Normal, IL and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing in Lubbock, TX. In addition to leadership and teaching positions, she also has many years of clinical practice appointment experience from academic and health care institutions.

In her role as dean of Goldfarb School of Nursing and president of Barnes-Jewish College, Ridenour will focus on further enhancing the College's commitment to fostering the best in faculty, staff and students, research, technology, curriculum and service while enabling the College to perpetuate a legacy of helping exceptional people become exceptional

nurses. This will include preparing a highly capable and compassionate health care workforce in patient care delivery, multi-faceted leadership, research and scientific discovery to better the lives of the individuals, families and communities' nurses serve.

Ridenour holds a doctor of philosophy degree in human development and family studies from the Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX, along with a master's degree and a bachelor's degree from the College of Nursing, University of Colorado in Denver, CO.

## Dr. Kimberly Johnston Leaves Methodist College; Deborah Garrison Appointed Interim President



PEORIA, IL—

In May 2017 Dr. Kim. Johnston, the president of Methodist College, resigned after leading the college for 11 years. Dr. Johnston was also serving as president of AHSEC at the time of her resignation.

In a communication to college employees, Johnston said she and her husband plan to return to Pennsylvania to be closer to their families.

Darrin Autry, chairman of the Methodist College Board of Directors, announced the appointment of **Dr. Deborah Garrison**, vice president of

academic affairs, to serve as interim president, with the search for a new president expected to begin this summer. Dr. Garrison has served as Vice President of Academic Affairs for the College since 2015. She also previously held leadership roles at Midwestern State University Widener University School of Nursing, and the Medical University of Ohio.



# Leader Transitions

## Nancy Kertz, PhD, FNP-BC, Dean, School of Nursing, Mercy College of Health Sciences



DES MOINES, IA—

Announcing **Dr. Nancy Kertz** as the new Mercy College Dean, in the School of Nursing. An Indiana native and self-proclaimed Hoosier, Dr. Kertz, knew from the time she was an adolescent that nursing was her destiny. She earned her associates degree from Vincennes University, her BS and MS from Indiana State, and her PhD from South Dakota State University. When she began her study of nursing, she could have never imagined having the authority to examine, diagnose, treat and prescribe medication to patients that nurse practitioners, herself included,

have had since the role of the nurse practitioner was introduced in 1965.

Dr. Kertz has decades of clinical experience as an RN and Advance Practice Nurse, and her academic career has taken her to several different educational institutions, most recently as Assistance Dean for Nursing Education and Nurse Administrator for the Baccalaureate Nursing Program at Rockford University in Rockford, Illinois.

Dr. Kertz's clinical background has helped inform her as to what is important in the curriculum beyond rigorous academics. "We need to always be considering how we teach students to interact with patients, and to think about patients," she says.

*"Mercy College is so forward-thinking and so open to new opportunities. There's a lot of positive energy that will lead to the development of even more good programs in the future."*

She notes some possible upcoming changes to the Mercy College nursing program, including a new early decision option for high-achieving high school students who meet certain criteria and have demonstrated the ability to progress through a demanding academic program. This new admissions program is slated to begin for the fall of 2017. "If they meet the qualifications, they will have a guaranteed spot in our nursing program," she says. "Nursing school

*admission is competitive and many pre-licensure programs have waiting lists. The early decision option is a great way for Mercy College to attract qualified students who know they want to study nursing."*

A mother of six who says she had severe empty nest syndrome when her youngest moved out about eight years ago, Dr. Kertz has five grandchildren, ranging in age from seven to 22 month-old-twins. Her grown family lives in the D.C. area, Southern Illinois, San Diego, and Zambia, Africa; she is able to see those who live in the U.S. about every month or two, and her Zambia-based daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter about twice a year.

When thinking about her nursing and academic career path while raising her family, Dr. Kertz immediately credits the support she has received from her spouse, Jim, now retired from the Illinois Department of Corrections, where he served as tactical commander and had direct oversight over the correctional officers. "I am so fortunate to have a very supportive and helpful husband, and that has made such a huge difference in my career and in my life," she says.



# Leader Transitions

## Dr. Ann Marie T. Brooks to serve as MCCN Interim President



COLUMBUS, OH—

We are pleased to announce the appointment of a new interim president for Mount Carmel College of Nursing. **Ann Marie T. Brooks**, PhD, MBA, RN, FAAN, FACHE, FNAP, started her new position on Monday, June 26, 2017, and will serve in this role for approximately one year, as a nationwide search for a permanent president is conducted. Dr. Brooks' appointment was recommended by the MCCN search committee and approved by the Mount Carmel College of Nursing Board of Trustees.

Dr. Brooks is a recognized international leader, consultant and educator in nursing and healthcare with broad strategic and operational experience in health systems, academic health centers and community hospitals in the United States and abroad. She has extensive board experience from serving as the president of the American Organization of Nurse Executives and American Psychiatric Nurses Association, chair of the Psychiatric and Mental Health Governing Board, and dean of The Catholic University School of Nursing.

Dr. Brooks is Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and Fellow of the National Academies of Practice. She has substantial global nursing and healthcare experience leading organizations and providing leadership development programs to nurses from the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union and Central and Eastern European countries. She has published extensively and is a popular speaker. She has been team leader/magnet appraiser with the ANCC Magnet Recognition Hospital for the past 15 years.

Dr. Brooks is a graduate of the Wharton Nurse Executive Program and earned her PhD, MSN and BSN from The Catholic University of America and her MBA from Loyola College of Maryland.

We also would like to extend a special thank you to current interim president, Kathy Schumacher, MSA, CPHQ, FACHE, who has served as an outstanding leader during this time of transition. Kathy will continue to provide support and guidance to Dr. Brooks as she becomes acclimated to the College.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Brooks to MCCN as she leads the College in providing outstanding undergraduate and graduate nursing education in central Ohio.

# Leader Transitions

## President Joslin to Retire After 41 Years at Nebraska Methodist College



OMAHA, NE—

**Dennis Joslin**, Ph.D., will retire from his position as president and CEO of Nebraska Methodist College effective July 31, 2017. Dr. Joslin has served Nebraska Methodist College for the past 41 years after beginning his career in healthcare as a critical care staff nurse.

Joslin then moved into teaching as a faculty member at Methodist School of Nursing. Prior to becoming president and CEO he held many positions within the college including executive vice president, vice president of academic affairs, dean of academic affairs and director of curriculum. Dr. Joslin earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Iowa, his Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Nebraska Medical Center and his Ph.D. in Higher Education Leadership from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Throughout his career, Joslin has promoted the expansion of roles and education for nursing and allied health professionals. As one of the first men to enter nursing in the 1970's, Joslin

saw the need for an expanding number of male nurses. The promotion of nursing as a profession for men is something that Joslin continues to support through his participation as a charter member in the Nebraska Chapter of the American Association for Men in Nursing.

Under Joslin's executive stewardship, the college experienced substantial transformation which included the first capital campaign for the college, the design, construction and opening of a state-of-the-art campus, annual record enrollments for each of the past 15 years (resulting in nearly tripling enrollment to 1,100 students), the launching of degree offerings at the doctoral level and the expansion of offerings at the master's, bachelor's and associate's degree levels as well as several certificate level offerings. To ensure that the college's mission of "promoting the health and well-being of the community" is realized, the college has developed numerous partnerships throughout the community to extend the reach of NMC students, faculty and staff.

"The growth we've established, along with our consistently high job placement rates, lend credence to the idea that we are a premier school in the Omaha area for a healthcare education," said Dr. Joslin.

**Deb Carlson**, Ph.D., executive vice



president, will assume the position of president and CEO on Aug. 1, 2017. The Nebraska Methodist College Board of Directors unanimously selected her to succeed Joslin as the next president.

Carlson has been with NMC for 14 years and has served as a faculty member in the Arts and Sciences division, president of the Faculty Senate, director of the Office of Institutional Research, vice president of operations and, for the past three years, executive vice president.

"Dr. Carlson is an outstanding educator and administrator who brings over 20 years of higher education experience from the University of Nebraska and Wayne State College," said Joslin of his successor. "As a cognitive psychologist, she really understands people and excels in organizational development, strategic planning and accreditation. Deb is committed to serving the community with a focus on community-based healthcare, a direct reflection of the mission of the college."

# Leader Transitions

## Dr. Amy Hall Named Dean of School of Nursing at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University



BATON ROUTE, LA—

**Amy Hall**, RN, PhD, CNE has joined the team at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University as the new Dean of the School of Nursing, bringing nearly 30 years of nursing and education experience to the role. Dr. Hall is responsible for strengthening and streamlining academic policies and procedures related to the School of Nursing, and she will also oversee the assessment of teaching and learning, develop new academic programs, and promote and foster

leadership development within the School of Nursing.

"As a nurse scholar, educator, administrator, and forward-thinking leader, Dr. Amy Hall is extraordinarily well-suited to be the School of Nursing's next dean," said Tina Holland, PhD, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University president. "Her collaborative and innovative approach to nursing education and research makes her just the right fit for this leadership role as the University continues to build and sustain a culture of academic excellence."

