

VILLANOVA NURSING

SUMMER 2020



FACES OF COURAGE

Nurses Innovate and Inspire During the Pandemic

Football Salutes

You never know what other accomplished people you might see again from your Villanova Nursing pathophysiology class. On September 7, 2019, two former classmates were both greeted with cheers during football's home opener against Lehigh University. Former Navy SEAL Joe Masalta (right, with game ball) was recognized by the Wildcats as its Military Salute honoree for his remarkable service and received a standing ovation. Running back and tri-captain Justin Covington also had the crowd on its feet as he rushed for 109 yards—including a 64-yard run—and a touchdown on eight carries in the 38-10 win for Villanova. Read more about Covington on page 9.



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“Let 2020 not be something to run from but rather to learn from. Let us use it as a springboard to accomplish new goals and to inspire a diverse next generation of nurses to join us.”

The new year launched like a bright star. A fresh decade...one starting with 2020 designated The Year of the Nurse and the Midwife by the World Health Organization and nurses planning events to showcase what we do and how we do it.

Those events were cancelled because a pandemic arrived on our shores and—by its very nature—demanded that we fight relentlessly with laser focus, shoulder-to-shoulder with our health-care colleagues, to contain it. Many were lost, including fellow nurses, professional teammates, patients, family and friends. We mourned such losses in addition to those resulting from racial injustices in our country. Throughout these distressing times we continued to advocate and act for what is right and just.

For the first time in my career, it is clear that people finally understand what nurses do: Nurses are the glue that holds the health-care system together. Let us not lose this momentum. Let 2020 not be something to run from but rather to learn from. Let us use it as a springboard to accomplish new goals and to inspire a diverse next generation of nurses to join us.

In changing times, we maintain a clear vision to:

- Complete our strategic planning and support innovation from freshmen through doctoral students and across our staff, faculty and programs.
- Move forward with critical goals. At the top of the list, I am delighted to announce Dr. Patricia K. Bradley as our inaugural associate dean for Inclusive Excellence. She will ably lead this initiative that is vital for our college and our profession (see page 4).
- Use both vision and action to right health disparities and protect and empower our most vulnerable.
- Further create and embrace science to move nursing and health forward.
- Keep collaborating across programs, specialties and disciplines. This is how new knowledge is formed and problems are solved. This is what nurses do.
- Continue to leverage the media as truth-tellers, health advocates and educators representing the most trusted profession in this nation.

In this issue of *Villanova Nursing*, a retrospective of the last year, you will find stories of leadership and learning, of dreaming and daring. I could write reams about this year but will let the magazine speak for itself, especially the cover with our alumni and students. We are so proud of what they, representing an even larger number, have done for the health of our country.

We hope you—our alumni, parents, friends and colleagues—will help us amplify not only the story of Villanova Nursing but of all nurses, especially this year.

This is a profound time for nursing. Let us continue to use our voices, courage and talents to boldly advance health, and our profession, together.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna S. Havens".

Donna S. Havens '83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN
Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor

National CHAMPS Study Assesses Health of Pandemic's Front-liners

Courtesy New York National Guard



The impact on the people providing or supporting care during the pandemic is the focus of CHAMPS, the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing's new research study.

In the early weeks last winter as the novel coronavirus surfaced in the United States, multiple scientists at the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing knew what their role would be. It was imperative that their research generate an understanding of the pandemic's physical, social and behavioral health impact on the front-line workers who provide or support care for those with COVID-19. On May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday, the College launched its national study: Caring About Health for All Study (CHAMPS) (see sidebar). The research team continues to recruit and enroll participants from across the nation. The study's principal investigators are Donna S. Havens, PhD RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor; Peter G. Kaufmann, PhD, FABMR, associate dean for Research and Innovation; and Janell Mensinger, PhD, FAED, associate research professor and biostatistician.

"We're very worried about post-traumatic stress disorder," observed Dean Havens in a May 9 front-page story in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. "In many respects, some of these people may be very wounded after this experience."

CHAMPS is one of a few national studies designed to understand the immediate and long-term effects that caring for COVID-19 patients is having on the health, lives and careers of all front-line workers, including nurses. The study began with a brief survey, has been creating a registry and will gather longitudinal data for up to 20 years on those who wish to continue participating. CHAMPS will enable systems and organizations to plan for the future health-care needs of front-line workers and ultimately will inform public health strategies designed to mitigate these effects during future health emergencies. Meet the entire team at villanova.edu/CHAMPS.

If you have questions or would like to learn more about your organization becoming a partner for CHAMPS, please e-mail COVID19CHAMPS@villanova.edu. ●



CHAMPS

Caring about Health for All

A study of the COVID-19 workforce

Help Share the Science

We believe our country has an obligation to front-line health-care workers—in places such as hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, emergency settings and testing sites—to learn how their sacrifices have affected their lives. If you served or are serving as a health-care professional, first responder or service worker during the COVID-19 pandemic, you are invited to participate in CHAMPS, a study initiated by Villanova Nursing. The survey takes less than 20 minutes to complete and can be done on a smart phone. Share your experience with other health-care workers to make a greater impact. Learn more and participate by visiting villanova.edu/CHAMPS. ●

College Reaccredited for 10 Years

The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing has again been reaccredited by the Washington, D.C.-based Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), which ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate and residency programs in nursing. Last October, CCNE notified Dean Havens that the College's baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program and post-graduate APRN certificate program had been accredited for another 10 years, the longest period granted. CCNE determined that the programs met all four accreditation standards. It found no compliance concerns with respect to key program elements.

The College's PhD in Nursing, Nurse Anesthesia and Continuing Education programs carry accreditations from other organizations. ●

Reaccreditation "is the perfect prelude to the strategic planning work we have started to envision," noted Dean Havens.



Dr. Bradley Named Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence

“An exceptional person and an experienced, insightful colleague to be at the helm, bringing us to our next level,” is how Dean Havens described Associate Professor Patricia K. Bradley, PhD, RN, FAAN in announcing her appointment September 14 as the inaugural associate dean for Inclusive Excellence. In the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing’s new strategic plan, Inclusive Excellence is a key priority.

Dr. Bradley brings decades of experience as an educator, scientist, advocate and communicator to serving as lead diversity, equity and inclusion officer, reporting directly to the dean. A faculty member since 1997, she is an expert in psychiatric-mental health nursing and health-care issues of the underserved, and developed several courses on culture, health and illness. This role aligns well with her experience, scholarship and national recognition. In June, Dr. Bradley was appointed to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s national Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. This fall, she becomes chair of the American Academy of Nursing’s Expert Panel on Cultural Competence and Health Equity.

Working closely with members of the College community to advance an environment where all experience respect, equity and inclusiveness, Dr. Bradley also will collaborate with related campus offices. “My commitment to Villanova University, the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing and the community is strong,” says Dr. Bradley. “I am excited about our future as we continue this important work.”

An Inclusive Excellence Advisory Committee of faculty, staff, students and alumni representing various underrepresented communities will be formed to support and advise her work.

Read more at villanova.edu/nursing. ●



“I am excited about our future as we continue this important work.”

— Patricia K. Bradley, PhD, RN, FAAN



Patricia A. Grady, PhD, RN, FAAN is the second recipient of an award reflecting the values and mission of Villanova University and the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. The award is named for Villanova Nursing’s first dean, the late M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, ’15 DHL (Hon.).

Dr. Grady Honored for Her Transformative Leadership

Neuroscientist and National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) legend Patricia A. Grady, PhD, RN, FAAN is the second recipient of the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing’s M. Louise Fitzpatrick Award for Transformative Leadership. Dean Havens presented the award last November to this internationally recognized nurse researcher. Dr. Grady, named by *Washingtonian* in 2017 one of the top 100 Most Powerful Women in Washington, D.C., is director emeritus of NINR (she served for 23 years at this National Institutes of Health institute), and is a Visiting Distinguished Professor at Georgetown University School of Nursing and Health Studies.

The award celebrates Dr. Grady’s relentless pursuit of advancement in health care through nursing science, igniting change through interprofessional collaborations, galvanizing the next generation of leaders and inspiring action in nurse scientists around the globe. At the ceremony, Dean Havens challenged students, faculty, colleagues and nurse scientists “to be inspired by Dr. Grady and continue to ask those bold questions and innovate with new science to improve care and the systems in which care is delivered.”

Dr. Grady in her lecture, “A Vision for the Future of Nursing Research,” remarked, “If we can create inquiring minds and the habits of how to learn I think we have a chance to create the kind of person who is going to keep learning... Before, you could be a lifelong learner and that was a plus.... Now, it is going to be a requirement.” ●

“If we can create inquiring minds and the habits of how to learn I think we have a chance to create the kind of person who is going to keep learning...”

— Patricia A. Grady, PhD, RN, FAAN

Students Research School Shootings and Diabetes

In September 2019, three Nursing seniors, now beginning their careers in the Washington, D.C., area, shared their summer research findings at the Villanova Student Research Symposium in Connelly Center. They conducted their projects with faculty mentors.

- **Erin Freitas '20 BSN:** "School Shooters: A Scoping Media Review of Social Media and Risk Behaviors." She was mentored by Elizabeth Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and coordinator of Undergraduate Research. Freitas also gave a virtual podium presentation at the College's Annual Research Symposium March 12. She begins her nursing career as a clinical research nurse resident at the National Institutes of Health.
- **Alyssa Danner '20 BSN:** "The Needs of Caregivers for Older Adults with Diabetes." She was mentored by Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBS, RN, FGSA, associate professor and director of the campus-wide Gerontology Interest Group (GiG).
- **Madeleine Ottignon '20 BSN:** "Impact of Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus (T1DM) on the Mental Health Status During Adolescence: A Qualitative Study." She was mentored by Christina Whitehouse, PhD, CRNP, CDE, assistant professor.



Erin Freitas '20 BSN

Alyssa Danner '20 BSN

Madeleine Ottignon '20 BSN

Danner, Ottignon and their mentors had posters based on their work accepted for the American Diabetes Association's 80th Scientific Sessions: A Virtual Experience, June 12-15, for which the students also recorded guided discussions. Both are launching their careers at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital. ●



SNAP Chapter Gains Awards and Leadership Experience

Last November, Villanova's chapter of the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP) returned to campus with the state's highest award for Chapter Excellence, among other honors and achievements. Vathana Oukan '20 BSN (front, left), at the time a senior and 2019 chapter president, led the delegation of 32 Villanova Nursing students who participated in SNAP's Annual Convention in Lancaster, Pa. With her is Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, ANEF, longtime chapter advisor and associate professor of Nursing. Read more at villanova.edu/nursing. ●

PhD Graduate Is Interviewed by *The Lancet* and Publishes

Jennifer Thate '18 PhD, RN, CNE was interviewed by *The Lancet: Respiratory Medicine* for the article "Information Overload and Unsustainable Workloads in the Era of Electronic Health Records," published January 13. This was an outcome of publishing her dissertation.

With co-authors Ruth A. McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, associate professor and director of the Center for Global and Public Health; Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research; and S.C. Rossetti,

Thate published "Identifying Best Practices in Electronic Health Record Documentation to Support Interprofessional Communication for the Prevention of Central Line-associated Bloodstream Infections," in the *American Journal of Infection Control* (online October 9, 2019). ●



IBC Intern Advocates and Innovates for Children and Families

As a rising senior, Christina Gallo '20 BSN was pleased to push her boundaries in public health through her 2019 Independence Blue Cross (IBC) Summer Internship. At IBC's non-profit Nurse-Family Partnership, she recalls, "I learned that we as nurses are the advocate for patients with every issue that can affect their health." She attended Philadelphia City Council meetings informing the public about the unsafe lead levels in homes throughout the city. In IBC's leadership lab, her research led her to discover a connection between food deserts and safe playground deserts in underserved areas. She noted, "I proposed an 'adopt a park' program for companies to clean up a park periodically throughout the year and plant healthy vegetables in a community garden to try to aid in the creation of safe, healthy play and food options for residents." ●



Last summer's Independence Blue Cross (IBC) internship led Christine Gallo '20 BSN (left, with a fellow IBC intern) to draw attention publicly to unsafe levels of lead in Philadelphia homes.

INNOVATION INSIGHTS FROM STUDENTS

Three Nursing freshmen (from left, Sharon Ngunu, Jasmine Huang and Daniel Wala) last November delivered a pitch and won Villanova's Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE)



Institute's Idea Bounce® for their concept of a biodegradable pill bottle. "As aspiring nurses, our mission is to create a better future for the health-care system that is more sustainable," says Wala. The winners receive \$100 and are encouraged to work on their project with the support of the institute. The event is the next step following the ICE Challenge, an opportunity for all Villanova University freshmen to develop a creative entrepreneurial idea.

At Villanova's three-day interdisciplinary Idea Hackathon to alleviate poverty and promote economic growth by leveraging blockchain technology, junior Stephany Annor (left) and Gabriel Ahern, a second-degree BSN student, participated with other students from across campus to problem-solve creatively this huge societal problem. Ahern's group developed Nutri-coin to incentivize healthy eating and prevent hackers from stealing health data. He enjoyed the opportunity to combine his



technology hobby with his Nursing education. Annor's group was awarded third place for using blockchain to help consumers who go to one government aid agency to then share those requests with other local and national government agencies, connecting social services "umbrellas" and cutting through red tape. Alongside Villanova University graduate students in Law and Liberal Arts and Sciences, "We worked collectively," she said, and the experience encouraged her to "think more about ways I can help my community in Chicago and Ghana. The little I can contribute can make a big difference."

Embracing exactly what a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) student can do, Kim Daniels '19 DNP, ACNS-BC, RN-BC, CCRN (at top, wearing glasses) was on the winning team at the inaugural SONSIEL (the Society of Nurse Scientists Innovators Entrepreneurs & Leaders) Nurse Hackathon. It was sponsored and hosted by Johnson & Johnson (J&J) last November in New Brunswick, N.J. Dr. Daniels, a clinical nurse specialist at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia, was among 200 invited from around the world. Her group, Team Night Vision, won for its idea to mitigate errors on night shift. Not wanting to sacrifice safety for sleep, the team—inspired by military tools—developed the concept of a red and blue light device for nurses' lanyards to enable care in limited light, according to the J&J website. Dr. Daniels notes, "The SONSIEL Hackathon has inspired me to empower and engage nurses in a whole new light...with innovation! I am building upon the idea of being able to support nurses at the bedside to bring their ideas to life and not let them disappear in the fog of 'what if's' and 'if only's.'" ●



College a Leader in Weight Bias Training

Through a collaboration between the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing and its MacDonal Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE), traditional BSN undergraduates receive weight bias training as part of their program. The College is the only nursing school in the country to offer such education, according to Tracy L. Oliver, PhD, RDN, LDN, associate professor. It will be featured on George Washington University's Strategies to Overcome and Prevent (STOP) Obesity Alliance's website (stop.publichealth.gwu.edu), which showcases provider training and education on obesity at health professional programs across the country. Villanova Nursing is one of nine colleges featured as exemplars in implementing this type of curriculum. The other schools include medicine, dietetics, oral health, pharmacy and occupational therapy. According to the alliance's website, it is a diverse coalition of consumer, provider, government, labor, business, health insurer and quality-of-care organizations working "to drive innovative practical strategies in obesity prevention, care and treatment." ●

New Institutes Focus on Clinical Trials and Simulation

Building on core competencies and faculty expertise, the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing next year will be welcoming researchers and faculty for two new institutes.

Randomized Clinical Trials (June 2021)

- The first of its kind in nursing and sponsored by CSL Behring Biotherapies for Life™, this four-day, intensive course on randomized controlled trials (RCTs) will emphasize FDA/ICH good clinical practice standards, research design, conduct and execution, and the role of clinical trials in informing clinical practice and creating treatment guidelines.
- It is designed for principal investigators, clinical trial coordinators, DNP and PhD students, post-doctoral fellows and graduate students. A limited number of fellowships are available.
- Faculty include a national panel of eminent clinical trials specialists well-versed on all aspects of design and implementation. The lead, Peter G. Kaufmann, PhD, FABMR, the College's associate dean for Research and Innovation, gained extensive experience in clinical trials during his career at the National Institutes of Health and has more than 30 years' experience in multi-site clinical trials and teaching clinical trials methodology.

Simulation (May 2021) (a workshop, Friday Night at the ER®, will be held after the institute)

- This three-day immersion experience is geared to simulation educators and faculty, from novice to mid-career. Space is limited.
- Participants will apply the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) Standards of Best Practice: Simulation as evidence-based guidelines for their educational activities and learn to incorporate simulation into programs to advance education and improve patient outcomes.
- To address patient care clinical issues, participants will use standards of practice to develop an education intervention that connects with quality metrics as measurable outcomes. Participants are encouraged to focus on a learning gap or bring an idea to develop into a simulation learning activity.
- Institute faculty draw upon their decades of experience and innovation in simulation and related research and publications, evidence-based scenarios, interprofessional collaborations, pioneering work in disability simulation, international leadership and development of global standards.

