Appreciating the Living Legacy in Others

Many people define a legacy as something they leave at the end of their life or career rather than something they build during it. As dean of the BYU College of Nursing, I am in awe as I review accomplishments showing how people’s influence is far-reaching and overlaps with others’ efforts, adding synergy and value to their contributions. I believe that our program and our alumni are defined by the caliber and strength of their leadership, their actions, and their service.

You may be aware that this year commemorates the 40th anniversary of our graduate nursing program. While the specialty tracks and teaching emphasis have changed over the years, the desire to help nurses earn an advanced degree and make a difference in the industry has never faltered. We tried to locate the 456 alumni from the program and learn about their careers and nursing influence. It is overwhelming to gauge how many families, communities, and healthcare facilities have benefited from the actions and skills of our graduates: some instruct in nursing programs and others are clinic owners or partners, most still practice nursing in some way, while a few are retired or are stay-at-home parents; all have represented the university and the college in a dignified way, thus extending the reach of our mission and purpose.

Last May the college had the opportunity to sponsor an Honor Flight group, sending 17 veterans to Washington, D.C., to view their war memorials. I was able to participate in this experience along with several nursing students, faculty, and alumni. It was impressive to learn about the heroic efforts of these amazing men and women who fought in World War II, the Vietnam War, and the Korean War. It was reassuring to see that patriotism and appreciation for military service still exist. Our hearts are warmed by the individuals who responded to our plea to donate to this cause. We plan to sponsor an Honor Flight annually for our students.

This fall issue of the magazine focuses on the idea of legacy in various populations by highlighting both the accomplishments of master’s program alumni and also the ways in which war veterans teach our nursing students. The publication also showcases scholarly works of Deborah Himes, Sabrina Jarvis, and Craig Nuttall, a faculty spotlight on Karen de la Cruz, and an excerpt from a recent devotional address by Sondra Heaston about how we can keep our spiritual hearts healthy.

...Stay connected to our alumni and learning from their legacies is important to us, so take a moment to review the planned alumni events listed on the back cover. These events, which are hosted on campus and in select communities, connect alumni to students and also alumni to alumni. Visit our websites (nursing.byu.edu and facebook.com/ BYU Nursing) for event details.

I hope you feel a part of a larger community—of a group of people that remembers its history and successes in order to build its future. As we each do our small part, our gestures multiply in significance. Thank you for sharing the ways in which you bless others through nursing. ☀

Patricia Ravert
Dean and Professor, BYU College of Nursing

It is overwhelming to gauge how many families, communities, and healthcare facilities have benefited from the actions and skills of our graduates.
Last fall these professors participated in an Honor Flight, and at its conclusion, they desired that nursing students have the opportunity to serve as program guardians—providing constant companionship to each veteran as well as offering hygiene, restroom, medicinal, and other support.

“We thought, ‘How better to expose our students to the unique culture of our veterans than to have them spend three days learning from and serving these individuals?’” says Blad. Through the help of a grant from the university and donations from caring alumni and friends of the college, funds were obtained to cover the cost for both the sponsored veterans and the students and support staff.

TO KNOW THEM IS TO CARE FOR THEM BETTER

Brief Highlights of a College-Sponsored Utah Honor Flight

This year the BYU College of Nursing celebrated a decade of offering the veteran section of the clinical practicum for Public and Global Health Nursing—a unique class dedicated to helping nursing students learn how to serve and care for veterans. The college marked this occasion by co-sponsoring an Honor Flight in May that allowed 50 veterans to visit and reflect at their war memorials in Washington, DC. (The college sponsored 17 while the nonprofit Utah Honor Flight sponsored the remaining 33.) The national Honor Flight organization has 127 hubs in 41 states and has included more than 98,500 veterans in the program since 2005; the Utah group has sent 500 veterans since 2013.

“When the course began in 2005 BYU had the only nursing program in the country that dedicated a semester to caring for veterans,” says associate teaching professor Ron Ulberg. “Other nursing schools are now pushing for veteran-care classes, but the BYU program certainly leads the way.”

Associate dean and teaching professor Dr. Kent Blad (MS ’99) believes that the veteran population needs to be understood the most. “As a nurse you may encounter patients in the hospital who are from Tonga, Ecuador, or Taiwan—other locations our global-health students learn from,” says Blad. “However, because of the Gulf Wars, you are more likely to care for a veteran with little difference in age, ability, and need; they may be no older than the caregiver. Learning who they are and what they have experienced will help a nurse to better care for them.”

Each spring term Blad and Ulberg—both veterans themselves—instruct the veteran section, in which nursing students are taught how to care for the veteran population and then spend a week in Washington, DC, learning firsthand from various veterans, veteran groups, historical sites, and clinical settings.

On the morning of Thursday, May 28, a group of 50 veterans, some family members, and 50 guardians (dedicated staff
unsolicited appreciation. Travelers themselves took the opportunity to express respect for veterans. Travelers received standing ovations and cheers along with occasional salutes. War—received standing ovations and cheering respect for veterans.

The public show of gratitude was further evidenced by a large envelope that contains a collection of personal messages from your spouse, children, grandchildren, siblings, and friends. For most of the veterans, the flood of emotions and recollections was overwhelming. For most of the veterans, the flood of emotions and recollections was overwhelming.

Imagine unexpectedly being handed a large envelope that contains a collection of personal messages from your spouse, children, grandchildren, siblings, and friends. For most of the veterans, the flood of emotions and recollections was overwhelming. For most of the veterans, the flood of emotions and recollections was overwhelming.

Two unique experiences occurred during the flight. The first event involved the tradition of an in-flight mail call—the Honor Flight version of the American military postal system where veterans receive letters from home. Prior to the trip each veteran worked with their veteran's family members to gather and obtain notes and letters from loved ones. They also received messages and cards from local elementary-school students whose principal wanted to show her school's support. Imagine unexpectedly being handed a large envelope that contains a collection of personal messages from your spouse, children, grandchildren, siblings, and friends. For most of the veterans, the flood of emotions and recollections was overwhelming. For most of the veterans, the flood of emotions and recollections was overwhelming.

The second memorable incident was an in-flight medical concern. Every Honor Flight recruits two medics to serve as in-flight medical staff. The medics for this trip were Kathy Thatcher (AS ’82, BS ’98) and Dr. Blad. About 20 minutes into the flight, one of the guardians together to the person near her and reported that she did not feel well—then suddenly passed out. The individual sitting next to her happened to be BYU College of Nursing dean and professor (MS ’75, PhD ’81) and was also participating in the trip as a guardian. Raveer summoned Blad, and with his help they were able to lay the woman down in the aisle of the commercial airplane. Blad quickly gathered a collection of medical devices to check the patient’s oxygen, heart rate, and blood pressure—which all appeared normal. But each time the patient tried to sit up, she would pass out again.

While these messages were unique to each individual, many contained similar sentiments, which could be heard as they were read aloud in the cabin:

I send my respect, admiration, and honor.
You are my hero!
It is a privilege to be your son.
I am proud to be your daughter.
I value your leadership and strength.
You displayed fearlessness and fought despite fear.
Thanks for placing God and country before your needs.
Your devotion to others has taught love, unity, and compassion.
You are a leader not only to peers but to the community and our family.
Your influence to our nation cannot be measured nor truly understood.
I appreciate your being a role model for many generations.
You sacrificed to preserve values of this great nation.
Most people today have no sense of the hardship, the devotion, or what it took to keep freedom accessible in this country.
You have an immense dedication to the nation.
You preserved the rights of others.
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The flight attendants used a radio headset to communicate directly to a physician on the ground. Information was relayed back and forth until the situation improved and the woman regained her strength. She spent the remainder of the flight reclined across two seats, with her feet elevated on Blad’s lap.

The roar of the airplane’s engine made it quite difficult to hear an accurate heartbeat, Blad says. “It was also a challenge that I could not speak directly to the doctor—only airline employ- ees could relay information. I had the power to divert the flight to seek emergency care but not to share details of my assessment.”

Some would say this was the safest flight in history given the fact that there were four BYU College of Nursing faculty, two nursing alumni, and 13 nursing students onboard—trained and ready to assist if needed.

The next morning the group eagerly boarded buses to travel to the National World War II Memorial, located between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. The size of a football field, the National World War II Memorial contains 56 granite columns that represent the District of Columbia and each state, territory, and commonwealth of the United States as of 1945. Additionally there is a wall of stars representing the more than 400,000 who died in the war, a reflecting pool and fountains, and various inscriptions with battle locations. When they arrived, the Honor Flight veterans were greeted by family members (a few children, grandchildren who live in the area), some nearby friends and alumni of BYU, and people from the offices of Utah members of Congress. After taking a group photo, they spent time studying various state columns, battle markers, and statements from national and world leaders. A quote from President Harry S. Truman stood out: “Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices.”

In addition to the WWII memorial, the veterans’ caravan visited the memorials for each of the military branches and the Vietnam and Korean Wars, the changing of the guard at Arlington National Cemetery, and the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, where the four female veterans in the group—Clarice Simpson Call (Marine Corps), Ora Mae Sorensen Hyatt (Army Nurse Corps), Olive Osterweil O’Mara (Navy), and Dorothy Veenendaal Smith (Navy)—had their military service records displayed on a large screen and were honored for their wartime efforts.

While much can be said about the merits of each veteran, only a few stories can be highlighted here.

1. Preston and Ora Mae Hyatt were the only married veteran couple on the flight. They met and tied the knot during their tenure of military service in World War II. As a teenager Ora Mae decided to be a flight attendant but was told that she first had to be a registered nurse, so she started a nursing program—but it was interrupted by the bombing of Pearl Harbor. She put away thoughts of fly- ing and turned to plans of serving the wounded. She joined the U.S. Army, where she later met Preston at church, he was the platoon's LDS coordinator who organized church services each week. After a brief courtship, they decided to marry before Preston was shipped out. He went to India with an engineering corps, and she went to Japan with other nurses.

The new bride worked 12-hour shifts in the 27th Field Hospital on Okinawa, tending to wounded soldiers and helping
with their immediate surgical needs until they were shipped inland to a more permanent hospital.

While making patient rounds at night on several occasions, Ora Mae had to be escorted through the military base by guards to protect her from enemy snipers. “I can’t say I was glad to be there, but we felt like we were helping,” she says. She remembers taking dictation and writing notes to mothers of injured soldiers.

“Being a nurse was more than just caring for the physical wounds of the sick,” she says. “I wanted to ease their fears of not being able to communicate with family members during difficult times.”

Preston found himself in Calcutta assisting with the loading and unloading of airfields and maintenance hangars for B-29 planes intended to be used for reconnaissance and dropping supplies for B-29 planes intended to be used for reconnaissance and dropping supplies in Japan. The war ended just a few months after he arrived in India, but it took him 10 more months to return home to Illinois and be reacquainted with his wife.

Preston’s time in Asia benefited him in his future business endeavors as a ceramic engineer; he also shared his knowledge with geology students as a BYU professor during the late 1950s.

This year the couple celebrates 70 years of marriage, from which they enjoy 10 children, 54 grandchildren, and 117 great-grandchildren—several of whom have gone into healthcare and medicine. (See a video featuring Preston and Ora Mae at nursing.byu.edu.)

2. Professor Ron Ulberg helps instruct the college’s veteran course—and his brother Cliff, a Vietnam War veteran, participated in the Utah Honor Flight.

