The Family Connection: It’s All Relative

I recently read an entry from urban-dictionary.com that defined *family* as a group of people “who genuinely love, trust, care about, and look out for each other . . . Real family is a bondage that cannot be broken by any means.” That got me thinking about the “familiar” we have here at the College of Nursing.

In each of the six nursing semesters, individuals sustain one another as they advanced together through the program for three years. They learn to value members for their unique abilities and assets, rather than as competition; spending hours as one group establishes our caring heritage.

Our faculty members and staff can state how they have grown in unity, love, and support for each other as they collaborate on projects, class instruction, and lab preparations. They spend large amounts of effort, both individually and jointly, focused on making a difference to the campus community. This unity and bond emanate to our students, and the circle of influence expands further.

Lastly, I hope that all of you, as graduates, feel connected to the college as a collective family through the alumni association. Just as your own family can provide strength as a mechanism to encourage solid, healthy relationships, the college alumni association supports activities to enhance student learning, foster employment for graduates, and create collegial relationships that build the individual, the profession, and the reputation of Brigham Young University.

This issue features stories of ways to connect with the college alumni association, including plans for next year’s Night of Nursing broadcast watch parties. It also highlights an alumni’s perspective of her service in Africa, the latest recipients of the college DAISY recognition awards, and inspiring learning experiences with nursing students and faculty members.

The publication features the scholarly works of Dr. Deborah Himes and Scott Summers, spotlights faculty member Lacey Eden, introduces three new college professors, and includes a tribute to a beloved retiring faculty member, Dr. Mary Williams. The positive changes to our college family continue to grow.

I am pleased to announce the expansion of three new college programs. The scholarships, Distinguished Alumna, Miller’s legacy, as well as three new faculty members, exemplify that our nursing students are smart as well as compassionate and caring.

As a measure of the Healer’s art, the nurse’s calling is hard and we want students to be successful, we also realize that nursing is a caring profession and that GPA and ACT scores don’t necessarily measure caring and empathy. These adjustments ensure that our nursing students are smart as well as compassionate and caring.

I encourage you to join us as we continue on the path of excellent nursing education. We are ever grateful for all who support and assist the College of Nursing in our efforts to teach, learn, and practice the Healer’s art. 

_Patricia Ravert_  
Dean and Professor, BYU College of Nursing  
Learning the Healer’s Art  
Fall 2019

An Organization’s Impact: The Alumni Association at 20 Years  
The alumni association for the College of Nursing creates opportunities for alumni to network, reminisce, and have fun—both on campus and nationwide. See its influence and how you can enjoy its benefits.

Night of Nursing: A Tradition of Fun  
Each March, nursing alumni gather across the country in community broadcast watch parties to connect through a night of fun, laughter, prizes, and inspiring messages.

New and Retiring Faculty Members  
After 42 years of service, Dr. Mary Williams is retiring from the college. Read about her teaching legacy as well as three new faculty members just starting their college careers.

Patricia Ravert, Dean  
Jane Lauson, Associate Dean  
Kathena Mert, Associate Dean  
Kathy Whitehignt, Assistant Dean  
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FOR NEARLY TWO DECADES, the alumni association of the College of Nursing at Brigham Young University has supported students as they graduate, find jobs, and advance in their careers. Through the years, the organization supported the college’s 50- and 60-year celebrations, sponsored endowment fundraisers, saw dozens of faculty start employment or retire, and welcomed over 2,000 additional members to its group.

“The alumni association is more than individuals raising money for the college,” says dean and professor Dr. Patricia Ravert (AS ’74, BS ’75, MS ’94). “It is an organization focused on helping alumni connect with students, alumni to connect with each other, and [it] enlarges the spirit of the Y through community efforts. If you are not aware of what the association offers, you may be missing opportunities to mentor, reflect on, and support the programs of the college.”

Each year, the College Alumni Board sponsors 10 events for your participation—both on campus and throughout the nation—and several other methods for you to become involved with students and other nursing graduates.
This luncheon, which occurs on campus in October and February, allows alumni to share their career insights with senior nursing students. The format is similar to speed dating, with students changing tables each course of the meal to meet more people. There is no fee for alumni to participate, but space is limited. To attend, RSVP to nursingspr@byu.edu.
The university recently relaunched BYU Con

Jean M. Bigelow, “[Bush] brought about more than raising money. The alumni association is about more than raising money.

Our Focus

Connect alumni with students
((mentoring, clinicals, employment opportunities, pay-it-forward gifts)

Connect alumni to each other
((networking, career professional development, social activities, community)

Enlarge the spirit of the Y
((awards, program recognition, service projects, college magazine)

ALUMNI CHAIRS

2000-04 Carol Ann Bush
2005 Roger B. Buxton
2006 Mary Ann Last Young
2007-08 JoAnne Price Edwards
2009-12 Jane Callahan Coats
2013-17 Jean M. Bigelow
2016-19 Curtis C. Newman

IN 2000, THE UNIVERSITY FORMALIZED the organization of its alumni board with members who specifically represented each college on campus. Dean Elaine Marshall also took the opportunity to formally organize a College of Nursing Alumni Board. The founding president, Carol Ann Bush (BS ’65), gave countless hours to organizing the board, developing its mission and values, and promoting supportive relationships with students and faculty. According to Dean Marshall’s history book Learning the Healer’s Art, “[Bush] brought back the pinning ceremony, where students received their BYU nursing pin in a formal dinner ceremony. She recruited important members of the community and raised the visibility and stature of the college.”

The second board president was Roger B. Buxton (AS ’76, BS ’78). Marshall also states, “[Buxton] valiantly served while pursuing a doctoral degree in medical informatics and battling a diagnosis of cancer. He challenged nursing graduates to give back to the College of Nursing.” Buxton, 66, lost his battle and died in June 2006.

Mary Ann Last Young (AS ’74, BS ’77) followed, and she invited alumna and former member of the Relief Society General Board Mary Ellen Edmunds (BS ’82) to lend her name to the first major endowment for the college.

JoAnne Price Edwards (AS ’76) and Jane Callahan Coats (AS ’78) followed as capable leaders of the Alumni Board, including finding full funding for the Edmonds endowment. Coats helped the college celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2012, as well as establish a luncheon for alumni attending BYU Women’s Conference.

Under the leadership of Jean M. Bigelow (AS ’80, BS ’82), the association collected donations for the clinical practicum for the public and global health nursing course, organized a day of service that coincides with homecoming, and expanded to offer its creative Night of Nursing and speed luncheon events; the college also broadened its reach to alumni by doubling the number of magazine issues per year and sharing regular spotlight interactions with social media channels.