Dr. Hall comes from University of Evansville in Evansville, Ind., where she most recently served as the White Family Endowed Professor of Nursing since January 2011 in recognition of her contributions to nursing education. She was with the University of Evansville for more than 10 years in various positions. She served as an Associate Professor and a PRN Staff Nurse at St. Francis Medical Center and its College of Nursing in Peoria, Ill., prior to her arrival in Evansville.

Dr. Hall is both internationally and nationally recognized in the field of nursing as the co-author of "Essentials for Nursing Practice" and "Fundamentals of Nursing" textbooks published by Mosby-Yearbook-Elsevier. She is very active in creating nursing clinical experiences in the U.K. as part of a study abroad program, and in China with combined emphasis

on nursing and health services administration. She also incorporated advanced technology into the nursing program in her previous position by introducing students and faculty to e-books, interaction software and simulation technology in the classrooms and in the nursing labs.

Dr. Hall is a current commissioner for the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. She is a member of several professional associations including Sigma Theta Tau International and the American Diabetes Association. A certified disaster nurse, Dr. Hall is an active volunteer with the American Red Cross, caring for people affected by disasters and providing disaster nurse certification courses for other nurses.

Dr. Hall received a bachelor's degree in nursing from Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Mo., and a master's in nursing science from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She completed her studies back at Saint Louis University, where she received her PhD in nursing.



# Leader Transitions

## Dr. Judy Shackelford as New Academic Dean



SPRINGFIELD, IL—

St. John's College of Nursing is proud to announce the launch of **Dr. Judy Shackelford** as the new Academic Dean. Dr. Shackelford has devoted 28 years to the institution where she began serving as faculty.

During that time, she developed and launched the Faith Community Nursing program for the Department of Continuing Education and aided in the transition from the diploma program to the baccalaureate degree. She is a charter member of the Nu Pi at Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing and a founding editorial board member of the Faith Community Nurses International Journal. Dr. Shackelford's leadership experience includes accreditation processes, outcome assessment, evaluations and grant writing.

As previous Academic Dean Jane Diers transitions out of St. John's College of Nursing and enjoys retirement, we ask that you help us congratulate and welcome Judy into her new position.

"Judy's experience in academic nursing, commitment to our mission, and her vision for the College of Nursing, make her the best candidate for the position. The college is very

fortunate to have Judy accept this new role." -Dr. Charlene Aaron, Chancellor

*Judy received her Bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University, Master's degree from University of Illinois, Chicago and Doctorate of philosophy in nursing from University of Missouri, St. Louis.*

# Academic Program News

## Aultman College—Health Sciences Degree Approved; Work Begins on New Social Work Degree

CANTON, OH—New programs abound at Aultman College, which is in its 125<sup>th</sup> years of educating students. The college has received final approval to begin offering its bachelor of science in health sciences (BSHS) in fall 2017 and has announced it is seeking approval for a new bachelor's degree in social work.

The college received notification in early March that the Higher Learning Commission granted approval for the BSHS program at its board of trustees meeting. Through the BSHS program at Aultman College, students can take

a general health sciences curriculum or specialize in health care administration or health education.

"The BSHS program also has a degree completion option for current health care professionals," said Dr. Amanda Espenschied-Reilly, dean of general education and online learning. "Radiologic technologists and certified medical assistants, for example, can earn their bachelor's degree through the program."

Work is now beginning on a bachelor's degree level program in

social work. Ron Davis, MSW, who recently started as director of the Social Work Program, explained how Aultman College's program will be unique. "It will fulfill a growing need for generalist social workers working within health care roles who can assist clients in understanding and navigating through an increasingly complicated medical environment, particularly in the multiple areas of health care and addiction services," he said.

## Bellin College Offers RN to BSN Completion Program

GREEN BAY, WI—Bellin College is excited to announce a new degree program for registered nurses to complete their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from Bellin College, beginning January 2018. The College began the RN to BSN program in 2015 as an exclusive partnership with Bellin Health, but is now pleased to expand our successful program to the public, and prepare more RNs with an opportunity to advance their nursing career by earning a BSN degree online in two years.

This program is designed to prepare practicing nursing professionals with the credentials and skills necessary to meet the demands of a rapidly changing healthcare environment. More healthcare organizations now require nurses to hold a BSN degree, as studies have reported patients attended by nurses with a BSN degree have better outcomes and lower death rates. "As patient encounters shift from the acute care (hospital) setting to the community, nurses with a BSN degree are pre-

pared to understand and deliver the comprehensive services these patients need and expect," said Dr. Vera Dauffenbach, RN to BSN program coordinator at Bellin College.

All RNs who are interested in expanding their career and educational opportunities are invited to learn more about the program on our website at <https://www.bellincollege.edu/academics/rn-to-bsn/>. Applications are now being accepted for the RN to BSN completion program for the January 2018 entry.

# Academic Program News

## Mercy College of Health Sciences—Sciences School of Allied Health: Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management-NEW

DES MOINES, IA—

### Sciences School of Allied Health Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management-NEW

The Health Information Management program will be the **first educational program of its kind in Iowa at the bachelor's level**. The new academic program will be offered at the Mercy College campus in downtown Des Moines, with the **majority of the program courses offered in an online format**, students will be able to complete the program throughout the state. This degree will prepare students to help meet the growing need in Iowa for HIM professionals and directly impact the state's ability to stay current in the health care sector, which is leveraging the advancement in technology and analytics.

This new degree was made possible thanks to a \$50,000 grant Mercy College received from the Telligen Community Initiative (TCI), the private, non-profit foundation of West Des Moines-based Telligen, Inc.

### School of Liberal Arts & Sciences Bachelor of Science in Public Health-NEW

The primary focus of public health education is to **improve health and quality of life through population-based prevention and education**. Students will be prepared for an entry-level career in public health or graduate education. All students will be prepared to take the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) exam. Having a CHES certification credential is highly desired in the public health arena. The Mercy College Public Health program **will be central Iowa's first and only Bachelor level program of this discipline**.

### School of Nursing **Two (2) new pathways to earn a** **Bachelor of Science in Nursing** are scheduled to begin in fall, 2018.

1. Students will be able to earn their nursing degree in a new **Accelerated BSN** option geared towards students with a bachelor's

degree in another discipline, or who have obtained a certain number of college credits. Students will be eligible to sit for the NCLEX national licensing exam after just one year. This accelerated BSN option will also be a component of a **new partnership with Drake University**. Drake students will have the option of a dual degree (3+1) program in which they will receive a Bachelor of Science in Health Science from Drake University and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Mercy College.

2. A **Paramedic to BSN** option is underdevelopment as well.

The **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree**, is also under development. Mercy College's **BSN-DNP program** will be built upon and guided by the DNP Essentials (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2006) and Nurse Practitioner Core Competencies (AACN & NONPF, 2012).

## NMC Launches Public Health Policy Doctoral Program to Prepare Nurses to Influence Uncertain Healthcare Reform Changes

OMAHA, NE—Starting in the 2017 fall semester, Nebraska Methodist College will enroll its first class in the online Doctor of Nursing Practice - Public Health Policy track.

Headlines touting the uncertainty of America's healthcare structure have caused concern in the healthcare industry. Advanced nurses are needed more than ever to start conversations in their local communities to improve public health programs, develop new programs and coordinate care. Ultimately, these discussions can lead to reform at the regional and national levels.

Nurses with a terminal degree in nursing, at the height of their

profession, will be uniquely qualified to translate years of experience into a transformation of public health policy at a systems level.

"Nurses in the DNP - Public Health Policy program will be experts in evidence-based practice nursing. As teachers, mentors, consultants and researchers, they will influence management and systems improvement," said Alice Kindschuh, DNP, RN, GCNS-BC, APRN-CNS, CNE, director of doctoral studies at Nebraska Methodist College. "They will be prepared with the knowledge and real-world experience necessary to positively influence public health policy locally, regionally and nationally."

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) to DNP pathway requires nurses to complete a minimum of 50 credit hours and 960 clinical practice hours. Students may earn credit hours via synchronous and asynchronous online learning with one on-campus intensive weekend. Clinical practice requirements are completed in a preceptor experience.

A full-time student in the online DNP program can graduate in as little as 24 months. The Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Nebraska Methodist College is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).



# Accreditation News

## Allen College

WATERLOO, IA—

### Higher Learning Commission

The Higher Learning Commission approved the College's plan to start a **Doctor of Physical Therapy program**. A search firm has been employed to assist in the effort to hire a director for the planned program who will start the process to secure approval from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy

Education (CAPTE) to admit students to the program.

### Occupational Therapy

The initial accreditation status of the Allen College Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program was considered at the December 2-4, 2016 meeting of the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE). The ACOTE voted to grant Allen College's Master

of Science in Occupational Therapy program accreditation for five years.

The Occupational Therapy program made two requested corrections. As a result Allen College's accreditation was extended to seven years, which is the most a new program can achieve.

