CAROLINA NURSING

Big Goals, No Limits
for Athletes in the School of Nursing
Dear Alumni and Friends,

A year has passed since I first had the privilege of addressing you from these pages, and what an active, fruitful year it has been!

Glancing through the stories that follow, I am struck by the level of engagement of our students, staff, faculty, alumni and donors with our School community and with those well beyond it. Reading on, you will find students overcoming literal hurdles to fulfill the dual dreams of becoming both athletes and nurses. You’ll find the tenth anniversary of one research project that has had an impact on nursing curricula and practice across the globe and the launch of another that will help improve care for families dealing with chronic illness. You will find a new initiative for veteran students, a gathering for retired faculty, and a memoir written collectively by the School’s first class. And of course you will find stories of exceptional generosity to the profession of nursing through the philanthropy of our alumni and friends.

Indeed, the engagement of people in and surrounding the School in a host of broad-ranging activities speaks to the rich and diverse nature of nursing and the culture we enjoy at the SON. Nursing attracts people who care, and caring leads to doing. WE CARE and WE DO.
One exceptional example of the kind of engagement I speak of won’t be found in the pages that follow, but you should know that great and valuable work has taken place behind the scenes at the School this year. Faculty and staff from across the SON have lent their time, creativity and expertise to assessing and improving our operations, policies, culture and manner of working — a thorough “tune up,” so to speak. As a lifelong proponent of the need to shape systems to promote desired outcomes, it has been personally and professionally satisfying to participate in this important effort and to see so many in our community so engaged and committed to its success.

Our goal is to close this year with the School of Nursing humming operationally so that we may to turn our collective efforts to the vital work of setting our goals and priorities as the leading public institution for nursing education, science and practice for the years to come. Truly I don’t believe there has been a more exciting time for Carolina Nursing! We are the edge of becoming — again!

In closing, I want to thank so many of you who have engaged with the School and with me over this past year. It has been the most profound privilege to lead the UNC School of Nursing at this vibrant time, and my appreciation grows daily for the unrivaled support we receive from all of you.

When you are next in Chapel Hill, we hope you will stop in to see us.

Very sincerely,

Donna S. Havens

Interim Dean and Professor

“The engagement of people in and surrounding the School in a host of broad-ranging activities speaks to the rich and diverse nature of nursing and the culture we enjoy at the SON.”

—Donna S. Havens
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BIG GOALS, NO LIMITS

Pursuing a rigorous degree like nursing is a time-intensive challenge on its own, even without competing in a varsity-level sport. But here at the School of Nursing, three outstanding student athletes are following their dreams on the field and at the bedside. Their stories prove that nothing is impossible. All it takes is a little grit—and some impressive time-management skills.

GILL LITYNSKI ’16 has already finished a major in global studies and is on track for a bachelor’s and doctoral degree in nursing through the Hillman Scholars Program in Nursing Innovation. An ACC champion and 2015 ACC Fencer of the Year for women's sabre, she’s also a three-time All-ACC Academic Athlete.

ALEX MOORE ’17 transferred to UNC in 2014 to pursue a nursing degree while continuing her outstanding career on the lacrosse field. She dreams of becoming a nurse anesthetist.

TORY KEMP ’17 is an All-ACC Academic Track and Field Athlete ranking 3rd all-time in UNC’s history in the heptathlon. She hopes to use her nursing degree to serve women and children.
Serving their teams—and their patients

Any student athlete faces high demands from practice, competition and academics. And any nursing student must juggle challenging coursework and energy-intensive clinical rotations. Put the two together and it adds up to a great deal of work—and tremendous rewards.

“These are extraordinary students who have learned to handle a demanding training schedule for their sport and apply the same dedication to planning their clinical practice in nursing,” said Beverly Foster, PhD, RN, associate professor and director of UNC’s undergraduate nursing program. “It is a delight to have them with us and to have them contribute to the diverse student body we so value.”

At first glance, athletics and nursing may seem to have little in common. But School administrators and students say many of the skills developed through athletics are valuable attributes for a successful nursing career.

“Development of leadership skills, self-discipline, motivation, persistence, attention to detail and skill mastery, team and collaborative behaviors—these are probably only a few of many similarities,” said Dr. Foster.

The School of Nursing at UNC-Chapel Hill is nationally recognized as one of the premiere nursing schools in the country, with a tri-fold mission of excellence in nursing education, research and practice. Although the degree requires an intense schedule of classes and clinical rotations, administrators have made a point of developing a scheduling system that is as student-friendly as possible.

“Student athletes must meet the same course and clinical requirements as all our nursing students, but there is flexibility for any of our students who have complex lives and responsibilities outside the School of Nursing, such as jobs, service clubs, children or aging parents,” said Dr. Foster.

We caught up with the three students to find out why they are pursuing nursing, why they stick with sports and how they balance it all.

All about the team perspective: A conversation with Gillian Litynski

Gill Litynski, captain of the UNC women’s fencing team, was named 2015 ACC Fencer of the Year for women’s sabre and won the ACC Championship in her weapon. If that isn’t impressive enough, she’s also a three-time All-ACC Academic Athlete, an honor that requires a minimum 3.0 cumulative and last-semester grade-point average.

After finishing her global studies major in three years, Litynski matriculated to the nursing program in 2014. As a Hillman Scholar, she’ll graduate with a bachelor’s degree in nursing in 2016 and immediately begin a doctoral program in the UNC School of Nursing with a research focus on the global nursing workforce.

Where does your passion for sports come from?

LITYNSKI: It’s always something I’ve done for fun. Fencing is a really individualized and really fun sport. When you’re fencing, you’re on the strip, you’re on your own and it’s just between you and your opponent. You’re trying to outsmart them and outmaneuver them and trick them into doing things they don’t want to be doing. And the fact that it’s something that’s good for you and fun—I’ve just always loved it.

Why did you decide to pursue a degree in nursing, and what are your career aspirations?

LITYNSKI: I wanted to work in global public health. I’ve known that for a while because all around the world, people have health care needs; that’s just not something that you can argue. I debated between medicine and nursing, and I thought that nursing would give me more of the hands-on side and then I can transition into the global public health side of things. I think that’s what I’ll be doing with the Hillman program. I love the idea of holistic, patient-centered care and being that person who is at the patient’s side during their worst moments—that’s
the amazing part about being in nursing. I don’t want to lose the hands-on care, but I want to eventually transition to a more systemic look at things. That way you can reach as many people as possible and not just your one patient that day. I’d really like to work for an NGO or governmental organization that delivers global public health care.