Besides leading the board, Curtis C. Newman (AS ’83) also supports the college as an adjunct professor for the Finland section of the clinical practicum for the public and global health nursing course.

All have led impressive boards who have donated thousands of hours to the college, “At times, we think about our own needs without considering how our behavior affects others,” says Ravert. “Ultimately, the person paying it forward grows as much as the person receiving the act of kindness. You may be the answer to a prayer or save another person’s life without even realizing it.”

You may make a contribution of any amount at give.byu.edu/nursing. There, you may choose if your gift is used toward students receiving scholarships (annual fund), being involved in international clinical practicums (public and global health), or learning from a faculty member outside of class through a scholarly works project (mentored learning).

Additional College-Sponsored Opportunities

PAY-IT-FORWARD SCHOLARSHIPS To pay it forward means that instead of paying the college or donor back for a received scholarship, you contribute to the college for someone else. “Some alumni think they need to make a sizeable gift to make a difference to the college,” says Ravert. “The sum of many small donations adds up and can combine to support students, faculty projects, and college programs in noticeable ways.”

Ravert also suggests that when you pay it forward three things happen: you change the circumstances of someone else for the better, you inspire generosity and compassion in others, and you consider others’ needs.

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University-Sponsored Opportunities

BYU CONNECT The university recently relaunched BYU Connect, a platform to facilitate professional mentoring and networking opportunities within the BYU community. It allows students and alumni to connect for (career advice, job/relocation questions, or even lunch appointments) and also allows alumni to build and maintain relationships with fellow alumni.

“I see this tool as a way for an alum to find and reach out to other alumni in beneficial ways,” says Ravert. “For example, an alumn may ask someone in Chicago the best place to live, or an individual moving to California may review a hospital with a classmate from the area before accepting a new position there.”

Being connected for good not only means staying connected to the BYU community long term but also means being built upon the foundation of doing good. Create a free account and start participating today at connect.byu.edu.

BYU RISE Share your story. RISE is a program designed to illustrate what alumni are currently doing in their lives. Whether you are raising a family, working as a professional, or leading a faculty team, RISE allows you to tell your story. This is a great way for alumni to reconnect with their roots and show how BYU influenced and prepared them for success in their current responsibilities. Anyone can submit an entry to RISE through the BYU Alumni website alumni.byu.edu/watch/cougars.

“Most nurses are humble or feel that they have not completed anything grand with their career,” says Ravert. “Remember, when you share an informative or inspirational narrative, you are not boasting—you are letting others know how your degree has made a difference. This helps promote the college, its faculty, and our program.”

 Tell others how your degree has made a difference.

BYU COLLEGE OF NURSING
Hosts Make Night of Nursing Come Alive

Hosts offered to make Night of Nursing happen in their hometown, wherever that may be. These hosts, who were not paid or compensated, opened their homes to fellow nurses and BYU alumni out of the goodness of their hearts.

Emily Dougall (BS ‘05, MS ’12) of Chesterfield, Michigan, was the gracious host for the Detroit, Michigan area. She was inspired to get involved after seeing pictures of Night of Nursing in other locations in 2018. She says, “After seeing friends and fellow BYU alumni post photos to Facebook last year of their Night of Nursing, I’ll admit I had a little Facebook envy. I felt left out. I decided I wanted to make it happen for my area the following year, even though I knew we’d be a very small gathering.” After making the preparations and using the hosting kit provided by the college, Dougall had great success.

Thanks to her employer, which provided some supplies, Dougall’s hosting skills excelled as the refreshments for the party resembled a medical clinic lab. There was apple juice in specimen cups (urine collection), marshmallows (cotton balls), licorice ropes (blood vessels), cups of candy (morning meds), and homemade brownies.

She says, “There were five of us—three BYU alumna with myself, Jennifer W. Maruri (BS ’00), and Annette J. Dahl (BS ’05), and two additional nursing friends we know from the area. We had a great night and plan to make it happen again next year. The best part was purely the chance to talk and share our varied experiences in career, educational, and family paths. It is so insightful to see how others use their degrees and how they balance life after their degree. If you are wondering whether you should attend or not, do it! Never miss a chance to connect with someone new.”

HUNDREDS OF NURSING ALUMNI. FORTY LOCATIONS. ONE NIGHT TO REMEMBER.

March 7, 2019, was the College of Nursing’s sixth annual Night of Nursing at Brigham Young University. This event took place on campus but was broadcast to locations across the country, connecting nursing alumni through a night of fun, laughter, prizes, and inspiring messages.

The idea for this event was sparked to help nursing alumni throughout the nation stay connected to the college while also learning of other nursing individuals in their communities for support and more networking opportunities. The evening focused on recruited hosts inviting nursing alumni and friends to their home; many sites joined a broadcast watch party. The college is also partnering with other nursing individuals in their communities for support and more networking opportunities. The evening focused on recruited hosts inviting nursing alumni and friends to their home; many sites joined a broadcast watch party. The college is also partnering with other nursing individuals in their communities for support and more networking opportunities.

One expansion for the Night of Nursing broadcast watch parties in 2020 is to include nursing alumni and friends of the university from BYU-Idaho!

By Quincy Taylor

LOCATIONS. ONE NIGHT TO REMEMBER.

A Tradition of Fun

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Nurses empathize with each other concerning the various experiences that they have in their line of work. By coming together, nurses strengthen one another and show that each is not alone. Heidi W. Schaber (BS ’05), the host for the Spokane, Washington, gathering, says, “I think nursing is a unique profession and one where we can make quick bonds with other nurses who have the same love of service and caring for others.”

Holly B. Simmons, a BYU Humanities alumnus from Arlington, Virginia, was the host for a Washington, DC, gathering. She believes it is important for nurses to have the chance to meet and says, “It helps to find other nurses who understand the stress; they provide advice and support to each other.” It was impactful to meet with other BYU alumni and share thoughts about their university experiences. She says, “One of our nurses shared several stories about his BYU professors and what they taught him.”

Each host is given the liberty to customize their gathering of how they choose. Hosts are encouraged to be creative and celebrate nursing in different ways. Simmons used Night of Nursing as an opportunity to teach stake youth about the BYU nursing program. Opportunities like this can be especially impactful to young people who are still thinking about who they want to become.