## NMC's Nursing Program Approved for Accreditation by CCNE

OMAHA, NE—

Nebraska Methodist College's Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing programs were approved for accreditation by the Board of Commissioners of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

The accreditation is good for 10 years, with NMC's next accreditation visit taking place in Fall 2026. The CCNE is an autonomous accrediting agency and officially recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a

national accreditation agency.

"By being accredited for the 10 years, NMC is identified as hosting nursing programs that engage in effective educational practices," said Dean of Nursing Linda Hughes, PhD, MS, RN, CCRN. "The process is never over, however. The nursing programs are constantly monitoring themselves on quality improvement to be the best that they can be."

NMC has nursing at the heart of its history. Established in 1891, NMC has more than 125 years of proud,

successful nursing graduates. Today, the mission remains much the same – develop students who positively influence the health and well-being of the community.

The NMC curriculum format centers on community-based education, which allows students to gain the needed experience in a variety of settings with diverse patients preparing them for what lies ahead in the future of healthcare.

## Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing Receives CCNE Accreditation

PEORIA, IL—

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing is pleased to announce that the College received initial accreditation from the Collegiate Commission on Nursing Education (CCNE) for the BSN, MSN, DNP and post-graduate APRN certificate programs.

The accreditation was effective September 16, 2016 and goes through June 30, 2022. The next visit is scheduled for fall 2021. The Board noted that for all programs above, the College met all accreditation standards and there were no compliance concerns. The College has held continuous

accreditation through Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) for all programs but made the decision to move to CCNE.

# Awards & Recognitions-Institutional

## Allen College Recognized for Low Default Rates and Achieves High Pass Rates

WATERLOO, IA—

Allen College was ranked as **one of the best schools in the nation on the Student Loan Report** for setting up students to successfully repay student loan debt. Allen College was ranked #190 Overall School for Lowest Student Loan Default Rates out of more than 4,500 schools in the nation, as well as #3 in Iowa. This ranks Allen College in the top 4% of all colleges. This study was compiled using the Department of Education's default rate data.

**Results from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) for the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Exam:** All Allen College graduates who took the PMHNP examination passed on the first attempt. This data, combined with the American Association of Nurse Practitioner (AANP) results, gives Allen College a 100% pass rate for nurse practitioner certification for 2016.

**100% Pass Rate on ARRT:**  
Fifteen graduates of the ASR

program of May 2017 took The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) certification exam and all passed the exam on the first attempt bringing the 2017 first-time pass rate to 100%. One student received a percentile rank of 100.

**NCLEX Results:** Allen College graduates attained a 100% pass rate for first time testers for the second quarter of 2017. This included 43 graduates. The year-to-date pass rate is 96.1% (94/97 test takers).

## Aultman College Has Highest Nursing Exam Passage Rate in the Region



CANTON, OH—Among the other nursing programs at colleges and universities in the Akron-Canton region, Aultman College had the highest institutional passage rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

In 2016, 96.72 percent of the first-time test takers from Aultman College passed the NCLEX, which is the nationwide exam for the licensing of nurses. These are students who graduated from the college's Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) program and took the test for the first time in 2016.

In addition to being the highest in the region, Aultman College's rate was well above the Ohio passage rate of 81.12% percent and the national passage rate of 84.56% percent.

"Our passage rate is higher than that of nursing programs that are several times our size, speaking to the quality of our graduates and the instruction and preparation they receive here at Aultman College," said Jo Ann Donnenwirth, Ed.D.(c), MSN, dean of nursing and allied health. "Our associate's degree in nursing program has a tradition of excellence, one that will be carried on by our bachelor's degree program that is beginning this fall."



CANTON, OH—2017 marks the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Aultman Hospital Training School for Nurses, which became Aultman College.

The college is celebrating the occasion with a special 125<sup>th</sup>

## Aultman College Celebrates 125 Years of Nursing Education

anniversary logo and various events throughout the year with a historical focus. For example, each Wednesday, archival photos are posted on the college's social media accounts – everything from World War II era Cadet Nurse Corps patches to a photo of the first baby said to be born at Aultman Hospital.

"I reflected on our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, I realized that I have been at Aultman for one-third of that time – first as a nursing student, then as a nurse and administrator at

Aultman Hospital, and now as the president of the college," said President Rebecca J. Cowl, MSN, NEA-BC. "So much has changed in my time – I can't imagine what our first students back in 1892 would make of our learning environment now: charting on computers, patient simulators that talk and breathe, entire courses online. We have made so much progress in 125 years, and we are excited about what the future holds."

# Awards & Recognitions-Institutional

## Carolinas College of Health Sciences

CHARLOTTE, NC—

The annual results from the **American Society of Clinical Pathology Board of Certification** indicate that in 2016, 100% of the Medical Laboratory Science program graduates passed the national certification examination on the first attempt for the 12<sup>th</sup> straight year. The program mean scaled score was 22% above the national average.

The annual results from the **American Society of Clinical Pathology Board of Certification** indicate that in 2016, 100% of the Histotechnology program graduates passed the national certification examination with the program mean scaled score 13% above the national average.

In 2016, the **Histotechnology** program achieved 100% enrollment growth while maintaining 100% graduation, 100% graduate placement, and 100% graduate pass rate on the national certifying examination.

The annual results from **The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT)** indicate that in 2016, 100% of the Radiologic Technology program graduates passed the national certification examination on the first attempt for the 32<sup>nd</sup> straight year. The national mean first-time pass rate was 87.2%. The program mean scaled score was 5% above the national average. The program graduates scored higher in all testing categories compared to the national average.

The Radiation Therapy class of 2016 achieved a 100% first time pass rate on the **American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) certification** exam. The national average score was 82% and the program average score was 84%. In addition, according to JRCERT publications, the Radiation Therapy program at CCHS currently has the highest five-year average pass rates in North Carolina at 97%.

All December 2016 Nursing Graduates have passed the **NCLEX**. First time pass rate for the cohort is at 98%.

## Mercy College of Health Sciences



DES MOINES, IA—

**Michael Bohl** '80 RT, MHA, RMBA, Chief Executive Officer of Radiology Group, PC, SC, and **Mary Schemmel** '76 EdD(c), RN, MSN, Associate Dean of the School of Nursing for Mercy College of Health Sciences were the Mercy College alumni recipients of the **2017 Catherine McAuley Award for Professional Excellence**

Mercy College of Health Sciences Alumni Association President Rhonda Heim, RN, BSN presents the awards to Bohl and Schemmel.

Mercy College originally created the Catherine McAuley Awards for Nursing Excellence to honor alumni and friends of the School of Nursing (or its predecessor program, the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing), for their lifetime achievements to the profession of nursing, their service to their communities, and their efforts on behalf of Mercy College of Health Sciences. Today, the Catherine McAuley Awards for Professional Excellence are sought and awarded to alumni from any academic programs associated with Mercy College of Health Sciences.



# Awards & Recognitions-Institutional

## NMC Honored with ESGR Above and Beyond Award



OMAHA, NE—

Nebraska Methodist College received the Above and Beyond Award at the Nebraska Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) annual awards ceremony on April 28.

Each year, the committee selects the best from the best to receive the Above and Beyond Award. The award is given to special employers in Nebraska that have supported their employees who are also reservists beyond the legal requirements established by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), such as providing additional, non-mandated benefits like differential or full pay to offset lost wages and extended health benefits.

"The Above and Beyond Award is our way of saying thank you on behalf of the thousands of Guard and Reserve employees in Nebraska for supporting their sacrifices in service to our nation during this time of conflict," said Bill Nelson, Volunteer Support Technician for Nebraska ESGR.

NMC's Executive Vice President Dr. Deb Carlson and Military Students Ombudsperson Mark Araujo, NMC's associate director of financial aid, accepted the award on behalf of the college.

"This award is an honor because it tells us that what we are doing for our employees, who are also reservists, is making a difference in their lives," Carlson said. "Reservists are called to give their lives for our country. The least we can do is help to take some of the stress off them and their families when the country calls on them. As a college, we will continue to support them whenever and however we can. We are honored and blessed to have them as employees."

ESGR, a Department of Defense office, is comprised of dedicated and trained volunteers and staff who develop and promote employer support for Guard and Reserve service by advocating relevant initiatives, recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of applicable laws and resolving conflict between employers and service members.

NMC's dedication to supporting staff and students in the armed forces also has been recognized in recent years by being named a Military Friendly School by G.I. Jobs Magazine. The magazine staff compiles the list of military-friendly colleges through data-driven research on the schools approved by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The college also offers students an opportunity to get involved on campus. The NMC Student Military Organization believes in the promotion of personal development and intellectual growth and follows the mission and goals of the college while serving those who have served in the U.S. military or those who are interested in the U.S. military.

This Memorial Day, the entire NMC family would like to thank all armed forces members, veterans and their families for their service and sacrifices.