Cliff joined the U.S. Navy in April 1969 in San Diego, California. After basic camp he traveled to Sasebo, Japan, and was assigned to the deck force of the USS Chicago CG-11, a guided missile cruiser.

Being a signalsman was his true desire, so he worked for a year to be transferred to the signal bridge. He spent two tours in Vietnam and later transferred to the U.S. Naval Reserve. Cliff was released from the reserves after five years of service, with decoration medals that include a National Defense Service Medal, a Vietnam Service Medal, and a Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Cliff’s guardian for the Honor Flight was his niece (Ron’s daughter) Marthea Hale (BS ’13), a registered nurse at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital in Salt Lake.

Although honorably discharged veterans may qualify for healthcare through VA, only about 25 percent of all veterans take advantage of this benefit, a majority of services in non-VA settings.

“One of the reasons I went into nursing was to learn how to better support veterans like my uncle,” says Hale. “It’s essential for nurses in all civilian-care settings to understand the influence that military service has on veterans’ health. Although he is still healthy, [Cliff] talks about potential medical issues with plaques; it is a concern for him. I not only assist veterans with maintaining and regaining health, I also need to be able to boost morale and provide emotional rehabilitation if needed.”

While visiting the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, DC, Cliff was pleased to see brightly colored signal flags flying. When read as letters, they spell out the key to write the poem that became the national anthem of the United States ( Aerosmith, 1976).

For Francis, one of the highlights of the Honor Flight was being selected to help raise the flag at Fort McHenry—the fort that protected Baltimore during the War of 1812 and inspired Francis Scott Key to write the poem that became the “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Since returning home from Washington, he ensures his flag flies on appropriate holidays. He is the father-in-law of Ken Robinson, the college’s technology support representative.

4. As a young man Mike Johnson read a book titled The Green Berets, which inspired him to visit a U.S. Marine Corps recruiting office in June 1967 and enlist. He went to Da Nang, South Vietnam, and became a point man on long-range reconnaissance patrols.

College administrators would like to thank those who contributed money to this experience. The cost is $500 per participant to fund this project, which was made possible by personal donations, grant funding, and monies designated through the college’s Public Service Project.

After the day of touring, another highlight of the three-day trip came during the Friday evening banquet. Utah Honor Flight chairman Mike Turner presented each of the veterans with a replica of the World War II Victory Medal, a service medal established by Congress in July 1945; most veterans never applied to receive this recognition. The guardians proudly placed the award ribbons around the necks of their veterans and offered appreciation once again for their examples and service.

The Honor Flight group returned home on Saturday, May 30, to a heroes’ welcome. They were escorted once again by the Patent Guard Riders of Utah, with hundreds of family, friends, and community supporters cheering for them. Speaking at the return celebration, Dean Ravert shared a brief thank-you for the experience given to students, faculty, staff, and alumni. All truly benefited from this opportunity.

The personal interviews and specifics in this paper are included with permission where information borders on violation of HIPPA privacy rules, names are withheld and generalities offered.


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Mike coached basketball teams at Riverton High School for many years and hates losing. When he plays the game himself, occasional fists, profanities, and technical fouls may occur. He quarreled his competitive thrust and his desire to win by becoming a world-class athlete. At the 1976 Paralympic Games in Toronto, he took home several medals: two gold, a silver, and a bronze.

“I didn’t lose well,” Mike says. “I was a horrible loser. I still am. That’s helped carry me through this.”

That determination has inspired his family, friends, and students. If asked, Mike believes he is just an ordinary hero—no more, no less. He has harmed in war. “Many soldiers went to Vietnam and returned home unscathed; others went and got maimed, still many went and never came home alive,” he says. “I am just a person who served my country, and I am grateful for that.” (See a video featuring Mike at nursing.byu.edu.)

On January 30, 1968, while providing security for a road-sweep operation, one of the men on his fire team set off a booby-trapped 105mm artillery shell, and the resulting explosion caused numerous shrapnel wounds over much of Mike’s body and the traumatic amputation of both of his legs, several of his fingers, and one of his thumbs.

Convincing first at Bethesda Naval Hospital, but spent about 18 months in military hospitals in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Utah. He recalls how the members of his nursing staff were all female and attractive, which motivated him and improved his mentality. On one occasion, he tried to show off for one of the pretty nurses by popping a wheelie in his wheelchair, but he overbalanced and tipped over backward. She helped him up, crouched under him, and was embarrassed and discouraged by the stumblng again.

Upon release from the hospital, Mike returned to Brigham Young University and studied engineering, psychology, and athletics. During the ensuing years, he married his wife, Jan, earned his degree, became a teacher; moved several times; and reared eight children.

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THE HEART is a vital organ necessary to maintain life. In order for your body to function properly, it is important to have a continuous, regular, and strong pulse. Elder Marvin J. Ashton taught that the Lord measures an individual’s heart as an indicator of that person’s capacity and potential to bless others. In his words:

Why the heart? Because the heart is a synonym for one’s entire makeup. We often use phrases about the heart to describe the total person. Thus, we describe people as being “big-hearted” or “good-hearted” or having a “heart of gold.” Or we speak of people with “faint hearts,” wise hearts, pure hearts, willing hearts, deceitful hearts, conniving hearts, courageous hearts, cold hearts, hearts of stone, or selfish hearts.

The measure of our hearts is the measure of our total performance. As used by the Lord, the “heart” of a person describes his effort to better self, or others, or the conditions he confronts. (The Measure of Our Hearts, Ensign, November 1988, 15)

What if we could really see into each other’s hearts? Would we understand each other better? By feeling what others feel, seeing what others see, and hearing what others hear, would we make, and take, the time to serve others, and would we treat them differently? Would we treat them with more patience, more kindness, and more tolerance?

Just as there is a necessity for each of us to know that our physical heart is functioning properly, it is equally important to know that our spiritual heart is healthy and functioning properly. Unfortunately, there is not a two-finger technique that I can teach you that will effectively assess and monitor your spiritual heartbeat rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate. But there are indicators from our daily life that help us to know where we stand spiritually. One of the most easily measured indications that we can observe is our heart rate.

The PULSE acronym is maintained as an indicator of one’s physical and spiritual needs of others—or, in other words, our ability to meet the physical and spiritual requirements. While there, we have the opportunity to work with nursing students to Ecuador to fulfill the global health course requirement. While there, we have the opportunity to work with various nonprofit organizations.

I have been very fortunate throughout my life to have a profession whose very purpose is service and gives me the opportunity to serve others daily. I have worked in clinical settings as an emergency nurse and now as a nurse practitioner in urgent-care clinics, and what I have learned there I am now able to pass on as I teach nursing students the importance of serving others and treating each person with kindness and respect. How awesome it is that every day I have worked has been a day of service! I would hope I could say that of all of the days that I am not working as well.

In your morning prayer each new day, ask Heavenly Father to guide you to recognize an opportunity to serve one of His precious children. Then go throughout the day with your heart full of faith and love, looking for someone to help. Stay focused, just like the honeybees focus on the flowers from which to gather nectar and pollen. If you do this, your spiritual sensitivities will be enlarged and you will discover opportunities to serve that you never before realized were possible. (The Measure of Our Hearts, Ensign, November 1988, 15)

The PROMISE acronym is maintained as an indicator of one’s physical and spiritual needs of others—or, in other words, our ability to meet the physical and spiritual requirements. While there, we have the opportunity to work with nursing students to Ecuador to fulfill the global health course requirement. While there, we have the opportunity to work with various nonprofit organizations.

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First: Pray to Have a Serving Heart

Heavenly Father knows each and every one of us. He knows our desires, unique abilities, and circumstances, and He knows how we can use them to bless others. As we pray, we become closer to Him, and seek His direction, He will help us know who, where, and how best to serve.

Elder M. Russell Ballard stated:

In your morning prayer each new day, ask Heavenly Father to guide you to recognize an opportunity to serve one of His precious children. Then go throughout the day with your heart full of faith and love, looking for someone to help. Stay focused, just like the honeybees focus on the flowers from which to gather nectar and pollen. If you do this, your spiritual sensitivities will be enlarged and you will discover opportunities to serve that you never before realized were possible. (The Measure of Our Hearts, Ensign, November 1988, 15)

Second: Understand and Recognize the Needs of Others

I have found in my own experience that the more I observe, talk to, interact with, and take an interest in the lives of others, the better I come to know others’ likes, dislikes, needs, and wants. Information can truly lead to inspiration. Serving others becomes easier because I better understand where they are and what they really need. This understanding leads to a greater desire on my part to make an effort to reach out and bless the lives of those within my sphere of influence.

I have the opportunity each May to take between 14 and 20 nursing students to Ecuador to fulfill the global health course requirement. While there, we have the opportunity to work with various nonprofit organizations.

Luis Tavares, a representative of the nonprofit Hogar de Cristo in Guayaquil, always talks with the nursing students at an initial orientation. He tells them to “turn off the noises of the world in order to better see ways to reach out and serve.” He also encourages them that “through the smiles in their eyes the children will feel hope.” These words have had a long-lasting effect on many of the nursing students who have gone to Ecuador. One student said:

Even now when I am home, I continue to apply this principle every day in my life with each new or familiar person I come in contact with. I feel like this principle will make a huge difference in the nursing care that I will provide in my future. No matter the culture, economic status, religion, or personality of my patients, a “smile from the soul” truly is the greatest thing I can give them. (Anna Mocke, 2015 Public and Global Health Ecuador course)

Third: Lose Yourself in the Service of Others

President Gordon B. Hinckley stated:

Generally speaking, the most miserable people I know are those who are obsessed with themselves; the happiest people I know are those who lose themselves in the service of others. . . . By and large, I have come to see that if we complain about life, it is because we are thinking only of ourselves. (Whoover Will Save His Life, Ensign, August 1982, 5)

I have been very fortunate throughout my life to have a profession whose very purpose is service and gives me the opportunity of serving others daily. I have worked in clinical settings as an emergency nurse and now as a nurse practitioner in urgent-care clinics, and what I have learned there I am now able to pass on as I teach nursing students the importance of serving others and treating each person with kindness and respect. How awesome it is that every day I have worked has been a day of service! I would hope I could say that of all of the days that I am not working as well.

Fourth: Be Spirit Driven—Listen to and Follow the Promptings of the Spirit

Listen to the Spirit—He knows the heart of everyone—and trust Him. Elder M. Russell Ballard stated that.

If we truly love and look to the Savior and try to emulate His life of service, we will more fully know how to best serve our fellowmen. Ask yourself if you have a healthy heart with a continuous, strong, and regular pulse for service. If the answer is yes, then I would encourage you to keep praying for and making time to be of daily service. If, on the other hand, your heartbeat is a bit faint and your service pulse rate is a bit hard to effectively measure, I would suggest incorporating the PULSE acronym more fully into your daily life. Q

This article is adapted from Heaston’s devotional address, given June 23, 2015. The full text is available at speeches.byu.edu.
T HIS YEAR marks the 40th anniversary of the BYU College of Nursing master’s degree program. To celebrate this milestone, the college asked its 456 graduate alumni to share their career successes and life accomplishments—which are compiled on the following pages, organized by grad year.

The college decided to call the collected data a register for two significant reasons. First, as a noun, the word register describes a list “in which records of acts, events, names, etc., are kept” (Dictionary.com). The alumni volunteered varying amounts of information to highlight their honors, awards, positions, and degrees. When considered individually they are unique and have much significance, and collectively they link people, organizations, and accomplishments.