Nursing is a challenging major with rigorous academics and clinical requirements. Clearly, being a student athlete is also very demanding. How do you balance it all?

LITYNSKI: I don’t perfectly manage it, but I do keep in good communication with everyone. There are going to be times when I have to skip a nursing class because I have to travel for fencing or when I can’t go to a meet or can’t come to a practice because I have a clinical rotation. I just need to make sure that my coaches and the leaders in the nursing program are all aware of my situation. It’s the support from them that makes this all possible.

Do you see any particular areas of overlap between athletics and nursing? How do you think the experience of being a student athlete might impact how you approach your work as a nurse?

LITYNSKI: In health care, more and more it’s all about the team perspective. It’s not just a doctor, it’s nurses, nurse assistants, pharmacists… knowing how to work well on a team is really something I’ve gotten from being on the fencing team. Fencing has taught me to be a good follower and a good leader. That sounds corny, but you have to know when it’s your time to step up and say that you know something about a certain area or when it’s time to trust someone else’s knowledge and be humble. Athletics can really teach you when it’s important to be humble and that’s something that matters for health care.

A double dream come true: A conversation with Alexandra Moore

Alex Moore, class of 2017, says playing lacrosse while studying to become a nurse is like two dreams come true. The opportunity to pursue nursing without dropping out of sports is what drove her to transfer to UNC in 2014; previously, she played for the University of Southern California, where she was the leading goal scorer on the women’s lacrosse team.

At UNC, Moore participates in the Carolina Leadership Academy’s Rising Stars program. Designed for a select group of

high-potential sophomores and juniors, the program provides future leaders with insights, strategies and skills necessary to become effective leaders.

Where does your passion for sports come from?

MOORE: I’ve played lacrosse since I was in third grade. My dad played in college, so he got me started with it, and I guess I would say I just fell in love with it. I couldn’t imagine not having lacrosse, especially in college. I grew to be just as passionate about nursing as I got older. The decision to choose one over the other just wasn’t an option for me.

Why did you decide to pursue a degree in nursing, and what are your career aspirations?

MOORE: My grandpa suffered a really debilitating stroke a few years ago, when I was in high school, and he can’t walk or talk anymore. When I saw him around the nurses and the way he interacted with them… he was really willing to work with them to get better. Seeing that, I thought, of course I want to go and help people.
“WHY LET YOUR SPORT GET IN THE WAY OF YOUR ACADEMICS AND YOUR DREAMS? IF YOU CAN DO BOTH OF YOUR DREAMS, YOU GET THE WHOLE PACKAGE.”

—ALEX MOORE

[Another influential experience] was when my grandmother collapsed. I was 16 years old, and I had no idea what to do. But I had the calmness and instinct to help immediately. That’s kind of when I knew I wanted to be a nurse so that I can help patients in reaching their optimal health.

Also, my other grandmother, who has now passed away, was a nurse. She was such a loving, caring and giving person — common qualities of a nurse that I admire and embrace. She would be proud!

After school, I would love to work in New York City at Mount Sinai for two years in the intensive care unit. Then, I’d like to go back to school and become a nurse anesthetist. That’s my dream.

_Nursing is a challenging major with rigorous academics and clinical requirements. Clearly, being a student athlete is also very demanding. How do you balance it all?_

MOORE: It was very hard to find a school that would be supportive of me doing nursing and playing lacrosse. My decision to go to Carolina was 100 percent because of being able to do both nursing and lacrosse. Other schools I talked to just won’t allow it because of the high demands of nursing and the high demands of playing a sport. [My coaches] have really helped with understanding that I do have an equal passion for nursing and that I’m going to be dedicating a lot of my time to my studies. Likewise, on the nursing side, they understand that I’m on a team sport and that I’m going to have to travel for games and be away sometimes. It’s really awesome to have that support.

It’s funny … on long bus trips while everybody else is watching movies or getting ready for the game, I’m sitting there with my microbiology or anatomy book studying for the big test I have when I get back. It’s definitely a lot [to handle], but I wouldn’t trade it for anything.

_Do you see any particular areas of overlap between athletics and nursing? How you think the experience of being a student athlete might impact how you approach your work as a nurse?_

MOORE: For sure. A lot of it is the accountability that I’m used to having, the ability to handle high-pressure situations, the ability to communicate with my teammates, as well as my coaches and other authorities. Also the desire to do well, to win, to get that goal — it’s the same kind of passion that drives me in pursuing the nursing profession, where the desire to help people and the altruism involved is what drives you. [It’s also qualities like] responsibility and time management, the ability to talk well with people and the ability to understand others and accept people for who they are, despite your differences.

_Any other thoughts?_

MOORE: I think it’s important to say that I’m actually the first lacrosse player to ever be in the nursing program, and the lacrosse program has been around 20 years. A team sport is different than more individualized sports; since I’m on a team with 40 girls, my coach can’t really schedule practice around my academic demands. By being admitted to the program and being on a team sport, I kind of paved the way for other student athletes.

It’s nice to see how athletics is evolving, because we’re not limited anymore in what we can do. I know several other athletes who are planning to switch to nursing. There’s even a younger player who will be coming into the lacrosse team who wants to go into nursing, and she chose Carolina in part because of that. It’s a great feeling to be able to create that pathway and change the attitudes on it.

It’s unbelievable because to be a nurse is like a dream come true to me, but to also share that passion with others and be able to make that pathway for other people, it’s just awesome to see. Why let your sport get in the way of your academics and your dreams? If you can do both of your dreams, you get the whole package.
Clearing hurdles and on track for success: A conversation with Tory Kemp

Tory Kemp, class of 2017, is running full steam ahead both on the track and in her nursing studies. She ranks 3rd all-time in UNC’s history in the heptathlon, a grueling seven-event track and field battery including the 100-meter hurdle, high jump, shot put, 200-meter, long jump, javelin throw and 800-meter.

A stellar student, Kemp was recently honored as an All-ACC Academic Athlete, which requires a minimum 3.0 cumulative and last-semester grade-point average.

Where does your passion for sports come from?

KEMP: I grew up in a household where sports were pretty big — my dad played collegiate football, and sports has always been a big part of my life. Coming out of high school, it just felt natural to continue that in college on a higher and more intense level.

Why did you decide to pursue a degree in nursing, and what are your career aspirations?

KEMP: I’ve always been into sciences and had a fascination with the human body. In high school and college, I had my fair share of injuries. Being surrounded by doctors and therapists and seeing how influential they are in my life and how health care providers can really make a difference — it kind of pushed me to want to go down that path. I’m a real hands-on person and a people person, so I just felt like it was the perfect career for me.