Another host shared how her guests opened up to each other and connected. She says, “I invited nursing students, and it lifted everyone. My guests ended up sharing testimonies. It was moving.” Even though this host did not originally plan to have a testimony meeting, the Spirit was felt by all who attended, and she was grateful for the event’s flexibility.

Corrine B. Nelson, a BYU Family, Home, and Social Sciences graduate, hosted the event for the Dallas, Texas, area. She went above and beyond by serving dinner while guests shared memories of their time at BYU. Each attendee felt that she cared for and appreciated them, even though she did not study nursing while in school.

Networking is another reason Night of Nursing is so helpful to nursing alumni. Tammy B. Rampton (BS ’05), the host of the Boise, Idaho, gathering, says, “In talking with one another, we were all able to share job opportunities and ideas for different situations and needs as well as just enjoy the feeling of being in a group where you have an instant connection and common interests.” By finding these connections, nurses can find the best opportunities for their careers.

She believes the best part of Night of Nursing was visiting and getting to know other nurses in her community. “Personally, my favorite part is hearing everyone’s story of what they have done in nursing and life since they graduated. They have worked in a variety of areas and had different ways of balancing nursing with the rest of life.”

College Support

To help make the process as seamless as possible, the College of Nursing staff helps hosts in any way they can. Assistance for advertising as well as potential activities is given to all volunteers. Once a location is determined, the college sends postcard invitations to alumni in the area informing them of the party details (time, location, host, etc.).

Every host is sent a hosting kit, or party-in-a-box, to make the experience memorable. Included in the kit are BYU swag and prizes, games, balloons, a list of BYU nursing alumni invited to the location, and extra invites. Simmons says her favorite part of the hosting kit was the recipe for BYU mint brownies. Making this dessert brings a little bit of BYU into the event, regardless of where you are.

“As hosts, party-in-a-box makes us feel supported by BYU—we certainly feel unity and the spirit of the Y.” Simmons relates. These gatherings, regardless of the number of attendees, can bring the spirit of the Y into the lives of BYU alumni in your area. Schaber says, “Hosting a Night of Nursing broadcast watch party is very memorable. Included in the kit are BYU mint brownie recipe, a reminder of BYU nursing alumni close by than we realized.”

Night of Nursing will be continued as a tradition of fun, bringing strangers together and making friends who otherwise might not have met.

The next Night of Nursing is Thursday, February 27, 2020. There are two ways to participate: Host. Let us know if you are willing to host an event in your community by emailing nurs-ingpr@byu.edu. Attend. In February 2020, visit nightofnursing.com to view location details.

Hosts appreciate the party-in-a-box:

The materials and information you need to be successful are provided (door prizes, raffle tickets, host guide, printed materials for participants, etc.)

- BYU swag, free stuff with a BYU logo is always welcome
- BYU mint brownie recipe, a reminder of being on campus
- Fun party games (with participant hand-outs included)
- Signage and balloons to make decorating a cinch

The extra invites are great to send out to nurses in the area who are not BYU grads but are interested in networking. Hosts may use the event to support their community, as an opportunity for youth in the community to learn about nursing as a career, as a university alumni chapter activity, or as a service project to support youth programs or collect refugee materials.

“In talking with one another, we were all able to share job opportunities and ideas for different situations and needs.”

—Tammy B. Rampton, Boise, ID
“This experience [with mentorship] has taught me how rich an educational experience can become simply by looking beyond the classroom!” says sixth-semester student Sarah Rushton. “During the rest of my time at BYU, I intend to continue to develop meaningful relationships with professors and look to explore different aspects of nursing.”

Rushton is one of several nursing students working on nearly three dozen scholarly works projects currently being offered as part of the college’s mentored-learning initiative.

One of the aims of a BYU education is to inspire students to lead a life of learning and service. To help achieve this vision, students work with nursing professors as part of Brigham Young University’s mentored-learning initiative, which encourages students to participate in extensive hands-on learning with faculty research or other projects that contribute to the discipline.

For the past school year, Rushton, along with recent graduate Camry A. Rogers (BS ’19), worked with associate professor Dr. Bret Lyman during her study of family health history. They encouraged students to participate in learning and service. To help achieve this, Rushton was one that helped Rogers (BS ’19), worked with associate professor Dr. Bret Lyman during her study of family health history. They encouraged students to participate in learning and service.

The team’s research focused on organizational learning in healthcare systems. Hammond describes organizational learning as “a process of positive change in an organization’s collective knowledge, cognition, and actions, which enhances the organization’s ability to achieve its desired outcomes.”

Dr. Lyman and his team have been trailblazers in researching how to apply organizational learning to a healthcare setting. This lack of information has allowed the team to lay the groundwork so that others can further study how to use this concept to achieve better patient outcomes in the hospital.

The group wanted to share their project with others, so they submitted three proposals for poster presentations at the WIN Conference. All were accepted and provided opportunities for the students to talk directly with session participants about their results. Poster topics included organizational learning during a significant hospital transition, instrument development for developmental stages of organizational learning, and instrument development for contextual factors of organizational learning. (See a video featuring students during the WIN Conference at nursing.byu.edu.)

While the research was underway, Hammond quickly learned the power of working in a team. “My favorite part of doing research was coming together after we had gone through the hard work of reading through articles,” she says. “I learned how to work effectively in a team which will help me as a nurse as well as in other aspects of life.”

Assistant professor Dr. Brett Lyman led another team attending the conference. He recruited fourth-semester student Kylee Thorum, graduates Margaret Hammond and Emily L. Hammond (BS ’19), and second-year graduate student Kalene Mears Ethington (BS ’15, MS ’19).

The inspiration may have already occurred during their 20-minute WIN presentation when both students stood at a podium in front of a room full of strangers and spoke about their project with Ray, its data, and its implications for nursing. They did not use notes, read from their digital slides, or even stammer for scientific answers during the Q&A session. Many of the conference attendees were surprised to find that Rogers and Rushton were not PhD or master’s candidates, but undergraduate students being mentored.

When asked about the profession, Hammond describes the presentation, Ray says, “My research assistants had to acquire knowledge and expertise in subject areas beyond classroom options. This required them to present findings naturally and to be able to discuss their research outcomes with interdisciplinary educators and healthcare professionals, among the reasons for the success of the university’s focus on experiential learning.”