Second, as a verb, register means “to have some effect.” At a higher level of review, this material can connect several graduating classes to each other; it also shows how alumni have made a difference and have impacted the nursing community locally and nationally. Many graduates have gone on to earn advanced degrees, some teach college nursing courses, and others raise families or serve in other leadership roles.

Graduate Nursing Alumni Register

1976

Ruth C. Amosquita (BS ‘75); Mesa, AZ. Among the first alumni to graduate as a nurse-practitioner (NP) from the BYU master’s program, Ruth focused her thesis on the effect of music on short acting and long acting insulin. She served in nursing for many years and also directed the nursing program at Severn Valley Tech in Richfield, Utah.

Susanne Spencer Harris: former faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing. Sue established gynecologic outpatient clinic in the communities around Provo. She loved to teach in conventional classrooms and in various clinics and offices of cooperating physicians. Sue died February 2012.

Bonnie H. Taylor (BS ‘67); Orem, UT.

1978

Robertson Sparse Closh: former faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing. Susan loved to sing and was a member of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. She died March 1996.

Karen Poel; West Jordan, UT. Karen is currently serving a mission at the Riverton FamilySearch Library.

Danna E. Spencer; Circeville, OH.

Karyn Takachi; As a student Karyn directed the Hawai‘i Mountain Clinic.

1979

Rayna H. Anderson: oncological NP; and a retired associate professor in the BYU College of Nursing. Rayna, UT. Rayna started nursing school in 1945 when she joined the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corp. Her experience serving in the pediatric ward as a nursing student is a time that has particularly stayed with her. She still loves nursing and the opportunity it provides to care for those in need.

Billie Alwood (BS ‘73); ARNP; rheumatology NP; Valley Medical Center, Kent, WA. Billie has worked at several specialty clinics, including orthopedics, neurology, family practice, and urgent care. Before joining the rheumatology clinic at Valley Medical Center, she managed its joint center, served as a staff nurse, and cared for surgical patients emerging from anesthetic.

1980

Gary J. Messam (BS ’78), PhD, RN; nursing professor, Utah Valley University (UVU); and a former assistant professor in the BYU College of Nursing. Woodward Hks, UT. Gary is a member of the National League for Nursing (NLN), Utah Nurses Association (UNA), American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN), and American Nurses Association (ANA).

Dan Philip Meyos (BS ’72); FNP-BC; retired FNP; Kern Medical Center, retired lieutenant colonel, Army Nurse Corp; part-time peer at FNP at Kaiser Permanente Urgent Care-Church Street services mission medical physician in the California Bakersfield Mission. He married and has one daughter.

1981

Karen L. Fitzgerald; pediatric NP; Madigan Army Medical Center, DuPont, WA.

James W. Parker (BS ’76); FNP; Utah Valley Regional Medical Center (UVR) behavioral medicine. Provo, Janes has enjoyed her 40 years of nursing at UVRMC. She has eight children—several of whom went into medicine: one daughter is an FNP and another daughter is a retired RN.

Rosanne Schwartz (BS ’78); retired FNP; Hispanic Clinic in Payson, UT. Rosanne is a retired associate professor in the BYU College of Nursing. She served a Church service mission at the family history center.

1982

Sherry L. Brown (BS ’79); clinical nurse specialist, Rehabilitation Hospital of Indiana, Indianapolis.

Jill W. Fuller; Waterfront, SD.

Diane Gold (BS ’81); APRN; retired FNP; Minneapolis. Diane is a member of the U.S. Army and a retired primary care provider in the U.S. Army. During 2004 and 2005, she was deployed to Iraq. She is the recipient of the Purple Heart Award.

1983

Vickie L. Anderson Davis (AS ’74, BS ’75), NP-R; retired associate teaching professor in the BYU College of Nursing. Provo. Vickie is a member of STTI and FNP and she received the Nurse of the Year award from the UNA (1985).

Richard L. Berto-Mars, MD; pain medicine specialist, Duke Medicine, Durham, NC. Richard obtained his medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1979.

Deanna M. Covino; St. George, UT.

Susan S. Gardner, PhD, RN, CNG, graduate program director for the PhD nursing program, Rocky Mountain University, Cedar City, UT. In addition to her degrees, Susan received a certificate as an adult/geriatric NP from the University of Colorado, a gerontology certificate from Weber State University, and a certificate in online teaching from Indiana University.

Lucille “Sue” Peterson Groves. Sue was born as a nurse school for 25 years. She died October 2018.

Jocen C. Hufnagel, NP; nurse coordinator, Intermountain Healthcare (ICN), Ogden, UT. Jocen was a nursing instructor at Weber State University for 37 years.

Lael Steele Larsen, retired assistant professor of nursing, Weber State University, Bountiful, UT. Lael is a nursing preceptor coordinator and a member of STTI and Sigma Phi Omega. She is also a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing.

The FNP program at BYU trained me to educate patients in terms of their understanding and cultural diversity. My experience made me not only a better practitioner but also a better husband, father, and soldier.

—Dan Philip Meyos

I had many dedicated faculty members at BYU start me on the path of lifelong learning.

—Diane Gold

Jean T. Groebig (BS ’63); Mapleton, UT. Jean is a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing.

Charis Fisher Martin (BS ‘73), PhD, FNP, RN; early interventionist, ZD; VP teacher; faculty member, Utah State University (USU) Tooele campus. Charis worked as a school nurse in the KVL Pilot Project and then with the health department that includes well-child clinics.

Rod Newman (BS ’79); NP; Revere Health; Payson, UT. Rod is a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing.

Sylvia A. Porter (BS ’77); Emma J. Rainsdon (BS ’54).

Kathleen M. Schweitz; neurology clinical nurse specialist, Cleveland Clinic; Cleveland Heights, OH.

Siegrun M. Scoog; Orem, UT. Siegrun has used her medical training in both combat and life and military service. She was called to service in Berlin during Operation Desert Storm. After returning home, she volunteered for four years at the VA Hospital in Salt Lake City.

Rheatta B. Solomon; CPNP, NP, Houston Methodist Primary Care Group; Pearland, TX.

Marlyn Halvorsen Sorrensen (BS ’79); FNP; Revere Health; Orem, UT. Marlyn has five children.

Susan J. Sproule; recently retired pediatric NP; University of Utah (UT); Primary Children’s Hospital (PCH); Salt Lake City.

Diana Thurston, PhD, CPNP, APRN; assistant professor, U of College of Nursing; West Jordan, UT. Diana is a member of STTI and has also worked part-time for many years at the Salt Lake Valley Health Department in the bureau of epidemiology. She is an infectious diseases investigator and received the Public Health Hero Award (2003).

Diana Gold (BS ’81), PhD, RN, CNG, graduate program director for the PhD nursing program, Rocky Mountain University, Cedar City, UT. In addition to her degrees, Susan received a certificate as an adult/geriatric NP from the University of Colorado, a gerontology certificate from Weber State University, and a certificate in online teaching from Indiana University.

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Lael Steele Larsen, retired assistant professor of nursing, Weber State University, Bountiful, UT. Lael is a nursing preceptor coordinator and a member of STTI and Sigma Phi Omega. She is also a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing.
Brenda S. Mageeamong, APRN, NP, U of U Blood and Marrow Transplant Program, PCNH, Salt Lake City. Brenda specializes in pediatric practices.

Carolyn A. Ruetz, Mapleton, UT.

Claudia Traynor, nursing faculty, Everest College; Park City, UT. Claudia was a nursing faculty member at the U of U for 23 years before she took on her current faculty role for the Community Health Nursing Practicum.

1984

Wilma S. Buerger, MEd, RN, CSN, school nurse, Central York School District; York, PA.

Shannon M. Burton (BS '72), APRN, assistant professor; U of U, Taylorsville, UT.

Katja Dalley (BS '72), PhD, RN; chief nurse administrator and associate professor, Rosman Southern State University (SUIS) College of Nursing; Washington, UT.

Patricia C. Devick; San Diego.

Margaret “Peggy” Elizabeth Ekland. Peggy taught at St. Mary’s School of Nursing and worked in the communicable diseases area of the Salt Lake Health Department. She died January 2014.  

Carol R. Hannan, PhD; nursing program director, Weber State University; Ogden, UT.

Gail R. Harlin, pregnancy RN; Sound Options Pregnancy Services; De Soto, TX. Gail received the Outstanding Clinical Expertise from STTI (1989). She is also a member of the National Association of School Nurses.

Lucia C. Jarrett (BS '70), APRN, CDE, retired after 40 years as a certified diabetes educator and diabetes education program manager; PCNH, Salt Lake City. Lucia received these recognitions: Nursing Excellence Award from the U of U (1972), a nomination for Educator of the Year by the IHC (2008), and the Outstanding Nurse Award from PCH (1990). She is married to fellow BYU graduate Jarrett. They have three children and six grandchildren.

Alana W. Johnson.

Laurel D. Kay (BS '77), RN; nurse manager, Moran Eye Center; Provo. Laurel is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. She received the Athena Award from the UNA (1985) and the Annual Recognition Award from the Utah Nurses Association (1996). She is married with one son and loves helping others.

Giulia F. Kneidel.

Linda Lewis (BS '80), APN, FNP-BC, Center for Safe and Healthy Families, PCNH; Highland, UT. Linda married her best friend 30 years ago; they have one son.

Carol Pla, retired SDS program evaluator, Utah Department of Health, Salt Lake City. Carol received the Clinical Practice Award from the UCLA (1983) and the Annual Recognition Award from the Utah P前面的同事and Association (1996). She is married with children and grandchildren.

Levon T. Russon; Cedar Hills, UT.

1985

Judith D. Alder; Salt Lake City.

Julianne J. Assay; Salt Lake City. Juliane worked as assistant director of nursing at Utah Valley Hospital. She later moved to Idaho Falls, where she served as assistant hospital administrator for HCI. During that time she also directed the master of the occupational clinical program at the Idaho National Laboratory. Juliane died January 2012.

Debra J. Barker, Sparks, NV.

Kimberly Donews Brown; clinical instructor, U of U, Salt Lake City. Kimberly received the Those Who Dare in Care Award from the U of U College of Nursing (2009). She is a member of the Integrative Health Network, Utah Breathwork Coalition, and the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONEN).

St. Patrice Caggillo; Toronto, OH. Prior to starting the graduate program, Patricia was a nurse with the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity in Manitowoc, WI. While at BYU, she lived with the Victory Hall Catholic Sisters in Salt Lake City. She was named a speaker for convocation but had to leave to fulfill faith-based community and hospital duties immediately following completion of the program. She still serves her church and community today.

Jackie R. Clayton; advanced practice nurse, Sullivan Family Care; Sullivan, WI.

Maye E. Housman; RN, certified legal nurse consultant, Portland Falls, OR.

June M. Jenkins; June worked as a nursing instructor at the U of U, Utah Technical College, and Weber State College. She was married and had three children. June died October 2004.

Beverly J. Kane; Beverly was married for 55 years and had 6 children. She died October 2002.

Colleen B. Kinney; RN; retired chief nursing officer, HCI, Roy, UT. Colleen has presented at several state, local, and work-related seminars.

Patsy J. Sheid.

Carol Henderson Simmons; staff RN; home care agency; Gauston, NC. Her previous positions include neurosurgery manager, care coordinator, outreach services, and educator. Carol is married with one son and loves helping others accomplish their goals and dreams.