# Awards & Recognitions-Institutional

## Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University Recognized with Distinction for Community Service

BATON ROUGE, LA—

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the eighth time and is the only institution of higher learning in Louisiana to be recognized with Distinction this year. The award is given with Distinction in General Community Service and Education by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).

This designation is the highest honor a college or University can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service learning, and civic engagement. Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University is one of 115 colleges and universities across the United States to be recognized for a strong commitment to service. Approximately 80 percent of the University's almost 1,700 students participated in community service projects, logging more than 61,000 total service hours that represented an economic impact of nearly \$1.4 million in-kind donations to the community.

"Service is a part of the very fabric of this Franciscan institution," said University President Tina S. Holland, PhD. "Our service-related curricular and co-curricular programs allow our students to nurture intellectual, spiritual, social and civic development by participating in community improvement projects and service learning. Our holistic approach to learning fosters individual purpose and helps to form graduates who will become future leaders ready to serve in the community."

CNCS manages the program in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the American Council on Education and Campus Compact. Inspired by the thousands of college students

who traveled across the country to support relief efforts along the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina, CNCS has administered the award since 2006. Institutions are chosen based on their achievements in general community service or in one of two special focus areas that align with the U.S. President's education and innovation priorities. Schools are recognized with distinction when there is evidence that their service has made measurable improvement in the community.

"Service and higher education go hand in hand," said Wendy Spencer, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. "These schools are inspiring young leaders to roll up their sleeves and work alongside community members to solve problems. By recognizing the institutions who are leading the way to achieve meaningful, measurable results for the communities they serve, we also highlight the vital role all colleges and universities play in addressing community challenges and placing more students on a lifelong path of civic engagement."



# Awards & Recognitions-Institutional

## St. Vincent's College Bestows Honorary Doctorates to Daughters of Charity



### BRIDGEPORT, CT—

For over 100 years up until their departure in 2014, the Daughters of Charity have serviced St. Vincent's Medical Center and College in their mission to care for the poor and sick. The Daughters have stayed loyal to the mission and the institutions throughout the years, even at one point dissuading the Medical Center from leaving Bridgeport to move to a suburban area in the neighboring town of Fairfield. Because of this dedication, St. Vincent's honored Sister Marie Burns, Sister Anne Marie Graham and Sister Mary Jean Tague with honorary Doctorates of Humane Letters at their May 19 Commencement Ceremony.

Sister Marie Burns over the course of her career has showed dedication and loyalty, both to her community and to her profession. She has been a Board Chair at numerous hospitals and at St. Vincent's College as well as a trustee. Most recently, she was the Governance Liaison for the Daughters of Charity for Catholic Health Systems. Sister Burns has also been the recipient of multiple awards throughout her career including: New York State Hospital Trustee of the Year, Sisters of Charity Hospital, Buffalo Medical Staff Person of the Year and a recipient of the Vincentian Award from St. Vincent's College.

Sister Marie Burns received her undergraduate degree from St. Joseph's College and a Master's in Education from Wheelock College.

Sister Graham is a long serving member of the Daughters of Charity and has continued to spread and fulfill their mission throughout her time with them. She has been a teacher for most of her life; teaching in grade school, high school and higher education. She taught English at Laboure College in Boston, MA, and most recently Remedial English at St. Vincent's College in Bridgeport, CT. Sister Graham has served as Director of Adult Education in Brooklyn, NY and Special Projects Director at St. Vincent's College, where she assisted the College in securing grants for projects and scholarships to benefit the students.

Sister Graham received her M.A. in English from Boston College and has taken other graduate courses at Syracuse University and the University of New York at Cortland. She currently holds the title of Assistant to the Sister Servant and resides in Albany, NY.

Sister Tague has been a serving member of the Daughters of Charity for over 60 years. She is currently working in Brownville, Texas with the Daughters of Charity in assisting the residents of Cameron Park, one of the poorest areas in Texas. She helps to improve their lives through educational programs, family activities and preventive health services.

Born in Syracuse, NY, Sister Tague attended Cathedral Academy taught by the Daughters of Charity all throughout grade school and high school. After graduation, Sister Tague entered the Daughters of Charity community as a postulant in Emmitsburg, MD and then moved to Greensboro, N.C.

It is during this time that Sister Tague began studying Pharmacy at St. John's University. After graduation, she worked as Pharmacy Director of St. Mary's before she began volunteering for missions in Bolivia, eventually becoming a pharmacist for Elizabeth Seton Hospital in Cochabamba, Bolivia. During her time in Bolivia, Sister Tague assumed the role of Director of the Elizabeth Seton School of Nursing. Sister Tague has also worked in Angola and various parts of the United States. From 2001 to 2013, Sister Tague worked closely with St. Vincent's Medical Center as a coordinator for the Parish Nurse Program which consisted of 70 parishes and over 250 nurses across Fairfield County.



# Awards & Recognitions-Faculty & Staff

## Adventist University of Health Sciences' Charlotte Henningsen Receives National Award



ORLANDO, FL—Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) is proud to announce that Professor Charlotte Henningsen, Chair of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Department, is the recipient of the 2017 Distinguished Sonographer Award from the American Institute of Ultrasound Medicine (AIUM). She accepted the distinguished award on March 26, 2017 at the AIUM National Conference in Orlando, FL.

This award recognizes and celebrates a current or retired AIUM member whose body of work has significantly contributed to the growth and development of medical ultrasound. Each year, the membership committee nominates an individual for recognition, who then goes through a final approval process with the AIUM Board.

Charlotte's long list of accomplishments and credentials as well as her service to AIUM, where she serves as the Board's 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, makes her more than deserving of this distinction. She's been a credentialed sonographer for over 30 years, and has worked as an educator for 26 years. She also served on the Board for the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS) for 10 years, including serving as President.

She has participated on task forces for the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS): in Neurosonology for six years and currently on the Latin America task force. She is also an accreditation site visitor for the Joint

Review Committee on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRCDMS). She chaired a three-year collaborative task force hosted by the SDMS that developed the first national educational curriculum for Sonography.

Aside from role as ADU's Department Chair of Sonography, she is the Director of the Center for Advanced Ultrasound Education (CAUE), and as of May 1 will transition from her position as Chair to the Associate Vice President for Faculty Development in Teaching & Learning. As part of her role in creating and overseeing the CAUE, Charlotte teaches advanced education for sonographers, and provides education for graduate and residency programs.

In addition to authoring several articles published in the *Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*, she co-authored the textbook, *Clinical Guide to Sonography 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*

# Awards & Recognitions-Faculty & Staff

## Allen College

WATERLOO, IA—

### Faculty Receive Doctoral Degrees

Several faculty received their doctoral degrees in 2016-2017.

- Gale Carlson, associate professor, earned the EdD degree from the University of Northern Iowa.
- Denise Dermody, assistant professor, earned the OTD degree from Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions.
- Michele Friedman, associate professor, earned the DNP degree from Allen College.
- Emily Schuldt, assistant professor, earned the DNP degree from Clarke University.
- Jeremy Whitaker, director of the public health program and assistant professor, earned the EdD in Community Health Education Degree from the University of Northern Iowa.

### Recognitions

- Dr. Lisa Brodersen, professor, received the 2017 Midwest Nursing Research Society-National League for Nursing (MNRS/NLN) Dissertation Research Grant in the amount of \$2,500. Dr. Brodersen will use the grant to cover the costs of her dissertation study, "Exit Exam Stress in Bachelor of Science Nursing Students."
- Dr. Jerry Durham, chancellor, was recognized at the annual meeting in Chicago of the Higher Learning Commission for his ten years of service as a peer reviewer for the HLC.
- Dr. Nancy Kramer, vice chancellor for academic affairs, completed the Keep Yourself Strong & Secure (KySS) Child-Adolescent Mental Health Fellowship Program through the Ohio State University College of

Nursing. The KySS program teaches healthcare providers (nurse practitioners, physicians, physicians assistants, social workers) to screen, assess, and manage common mental health problems in primary care settings, improving the capacity to meet the needs of people across the life span with mental/behavioral health disorders.

- Dr. Doreen Mingo, associate professor, who received the first place poster award at the fourth annual Cultural Inclusion Institute Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Mingo's poster entitled "Changing the Status Quo" highlighted Allen College's efforts to support pipeline student programs.
- Dr. Jared Seliger, associate vice chancellor, was accepted into Penn State's 2017 leadership academy.

## Aultman College Faculty Member Selected to Serve on International Resuscitation Guidelines Task Force



CANTON, OH—**Dr. Jeffrey L. Pellegrino**, program director of the bachelor of science in health sciences program and professor at Aultman College, has been selected to serve on the International Liaison Commit-

tee on Resuscitation's (ILCOR) Education, Implementation, and Teams Task Force.

ILCOR, founded in 1992 as a forum for principal resuscitation organizations throughout the world, includes the American Heart Association and resuscitation groups from Europe, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, and Asia as its members. ILCOR produced the first international CPR guidelines in 2000, followed by the international consensus on CPR and emergency cardiovascular care (ECC) science and treatment recommendations in 2005.