I’d like to work with women and children eventually, but I’m pretty open.

Nursing is a challenging major with rigorous academics and clinical requirements. Clearly, being a student athlete is also very demanding. How do you balance it all?

KEMP: You know, being a student athlete, you’re already under such a rigorous and intense schedule, and you really learn to prioritize your time and to study effectively when you have the time. Your schedule is so tight, you sort of become hyper-focused. So I feel like even though nursing is very rigorous and there is a lot of work that comes along with it, it’s nothing out of the ordinary from what I’ve been doing. And the resources you get as a student athlete really help me along with that, too. I think it’s a challenge that I’m prepared for.

Do you see any particular areas of overlap between athletics and nursing? How do you think the experience of being a student athlete might impact how you approach your work as a nurse?

KEMP: Definitely. There’s a huge connection between our well-being and people like nurses. For me personally, having been injured four times in my college career, I’ve seen how much a nurse can really help you through an injury or an illness. Being on the other side of the fence — when you have your own patients — you want to really provide the best care, because you know that you are going to be that one influential person during that time in the person’s life.

Also, athletics has taught me how to work in a team, how to adapt, how to persevere, communicate, self-motivate and pay attention to detail… all qualities that I’m sure will help me in my career as a nurse.

“YOUR SCHEDULE IS SO TIGHT, YOU SORT OF BECOME HYPER-FOCUSED... I THINK IT’S A CHALLENGE THAT I’M PREPARED FOR.”

—TORY KEMP
At its launch at UNC in 2005, the Quality Safety and Education for Nurses (QSEN) initiative sought to recast nursing education toward an ambitious goal: to prepare new nurses not only to provide excellent care to individuals and families, but to continuously improve the quality and safety of the health care systems in which they work.

Now marking its 10-year anniversary, the program has made impressive inroads on that goal and demonstrated enduring impacts across the United States and around the globe.

**Overcoming Systemic Gaps to Improve Patient Safety**

Founded at UNC with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, QSEN is part of a broad effort to emphasize the role and functioning of health care teams to improve quality of care and patient safety and to reduce medical errors. Preventable harm in hospitals has been estimated to contribute to 200,000-400,000 premature deaths per year in the United States, and about 80 percent of medical errors are attributed to a lack of teamwork or communication among members of health care teams.

“We want health professionals to graduate not only feeling what they already feel— which is a sense of vigilance around the individual care that they provide to patients—but also feeling accountable for vigilance regarding the system of care in which they work,” said Linda Cronenwett, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean emeritus and professor at the School of Nursing, who served as principal investigator for QSEN from 2005-2012. “The goal is for nurses to be better prepared to work along with other health professionals to do all the work that’s urgently needed to address these huge patient safety problems.”

A key goal of QSEN is to cultivate the knowledge, skills and attitudes nurses need to work effectively in health care teams that are accountable to quality and safety goals. This requires not only good nursing skills as an individual, but a comprehensive understanding of one’s own role, the roles of other health care professionals and how the system works as a whole.
As an example, Dr. Cronenwett pointed to the prevention of pressure sores, painful lesions resulting from prolonged bedrest or use of a wheelchair, that are estimated to affect more than 2.5 million people in the United States each year. To prevent pressure sores, mobility-limited patients must be frequently turned or repositioned. Instead of simply repositioning a patient as needed during a given shift, nurses taking a more systems-oriented approach might also write a note to remind other staff members to turn the patient, seek information about the rate of pressure sores on their unit as compared to other units and find systemic ways to improve pressure sore prevention for the hospital as a whole.

That type of full-spectrum approach has been lacking in many health care environments, said Dr. Cronenwett. In addition, QSEN aims to imbue in new nurses the need to include patients as a member of the health care team. “Patient-centered care means ensuring that you know the patient’s values and preferences and that you’re considering those values and preferences as you employ evidence-based practice,” said Dr. Cronenwett.

A Legacy of Enduring Impacts

QSEN has grown and evolved through several phases during its 10-year history. Initially, project leaders and consultants focused on building will within the nursing community to develop and implement new curricular components that focused on six quality and safety competencies: patient-centered care, teamwork and collaboration, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, safety and informatics. Working with experts from institutions across the country, Dr. Cronenwett and co-investigator Gwen Sherwood, PhD, RN, FAAN, defined these core competencies — including the critical information, skills and attitudes that nurses need in order to implement broad improvements in care quality and patient safety.

Since then, the project team has been working diligently to deploy a multipronged implementation of the QSEN competencies in nursing education and practice. This work has included holding national annual conferences; conducting regional professional development workshops; working to incorporate QSEN competencies into nurse education licensing, accreditation and certification; and publication of a new textbook, *Quality and Safety in Nursing: A Competency Approach to Improving Outcomes*, edited by Dr. Sherwood and Dr. Jane Barnsteiner.

“Everyone knows about problems with patient safety in this country, and once faculty members realize there’s something they can do in the preparation of our future health professionals to address this problem — when that light bulb comes on — they are ready to take action,” said Dr. Cronenwett. “I think one of our most important jobs is getting that light bulb to come on for all faculty members.”

The QSEN website, a hub of information geared toward increasing awareness and adoption of quality and safety competencies, attracts 900-1,000 visits per day.

QSEN transitioned from UNC to Case Western Reserve University in 2012, where the QSEN Institute is currently led by Dr. Mary A. Dolansky at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing.

A new award — the Linda Cronenwett Award — was instituted this year at the 2015 QSEN National Forum and will be given annually to outstanding individuals who advance the goals of quality and safety education. Dr. Cronenwett, this year’s Forum keynote speaker, was the award’s first recipient.

“We want health professionals to graduate not only feeling what they already feel — which is a sense of vigilance around the individual care that they provide to patients — but also feeling accountable for vigilance regarding the system of care in which they work.”

—Linda Cronenwett, PhD, RN, FAAN
SCHOOL WELCOMES BACK EMERITA AND RETIRED FACULTY

They are heroes and mentors and pillars of nursing education and science. They were instrumental in placing the UNC School of Nursing among the very top schools of nursing in the United States while educating a great many of the best nurses and nursing leaders in our home state and abroad. They charted the path for nursing science, and their methods and discoveries still set the standard today.

But on October 20th at a reception held by the SON in their honor, our retired faculty mostly laughed. And made current faculty and staff laugh, too. It was a privilege to have them return to Carrington; it was also a great deal of fun.