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—SARAH RUSHTON

LEARNING THE HEALER’S ART | FALL 2019

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After giving a flawless podium presenta-
tion, Sarah Rushton (left) and Camry Rogers (right) smile with their professor and men-
tor Gaye Ray (center).
The College of Nursing at Brigham Young University continues to partner with the DAISY Foundation to recognize nursing professors and students who show extraordinary compassion.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nursing Faculty

SABRINA Jarvis

During her nursing career, associate teaching professor Dr. Sabrina Jarvis worked as a family nurse practitioner at the Salt Lake City Veterans Affairs Medical Center. During her clinical practice, Jarvis not only found fulfillment in nursing but was introduced to teaching. However, she reports, “It was quite the learning process.” She was shy and unfamiliar with giving presentations. Thankfully, she had a good mentor, one who could teach her about presentations and tap on a projector if she was going overtime. “As you go along, you learn,” Jarvis says. “I do not think you spring up being a full-blown teacher, you have to learn the craft.”

Those early experiences prepared Jarvis to teach at Brigham Young University, where she has been teaching for the past twelve years. For her, the craft of education is not just in planning lessons or grading projects; it is about the relationships she builds with her students. She lives life by a philosophy her father taught her: “In every encounter of everyone’s lives, Huang comments, “I wanted to be able to do that. I think I picked that up from Professor Gaye Ray my first semester. As a student, when a teacher calls you by name, you feel so important. I wanted to be able to do that. I think the little things can show a lot of compassion.”

Compassion is something Huang believes is essential in the workplace. She says, “When you’re in the hospital, you’re with people in their worst days. They need compassion at that moment.” Classmate Claire Weeks also shares an example of how Huang shows compassion daily: “Sherry never complains and can lift everyone else around her. Not only does she care for her patients, but she also cares for her other nursing students. For example, on our drive to clinical, it was her idea to make muffins. “When asked about this passion for individual lives, Huang comments, “I nominated her because I was impressed with how supportive and positive she was as she helped me during a project. She created an environment where I felt important and could turn to her for help if needed. I knew I had an advocate who wanted to see me excel. During the semester, she followed up and showed genuine care for me. My understanding of the Healer’s art has been expanded and deepened thanks to the example of Sabrina Jarvis.”

Of the student’s letter, Jarvis said, “It just touched my heart. You don’t think you’re having that impact on a person, and for her to take the time to share beautiful words, that to me was the award.” As a nurse, it has always been about making connections.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nursing Students

Sherry Huang

From bringing treats to class to remembering everyone’s names, Sherry Huang (BS ’19) truly emulates the spirit of the DAISY award.

Learning the names of all her patients and coworkers is important to Huang. Laura Grenfell, a fellow student, says about Huang, “In class, she knows everyone and is aware of the details of everyone’s lives. In clinical, she has come in the moment because you’re just trying to help someone, and you learn from them,” Jarvis says. A student who nominated Jarvis for the DAISY award wrote, “I nominated her because I was impressed with how supportive and positive she was as she helped me during a project. She created an environment where I felt important and could turn to her for help if needed. I knew I had an advocate who wanted to see me excel. During the semester, she followed up and showed genuine care for me. My understanding of the Healer’s art has been expanded and deepened thanks to the example of Sabrina Jarvis.”

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The DAISY Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 1999 by the family of Patrick Barnes. When he died at the age of 33 from complications of an autoimmune disease, the Barnes family decided to do something positive to honor him. After his death, they founded DAISY—an acronym for diseases attacking the immune system—to thank the nurses who cared for him and to recognize exceptional nurses around the world.

The college recognizes compassionate individuals each semester. Pictured are James Reinhardt (left), Sherry Huang, Dean Patricia Ravert, and Dr. Sabrina Jarvis.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nursing Faculty

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During her nursing career, associate teaching professor Dr. Sabrina Jarvis worked as a family nurse practitioner at the Salt Lake City Veterans Affairs Medical Center. During her clinical practice, Jarvis not only found fulfillment in nursing but was introduced to teaching. However, she reports, “It was quite the learning process.” She was shy and unfamiliar with giving presentations. Thankfully, she had a good mentor, one who could teach her about presentations and tap on a projector if she was going overtime. “As you go along, you learn,” Jarvis says. “I do not think you spring up being a full-blown teacher, you have to learn the craft.”

Those early experiences prepared Jarvis to teach at Brigham Young University, where she has been teaching for the past twelve years. For her, the craft of education is not just in planning lessons or grading projects; it is about the relationships she builds with her students. She lives life by a philosophy her father taught her: “In every encounter of everyone’s lives, Huang comments, “I wanted to be able to do that. I think the little things can show a lot of compassion.”

Compassion is something Huang believes is essential in the workplace. She says, “When you’re in the hospital, you’re with people in their worst days. They need compassion at that moment.” Classmate Claire Weeks also shares an example of how Huang shows compassion daily: “Sherry never complains and can lift everyone else around her. Not only does she care for her patients, but she also cares for her other nursing students. For example, on our drive to clinical, it was her idea to make muffins. “When asked about this passion for individual lives, Huang comments, “I nominated her because I was impressed with how supportive and positive she was as she helped me during a project. She created an environment where I felt important and could turn to her for help if needed. I knew I had an advocate who wanted to see me excel. During the semester, she followed up and showed genuine care for me. My understanding of the Healer’s art has been expanded and deepened thanks to the example of Sabrina Jarvis.”

Of the student’s letter, Jarvis said, “It just touched my heart. You don’t think you’re having that impact on a person, and for her to take the time to share beautiful words, that to me was the award.” As a nurse, it has always been about making connections.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nursing Students

SHERRY HUANG

From bringing treats to class to remembering everyone’s names, Sherry Huang (BS ’19) truly emulates the spirit of the DAISY award.

Learning the names of all her patients and coworkers is important to Huang. Laura Grenfell, a fellow student, says about Huang, “In class, she knows everyone and is aware of the details of everyone’s lives. In clinical, she has come in the moment because you’re just trying to help someone, and you learn from them,” Jarvis says. A student who nominated Jarvis for the DAISY award wrote, “I nominated her because I was impressed with how supportive and positive she was as she helped me during a project. She created an environment where I felt important and could turn to her for help if needed. I knew I had an advocate who wanted to see me excel. During the semester, she followed up and showed genuine care for me. My understanding of the Healer’s art has been expanded and deepened thanks to the example of Sabrina Jarvis.”

Of the student’s letter, Jarvis said, “It just touched my heart. You don’t think you’re having that impact on a person, and for her to take the time to share beautiful words, that to me was the award.” As a nurse, it has always been about making connections.

