



EASTERN
SCHOOL OF NURSING

NURSING CONNECTIONS

Academic Year: 2020-2021
Term: Spring-Summer

A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN



Welcome to our inaugural School of Nursing newsletter! We are proud of the many accomplishments of our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. This newsletter will be a fresh, new way for us to share the good things that are happening with our friends and colleagues. With the support of our editorial team including **Dr. Mary Boylston**, Professor of Nursing, and **Deborah Rosen**, Coordinator of Practicum Experiences and Nursing Support, we are planning for a biannual edition of the newsletter in summer and winter.

The first half of 2021 has been an incredibly busy time for the School of Nursing community. Some highlights include:

- In January we welcomed cohort 17 into our BSN2 (second degree) program. These students are fully immersed in their education with a graduation date of December 2022.
- Also, in January, we welcomed cohort 4 into our MSN Nurse Educator program.
- The School of Nursing hosted a successful CCNE accreditation visit for our new, fully on-line MSN Nurse Educator program March 15-17. We look forward to the final report in November 2021. Thank you to the entire Eastern University community for their participation and support in this process.
- The Pinning ceremony for the TBSN (traditional) Class of 2021 was held on May 6. It was a beautiful event filled with hope and inspiration. **Professor Kimberlee Guevin** served as the Key Note speaker.
- On April 26, seventeen BSN students and two BSN students were inducted into Sigma Theta Tau Delta Tau Chapter at Large. Congratulations to all on this professional honor, and a special thanks to our Eastern University Chapter Vice President, **Dr. Mary Boylston** and Faculty Counselor, **Dr. Patrizia Fitzgerald** for their guidance.
- Also in April, **Professor Kristin Shaub**, Faculty Advisor for the Eastern University SNAP chapter, guided the first group of Eastern students to the National Student Nurses Association convention. Students **Adam Henry**, **Priscilla Kongo**, **Christina Phillips**, **Anastasia Posse**, and SNAP student co-Presidents **Madison Dopp** and **Sarah Smart** all took advantage of this exceptional opportunity to network and engage with their national organization. Well done!
- May 10 and 11 were days of celebration as Eastern University gathered at the Mann Center for the commencement ceremonies honoring the Class of 2020 and Class of 2021. What a wonderful experience to gather together in celebration and expectation! Professor Emeritus, **Dr. Christine Jackson**, provided the benediction at the Class of 2020 ceremony.



Pinning Photo by: Natalie Ko, TBSN Class of 2021

As we look forward to the promise of sunshine and the bright days of summer, the School of Nursing is also looking to the future with expectation and gratitude. Proverbs 16:3 reminds us to commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. We thank you for your contributions to our success and for God's ever enduring faithfulness.

With gratitude,
Melissa

SIGMA THETA TAU

On April 11, 2021 seventeen School of Nursing students were inducted into the 2021 Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Delta Tau Chapter at Large.



Congratulations to:

Merrick Adams	Adedoyin Onafedeji
Eleana Benner	Chinenye Osuji
Erin Bovelie	Noah Reichner
Rebekah Brown	Jasmin Stone*
Jaelyn deJesus	Jenna Tomarelli
Gabriella Kaiafas	Hannah Venables
Christina Katkocin	Anna Wang
Haleigh Kline	
Natalie Ko	
María Marziano*	* denotes MSN student

CONNECT WITH US!



Like and share our new Eastern University School of Nursing page!



Email us with updates and photos that you'd like to appear in the newsletter or on our Facebook page!

IN THE NEWS!

Main Line Today has recognized the following nurses as the finest in the region:

Intensive Care/Critical Care Adjuncts

Annamarie Anastasio, Bryn Mawr Hospital medical surgical clinical adjunct

Kathy McCrossan, Lankenau Hospital, medical surgical clinical adjunct

Annemarie Subranni, Lankenau Hospital, clinical skills lab instructor

Alumna

Patty Bedford, Lankenau Hospital

Kim Andrien, Chester County Hospital

MEET OUR NEW FACULTY & STAFF



The School of Nursing welcomes **Professor Antonia Scanterbury MSN, MBS, RN-BC** as an affiliate faculty member. Professor Scanterbury brings more than 30 years of clinical experience in adult health nursing and is employed at Jeane's Hospital in Philadelphia. Throughout her career, Professor Scanterbury has served in management and leadership roles while serving as a preceptor for new graduate nurses. She is a 2011 graduate of Eastern's MBA Health Administration program.