Interim Dean Havens welcomed the group of about 25 retired faculty back with a brief State of the School update, then invited them to tour Carrington Hall’s simulation labs and the Biobehavioral Lab and smart classrooms.

Following the tours, the group gathered in 104 Carrington for hors d’oeuvres and visiting, which lasted well into the evening. Our thanks to them for their legacy and leadership, and also for a great night!
SON WELCOMES VISITING STUDENTS FROM MEXICO’S AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY

In October, the School of Nursing welcomed Sergio Eduardo Matienzo Torres and Beatriz Medellín Cabrera, nursing students visiting from the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas School of Nursing in Tampico, Mexico.

Their visit was the first in an exchange program developed between the two schools of nursing and the product of many years’ collaboration between UNC’s Diane Berry, PhD, ANP-BC, FAANP, FAAN; Christina Harlan, RN, BSN, MA; Associate Dean for Global Affairs, Gwen Sherwood, PhD, RN, FAAN and faculty members at Autonomous University of Tamaulipas School of Nursing. For more than half a decade, Dr. Berry has collaborated with Autonomous faculty on projects related to weight management and diabetes in Mexico and the United States.

While in Chapel Hill, Eduardo and Beatriz enjoyed a full and varied schedule ranging from assisting with literature reviews to hospital and clinic tours to attending conferences.

“It’s an incredible opportunity for us to gain skills and experience in writing articles and preparing grants,” said Eduardo. Both he and Beatriz aim to pursue careers in nursing research after completing their PhDs.

“We were delighted to welcome Eduardo and Beatriz to Chapel Hill to share our school and research endeavors. We hope their stay encouraged them to see how continuing their education will open many doors for them in Mexico and the United States,” said Dr. Berry.

SON Launches Initiative for Military-Affiliated Students

At the start of the 2015-2016 academic year, the School of Nursing launched an initiative for veteran and active-duty military students aimed at creating a smooth transition into the School’s academic programs. A Military Advisory Committee was formed by the School in 2014 to guide this initiative.

The School currently enrolls 30 military-affiliated students across its degree programs — about 5% of the total student population — and hopes to attract more.

“There is no better way to increase the diversity and leadership in the nursing workforce than to focus on our current and former military veterans. Students who come to us from the military have received intensive leadership training, and they bring those skills along with diverse experiences, backgrounds and perspectives to the School,” says Dr. Pamela Johnson Rowsey, PhD, RN, Associate Professor and former military reservist who coordinates the initiative.

The Military Advisory Committee, a cross-section of School of Nursing personnel, alumni and students with varied military backgrounds, offers valuable insight into the different educational tracks current and former service members take to enter nursing school, as well as the wide variety of experiences military students bring with them.

“These students are richly diverse in ways that hold real appeal for us. Many of them come to nursing as a second career while others are extending their nursing career through a more advanced degree program. We want to ensure all are successful,” says Kathy Moore, MSN, RN, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, who, with Dr. Johnson Rowsey, spearheaded the initiative. “Their experiences enhance our educational atmosphere, and we hope to learn from them as much as they learn from the faculty, staff and peer students.”

The School is developing a website detailing the support services and networking opportunities available for its military students and aims to expand its outreach to include students who are spouses or partners of those in the military, as well.

For more information, please contact Dr. Pamela Johnson Rowsey at pjrowsey@unc.edu.
SON LAUNCHES WEBSITE TO ASSIST FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Website synthesizes data from thousands of studies to help families, care providers and researchers

In August 2015, the School of Nursing announced the launch of a new website that will assist families of children with chronic conditions. Aimed at providing practical tools and resources for health care providers and researchers, the website synthesizes data from more than one thousand studies investigating the intersection between family life and childhood chronic physical conditions.

Nearly one in five children under the age of eighteen has a chronic physical condition (CPC) requiring more medical treatment than their peers and increasing the risk of problems related to emotional or behavioral development and function. Research has consistently shown that family variables play a role in the adjustment of affected children and that families caring for an affected child can likewise be at risk. The website — familiesynthesis.unc.edu — provides health care practitioners a one-stop resource for evidence-based clinical interventions for families dealing with CPCs, as well as a valuable tool for future inquiry by health care researchers studying CPCs.

“We are thrilled to be at this stage of the project,” said Kathleen Knafl, PhD, FAAN, Frances Hill Fox Distinguished Professor at UNC and co-leader of the project. “After many years of disentangling what we really know about these issues, we can now offer practical clinical assistance to healthcare providers, their patients and families, as well as provide a tremendous resource for fellow researchers in this important area. There’s a wonderful sense of accomplishment in that.”

The project and resulting website were made possible through The Family Synthesis Project funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research. The project began at the School of Nursing in 2011 and was designed to mine and synthesize the full body of empirical research related to issues surrounding the family life of those dealing with CPCs and to identify methods for improving the outcomes of both affected children and their families.

The Project is now working on publicizing the website and its resources to clinicians and researchers who can benefit from them.

For more information, please visit the website at familiesynthesis.unc.edu.

“We can now offer practical clinical assistance to health care providers, their patients and families, as well as provide a tremendous resource for fellow researchers in this important area.”

—Kathleen Knafl, PhD, FAAN
UNC-TV CANCER SPECIAL FEATURES DEBORAH MAYER

“The UNC-TV show on cancer provided an opportunity to share important knowledge, research progress and stories of hope and survival with the people of North Carolina.” —Deborah Mayer, PhD, RN, AOCN, FAAN

School of Nursing Professor Deborah Mayer, PhD, RN, AOCN, FAAN, was part of a panel of cancer experts and survivors featured on the UNC-TV special Cancer: Focus of Life. The hour-long show aired on Wednesday, April 1.

“Cancer has exceeded heart disease as the leading cause of death in the state,” said Dr. Mayer, professor at the School of Nursing and director of cancer survivorship at the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center. “The UNC-TV show on cancer provided an opportunity to share important knowledge, research progress and stories of hope and survival with the people of North Carolina.”

Dr. Mayer has worked with cancer patients for 40 years and is a breast cancer survivor. Her research centers on cancer survivorship issues, and she currently has a clinical practice working with breast cancer survivors.

Cancer: Focus of Life highlighted research studies, discoveries and stories of North Carolinians who have been instrumental in pushing through new scientific discoveries related to cancer, supporting those who’ve been touched by the disease, raising awareness or inspiring others who are struggling with cancer. There currently are over 350,000 cancer survivors in North Carolina.