Margaret Snow (BS '74, BS '75); Margaret’s greatest joy was her family. She died November 2001.

Carol H. Talma (BS '50); retired instructor in the BYU College of Nursing; Bountiful, UT. Carol taught med surg and pediatric nursing courses to undergraduate students. She is proud that a daughter, a granddaughter (Amelia S. Palmer [BS ‘12]), and a niece (Jeniffer Hammond [BS ‘75]) of hers followed her path into nursing.

1986

Lena L. Broderfeld (AS ’73); acting nursing director and professor, American College; Riverton, UT.

Irene Cass-Zolovski; San Diego.

Linda N. How-Lot (BS ’73); Kapolei, HI.

Kathy B. Hodgson; Kirkland, WA. Kathy has completed multiple humanitarian trips with Northwest Medical Teams to provide medicine and medical training to populations in Romania, Mexico, and Africa.

Valerie S. Hunter; Qsa, CA.

John M. Joo (AS ’75, BS ’76); APIN, NP; LDS Hospital; Salt Lake City.

Mary L. Leffler; Tucson, AZ.

Christina M. McClure; retired FNP; Mountain Emergency Medicine at Mission Hospital; Weaverville, NC.

Lorrie D. Mudgett (AS ’77, BS ’78); Richmond, VA.

Suzanne Nekobor; FNP-C; NP, St. Michael’s Medical Center; Salt Lake City. Suzanne specializes in primary care, forensic nursing, and diabetes care. She is a founding member and the medical representative for the Lemhi County Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Team. She also loves spending time with her two children and three grandchildren.

Josephine R. Phonson; Murray, UT.

Rahnée Sanders (AS ’78, BS ’83); NP, Intermountain Sleep Disorder Center; LDS Hospital; Salt Lake City.

Barbara Smith-Holmen; NP; Lone Peak Hospital; Park City, UT. Barbara specializes in adult internal medicine with particular interests in women’s health, diabetes, hypertension, and cholesterol management.

Theresa Jones Stovely, PhD, RN; interim associate dean of distance education, Mount Carmel College of Nursing; Pickerington, OH. Theresa is married with two children.

Beverly R. Thorley (BS ’62), RN; Salt Lake City. Beverly is a member of the Utah School Nurses Association, where she served as president for many years.

Cathy-Lee Wagstaff; FNP-C; retired from the U.S. Navy. Cathy-Lee earned an Air Medal with three stars for serving in Vietnam as a flight nurse in the U.S. Air Force. She wants to earn a PhD in education so that she can teach the Healer’s Art.

Ruma L. Becketrand

“BYU provided me with a good foundation as a clinical nurse specialist and prepared me for doctoral work.” —THERESA JONES SNIVELY

1987

Nancy R. Bean; Salt Lake City.

Rena Lindstrom Backstrand (AS ’81, BS ’83), PhD, RN; CCIN, CN, professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Orem, UT. Rena is the national program planning committee chair of the AACN (National Teaching Institute) and a per diem staff nurse at UVRMC. Cardiovascular ICU. She is married and has three daughters.

Constance P. Bramall (BS ’74); Hurricane, UT.

Jays S. Bushell; Salt Lake City.

Kip Deweese; geriatric NP; U of U, Salt Lake City.

Clint, UT.

Peggy Grondorff (AS ’82, BS ’94), APRN, FNP; Utah State Hospital.

Nancy L. Handy; PhD; chief nursing officer, Wilberger General Hospital; McAllen, TX. Nancy has helped open three hospitals and has worked both overseas and statewide.

Valerie Hava (BS ’66); Orem, UT.

Carolyn P. Law-Mocks-James (AS ’68, BS ’78); retired med/surg clinical specialist, UVRMC, Orem, UT.

Paula E. McGibbon; Salt Lake City.

Etha L. Oswald; NCN RN; Davis Hospital and Medical Center; Layton, UT.

Peggy D. Stevens; North Salt Lake, UT.

Ilena Tiptop; Layton, UT.

Vickie Van Johnson (BS ’85); PhD; retired assistant teach-

ing professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Pleasant Grove, UT. Vickie served a mission from 2012 to 2013 and is currently part of the Church Missionary Nurse Specialist Committee.

Judi R. VanVleet. Judi served as a nursing professor at Weber State University. She died November 2002.

1988

Jennifer Hammond Anderson; ACNC, FNP; Providence, UT. Jennifer specializes in obstetrics and gynecology. She enjoys helping other women learn how to make the birthing process an incredible experience. She is a mother of two.

Lois M. Brandriet, PhD, APIN, GCNS-B, NC, professional guardian/care managers. Guardian Advocate Services; Salt Lake City. Lois is also a former faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing.

Joy S. Edslen, RN, FSP, EWWCC; associate chief nurse and Wound Care Program manager; Department of Veterans Affairs, VA Medical Center; North Hills, CA. Joy has been inte-

gral in establishing consultative service for the Wound Care Team throughout the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. She received the VA Secretary’s Award (2008).

“Graduating with my master’s in nursing from BYU opened many doors for me. I became the first NP in Utah to perform medi-

cal evaluations on children who are alleged vic-

tims of abuse. I have now worked with this popu-

lation for more than 20 years.” —LINDA LEWIS

Vickie Van Johnson

LEARNING THE HEALER’S ART | FALL 2015

BYU COLLEGE OF NURSING
Sandra L. Garity; retired RN; Homer, AK. Sandra served on the first Utah board of the National Association of Orthopedic Nurses from 1991 through 1993.![6]

Debra Taylor Huber; PhD, APRN; professor of nursing, Weber State University School of Nursing; Farmington, UT.[7]

Janice B. Hulbert; Salt Lake City.[8]

Carol G. Kingshower; BS (61), CNE; retired from the education department, LVNMRC. Prov. Carol is also a former faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing. She is an honorary member of Pi Lambda and has two sons and six grandchildren.![9]

Sao K. Lambdin; APRN; NP in travel medicine; Lincoln, NE. Sao loves working with students because they are young and energetic. She enjoys talking with them about their travel plans, experiences, and future dreams.![10]

Kathryn Painter; BS (73); Orem, UT.[11]

Laura Poe; BS ’94, BS ’85. Laura worked as an operating room RN at Holy Cross Hospital for many years and later served as the executive director of the UWA. She went on to work for the Utah Division of Professional Licensing and worked tirelessly to establish interstate licensure through compacts between states. Laura died April 2012.![12]

Susan K. Baumussen; nursing director, USU Uintah Basin Nursing Program; Vernal, UT.![13]

Karen J. Rogers; Logan, UT.[14]

Harry A. Wooton, RN, CRN; CRRN; retired nursing instructor, Salt Lake Community College; Bountiful, UT. Harry has seven sons, one of whom is also a nurse. This nurse is an stitch as well.![15]

Debra A. Mills; BS ’82, RN, CNE; associate teaching professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Salt Lake City. Debra serves as the chair-elect on the Education Committee of the Utah State Board of Nursing. She also serves as a member of the Pediatric Clinical Practice Ad Hoc Committee and as a HROE evaluator. She is a member of STTI, the UWA, the ANA, the Society of Pediatric Nursing (SPN), and PFP. She is a volunteer for the American Heart and American Lung Associations and also provides health education to a local refugee group. She received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the UWA (2002) and a nomination for the Excellence in Education Award (2005) from the SPN.![16]

Susan E. Mihlman; BS (70), NP; Canyon View Medical; Spanish Fork, UT. Susan has four children and 16 grandchildren. She loves learning new skills and gaining more knowledge.![17]

Dianne P. Montgomery: neonatal/pediatric/NIH. NC; Phoenix, AZ. Dianne received the Outstanding MS Thesis honor from Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society. She is a member of STTI and PFP.![18]

Donna F. Niemann; BS (72), NP; Discovery House; Orem, UT. Donna is a retired nurse in non-clinical nursing leadership.![19]

Barbara R. Owens. Barbara worked as an RN trauma nurse and later became a department head of health science at LDS Business College. Barbara died October 2001.![20]

Janice A. Streeter; BS ’74; Cedar Hill, UT. Janice is a former faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing.![21]

Mona D. Thompson; BS (85), APRN; NP; Gt Whisperer Gastroenterology and Hepatology; Salt Lake City. Mona has also taught GI and emergency nursing and pathophysiology for 25 years.![22]

1989

Pam Brokaw; Pam received two MS degrees: one in nursing (from BYU) and one in health education from the University of California at San Francisco. Pam died May 2013.![23]

Kathleen M. Brotherston; Park City, UT.[24]

Rhonda K. Garrison; AS (80), BS (82); Redmond, WA.[25]

Susan Leslie Palmer Gehlhorst; Susan worked as a nursing instructor for Salt Lake Community College. She earned a post-master’s certificate in nursing and health education, which led to several key positions in the National Department of Veterans Affairs. Susan died October 2010.![26]

Linda H. Hall; Bethesda, MD.[27]

Leota M. Ito; Ogden, UT.[28]

Sarah M. Keffler; Syracuse, UT.[29]

1990

Christine L. Anderson; ARNP; NP specializing in cardiology; PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center; Bellingham, WA.[30]

Donna J. Cartwright; Kent, Wash.[31]

Rosaly C. Coombs; BS (88); FNP, Meeker Family Health Center, Pioneer Medical Center; Meeker, CO. Rosaly loves rural medicine because there is so much variety; it challenges her skills, and she continues to learn.![32]

Linda L. Edgeton; St. George, UT.[33]

Linda D. Hofmann; MD, RN, CNA, BC; assistant vice president of nursing, HMC; Bountiful, UT. Linda continually strives to increase the quality of patient care. She has been a professor at Weber State University for 18 years, and she wrote the curriculum for Weber’s new master’s degree in nursing administration, which was approved by the Utah State Board of Regents. She is a working mom who strives to live in the moment every day.[34]

1991

Jolene L. Allan; ARNP; FNP-C, APRN; professor and FNP, Weber State University; Farmington, UT.[35]

Debra A. Mills; BS ’82, RN, CNE; associate teaching professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Salt Lake City. Debra serves as the chair-elect on the Education Committee of the Utah State Board of Nursing. She also serves as a member of the Pediatric Clinical Practice Ad Hoc Committee and as a HROE evaluator. She is a member of STTI, the UWA, the ANA, the Society of Pediatric Nursing (SPN), and PFP. She is a volunteer for the American Heart and American Lung Associations and also provides health education to a local refugee group. She received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the UWA (2002) and a nomination for the Excellence in Education Award (2005) from the SPN.![36]

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Rosaly C. Coombs; BS (88); FNP, Meeker Family Health Center, Pioneer Medical Center; Meeker, CO. Rosaly loves rural medicine because there is so much variety; it challenges her skills, and she continues to learn.![32]

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Linda D. Hofmann; MD, RN, CNA, BC; assistant vice president of nursing, HMC; Bountiful, UT. Linda continually strives to increase the quality of patient care. She has been a professor at Weber State University for 18 years, and she wrote the curriculum for Weber’s new master’s degree in nursing administration, which was approved by the Utah State Board of Regents. She is a working mom who strives to live in the moment every day.[34]

1991

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Debra A. Mills; BS ’82, RN, CNE; associate teaching professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Salt Lake City. Debra serves as the chair-elect on the Education Committee of the Utah State Board of Nursing. She also serves as a member of the Pediatric Clinical Practice Ad Hoc Committee and as a HROE evaluator. She is a member of STTI, the UWA, the ANA, the Society of Pediatric Nursing (SPN), and PFP. She is a volunteer for the American Heart and American Lung Associations and also provides health education to a local refugee group. She received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the UWA (2002) and a nomination for the Excellence in Education Award (2005) from the SPN.![36]

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Mona D. Thompson; BS (85), APRN; NP; Gt Whisperer Gastroenterology and Hepatology; Salt Lake City. Mona has also taught GI and emergency nursing and pathophysiology for 25 years.![42]
Russell Wishow (AS ’76, BS ’80); trauma outreach and injury prevention coordinator, University Health Care Trauma Service; Pleasant Grove, UT. Russell is a former faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing and received the Teaching Excellence Award from BYU (1996) and the APPE Award for Excellence from the Urban South Region INC. (2003). He is a member of the Society of Trauma Nurses (STN), the American Trauma Society, the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA), STT, FNP, and the UNA. He is the Utah State Representative for the STN and serves as the ENA Education Representative in the Timpanogos Chapter.