Pellegrino brings to the Task Force a population and public health approach to community preparedness and individual skill development. Since arriving at Aultman College in 2015, Pellegrino has collaborated with Education and Development, the Birthing Center, Community Nursing,

Aultman undergraduates, and community partners such as Access Health Stark County to further understand and meet first aid needs. Aultman students in several courses have also partnered through Pellegrino to provide input to the International Federation of Red Cross/ Red Crescent and the American Red Cross's national health and safety division on multiple projects.

"What this means for the college and Aultman Health Foundation is that we have front line seats to the science and its interpretation as it emerges," said Pellegrino. He added that there could be opportunities for the college's students to help with ILCOR research studies. "This could even lead to further relationships as a Magnet hospital and other health sciences educational and research programs too," he said.

# Awards & Recognitions-Faculty & Staff

## Bellin College Faculty Awarded the Nishioka Family Excellence Award



**2017 Recipient, Kathie DeMuth, MSN**

GREEN BAY, WI—

Bellin College grants The Nishioka Family Faculty Excellence Award during spring commencement. A faculty member is awarded for their exemplary commitment to the Bellin College values of excellence, integrity, community, and caring.

This award honors a nursing faculty member for contributions in the areas of professional nursing advancement, nursing education advancement, professional behavior and growth, and support of the College. This award has been given each year since 1990 and is sponsored through a generous contribution from Dr. Hiro Nishioka, an ardent supporter of the College.

The award recipient receives funds for professional development, and is commemorated on the cumulative award plaque permanently on display at the College.

## Mercy College of Health Sciences Recognizes Faculty and Staff

DES MOINES, IA—

### Celebrating the 2016-2017 Mercy College Excellence Award Recipients

Each year the entire Mercy College community is provided the opportunity to cast their vote for **Mercy College Employee Excellence Awards**. During the **2017 Annual Employee Recognition & Excellence Awards** event, the following people were presented with their respective awards.

- **Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award**  
**Dr. John Hartog**  
Adjunct Instructor, School of Liberal Arts & Sciences
- **Staff Excellence Award**  
**Stephanie Brown**  
Teaching and Learning Specialist
- **Faculty Excellence Award**  
**Dr. Ryan “Bud” Marr**  
Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts & Sciences
- **Dr. Glenn Oren Student Spirit Award**  
**Dr. Susan Brown**  
Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Congratulations to the recipients of the **First Sister Zita Brennan Employee Service Award**. This new award recognizes leadership, community and campus contributions, and the qualities and values of Sister Zita Brennan: Courage, Caring, and Compassionate Service. *Roy Meador, Caitlyn Zimmermann, Barb Cupp, Joe Brookover, Bo Bonner & Kris Owens*. This team researched, created and operate Catherine's Cabinet, an on-campus food bank providing supplemental support to students who are facing food insecurity and need assistance.



# Awards & Recognitions-Faculty & Staff

## Mercy College Faculty Contribute to Diversity in Healthcare Professions Paper

DES MOINES, IA—

Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities extended a great privilege to Mercy College Faculty Dr. Bud Marr and Bo Bonner when, through coordination with Mercy College President Barbara Decker, the two were asked to contribute on the white paper “Diversity in Healthcare Professions: A Catholic Higher Education Imperative.”

Dr. Michael Galligan-Stierle, President of the ACCU asked Bonner and Marr to add a Theological angle to the paper, in addition to the Sociological and Policy insights made by the other co-authors. “It is a great honor to be included in such an endeavor” said Bonner, “and our experiences here at Mercy College helped us imagine what insights we hoped to add to the paper.”

Dr. Marr pointed out that any time faculty at Mercy College can participate in the larger efforts of Catholic Higher Education, especially regarding the Health Sciences, the decision to get involved is easy—our mission informs such interactions.



## Mercy College: Our Food Pantry—Take What You Need, Leave What You Can

DES MOINES, IA—

Some Mercy College students — most of whom already receive financial aid — still don't have enough resources to eat every week.

In an unassuming space, within a small private college, in the middle of downtown Des Moines, a community is showing just how much they care. Mercy College staff began to recognize a trend of more and more students expressing the need for groceries or gas money, and simple items to help make ends meet. Encouraged to create a solution, the need was further reinforced by a national survey by the College and University Food Bank Alliance.

Committed to a solution, **Mercy College created Catherine's Cabinet**, an on-campus, free will donation food pantry designed to provide one more layer of support for its students in hopes that they are never forced to choose between hunger and their education.

Nothing more than an overflowing bookshelf, next to the Campus Ministry Office, Catherine's Cabinet isn't flashy but for the students who need the items within, it can mean the difference between eating or paying for school. Inside, shelves are stocked with a variety non-perishable food items. The Cabinet's motto of “take what you need, leave what you can” speaks to

its namesake Mother Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy, and organization dedicated to the education and care of homeless women and children in the 1820s.

Many programs are in place for elementary, middle, and high schools, but surprisingly college students are often on their own. Especially in larger cities, where the cost of living is high is increasing, some students have to choose between paying their rent or buy groceries.



# Awards & Recognitions-Faculty & Staff

## NMC President Joslin Invited to Attend First Joint Higher Education Summit of the United States and Mexico



OMAHA, NE—

A U.S. delegation of 24 independent college and university presidents, including Nebraska Methodist College, and five cabinet-level officers from U.S. institutions met with their Mexican counterparts. The meeting was organized by the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) and the Mexican Federation of Private Higher Education Institutions (FIMPES) and generously supported by Santander Universidades and Universia. The summit, “Reaffirming the North American Spirit of Collaboration in Higher Education: Creating Bridges of Communications” emphasized the importance of international exchange in today’s “America First” political climate.

As a result of the Summit, participants aimed to provide enhanced exchange opportunities for students and faculty members in both countries; provide students with increased access to internships in Mexico and the United States; and allow faculty members and students to collaborate in shared research projects and development programs. The Summit follows three years during which delegations of Mexican private university rectors participated

in CIC’s Presidents Institute, the largest annual gathering of college and university presidents in the U.S.

The U.S. presidents and their Mexican colleagues visited and met with campus leaders of three Mexican higher education institutions: Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Universidad Panamericana, and Universidad del Valle de Atemajac. Participants also met with the U.S. Consul General in Guadalajara, Tanya C. Anderson, and with local, state, and national Mexican officials, as well as additional university rectors. The U.S. delegation and Mexican university rectors discussed student and faculty exchange programs, articulation agreements, global leadership, visa issues, and undocumented students.

Nebraska Methodist College President Dennis Joslin reports that the “summit was extremely valuable as the opportunity to meet and connect with our Mexican higher education colleagues and now new friends will lead to many exceptional opportunities through this partnership. The most immediate opportunities include summer immersion experiences to the campuses of our new Mexican

partners for NMC students enrolled in the Spanish for Healthcare Professionals Minor.

Additional opportunities can be established for service learning, mission and clinical work over the summer or semester travel abroad options for students at all degree levels and academic programs. Ideally, as the partnership grows, Mexican students will also travel to NMC as well as bi-directional travel of faculty to explore various pedagogy applications and joint research opportunities to name a few. Our new friends represent a great opportunity for a long-term partnership that will complement the academic endeavors currently underway in both countries and serve as a solid experience for international travel and study for countless students.”

CIC President Richard Ekman noted, “In the current climate of constrained international cooperation, CIC reaffirms the importance of international exchange for the preparation of informed citizens and responsible global participants. Our Mexican neighbors have a special relationship to colleges in the U.S.”

# Awards & Recognitions-Faculty & Staff

## St. Vincent's College Recognizes Faculty Member for Distinguished Teaching Excellence



BRIDGEPORT, CT—

This year, St. Vincent's College will be honoring, **Judy Ruggieri**, a faculty member who has shown outstanding dedication to her students, profession and community. Ruggieri, a faculty member specializing in nursing is the winner of the Distinguished Excellence in Teaching and Service Award. The selection of the winner was based on their proven evidence of effective teaching and creativity, the impact they've had on their students in both their personal and educational welfare, and finally the community service and service learning they have contributed.

Judy began her career as a registered nurse at Stamford Hospital in 1983, a job that she held for almost 30 years until 2012. In 2002, Judy graduated from the University of Phoenix with her Bachelor of Science in

Nursing and then earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Pace University in 2007. Since then, Judy has held both nursing positions and administrative ones including the Vice President of New Business Development at GHP and as a Wellness Nurse at Affiliated Physicians.

In 2012, Judy received her Master's degree in Nursing Education from the University of Phoenix and is currently a doctoral candidate at Sacred Heart University.

Judy joined the St. Vincent's College team in 2013 and has showcased her dedication to our students and programs ever since. St. Vincent's is proud to have someone like Judy be recognized for her excellence at our Institution.

# Awards & Recognitions-Students & Alumni

## Adventist University of Health Sciences' Student Receives Newman Civic Fellowship

ORLANDO, FL—**Anisha Sukumaran**, a junior in the Health and Biomedical Sciences program at Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU), has been named one of the recipients of the Newman Civic Fellowship from Campus Compact.