Learn more and register online at villanova.edu/nursing/ce. ●

Take "Flat Florence" Along with You

Commemorating the Year of the Nurse and the Midwife, the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing created "Flat Florence," a portable portrait of Florence Nightingale that has its own hashtag (#FlatFlorence). She has already traveled home to London, presided over strategy meetings and watched faculty write research articles. If you weren't in Driscoll Hall in February to get one, download it at www1.villanova.edu/villanova/nursing/newsevents/events/YON2020.html. Let "Flat Florence" help you tell your story. Take her along on your travels, bring her into your daily life to amplify the voice of nursing and display her to educate others about what nurses do. ●

"Flat Florence" commemorates the founder of modern nursing, the profession's special year—and your own contributions to it.



GiG Focuses on Older Adults

In 2030, for the first time in U.S. history, older adults are projected to outnumber children. In that year, all baby boomers will be older than 65. Moreover, the percentage of those 65-and-older is expected to nearly double in a five-decade period, from 13 percent in 2010 to 24 percent by 2060. Determining how to care for this growing population of older adults with multiple chronic conditions presents both opportunities and challenges. The shift underscores the urgent need for educating and

preparing nurses and students of all disciplines who are equipped to care for their complex social and health needs.

In response, a new group in service of older adults is based in the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. The Gerontology Interest Group (GiG) is a campus-wide collaboration of students, faculty and staff who engage in research, advocacy and workforce development to

support the needs of the aging population. The GiG is directed by Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, FGSA, associate professor. It aligns with the College's growing number of faculty with the varied expertise necessary to build a reputation for innovation in research and education across the care continuum related to older adults.

The GiG has created several initiatives critical to its goals:

- “The Gerontology Nursing Excellence Externship: Transforming the Future Workforce is an innovative, first-of-its-kind, structured summer clinical experience designed to provide Nursing undergraduates with a 360-degree opportunity to work with older adults,” explains Dr. O'Connor. Students not only work as certified nursing assistants but also rotate through all aspects of a long-term care facility from nursing leadership to facility management. The first partnership, launched this summer with three rising seniors, is with Generations Healthcare, a California-based organization. John Mastrocola '87 VSB, director of its Regional Operations-Southern California, is a member of the College's Board of Consultants and father of three Villanovans (see page 10). “This is a total win-win for Generations Healthcare and Villanova Nursing. The students are getting hands-on experience with older adults and immersion in the day-to-day operations of our facility. As Villanova alumni, Lois ('87 VSB, chief financial officer of Generations Healthcare) and I are extremely proud of offering this opportunity to 'Nova nurses.” (See villanova.edu/nursing for student reflections on their externship.)
- In May, GiG's scientists, during the COVID-19 pandemic and related social isolation, launched Villanova ReachOut. It activated the campus community to engage older adults through telephone or technology and make a positive difference in their mental and physical wellness. Research regarding older adults and loneliness shows consistent evidence that social relationships are a major contributing factor in lowering morbidity and mortality. Nursing faculty trained Villanova University student, staff and faculty volunteers who conduct meaningful conversations with older adults. They do not offer medical advice. Older adults themselves or their caregivers can sign up. For more information, visit the website (search Villanova ReachOut) or e-mail reachout@villanova.edu.
- A unique course, “Innovations in Aging: The Power of Interprofessional Perspectives,” will be offered beginning next spring to undergraduate and graduate students from any discipline. Developed by Dr. O'Connor and Meltem Izzetoglu, PhD, assistant professor of Engineering, it is the first across-campus course dedicated to older adults. It will be an elective in Villanova Nursing's Global Health minor and interprofessionally taught. It was developed with \$6,000 funding from the Office of the Provost. ●



DNP Innovation in the OR

As a nurse anesthetist, Jillian Guzzardo '19 DNP, CRNA understands that anesthesia delivery plays a critical environmental role “as all inhaled anesthetic agents are recognized greenhouse gases and contribute to global warming,” she notes. As a student in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, she implemented an innovative idea to improve the environment with “Reducing Inhaled Anesthetic Waste Through Utilization of Low Fresh Gas Flow [FGF].”

Dr. Guzzardo's educational intervention for nurse anesthetists in her workplace included a presentation on health-care's contribution to climate change and related public health effects; a demonstration of inhalational anesthetics



In her doctoral project at Villanova Nursing, Jillian Guzzardo '19 DNP, CRNA explored a way to reduce inhaled anesthetic waste by using low fresh gas flow.

as greenhouse gases and their contribution to global warming; and an explanation of the need and feasibility of low FGF technique and recommendations for practice and considerations for safety. Continued conversations, education and meetings engaged her colleagues. The results were lowered FGF rates that reduced inhaled anesthetic

use and purchasing costs considerably, plus the overall reduction in inhaled anesthetic use led to a measurable decrease in greenhouse gas emissions.

She gave a virtual podium presentation at the College's March 12 Annual Research Symposium and presented a poster at the Eastern Nursing Research Society's 32nd Scientific Sessions, held virtually March 26-27. As Dr. Guzzardo notes, “CRNA-driven quality improvement initiatives can shape the future of health-care delivery and promote best practice.” ●



Running back Justin Covington '20 BSN, Wildcats team tri-captain last fall, devotes equal energy to his goal of becoming a nurse practitioner specializing in pediatric oncology.



Playmaker with Great Vision Makes His Mark

Fast and focused. That's what life looks like for Justin Covington '20 BSN, who as a Nursing senior was star running back for the Wildcats and team tri-captain. With his average day starting at 6 a.m. and including weights, football practice, rigorous classes and often a clinical nursing rotation, a fast pace is a must. His schedule is definitely not for every student, but when the weight is balancing on Covington's shoulders, however, it looks easy.

In the five games the team captain played during the 2019 season before being sidelined by a torn ACL in game six, Covington rushed at least 100 yards each. He totaled 90 carries for 727 yards and three touchdowns. He remained the team's leading rusher and at various times was top rusher in the conference and division. Those stats take skill or a sixth sense, and Covington has both. He says when he's on the field, the clatter of shoulder pads, crowd cheers and plays called by Head Coach Mark Ferrante worked together. It was in those symphonic moments that he saw things his opponent did not. Covington pushed through holes before the defense could even realize he was gone.

The Bronx, N.Y., native is a lifelong athlete. Covington attributes his agility to his time in the dance studio, a rare experience that set him apart from his competitors. As a young man he performed tap, jazz and ballet before starting football in middle school. His strength of character though, comes from his mother, whom he calls his backbone.

Growing up with two strong women steered him toward nursing. When his grandmother was diagnosed with cancer, being part of her support system and seeing her nurses providing care inspired his career choice. As a Nursing student, he continued to find that aspect of the profession tremendously rewarding.

There have been only a handful of football-playing Nursing students in Villanova University's history, which makes Covington's perspective revealing. Nursing, like football is a team effort, he believes; collaborative care assures that patients get everything they need. In football and in nursing, "Sometimes you have to give more of yourself than you think you can to help others, make a big play when it seems like everything is against you."

Big plays show up everywhere for Covington. He chose Villanova over Yale because he believed the environment was

better for his academic and athletic success. When he opened up to patients during his psychiatric rotation, he made breakthroughs with them that seemed unlikely before he stepped in. He ably handled post-game media interviews. One of Covington's biggest plays to date? Lifting his leg just two days post-op for his torn ACL.

That lift bodes well for a continued positive outlook. Last fall he spent the end of the season in full "captain mode," actively cheering on his teammates from the sidelines, marching up and down the field alongside them. He wrapped up classes this summer to earn his BSN and will enroll in Nursing graduate classes (he redshirted his first year at Villanova) this fall as he studies for the nursing licensure exam. He is ready to up again if the Wildcats can play.

"Sometimes you have to give more of yourself than you think you can to help others, make a big play when it seems like everything is against you."

— Justin Covington '20 BSN

Covington hopes to pursue a career in pediatric oncology, looking toward earning a graduate degree to become a nurse practitioner. "I'm not just doing it for me," he said thoughtfully, "but for the people at home... for other kids back in the Bronx who need to look up to someone to see they can do it, too." Those youngsters may also notice his leadership off the field. He was selected to address graduating student-athletes (virtually) and chosen for Athletics' new Unitas Leadership team. He is also a member of a new advocacy organization of Black athletes and of the University Police Oversight Committee.

To the young men looking to find a place where their passion for carrying a team and caring for others can meet, Covington encourages them not to be afraid. Nursing needs more men, to provide a different perspective, Covington says, and he is happy to set an example.

If his Villanova career is any indication, this "supernova" has a fast-paced future ahead of him. ●

New Consultors Share Expertise

The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing welcomed the following new members to its Board of Consultors in 2019-2020.



Dee Silvers Adams '86 BSN, of Gladwyne, Pa., is a Reiki master, founder of the Integrative and Regenerative Center at Bryn Mawr Hospital and advisor to entrepreneurs in health care and life science. Previously she was in medical rehabilitation, fitness and athletic training and launched her own company, Yogasport. She and her husband, Nick, have a son, Pierce, who is a senior in the Villanova School of Business.



John Mastrocola '87 VSB, of Laguna Niguel, Calif., is director of Regional Operations-Southern California, for Generations Healthcare, which provides skilled nursing and rehabilitation services to older adults in California and Nevada. A retired naval officer, he is a veteran of two Gulf wars. From a family of Villanovans, he and his wife, Lois '87 VSB, have three daughters who are Villanovans: Alexis '16 VSB; Devin '16 BSN; and Victoria, a Nursing senior.



William R. Benvenuto '87 CLAS, of Escondido, Calif., vice president, Legal Affairs, and chief compliance officer for Retrophin, Inc., has 20 years of pharmaceutical, medical device and diagnostic industry experience. Prior to joining Retrophin, he served in both corporate counsel and compliance officer roles with several companies. He is a frequent speaker at health-care compliance conferences.



Margaret Shull '16 CLAS, '17 BSN, of Philadelphia, is a registered nurse in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del. She serves on several committees and task forces there, including those related to informatics, infection prevention and employee satisfaction. Her professional involvements include Sigma Theta Tau, the National Association of Neonatal Nurses and the Delaware Valley Association of Neonatal Nurses.



Dorrie Fontaine '72 BSN, of Washington, D.C., retired in summer 2019 after 11 years as dean of the University of Virginia School of Nursing, which flourished under her leadership. Now dean emerita, as dean she was a strong proponent of mindfulness, compassion—she founded the school's Compassionate Care Initiative—and promoting healthy work environments. She and her husband, Barry, have a son, Sumner '12 CLAS, who graduated from Villanova.



Daniel Tropeano '92 CLAS, of Wayne, Pa., is chief executive officer for UnitedHealthcare of Pennsylvania and Delaware and has more than 25 years of leadership experience in health and employee benefits. Prior to joining the health insurer in 2006, he served as assistant vice president of sales with Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield and held multiple leadership positions with Oxford

Health Plans, now a UnitedHealth Group subsidiary. He is active in many local charitable and civic organizations.



Margaret "Meg" Garrett '72 BSN, of Laurel, Md., is president of Garrett Healthcare Risk Management Corp. in Baltimore, consulting with corporations and health-care systems to mitigate their risk management and legal concerns. A former Navy nurse, she retired in summer 2019 as vice president of Risk Management and chief legal counsel for the Johns Hopkins Health System in

Baltimore. Her daughter Erin graduated from the Villanova School of Business in 2007 and earned an MBA there in 2015.



Joy Vroman '90 BSN, of Naples, Fla., is a part-time nurse at the Community School of Naples and serves as co-president of the Villanova Club of Naples. Her career has included such areas as nursing practice, education, quality assurance, risk management and leadership positions in hospitals. She has also been a nurse consultant for Hillenbrand Industry (Hill-Rom). Vroman has been a Villanova

alumni recruiter in southwest Florida and for five years helped with college fairs and hosting Villanova freshmen send-off parties. She and her husband, Mark, have a daughter Shannon, who is a senior in the Villanova School of Business. ●



Relevant CE Content, Just in Time

Teaching strategy expert Dr. Evelyn Lengetti explains how this web-based program prepares nurse leaders to thrive.

How do you re-envision the highly successful regional Nurse Manager Certificate Program after more than 15 years and 1,000-plus participants? You flip it on its head. “Let’s come at this traditional role in a nontraditional way” is the approach taken by Evelyn Lengetti, PhD, RN-BC, assistant dean of Continuing Education (CE) and assistant professor at the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. Her innovative approach to this leadership and management program involves teaching strategies and the impact on providing safe quality patient care by improving nurses’ clinical competence. With a goal of disruptive innovation as an underpinning throughout the six months, Dr. Lengetti looked not only at faculty and content but also the delivery and the rich experience of future participants to construct the program’s next iteration.

Dr. Lengetti’s new approach—the first of its kind—isn’t just another day at the office. Nurse leaders face challenges in meeting their own learning needs while also managing teams and moving health care forward. “We strategically integrated innovative teaching strategies for this Web-based certificate program,” she notes. She infused the course with innovations including a flipped classroom model, micro-credentialing and principals of design thinking, as well as evidence-based adaptive learning.

“Creativity is not only seen as the skill of an artist but can be evident using imagination to problem-solve in any field,” Dr. Lengetti affirms. “We are fostering a learning environment that encourages participants to imagine alternatives and new opportunities.” She adds, “The micro-credentialing acknowledges the participants’ accomplishments but also their knowledge and competencies for specific skills that are required for successful nursing leaders in today’s dynamic health-care environment.”

Each month, the program addresses one of its six modules. Each module validates the learner’s credential in that specific topic, across such areas as leadership and management theories, decision-making and problem-solving, team-building, performance appraisal, and finance and negotiation.

The program integrates the Clifton Strengths Assessment, which allows participants to identify their top five Signature Themes, develop them into strengths during discussion and then apply those strengths to practice. The program’s faculty (see sidebar) are a diverse group of nurse leaders.

Dr. Lengetti’s new approach honors the participants’ time and experience and provides a learning environment to propel them forward at the speed just right for them. Its seamless transition dovetails with Villanova Nursing’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program. Those who successfully complete the certificate’s 34.5 contact hours receive credit for a DNP leadership course. That streamlines their degree education, which is just what they need to execute their leadership vision for their staffs and the communities they serve. ●

Team members discuss the innovative approaches in design and platform being used in the Nurse Manager Certificate Program: (from left) Mike Grossman, DM, MSN, NEA-BC; Tyonne Hinson ’01 MSN, DrPH, NE-BC; Capt. (Ret.) Maryalice Morro ’83 BSN, MSN, MS, NEA-BC; Assistant Dean of Continuing Education Evelyn Lengetti, PhD, RN-BC; Andy-Guigiang Cui, PhD; Joe Barrow ’89 VSB; and Alysha Meloche, MA.

Meet Three Faculty Members in the Nurse Manager Certificate Program

Mike Grossman, DM, MSN, NEA-BC, whose doctorate is in Organizational Leadership, has more than 35 years of leadership experience. Dr. Grossman has been a director of nursing, nurse manager, nephrology clinical nurse specialist, psychiatric nurse and coordinator of nursing leadership development at several of the nation’s leading academic health-care organizations.

Tyonne Hinson ’01 MSN, DrPH, NE-BC, who has more than 20 years of experience, is the director of Nursing and director of Nursing Diversity Initiatives at Boston Children’s Hospital. Dr. Hinson leads and directs enterprise-level initiatives to strengthen the hospital’s recruitment, retention, professional advancement and inclusion of all members of the nursing workforce as a platform to promote diversity, health equity and reduce child health disparities. She is a member of Villanova Nursing’s Board of Consultants.

Capt. (Ret.) Maryalice Morro ’83 BSN, MSN, MS, NEA-BC served in the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps for 29 years, enjoying numerous assignments in the United States and abroad. As a civilian she held several executive-level roles in health care. She serves on the College’s Board of Consultants. ●



FACES OF

As the pandemic rapidly dominated the Year of the Nurse and the Midwife, the new normal meant coping with COVID-19's unimaginable impact. Villanova nurses are battling the disease and reaching out with heart, mind and soul, exemplifying their value as leaders as they adapt to an utterly changed health-care arena.

The warnings about an outbreak of a new respiratory disease came, but its virus came more quickly. It spread efficiently and undetected as Americans went about their daily lives. But as the pandemic widened and intensified, the world slowed to a halt. Schools and many businesses went virtual (though sadly some were shuttered). Everywhere, there was a singular focus on stopping the novel coronavirus first identified in Wuhan, China, in late 2019. People everywhere—especially the elderly—were bombarded with messaging: “Don’t go out but if you must, wear your mask...wash your hands....stay six feet apart” to avoid catching the potentially lethal COVID-19 illness.