The DAISY Foundation is a nonprofit organization established in 1999 by the family of Patrick Barnes. When he died at the age of 33 from complications of an autoimmune disease, the Barnes family decided to do something positive to honor him. After his death, they founded DAISY—an acronym for diseases attacking the immune system—to thank the nurses who cared for him and to recognize exceptional nurses around the world.

The college recognizes compassionate individuals each semester. Pictured are James Reinhardt (left), Sherry Huang, Dean Patricia Ravert, and Dr. Sabrina Jarvis.
Alumni Updates

As part of the Western Institute of Nursing (WIN) annual conference, attending faculty and students came together with local alumni at a college reception in San Diego, Califor- 

nia, in April 2019. The college will sponsor another event next April 16 in Portland, Oregon.

Former college dean Dr. Elaine S. Marshall turned 70 in March, and two retired faculty members turned 75—JoAnn C. Abegglen (BS ’67, MS ’93) in February and Dr. Barbara H. Mandleco in May.

Susan W. Garbett (BS ’73) is beginning her 24th year as a nursing instructor at BYU- Idaho teaching medical-surgical and geron-

tology courses.

Catherine Tooki Whittaker (AS ’74) was given the 2019 Utah Mother of Achievement award by the Utah Mothers Association. She retired after 45 years of being a labor and delivery nurse at Utah Valley Hos-

pital and helped deliver over 3,000 babies during her career. Catherine is the current MS, Utah Senior America and third runner-

up at the national pageant in 2018.

Deanna H. Bell (AS ’78) has been the cli-

cal director for HonorHealth Piper Surgery Center in Scottsdale, Arizona, for the past 15 years. Before this position, she served as its OR supervisor, a peripatetic specialty coordinator for plastics and reconstructive surgery, and an OR staff nurse.

Deanne Everson Welch (AS ’80) of Palo Alto, California, has retired after a 38-year career as a registered nurse at Stanford Health Care in various capacities, including oncology, cardiology, and home care. To stay busy, she works part-time in utilization management and case management. She received a master of science degree in health services administration from St. Mary’s Col-

lege in Moraga, California, in 1997.

Lorie H. Mitchell (AS ’81) has retired after 19 years as a nurse manager at Intermountain Healthcare. She managed the daily operations and staff of a 24-bed adult critical care ICU.

Aleta N. Billadeau (AS ’83) began a new position as an associate professor at New Hampshire Technical Institute, a commu-

nity college in Concord, New Hampshire. Prior to this appointment, she worked for 28 years at Concord Hospital as a nurse educator. She then took 18 months to serve as a mission nurse specialist in Queen City North, Philippine.

Lori Jones Eining (BS ’88) is the director of operations for regional women’s newborns, and pediatrics clinical programs for the Intermountain Healthcare Central Region. She obtained her master of nursing in nursing administration from Walden University.

Marianne M. Bennett (BS ’89) has spent the last eight years as a clinical services man-


Carolyn C. Lewis (BS ’92) finished her first year as director of nursing at Lutheran University in Sugarin, Texas. She obtained a doctor of philosophy from Texas Women’s University in 2005 and taught as an associ-
te professor at East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma, before her current position.

Bonnie L. Jacklin (MS ’95) is a senior nurse executive director for the office of patient experience at University HealthCare in Salt Lake City. Previously, she served as the chief nurse officer for Intermountain Health-
care’s North Region for nine years.

Jared W. Ollersten (BS ’98) has been a nurse anesthetist for 12 years at Madison Anesthe-
sia in Rexburg, Idaho.

Terri C. Hunter (BS ’99) is a nurse adminis-
trator at American Fork Hospital. She received a master of public administration from BYU in 2009 and then served as the director of patient care services at LDS Hospital for nine years.

Kelly K. Wosnik (BS ’99, MS ’03) will be honored during homecoming with the col-
lege’s Alumni Achievement Award and will present a campus lecture to alumni, students, and friends on Thursday, October 17, at 11 a.m. in room 270 of the Kimball Tower. Wos-

nik is a nurse practitioner and owner of Bris-
tol Health, a clinic that offers mental health medication management in Orem. Utah. She has also worked as the medical director for a local pet food manufacturer and established its on-site healthcare clinic for employees and their families.

David R. Hurst (BS ’00) recently started a new position as clinical nurse administrator for Alta View Health in Sandy, Utah.

Margaret Ashley South (BS ’00) is a certified pediatric nurse at Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston, Texas. After two years of nurs-
ing experience, she took a 13-year hiatus to focus on her family. Her “second career” in nursing started in 2014 with the completion of the semester-long RN refresher course at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. She completed the pediatric nurse residency program at Methodist Chil-

dren’s Hospital in San Antonio, Texas, and has been working as a pediatric nurse in the acute care setting since 2015.

Melanie Hope Oddo (BS ’03) began a new position as a women’s health nurse practi-

tioner at Kaiser Permanente. She has had 10 years of experience in full-scope OB/GYN practice.

Jaclyn Coleman Thatcher (BS ’12) com-
pleted a doctor of nursing practice at Wash-

ington State University. Her DNP project focused on using historical medical visits for chronic pain management in the rural primary care setting. She has also been teaching at WSU in their undergraduates and RN-BSN programs for the past four years. Her family recently moved to New Jersey where so her husband could complete a five-year urology residency.

Quincey McGuire Melonakos (BS ’13) recently completed a doctor of nursing prac-
tice from the University of Utah and looks forward to providing healthcare for patients of all ages. She has been working at Primary Children’s Hospital the last four years.

Erika Brown Lewis (BS ’15) completed a doc-	or of nursing practice from the University of Utah and holds certifications in crisis preven-
tion institute training, advanced cardiac life support, and trauma nursing core course.

The following life sketches are not vetted and were obtained from online obituaries; they are not the high-level nursing influence each offered as college alumni.

The first dean of BYU College of Nursing, Vivian Heman Mitchell, helped establish the new School of Nursing in 1971, including over-

seeing its first uniform, the program curriculum, and recruiting and hiring faculty and colleagues. Vivian, 97, died December 2018.

Joyce Clawson Ward (BS ’69) was among the first graduates from the BYU College of Nursing. After graduation, she worked in neonatal intensive care at a large children’s hospital before returning to Orem, Utah. She has also worked as the medical director for a local pet food manufacturer and established its on-site healthcare clinic for employees and their families.