During the panel discussion, Dr. Mayer gave examples of actions everyone could take to lower their cancer risk such as not smoking, staying physically active and undergoing recommended screenings for colon, breast and cervical cancers. She also addressed the importance of having conversations with family members and doctors about end-of-life care and concerns while things are well.

The panel also included cancer researchers Antonio T. Baines, PhD, from North Carolina Central University and Neil Spector, MD, from the Duke University School of Medicine, as well as leukemia survivor Rashawn King and breast cancer survivor Jamie Valvano from the V Foundation for Cancer Research.

Cancer: Focus of Life is part of a collection of cancer-related programming that UNC-TV is airing around the PBS documentary Cancer: Emperor of All Maladies, executive produced by Ken Burns, directed by Barak Goodman and based on a book by the same title by physician and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Dr. Siddhartha Mukherjee.
SON students, faculty, staff, alumni, and nurses from UNC Hospitals came together for a powerful discussion on patient safety during the first annual Colleen Elshoff Astrike Symposium in Health Care Solutions. The symposium was created by Carolina graduates Nancy Astrike and Joan Davis with the hope that the circumstances surrounding Nancy’s mother’s death will never be repeated.

The inaugural symposium began with Nancy recounting events before and on the day her mother, Colleen Elshoff Astrike, died from complications after a fall in 2012. During Colleen’s third day in the hospital, she began to have progressively worsening pain, yet her family couldn’t get anyone to assess or acknowledge that her condition had changed.

“It got to the point where we became the aggravating family,” said Nancy. “The end result is that she spent probably the last 10 hours of her life in unnecessary pain, and probably the last 12 hours of her life unnecessarily scared.”

**Emphasizing communication**

The Astrike family decided to share their story as a way to inspire high-level discussion about patient safety. “We believe that nurses, other health care professionals, and administrators must work to develop policies, procedures, protocols, education programs, and assessments that support evidence-based and compassionate care that emphasizes communication with patients.”

Dean Emeritus Linda Cronenwett, PhD, RN, FAAN, was the keynote speaker for the symposium. “This family has decided to share with us the work that we need to do collectively in health care systems to make sure this doesn’t happen to other families, and for that I am incredibly grateful,” said Dr. Cronenwett, who served as principal investigator for the Quality Safety and Education for Nurses (QSEN) initiative from 2005-2012.

Students, practicing nurses, and faculty all contributed to an active discussion while Dr. Cronenwett continually emphasized the importance of system-level procedures and processes that can act as a safety net when individuals have a slip or make a mistake.

“This family has decided to share with us the work that we need to do collectively in health care systems.”

—Dean Emeritus Linda Cronenwett, PhD, RN, FAAN
On May 7, the School of Nursing welcomed U.S. Representative Renee Ellmers for a roundtable lunch with students and a simulation laboratory demonstration. Don Curtis, chair of the UNC Board of Trustees External Relations committee, accompanied the congresswoman during her visit.

Before being elected to congress in 2010, Rep. Ellmers served as a registered nurse for more than 21 years, both as a surgical intensive care nurse and working with her husband in their general surgery practice in Dunn, North Carolina.

Students and administrators from across the School’s programs participated in the roundtable lunch.

Students and faculty brought some key issues to the congresswoman’s attention, including removing barriers for nurse practitioners, the importance of funding for NIH training grants such as the School’s T32, and supporting research that not only focuses on curing diseases but on helping people manage diseases.

The lunch concluded with Rep. Ellmers responding to a question regarding leadership characteristics she viewed as key. “Communication is vital, and you have to be the one to make sure that communication takes place,” she said. “As a nurse, it is part of who you are to take that initiative and be a mentor to those you work with.”

“We are continuously working to grow, innovate, and improve all our undergraduate and graduate programs.”

—Donna S. Havens, Interim Dean

The School’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and Post-Graduate APRN certificate programs received accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) through June 30, 2020.

The DNP program of study builds upon baccalaureate education and expands current MSN education to prepare nurses for clinical leadership and hands-on advanced practice. Graduates of the DNP program receive preparation in such key areas as evidence-based practice, organization and systems leadership, finance, health policy, information technology, population health, patient safety and translational research with the goal of improving patient and population health status and outcomes.

The SON’s accreditation efforts were lead by Debra Barksdale, former professor and DNP program director.

“The DNP program does not create a new role; rather, it provides advanced practice nurses and health systems leaders with additional knowledge and skills that better prepare them to address evolving and increasingly complex societal needs,” stated Dr. Barksdale.

The School of Nursing offers post-master’s certificates in psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner, informatics and administration.

The SON excelled in all four of the standards evaluated by CCNE, which included program quality related to mission and governance, institutional commitment and resources, curriculum and teaching-learning practices and assessment and achievement of program outcomes.

“These CCNE accreditations help validate that the quality and effectiveness that we strive for in our programs is occurring,” said Donna S. Havens, Interim Dean of the School of Nursing. “We are continuously working to grow, innovate and improve all our undergraduate and graduate programs.”

Since beginning in fall 2013, the DNP program has had eight graduates and had 64 enrolled students in fall 2015.

Officially recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accreditation agency, CCNE ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate and residency programs in nursing. The School’s baccalaureate and master’s programs received CCNE reaccreditation in 2012.
SON WELCOMES NEW ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH

On July 1, Ruth Anderson, PhD, RN, FAAN, joined the UNC Chapel Hill School of Nursing as the Beerstecher-Blackwell Term Professor and Associate Dean for Research.

Before coming to UNC, Dr. Anderson was the Virginia Stone Professor of Nursing at the Duke University School of Nursing and a senior fellow in Duke’s Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development. Her research focuses on chronic illness and care outcomes for older adults and has been funded by numerous agencies, including 12 years of continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health. She pioneered the application of complexity theory and management science in nursing for analyzing the institutional environment of nursing homes.

As Associate Dean for Research, she leads the School’s Office of Research Support and Consultation (RSC). Former Associate Dean for Research Kathleen Knaff, PhD, FAAN, has transitioned into a faculty role at the School. For the last 15 years, Dr. Anderson has focused on helping junior faculty launch their research. She brings that experience to the SON, where she spends much of her time working directly with junior faculty to help them develop their research ideas, write proposals and get funded. Many senior faculty have retired from the School in the last five years, and her emphasis on developing junior faculty will help move their research careers forward while also increasing the overall research funding for the School.

Dr. Anderson says she came to the UNC School of Nursing because of its high-quality faculty. “We have very strong faculty with a real desire to do well in the research area,” she says. “I am looking forward to using my strengths to move the School forward in terms of its research.”