By mid-September, there were more than 27.486 million confirmed cases worldwide and more than 895,000 deaths, according to the World Health Organization. In the United States, cases had topped 6.5 million and more than 193,700 people had died, according to Johns Hopkins’ COVID-19 tracking. It was in every state, setting alarming records.

Welcome to 2020.

DISASTER MODE

As the new decade dawned, nursing had been preparing for an exciting year. The World Health Organization had designated

ON THE FRONT-LINES WITH OUR HUMBLE HEROES

Behind each COVID-19 statistic is a story of a person, a family, caregivers and those who support that care. Every story usually involves at least one nurse, and often many more.

They risk their lives to save others. The circle of caring widens to include essential workers such as truck drivers, grocery store employees and staff who pivot to support the health-care system. Villanova nurses are front and center during this pandemic.

Their stories—their lived experience—describe vividly what it’s been like.



COURAGE

2020 as the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife to acknowledge their impact on health worldwide and to elevate nursing globally. It honors the 200th birthday of Florence Nightingale, founder both of modern nursing and statistics.

Very quickly, the year focused on nursing in an even more critical role. Between late January and March, the U.S. health-care system rapidly shifted to a mainly COVID-19 service and braced for the tempest. As knowledge about coronavirus and COVID-19 evolved, key organizations and experts had to readjust their advice, which often confused providers and the public. Hospital emergency departments were overwhelmed. Personal protective equipment (PPE) was in dangerously short supply, generating disbelief, anger and creativity. Urgent pleas went out for nursing help for the U.S. epicenter—New York City—and other areas preparing for a surge. Many answered the call.

Nurses are good at emergencies. COVID-19 propelled health care into *disaster* mode, a space where nurses also excel. At the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, Donna S. Havens '83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, led daily—and sometimes twice daily—administrative huddles to share timely information and prepare for all

contingencies. The goal was to have students safely and appropriately meet their course goals and complete the academic year, with the seniors graduating on time. The College met that goal. Dean Havens also gathered deans from regional schools of nursing to collaborate on challenges and solutions. Faculty shared ideas and expertise with Margaret Hattori-Uchima '13 PhD, RN, dean of the University of Guam School of Health, and her faculty so they could ramp up to graduate students earlier to enter the battle against COVID-19 on the island.

The College's contacts at local clinical sites were not sure how much longer they could accept students for rotations. Staff there were concerned about not only the viral spread but the precious PPE supply. Thus clinical rotations were pre-emptively canceled so the College could focus on the next steps. Villanova Nursing donated its simulation lab PPE supply to the campus Student Health Center, which was serving students who could not return home after Villanova University closed to the public on March 13.

Communication is critical to an organized approach, so the College instituted regular e-mails and town halls for students and faculty/staff. Faculty did media interviews to share their expertise with the public. Those who needed additional training in online teaching were educated in the resources and techniques.



"I was called to go down to the ER and help transport patients to the ICUs...the ER nurses were too overwhelmed. I was horrified by the sea of stretchers: every patient on a nonrebreather [mask], every patient gasping for air. It was an

image I will never forget.... Every day seemed like an endless loop of overhead announcements calling 'CAC' [code] or 'Rapid Response' approximately every 10 to 20 minutes. The mortality in the ICU was astounding, and we were trying everything we knew how to do. One Sunday, I waited hours for a single body bag because we had run out."

Maura Quinn '15 BSN, RN, OCN, staff nurse, Medical Intensive Care Unit, Montefiore Hospital, the Bronx, N.Y. She volunteered to take care of the first rule-out patient because she was the youngest nurse on the unit that day.



"COVID-19 has affected each one of us personally, and really changed how we do health

care. Yet, it has drawn our strengths in working together as a team with a clear focus."

Hellen Nyamu, BSN, RN, Family Nurse Practitioner student and emergency room nurse, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore



"Being in Nursing Professional Development during the pandemic was a challenge to say the least...trying

to train the entire hospital to adult COVID ICU care, including OR, PACU, Med-Surg and my own department of Pediatrics, which had to change specialties at the drop of a hat."

Kerry Toal '09 BSN, MSN, RNC-NIC, IBCLC, nurse educator, New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Campus, New York City



“Zooming” became a verb that meant more than speed. In May, the College began promoting two new programs (see page 17).

The College also pushed out calls for help from local health systems as well as those in New York City. To capture the impact of nursing in this pandemic, Villanova Nursing solicited first-person accounts from alumni, faculty, staff and students who were supporting or providing care to COVID-19 patients in a variety of settings. That request brought in more than 70 compelling stories, a few of which we’ve highlighted on these pages. These accounts will be part of Villanova’s archives to show future generations the impact of nurses.

Whether from the Class of 2019 experiencing an unprecedented first year of their career or seasoned nurses dealing with situations they never thought possible, these Villanovans appreciate the value of their education and their bond with the larger Villanova community. The impact of these nurses and the sharing of their stories became amplified by social media, with supporters including Jay Wright, the William B. Finneran Endowed Head Coach of men’s basketball.

COVID-19 UNLEASHED

On March 28, from the battleground of Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., Kelly Reilly ’16 PhD, RN-BC, NEA-BC, a key nursing administrator, wrote: “It’s hard to imagine that as I am typing this we are trying to figure out how to care for a surge of patients in the next two weeks that will increase our census by 200 percent. Within the next few weeks it may be all COVID.... The numbers of doctors, nurses and other members of the health-care teams exposed or confirmed COVID are increasing exponentially.” Reilly is vice president, Patient Experience; vice president, Pediatric Nursing; and chief learning officer, Nursing. She lost no time in asking for help.

One of those answering Reilly’s call was Renee LaRosa Woodworth ’98 BSN, RN, NCSN, who took leave from her husband and children in Virginia and paused her business—REACT emergency preparedness kits—to travel to Brooklyn on April 6. Woodworth, who became Reilly’s crisis staffing coordinator through May 8, noted: “We onboarded over 400 nurses in two and a half weeks to help support the rapidly growing needs....”

First responders like Evan Jenkins ’19 BA, ’20 BSN, at the time a Second-degree Accelerated BSN student and EMT with the Montclair (N.J.) Ambulance Unit, had to quickly pivot, just like colleagues based in health-care facilities. He wrote: “...it seems near daily that the virus challenges us to jump over new hurdles and find balance on unfamiliar ground.” Jenkins will become a cardiac surgical ICU nurse in Baltimore at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

IN MY OWN WORDS

The excerpts on these pages were submitted by Villanova Nursing’s alumni, students, faculty and staff. Read their full accounts at villanova.edu/nursingcovid19.

Having to work constantly in protective PPE is challenging for already fatigued staffs. In Manhattan, Bellevue Hospital emergency nurse Amanda Cassidy ’18 BSN, RN described it well: “We’re hot. Our faces are dry and itchy from having to wear the same mask for an entire shift. We’re breaking out under our face shields that we’ve been using for the past week because the



“Despite the crisis, I am honored to work alongside the amazing health-care workers I get to call my co-workers. I am grateful to

see first-hand how our community has come together to save those most vulnerable and lead with commitment and compassion. I can confidently say, it wasn’t all dark.”

Rita Guarino ’20 BSN, CST (at the time a second-degree accelerated BSN student), surgical technologist, Main Operating Room, Level I Trauma, Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow, N.Y.



“Everyone has been asking me how I am feeling and the best I can come up with is overwhelmed. I am overwhelmed with the patients coming into the ED and knowing they are stripped away from their family and loved ones. But most importantly I am overwhelmed with the outpouring of love and support from my family, friends and amazing co-workers. Without their support, I would not be able to do my job.”

Kathleen Michels ’15 BSN, RN, CCRN, clinical nurse, Emergency Department, NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Campus, New York City



“All surgical APPs [advanced practice providers] got emergency credentials for the Department of Medicine. Now I am a nurse practitioner on a stepdown COVID-19 unit. I could never fathom the type of medical care we are giving now—escalating oxygen, discussions about wishes, seeing young people decline quickly. And pronouncing so many people.”

Stephanie Manzella Rahaniotis ’91 BSN, MSN, ANP-BC, cardiothoracic nurse practitioner, NYU Winthrop Hospital, Mineola, N.Y.



goggles they gave us are hurting our faces. We are tired. Many of us are staying significantly longer than our scheduled shifts and coming in to work overtime because no amount of staff seems to be enough staff. We are running mostly off of caffeine and adrenaline.” But, she promises: “This is our city and we won’t give up on you.”

“IT HAS CHALLENGED MY PERSPECTIVE...”

Health disparities were once again evident as COVID-19 struck, noted Maura Quinn ’15 BSN, RN, OCN, staff nurse, Medical Intensive Care Unit, Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx, N.Y. “It would be tone-deaf to ignore the way that this pandemic disproportionately affected minority communities in New York City. Many of the patients we serve face severe socioeconomic challenges.... It has challenged my perspective and magnified disparities that call for urgent changes to our health-care delivery system.”

In Chicago, nurse practitioner Schuyler Perez de Salmeron ’14 BSN, MSN, APRN, ACCNS-AG, in addition to working in critical care, assisted the city’s Department of Public Health. There, as part of the COVID-19 Response/Racial Equity Rapid Response Team, she assessed COVID-positive patients in hospitals and the community to evaluate for eligibility for quarantine/isolation housing. She was reminded of her global health trips as a Villanova Nursing student, when she first discovered her passion for public health. “These experiences helped me to understand how truly multidisciplinary health and health-care are,” observed de Salmeron. “I am using this thinking when I assess my patients and help the processes we currently have in place to evolve with the needs of our patients.”

No one—including nurses—had immunity to this new disease, and many health-care workers have died during the

pandemic. At least several Villanova nurses became ill with COVID-19 and recovered, donating plasma so their antibodies could help someone else combat the disease. In the Philadelphia region, Jennifer Gil ’13 BSN, RN began advocating on social media for fellow nurses and for more PPE, as well as educating the public on COVID-19 through TV interviews with Univision. She soon developed symptoms of COVID-19. When she recovered, she returned to work as a staff nurse in the Emergency Department at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. “I get to put on my scrubs again and continue to do what I love most in this world: be a nurse,” she wrote.

Gil began telling her story publicly. She was interviewed on April 9 by Philadelphia’s CBS affiliate, among other outlets. In a social media post, she was thankful for being able to raise awareness about the virus’ emotional impact on mental health and well-being. She noted: “We must encourage open communication for people to explore their emotions and share their vulnerability to support healing and eliminate the stigma about mental health. This is a crucial step in order to prevent the negative long-term impacts of COVID-19.” This is one of the reasons the College was compelled to launch quickly its Caring About Health for All Study (CHAMPS) (see pages 3 and 17).

INNOVATION AND INSPIRATION

While living through this pandemic, the world has witnessed hope, love and inspiration. There were stories of survival, of heroes from all walks of life, organizational barriers, professional silos and inflexible rules that scattered like dust in the wind as COVID-19 blew through the nation. Nurses with backgrounds in research and innovation were creating hackathons and joining study teams. They were sharing clinical information quickly and openly. They marshaled the talents of many from



“Never before has a case so deeply affected me. I was blessed to be by the side of someone who so clearly was able to make her wishes known and honored

to be the substitute for the comforting hands of her family. As nurses we should always know there is an opportunity to make a profound difference in someone’s life.”

Stacey Ambrose, BSN, RN-BC, CHPN, Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner student and telemetry nurse, Paoli (Pa.) Hospital, Main Line Health, on aiding a patient in her 80s who likely contracted COVID-19 at her husband’s funeral



“I worked the night the [COVID-19] unit reopened and we had 22 admissions.... Being a nurse during this time has meant so much to me.... It’s been an honor to serve with my

co-workers and the critical-care teams who are working trying to care for these patients.... It’s also been heartwarming to serve the community I was born into, and seeing the acts of kindness from the local businesses donating food and hearing the claps from New Yorkers when going into my shifts makes me that much more determined to stay in this to beat this virus.”

Emem Adanga ’16 BSN, RN, GI surgical nurse, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City



“This COVID-19 is unlike anything I’ve seen in my 23 years of nursing. The virus is so

invisible, and we don’t know who has it or who doesn’t.... We just tackle each day...It makes me very thankful to be able to help—even if there are risks involved.”

Jennifer Mondillo, PhD, MSN, MBA, CRNP, clinical instructor, Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, and a per-diem adult-gerontology nurse practitioner in nursing homes



diverse areas and perspectives to beat COVID-19 or at least push it back into Pandora's box until herd immunity—or a vaccine—could be achieved.

Villanova nurses and their colleagues worldwide have learned more than they ever thought they might need to. Michael Baladamenti '18 BSN, RN, a Cardiac Intermediate Care nurse at the Hospital of The University of Pennsylvania (HUP) in Philadelphia, sees the benefit: “During this fluid situation, we have all been tasked with roles we are not typically used to and we get to see the other side of patient care. This, truly, is making me a better nurse and colleague.”

Nurses. They smile even behind the mask. Always with a holistic approach, they are thinking. Acting quickly. Giving and then giving more. They don and doff their cumbersome PPE, expected now to reuse masks—unheard of before. They cope valiantly with stress, fatigue and moral distress. Woven through that fabric of the pandemic experience are grit, courage, commitment, compassion and sacrifice. These ever-watchful sentinels gown up and go into the room. Every. Time. Everywhere.

In Seattle, Wash., after ICU doors closed to family members and smiles disappeared behind masks, Julie Suter '15 BSN, RN-BC wanted to humanize the experience for her patients isolated from their loved ones. “I wrote my name on my mask,” she proclaimed. Suter is a clinical nurse II, Acute Care Resource Team, at the University of Washington Medical Center. Many nurses and their colleagues used FaceTime or phones to connect their patients with family and friends. Nurses substituted for loved ones to hold the hands of strangers on ventilators, make eye contact, encourage those struggling to recover to get up and walk the halls. They went above and beyond to move the statistics needle favorably.

In New York City, at Mount Sinai Morningside, gerontology nurse practitioner and Doctor of Nursing Practice student Francisco Díaz, MSN, GNP-BC, CDCES switched from educating seniors in-person on diabetes care to using telemedicine. Then he was transferred to Mount Sinai West's Emergency Department, caring for about a dozen patients at a time who might have COVID-19. He used his Spanish to bring clarity to the Hispanic patients and families in his care. It is “very important to offer them information about their loved ones, in a language they can understand,” he noted in an April 17 Kaiser Health News post. “Thankfully, telemedicine is allowing me and other APRNs to see and treat our diabetic patients. The changes we are making now ...are going to be the new way of caring for our patients in the future.... It is my hope that the APRNs who were given full scope of practice due to COVID-19 will continue this practice after the pandemic.”

“...STRONG ENOUGH FOR THIS JOB”

To encourage patients who recovered from COVID-19, hospitals have created special tributes. Baladamenti shared that his favorite moment is when HUP plays part of the Beatles' “Here Comes the Sun” every time a patient is discharged. “In the beginning, we would hear many ‘Anesthesia STAT’ calls over the hospital pager, but now we are hearing this song throughout the day... I can't help but smile.”

For his colleagues who might be feeling distressed or fatigued, Baladamenti noted, “I want to remind every nurse, across the world, whether they are working with COVID-19 or not, they are strong enough for this job; they were chosen to fulfill this role and to be there for and with others.” He added, “Don't doubt yourself; you're making a difference every day.” ●



“We are working closely with the hospital administration to develop the role for CRNAs and anesthesiologists during our surge plan.... I am also helping to establish a COVID anesthesia response team for the hospital.”

Jennifer Schieler String '11 MSN, CRNA, nurse anesthetist, Pennsylvania Hospital for Society Hill Anesthesia Consultants, Philadelphia



“As I walked onto the unit, I was told I would be the nurse taking care of our first three COVID-19 patients in the hospital.... Those first few weeks were very stressful and chaotic, as protocols were changing by the hour and patients were being admitted non-stop. Two weeks into having COVID-19 patients on my unit, I was selected to be up-trained as an ICU nurse within three days... I truly believe Villanova gave me the best education but more than that, it fortified my faith, which is something you truly need when you're surrounded by dying patients every day with no end in sight of this horrible pandemic.”

Tyler Connellan '18 BSN, RN, staff nurse, Neurology, Neurosurgery and Orthopedics floor, Memorial 4, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York City



“The virus has hit Guam hard and our limited infrastructure makes the work more difficult. I have the support of the university to continue training our [nursing] seniors and prepare them as best we can to enter the workforce.”