Norma Twee Bemstrom (BS ’56), Salt Lake City, UT, was among the first students selected from the BYU College of Nursing. After graduation, she worked in emergency medicine in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. Upon retirement, she spent 20 years as a nurse at moving Memorial Hospital until retiring and later worked part-time as a paper man-

ufacturer as an industrial nurse, where she finished her career. He was a member of the American Guild of Organists and enjoyed playing the organ and piano. Kenneth, 79, died September 2018.

Joyce Clarence Ward (BS ’69), Whiteakers, UT. Upon graduation, Joyce married her husband, Lorin, and they spent her nursing skills to use in Southern California, raising nine daughters and a son. She attended school to become a certified midwife and delivered 155 babies, including six of her 46 grand-

children. After time in the Provo and Phoenix areas, they relocated to Verona, Utah, where Joyce worked as a registered nurse in the home healthcare sys-

 tem for ten years. Joyce, 72, died June 2019.

Kathryn Lee Gillette Elliott (AS ’70), West Jordan, UT. Kathryn worked at LDS Hospital for nearly 45 years. She was an adventuress person and enjoyed riding rafting and hiking. Kathryn, 70, died January 2019.

Sara Dean Orton Black (BS ’72), Beaver, UT. Sara worked for 25 years as the director for nursing at Beaver Valley Hospital. There she mentored many healthcare providers and taught them what it meant to care for the sick and injured. She returned to Beaver County. She helped deliver countless babies, who each received a pair of her knitted booties. Following her career, she continued to serve and mentor others who desired to obtain an educa-

tion or career in the healthcare industry, includ-

ing her 12 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, and 27 great-great-grandchildren. Sara, 93, died December 2018.

Ellen Rau Jacobsen Meaders (BS ’72), Taylorsville, UT. Upon graduation, Ellen married her husband, William. After working three years as a registered nurse, she “retired” from nursing to raise eight children and 13 grandchildren. Ellen, 69, died April 2019.

Rosanne Schwartz (BS ’78, MS ’81), Highland, UT. Education was an important part of Rosanne’s life, and she received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Brigham Young University and a doc-

tate from the University of Florida in Gainesville. Her career began at LDS Hospital, where she practiced for many years. She became an associ-

ate professor at BYU and was a nurse practitioner at a family practice in Payson, where she served for many years. She also helped many others in need. Rosanne, 75, may die 2019.
By 6:45 a.m., a howling of mourners. The headlights of displaced people walking to nowhere waited vehicles. On horizoning a sort of base in which every major entity, and out to waiting vehicles. On horizoning a sort of base in which every major organization had been headquartered. We were with the G7 of the Givers operation. They took our passports, got us through security, and out to waiting vehicles. On horizoning, in the dark, with thousands of displaced people walking to nowhere alongside the car, I listened to the wailing howls of mourners. The headlights showed glimpses of catastrophic destruction, and the smell of stagnant water and rot was pungent. Eventually, we arrived at a mostly intact hotel where international relief efforts were gathered in small piles outside of destroyed homes, but I never saw enough to last a family for more than two weeks. Ten days since the cyclone hit, food was running low.

DAY TWO

After team briefing, we headed back to the base (the airport), where small groups would be deployed throughout the day to camps in different rural villages. I was in the first wave, sent in a tiny helicopter to assess the health of survivors in the areas that had not yet received care or food. We arrived at the camp, and my team got into a boat to head down the crocodile-infested river in search of the villages. Most of the findings were dehydrated infants and pediatric infections. We assessed and treated with the limited resources we had. Back at camp, I searched out and met the resident doctor of the main tribe and quickly formed a relationship. Using my Spanish and limited Portuguese, he and I decided to open his clinic the next day to the public, combining his nursing and our medical team. Just before sunset, a miracle occurred, and a huge shipment of food and medical supplies arrived.

DAY THREE

By 6:45 a.m., a line of patients formed. With five nurses, a pharmacist, three doctors, and four medics, we set up a triage station and three clinic rooms. One medico diffused the chaos by offering pieces of paper to each person, give the people something to hold—a ticket number, a prescription, or a diagnosis—and we can institute calm, we realized. Around noon, I was asked to go with a doctor on a helicopter to visit a village that had received no medical care due to impassable roads and nearby river. On arrival, I immediately spoke with the elders and the chief to broker a relationship. The chief was responsible for 28,820 people. Because it was harvest season, the tribe had been on the verge of collecting their crops for the next year. Now, everything was gone. The remaining crops were gathered in small piles outside of destroyed homes, but I never saw enough to last a family for more than two weeks. Ten days since the cyclone hit, food was running low.

DAY FOUR

I brought my medical team across the river to another village. After building a relationship with the chief, we decided that he would call out the name of the father of every family, and each would step forward to take his ration of food and water. In the meantime, my team addressed the medical concerns of the women, children, and severely wounded.

DAY FIVE

After seeing patients and performing some early morning surgeries, my time came. It was devastating to leave both my team and the Mozambicans when I had so much more to give. I am grateful every day for the education I received at BYU and intend to forever "go forth and serve" wherever I may be.

"Had you asked me while I was in school if I would be a professor, I would have been, 'no, I will never be good enough to do something like that.' But Beth [Luthy] has been my mentor and my guidance. Through her I realized that it's doable.”

Eden never dreamed that she would one day teach at the university she attended. However, her nursing journey has brought her back to where she began. After she graduated as a family nurse practitioner, Eden started working with associate professor Dr. Beth M. Luthy (MS ‘05) at an urgent care clinic. The more she heard Luthy talk about her responsibilities as a university professor, the more interested Eden became.

"Had you asked me while I was in school if I would be a professor, I would have been, ‘no, I will never be good enough to do something like that.’ But Beth [Luthy] has been my mentor and my guidance. Through her I realized that it’s doable.”

As a BYU alum, how has your College of Nursing degree blessed or saved a life? Submit experiences to nursing@byu.edu. Published stories will receive a pair of college-logo socks.

Faculty Spotlight: Lacey Eden

Associate teaching professor Lacey M. Eden (BS ‘02, MS ’09) is a busy woman. She spends her time as a BYU faculty member, the proud mother of three children (including two teenagers), a student attending the University of Utah, and engaged in multiple activities. Her old-est recently learned to drive on the highway; this was a teaching opportunity Eden readily left for her husband, Brett, whom she met while on BYU Cheer Squad when they were seniors.

Family is a huge support for Eden, especially as she works towards her doctorate at the University of Utah. Eden says, “There are days when I’m sitting on the couch, and my daughter’s working on her homework and I look at her, and I say, ‘You have homework too, but I have no desire to do it. How are you doing that right now?’ and she says, ‘You can do it, Mom. When I count to five, get up, and do it!’ She is my cheerleader.”