“Son Welcomes New Research Faculty

Saif Khairat, PhD, has been appointed as an assistant professor within the Healthcare Systems division of the SON. He comes to the SON from the University of Minnesota, where he was a clinical assistant professor at the Institute for Health Informatics and the co-principal investigator for the Great Plains Telehealth Resource and Assistance Center.

Dr. Khairat’s research interests include the use of mobile technologies in chronic disease management as well as human factors in electronic medical record systems, subjects he has focused on since he earned his PhD in health informatics from the University of Missouri. He is currently serving as the chair-elect of the education working group and as a member of the working group steering committee at the American Medical Informatics Association.

Hudson Santos, PhD, RN, has been appointed an assistant professor within the Family Health division of the School of Nursing. He earned a PhD from the University of Sao Paulo and completed postdoctoral training in symptom science and bio-behavioral research at Duke University.

Dr. Santos’ research program advances knowledge of the biological and behavioral basis of perinatal mental health conditions (e.g., postpartum depression, anxiety) and their related parental responses and infant outcomes in low-income families. His research program informs naturalistic and low-cost interventions that improve the management of perinatal and postpartum mood symptoms and parent-infant interactions. This work improves infant outcomes and family relationships to mitigate health disparities across generations.
Associate professor Eric Hodges, PhD, FNP-BC, has been appointed the new director of the SON’s highly respected Biobehavioral Lab (BBL). His program of research centers on early parent-child feeding interactions, and much of his work has involved observational studies conducted in the BBL.

Dr. Hodges served as a member of the BBL Advisory Committee until being named the BBL’s interim director following the retirement of long-time director, Dr. Virginia Neelon, in 2014.

“My time serving as the interim director of the Biobehavioral Lab has been among the most intellectually stimulating of my career,” Dr. Hodges says. “I’m so pleased and humbled to be given the opportunity to carry on as director, which allows me to continue to make connections between researchers within the School of Nursing and other departments on campus and beyond to help chart an exciting future of clinical and translational research for all of our various constituents.”

The BBL — one of the nation’s first and now in the midst of its third decade — includes an observation suite with six in-wall cameras and a state-of-the-art sleep laboratory. Two full-time staff members work in the laboratory, offering training programs throughout the year on research procedures such as salivary hormone assays or cardiovascular stress measurement.

The BBL also houses a number of instruments for monitoring physiologic parameters such as electrical brain activity, cardiac output, oxygenation, body composition and heart rate responses, as well as an epigenetics lab.

Anita Tesh, PhD, CEA-II, CNE, ANEF, RN, was recently appointed associate professor and chair of the Division of Adult and Geriatric Health. She comes to the School of Nursing from UNC Greensboro. She holds a doctorate in educational research, measurement and evaluation, with a minor in mathematical statistics.

Dr. Tesh holds MSN and BSN degrees in nursing, and is an NLN Certified Nurse Educator, a fellow in the NLN Academy of Nursing Education and a 2011 fellow in the AACN Leadership for Academic Nursing Program. She has participated in projects in geriatrics and nursing education funded by HRSA and in health disparities from HHS and NIH.

As part of research teams or dissertation committees, Dr. Tesh frequently contributes expertise on research design, assessment and measurement. Her current research interests include issues of health and social justice, with particular focus on geriatrics, end of life issues and access to nursing education.
Faculty Awards and Accomplishments

**Rumay Alexander** was elected president-elect of the National League of Nursing and was appointed to the board of directors for the Nurse-Family Partnership, a national evidence-based home visiting program that serves first-time moms living in poverty. She also received the faculty award at the seventh annual Diversity Awards, sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs at UNC Chapel Hill.

**Beth Black** was selected by the Triangle Community Foundation to attend the Harvard Business School Initiative for Not-for-Profit Excellence, a four-day intensive leadership training program focused on excellence in governance.

**Dr. Ashley Bryant** was selected to serve on the National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence’s validation panel.

**Carol Fowler Durham** was invited by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) to join an eight-member task force that will develop simulation guidelines for state boards of nursing in response to the NCSBN Simulation Study.

**Noreen Esposito** was inducted as a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP). The FAANP program recognizes nurse practitioner leaders who have made outstanding contributions to health care through clinical practice, research, education or policy.

**Cheryl Woods Giscombe** was named one of five 2015 Macy Faculty Scholars awarded nationwide to physicians and nurses by the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation. She will use the award to develop an innovative educational institute that provides clinical experiences to strengthen the ability of pre-professional students to provide care to people who face mental health disparities. She is the second Macy Scholar on faculty at the SON, along with Meg Zomorodi, who received the award in 2014.

**Ernest Grant** was elected vice president of the American Nurses Association, the first male nurse ever to receive the distinction. His term will begin in January 2016.

**Sara Hubbell** was named the Joanne S. Stevens Political/Legislative Nurse of the Year at the 2015 North Carolina Nurses Association Annual Convention.

**Kathleen Knafi** was selected by the International Family Nursing Association to receive its prestigious 2015 Excellence in Family Nursing Award. The award recognizes her outstanding career contributions to the family nursing field.

**Jennifer Leeman** was awarded a $500,000 two-year contract from the Centers for Disease Control to study “Awareness and Use of School Health Tools and Resources.” With co-principle investigator Dr. Jean Wiecha at RTI International, she will conduct a survey and site visits to study how school systems use a variety of resources to promote physical activity and healthy eating in schools.

**Deborah K. Mayer** is the recipient of the 2015 Oncology Nursing Society Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes her outstanding contributions as an oncology nurse researcher, mentor and educator as well as her service to the society and the community at large.

**Britt Pados** received a research grant from the American Academy of Nursing through the Academy of Neonatal Nursing and the Foundation for Neonatal Research and Education to fund the Development and Content Validation of the Neonatal Eating Assessment Tool.

**Margarete Sandelowski** and **Ruth Anderson** were inducted into the 2015 Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame. The STTI Hall of Fame recognizes nurse researchers who have achieved significant and sustained national or international recognition and whose research has improved the profession and the people it serves.

**Hudson Santos** was selected by peer review to present his research to peers and faculty at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto Emerging Scholars Forum in October. The invitation-only forum focused on nursing impact on policy.

**Mary Schuler** received a $50,000 grant from the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers Innovation Fund to develop an online program to educate RNs on interprofessional roles in primary care settings.

**SeonAe Yeo** was awarded a grant by the UNC Center for Diabetes Translation Research to Reduce Health Disparities which she will use to conduct a pilot study of a program designed to reduce gestational diabetes in pregnant women.