Margaret Hattori-Uchima '13 PhD, RN, dean, University of Guam School of Health, Mangilao, Guam



THE COLLEGE'S PANDEMIC INITIATIVES

In May, the Fitzpatrick College began promoting two new programs. As part of the new, campus-wide Gerontology Interest Group (GiG), Villanova ReachOut supports older adults suffering from social isolation during "shelter in place" directives (see page 8). The Caring About Health for All Study (CHAMPS) examines data on those who serve the health-care system in support of COVID-19 care (see page 3).

Ruth A. McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, associate professor and director of the College's Center for Global and Public Health, developed a six-episode webinar series, "Let's Talk COVID-19," to put factual information in the hands of caregivers. It is archived at the Center's landing page. Dr. McDermott-Levy uses her expertise in serving on Villanova's Fall 2020 Planning Committee for COVID-19: Return to Campus. The center has developed a Racial Health Disparities committee, chaired by Esther Laury, PhD, RN, assistant professor, to address COVID-19 and health policy issues with Philadelphia's Black community. The committee includes representation from all of the colleges on campus.



Graduate students (from left) Shayla Davis, Lucas Halliday and Emily Hylton

Teaming up with the College of Engineering and other organizations, three Nurse Anesthesia graduate students quickly developed a prototype for a low-cost ventilator called NovaVent. There was an urgent need for it during the pandemic's surge. The students are Shayla Davis, BSN, RN, CCRN; Lucas Halliday, BSN, RN, CCRN; and Emily Hylton, BSN, RN, CCRN.

Philadelphia officials asked Sandra "Sandy" Gomberg '85 BSN, '90 MSN, RN, adjunct faculty member in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program and president of SLG-REG, LLC, to be the CEO of the

COVID Surge Facility being set up at Temple University for recovering patients. She and her quickly assembled team had 16 days to create this field hospital in the Liacouras Center, Temple's basketball/events arena. It opened on time to orient 260 clinical staff and be ready for the 58 referrals that soon came. Gomberg handled press conferences and more. Why? She wanted to honor her DNP students who shared in her class their COVID-19 patient-care experiences.

Assisting Gomberg were Dr. McDermott-Levy; Evelyn "Evie" Lengetti, PhD, RN-BC, assistant dean for Continuing Education and assistant professor; and Catherine "Cathy" Curley, PhD, RN, clinical assistant professor, who volunteered to develop onboarding materials and quality outcomes. Gretchen Bernatowicz '19 DNP, CRNP, a nurse practitioner in the Student Health Center, volunteered with the Philadelphia Medical Reserve Corps to serve at the facility. As part of the Infection Prevention and Control Team, she drafted policies and procedures and so much more. The field hospital closed when its patients had recovered. ●



At Temple University's Liacouras Center in Philadelphia, Sandra "Sandy" Gomberg '85 BSN, '90 MSN, RN (right), adjunct faculty member in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program and former president and CEO of Temple Hospital, served as CEO of the COVID Surge Facility. Gretchen Bernatowicz '19 DNP, CRNP, a nurse practitioner in Villanova University's Student Health Center, assisted Gomberg.



"Our hospital has been systematically cleared out, only to be filled immediately with COVID-positive patients. Elective surgeries have been canceled. I have seen nurses of all ages, experiences and backgrounds come together as one unit. One team. This strong sense of community has also extended beyond the hospital workplace. The overflowing support and generosity from the Villanova community as a whole has been so heartwarming. I am honored, humbled and proud to be a Villanova nurse."

Britten Reilly '15 BSN, RN, SCRNP, senior nurse clinician, Neuro ICU, NYU Langone Medical Center, New York City



"Yes, we are scared for ourselves, our families and our patients; however, the true face of courage is doing what needs to be done despite the fear."

—Michele McGarvey Connell '86 BSN, '14 MSN, FNP-BC, CEN, CPEN, nurse practitioner, Emergency Department, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; Doctor of Nursing Practice student



"Amidst all this uncertainty, there is one thing I am sure of now more than ever—the power of kindness is healing in more ways than I have ever understood. Be kind, love the ones closest to you and spread positivity (it's contagious)."

Dana Bouwman '17 BA, '19 BSN, RN, staff nurse, Urgent Care Center, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York City

SIX DEANS WHO LEAD THE WAY

Continuing with our series of leadership profiles, we present these pace-setting Villanovans who offer insights into their careers, their challenges and their hopes. Read their full responses at villanova.edu/nursing.



“... bring in positive changes...”

MANAL ABDUL MAJEED AL-ZADJALI '02 BSN, PHD, MSN

Dean of the Higher Institute of Health Specialties (HIHS), Ministry of Health, Sultanate of Oman, in Muscat (since 2018)

How did you rise to this leadership position? I stayed focused and educated myself by attending courses and trainings in leadership and management. My direct supervisors trained me, trusted my work and supported me in reaching where I am today.

Why is it important to you? Why are you enthusiastic about your work? HIHS is moving from an institute that provides a post-basic diploma to a higher institute that provides programs at the post-graduate diploma level. This transition stage is allowing me, as one of the leaders, to bring in positive changes that can lead us to a better future. I enjoy working with people; therefore, working with a great team like the one in HIHS has tremendous impact on my work. Further, this role gives me a chance to maximize my potential and help others grow.

What is your leadership philosophy? Leadership to me is all about leading by example. I believe in communicating openly with respect, maintaining integrity and authenticity. I strive to make a difference by working with my team and challenging their abilities, keeping in mind their individual differences. I ensure that I keep all whom I work with involved, informed and motivated to achieve the mission and vision of our institute. While doing so, I seek to continue exhibiting consistent moral, ethical and professional values. I continue to develop myself as a leader by seeking training opportunities and challenging my own abilities to maximize my potential.

Your hope for our profession? Nurses have achieved a lot so far. However, I think we still need to work more on eliminating the barriers to nurses' full practice in their different roles, especially practicing independently. I also hope that we have more nurses in leadership positions.



DORRIE FONTAINE '72 BSN, PHD, RN, FAAN

Dean Emerita, University of Virginia (UVA) School of Nursing in Charlottesville

Who influenced you? Dean Kathy Dracup, RN, PhD, FAAN [now dean emerita] at the University of California San Francisco School of Nursing hired me in 2002 to be the academic dean. I knew her well from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) and I told her I hoped to be a dean one day. She mentored me in all facets of the role, including development of faculty and philanthropy. I also had a superb clinical instructor in the ICU at Villanova Nursing my senior year who certainly helped me decide on a 47-year career as a critical care nurse!

Why are you enthusiastic? I was president of AACN and championed Healthy Work Environments (HWE) in critical-care settings as our most important initiative. As I became a dean, I knew that the HWE initiative was imperative in academia as well and so worked with faculty and staff at UVA to focus on creating an environment where all could flourish. UVA won the very first HWE award for an academic setting from Sigma in February 2019, validating our decade of work.

What were the issues you dealt with and the biggest challenge? As dean, the key issue was recruiting faculty, especially a diverse faculty during a nursing and faculty shortage. HWE was critical to this effort. Keeping the focus on people and growing and developing leaders in the faculty, staff and students helped me be a successful dean.

How did innovation fit in? I believe it was innovative to focus on creating the Compassionate Care Initiative, which enabled me to be a successful fundraiser for the school, raising \$55 million in 10 years.

What is your leadership philosophy? Put people first and prioritize relationships. Listen and speak up.

Your hope for our profession? That we will continue to grow our ranks of thoughtful leaders who stand up for patients, families and the work setting for all nurses.

MARY ELLEN GLASGOW '87 MSN, PHD, RN, ACNS-BC, ANEF, FAAN

Dean and Professor, Duquesne University School of Nursing, in Pittsburgh (since 2012)

How did you rise to this leadership position? Progressive academic administrator experience at Drexel University in Philadelphia provided invaluable leadership experiences. I served as director, assistant dean, chair and then associate dean. I was also fortunate to participate in two executive fellowships.

Why are you enthusiastic? On a day-to-day basis I have an opportunity to impact the lives of nursing students and faculty and help them grow professionally. It is such a privilege. I know they are doing great work. In a larger sense, I am and always will be a nurse: My career is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of our communities. All of my work is in the pursuit of that goal.

Anything you wish you'd done differently? I wish I'd taken a few more risks by taking on things that I felt like I wasn't quite ready for and that would have really challenged me earlier in my path.

What's your advice to someone who wants to be a leader? Care about quality first no matter what your role is. Do your homework. Do not bluff. Make data-informed decisions considering equity and fairness of those involved and the outcomes you wish to achieve. If you do a good job, the



accolades will follow. Do not search for them. And when they come, own them as something you earned and deserve.

Your leadership philosophy? Be your authentic self. My faculty trusts me to lead, which leaves them free to focus on our students and their work, and I don't do anything that would jeopardize that trust. In short, integrity is the foundation for that trust, confidence and success.

What's your hope for our profession? That nurses are given more autonomy and can have a greater impact on health. I also hope that we become much more diverse as a profession and the public sees the intellectual rigor and thoughtfulness that we bring to health care.

MARGARET HATTORI-UCHIMA '13 PHD, RN

Dean, University of Guam School of Health in Mangilao. Oversees the Nursing, Social Work and Health Science undergraduate degree programs (since 2014)

Who influenced you? I was greatly influenced [at Villanova Nursing] by Drs. Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Suzanne Smeltzer and Linda Copel. The PhD program opened my eyes to the vast opportunities in nursing and the importance of academia, research and nursing leadership while maintaining the strong values of community, caring and commitment.

Why is your position important to you? Guam suffers from a huge nursing workforce shortage. We also have a crisis of non-communicable diseases impacting our populations on Guam and in Micronesia. I am often asked why I returned, when there are many opportunities in the U.S. mainland. Our Pacific Island peoples deserve opportunities, quality health care and a strong



“...make impactful change at an individual, organizational and community level.”

nursing workforce willing to provide the best care possible. I must be a part of the solution to the many problems affecting our island and region. Nursing leadership provides the means for me to make impactful change at an individual, organizational and community level. Nursing is an amazing profession!

What is the biggest challenge? Trying to meet the myriad of needs of our island community. The health disparities facing Guam and the Micronesian islands are daunting. The nursing shortage feels insurmountable. But I have hope that our nursing education programs and our health-care infrastructure can improve to enable us to educate more nurses.

What's critical to your success? Surrounding myself with people with a similar vision.

How does innovation fit in? A leader should set goals and work systematically to achieve those goals. The innovation lies in our sense of community and being responsive to the needs of our island and regional communities.

What's your hope for our profession? That we will continue to make changes in policy and practice that ultimately change the U.S. health-care system. This broken system needs the philosophy of caring and value of human dignity that is the heart of the nursing profession. People need our help, and we can make a difference.

ANNE M. KROUSE '81 BSN, PHD, MBA, RN-BC

Dean and Professor, Widener University School of Nursing in Chester, Pa. (since 2018)

How did you rise to this leadership position? I worked on my personal leadership development during my academic career and took on formal and informal leadership roles in academia. One that really changed my career trajectory was the elected role of faculty chair at Widener. Also, I took that risk and left Widener for two years to take on the role of associate dean at the University of Delaware in Newark. That gave me the opportunity to build a new skill set in a different type of university.

What's the biggest challenge? Growing the enrollment without compromising quality and student outcomes. This takes a commitment to ensuring that the resources are in place.

What's critical to your success? Having a committed leadership team, faculty, staff and administration that understand and support nursing. Innovation is part of my everyday role, whether developing a new program/delivery method or finding



a way to fund something out of a flat budget. As a dean, it is important to be open to innovation from others and be ready to support it when it fits with the mission and vision of the school.

Anything you wish you'd done differently? I would have sought a position external to Widener earlier—an external view helps a leader avoid groupthink.

What's your advice to someone who wants to be a leader? Seek out opportunities through informal leadership opportunities and leadership development programs. Be reflective in everything you do. Know what is important to you and be committed to it. Be respectful, honest and of high integrity. Be curious and take chances.

Your hope for our profession? That we come together without multiple entry pathways so we can build a strong profession with a strong voice in advocating for our patients and our profession.

GLORIA J. MCNEAL '70 BSN, PHD, MSN, ACNS-BC, FAAN

Associate Vice President (AVP) for Community Affairs in Health at National University (NU) in San Diego (one year). Previously: Founding Dean and Professor, Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing, Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles (three and a half years) and dean of NU's School of Health and Human Services (six years)

Why are you enthusiastic? It is vitally important that nurses have a seat at the table. In my new position as AVP, I play a larger role in decision-making at the top of the university. I am

now charged with the responsibility to provide the vision and dynamic leadership for its comprehensive community and global outreach strategies related to health-care services and education.

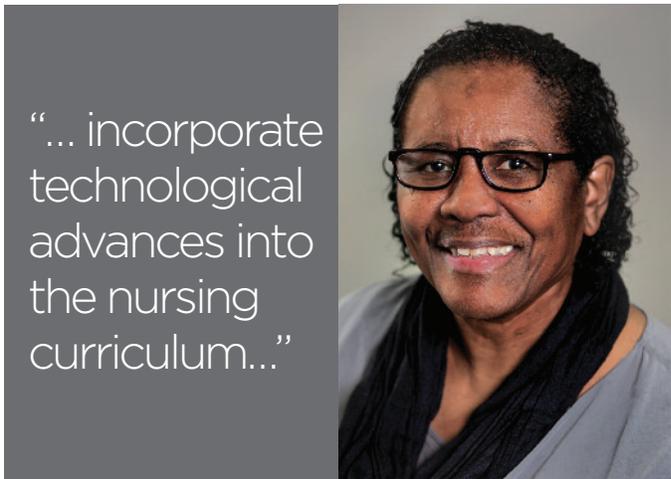
What's the biggest challenge? There remain significant barriers for advanced practice nurses to function at the top of their scope of practice and to receive equitable payor reimbursement as autonomous practitioners.

How does innovation fit in? In the not-too-distant future, most of health care will be delivered in cyberspace. It is imperative that we incorporate technological advances into the nursing curriculum, well beyond merely the electronic health record. I have spent the last two decades building virtual nurse-led clinics, which enable remote monitoring of patient biometric data across geographic boundaries, for which my work has been recognized by AARP, the American Academy of Nursing, the Association of Critical Care Nurses, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and others.

Anything you wish you'd done differently? Yes, I wish that early on I had allotted time to serve on National Institutes of Health review committees and on more national and international health-care committees.

What's your advice to someone who wants to be a leader? Develop an area of passion within the health-care arena, pursue that passion, publish your findings, present at national and international forums, serve on professional nursing and health-care committees, and engage with elected officials to help promote and advance your concepts.

Your hope for our profession? Both within the nation and worldwide, nursing needs to be viewed as a major contributor to the health-care arena, with all of the authority and responsibility afforded to other disciplines, in leading interprofessional teams of collaboration. ●



Students Become Changemakers and Advocates for Social Justice

In the first hour of their first “Cross Cultural Communication in Health Care” class, seniors in the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing take part in an exercise on perception. It’s the first of several Intergroup Relations (IGR) exercises on how to create relationships of understanding among people from different social, economic, racial and ethnic groups.

“We teach our Nursing students to understand their future patients, their patients’ families and their future colleagues in the health-care field, and we do this by practicing careful listening and by having meaningful dialogue,” observes Patricia K. Bradley, PhD, RN, FAAN, associate professor and associate dean for Inclusive Excellence. She co-teaches the course with Sherry Perlmutter Bowen, PhD, an associate professor of communication who directs the Villanova university-wide IGR program.

In this seven-week senior seminar, students reflect on issues and trends in health-care relating to social justice and oppression. Limited to 12 or fewer students, the class provides an intimate setting with desks in a circle.



Desks arranged in a circle support the new course’s cross-cultural dialogue and the team atmosphere that faculty encourage.

“Our students want to know how to interact with patients, but they don’t expect that—from their first class—we will be looking at cultural differences through a social justice lens,” says Dr. Bradley. “What we’re doing is teaching professional nursing values. Our goal is to help students learn advocacy and learn how to implement change.”

Students also discuss situations they see in the hospitals regarding who on a staff has more power, and how people get power in society. They come to realize that many of these issues are rooted in society and that they themselves can be the ones to break away from the mold, identify what is going on and acknowledge that these situations can be discussed.

“If you realize something is going on, you have the power to ask people if they’ve thought about it in a different way,” observes senior Anna Allocco. ●

Pilot Course on Climate Change Draws International Students

Inspired by conversations with colleagues at the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Ruth McDermott-Levy ’96 MSN, ’08 PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN last spring launched an innovative interdisciplinary (nursing, medicine and public health) course: “Global Perspectives for Climate and Health.” An associate professor of Nursing and director of Villanova Nursing’s Center for Global and Public Health, Dr. McDermott-Levy worked on this course while based at the University of Eastern Finland as a Fulbright-Saastamoinen Scholar in fall 2018. PHFI faculty supported it by designing the test materials and consulting on topics. She also connected with a Nigerian faculty member who had earned his PhD in Environmental Health in Finland.