1994

Jean Bentley (BS ’85), APIN, ANCC; retired NP, West Jordan Medical Center; South Jordan, UT. Joan has five children who live with her.

Marilyn M. Clewley (BS ’72)

Sus Ann B. Christiansen (BS ’86), CPNP; NP, Utah Valley Pediatrics; Orem, UT. Sus Ann is a center in the care of newborns, children, adolescents, and special needs children.

Kirk C. Bierwirth (BS ’79), FNP, NP; St. Mark’s Hospital; Salt Lake City.

Ruth D. Hooper (AS ’85, BS ’89); NP, Primary Family Medical; Orem, UT. Ruth has four children and 14 grandchildren.

Janice C. Jensen, retired from UVU, Orem, UT. Janice completed 22 years as an advanced professor at UVU (formerly UVSC). She helped write the curriculum for the BSN program and advised students regarding employment opportunities and preparation for licensure. She is also a certified CPR instructor.

David Keller (AS ’77, BS ’80); APIN; associate professor of nursing, BYU College of Nursing; Provo.

Karen A. Stiles (BS ’90), RN, FACHE; executive director of quality services, St. Mark’s Hospital; and a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing; Salt Lake City. Karen has spent the last 23 years in the home health industry and has loved every minute of it. She is married with three children and seven grandchildren.

Lorraine L. Wilson (BS ’64), FNP; retired 2004; Provo. Lorraine’s most memorable awards came in the form of service roles expressing personal thankfulness and gratitude.

Karen B. Stokes (BS ’90); Certified Nurse Educator, NLN; Excellence in the Field Award, Emergency Nurses Association; Orem, UT.

Valerie J. Hansen (BS ’90); Spanish Fork, UT. Kaye C. Whittaker (AS ’79); assistant professor of nursing; SUU; and a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing; Provo. For 20 years as an advanced professor at UVU (formerly UVSC), Kaye helped write the curriculum for the BSN program and advised students regarding employment opportunities and preparation for licensure.

Rebecca S. Rasmussen (AS ’79); professor of nursing, SUNY Oswego; and a member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) and the Golden Key Honor Society (GK). Rebecca is a certified pediatric nurse practitioner, education consultant, and student nurse educator.

Wayne T. Watson (BS ’79, BS ’83); former associate vice president, electronic clinical information management, and chief nursing information officer, IHC, Orem, UT. Wayne is currently serving as the president of the Florida State Nurses Association. He and his wife, Luana, have six children.

Kay C. Whittaker (BS ’80); Spanish Fork, UT.

Bradley D. Workman (BS ’89), APIN, NP; Salt Lake Behavioral Health; West Jordan, UT.

I have mentored many students over the past years and have always felt gratitude to have come from such an excellent program. The comparison in training has shown BYU’s excellence.

—donna J. Abbott Lister

“BYU helped me advance practice and nursing education, a combination that has provided an ideal career path for me.”

Karen B. Stokes (BS ’87), directs Home Health and Hospice Consulting Center; HomeHealthSouth Rehabilitation, South Jordan, UT. Karen has spent the last 23 years in the home health industry and has loved every minute of it. She is married with three children and seven grandchildren.

Lorraine L. Wilson (BS ’64); FNP; retired 2004; Provo. Lorraine’s most memorable awards came in the form of service roles expressing personal thankfulness and gratitude.

Mary Ann Evans (BS ’96), FNP-C, APIN, BYU Student Health Center; Provo.

Linda L. Hosley (AS ’77, BS ’84), FNP; West Jordan, UT.

Mary Jayne M. Johnson (BS ’82); former associate professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Provo, UT. Mary Jayne received the Carol A. Lindeman Award for a New Scholar from the Western Institute of Nursing (2002) as well as the Outstanding MS Thesis honor from Sigma Xi: Scientific Research Society of America (2001), the NLN, and the AANP. Mary Jayne received the Carol A. Lindeman Award for a New Scholar from the Western Institute of Nursing (2002) as well as the Outstanding MS Thesis honor from Sigma Xi: Scientific Research Society of America (2001), the NLN, and the AANP.

Susan M. Kons; neurovascular medicine NP, IHC, Utah.

Kirt W. Larson (AS ’82, BS ’84, FNP); Step Mountain Medical; Herriman, UT. Kirt created Step Mountain Medical in 1999 and loves to build relationships with his patients. He and his staff seek to exude warmth and caring concern for their patients. He and his wife have five daughters and one son.

Carolyn Leifer (BS ’90, BS ’82); Highland, UT. Carolyn traveled to Bandung, Indonesia, as part of an LDS Charities medical team in 2013. While there she helped team teach and train Indonesian doctors and four midwives interviewing techniques for babies who cannot breathe at birth.

Laura Croft Mack (AS ’84, BS ’87); DNP; owner, Utah Mobile Healthcare and Rocky Mountain Healthcare Academy; Lehi, UT. Laura is a Hartford Foundation graduate with a geriatric certificate and is a member of STTI, Sigma Xi, PNH, and the NLN. She has three children and many furry friends.

L. Katherine Anderson Moon (BS ’89); FNP-C, Fisher’s Landing Internal Medicine; Lacamas Medical Group, Vancouver, WA. Katherine has five children and three grandchildren.

Marie Prothero, RN, FACHS, executive director of quality services, St. Mark’s Hospital; and a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing; Salt Lake City. Marie is a PhD student in the University of Utah and has received these recognitions: Member of Distinction, Urban South Region INC (2003) and the American Group of Healthcare Executives (2012). She and her husband have two children and four grandchildren.

Lou Ann H. Provost; retired associate professor; UVU; Sandy, UT.

Rebecca W. Sandberg (AS ’75, BS ’84); FNP; Cape Family Medicine; Bountiful, UT...

Kathy Sholl; retired nursing instructor; Bridgerland Applied Technology College; Providence, UT. Kathy has two boys.
1997

Gaylene A. Adams, ARNP; Utah Psychiatric Clinic; Salt Lake City. Gaylene has been working as a nurse in the field for over 20 years and has her own practice.

Karen A. Allred, Riverton, UT.

Karta Balling, PhD, retired, Salt Lake City. Karta is a single parent of five children and a grandmother to seven. She is currently working as a nurse at the University of Utah.

Lori V. Boyer. Provo.

Troy W. Carlton, PhD; former assistant professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Layton, UT. Troy also worked for 22 years as a staff nurse for IHC. He is married with three children.

Curtis D. Child, owner of Nevada Neurological Clinic; Reno, NV. He has a large practice and has been working as a neurologist for over 10 years.

Julie C. Child, FNP-C; Northern Utah Regional Hospital; Ogden, UT. Julie has four children and two grandchildren.

Kathleen N. Garrett, Pocatello, UT.

David B. Gloucester, NP; Utah Neurological Clinic; Mapleton, UT.

Shanna A. Hendrickson, Salt Lake City.

Penny Kaye Jensen, DNP, FNP-C, FAAN, FAANP; liaison for AS/NP policy, Department of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC; Salt Lake City. Penny is the immediate past president of the AAANP and a fellow of the American Association of NPs. In 2012 she was inducted into the National Academies of Practice as a distinguished practitioner and fellow as a fellow of the AANP.

Caroleen Johnson, BS (R9), ARNP, FNP, Copper Valley Medical Center; Layton, UT. Caroleen has continued to work part-time in her own practice and urgent care setting while having and raising her eight children. She has been the resident medical person on every trek and got’s camp in her state for the past 15 years.

Diane B. Kendall, FNP-C, GNP, Alta View Hospital Senior Clinic; Sandy, UT. Diane has received her advanced practice recognition and certification in geriatric care. She currently works at the University of Utah and has been working as a nurse in the field for over 20 years.

Ellen A. Magathan, Salt Lake City.

1998
Jarred C. Bailey (BS '94); NP, Pioneer Comprehensive Medical Drivert, UT. Todd holds spending time with his wife and two sons.

Don C. Christensen, Layton, UT.

Jennifer M. Clinft, DNP, FNP, CNE, clinical director and assistant professor, U of U Nursing; Park City, UT. Jennifer is a member of the AANP, American Association of Correctional Health Professionals, NLM, and UNPA. She received the State Award for Excellence as an educator from UNPA (2012); the Excellence in Clinical Practice from STATS (2013); and the Alumni Legacy Leader Award from Indiana University (2013).

Sharon Dingman, DNP, RN; founder and president, The Caring Model, Ogden, UT. Sharon is recognized as a leader in nurse caring and compassion both nationally and internationally. She is a member of the Nursing Education Peers Committee of the Utah Board of Nursing. She also serves as an adjunct faculty member for the DNP program at Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions. She is the director at large for the UNPA.

Angie S. Downard (BS '90), FNP and manager, Behavioral Health Care Center, and Allen Chiropractic; Sandy, UT. Angie has worked with patients who have infertility issues for 15 years. Last year she received her LMT from the Myotherapy College of Utah and will soon be completing acupuncture certification. She has four children.

Sherry L. Ellsworth (BS '94); Provo.

Michael F. Gilmore, CNP; NP, Utah Valley Pediatrics; Pleasant Grove, UT. He is a member of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NANP) and the AAPNP.

1999
Karen D. Blad, DNP, FNP-C, ACNP-BC, FNPCC, FAANP; associate dean and teaching professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Riverton, UT. Kent loves that nursing allows him to make a living while serving his fellowmen. He has received the following recognitions: fellow of Critical Care Medicine (2015) and fellow of the American Association of NPs (2018). He currently serves on the college’s volunteer leadership council as a member at large.

Juliana B. Pallettine (BS '89); NP, Dixon Health Center, Eagle, UT.

Patricia M. Gurell, NP, Comprehensive Care Clinic; Ogden, UT.

Jill Hall (BS ’97); retired FNP, Medifin; OR. Jill developed patients’ heart-hatula materials that are still used within IHC. She has five children.

Clarens Hannon, NP-C, COE, diabetes education coordinator and culled insulin pump technician; Revera Health, Provo.

Steven F. Larsen (BS ’95); NP, Revera Health; Mapleton, UT.

Dallen K. Ormond, PhD; owner and partner, Families First Pediatrics; and a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing; South Jordan, UT. Dallen is the president-elect for the UNPA Board (2015).