The fellowship, named for Campus Compact founder Frank Newman, honors and encourages students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to helping communities throughout the country overcome barriers and struggles. Recipients of the fellowship receive training and access to resources that will guide students' talents and passions effectively to achieve social

change.

The one-year fellowship offers the students an invaluable experience with access to in-person and virtual learning opportunities, networking events, and mentoring. These resources allow the fellows to learn how to focus their interests and skills to develop practical solutions to public problems.

Each spring, fellows are selected with their term beginning the following year. Anisha was one of those chosen for this year's fellowship. She is a dedicated student leader involved in both on-campus and local community projects for creating positive social change.



## Bellin College Student Receives Lucyanna Hitch Award for Excellence



GREEN BAY, WI—  
**2017 Recipient, Andrea O'Bright, BSN Class of 2017**

Bellin College grants Lucyanna Hitch Award for Excellence to a graduating student during spring commencement for their exemplary commitment to the Bellin College values of excellence, integrity, community, and caring.

This is an annual award given in memory of, and tribute to, Lucyanna Hitch, a dedicated College advocate.

This award recognizes the graduating student from any program (BSN, BSRS, and MSN) who best exemplifies the College Values of Excellence, Integrity, Community, and Caring.

The award recipient is announced at graduation in May and receives a recognition plaque in addition to a modest cash award. Award recipients are commemorated on the cumulative award plaque permanently on display at the College.

This award has been given each year since 1988.



# Awards & Recognitions-Students & Alumni

## Mercy College Celebrates 7 Alumni Who Were Selected as Honorees in the Class of 2017 “100 Great Iowa Nurses”

100 great  
iowa nurses  
courage, competence, commitment

DES MOINES, IA—

- Tiffany Beyer - BSN, Class of 2014
- Mary (Kathy) Dehnert - Nursing Diploma, Class of 1994
- Ashli Formaro - ASN, Class of 2004
- Michele (Shelly) McGrath-Rothmeyer - Nursing Diploma, Class of 1993
- Marla Pesek - Nursing Diploma, Class of 1993
- Ali Savage-Hand - ASN, Class of 2011
- Steve Wilbur - Nursing Diploma, Class of 1996

## Mercy College: Happy Children Yield Enriched Parents



DES MOINES, IA —

The Child Watch Center at St. Vincent de Paul was born from the realization that neighborhood parents, wanting to assimilate to Iowa, were without child care while they attended resource classes.

So, Mercy College Servant Leadership students conceptualized and created the child watch center, as well as, designed and painted educational murals for the children on the wall.

The Child Watch Center was already up and going by the time Emily Frohman, Samantha Freund and Hannah Dudek took the Servant Leadership course last semester. So, they thought the center could use some color and additional "built-in learning resources."

The new mural will bring multiple educational benefits to the children who will be spending time there while their parents get the resources that are being offered. The children benefitting from this colorful resource are young children and, in many cases, refugee children learning English for the first time.

### Some of the lessons taught by the murals include:

- The tree is a great reference to teach children about the four seasons.
- The alphabet images that start with the coordinating letter help them learn basic spelling skills.
- The ruler on the wall, will assist with measuring physical growth as well as hone their math skills.



# Awards & Recognitions-Students & Alumni

## Mercy College: Combining Knowledge with a Servant's Heart at the United Nations



DES MOINES, IA—

Jean Angel, a Physical Therapist Assistant student, and Jordan Schmitt, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing student, were able to combine this dual emphasis on head and heart with a trip to the United Nations. Sponsored by the Sisters of

Mercy, the Sisters allow students from the various Mercy-tradition colleges through the country to join them in a "U.N. immersion experience," where students accompany the Sisters as they advocate for the poor and vulnerable at the U.N. in New York City, and share strategies of advocating locally that students take home with them.

*In the words of Jordan, "This opportunity was valuable because it was empowering. We have the tools and resources to make a difference in people's lives. And any bit helps. Not only will our work benefit those we come in contact with, but through the butterfly effect, with people those individuals influence. Our work in the community can make a huge difference."*

In order to "bring home" these strategies, and in particular to speak to the nationwide problem of Human

Trafficking and its ramifications for the Des Moines area, Jean and Jordan are presenting what they learned at the U.N. immersion here at Mercy College during Mercy Week. As this immersion experience was put on by the Sisters of Mercy, it only makes sense to include this vital information during Mercy Week, among the many other activities hosted at the College to celebrate the Spirit of the Mercy Charism.

Jean and Jordan spoke about the immersion trip itself in order to inform fellow students of future opportunities (the Sisters host such a trip every two years), but will turn their emphasis toward Human Trafficking, how to recognize it in our communities, and what can be done locally.

## NMC Graduate McBride Honored with DAISY Award



OMAHA, NE—

Nebraska Methodist College grad and Methodist Hospital Medical/Surgical Unit RN **Robb McBride** was honored in May with a DAISY Award.

McBride was nominated for the honor by a patient and spouse who called him "one of the best RNs we've ever met."

The couple praised McBride for his caring, responsiveness, verbal skills, intelligence and willingness to go the extra distance.

"He's just a really nice guy. He explains what he is doing and makes sure we understand," they

wrote. "Every time he enters our room, we feel safe. God bless Robb for his work here at Methodist!"

The DAISY Award is a nationwide program that rewards and celebrates extraordinary skill and compassionate care given by nurses every day. Nurses can be nominated by anyone, including patients, family members, physicians, supervisors or their peers.

# Awards & Recognitions-Students & Alumni

## St. John's College Student Receives NSNA Scholarship



SPRINGFIELD, IL—

**Chris Geldernick**, a junior in the accelerated program at St. John's College, was awarded a \$1,500 scholarship through the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA). The scholarship was sponsored by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN), one of many hosted through NSNA.

The Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association awarded over \$221,000 nationally for the 2017-2018 academic year. In 2016, only ten recipients received AACN sponsored scholarships.

On behalf of St. John's College, Chris will attend NSNA's 65th Annual Convention in Dallas, Texas from April 5 – 9 to accept his award. This scholarship will be used for educational expenses to help Chris receive his Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in December of 2017.

Chris serves as Vice President of the Student Government Association at St. John's College, and is very active in organizing, planning, and implementing events and opportunities for his fellow peers. Thanks to his nomination from assistant professor Angela Bentley, his academic achievements and community involvement were recognized and Chris was selected to receive this scholarship.

Dr. Charlene Aaron, Chancellor of St. John's College, is very proud of Chris for receiving this national recognition for his nursing student engagement, and sincerely thanks him for representing St. John's College so well.

"Chris is a true example of how we prepare our students for the future of Nursing," said Dr. Aaron.

*More information on the National Student Nurses' Association can be found at [www.nсна.org](http://www.nсна.org).*



# Awards & Recognitions-Students & Alumni

## St. Vincent's College Gifts Class of 2017 Graduates with a Star!

BRIDGEPORT, CT—

On May 19 at the annual Commencement ceremony, the Class of 2017 began a new tradition, one that they themselves probably weren't anticipating. The Class of 2017 was gifted with their very own star appropriately named "St. Vincent's College Class of 2017."

The star is symbolic of a compass; a moral compass to help remind the class to "never stand by as onlookers when we see a sister or brother worn out by poverty, illness and injustice because if we ignore the suffering of our neighbor, we ignore you."

As the graduates look into the sky and see their star in the future, it is meant to serve as a constant reminder of the lessons they've learned, the friends they've made and of the morals and values that their education at St. Vincent's College has taught them going forward into their careers.





# Facilities

## Allen College upgrades auditorium technology

WATERLOO, IA—

A donor gave Allen College a gift of \$60,000 to upgrade the audiovisual technology in McBride Auditorium. The current A-V technology, installed when Gerard Hall was built more than twenty years ago, is mostly the original technology installed at that time. Current plans call for the new technology to be in place by the start of the fall semester. McBride Auditorium, with 150 seats, is used extensively by community groups and Allen Hospital for meetings, as well by faculty for large classes.

## Cox College Plans Multi-Million Dollar Expansion

SPRINGFIELD, MO—

Cox College, which is attached to Cox North Hospital, announced a \$6.6 million renovation Friday to address the community's nursing shortage.

The college said its decision to expand at Cox North is a commitment to the building's history and to north Springfield. Because of that, the outside of the building will see a few improvements, but there are dramatic renovation plans for the interior.

Cox College said its old exterior doesn't match the innovative classrooms within, and it's coming at a cost. Lisa Alexander, the Cox Health Foundation president, said some potential new students are persuaded to go elsewhere for their education.

"We just have a really high-level performing new graduate," Alexander said. "But they look at the building and think 'I'll just go down to Missouri State.'"

The school said Baby Boomers working as nurses are retiring by the thousands, contributing to the already growing nurse shortage in Springfield hospitals.

"There's a 16 percent vacancy in all hospitals across the state of Missouri," Alexander said. "So that's six-point-7 percent up from last year. That's a really

critical number."