The course, to be offered again this year, examines the impact of climate change on human health in Finland, India, Nigeria and the United States. The class studied climate health science; strategies of mitigation and adaptation; local, national and international policy; and real-time ground-level climate realities from each participating nation.

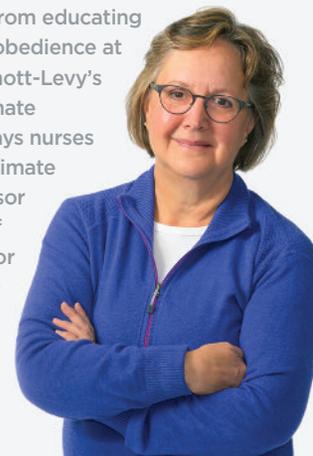
Designed as asynchronous classes with one live seminar, the course had “very positive feedback” from all the students. Twelve were from Villanova (pre-health science), three from Finland (graduate nursing) and two from Nigeria (medicine and public health). After eight other Nigerians were unaccustomed to an on-line platform, Dr. McDermott-Levy says the faculty have learned ways to engage and support students who are new to it.

“This is the first Villanova course to be taught with students and faculty from other nations,” notes Dr. McDermott-Levy. Faculty (including those from India) will be meeting virtually to consider “enhancements for the course and how we will build upon this work.” The ripple effects continue: “Our Indian colleagues are working to share this type of on-line learning to educate more health-care providers globally.” ●

Dr. McDermott-Levy Honored for Leadership

The 2020 Charlotte Brody Award has been given to Ruth McDermott-Levy ’96 MSN, ’08 PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN for her exemplary environmental nursing leadership. The award was presented to her in June by two organizations, Health Care Without Harm and the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments.

The organizations noted, “From educating nursing students to civil disobedience at the nation’s capital, McDermott-Levy’s bold environmental and climate advocacy epitomizes the ways nurses can lead in the face of the climate crisis.” The associate professor of Nursing is also director of Villanova Nursing’s Center for Global and Public Health. ●



National Calls to Action

Villanova Nursing faculty—change agents all—continue to bring the voice of nursing to critical societal and health issues based on their years of research and advocacy. Here are several examples of their important initiatives.

On Gun Violence

“...invest in an active and engaged school nurse workforce that is well-positioned within school environments to transform fear into courage and anticipation into action by implementing student-focused strategies rooted in prevention.”

—Current Trauma Reports

That journal had invited papers from all disciplines to give a diverse perspective on school shootings and solutions to gun violence. Sunny G. Hallowell, PhD, PPCNP-BC, IBCLC, assistant professor, was the invited senior scientist on the nursing paper, “School Nurses Share Their Voices, Trauma, and Solutions by Sounding the Alarm on Gun Violence,” with co-authors Cogan, R.; Nickitas, D.M.; and Mazyck, D. The school nurses call for new strategies regarding protection, preparation and prevention. The scholarly article, published online November 22, 2019, has generated media interviews and Twitter conversation.



On Preterm Birth

“Health-care providers can no longer relegate preterm birth to an irrelevant portion of a patient’s medical history.... They can and should provide care to influence the future expression of these health risks.”

—Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners

That observation by co-authors Michelle M. Kelly '94 BSN, '12 PhD, RN, CRNP, associate professor (right), and Patricia Griffith, MSN, CRNP, ACNP-BC, a PhD student, is from their article, “The Influence of Preterm Birth Beyond Infancy, an Umbrella Review of Outcomes of Adolescents and Adults Born Preterm,” published online October 18, 2019. The authors call for curriculum and practice standards to advance and include this new body of literature, noting, “Just as recognition of obesity as a significant risk for coronary artery disease began with the 1998 proclamation by the American Heart Association, it is time to make a similar proclamation for preterm birth. Health-care providers must recognize the lifelong risk conferred by preterm birth.”



On Maternal Health

“Women should know they are not alone in their postpartum recovery.... For the sake of social justice and decreasing the significant racial disparities in maternal mortality and morbidity, health-care providers must realize the importance of fourth-trimester care.”

—The Philadelphia Inquirer

The headline on that op-ed published July 7, 2019, in the newspaper’s Sunday edition was: “Maternal Health Matters After Birth. We Need ‘Fourth Trimester’ Care.” Esther R. Laury, PhD, RN, assistant professor, based her op-ed on her call to action co-authored with Montgomery, T.M. in *Nursing for Women’s Health*, June 1, 2019. Dr. Laury’s op-ed was picked up by *Managed Care* magazine. She is the inaugural chair of the Racial Health Disparities committee of the College’s Center for Global and Public Health.



On Military Sexual Trauma

“The VA’s national screening program in 2018 reported that approximately 1 in 4 women and 1 in 100 men, when screened by their VA provider, revealed that they have experienced MST [military sexual trauma].”

—Nursing Outlook

A nationally recognized expert on military and veteran health issues, Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research, has contributed to the American Academy of Nursing’s policy brief on military sexual trauma, “Experiences of Sexual Assault and/or Sexual Harassment During a Service Member’s Military Career.” It represents the work of the Academy’s Violence Expert Panel and its Military and Veterans Health Expert Panel. Dr. Moriarty is a member of the latter group. The brief, published by *Nursing Outlook* online June 18, 2019, includes multiple recommendations, such as access to adequate resources and development of a culture of safety. In September 2019, she began a three-year term on the VA Nursing Research Field Advisory Committee.



TRANSITIONS

Welcoming Talented Faculty Who Are Shaping Science and the Future

Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF

in January was promoted to vice dean for Academic Affairs after serving as a faculty member since 2004. Her scholarship focuses on advancing the science of nursing education, addressing educational pedagogy and simulation to improve patient safety and quality. Dr. Mariani was president of the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning and is a National League for Nursing Center of Excellence consultant and a Sigma Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy mentor. She consults in Australia and Asia to promote international collaboration on simulation-based nursing education and standards of best practice.



Peter G. Kaufmann, PhD, FABMR

who became the inaugural associate dean for Research and Innovation in August 2019, is experienced in the design of high-quality clinical research and observational studies. He holds a joint appointment in Psychology at Villanova's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. During his 30-year career at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), he launched numerous research projects on the influence of psychosocial factors in health and created the renowned Summer Institute on Behavioral Randomized Controlled Trials. While at NIH's National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, he conducted numerous clinical trials and was instrumental in creating the Centers for Population Health and Health Disparities to find solutions for the health challenges of minorities. Dr. Kaufmann previously served as associate dean of Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of South Florida College of Nursing. He earned a BS and MA in Psychology at Loyola University (Chicago) and a PhD in



Psychology at the University of Chicago, with post-doctoral training in Neuroscience at Duke University.

Catherine P. Lovecchio '85 BSN, '08 PhD, RN

in June became associate dean for Undergraduate Programs. With 25 years' experience in higher education, most recently she chaired the Department of Nursing at the University of Scranton, where she taught and was the director of its Center for Health and Wellness Education. She is the founding director of Villanova University's health center. She has published and presented on a clinical nurse liaison model and alcohol education for college students. The Villanova BSN and PhD in Nursing alumna earned her master's in Adult Health and Nursing Education at what is now Misericordia University.



Heather Brom, PhD, RN, NP-C

joined the College in August as the inaugural Eastwood Family Endowed Assistant Professor and is teaching acute care medical-surgical subjects. She has a great depth of experience in oncology nursing. Dr. Brom most recently was a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing's Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research and an associate fellow at Penn's Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics. At Ohio State, she earned a BS in Psychology, an MSN as a Family Nurse Practitioner and a PhD in Nursing.



Catherine Curley, PhD, RN joined the College in March as clinical assistant professor, teaching in the Second-degree Accelerated BSN track. Her background is in education, hospital administration, business line strategy, and population and community health. Dr. Curley previously was assistant vice president,

Ambulatory Clinical Operations and Community Outreach, at Cooper University Health Care in Camden, N.J. Recently as an adjunct faculty member at Villanova Nursing, she taught population/community health.

She earned her BSN from LaSalle University, her MSN from West Chester University and her PhD from Widener University.



Gail E. Furman, EdD, MSN, RN

joined the faculty in July as clinical professor and executive director of the Simulation and Learning Resource Center. Most recently, she served as the National Board of Medical Examiners' director of Educational Design and Development and at Drexel University College of Medicine as an adjunct professor in the Department of Family, Community and Preventative Medicine. Dr. Furman's numerous publications and presentations focus on simulation and clinical teaching. She received her BSN, MSN and EdD from the Saint Louis University School of Nursing.



Janell Mensinger, PhD, FAED

appointed associate research professor last October, was formerly at Drexel University as an associate research professor and director, Biostatistics Service Center in the Dornsife School of Public Health. Her impressive array of publications complements the College's research enterprise and faculty expertise. A quantitative health psychologist, Dr. Mensinger provides expertise in research methodology, study design and biostatistics. Her research focuses on the



effect of weight stigma and discrimination on health outcomes and behaviors. She earned a BA in Psychology from West Chester University and a PhD in Psychology with Health and Quantitative concentrations from the City University of New York.

Jaclyn Parkinson '11 MSN, RN, PCCN

joined the full-time faculty last January as clinical instructor teaching undergraduates about adult health/critical care nursing, especially in the Second-degree Accelerated BSN track.



Certified in progressive care nursing, she has clinical experience in trauma, surgical and home health nursing and an interest in moral distress in nursing students and new nurses. An adjunct faculty member since 2014, she has taught clinical practice in medical-surgical, home health and leadership rotations. She earned her BSN from West Chester University and her MSN from Villanova.

James Vines, PhD, MEd,

who in August 2019 was named Nursing Student Success and Retention advisor, includes among his research interests bullying, cyberbullying, public policy, and the recruitment and retention of minorities in higher education.



He is a journal reviewer, has published in peer-reviewed journals and has presented his work nationally and internationally. Dr. Vines served as faculty advisor for the Act 101/Educational Opportunity Program to assist students in transitioning from high school to college at Bloomsburg University. He received his BA in Political Science from St. Mary's College of Maryland, his MEd in Counselor Education from Virginia State University and his PhD in Educational Leadership and Higher Education from Clemson University.

Guy M. Weissinger II, BSN, MPhil, PhD, RN, assistant professor, joined the faculty in August. His research focuses on using patient-centered approaches to understand and improve the health of people who

experience mental illness. He has teaching experience in mental and public health and community nursing; psychological and social factors in health and wellness; and social determinants of health. He earned a BA from Rice University and at the University of Pennsylvania a BSN, MSEd in Counseling and Psychological Services, MPhil in Professional Counseling and PhD in Nursing Science.



Angelina Arcamone '82 BSN, '86 MSN, PhD, RN

in June transitioned to clinical assistant professor. She will teach nursing education in the Graduate Program and "Introduction to Professional Nursing" to undergraduates.

As associate dean of the Undergraduate Program (2011-2020), she oversaw the implementation of online exam technology and a successful curriculum revision. She formed an ad-hoc committee to examine the College's strategies for NCLEX success, which in 2018-19 led to a 97 percent pass rate.



Tamara Kear '09 PhD, RN, CNS, CNN, FAAN

in January transitioned to executive director of the American Nephrology Nurses Association, which she had recently led as president. She will remain as an adjunct professor. Dr. Kear in March received the 2020 Medal of Excellence in the Nursing category from the American Association of Kidney Patients. The award is one of this advocacy organization's highest honors for those at the forefront of advancements in kidney care and patient empowerment.



Dr. Perry, Former Interim Dean, Retires

To celebrate a very special colleague and friend on her retirement—Lesley Perry, PhD, RN, associate dean for Academic Affairs—well-wishers gathered on November 25, 2019, in the Driscoll Hall Atrium.

The College recruited Dr. Perry in 2006 as associate dean and professor, benefiting from her wealth of experience in academic administration at all levels. At the University of Maryland School of Nursing for 29 years, she oversaw academic and operations-related activities. Regardless of the locale, Dr. Perry is held in high regard as a truly nice person who brings humor and a collegial spirit to everything in which she is involved.

Building on her service in academic programs, daily operations, strategic planning, obtaining grant funding, chairing dissertation committees, and faculty recruitment and development, Dr. Perry culminated her leadership in being named interim dean of Villanova Nursing on September 18, 2017, following the death of M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. Dr. Perry also was instrumental in the transition of Dean Havens, generously sharing her wise counsel. She plans to stay connected to the College for special projects. ●

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

PUBLICATIONS

Sherry Burrell '15 PhD, RN, CNE, ACNS-BC, assistant professor, published two articles with **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE**, associate professor; **Mary Ann Heverly, PhD**, associate adjunct professor; **Tina Menginie '18 MSN**; and **Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF**, vice dean for Academic Affairs:

- “Nursing Students’ Attitudes Toward Nursing Education Research and Participation in Pedagogical Research” in *Nurse Educator* (Epub. ahead of print, January 14); and
- “Psychometric Evaluation of the Nursing Students’ Attitudes Toward Nursing Education Research Questionnaire” in the *Journal of Nursing Measurement*, 28 (2) (Epub. ahead of print, March 30).

Mary Ann Cantrell '89 MSN, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN, professor and director of the PhD in Nursing Program, published:

- with PhD student **Jessie Reich, MSN, RN, ANP-BC; Nancy Wise '09 MSN, '15 PhD, RN**; and **Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN**, the Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations, “Sickle Cell Disease in the Young Adult Population: A Historical Review and Implications for Nurses” in *Medical Surgical Nursing*, 28 (4), 213-218; and
- with **Dr. Wise**, “Effectiveness of Recruitment and Retention Strategies in a Pregnant Adolescent Nutrition Intervention Study,” in the *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 75 (1), 215-223.

Theresa M. Capriotti '95 MSN, DO, CRNP, clinical professor, published:

- the book *Pathophysiology: Introductory Concepts and Clinical Perspectives*, 2nd edition;
- with senior **Breanna Ashline**, the article “Systolic Heart Failure: An Update for Home Healthcare Clinicians” in *Home Healthcare Now*, 37 (6) 312-318;
- with senior **Morgan Micari**, the article “Chronic Heart Failure Treatment with the Left Ventricular Assist Device” in *Home Healthcare Now*, 37 (4), 190-197;
- with seniors **Lynne Kelley** and **Dana Galgano**, the article “Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: Fighting for Each Breath” in *The Clinical Advisor* (Epub. ahead of print, July 12, 2019); and
- with juniors **Tiffany Pearson** and **Lillian Dufour**, the article “Health Disparities in Rural America: Challenges and Future Solutions” in *The Clinical Advisor* (Epub. ahead of print, February 3).

Linda Carman Copel, PhD, RN, CNS, BC, CNE, NCC, ANEF, FAPA, professor, published:

- with Sacco, T.L., the article “Compassion Satisfaction: A Concept Analysis in Nursing” in *Nursing Forum*, 53 (1), 76-83; and
- the op-ed “Domestic Violence Victims Need Crucial Support During the Coronavirus” in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, April 6.

Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and coordinator of Undergraduate Research, published the articles:

- with **Lucy Andersen '18 BSN**, “Access to Clean Water and Urinary Tract Infections in Haitian Women” in *Public Health Nursing*, 36 (6), 800-805;

- with **Agnes Cho '18 BSN**, “Unintentional Gun Violence in the Home: A Survey of Pediatric Advanced Practice Nurses’ Preventative Measures” in the *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*, 34 (1), 23-29;
- with senior **Alexandra Cordon**; Gultekin, L.; Brush, B.L.; and Ginier, E., “Health Risks and Outcomes of Homelessness in School-age Children and Youth: A Scoping Review of the Literature” in the *Journal of School Nursing*, 36 (1), 10-18 (Epub. ahead of print, September 15, 2019); and
- with **Julia Noel '19 BSN**, “Risk Behaviors of High School Students Who Report Knowing Someone Who Self-Harms” in *Issues in Mental Health*, 41 (5), 415-420 (Epub. ahead of print, January 16).

Diane M. Ellis '84 BSN, '92 MSN, RN, CCRN, clinical assistant professor, published with **Shelly Hickey '07 MSN**; Vernon, G.; **Addie Doyle '19 BSN**; **Meghan Galvin '19 BSN**; **Patricia Prieto, MBA, BSN, RN, CHSE**, nursing simulation operations specialist; and **Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, FGSA**, associate professor, the article “Medication Safety of Parkinson’s Disease Patients During Care Transitions: Educating Nursing Students” in *Nursing Education Perspectives*, 40 (6), E22-E24.