Kristie B. Rossar, owner and operator, Optimal Wellness; and a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing; Pleasant Grove, UT. Kristie is a certified biodesi- nal hormone therapy provider, a certified holistic health and nutrition coach, and a wellness and age-management expert. She is married to College of Nursing alum Paul Rosser and they have four children.

2000
Kimberly Flanders Abbott (BS ’96); RN, PCH, Wasatch Campion Inspired Psychiatric Drivert; Kimberley is married to Rich Abbott and they have seven children. She has stayed in and around PCH in her job that poor in home health, and now at their psychiatric unit.

K. Jay Barton, FNP-C, ARNP, owner, Family First Medical PC; Spanish Fork, UT.

Judy Bendoski-Parrish (BS ’76, BS ’79); ARNP; OM, Omega Integrated Pain Clinic; Salt Lake City.

James C. Bissinger, RN, PeaceHealth galmontology; Springville, UT.

Dale P. Chrisley (BS ’88); South Jordan, UT.

Jon Christensen, PhD, RN; assistant professor of nursing, California State University, Los Angeles. Jon was selected twice as Undergraduate Faculty of the Year at CSULA School of Nursing (2009, 2012). He also received the University of San Diego Dean’s Scholar Award for two academic years (2009–2010, 2010–2011) and an STS scholarship for a doctoral student (2009).

Sarah B. Cernier, RN, Healthcare for Women; Grantsville, UT.

Paul S. Rossar, ARNP, NP, Urology Clinic of Utah; and a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing; Pleasant Grove, UT.

Dianne Marie Sansa (BS ’77); nursing supervisor, Alta View Hospital; Salt Lake City. Dianne received the Nurse Manager of the Year Award (2003) from IHC, Urban Central Region. She has been married to her husband, Rich, for almost 30 years. They have one son.

Nadine S. Shon, Provo, UT.

Sue A. Snell, Salt Lake City.

Paule G. Thacker, Sandy, UT.

Allison Whitmore (BS ’85); Orem, UT.

Melissa Zito, RN; American Indian and Alaska Native health and hospital policy consultant, Utah Department of Health; Salt Lake City. Melissa earned the following recognitions: Outstanding and Disadvantaged Service Award, Indian Wellness Center (2000–2003). America Indian Outstanding State Program Manager (2006); Frances T. Ishida Award for Excellence in Service to Beneficiaries of the Centers for Medicine and Medicaid Services (2008); Honors for Nursing (2000), Those Who Dare to Care, U of U College of Nursing (2009). National Children’s Study Appreciation Award (2012); Malala Healthcare Community Champion Award (2013). Governor’s Award for Excellence nominee (2015). She has one daughter.

2019
Carmen S. Crain, Eagle, ID.

Susan G. Jers (AS ’75, BS ’79); Herriman, UT.

Pamela E. Merkley, Layton, UT.

Sibyl Fey Fischer Noble (BS ’64); office manager, optomitha- practical practice. Sibyl combined a completed master’s degree in nursing administration and business administration (offered for a brief time through BYU’s College of Nursing and Harvard School). She trained in Russia to assist in rural heart- tory surgery, and she pioneered that surgery in America by teaching, training, and demonstrating for others. One of the highlights of her career was serving as a private duty nurse to President David O. McKay for two years. She is married to the hospital administrator for whom she has five chil- dren and eight grandchildren.

Shelly W. Parkin, RN; nurse case manager, Service Advocates; Wood Jordan, UT. Shelly is also an adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing.

Brand P. Reynolds (BS ’94), FNP-C; Advanced Practice Medicine Clinic; Tooele, UT.

Linda W. Wolf, Sandy, UT.

Kenton D. Blad, DNP, FNP-C, ACNP-BC, FNPCC, FAANP; associate dean and teaching professor in the BYU College of Nursing; Riverton, UT. Kent loves that nursing allows him to make a living while serving his fellowmen. He has received the following recognitions: fellow of Critical Care Medicine (2015) and fellow of the American Association of NPs (2018). He currently serves on the college’s volunteer leadership council as a member at large.

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Amy Harmer Cox (BS ’97), FNP-C; Same Day Surgery, PCH; Kayceville, UT. Amy is a former assistant teaching professor in the BYU College of Nursing. She was nominated as NP of the Year at Same Day Surgery (2013). She knows busy work-
ing full-time for PCH and raising her four children with her husband, Jon.

Steven K. Jensen, nurse supervisor, Bureau of Primary Care, Utah Department of Health, Sandy, UT. Steven received the Governor’s Award for Excellence for outstanding service in public health (2009). He has married with four children.

David C. Kay: nurse manager, IHC, Spanish Fork, UT.

Linda G. Kuemel, NP-C; Rocky Mountain Women’s Health Center, Kayceville, UT. Linda has four children and four grand-
children.

Steve Mickelson, FNP-C; director of nurses, Utah County Health Department, Lehi, UT.

Carma Miller, DNP, MPH, RN; nursing faculty at BYU-ID; Rockford, ID. Carma’s other responsibilities have included sci-
ence advisory board member of Balukrishna State Medical College, India; development officer for the parts of Shanghai Medical Workers College in China; women’s advisory council member of BYU-ID; and former instruc-
tor in the BYU College of Nursing.

Leslie Soderberg (AS ’81): risk-management consultant, PCH; Sandy, UT. Leslie created the central line database used in IHC. She was an early adapter to Zomer and helped and invested that technology. She fills her time raising her “second family” of children whom she adopted and working as a risk-management consultant.

2002

Ryan Alder, DNP-C, NP; IPC Healthcare; Providence, AZ. Ryan’s experience includes six years in cardiology, two years in orthopedics, three years in urgent care, and three years in skilled nursing. He has no national presentations, three publi-
cated articles, and membership with GC and STS.

Shelly Pederson Elseth, FNP; American Fork Internal Medicine; American Fork, UT. Shelly has received these recog-
nitions: SUU Outstanding Nursing Faculty (2008) and Utah State College of Nursing Excellence Award (2012). She continues to prepare FNP students and loves that aspect of teaching.

Sande Smith: Gilead, KIA, VTA.

Christina P. Liston (BS ’98), PhD, FNP-BC, NPC; RiverView Health dermatology; Eagle Mountain, UT. Christina L. Mangalam; FNP; Noyes Medical Clinic; Fountain Green Medical Clinic; Levan, UT.

Kelli P. Parker, NP; Valley QB/GYN; Payson, UT. Kelli has four daughters.

2003

Jamie M. Anderson (AS ’78): Highland, UT.

Anne F. Carmen (BS ’97): Draper, UT.

Linda S. Earl (BS ’74): West Jordan, UT.

Patricia Holmorgen, Ogden, UT.

Anne M. Kirby (BS ’18): Art City Medical Center; Springville, UT. Anne and her husband have adopted two children.

Heidi Porter (BS ’99): APN; Utah Surgical Associates; Provo.

Glaude C. Walker, DNP; NP; Neurological Associates; Nibley, UT. Glaude is currently working on her DNP at the U of U, and he looks forward to a future spent training and educat-
ing for future NPs.

2004

Kelly K. Wosnik (BS ’99), DNP-C; Mountain Country Foods Clinic and a former adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing; Ogden, UT. Kelly established an online clinic for a company with 400 employees that makes dog food treats in Spanish Fork. She and a medical assistant care for the employees and their dependents (the company is self-covered, and there is no benefit for the employee’s expense). She currently serves on the college’s alumni board as a member at large and is married with three daughters.

2005

Allie B. Blazard (BS ’10), NP; Riverside Medical Arts; St. George, UT. Allie is a member of the AANP, the Society of Aesthetic Injectors, and the American Academy of Anti-
aging Medicine. She and her husband have four children.

Pascha S. Chyrtsos: Salt Lake City. Maukine S. Carstenson: St. Mary’s Healthcare System, Kingwood, TX. Larissa has her husband and has been raising their family in the Dallas and Houston areas. Being a mom of four is her full-time job and being an NP is her part-time gig. Although the private practice prac-
tice had always been her favorite area to work in, she enjoys the flexibility of her current PIN position.

Brandon Duv Pavek: FNP; Utah Orthopedics; Pleasant View, UT.

2006

Sandra Hauaston, NP-C, CEN, CNE; associate teaching pro-
sessor in the BYU College of Nursing; PCH. Sandra works full-time at the university and is a part-time instructor in the BYU College of Nursing. She has graduated with a master of science in public health. She is married with two children.

Gina Taylor Madison (BS ’03), FNP; FNP, UCN; Salt Valley, AZ. Gina is married and has three children.

Kimberly C. Mortensen: NP; Amara Day Spa, Lehi, UT.

Sarah L. Smith: NP; Revere Health; Highland, UT.

Kati J. Walker (BS ’12): Mountain View, CA.

Angela M. Williams: NP; Provo, UT.

Kristen D. Wright, FNP-C; NP; Canyon View Women’s Care; Spanish Fork, UT. Kristen is also an adjunct faculty member in the BYU College of Nursing. She has a master of science in nursing is connecting with people by addressing physical and emotional issues and helping patients find ways to help heal and lead more fulfilling lives. She loves to see and educate—only on a one-on-one basis in her office but through teach-
ing students, community members, civic groups, and adults every day and through events like BYU Education Week.

2007

Cody R. Clarson (BS ’03): Bonita Springs, FL.

Maia S. Greens (BS ’95, FNP-C). NP; Endocrinology Associates; South River, NJ. Since graduation, Maia has spent most of her time as a stay-at-home mom with her five-year-old son, but she has worked several per diem locum tenens jobs (mostly urgent care) to keep her hours and skills. She recently accepted a part-time job at a local endocrinology office and thinks of nursing as a hobby. She loves the chance to learn constantly, and she loves feeling like she has made a difference in someone’s life.

Olima M. Gobre (BS ’03), FNP-C, ARNP, PhD; Peak, UT. Sanpete, UT. She is also an active member in the Sanpete County Nursing Association and is currently working as a registered nurse in the community.

Amy R. Haaks (BS ’03): FNP; SLCC Center for Health and Counseling; Provo.

Taryn S. Johnson: NP; Ogden, UT.

Kathryn Money: Ogden, UT.

Rebecca A. Pierpont: FNP-C; Layton, UT.

Lisa Williams: NP; Revere Health dermatology; Provo.

LEARNING THE HEALER’S ART | FALL 2015

BYU COLLEGE OF NURSING

April 2015

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20
Because learning at BYU is faith-based it became second nature to always have a prayer in my heart to guide me to make the right decisions for my patients. —LACY EDEN
"My experience at BYU benefited my career because I learned how to care for my brothers and sisters as a nurse with an eternal perspective. At BYU I was able to learn about our mortal bodies with an eternal perspective."

— KERRI L. ERICKSON

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**2013**

Diana W. Alfred: FNP; Highland, UT.

Aaron S. Bonnin: NP; North Bend Medical Center; Coos Bay, OR. Aaron was named NP Student of the Year (2012). He is married with three boys.

Amy B. Carlson: FNP-C, APRN; NP; Take Care Health Systems; Chicago, IL.

Kerri L. Erickson: BS ’91, FNP-C, APRN, PNP; primary provider, IHC (North Temple Clinic), and Ortho Care clinics; Centerville, UT. Kerri’s master’s thesis was recently published in the Journal of Pediatric Nursing. Prior to her degree, she worked as a pediatric RN for 21 years at PCH while raising her four children.

Amy P. Hendsley: FNP-C; Provo.