The college is recruiting a younger generation to help meet the need – but first it needs a facelift.

The school has investigated in technology to teach its students, like practice mannequins that simulate real human behavior, like child birth. But now, Alexander said it's time to invest in the building itself.

"We just hope, too, that they'll drive up and go 'we'll give this a shot,'" she said.

Many offices were originally patient rooms or dorm rooms, dating back to the building's creation in 1906. Renovation plans include larger classrooms, central air, study areas and a new student lounge.

Alexander said the renovations will also help the local economy.

"Our students are going to go out and make 20, 25 dollars an hour, and they're going to be productive, meeting a great need in our community," she said.

In an effort to keep tuition affordable, the college is reaching out to the community to help fund the multi-million dollar project. The Cox Health Foundation said it hopes to start construction as early as next spring if it can reach that fundraising goal.

# Facilities

## Mercy College of Health Sciences

DES MOINES, IA—



### College Hill

In response to the growing demand for health care professionals, renovation and design of the newest additions to the Mercy College campus are underway.

**Newly remodeled apartments located just steps away from Mercy College's main campus (928 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue) were completed and made available for**

**students to rent in June 2017.** The apartments are owned and managed by College Hill Associates, L.P and are located on floors 2-5 of 921 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

College Hill Associates offers numerous floor plans with both furnished and unfurnished options. College Hill Associates continues its work and additional apartments will

become available in December 2017.

**In addition, Phase 1 of the Mercy College campus renovation will be complete in August 2017.** This first phase will result in new office and meeting rooms for the Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar and Student Success employees. The **Josephine Norkaitis Student Success Center** will also be completed and provide dedicated space for student testing and tutoring.

**Phase 2 of the campus renovation will be complete in December 2017** and will provide faculty offices, as well as additional classroom, lab and simulation space to augment space currently available on the main campus. Once construction is complete, the College will occupy a **brand new, 20,000 square foot, 2-story building plus 20,000 square feet of completely remodeled space on the garden level** and first floor of 921 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.



**Two New Ultrasound Machines Improve Mercy College Student Experience**

With the purchase of 2 brand new Philips Affiniti 50 Ultrasound Systems, the Mercy College educational student experience has been dramatically enhanced. Improved image quality, an intuitive user interface and ergonomic design have created an environment that mimics what students see and use in their clinical rotations.

***"Having the privilege of being a student in the DMS program at Mercy College with the new ultrasound machines has been exciting for all of us! These new machines will allow us to become familiar with cutting-edge equipment and allow us to better perform in the classroom and the workplace! – Abby Osborn, Cardiac Sonography Student"***

# Facilities

## NMC Awarded \$65,000 New Active Learning Classroom Grant by Steelcase Education

OMAHA, NE—

Nebraska Methodist College has been selected to receive the installation of an active learning classroom through the Active Learning Center (ALC) program, a grant initiative in its third year founded by Steelcase Education. The grant program supports both teachers and students by creating an environment that encourages engagement, collaboration and creativity.

With the installation of a classroom valued at \$65,000, Nebraska Methodist College will positively impact teaching and support pedagogies for students eager to learn. Each room includes modern movable furniture, design, onsite training, installation and a pre- and post-occupancy

measurement tool.

“Nebraska Methodist College was chosen because of a demonstrated commitment to active learning,” said Craig Wilson, Director of Market Development for Steelcase Education. “Research shows that space impacts behavior, and these classrooms will help a new group of instructors and students explore the learning possibilities an interactive space can bring.”

In addition to receiving a new classroom, Nebraska Methodist College will receive training from Steelcase on the uses of the furniture in their new spaces, and will also have the opportunity to share insights and best practices with other awarded schools. Over the two-year program, Steelcase Education and

Nebraska Methodist College will partner together to conduct assessments and research on the impact of the newly designed space.

“We are so excited to be recognized by the Active Learning Center Grant for our efforts in promoting personalized, engaged learning with our students,” said Deb Carlson, Ph.D., Executive Vice President of Nebraska Methodist College. “With Steelcase Education’s support, we will continue this mission and foster better collaborations between students and instructors in the classroom.”

Along with Nebraska Methodist College, 14 other schools and universities out of over 900 applications were chosen for their unique approaches to active learning.



# Philanthropy

## Allen College Engagement-Salvation Army Partnership (ACE-SAP) Free Clinic Receives United Way Grant

WATERLOO, IA—

The Cedar Valley United Way (CVUW) awarded the ACE-SAP clinic a \$16,983 grant for fiscal year 2017. This allotment marks the second year of a two-year renewable grant from the CVUW. Dr. Jerry Durham accepted the gift during an award ceremony.

The free clinic was established in 2008 with the local Salvation Army to provide free healthcare for the underserved. It's unique in that it has a preventive care focus. The clinic also offers psychiatric care. The clinic is coordinated by licensed faculty and staffed by nurse practitioner students, undergraduate nursing and medical laboratory science students and graduate level occupational therapy students.



## Mercy College Receives \$84,000 DASH Emergency Grant

DES MOINES, IA—

\$84,000 Grant Supports Launch of Emergency Grant Program at Mercy College of Health Sciences. The funds will address financial barriers to help low-income students stay enrolled to completion.

Mercy College serves students from diverse backgrounds, and a situation that might be a headache for one can be a major financial crisis for another. If a student is already struggling to make ends meet, an unexpected car repair or medical bill might cause that student to withdraw from college.

*"Thanks to the DASH Emergency Grant, Mercy College has the resources to provide modest emergency grants to our students in times of greatest need,"* said Karen Anderson, Ph.D. Vice President of Enrollment Management & Student Affairs.

This award will be used to augment our current efforts to build an emergency grant program designed to help students overcome financial obstacles and improve retention. The Mercy College grant award notification stated, "Your application showed a good understanding of our grant's objectives and presented a solid plan for achieving them."

Mercy College will begin making student emergency grants in fall 2017. Students will complete an application detailing their financial emergency. A Mercy College committee will review the application, and expenses up to \$1,000 will be paid within two business days of approval. By quickly removing financial distractions, students can refocus on their studies and continue toward graduation.

Mercy College is one of the first four-year colleges to receive a Dash Emergency Grant from Great Lakes. A combined \$7.2 million in grants was awarded to 32

colleges in Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Dash Emergency Grants for four-year colleges build on the success two-year colleges have achieved since Great Lakes began supporting emergency grant programs in 2012. These colleges report students who receive emergency grants stay in school at better rates and graduate in larger numbers.

*"We're pleased to extend our Dash Emergency Grant to Mercy College and other four-year colleges to help more at-risk students overcome financial obstacles to completion,"* said Richard D. George, President and Chief Executive Officer of Great Lakes.

**About Great Lakes: Dedicated to making college education a reality since 1967.**

Knowing that education has the power to change lives for the better, Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation & Affiliates was established as a nonprofit group focused on a single objective: helping students nationwide prepare for and succeed in postsecondary education and student loan repayment. As a leading student loan guarantor and servicer, Great Lakes has been selected by the U.S. Department of Education to provide assistance and repayment planning to more than 8 million borrowers—as well as assistance to colleges and lenders nationwide. The group's earnings support one of the largest and most respected education philanthropy programs in the country. Since 2006, Great Lakes has committed over \$200 million in grant funding to promote higher education access and completion for students of color, low-income students, and first-generation students. For additional information, visit [home.mygreatlakes.org](http://home.mygreatlakes.org).

# Philanthropy

## Mercy College of Health Sciences

DES MOINES, IA—

### **Des Moines Area Higher Ed Consortium Receives \$510K Grant from U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women**

Mercy College of Health Sciences, Drake University, Grand View University and Simpson College will collectively receive a \$510,000 grant for a consortium project entitled **"Central Iowa Colleges' Coordinated Response"** submitted to OVW's **"Grants to Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking on Campus Program."**

As a recipient of this competitive award, the four local colleges will work together, and with community partners including Polk County Crisis and Advocacy Services, to strengthen and formalize education, policies, procedures and messaging to prevent and respond to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

The Central Iowa Colleges' consortium proposal was one of 45 grants awarded to institutions of higher education. *"We are extremely pleased to have received this grant award from OVW,"* said Dr. Karen Anderson,

Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at Mercy College. *"Our colleges have identified the value in sharing resources to ensure consistent messaging and training for college students, faculty, law enforcement and community partners."* Mercy College was the lead applicant on the grant, on behalf of the consortium partners.

### **About the Justice Department's Office on Violence Against Women**

OVW provides leadership in developing the nation's capacity to reduce violence against women through the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act and subsequent legislation. Created in 1995, OVW administers financial and technical assistance to communities across the country that are developing programs, policies and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. In addition to overseeing 21 federal grant programs, OVW often undertakes initiatives in response to special needs identified by communities facing acute challenges.