Welcome to **Dr. Cindi Snyder PhD, MSN, RN** as Assistant Professor. Dr. Snyder comes to us with over 40 years of clinical and education experience at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center where she has served as a clinician, educator, and researcher. Dr. Snyder's clinical background includes pediatric and adolescent endocrinology and her research focuses on sleep behaviors in adolescence. Dr. Snyder will be teaching Chronic Disease, Community Health Nursing, and Nursing Research in the undergraduate program.



Alyssa Rosenbluth MSN, RN, CCRN will be joining us as a full time Lecturer in Nursing this fall. Professor Rosenbluth has clinical expertise as a Cardiac Education Nurse Specialist and as a staff nurse in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She is also an experienced adjunct lecturer and clinical instructor with a passion for simulation education. Professor Rosenbluth earned a BS in Biochemistry from Villanova before returning for a second degree in nursing at Villanova University followed by an MSN in Nursing Education from Drexel University. Welcome, Professor Rosenbluth!



Welcome to **Molly Phillips MSN, RN, CMSRN** who joined us in summer session and will begin as a full time Lecturer of Nursing in fall semester. Professor Phillips has experience as a clinical instructor and is most recently employed as a staff nurse on a medical/surgical telemetry unit at Lehigh Valley Health Network. Professor Phillips earned a BA in Health Sciences and Spanish from Gettysburg College before returning for a second degree in nursing at Thomas Jefferson University followed by an MSN in Nursing Education from Messiah College.



Kimberly McManiman MS, BSN, RN is the new Coordinator of the Nursing Resource and Simulation Lab. Kim has more than 30 years of clinical nursing experience primarily at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia where her clinical specialty has been in perioperative nursing. Kim earned her first degree from Eastern University in foundational and general sciences followed by a BSN from Thomas Jefferson University and an MS in Health Services Management from Eastern University. Welcome, Kim!

A FOND FAREWELL

Professors **Michelle Cawley, Kimberlee Guevin, and Kristin Shaub** have departed the School of Nursing to pursue new opportunities in clinical practice and nursing education. It is with sadness that we say good-bye, but we will continue to look forward to working with them as colleagues and friends of the School of Nursing. Thank you for your many contributions and we wish you well in your new endeavors!

MSN UPDATES FROM THE DESK OF THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The MSN Nurse Educator Program is having a wonderful year. Our very first cohort of MSN students graduated in December 2020! We are very proud of **Jacquelyn Raco** and **Eden Rotella Dodd** for all their accomplishments. Both **Jacquelyn** and **Eden** presented their MSN Capstone posters as part of the *Rising Star Presenters* series of Sigma Theta Tau's Virtual Conference in February 2021. Eden also passed her Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) and her Certified Academic Clinical Nurse Educator (CNE cl) exams. **Congratulations Eden!** Our second cohort of MSN students graduated in May with **Patience Nkrumah** presenting her Capstone poster as part of Sigma's *Research Day* in April 2021. **Congratulations Patience!**

Since the start of our MSN program, our Cohort size has doubled each semester with our largest cohort to date beginning in January 2021. MSN Student and Faculty Business meetings were also held for the first time this year, providing opportunities for students and faculty to share questions, promote program opportunities, and provide information to students about courses and plans of study. MSN student committee representative elections were held during the Fall meeting, resulting in committee representation on multiple School of Nursing and MSN committees. A new election round is set for Fall 2021 and all MSN students are encouraged to participate. Students may self-nominate or nominate someone in their cohort.

Lastly, the MSN program completed its first Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accreditation virtual visit in March 2021. It was an exciting three days for the MSN program and the Eastern University community. As Director, I would like to extend a HUGE thank you to all who participated and supported us throughout the self study process. We look forward to a final decision from CCNE later this year.



Thank you, Thank you and Thank you!

Dr. Patty Fitzgerald



(L.to R.)Patience Nkrumah, Justin Fox, Jacquelyn Raco, Sania Atkins Wray

Learn more about all of our nursing programs at our Virtual Open House: July 21, 7:15 to 8:15 p.m.



ALUMNI NEWS

Emily Carmel, BSN, RN, (Class of 2017) received the prestigious Roy Zuckerberg award at Northwell Hospital System. The award is given to the nurse who most personifies care and compassion.

Darius Clemons, BSN, RN (RN to BSN Class of 2016) completed his MSN, CRNP, FNP-C and currently works at Suburban Geriatrics, Plymouth Meeting, PA.

Hannah Hewes Tough MSN, RN, FNP-BC, (Class of 2013) is employed at a primary health care clinic in Washington, DC. Hannah is married and has recently given birth to first son, Lincoln.