Sunny G. Hallowell, PhD, PPCNP-BC, IBCLC, assistant professor, published:

- with Zou, P.; Sun, W.; Luo, Y.; Lee, C.; and Ge, L., “Use of Guest Speakers in Nursing Education: An Integrative Review of Multi-disciplinary Literature” in *Advances in Medical Education and Practice*, April 10, 2019, 175-189 and
- with Oerther, S.; Rossiter, A.; and Gross, D., “The American Academy of Nursing Jonas Policy Scholars Program: Mentoring Future Nurse Leaders to Advance Health Policy” in the *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 74 (10), 2253-2257.

Donna S. Havens '83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, published her editorial, “The Eyes of the World Are on Nurses,” for the American Nurses Association’s **myamericannurse.com**, June 30. She wrote, “Nurses have limitless opportunities to provide leadership. Let us cohesively and inclusively use this power to not only educate but to also impact policy and practice to build positive work environments and effective and equitable health care systems in our diverse society.”

Peter G. Kaufmann, PhD, FABMR, associate dean for Research and Innovation, published with Riesch S.K.; Liu J.; Doswell, W.M.; Cohen, S.; and Vessey, J., the article “Preventing Adverse Health Behavior Among Children and Adolescents by Addressing Screen Media Practices Concomitant to Sleep Disturbance” in *Nursing Outlook*, 67 (4), 492-496.

Tamara M. Kear '09 PhD, RN, CNS, CNN, FAAN, adjunct associate professor, published two articles in *Nephrology Nursing Journal*: “Partnering with Kidney and Nursing Communities to Advance Kidney Health” 46 (4), 373-374 and “Every Nurse Is a Leader: Building on 50 Years of Nephrology Nursing Leadership” 46 (2), 101, 154.

Michelle M. Kelly '94 BSN, '12 PhD, RN, CRNP, assistant professor, published two articles:

- with McCarthy, A., “Ahead of the Curve: Pediatric Scoliosis” in the *Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 16 (1), 34-40 (Epub. ahead of print, September 23, 2019); and

- with PhD student **Patricia Griffith, MSN, CRNP, ACNP-BC** and Becker, D., “On-call Simulation for Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Students: A Comparative Descriptive Study” in the *Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners* (Epub. ahead of print, December 19, 2019).

Linda Maldonado, PhD, RN, assistant professor, published with **Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN**, the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research, the article “Engagement of Urban, Pregnant Puerto Rican Women in Health Disparities Research” in the *Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecologic, and Neonatal Nursing*, 48 (6), 683-692.

Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, associate professor and director of the College's Center for Global and Public Health, published with Kolanowski, A.M.; Fick, D.M.; and Mann, M.E. the article “Addressing Health Risk of Climate Change in Older Adults” in the *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*, 45 (11), 21-29; and also with Fick “Advancing Gerontological Nursing Science in Climate Change” in *Research in Gerontological Nursing*, 13 (1), 6-12.

Colleen Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE-A, ANEF, assistant professor of the Practice and director of the Second-degree Accelerated BSN track, published with Bradley, C.S.; Johnson, B.K.; Dreifuerst, K.T.; White, P.; Conde, S.K.; Curry-Lourenco, K.; and Childress, R.M., the article “Regulation of Simulation Use in United States Prelicensure Nursing Programs” in *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 33 (C), 17-25.

Janell Mensinger, PhD, FAED, associate research professor, published with Granche, J.L.; Cox, S.A.; and Henretty, J.R. the article “Sexual and Gender Minority Individuals Report Higher Rates of Abuse and More Severe Eating Disorder Symptoms Than Cisgender Heterosexual Individuals at Admission to Eating Disorder Treatment” in the *International Journal of Eating Disorders*, 53 (4) (Epub. ahead of print, March 13).

Helene Moriarty, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research, published with **Susan D. Birkhoff '10 MSN, '17 PhD** “Challenges in Mobile Health App Research: Strategies for Interprofessional Researchers” in the *Journal of Interprofessional Education and Practice*, 19 (June), 100325.

Tracy L. Oliver, PhD, RDN, LDN, associate professor; **Amy E. McKeever '08 PhD, RN, CRNP, WHNP-BC**, associate professor; **Rebecca Shenkman, MPH, RDN, LDN**, director of the College's MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE); and **Lisa Diewald, MS, RD, LDN**, program manager, COPE, published “Barriers to Healthy Eating in a Community that Utilizes an Emergency Food Pantry” in the *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 52 (3), 299-306.

Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE, associate professor, published:

- with Dunker, K.S. and Duprey, M., the article “Simulation Strategies Used in the Transition from Expert Clinician to Novice Educator” in *Nursing Education Perspectives* (Epub. ahead of print, June 19);
- with **Sherry A. Burrell '15 PhD, RN, CNE, ACNS-BC**, assistant professor, “Nursing Students' Attitudes Towards Research: An Integrative Review” in *Nurse Education Today*, 82 (November 2019), 79-87 (Epub. ahead of print, August 7, 2019); and
- with Silver Dunker, K., the article “New Clinical Faculty Orientation: A Review of the Literature” in *Nursing Education Perspective*, 40 (4), 210-215.

Suzanne C. Smeltzer, RN, EdD, ANEF, FAAN, the Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations, published with Ryan, J.E. and **Nancy Sharts-Hopko, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, CNE**, professor, the article “Challenges to Studying Illicit Drug Users” in the *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 51 (4), 480-488.

Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, ANEF, associate professor, published with **Linda Carman Copel, PhD, RN, CNS, BC, CNE, ANEF, NCC, FAPA**, professor, and Schmidt, C.K., the article “The Nursing Process as a Model for Supporting Student Attendance at State and National Student Nurses' Association Conferences” in the newsletter *Dean's Notes*, National Student Nurses' Association, 40 (4), 1-3.

Christina Whitehouse '04 BSN, '16 PhD, CRNP, CDE, assistant professor, published:

- with LaManna J.; Litchman M.L.; Dickinson J.K.; Todd, A.; Julius, M.M.; Hyer, S.; and Kavookjian, J., the article “Diabetes Education Impact on Hypoglycemia Outcomes: A Systematic Review of Evidence and Gaps in the Literature” in *The Diabetes Educator*, 45 (4), 349-369;
- with Long, J.; Maloney, L.; **Kim Daniels '19 DNP, ACNS-BC, RN-BC, CCRN**; Horowitz, D.; and **Kathryn H. Bowles '90 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI**, the article “Feasibility of Diabetes Self-Management Telehealth Education for Older Adults During Transitions in Care” in *Research in Gerontological Nursing*, 13 (3), 138-145; and
- with **Dr. Bowles**; Murtaugh, C.M.; Jordan, L.; Barron, Y.; Mikkelsen, M.E.; Chase, J.D.; Ryvicker, M.; and Feldman, P.H., the article “A Profile of Sepsis Survivors Transitioned to Home Health Care and Early Readmission Risk Factors” in the *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 21 (1), 84-90.

College's New Grants Support Research

The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing instituted in 2019-2020 a new Research Development Grant Program to lay the groundwork for future full-scale research studies. The inaugural recipients are:

- Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor and coordinator of Undergraduate Research: \$10,000 for “Examining the Influence of Sleeping with Technology in a College Student Population.” She will survey 700 Nursing undergraduates on their use of technology after bedtime and the practice of sleep texting, which influences the quality of sleep and daytime performance.
- Christina Whitehouse, PhD, CRNP, CDE**, assistant professor: \$13,500 for “Feasibility Study for the Provision of Meals for Older Adults with Type 2 Diabetes During Transitions of Care.” She and fellow scientists seek to determine whether providing home-delivered meals improves their HbA1C biomarker of diabetes. Her colleagues are **Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research; **Janell Mensinger, PhD, FAED**, associate research professor; **Tracy L. Oliver, PhD, RDN, LDN**, associate professor; Judith Long, MD; and **Kathryn H. Bowles '90 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI**.

Five Faculty Members Named AAN Fellows

Congratulations to our faculty members who have been selected in the last two classes of Fellows of the prestigious American Academy of Nursing—a recognition of their contributions to science and their advancement of health and the profession. Three were inducted last fall: **Tamara M. Kear '09 PhD, RN, CNS, CNN, FAAN**, adjunct associate professor; **Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN**, associate professor and director of the College's Center for Global and Public Health; and **Jennifer Yost '00 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN**, associate professor. To be inducted this fall are **Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF**, vice dean for Academic Affairs, and **Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, FGSA**, associate professor and director of Villanova Nursing's Gerontology Interest Group. Read more about their accomplishments at villanova.edu/nursing.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Sherry A. Burrell '15 PhD, RN, CNE, ACNS-BC, assistant professor, presented with **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE**, “Psychometric Evaluation of the Nursing Students’ Attitudes Towards Nursing Education Research Questionnaire” at the Professional Nurse Educator Group’s 46th annual conference, held in Cleveland last October. Dr. Burrell received a \$25,000 two-year grant from the Oncology Nursing Society for “Appraisal, Burden, Needs, Depression and Quality of Life Among Caregivers of Veterans with Cancer,” with **Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research; J. Stefano, MSN; and T. Short.

Linda Carman Copel, PhD, RN, PMHCNS, BC, CNE, NCC, ANEF, FAPA, professor, presented:

- “DNPs as Nursing Faculty: Strategies to Ensure their Success” at the National League for Nursing’s National Summit, held at National Harbor, Md., in September 2019; and
- “Parental Perceptions of Caring for Their Adult Children with Chronic Mental Illness” at Sigma Theta Tau International’s 30th International Nursing Research Conference, held in Calgary, Canada, in July 2019.

Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and coordinator of Undergraduate Research, delivered a TEDxVillanova talk on February 19, “Interrupted Sleep: College Students Sleeping with Technology,” based on her research. She encouraged the audience to take control of their cell phones and other technology that interferes with quality sleep.



Anne M. Fink '11 PhD, RN, CNE, assistant dean for College and Student Services and assistant professor, last November began a two-year term as a grant reviewer for Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society and in July 2019 became a reviewer for the *Journal of Professional Nursing*. She also serves as secretary for the National League for Nursing Certified Nurse Educators Board of Commissioners.

Sunny G. Hallowell, PhD, PPCNP-BC, IBCLC, assistant professor, presented two papers last November: “Policy Development for the Use of Human Milk and Breastfeeding in the United States” at Sigma Theta Tau’s 45th Biennial, held in Washington, D.C.; and in Wilmington, Del., “Immersive VR for Medication Administration Simulation” for the Philadelphia Area Simulation Consortium. During her spring 2019 sabbatical, Dr. Hallowell developed an immersive virtual reality clinical environment to help students develop vital medication administration skills to bridge a critical

patient safety gap. Her proof of concept pilot study, “Virtual Reality Simulation for Teaching and Evaluation of Medication Safety,” was a collaboration with Dr. Edward Kim, a Drexel University computer scientist. The study was funded by the Pennsylvania Higher Education Nursing Schools Association.

Donna S. Havens '83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, notes she is “honored to be selected to serve” on the Board of Trustees at Main Line Health, effective this September. “This is an opportunity for the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing to add to our presence in the community, as well as to add Nursing’s voice to enhance the delivery and quality of health care.” Main Line Health is a longtime clinical partner. Dean Havens has also been selected as a 2021 Fellow in the AACN/Wharton Executive Leadership Program at the University of Pennsylvania.

Peter G. Kaufmann PhD, FABMR, associate dean for Research and Innovation, in April 2019 was the inaugural recipient of the Society of Behavioral Medicine’s Service to Behavioral Medicine Award. He delivered three invited lectures: “Unintended Consequences of Participant Engagement in Clinical Trials Involving Behavioral Interventions” for the Society for Clinical Trials in New Orleans in May 2019; and in July 2019 at the NIH Summer Institute on Randomized Behavioral Clinical Trials, held in Potomac, Md., “From Pilot Studies to Clinically Important Differences in Randomized Trials: Preparing the Search for a Signal” and “Characteristics of the Study Population: Moderators, Mediators and Enrichment in Randomized Trials.”

Michelle M. Kelly '96 BSN, '12 PhD, RN, CRNP, assistant professor, received a post-doctoral fellowship for advanced training in nursing science and developmental pediatrics focusing on adult outcomes of premature infants with the University of Rhode Island College of Nursing. Her research has focused on long-term outcomes of preterm birth survivors using the National Survey of Children’s Health data. Read more at villanova.edu/nursing.

Katherine Lucatorto, DNP, RN, clinical assistant professor, presented a poster with **Sue Ellen Alderman, MSN, RN, PMHCNS**, clinical assistant professor; **Patricia K. Bradley, PhD, RN, FAAN**, associate professor and associate dean for Inclusive Excellence; **Colleen Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE-A, ANEF**, assistant professor of the Practice and director of the Second-degree Accelerated BSN track; and **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE**, associate professor, “Inter-Professional Collaboration: Implementing TeamSTEPPS in a Psychiatric-Mental Health Baccalaureate Didactic and Clinical Course” at the Annual Psychiatric Nurses Association convention, held in New Orleans last October. That month Dr. Lucatorto received the Gail Stern Scholarship Award from the American Psychiatric Nurses Association-Pennsylvania Chapter.

Bien Hecho, Dr. Maldonado!

Linda Maldonado, PhD, RN, assistant professor, in June 2019 was named one of Telemundo's "Mujeres Imparables" (unstoppable women), who were featured on its Instagram. She was honored for the work she and her Team Latina do in Philadelphia's Kensington community, where Nursing students help childbearing-age Puerto Rican women learn complementary therapies to decrease stress and how to engage in community building. In 2019 Dr. Maldonado received an inaugural \$5,000 Sigma/National Association of Hispanic Nurses Research Grant for "Use of Narrative Analysis to Understand the Stories of Resilience in Urban, Childbearing Puerto Rican Women." She was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Action Coalition's Promise of Nursing's Small Grants Program and Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association.



Bette A. Mariani, PhD, RN, ANEF, vice dean for Academic Affairs and the immediate past president of International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation (INACSL), joined fellow association leaders in accepting the Presidential Citation Award from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH) for their collaboration among INACSL, SSH and the Association of Standardized Patient Educators. The award was presented at the SSH conference in San Diego last January.

At the INACSL virtual conference last June, Dr. Mariani was honored with the Spirit of Simulation Leadership Excellence Award. **Patricia Prieto, MBA, BSN, RN, CHSE**, nursing simulation operations specialist and then-acting director of the College's Simulation and Learning Resource Center, was recognized with the Frontline Simulation Champion Excellence Award.

In October 2019, Dr. Mariani presented at the 2nd China Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare, held in Guangzhou. In November 2019 she presented with **Suzanne C. Smeltzer, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN**, The Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations; T.L. Horsley; **Colleen Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE-A, ANEF**, assistant professor of the Practice and director of the Second-degree Accelerated BSN track; and **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 BSN, '05 MSN, '11 PhD, RN, CNE**, associate professor, "A Multi-Site Simulation Study Comparing Attitudes and Comfort Level of Undergraduate Nursing Students Interacting with People with Disability" at The American Public Health Association's Annual Meeting and Expo in Philadelphia. Dr. Mariani is the "Research Briefs" editor for *Nursing Education Perspectives*, published by the National League for Nursing.

Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 MSN, '08 PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, associate professor and director of the College's Center for Global and Public Health, presented with I. Tiita "Promoting Climate and Health Education for Nurses in Finland" at the American Public Health Association's November 2019 meeting in Philadelphia. She also presented there, with **Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF**, vice dean for Academic Affairs, and P. Lupinacci, "Nursing Student Self-efficacy with an Immigrant Health Access Project."

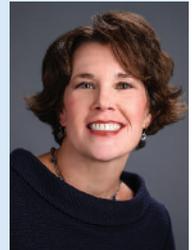
Colleen Meakim '84 MSN, RN, CHSE-A, ANEF, assistant professor of the Practice and director of the Second-degree Accelerated BSN track, in fall 2019 was designated a Certified Simulation Healthcare Educator-Advanced from the Society for Simulation in Healthcare.

Janell Mensinger, PhD, FAED, associate research professor, received a "Best Oral Presentations" award for her international conference presentation, with J. Granche, S. Cox and J.R. Henretty, "Unintended Consequences of the War on Obesity: Patients Attributing Their Eating Disorder Onset to Anti-Obesity Messaging Enter Treatment with More Severe Symptoms," last January at the 27th International Congress on Eating Disorders, held in Alpbach, Austria. Last February Dr. Mensinger was an expert panelist during a Facebook Live event hosted during Eating Disorders Week by the National Eating Disorders Association.

Kudos for Dr. O'Connor

Melissa O'Connor, PhD, MBA, RN, FGSA, associate professor, is one of 11 nurse scientists from across the nation accepted to the inaugural cohort of the Betty Irene Moore Fellowships for Nurse Leaders and Innovators. This three-year fellowship, funded by a \$37.5 million grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, recognizes early- to mid-career nursing scholars and innovators. Fellows receive \$450,000 to conduct an innovative project or study. Dr. O'Connor's project, "Home Health Discharge Decision Support (HEADS-UP)," focuses on the health outcomes of vulnerable older adults. She is creating a clinical decision support system to determine readiness for discharge, a critical decision for home health clinicians.