## Nebraska Methodist College Awarded \$1.3 Million, 5-year Upward Bound Grant



OMAHA, NE—

The Nebraska Methodist College Upward Bound Program has been awarded a \$1,287,500 grant by the United States Department of Education. This is the third Upward Bound grant for Nebraska Methodist College (NMC), which will receive \$257,500 each year for five years.

"We are thrilled to have our funding renewed by the U.S. Department of Education," said Kevin Bailey, director of the NMC Upward Bound program. "Our program offers vital services and instruction to low-income and first-generation students to ensure that they have the same opportunities as their peers to go to college. Upward Bound is an essential program for

addressing the achievement gap that exists in this country in regards to the college enrollment rates of low-income students."

Through the grant, NMC serves eligible students at Burke High School, providing after-school tutoring at the St. Luke Methodist Church Teen Center, mentoring, ACT prep, financial literacy training and college application and enrollment assistance. In addition, NMC hosts a six-week summer program with instruction in the core academic areas and electives, as well as a summer bridge program for graduating seniors to take college credit.

NMC served 61 students during the 2016-17 school year, and 100 percent of the program's seniors were accepted and will enroll in college this fall. Since receiving its first Upward Bound grant in 2007, NMC has served a total of more than 550 students.

"This grant will allow us to continue making a positive impact in the community along with our primary partners Burke High School and the St. Luke Teen Center," Bailey said. "We believe this kind of commitment to improving the lives of community members outside of our campus is essential to NMC's mission, and we're so excited to continue serving our amazing Upward Bound students at Burke High School."

# Melange

## Bellin College's 17th Annual Golf Classic Proceeds to Benefit New Hands on Healthcare Initiative



GREEN BAY, WI—On Monday, June 19, Bellin College hosted its 17<sup>th</sup> annual golf classic at Oneida Golf and Country Club sponsored by the late Mr. Phil Hendrickson, Pomp's Tire Service, Inc., Bellin Health Foundation, Associated Bank, Gary Brukardt Foundation, Community First Credit Union and the Green Bay Packers Give Back. The event was able to raise over \$60,000 to help support the education of today's students and tomorrow's healthcare professionals.

Proceeds from the 17th annual golf classic will be used to support our new initiative, hands on healthcare. Bellin College, in partnership with local high schools, has created a one day experience in our health sciences resource center (HSRC) simulation labs. Students spend the day rotating through stations practicing skills and techniques guided by Bellin College students, faculty and healthcare

professionals. This immersive, hands on experience promotes the advantages and benefits of pursuing a high demand career in healthcare using state-of-the-art technology.

A day on campus includes rotations through various stations exposing students to:

- Radiology
- Physical therapy
- Sonography
- Virtual anatomy exploration
- Operating room/sterile technique
- Maternity/newborn care
- Trauma/emergency room simulation
- Nursing care in a simulated environment

"The future vision of hands on healthcare is to continue to grow and expand. We plan to mobilize the event and take it on the road to high

schools in Northeast Wisconsin. This way they don't always have to come to us, and will give us the opportunity to impact more students. We would be able to serve up to 200 students in a gymnasium opposed to the 40 students we are able to serve on our campus," said Dr. Mark Bake, dean of allied health sciences for Bellin College.

Exposing students to these types of experiences provides them with the opportunity to learn more about well paying, high demand careers. Employment in the healthcare industry is expected to add 2.3 million new jobs nationally over the next 10 years.



# Melange

## NMC Respiratory Therapist Lobbies for Better Healthcare in Washington, DC



OMAHA, NE—

Respiratory therapist **Lisa Fuchs** (pictured above with Representative Don Bacon) recently traveled to Washington, D.C., with two other respiratory therapists and patients to ask members of Congress to include respiratory

therapists in any telehealth legislation introduced this year. Fuchs, MHA, RRT, CTTS, CHWC, is Program Director for Respiratory Care at Nebraska Methodist College in Omaha.

“Using telehealth services to remotely monitor and manage the clinical condition of the patient and intervene proactively will help avoid a costly hospital admission or re-admission,” Fuchs said. “Moreover, increasing access to respiratory therapists as telehealth providers can decrease the burden on Medicare beneficiaries who do not have easy access to their expertise in medical facilities, clinics or physician offices.”

With the mounting costs to manage chronic diseases and avoid expensive exacerbations, Fuchs met with Nebraska Congressman Don Bacon to discuss the value respiratory therapists bring to improving their patients’ health outcomes and the benefits of including them as telehealth providers.

“We think the timing is right to improve patients’ access to expanded telehealth services and in particular to the unique skills of respiratory therapists who are trained experts in the care of patients’ chronic respiratory diseases,” Fuchs said.

Congressional leaders also were asked to include language in the FY2018 Labor-HHS Appropriations Report that would task the Medicare program with an analysis of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease claims data that will help validate the respiratory therapists expertise in a variety of settings.

Fuchs is a member of the Political Advocacy Contact Team (PACT), a nationwide group of respiratory therapist and patients organized by the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) and the Nebraska Society for Respiratory Care to spearhead grassroots level advocacy efforts.

# Melange

## Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University Announces Gerontology Initiatives



BATON ROUGE, LA— Faculty and students at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University are using research, teaching and service programs to

address the many issues and opportunities facing our local aging population – including using a recently acquired grant from the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) to teach computer classes to area seniors.

The University was chosen from an applicant pool of more than 90 institutions to receive a \$12,000 grant from the CIC's Intergenerational Connections: Students Serving Older Adults program, supported by the AARP Foundation. The award will be used to fund service-learning Fellowships for students to serve 55 senior adult residents of the Our Lady of the Lake Senior HUD apartments. The

Fellows will be instructing the senior adults on basic computer skills, the use of internet sites to access medical and other information of interest, social media to communicate with family and friends, and Microsoft Word to create narratives for the Elderly Housing newsletter and other written pieces.

"With almost 20 percent of Louisiana's population over the age of 60, it is imperative that our institution makes caring for our senior population now and in the coming years a priority," said Tina Holland, PhD, Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University president. "Through programs that promote health at all ages and serve Louisiana seniors through service-learning projects, we can make a long-term positive impact on the lives of many local seniors."

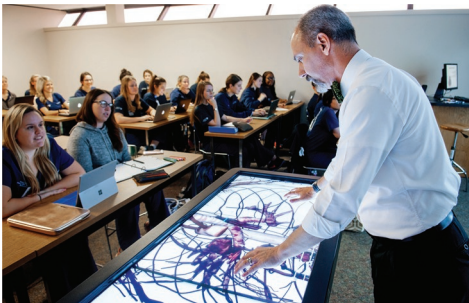
In line with this focus, **Lindsay B. Mullins**, BSN, MSN-FNP, PhD has been promoted to the Sister Agnes Marie Fitzsimons Endowed Chair of Gerontology, where she will organize and support multidisciplinary participation in gerontological studies at the

University. She will draw upon her experience as a nurse scholar and as the Family Nurse Practitioner program director to promote health and quality of life for elders in the region through continued research on building community capacity to promote healthy aging, and by positively impacting Louisiana's nursing workforce and the education surrounding elderly care.

Dr. Mullins has been with the University in various capacities since 2009, and she also serves as a family nurse practitioner for the Louisiana Sleep Foundation. She previously served as a charge nurse at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C., from 2001-2005 and as a family nurse practitioner at Methodist Hospital in Dallas from 2005-2006.

She received her bachelor of science in nursing from LSU Health Sciences Center in 2001 and her master's degree as a family nurse practitioner in 2004 from Georgetown University School of Nursing. She completed her studies with a doctorate from LSU's Peabody College of Education in 2010.

## Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University Introduces Digital Cadavers to Anatomy Instruction



BATON ROUGE, LA—

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University received a \$72,550 grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents to purchase an Anatomage Table, a virtual gross-anatomy simulation device that teaches students about anatomy without using an actual body.

The Anatomage Table is being used to enhance the anatomical and

physiological content of students' learning and offers an expansive library of digital human cadavers that show images of the body similar to what is seen in an X-ray, Medical CT, CBCT or MRI scan.

Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University is one of three institutions in the state of Louisiana to own an Anatomage Table.

# Melange

## St. John's College Community Collects Books for Nursing Students in India

SPRINGFIELD, IL—

Karen Hobler, RN and Faith Community Nurse, reached out to many nursing institutions in the central Illinois area in hopes of collecting used nursing textbooks for students in Imphal, India. The Dr. Anjuli Nayak Nursing School is affiliated with a local hospital that works in underdeveloped conditions with limited resources. The hope is that once these students graduate from the school, they will go out into other villages and communities and be able to care for those in need.

The students, faculty, and alumni of St. John's College rallied together after the request for their fellow nursing students. Overall, the school donated over 430 books. This amount nearly triples the textbooks the current school library holds.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The **2017 fall AHSEC meeting** is scheduled in Roanoke, VA starting **October 1 for dinner, meeting on October 2 and 3 and concluding at noon on Tuesday, October 3**. Question regarding the meeting can be directed to [Jerry.Durham@allencollege.edu](mailto:Jerry.Durham@allencollege.edu).