IN MEMORIAM:

Traci Lynn Johnson, MSN, BSN, RN (RN to BSN Class of 2007) passed away on May 19, 2021. Traci was a regular contributor to *Nursing Connections* magazine.

FACULTY NEWS

The following faculty passed the National League for Nursing's certification exam earning the credential of Certified Nurse Educator (CNE):

- Mary Boylston
- Kristin Schaub
- Melanie Rodriguez

Kristen Schaub presented a poster at the Well Span Research Conference in April 2021. The topic was "The Impact of Structured Debriefing on Prelicensure Nursing Students' Clinical Judgment Development." Professor Sally Stern completed a National League for Nursing Coaching for Success certificate course on teaching critical thinking.

MSN Program Director Patrizia Fitzgerald was invited to present at the Society for Simulation in Healthcare's IMSH 2021 International Virtual Conference in February 2021. She presented "Multiple modality simulation: Building more than a hands-on experience" in the Live Research Development study session.

Dr. Fitzgerald will serve as Interim Director of the Nursing Resource and Simulation Lab while a candidate search is conducted. She will remain Director of the MSN program.

BSN AWARD RECIPIENTS

The following awards were presented to BSN students who have achieved academic excellence and served the Eastern community and community-at-large through their leadership and commitment. The award ceremony took place during the students' end of program pinning.

The Joyce D. Wallace Nursing Christian Fellowship Award

Anthony Holness (Fall 2020)

Natalie Ko (Spring 2021)

The Marie Joseph Servant Leader Award

Christine Odean (Fall 2020)

Anna Ford (Spring 2021)

The Malinda Murray Compassionate Care Award

Laura Behnke (Fall 2020)

Carly Burns (Spring 2021)

The Corinne Latini Professional Practice Award

Natalie Pabon (Fall 2020)

Noah Reichner (Spring 2021)

The Perseverance Award

Abdul Swarray (Fall 2020)

Elena Lee (Spring 2021)

The Academic Excellence Award

Christine Odean (Fall 2020)

Natalie Ko (Spring 2021)

Congratulations!

SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM UPDATE

Eastern University School Health Programs support the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) position and belief that every child should have daily access to a full time registered professional school nurse (2016a). The school nurse serves in a pivotal role that bridges health care and education. Grounded by standards of practice, services provided by the school nurse include leadership, community/public health, care coordination, and quality improvement (NASN, 2016a).

Our program continues to grow by leaps and bounds! As the need for school nurses increase due to school population growth, student medical acuity and the recognition by administrators that all students need a professional school nurse, we continue to educate our school nurses on the best practices of safety, health, and welfare.

We offer:

- An on-line Certified School Nurse (CSN) program consisting of four on-line classes with a 100-hour clinical practicum completed within a school district under a seasoned Level II CSN mentor.
- A Master of Education in School Health Services 30-credit degree that enables the CSN to become health promoting, nurse educators within the school and community.
- A certification in Supervision of School Health Services which helps the school nurse become a leader of health education within a school district's administrative team. We are one of only two Pennsylvania schools to offer this certification!

National Association of School Nurses. (2016a). Framework for 21st century school nursing practice. *NASN School Nurse*, 31(1), 45-53. doi: 10.1177/1942602X15618644

IN THE NEWS!

Main Line Today recognized the following Eastern University faculty and alumnae among finest nurses in the region:

INTENSIVE CARE/CRITICAL CARE

Annamarie Anastasio, Bryn Mawr Hospital, medical surgical clinical adjunct

Kathy McCrossan, Lankenau Hospital, medical surgical clinical adjunct

Annemarie Subranni, Lankenau Hospital, clinical skills lab instructor

ALUMNAE

Patty Bedford, Lankenau Hospital

Kim Andrien, Chester County Hospital

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Director of School Health Programs, **Jacquelyn Raco**, has been busy! Not only was she among the first graduating class of Eastern University's MSN program in December 2020 but she was also named "2021 Pennsylvania School Nurse Administrator of the Year, Southeast Region" by the Pennsylvania School Nurses and Practitioners (PASNAP)! She participated in academic poster presentations for Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society as part of the Rising Stars of Nursing Research "Creating Healthy Work Environments" project, for Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society: Delta Tau Chapter as part of Delta Tau-at-large's "STTI: A Virtual Night of Nursing Practice and Research" and for Pennsylvania School Nurses and Practitioners as part of PASNAP 2021 "School Nurses: Mission Unstoppable."

Congratulations, Jacquelyn!