In March 2019 Dr. O'Connor was elected member-at-large (Awards) to the Executive Board of the Eastern Nursing Research Society and last October was elected chair of the Board of Trustees of the Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia.



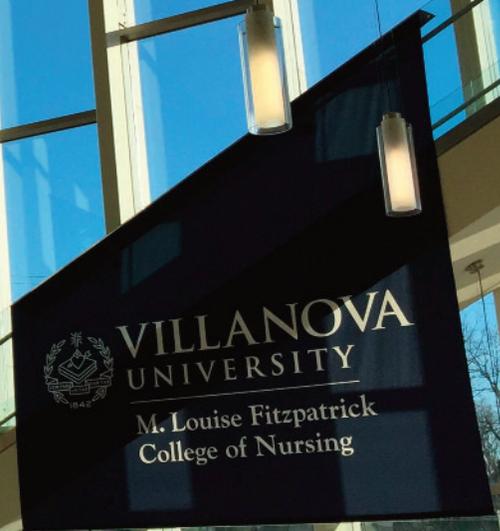
Carol Toussie Weingarten, PhD, RN, ANEF, associate professor, in June 2019 was elected for a second three-year term as president of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association.

Christina Whitehouse '04 BSN, '16 PhD, CRNP, CDE, assistant professor, was appointed in 2019 to the American Association of Diabetes Educators Program Committee to plan its 2020 conference. Her papers include:

- with Lo, Y.; Lynch, S.F.; Urbanowicz, R.J.; Olson, R.S.; Ritter, A.Z.; and **Kathryn H. Bowles '90 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI**, "Using Machine Learning on Home Health Care Assessments to Predict Fall Risk" at the 17th World Congress of Medical and Health Informatics, held in August 2019 in Lyon, France; and
- with **Dr. Bowles**; Jordan, L.; and Murtaugh, C. "Profiling Risk Among Sepsis Survivors with Diabetes in Home Care," at the American Diabetes Association's 79th Scientific Sessions, held in June 2019 in San Francisco.

Dr. Whitehouse received a two-year National Institutes of Health Loan Repayment Program (LRP) award through the National Institute on Aging for her research study, "Optimizing Diabetes Management Through a Nutrition and Education Intervention." It includes telehealth delivery of diabetes self-management education and support plus medically-tailored meals for older adults experiencing food insecurity. The LRP program is "designed to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals into biomedical or biobehavioral research careers" and represents "an important investment by NIH in the future of health discovery and the wellbeing of the Nation," according to the program's website.

Supporting the Next Generation



\$15 Million Raised in Memory of Dean Fitzpatrick

For nearly 40 years, until her death in 2017, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, '15 DHL (Hon.) was the visionary leader guiding Villanova University's College of Nursing. Shortly after her passing, the University announced it would name the College in her memory and address her goal of supporting its ability to enroll deserving students and further health care.

Following a two-year fundraising initiative—and through the support of generous alumni, parents and friends—the \$15 million goal was achieved. “The donations made in memory of Dean Fitzpatrick are special as they recognize her impact on health care and support priorities ranging from scholarships and professional development to endowed positions and research funds for faculty, all of which are strategic as we write our next chapter,” explains Donna S. Havens '83 MSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor.

The College is grateful to all those who supported this initiative and would like to especially recognize the inspiring gift of \$5 million from Dee '86 BSN and Nick Adams along with leadership gifts from the following:

Donna '79 BSN and Joseph '79 VSB Cassidy
Pam '88 MSN and Dave DeCampli
Linda and Rear Adm. (Ret.) James W. Eastwood '68 COE
Jennifer Mueller and Michael Faragalli '58 VSB
Ruth A. (Lapp) Frey '81 BSN
Sandy '85 BSN, '90 MSN and Robert Gomberg '84 CLAS
Christina Larson Kelly '74 BSN
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Marie '72 BSN and Tom Schaible
Robin and George Shapiro
Sharon Patterson Turner '82 VSB, P '15
Michael S. '96 MBA and Carol Toussie Weingarten
Colleen '95 BSN and Greg Wilson '95 VSB
Kelly Ann '94 BSN, '11 MSN and Joel Zazyczny ●

Pitek Fellow Helps Families Cope with Spina Bifida

Following the Graduate Nursing Reception and Awards Ceremony last December in Driscoll Hall's Atrium, Linda (left) and Ray Pitek had a chance to talk about critical, life-changing work with Joy Kerr '19 DNP, CPNP-PC, CRNFA, an Ashley Rose Pitek Nurse Scholars Fellow. The fellowship, funded by the Piteks in memory of their daughter, is designated for a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) student committed to the care of children with spina bifida.

Dr. Kerr, a DNP graduate, is a nurse practitioner in the Division of Urology at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Her expertise is in pediatric neurogenic bladder and bowel. Her DNP scholarly project, "Development and Implementation of a Clinical Pathway for Bowel Management in Pediatric Spina Bifida Population," brings real solutions to the families who benefit from her experience and care. Inspired by a patient striving for independence with bowel management, she has also collaborated to develop an adaptive device that families will be excited to use once it is released. ●



Gifts Advance Villanova Nursing's Important Initiatives

- The renovation of Driscoll Hall's second-floor café and study lounge, renamed the Recovery Room, was funded primarily from gifts from Margaret "Meg" Garrett, Esq., '72 BSN; Dr. and Mrs. Eugene J. McMahon (parents of Rosemary '20 BSN); Brian and Jeannette Reilly (parents of Britten '15 BSN); Daniel R. Tropeano '92 CLAS; Michael and Amy Tucci (parents of Rebecca '18 BSN); and Mark and Joy Vroman '90 BSN. The Recovery Room offers a well-lit, modern space for visitors to relax, recharge themselves and their devices, visit with friends and engage in group work using configurable furniture. Garrett, Brian Reilly, Tropeano, Amy Tucci and Joy Vroman are members of the College's Board of Consultors.



- A crowdfunding campaign during National Nurses Week in May generated more than 300 gifts and \$83,000 to support priorities created or heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic. The campaign was boosted by a challenge gift from Sharon Patterson Turner '82 VSB, P '15, chair emerita of the College's Board of Consultors, and a matching gift from Julia E. Lanouette '11 BSN.

- Pam '88 MSN and Dave DeCampli made a bequest commitment to create an endowed scholarship for graduate students. She is the new chair of the College's Board of Consultors.
- John DeLuca '52 CLAS established and fully funded an endowment in memory of his wife, Irene DeLuca. The endowment will provide scholarships for one or more Second-degree Accelerated students each year.
- Fred Flynn made a gift in support of the Susan D. Flynn Oncology Nursing Fellowship Program. The program, which enables Villanova students to intern in oncology units at various hospitals, is co-sponsored by Dee '86 BSN and Nick Adams. She is a member of the College's Board of Consultors.
- Jessie K. Lee provided support for the purchase of the Victoria birthing mannequin for Villanova Nursing's Simulation and Learning Resource Center. Her daughter is Elizabeth '17 BSN.
- Maureen '83 CLAS and Robert Heckler made a gift in support of students who are studying gerontology to advance the goals of the College's Gerontology Interest Group (GiG). (See page 8).
- Christina Larson Kelly '74 BSN made a gift in support of two priorities heightened by the COVID-19 crisis: scholarships for Second-degree Accelerated students and software to enhance virtual learning simulations for clinical classes. This donation also served as a challenge gift for the College on 1842 Day.
- Meg Sheetz '99 CLAS and the Bradley T. MacDonald Family Foundation added a new gift to their longstanding support of the College's MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE).
- Hank Simms, MD established an endowment to provide scholarships for Second-degree Accelerated students in memory of his wife, Paula Michaud, PhD, who was an adjunct faculty member of Nursing (see In Memoriam, page 40). ●

Thank You, Generous Donors

The Fitzpatrick College of Nursing is grateful for the contributions and support of our alumni, parents and friends over the years. We continue to welcome all gifts in support of ongoing and future initiatives to ensure the growth of Nursing's innovative and scholarly environment and the best education for undergraduate and graduate students.

This list reflects donations to the College and the College of Nursing Fund in calendar year 2019. If you have questions about giving or funding priorities, or find an omission or error in this list, please contact the director of Major Giving, Robert Hill, at (610) 519-7620 or robert.r.hill@villanova.edu.

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- Fund a new Office of Inclusive Excellence to develop and implement programs for students, faculty and staff to promote Inclusive Excellence throughout the College
- Support the Caring About Health for All Study (CHAMPS) of the COVID-19 workforce
- Invest in and improve Driscoll Hall's learning environment, including nursing simulation labs
- Provide scholarship support, especially for second-degree and graduate students
- Recruit and retain faculty by creating new endowed professorships
- Fund faculty research to improve nursing practice and patient care
- Support professional development programs and initiatives for students.

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 Lt. Col. Gregory Wojtkun and
 Mrs. Patricia Wojtkun
 Mrs. Patricia A. Wolfe
 Mr. and Mrs. Roy J. Woo
 Ms. Norma C. Woodside
 The Rev. Arthur E. Woolley, Jr., SSC
 Dr. Daniel Wright
 Mr. and Mrs. John C. Wynne

X

Ms. Jian Xu

Y

Ms. Jennifer Picard Yakupcin
 Mr. and Mrs. David J. Yockel
 Kris Yoo
 Ms. Sung C. Yoo
 Jennifer M. Yost, PhD, RN
 Ms. Judith M. Young
 Mr. and Mrs. Albert S. Yuan

Z

Mrs. Patricia M. Zawislak
 Ms. Margaret Ellen Zazo
 Mr. and Mrs. Joel Zazyczny
 Ms. Ashley Nicole Zerener
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zimmer
 Mrs. Helen E. Zimmerman
 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zullo ●



Grant Will Help Improve Guam's Elder Care

Guam and the Western Pacific region are facing a crisis due to a shortage of nursing assistants and other health-care workers to care for the rising number of elderly and their occurrences of dementias. Margaret Hattori-Uchima '13 PhD, RN, dean of the University of Guam School of Health, outlined the crisis in an August 2019 announcement on the university's website. The dean and a nursing instructor colleague, Veronica B. Alave, are co-directors of the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program, funded by a \$3.75-million grant awarded to the university by Guam's Health Resources & Services Administration.

Through 2024, the grant will fill gaps in care for the elderly not only in Guam but in the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands. It provides funds for health-care workforce development, family and caregiver training and enhancement



Courtesy University of Guam

of the university's Nursing Assistant Program specifically related to Alzheimer's and related dementias. At the August 2019 ceremony announcing a \$3.75-million grant to fund the University of Guam Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (from left) are Senior Vice President Anita Enriquez; Nursing Dean Margaret Hattori-Uchima '13 PhD, RN; and Nursing Instructor Veronica Alave.

of the university's Nursing Assistant Program specifically related to Alzheimer's and related dementias.

"The vision of the grant is to transform the current health systems and practices serving our elderly, resulting in improved quality of life," noted Dean Hattori-Uchima. Read more about her leadership on page 20. ●



How Will You Guide the Next Generation of Nurses?

Are you a Villanova nurse? If you practice in the tri-state area as a nurse educator or nurse practitioner and wish to be a preceptor for our Nursing Education or Primary Care Nurse Practitioner (Family, Adult-Gerontology or Pediatric) students, you'll find new benefits to working with and guiding the next generation, including program and library access. For more information, please contact Marguerite K. Schlag, EdD, RN, associate dean of the Graduate Nursing Program, at marguerite.schlag@villanova.edu. ●

Boston Sendoff

Selfies were in abundance in August 2019 at the Villanova Nursing student sendoff in Boston. Three members of the Class of 2023 and their parents met the Nursing alumni who had contacted them before the event and who offered advice and encouragement to these incoming freshmen. (Front row, from left), Emily Trelveni '19 BSN, RN; Tyonne Hinson '01 MSN, DrPH, RN, NE-BC of Boston Children's Hospital; and Christina Larson Kelly '74 BSN, a member of the College's Board of Consultors and a Villanova University trustee; (back row) Jane Stillwell, Madison Mullen and Julia Lamarre, now sophomores.

Dr. Hinson chairs the Board of Consultors' Alumni, Parents and Friends subcommittee, which engaged numerous Villanova nurses at events in New Jersey, South Carolina, Florida and Pennsylvania, with more to come. The College hopes to have more Nursing families attend these sendoffs being offered around the country and to see more Villanova nurses at alumni events once in-person can resume. Many committee members volunteered to make Wildcat Welcome calls to the parents of Nursing's Class of 2024. ●



Alumni Among Alpha Nu's Honorees

In September 2019, Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF, then-associate professor and president of Sigma's Alpha Nu Chapter, and the chapter board inducted 30 Villanova Nursing undergraduate and graduate students into this international honor society.

Alpha Nu also presented five awards:

- Excellence in Nursing Practice to Cherie Salamy '88 BSN, RN, CPAN;
- Excellence in Nursing Education to Jennifer Cummins Muner '00 MSN, RN;
- Excellence in Nursing Leadership to Jennifer Specht '98 BSN, '10 PhD, RN;
- the Theresa Christian Service Award to Veronica Sanchez '14 MSN, FNP-BC; and
- the M. Louise Fitzpatrick Mentorship Award to Patricia K. Bradley, PhD, RN, FAAN, associate professor and now also associate dean for Inclusive Excellence.

Mary Beth Appel '81 BSN, MS, RN, CFNP offered the keynote address and congratulated the "nursing leaders of the future." A nurse practitioner, she co-founded Philadelphia's Catholic Worker Free Clinic and House of Grace Catholic Worker Community, which serves the city's most vulnerable. ●



Bette A. Mariani '82 BSN, PhD, RN, ANEF, then-associate professor and president of Sigma's Alpha Nu Chapter, inducts Gaypia "Saye" Norgbean '19 BSN, a Second-degree Accelerated graduate.

How to Connect with Villanova Nursing

Are you looking to become more involved with the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing? If so, in addition to attending College events, connect with us at conferences, be a preceptor and send us your news. Consider becoming an alumni ambassador so future students can ask you about your employer or specialty area. Attend the College's Career Day and encourage your employer to join you there, whether the event is in-person or virtual. Help plan events to engage other Villanova nurses.

Feel free to share your ideas, interest and news by e-mailing ann.mckenzie@villanova.edu. ●

Editor's Note The 31st Annual Mass and Alumni Awards Ceremony had to be postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Nursing Alumni Notes

1970s

Dorrie Fontaine '72 BSN, PhD, RN, FAAN, now dean emerita of the University of Virginia (UVA) School of Nursing, received the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) Pioneering Spirit Award at the 2019 National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition, held in May 2019 in Orlando, Fla. One of AACN's Visionary Leadership Awards, it recognizes her significant contributions that influence high-acuity and critical-care nursing and relate to the association's mission, vision and values. Dr. Fontaine, who retired in summer 2019, had been a critical-care and trauma nurse for more than 40 years. She served as the Sadie Heath Cabaniss Professor of Nursing and associate chief nursing officer at the UVA Health System. Last fall, she became a member of Villanova Nursing's Board of Consultors and in April its vice chair. (See pages 10 and 19.)

Margaret "Meg" Garrett '72 BSN, MEd, JD, CPHRM, DFASHRM in June 2019 retired as vice president, Risk Management, and chief legal counsel at the Johns Hopkins Health System in Baltimore. She has more than 30 years of experience in risk management, patient care, ethics, health law, regulatory, patient safety and medical staff legal issues. She played a critical role in the design, implementation and oversight of all aspects of risk management across Johns Hopkins Medicine. She is now president of Garrett Healthcare Risk Management Corp. in Baltimore. A 1983 co-founder of The American Association of Nurse Attorneys, she is president-elect of ASHRM (the American Society of Health Care Risk Management) and was named a Distinguished Fellow.

1980s

Marguerite "Maggie" Swietlik '86 BSN, DNP, NEA-BC, RN-BC, CPHIMS in May 2019 became vice president, Nursing Informatics, and chief informatics officer, Professional Practice, at Inova Health System in Falls Church, Va. Dr. Swietlik was a member of an executive panel for the Villanovans in Healthcare Virtual Speaker Series on Data



Privacy and Digital Transformation this spring. She and **Susan VonNessen-Scanlin '87 BSN, MBA, MSN, CRNP** represented Villanova Nursing.

Theresa Brodrick '87 MSN, PhD, RN, NE-BC in April 2019 was named executive vice president and network chief nursing executive at Hackensack Meridian Health in Edison, N.J. Dr. Brodrick has more than 30 years of progressive health-care management experience in large academic and community institutions.