Working at an urgent care facility once a week allows Eden to maintain her license by doing patient care. She is grateful for the experiences and says, “It allows me to bring experiences that I have in the clinic to the classroom. I can say to my students, ‘I saw this patient yesterday. These were his symptoms. What do you want to know? What do you think it is? How do you want to treat him?’ I think it brings the application of the content they are learning to life. It adds so much value to the education that you are providing.”

Each year, she teaches health policy and finance courses as well as a graduate clinical practicum. She shares policy insights as she works with Luthy and the Utah Legislature on passing healthcare bills on immunizations and items affecting nurse practitioners.

Her passion for promoting immunizations developed when she found out her children attended the school with the lowest vaccination rates in Utah County. Eden has also had personal experience with patients exposed to preventable diseases in her practice. She says, “Seeing those tiny, vulnerable patients being exposed to terrible diseases that are preventable is just crazy to me.”

Eden, who is also the chair of the immunization special interest group for the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNP), recently starred in some training videos for nurse practitioners. Promoting the meningitis B vaccine, these videos provide nurses with the skills to know what to say in order to educate their patients and parents on the importance of this vital vaccine (details at bit.ly/2Qca8fS).

She is excited to continue pursuing her passions, including teaching at BYU. “My entire life has been highly influenced because of the opportunities that have come my way.”

"Seeing those tiny, vulnerable patients being exposed to terrible diseases that are preventable is just crazy to me."
New Faculty

Enter to Learn, Return to Teach
Denise Cummins, Assistant Teaching Professor, DNP, RN, WHNP-BC

When it comes to gaining an education, Denise Cummins (AS '83) is not hesitant about traveling afar. She came from England after joining the Church to attend BYU, where she earned her first nursing degree. She has lived in California since graduating but has earned additional degrees and credentials from BYU–Idaho, Frontier Nursing University in Kentucky, the University of Sheffield in England, and, most recently, from the University of Utah, where she completed a doctoral program in nursing.

The traveling continues! Within weeks of starting her BYU position, she and another nursing professor took a group of nursing students to India, working with a Hindu organization and caring for families affected by leprosy as part of the clinical practicum for the public and global health nursing course.

Cummins's professional experience is just as unique. After becoming a registered nurse, she cared for women and babies in a variety of settings, including small community hospitals, a large university teaching hospital, a midwife clinic, and even a mobile health van. Later, after becoming a nurse practitioner, she supervised a hospital-based maternal-infant medicine clinic, serving women with high-risk pregnancies, and coordinated its perinatal research program. Most recently, Cummins was the director of quality and regulatory compliance for a rural hospital district, while concurrently teaching an online nursing research class for BYU–Idaho.

She considers her undergraduate education at BYU to be one of the great privileges of her life. It prepared her not only for a career in nursing but to live a life and raise a family centered on the gospel of Jesus Christ. As a new faculty member, she is excited and honored to help students prepare for these experiences in their own lives. After entering BYU to learn, then going forth to serve, she is pleased to return to teach. Cummins currently instructs the nursing care of women and newborns course and clinical labs, and scholarly inquiry in nursing.

When she is not in the hospital or teaching, you will find her traveling between California and Utah, where much of her family still resides.

The Spiritual Side to Healthcare
Brandon Thatcher, Assistant Teaching Professor, PMHNP-BC

Realizing that teaching seminary may not pay the bills but wanting to use spirituality and helping others to make a difference in a career, assistant teaching professor Brandon Thatcher earned a bachelor of art in Spanish from Utah State University as a prerequisite for a fast track nursing program. He then earned a bachelor's degree in 2009 and a master's degree in 2013—both in nursing from the University of Utah.

Before becoming a board-certified psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner (PMHNP), he worked for five years as the charge nurse and both the child and adolescent inpatient units at the University Neuropsychiatric Institute in Salt Lake City. As a PMHNP, he worked in various settings including a psychiatric crisis center, several substance use disorder treatment centers, therapeutic boarding schools, and at the BYU Student Health Center on an outpatient basis.

Thatcher has also been an adjunct clinical instructor for the BYU College of Nursing since 2014. He recently teamed up with professor emerita Dr. Barbara Heise for a publication on child suicide screening methods.

He currently teaches the stress management course, preview to nursing course, and the psych/mental health nursing class and clinical. During the 2019 spring term, he accompanied another professor and ten nursing students in Ghana, Africa, as part of the clinical practicum for the public and global health nursing course.

Employment at the university lets him include a spiritual side to healthcare when teaching students. He values the religious aspects that can be added to mental health discussion and healing. As a practitioner with the Health Well Center, he saw the Lord’s hand in many things. “When a student requested a few or many additional minutes for a session, the subsequent time slots would always cancel, allowing the time we needed. This happened in every instance I needed more time with my patients for three and a half years,” he shares.

He and his wife, Danina, have three children. He enjoys family time most of all, playing guitar, wrestling kids (for own), water color painting, and spending time outdoors.

An Advocate for Maternal and Newborn Health
Noreen B. Oeding, Assistant Teaching Professor, RN, DNP-NNP

Caring for babies, especially those in need, has always been the career focus of assistant teaching professor Noreen Oeding.

For the past decade, she has worked in the newborn intensive care unit of the Utah Valley Hospital and assisted in mentoring and training new nurses and nursing students. She even directed an educational discharge and developmental care video for parent instruction.

Her clinical rotations gave her experience at Primary Children’s Hospital, Intermountain Medical Center, the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, the Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls, and the Bergan Mercy Hospital in Omaha, Nebraska.

She will tell you that her associate’s and bachelor’s degrees from Brigham Young University–Idaho in 2010 prepared her well for future opportunities. As a student, she worked in the university’s student health center and was an active participant with the campus student wellness committee.

Oeding completed a doctor of nursing practice to become a neonatal nurse practitioner, from Creighton University in 2018. Working on this terminal degree the student was allowed to create a quality improvement project to develop an evidence-based postpartum feeding guideline for infants with gastrostomies. Since then she has shared her knowledge of her gastrostomies feeding protocol as podium presentations for a Sigma conference in Nebraska and at the National Association of Neonatal Nurses research summit in Scottsdale, Arizona.

She currently teaches the care of children and families class and labs. During the spring term, she worked with a group of nursing students completing rotations at the Hope Clinic and Jordan Valley Hospital as part of the vulnerable populations section of the clinical practicum for the public and global health nursing course.