Kim Houts: FNP-C; Provo Family Medicine, Revere Health; Lindon, UT.

Jennifer B. Jenkins: BS ’99; Lindon, UT.

Allison Lakin: BS ’10; NP-C, APRN; The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia; Philadelphia, PA.

Leah J. Leithold: RN; FNP; Saintant Hospital; St. Mary’s, OR.

Alic Rimmach: NP-C, APRN; medical director of occupational medicine; Workfront, a Service of Ashley Regional Medical Center; Vernal, UT.

Michael S. Robinson: NP-C, CNP-c; NP; North Bend Medical Center; Coquille, OR.

Ellie G. Thornton: CNP; NP; Primary Health Urgent Care; Star, ID. Ellie and her wife have four children.

Anne Vincent: FNP; Premier Family Medical (Urgent Care) and Timpanogos Regional Hospital Employee Health Clinic; Pleasant Grove, UT.

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**2014**

Cami Alfred: FNP; volunteer, Volunteer Care Clinic; Provo.

Katherine Jenkins: NP-C, APRN; FNP; Rocky Mountain Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology; Farmington, UT.

Kathryn C. Merrill: BS ’95; Springville, UT.

Leslie C. Nakaya: FNP-C; The Heart and Lung Institute of Utah; Bountiful, UT. Leslie is in the middle of raising four boys.

Rosanne J. Oliver: BS ’77, BS ’79; NP-C; Revere Health; Lindon, UT.

Chad W. Paviot: FNP; Umqua Community Health Clinic; Roseburg, OR.

Derrick Pickering: NP-C, APRN; FNP; UVU Student Health Center and Premier Family Medical Urgent Care; Provo.

Christine K. Platt: NP-C, NP; Parkinson Dermatology; Provo. Christine and her husband have three sons.

Cori P. Reynolds: BS ’97; FNP; Ortho Care Clinic; South Jordan, UT. Cori is married with four children.

Michelle Lee Smith: FNP; Step Mountain Medical and PCH; Highland, UT. Michelle is the mother of five children.

Kim E. Thompson: BS ’91, FNP-C, ARNP; Orlando Internal Medicine at Central Florida Behavioral Hospital; Orlando, FL. Kim presented her thesis at the 2014 AANP National Conference in Nashville.

Kristin Van TASSEL: BS ’95; FNP; Hillside Medical Clinic; Spanish Fork, UT.

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**2015**

Due to the timing of August graduation and the magazine print deadline, alumni from the 2015 class are still in the process of completing FNP boards and accepting job offers.

Jennifer Bains: RN, PCH; Lehi, UT.

Denise Brown: Provo.

Angela Chambers: Onen, UT.

Ryan Frenci: FNP-c; Orthopedic Surgeon Group; Mapleton, UT. Ryan is married with a daughter.

Jennifer Garrick: Elk Ridge, UT.

Jared Madsen: Provo.

Stephanie Miller: FNP-c; Valley Obstetrics & Gynecology in Provo; Elk Ridge, UT. Stephanie is married with five children.

Anne Vincent: FNP; Premier Family Medical (Urgent Care) and Timpanogos Regional Hospital Employee Health Clinic; Pleasant Grove, UT.

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"The wonderful instruction I received at BYU provided the perfect foundation to build my current practice. Not only the medical training but the instruction regarding the nuts and bolts of practice were invaluable."

— ROSANNE J. OLIVER

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**2016**

Bramon Ayres: Orem, UT.

Sandy Burchowski: RN, Central Utah Surgical Center; Saratoga Springs, UT. Sandy enjoys keeping up with her two children.

Jana Burcham: Genola, UT.

Julie Cope: Sacramento, CA. Julie was the recipient of the BYU Graduate Research Fellowship and the Elaine R. Dyre Research Grant (spring 2015). After graduation she plans to pursue additional postgraduate study and care for underserved, vulnerable populations.

Sophia Galgiani: BS ’15; RN, Timpanogos Regional Hospital; Provo.

Leslie Huggins: Lehi, UT.

Levi Kohler: Lehi, UT.

Nicole Lamoreaux: CCRN; RN; UVMMC Cardiovascular ICU; Orem, UT.

Jeremy Ratliff: Spanish Fork, UT.

Sarah Roberts: BS ’11; Provo.

Sarah Stockdale: BS ’10; RN, Timpanogos Regional Hospital Pediatrics; Orem, UT.

Chris Williams: EL trauma nurse, IMC; Saratoga Springs, UT. Chris was a hospital coroner in the U.S. Navy for eight years.

Arwen York: RN, PCH; South Jordan, UT. Prior to starting the graduate program, Arwen was a CPA for four years and worked as an RN for five years in adult med/surg and pediatric nursing. She was the UVU College of Science and Health administration.

Max Mitchell: seconed care/hypertension NP; UVMMC; Saratoga, UT. Max is married with four children.

Tia Peterson: Salt Lake City, UT.

Ann Rensberg: BS ’10; Provo.

Jonathan Rohwer: BS ’12, Springville, UT.

Peter Rutba: BS ’09; FNP-c; Premier Family Medical in Lindon; Orem, UT. Peter volunteers at the Mountainside Community Health Center and has worked at the Salt Lake VA Hospital as a registered nurse for six years.

Kelly Smith: BS ’09; Provo. Kelly is married with a daughter.

Sonnie Solls: She is married and lives in Pleasant Grove, UT.

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**Future Graduates 2017**

Alkia Anderson: BS ’18; RN, Infant Medical Surgical Unit; Pleasant Grove, UT. Alkia currently serves on the college’s alumni board and represents the College of Nursing to the university alumni committee.

Nicolette Brody: CEN; charge and RN, U of U Hospitals and Clinics; Salt Lake City. Nicolette spent more than three years as a volunteer medical consultant for the Church, assisting area welfare managers around the world in efforts to improve emergency response plans. She received three significant awards for her service to healthcare. Outstanding Citizen Award from the U.S. Navy hospital ship USNS Comfort (2015); Outstanding Representative of Community Involvement from Arizona State University College of Nursing (2006); and Employee of the Year from the U of U Emergency Department (2014).

Emily G. Dunn: BS’09, Pleasant Grove, UT.

R. Scott Fletcher: orthopedic nurse; West Jordan, UT. Scott received his RN from UVU and has worked for seven years at IHC.

Amanda Graves: RN, U of U Hospitals and Clinics; Salt Lake City.

Kacie Hadley: BS ’12; RN, IHC. Kacie was raised in a home for four girls.

Elizabeth Harding: BS ’12; RN, IHC. Leth, UT. Elizabeth enjoyed keeping up with her two children.

Valyn C. Hasham: RN, UVMMC; Orem, UT. Valyn is married with four children.

Daniel Hill: Salt Lake City.

Mordith Lind: RN, American Fork, UT.

Sean Raumussen: RN-BSN nurse liaison; Avalon Healthcare; South Jordan, UT. Sean has been married for five years and is the father of three boys under the age of four.

Barrett Raymond: NNP; RN, IMC; trauma and disaster planning lead, IHC; paramedic with UT-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team; Springville, UT. Barrett has served for seven years as a medical specialist for the U.S. Army. He has four children.

Aubri Root: BS ’10; Salt Lake City.

Cynthia Whiting: RN, IHC; Highland, UT.

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**2017**

Katharine Jenkins: 2011 valedictorian. She is married and has two cats.
Faculty Spotlight: Karen de la Cruz

Leaving Space for the Lord

By Mary Dalrymple

If you catch assistant teaching professor Karen de la Cruz, MSN, ACNP/FNP, in her free moments, you might just find her practicing the waltz or the cha-cha. A truly elegant dancer, de la Cruz finds time to master ballroom dance amidst teaching nursing courses, working on her doctorate, and serving those around her. “I have a lot of fun in my life—but it has been a long road getting here,” she says.

De la Cruz developed a strong relationship with God as a young girl. Her faith eventually led her to missionaries around her. “The Lord of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-faith eventually led her to missionaries around her. As a nurse, you are doing something great. You are the Lord’s hands. If your attitude is right, you can feel Him reaching through you,” she says.

Upon arriving at the university in 2009, a coworker advised her to take a fun class as a way to relax from teaching demands. De la Cruz decided to take up dancing and enrolled in BYU’s Beginning Social Dance course. “It was painful,” she says about that first dance class. “I didn’t realize I could take a 100-level class and not receive an A. None of the guys wanted to dance with me because they were there to find girls.”

Four and a half years of private dance lessons later, de la Cruz is now a strong and confident dancer, and she feels that she is in the most wonderful time of her life. “I have learned that if you leave a space for the Lord to direct your life, He will guide you and you will find joy—guaranteed,” she says. “Every struggle I’ve had has helped make me the person I am.”

Karen began her nursing career when her husband developed a spinal tumor. She wanted to be able to take care of him and provide for her children. After a priesthood blessing and then surgery, her husband walked away with only a slight limp, and de la Cruz walked away with the nursing education she believes the Lord wanted her to have. De la Cruz has enriched many lives, including those of her 10 children and 25 grandchildren. In addition to the love she has for her own family, she welcomes the opportunity to care for all who are in need as if they were her own children.

“The Lord puts people in my life and says, ‘Here is someone you should be helping,’” she says. “He has blessed me with abundance for a reason, and He expects something from me.”

De la Cruz currently teaches students in their third nursing semester how to use nursing theory and skills in the hospital setting. She loves watching these students as their nursing education becomes a practical experience. She enjoys teaching at BYU because the students truly understand why we go into the nursing profession: to serve and love others as the Lord wants us to.

“As a nurse, you are doing something great. You are the Lord’s hands. If your attitude is right, you can feel Him reaching through you,” she says.

By Mary Dalrymple

A truly elegant dancer, de la Cruz finds time to master ballroom dance amidst teaching nursing courses, working on her doctorate, and serving those around her.
Alumni Updates

Two retired faculty members recently enjoyed milestone birthdays: Alice Mahany Schmidt celebrated 90 years in February, and Jewel Bartholomew (BS ’69) marked 85 years in May.

Alison Tanner Wright (AS ’75, BS ’76) will be honored during Homecoming with the college’s Alumni Achievement Award and will present a campus lecture to alumni, students, and friends on Thursday, October 28, at 7:30 in room 270 SWKT. Wright is a nurse practitioner and serves as the medical director for Fourth Street Clinic, an organization that serves the homeless population of downtown Salt Lake City. She oversaw the clinic’s certification from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care. Fourth Street Clinic is one of the first homeless clinics in the nation to receive this recognition and accreditation.

IN MEMORIAM

Genevieve Strong Smith (BS ’59)

Marian Irene Thulin Ferguson (AS ’72)

Sandra Ann Little (AS ’75, BS ’76)

Gayle Hafford Nielsen (AS ’79, BS ’81)

Rebecca “Becky” Dawn Tower Lockhart (BS ’93), who served 16 years in the Utah State Legislature and was the first female speaker of the Utah House of Representatives, died in January from Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. She received a nursing degree from BYU, practiced as a registered nurse for seven years, and later served on the board of trustees for Timpanogos Regional Hospital. She was known to be firm when she needed to be, to stand for what she felt strongly about, and to speak out and be heard.

James “Jim” Bowles (AS ’81, BS ’84) received his certificate of nurse anesthesia from the Truman Medical Center school at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He has worked 27 years as staff CRNA—at five of those years as cochair of the CRNA group—at Kaiser Permanente Sunnyside Medical Center in the Portland, Oregon, area.