**Jessica Zegre-Hemsey** was awarded an Early Career Research grant to attend and present at the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions in November. She was also nominated by the Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing to serve a three-year term to the Mission: Lifeline Acute Coronary Syndrome subcommittee, one of the American Heart Association’s top priorities.
SON HOSTS SECOND ANNUAL WHITE COAT CEREMONY

The School of Nursing held its second annual White Coat Ceremony at historic Memorial Hall on Sunday, Sept. 27.

The program, emceed by Interim Dean Donna Havens, featured remarks by Dr. Beverly Foster, director of the undergraduate program, and Kathy Moore, assistant dean for student affairs. A moving keynote on the nature of caring was delivered by Vice President of the American Nurses Association, Dr. Ernest Grant, clinical outreach nurse for the Jaycee Burn Unit at UNC Hospitals and adjunct professor for the School of Nursing.

Following the remarks, family, friends and School faculty looked on as first year students in the accelerated BSN and BSN programs were invited to the stage by name.

Presenting the embroidered coats were Roulae Johnson, past-president of the SON Alumni Association, Angela Hall, treasurer of the SON Foundation, Inc., Marianne Cockroft, chair of the SON’s Baccalaureate Executive Committee, and Julie Page, SON advisor to the General College.

The White Coat Ceremony is held at the beginning of the academic year to welcome and initiate each new class of nursing students into the profession and to emphasize humanistic, patient-centered care. The ceremony recognizes the nurse’s responsibility to put the interests of patients first and affirms that this obligation begins on the first day of nursing school and continues throughout the nurse’s career.

SINCERE THANKS TO THE GENEROUS SPONSORS OF THIS YEAR’S CEREMONY:

- The Department of Nursing, UNC Hospitals
- UNC Health Care
- Alpha Alpha Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing Alumni Association
- McPherson Cleaners
Six Nursing Students Recognized for Public Service

Six nursing students were among the 307 graduating seniors honored by the Carolina Center for Public Service as Buckley Public Service Scholars, a program that encourages students to learn about and practice public service and engagement beyond the scope of traditional volunteerism.

New BSN alumn Hannah Allison, Alexandra Chir, Casey Collins, Ronnell Green, Jennifer Hiteshew and Christopher Mook were recognized with the other scholars during a ceremony in Memorial Hall on May 8.

To be designated as a Buckley Public Service Scholar, participating students must have a minimum grade point average and build a portfolio that documents an orientation and four skills-training workshops, a minimum of 300 hours of service, one service-learning course and a final reflection product. Most of the 2015 graduates exceeded those requirements, on average completing more than 430 hours of service.

UNC Students Win National Competition in Health Care Collaboration

A team of four UNC students from different health care-related fields won the 2015 CLARION National Case Competition, a student competition focused on improving health care through interprofessional collaboration. The victory is especially significant given that this is only the second year UNC has been represented at the national competition, which has been held annually since 2005.

“I am so proud of our students and encouraged by their commitment to improving quality of care for their patients,” said Carol F. Durham, EdD, RN, ANEF, FAAN, clinical professor in the UNC School of Nursing and one of the faculty advisors for the team. “I believe this competition is seeding in the next generation of health care providers the skills they will need to be a part of the solutions needed to reform our health care system — including interprofessional collaboration.”

The CLARION National Case Competition challenges students to consider systemic ways to increase patient safety. This year’s competition focused on stroke, which is the fourth leading cause of death for adults in the United States and a significant contributor to disability among those who survive.

The winning UNC team included the SON’s own Lesley Peters, along with students in medicine and public health.

Nursing Students Honored in Chancellor’s Awards Ceremony

Two UNC nursing students were recognized for their dedication and excellent academic performance during the 2015 Chancellor’s Awards Ceremony.

The ceremony, held annually in the spring, is the only campus-wide student recognition program at Carolina. This year, a total of 71 students from schools and academic departments across UNC were honored with the University’s most prestigious awards for academic achievement and leadership.

Claire Vita Clement, BSN ’15 of Cary, N.C., received the BSN Class of 1956 Livas Award which recognizes the most outstanding senior in the School of Nursing and was established by friends of George Livas (including members of the BSN class of 1956, who recently endowed the fund). The recipient, chosen by the faculty of the School, is the member of the senior class who best demonstrates scholarship, leadership and nursing excellence. The distinction was first awarded in 1980.

Emily Catherine Morgan, BSN ’15 of Raleigh, N.C., received the James M. Johnston Distinguished Senior Award in the Nursing Program which recognizes the senior student in the Johnston Nursing Awards Program who is most deserving of recognition for outstanding academic achievement and for leadership contributions in the School of Nursing and the Johnston Awards Program. A monetary prize is given by the James M. Johnston Trustees.

“Awards that reward excellence honor individuals today and also foster excellence for future classes and generations,” said Chancellor Folt. “Carolina is grateful to the 2015 Chancellor’s Awards recipients for their extraordinary contributions to our University and for the example they set for students and staff who will follow in their footsteps.”
The 2014–2015 Honor Roll of Giving recognizes gifts received between July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015—our fiscal year. We value each donor and do our best to ensure that each person is correctly noted on the following pages. If you notice your name was omitted or misspelled please accept our apologies and contact the Office of Advancement (919) 966-4619 or ronald@unc.edu.
Mary Roberts Shapiro  
Betty Jane Sones  
Laura Hughes Yates  
MSN  
Jo Anne Lasley Alston  
Elizabeth Finley Macfie  
Evelyn Louise Perry  

1965  
BSN  
Sharon Kennedy Casey  
Vercie Massengill Eller  
Karen Hopkins Coley Harrison  
Jo Ann Zaron Hiri  
Bettina Kay Holder  
Constance Newman Parker  
Margaret Weisdel Sprolt  
Anne Palmater Tapper  
Nancy Beasley Turner  
Elaine Adams Underwood  
MSN  
Katherine Camilla Bobbitt  
Anne Hopkins Fishel  
Roberta Brown Hackett  

1966  
BSN  
Margaret Colinson Alderman  
Carole O'Brien Bordelon  
Brenda Dockery Dunn  
Mary Howard Dunn  
Martha Zink Gibson  
Karen Gunderson Hayward  
Anne Barbee Houston  
Sara-Louise Camlin Kranitz  
Kay Goodman McMullan  
Leith Merrow Mullaly  
Jerri Moser Oehler  
Anne Whittaker Peedin  
Elizabeth Cox Perry  
Suzanne Bennett Reilly  
Sharon Ranson Thompson  
Marie Phillips Williams  