Colleen Mattioni '87 BSN, DNP, MBA, RN, CNOR in 2019 was named chief nursing executive (CNE) at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, where she previously served as interim CNE and associate chief nursing officer. She is known nationally for her leadership in the perioperative space.

Susan VonNessen-Scanlin '87 BSN, MBA, MSN, CRNP is CEO of the newly renovated Rutgers Community Health Center (RCHC). It opened in Newark, N.J., in December 2019 at the Rutgers School of Nursing, where she is also an assistant professor and associate dean for Clinical Affairs. RCHC, a full-service primary-care clinic, is one of just a few nurse-managed, federally qualified health centers in the nation, according to its website. The center uses an interdisciplinary, integrated model of primary and behavioral health care and also addresses related issues like housing and food insecurity. RCHC provides high-quality, primary-care services to patients regardless of ability to pay. VonNessen-Scanlin explained that "Ninety percent of our patients are at or below the poverty level. For many, their health-care experience has been less than equitable. We wanted to create a space that was beautiful and treats patients with dignity."



1990s

Janet Regan Hadar '90 BSN, MSN, MBA, FACHE last fall was named president of UNC Hospitals in Chapel Hill, N.C. She has been with UNC Health Care for 17 years in a variety of administrative roles. "It is truly the highlight of my career to lead our academic medical center as we take on a number of external challenges and

opportunities to grow and clinically integrate across the Triangle region," she noted in a message to colleagues. The 950-bed medical center comprises N.C. Memorial Hospital, N.C. Children's Hospital, N.C. Neurosciences Hospital and N.C. Women's Hospital.



Jennifer Waldron Marcellus '93 BSN, RN, PCCN in February was inducted into the Distinguished Nurse Clinician Academy at Philadelphia's Penn Presbyterian Medical Center, which honors the "best direct care nurses who inspire and motivate others." She has worked there since 1993. Now a senior nurse in the Perioperative Care Unit, she serves a wide range of patients' surgical needs, including those of the large trauma service.



Elizabeth Smith '96 BSN in July was promoted to chief nursing officer and vice president for patient care services at Franciscan Children's in Brighton, Mass.

Jennifer Graebe '97 BSN, MSN, RN, NEA-BC in May 2019 gave the opening keynote, "Nursing Continuing Professional Development and Accreditation in the U.S.," at the Chinese Nurses Association conference for professional development, held in Xuzhou, Jiangsu province. At the American Nurses Credentialing Center in Washington, D.C., she is director, Nursing Continuing Professional Development & Joint Accreditation Program.

Capt. Kim P. Shaughnessy-Granger, NC, USN, '97 BSN, '17 DNP, CNM, FACNM, FACHE was selected from the Navy to receive a 2019 "Military Health System Military Nursing Leadership Excellence Award." The award was presented in Washington, D.C., last December at the annual meeting of AMSUS. In the Nation's Capital, Dr. Shaughnessy-Granger is Navy Medicine liaison officer, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and adjunct assistant professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

Jennifer Specht '98 BSN, '10 PhD, RN is the founding director of Cabrini University's Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program, which will begin this fall in the School of Natural Sciences and Allied Health in Radnor, Pa.

Nada Hussain Al Moosa '99 BSN, '03 MSN, '14 PhD last fall participated in one of the Sultanate of Oman's Implementation Support and Follow-up Units (IFSU) in the area of quality of education. The unit assists in the planning and development of Tanfeedh, Oman's National Program for Enhancing Economic Diversification. This six-week, action-oriented program aims to contribute to the achievement of the Sultanate's vision of economic diversification by addressing the challenges and difficulties faced by public, private and civil institutions in achieving their developmental objectives.

2000s

Maria van Pelt '04 MSN, '15 PhD, CRNA, FAAN last October was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing. Also last fall, Northeastern University in Boston announced her appointment as associate dean of its Bouvé College of Health Sciences and dean of its School of Nursing. At Bouvé, Dr. Van Pelt was formerly associate clinical professor, Nurse Anesthesia Program director and project director of the U.S. Army Graduate Program in Anesthesia.

Susan Berryman Moyer '07 MSN, '19 PhD, CNE

presented a poster with faculty members Nancy Sharts-Hopko, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, CNE, professor, and Tracy L. Oliver, PhD, RDN, LDN, associate professor, at last fall's American Public Health Association annual meeting in Philadelphia. The poster, "Physical Activity and Fruit and Vegetable Intake Behaviors of Young Adult Millennials," included a portion of Dr. Moyer's Villanova Nursing dissertation findings. She won second place in the student presentation category.



Michele "Micki" Ballister '08 MSN, '13 DNP, APRN, CRNA, CHSE in April 2019 was promoted to associate professor, Division of Anesthesia for Nurses, at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

Meagan Harrington McQuade '09 BSN, MSN, RN, OCN, clinical nurse III on

Inpatient Memorial 12 at Memorial Sloane Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, in May 2019 received the Samuel and May Rudin Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice. Her nomination from peers and patients notes: "Meagan's bedside manner is outstanding in every way and she consistently prioritizes compassionate care above all else. She serves as an important and vocal patient advocate informed by incredibly sound clinical judgment and intuition."

2010s

Emily Doctor '10 BSN, DNP, FNP-BC in May 2019 graduated with her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Columbia University. She previously practiced at New York University (NYU) as a nurse practitioner in orthopedics/sports medicine and has transitioned to medical weight management at NYU Langone Health.

Brittany Stark Koons '12 BSN, '15 MSN, '18 PhD, RN in 2019 co-published (with **Helene Moriarty '77 BSN, PhD, RN**,

professor of Nursing and the Diane L. and Robert F. Moritz Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research; **Tamara M. Kear '09 PhD, RN, CNS, CNN**, associate professor of Nursing; A. Thomas; and M. Henderson) "Factors Related to International Travel for Transplantation Among U.S.-listed Kidney Transplant Candidates" in *Nephrology Nursing Journal*, 46 (4), 397-405, 431. Their article reports on Dr. Koons' dissertation at Villanova Nursing, where she was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Future of Nursing Scholars Fellow and awarded



the 2017 American Nephrology Nurses Association Research Grant and the 2017 International Transplant Nurses Society Research Grant. Dr. Koons was selected as one of only three nationally to receive a RWJF Future of Nursing Postdoctoral Research Fellow award. She was chosen as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the NewCourtland Center for Transitions and Health at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing.

Joseph J. Dovidio III '13 BSN, MSN, CRNP, ACNPC-AG, CCRN in August 2019 earned his MSN from the University of Pennsylvania. At Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, he is a certified acute-care adult-gerontology nurse practitioner with the Department of Anesthesia in the Cardiovascular ICU.

Caroline Cohen '16 BSN, MSN graduated last spring from Yale School of Nursing with her MSN as a pediatric nurse practitioner. She is pursuing opportunities in pediatric hematology and oncology in the New York City area.

Meghan Long '16 BSN, RN in December 2019 was notified that the article she co-authored with Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor of Nursing, "Online and Health Risk Behaviors in High School Students: An Examination of Bullying," had won *Pediatric Nursing's* 2018 Donna Wong Writers' Award. It was published in *Pediatric Nursing*, 44 (5), 223-228. Long's data-gathering was supported by a Davis Family Summer Scholar award.

Amanda Kirkpatrick '18 PhD, RN is among the nurses and physicians selected for the ninth class of Macy Faculty Scholars by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, which advances public health through educating health-care professionals. Dr. Kirkpatrick

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is an assistant professor at Creighton University's College of Nursing. A Jonas Scholar while earning her PhD in Nursing at Villanova, she promotes interprofessional competence development and relationship-based caring among students and clinicians through Virtual Interprofessional Simulations (VISion). As a Macy Faculty Scholar, she evaluates and disseminates VISion as a new clinical model.

In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Rosemary Gaughan Sobolesky '58 BSN, of Wilmington, Del., died on May 15 at the age of 88. She was a nursing professor at Delaware Technical and Community College for 15 years. She also practiced in many hospitals in the Philadelphia and Wilmington areas.

Marian Therese Barry '59 BSN, of Haddon Heights, N.J., died June 21, 2019, at the age of 84. She retired in 1999 after nearly four decades of nursing practice, which included volunteering as a school nurse.

Marie Kauffman Gallagher '59 BSN, of Haddonfield, N.J., died July 1 at the age of 88. Over her career, she was a private duty, emergency department and school nurse.

Mildred Wesolowski '59 BSN, EdD, of Buckingham, Pa., died February 13 at the age of 94. She was an assistant professor at Villanova Nursing, teaching pediatric nursing for many years. In 1966 she was one of the founding members of the Alpha Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau.

Mary Constance "Connie" Lartigue '60 BSN, of Parkside, Pa., died September 24, 2019, at the age of 80. At Bryn Mawr Hospital, she practiced for 30 years and received the 2002 Dr. Gilman E. Heggstad Award for outstanding service in nursing. In her retirement she served as a school nurse.

Kathy Higgins Glass '63 BSN, of Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., died May 18 at the age of 78. She enjoyed a lifelong career in psychiatric nursing in New York. Donations in her memory may be made to the Villanova University M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, 800 Lancaster Ave., Villanova, PA 19085.

Helen Bodkin Connors '64 BSN, PhD, RN, DrPs (Hon.), ANEF, FAAN, of Lee's Summit, Mo., died September 23, 2019, at the age of 76. Remembered for her warmth and passion for Villanova basketball as much as for her wide impact, she was a pioneer in information technologies in education while at the University of Kansas (KU) School of Nursing. Dr. Connors

retired from KU after 35 years of service including as an associate dean and the first executive director of KU's Center for Health Informatics.

Nancy Jane Coleman Mily '65 BSN, of Worthington, Ohio, died July 4 at the age of 78. She was a psychiatric nurse and an active volunteer in her community.

Linda A. Pazdan '65 BSN, of Newtown, Pa., died January 21 at the age of 81. She practiced as a school nurse for many years.

Marijean McFalls Szep '66 BSN, of Fort Myers Beach, Fla., died June 12 at the age of 76. She was an officer in the Navy Nurse Corps and enjoyed a second career in real estate.

Sister Helen Marie Kenny, MM, '69 BSN died January 4 at the Maryknoll Sisters Center in Ossining, N.Y., at the age of 88. Beginning in the 1950s, she served in Hong Kong at Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital, culminating as nursing service director from 1970 to 1984. She returned to launch a hospice care unit, followed by extensive volunteering in Hong Kong. She retired in 2012 at Maryknoll, where she had professed final vows in 1955.

Kathryn Ralph Brooks '78 BSN, '84 MSN, of Wayne, Pa., died August 26, 2019, at the age of 63. She worked in home care and critical-care management and also directed the St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery Health Care Center on campus.

Nina V. Kotarra '78 BSN, of Bryn Mawr, Pa., died November 8, 2019, at the age of 64. A former hospice nurse, she played the cello.

Andrea Lair-Kirby '85 BSN, of Grapevine, Texas, died September 21, 2019, at the age of 56. She became an Academic All-American softball pitcher while pursuing her Nursing degree.

Sharon M. Guarino '87 MSN, of Plymouth Meeting, Pa., died January 3 at the age of 61. In addition to acute-care and school nursing practice, she taught nursing at Montgomery County Community College's Central Campus in Blue Bell, Pa.

Nancy L. Heacock '89 MSN, of Upper Black Eddy, Pa., died June 20, 2019, at the age of 64. During her career, she served as a manager, director and chief nursing officer.

Evette Boutanos Simonsen '90 MSN, of Havertown, Pa., died September 19, 2019, at the age of 58. She was a nurse who was active in her community.

Janise Lynne Searby Barkocy '91 BSN, of Nacogdoches, Texas, died October 9, 2019, at the age of 50. She is remembered for her care and her smile.

FACULTY AND FRIENDS

The Rev. Richard G. Cannuli, OSA, '73 CLAS, MFA, died August 6, 2019, at the age of 72 after a brief battle with cancer. At Villanova University, he was a professor and curator of the Art Gallery and Collection. His special relationship with the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing is seen daily in the "Christ Raising the Daughter of Jairus" sculpture in front of Driscoll Hall, for which he was a consultant, as well as the stained glass window in Driscoll Hall's chapel highlighting four key figures in nursing history. He designed the window at the kitchen table of a longtime friend, the late M. Louise Fitzpatrick, EdD, RN, FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor.



Paula Michaud, PhD, of Villanova, Pa., died October 15, 2019, at the age of 65. With expertise in gerontology and community health, she served as an adjunct clinical assistant professor for Villanova Nursing and taught home health care to seniors. (See page 31.)

Suzanne Zamerowski, PhD, RN, of Newtown, Pa., died May 14 at the age of 74. An associate professor of Nursing who retired in 2015, she was an expert in maternal-child health nursing and genetics. She taught countless students during her 30 years at Villanova University. An elegant woman with a sense of humor, Dr. Zamerowski also was an advocate for those with disabilities. On Facebook, many former students noted they pursued careers in maternal-child health or went on to become midwives because of her influence. Maura Quinn '15 BSN commented, "I still think about the influence she had on my nursing career, especially more recently. I am currently a nurse in the Medical Intensive Care Unit in Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx. During the pandemic, there have been several situations in which adults with severe developmental disabilities have become critically ill and I have thought about all of the disparities in their care that Dr. Z worked tirelessly to identify and overcome. She is someone who truly motivated me to do better, to do well by others, and made me proud to be a member of the Villanova Nursing community." ●



Canine Therapy at Walter Reed Bethesda

The eyes of a Labrador retriever are deep, mellow pools of liquid chocolate and, oh, what those eyes have seen. Meet Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class (HM2) Sully, the yellow Labrador retriever who served George H.W. Bush during the six months before the former president's death. In February 2019 Sully became a therapy dog, reporting to wounded veterans, active duty personnel and staff at Walter Reed National Naval Medical Center, the nation's premier military academic health center.

Supervising Sully and six other highly trained canines in the Command's Facility Dog Program is Cmdr. Katie Brennan Macapagal USN, NC, '03 BSN, '10 MSN, CPNP, IBCLC. The program is part of her duties as chief experience officer, a role she assumed in June 2019. Up until the COVID-19 pandemic, these seven therapy dogs were deployed throughout the Bethesda, Md., facility during the day and were available for patient and staff visits upon request. A certified pediatric nurse practitioner, Macapagal still sees patients two half-days a week, but her primary role focuses on the patient and staff experience.

"I sit on the Board of Directors (BoD) and act as a liaison between the BoD and the patients and staff. In this role, I can have an impact on the decisions made at the executive level, and I can provide input on how those decisions will affect our patients and staff. My additional duties, including the supervision of the Staff Resiliency Office, the Patient Relations Department and the Facility Dog Program, help support our hospital's mission of taking care of our patients and their families, as well as our 6,500 staff members," she explains.

"Our patients and staff look forward to seeing these four-legged members of our team. They report that the service dogs decrease anxiety, help with relaxation and put smiles on faces. The dogs are a great asset and truly boost everyone's morale. I have wonderful staff members who run the Facility Dog Program for me, and I'm excited to be able to participate in events and visits and as well as the planning," Macapagal relates, "It is a special part of what we do at Walter Reed Bethesda."

When COVID-19 restrictions halted the therapy dogs visits, Sully "was at home getting lots of exercise," she notes. Even he took part in Zoom calls, and photos of him helped "support the staff." ●

"The dogs are a great asset and truly boost everyone's morale."

HM2 Sully, a yellow Lab assigned to supporting patients and staff at Walter Reed Bethesda, comes under the charge of Cmdr. Katie Brennan Macapagal USN, NC, '03 BSN, '10 MSN, CPNP, IBCLC. Sully was named for the heroic pilot Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger. The service dog gained attention when he paid his respects as the former president he served—George H.W. Bush—lay in state in the U.S. Capitol.

Photo: Amy O'Connor





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VILLANOVA NURSING AT-A-GLANCE

5

consecutive
designations as
National League
for Nursing
Center of
Excellence in
Nursing
Education

81

Doctor of Nursing
Practice students

1,385

individuals in 2019-20 enrolled in the
49 Continuing Education (CE) programs,
earning a total of 2,993 contact hours

99

Accelerated
Second-
degree
BSN
students

90

PhDs awarded
since 2008

98.8%

of the Class of
2019 are employed
or involved in
nursing activities

150

clinical affiliations

53

PhD in Nursing students

\$69,380

Class of 2019 average starting salary

Top-35

Graduate Nursing Program,
2021 rankings,
U.S. News & World Report

84

students in the
Center for Global
and Public Health's
interdisciplinary
Global Health
minor

97%

first-time pass
rate for
NCLEX-RN
license exam

230

MSN and post-master's students

524

four-year BSN students