Oeding says that being at BYU provides an opportunity for faculty and students to learn, grow, and teach each other while utilizing the Spirit and power of God to seek truth and knowledge. It is also an opportunity to excel and challenge each other to grow mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually outside of campus or the hospital. Oeding is with her two favorite people in the whole world—her husband, Matthew, and her adorable son. “I love being a wife and mother; it is the most fulfilling thing I have ever done!”

Establishing “Learning the Healer’s Art”
Mary Williams, Associate Professor, RN, PhD

After 41 years of heart-felt service to the College of Nursing at Brigham Young University, associate professor Dr. Mary Williams (BS ’71) retired in July 2019.

As a student in 1967, caring faculty taught Williams the power of her potential, the love of nursing, and how to care for patients in the Savior’s way. After she failed medical school, faculty member Chloë D. Tillery (BS ’58) gave her private lessons. (Williams can still make the tightest bed and the best square corner.) She graduated in 1971 and went to work for LDS Hospital as a staff nurse, assistant head nurse, and head nurse.

In 1978, she accepted a teaching position at the College of Nursing and began teaching introductory and advanced medical/surgical and ICU courses. She returned to school and obtained a master’s degree from the University of Utah and a doctor of philosophy from the University of Arizona.

Williams became the associate dean for the graduate program in 1990 and served in that capacity with five college deans for 27 years (until June 2017). She was the chair of the college’s 40th-, 50th-, and 60th-anniversary celebrations and was instrumental in establishing “Learning the Healer’s art” as the mantra for the program (it was the theme of the 40-year gala).

Professional and community service have enriched her life as she served the Utah Board of Nursing, the Utah Hospital Association, and, for the past 20 years, as chair of the Mountain View Hospital board of directors.

In 2009, Williams was honored with the university’s Wesley P. Lloyd Award for Distinction in Graduate Education. Her influence in student research has kept the students and their theses strong. She has chaired over 44 master’s projects or theses, served as a committee member for an additional 42, and coauthored or written more than 30 publications focusing on timely issues and trends in the nursing industry.

What’s next? Williams, who raised four of her deceased sister’s six children, plans to spend more time with them and her 17 grandchildren. She will find time for church service and take time to travel or visit new places. Mostly she will frequently ponder how blessed she is to have such good friends associated with her time at the university.
One important aspect of faculty members doing research in their field is the opportunity to have students involved in the process. Through mentoring, students can become inspired and narrow their focus for future careers. Assistant professor Dr. Deborah Himes (BS ‘91) looks for occasions to include students in her research on communication regarding breast cancer risk and family genetics.

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 genetic makeup. During the past four years, Himes has shifted her focus from quantitative analysis of breast cancer patients and their communication habits to a deeper dive into qualitative research by analyzing one-on-one interviews. “I previously coauthored this research,” Himes explained. “I used this approach for my current interview.”

She found that when professionals use terms like “uninformative negative” or “indefinite negative,” patients are not sure how to interpret those terms to tell their family members. Himes has also discovered interesting correlations in her research between family communication and genetics knowledge in unaffected family members who did not attend genetic counseling. In an article she worked on with Sarah G. Davis (BS ‘11, MS ‘18), they stated, “Participants who reported higher levels of information shared by a family member about information learned during a genetic counseling session also demonstrated increased knowledge about breast cancer genetics.”

This suggests that family communication is critical in increasing genetic test results awareness. Though these findings cannot determine causation, the correlation is worth noting.¹

Another publication coauthored by Himes and Aubrey E. Root (BS ‘10, MS ‘17) has gained considerable attention from peers and healthcare providers.² The article, which includes instructions for calculating lifetime risk for breast cancer related to hereditary genetic mutations, has over 50,000 online views. Himes is pleased that her research has become a useful tool in the hands of genetic professionals and hopes to see the usage grow. She is eager to share her research results, even presenting at this year’s National Student Nurses Association annual conference in Salt Lake City on the future of nurses’ roles in genetics.

Addressing an audience of over 3,500 nursing students, Himes took the opportunity to share her knowledge with the next generation of genetic experts. She continually finds ways to include students in her research and help them become passionate about fighting cancer.

Himes shifted her focus . . . to a deeper dive into qualitative research by analyzing one-on-one interviews. . . . [She] discovered that study participants did not have a very strong understanding of what genetic test results mean and what they potentially indicate.

When a genetic professional first informs the patient of their genetic test results, the information is accurate and reliable. However, once the patient shares that information with a relative who then shares it with a different health-care provider, the true meaning becomes muddled. However, if a direct line of communication from a healthcare provider to another healthcare provider is established, confusion would be avoided.

Himes has worked with several graduate students to find a solution to this issue. In an article coauthored by graduate student Deborah G. Gibbons (MS ‘19), Himes interprets the common misconceptions patients have about their test results.³ They found that when professionals use terms like “uninformative negative” or “indefinite negative,” patients are not sure how to interpret those terms to tell their family members. Himes has also discovered interesting correlations in her research between family communication and genetics knowledge in unaffected family members who did not attend genetic counseling. In an article she worked on with Sarah G. Davis (BS ‘11, MS ‘18), they stated, “Participants who reported higher levels of information shared by a family member about information learned during a genetic counseling session also demonstrated increased knowledge about breast cancer genetics.”

Note


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A Mentored Comfort and Care Study

For her master’s thesis, Elizabeth “Libby” Willmore (BS ’16) is researching ways to improve end-of-life care for dying intensive care patients and their families. This study involves working directly with nursing professor Dr. Reneā Beckstrand (AS ‘81, BS ’83, MS ’87), who completed the initial research and has studied this topic during the last 24 years.

As part of the graduate program and the university’s Inspiring Learning Initiative, Willmore learned first-hand how to work ethically and accurately. She organized and analyzed large data sets, and collaborated with Beckstrand on how to determine and present the major themes.

We are grateful for generous alumni and friends of the BYU College of Nursing who help create these types of experiences for nursing students. Please consider making a gift today at give.byu.edu/nursing (and select the “Nursing Mentored Learning” account).

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<th>[some of the inspiring learning outcomes]</th>
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<tr>
<td>Develop skills to conduct nursing</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>research in the future</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete graduate school and advanced</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>learning</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Beyond classrooms, labs, and clinicals—this is mentored learning!

To make a gift to the mentored and inspiring learning endowed fund, contact Dean Patricia Ravert at 801-422-1167 or patricia-ravert@byu.edu.