Dr. Melanie Hanson Rowbotham (BS ’88) was promoted to associate professor and received tenure at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where she teaches in both the undergraduate and graduate programs and is also the coordinator of faculty development for the school of nursing.

Danelle K. Borg (BS ’90) recently graduated from the University of Cincinnati as an adult-gerontology acute care NP and has taken a position as an NP at Landmark Hospital in Murray, Utah.

Dr. Karen Lee Burton (BS ’94) received her master’s and PhD degrees in nursing education and is director of nursing for the Odyssey House of Utah. She recently completed coursework for a Substance Use Disorder Counselor certificate and published a book titled Out of the Dark and into the Unbiased Journey of Nurse Addiction.

Linda K. Anderson (BS ’96) has served as the staff nurse anesthetist in neurosurgery at the Mayo Clinic for the past 13 years. She has also been an anesthesiology instructor and coordinator of the neuro-anesthesia lecture series for seven years.

MarLeice Hyde (BS ’97) is working with the RSC/CRPS community to improve treatment, relieve pain, and financially assist patients receiving long-term therapy. She is the executive director for the nonprofit organization CRPS Clubhouse and also works as an infusion therapy RN with the DelMarvin Medical Center near Sacramento.

Richard D. Gordon (BS ’04) is a pediatric charge nurse at the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic in Toppenish, Washington.

June Erskine Booth (BS ’59) (right) of Odgen, Utah, visits with her granddaughter Morgan Booth Riveros (fourth-semester nursing student) at the college’s alumni board-sponsored luncheon during Women’s Conference in April. More than 105 alumni, students, and friends had the chance to socialize with one another during this annual event. We look forward to hosting even more alumni next year on April 28.

James “Jim” Bowles (AS ’81, BS ’84) received his certificate of nurse anesthesia from the Truman Medical Center school at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He has worked 27 years as staff CRNA—five of those years as cochair of the CRNA group—at Kaiser Permanente Sunnyside Medical Center in the Portland, Oregon, area.

Dr. Melanie Hanson Rowbotham (BS ’88) was promoted to associate professor and received tenure at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where she teaches in both the undergraduate and graduate programs and is also the coordinator of faculty development for the school of nursing.

Danelle K. Borg (BS ’90) recently graduated from the University of Cincinnati as an adult-gerontology acute care NP and has taken a position as an NP at Landmark Hospital in Murray, Utah.

Dr. Karen Lee Burton (BS ’94) received her master’s and PhD degrees in nursing education and is director of nursing for the Odyssey House of Utah. She recently completed coursework for a Substance Use Disorder Counselor certificate and published a book titled Out of the Dark and into the Unbiased Journey of Nurse Addiction.

He has also worked as a special prosecutor for the Cache County Attorney’s Office in Utah and as an engineer officer in the National Guard, with more than 10 years of military leadership, including a tour of duty in Iraq.

Ethel K. Tovar (BS ’06) is the education clinical expanded role RN in the newborn ICU at Primary Children’s Hospital in Salt Lake City.

New promotion? Advanced degree? Recently published? Let your peers across the country know. Email nursespr@byu.edu. Your news may be included in the next edition of Learning the Healer’s Art.

Turning an Assessment Class Upside Down

Sajbrina Jarvis, GN; FNP-BE; ACNP-BC; FAANP

Craig Nuttall, MSN, FNP-C

Leahy M. McCandless (BS ’85) spent 12 years in the army before becoming a nurse. She recently completed her master’s and PhD degrees in nursing education and is director of nursing for the Odyssey House of Utah. She recently completed coursework for a Substance Use Disorder Counselor certificate and published a book titled Out of the Dark and into the Unbiased Journey of Nurse Addiction.

He has also worked as a special prosecutor for the Cache County Attorney’s Office in Utah and as an engineer officer in the National Guard, with more than 10 years of military leadership, including a tour of duty in Iraq.

Ethel K. Tovar (BS ’06) is the education clinical expanded role RN in the newborn ICU at Primary Children’s Hospital in Salt Lake City.

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Neurological physical assessment is a fundamental skill taught in the nurse practitioner curriculum. It is also a subject that many students find difficult to master. Traditional methods of teaching this material include student reading assignments along with didactic classroom PowerPoint lectures; however, when students struggle to do the reading and to understand the lectures, they do not master the material during the class and clinical lab pass-offs.

Associate teaching professor Dr. Sabrina Jarvis (MS ’10) and assistant teaching professor Craig Nuttall (MS ’11) wanted to raise the number of students who both complete all of the pre-lecture reading and also are prepared and excited for the 600-level course—they flipped it.

To “flip a course” means to first introduce students to new material outside of class, typically through assigned readings or lecture videos, and then to use class time to integrate that knowledge through discussion and interactive clinical activities.

Jarvis and Nuttall considered several products but ended up using Articulate Studio software to adapt their existing PowerPoint presentations and create polished interactive courses that allow user interactivity, onscreen capture of input data, and embedding of videos.

Their flipped classroom required time at the beginning of each class for clarification of assigned materials and online modules, followed by a short quiz to validate learning. The remainder of the lecture allowed for setting up and completing application activities specific to the concepts being taught. These application activities were new to the faculty members and required the most effort to develop.

It only took one year of work for the students to begin coming to class prepared (with materials read and concepts studied in advance), as they did not want to miss out on quiz concepts that could lower their grade. The faculty found that this made a smooth transition into the clinical lab. Instead of beginning the hands-on part of the lecture from scratch or needing to review skill concepts once the class reached the lab, the students were ready to fine-tune their techniques and refine what they had previously learned. They were ready to practice the material rather than relearn it!
Research

Personalized Medicine: Risk Perceptions of, Screening Behaviors for, and Communication About Breast Cancer

Deborah O. Himes, Assistant Professor, PhD, APRN-BC, ANP

As we move into what has been termed the genomic era of medicine, primary care physicians must be prepared to care for the unique attributes of individual patients, right down to their DNA mutations. It is most effective to provide intensive screening and preventive care for those individuals with the most risk for a disease, a variable that is determined and influenced by a variety of factors including individual genetic makeup. This is a major component of personalized medicine.

Assistant professor Deborah Himes (BS ’91) investigated how patients, family members, and primary care providers (PCPs) communicate and utilize personalized risk information based on genetic predisposition to various cancers. Genetic predisposition occurs when a mutation of a germ cell, called a germ line mutation, is passed down from parent to child. Because cancer develops after an individual’s genes go through a series of mutations, individuals who inherit germ line mutations require fewer mutations for cancer to develop because they start with genes that are already mutated. This increases their risk level and vulnerability to various cancers.

In addition to increasing the risk level of individuals, germ line mutations pose a particular threat to families because multiple siblings can inherit the same mutation. Other factors, such as shared environments and similar lifestyles, also help explain familial cancer clusters. Himes’s research focuses on women at risk for familial and hereditary breast cancer and (1) how they understand their risk, (2) what they communicate with their family and with their PCPs about risk, and (3) their screening practices and whether or not those practices are based on specific risk-level guidelines.

To perform this study, Himes interviewed 85 women between the ages of 40 and 74 whose mother or sister was previously diagnosed with breast cancer. In addition, each sister or mother had received genetic counseling and testing for hereditary breast cancer and an indeterminate negative test result, which means that while no genetic mutations were found, other mutations related to breast cancer that have not yet been discovered or that were not tested could still be present.

To see how women understand their risk level, Himes asked study participants to estimate their individual risk for breast cancer. These results were compared with risk levels calculated using the Gail, Claus, and BRCAPRO models. She found that most participants estimated their own risk to be much higher than what was calculated by the models. This is a concern because overestimation of risk can lead to increased anxiety and the possibility of overscreening.

Participants who received more information from their sister or mother were twice as accurate in estimating their own risk level. The study also investigated what information women communicate with their PCPs. Because PCPs play an important role in assessing women’s risk for breast cancer and in recommending screening tests, it is important that pertinent history information—such as a sister’s or mother’s breast cancer, genetic counseling, and genetic testing—be shared with them. In asking study participants what information they shared with their PCP in relation to breast cancer, Himes found that women are much more likely to share family cancer history than information about an individual family member’s genetic counseling and test results. This is an issue because lack of information has the potential to impair a PCP’s ability to interpret specific risk level and to recommend screening tests.

Finally, Himes looked at screening recommendations and practices and whether or not those recommendations are based on individualized risk levels. Understanding specific risk level is important because various organizations—such as the American Cancer Society, the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, and the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists—publish recommendations for breast cancer screening based on risk level. For women with an elevated risk for breast cancer (lifetime risk greater than 20 percent), it is recommended that they be offered annual screening breast MRIs in addition to mammography.

In her research, Himes found that most participants received appropriate mammogram recommendations, whether they were at a high or average risk. However, of the 10 percent of participants who were determined to be high risk, none received or were even offered a screening breast MRI; consequently, these women did not go through a more thorough and potentially lifesaving screening for breast cancer.

These findings indicate that there is an increased need for individualized breast-cancer risk assessment and risk-based screening recommendations in primary care. Effective interventions are needed that will assist patients and PCPs in making informed decisions about screening and prevention measures related to breast cancer. The results of this study also indicate that there is an increased need for communication both within families and among professionals from a variety of disciplines. New interventions and policies may need to be implemented to fulfill this need.

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Faculty Achievements

College of Nursing faculty members continue to showcase their dedication to and expertise in the healthcare industry through a variety of achievements and publications. Following are a few notable examples of what they have accomplished.

PRESENTATIONS DELIVERED


Cartier, D., Kohl, J., & Humbacker, S. (2015, February 27). Accuracy of blood glucose monitoring in a simulation environment among healthcare team members. Podium presentation at the International Conference on Undergraduate Research, St. George, UT.


Heaston, S. (2015, June 23). Keeping your fingers on the pulse of service: Keynote speech at the Brigham Young University devotional, Provo, UT.

Heaton, B., & Shkapich, D. D. (2015, March 10). Compassion fatigue and burnout: Are you at risk? Podium presentation at the Brigham Young University President’s Leadership Council meeting, Provo, UT.


Lamott, K. E., Thompson, K. E., Blankstead, K. L., Tipton, H., Macintosh, J. L., & Eden, L. M. (2015, June 5). Technology in public health: Nursing research: Future directions. Podium presentation at the Association of Community Health Nursing Educators Annual Institute, Denver, CO.


Lundberg, K. M. (2015, April 26). The students are all right: Skillset of optimism in nurses with burnout. Podium presentation at the Brigham Young University President’s Leadership Council meeting, Provo, UT.


Santos, J. L. (2015, June 23). Breast cancer. It’s all around and in white to me. Podium presentation at the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists National Conference, New Orleans, LA.

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2016 Events

Plan now to participate in these fun alumni networking activities! Our free events are a great way to meet new friends and connect with past nursing associates.

April 28
LUNCHEON and RECEPTION for NURSING ALUMNI attending Women’s Conference
SPONSORED BY THE COLLEGE ALUMNI BOARD

Saturday of Homecoming
Annual Homecoming Alumni Service Project

March 3
Host • Attend
nursing.byu.edu

Night of Nursing
a BYU nursing reunion in your community

Speed Networking Lunch
Alumni-Student Event
February and October

April 7
BYU event for WIN Conference participants and California alumni
Disneyland Hotel

Email nursingpr@byu.edu for event details.