MSN  
Amie Modigh  
Rhonda Thompson Pollard  

1967  
BSN  
Elena Codispoti Astelne  
Anne Elizabeth Belcher  
Rene Clark  
Nancy Rankin Crutchfield  
Barbara Jo Loren Foley  
Mary Bowsher Friedman  
Olivia Womble Griffin  
Nancy Rogers Harrison  
Patricia Dodson Hayes  
Patricia Humphrey-Kloes  
Marilyn Beaver Hutcheson  
Toni Cline Kenerly  
Judy Heller Knauer  
Elizabeth Beattie Lewis  
Carolyn Mitchell Martin  
Genevia Sanderson Mozolak  
Carolyn Back Pearson  
Nancy Carr Porter  
Margaret Ferguson Raynor  
Shirley Spaugh Rosen  
Suzanne Lewis Tonski  
Vivian Harris Varner  
Gwendolen Brannon Weeks  
Carole Norman Willmot  

1968  
BSN  
Cynthia Ann Billings  
Louise Greenfield Boyles  
Elizabeth Margaret Carr  
Susan Barber Culp  
Carol Malcolm Davis  
Judith Reavis Essie  
Kathryn Robinson Kuykendal  
Sara Jane McVicker  
Miriam Munden Quick  
Joan Francis Reinhardt  
Frances Blackwell Smith  
Linda Hamlin Titus  

1969  
BSN  
Beth Norman Barnes  
June High Bazar  
Christine Budd Cassidy  
Linda Kibler Cockrell  
Judith Van Dyke Egg  
Patsy Ruth Farlow  
Judith Hopkins Haupt  
Patsy Maynard Hill  
Jane Carey Karpick  
Margaret Riggin Light  
Jo-Anne Trowbridge Martin  
Constance Flyn Mullins  
Eddie Boykin Pope  
Nancy Nicks Stephenson  
Cynthia Calderwood Tomlin  
Carol Cobb Williams  
Jo Lenz Williams  

MSN  
Leota Lovina Rolls  

1970  
BSN  
Deborah Dewees Baughn  
Annette Beame  
Nancy Gibbes Chapman  
Joyce Schllie Cohen  
Allene Fuller Cooley  
Lynda Law Harrison-Wilson  
Kathryn Minton Holliday  
Virginia Lane  
Joyce Smiley Matthews  
Alene M. Mercer  
Barbara Nettles-Carlsom  
Phyllis Walker Neaman  
Marjorie Williams Phillips  
Sallie O'Keef Simpson  
Gwendolyn Hightower Waddell-Schultz  
P. Kay Wagoner  

MSN  
C. JoAnn Foust Cardarella  
Marjorie Huitl Hawkins  
Patsy Littlejohn Hawkins  
Gwendolyn Dormaney Sherwood  
Vivian Harris Varner  

1971  
BSN  
Nancy Nelson Caddy  
Lynn Grier Coleman  
Judith Barnes Gardiner  
Jeanne Lilly Griswold  
Kerry Allen Hensley  
Catherine Packard Licata  
Kaye McNell-Harkins  
Doris Ann Dixon Reavis  
Marian Crane Sharpe  
Deborah Thompson  
Mary Valler-Kaplan  
Carole Barrow Warren  
Mary Grace Crist White  

MSN  
Russell Eugene Tranbarger  

1972  
BSN  
Linda Santorum Byers  
Beverly Todd Essick  
Nina Whittaker Hackney  
Betsy Newton Herman  
Patricia Pittman Hotz  
Janith Jones Huffman  
Nancy Ann Laughbridge  
Anne Lowe Murphy  
Carol Dixon Murray  
Lynne Ann Oland  
Christa Parks Sexton  
Jo Marie Abbott Taylor  
Eva Alexander Van Hoy  
Jane Griswold Woods  

MSN  
Leigh Andrews  
Anna Stoddard Hammerbeck  
Carol Lynne Watters  

1973  
BSN  
Ann Davis Brown  
Ann Miller Calandro  
Anne Smith Cole  
Teresa Weaver Foster  
Nancy Barrett Freeman  
Margaret Wagoner Gilliam  
Betty Jean Haddock  
Claudia Cagle Hayes  
Jolynn Edwards Hurwitz  
Maryann Patterson Ingersoll  
Carolyn Morgan Imam  
Debra Gay Kiser  
Susan Ruppalt Lantz  
Colleen Hamilton Lee  
Linda DiCenzo Lines  
Janet Opp McPherson  
Linda Moon Miller  
Linda Dobb Morgan  
Wanda Shelton Oakley  
Ona Mercer Pickens  
Ann Marie Polk  
Nancy Morton Smith  
Suzanne Lamparis Ward  

MSN  
Anna Tansey Bridgman  
Cynthia Mary Freund  
P. Allen Gray Jr.  
Susan Stuart Harvey  
Rhuline Monroe James  
Kathryn Robinson Kuykendal  
Linda Ann Lewis  
Caryl Erhardt Mobley  

FNP  
Agnes Binder Weissger  

1974  
BSN  
Margaret Folsom Ainsley  
Suzanne Lindsay Burge  
Gladdis Hudson-Speth  
Cynthia Johnson Dewhirst  
Colleen Anna Dickens  
Susan Huffman Gordon  
Jane Mayes Link  
Brenda Ray Martin  
Wendelin Jones McBride  
Rebecca Dewees Olson  
Sara Rollins Ramsey  
Gary Steven Reese  
Carolyn Triploid Robinson  
Brenda Gail Summers  
Patsy Schupper Theobald  
Diane Carol Wilson  
Kathryn Payne Wieste  

MSN  
Margaret Begler Bryan  
Linda Lindsay Davis  
Laureen Sue Fromson  
Nancy Siegel Keatch  
Margaret Riggan Light  
Rebecca Jean Patterson  

1975  
BSN  
Marye Cornelia Barden  
Catherine Crane Boucholbs  
Preston Nce Comeaux III  
Jeannette Janecek Diana  
Judith Hendricks Farr  
Ann Cox Hutchins  
Gaynelle Bass Nichols  
Evelyn Rose Paul  
Diane Marie Shaffer  

MSN  
Amettee Beattie  
Elizabeth Burke Gooldy  
Betty Jean Haddock  
Jann Buide Logsdon  
Betsy Mickey McDowell  
Susan Foley Pierce  
Deborah Thompson  

1976  
BSN  
Elizabeth Jane Aernarthy  
Frances Mervin Andringa  
Elizabeth McKinney Bailey  
Jonathan Culver Berman  
Kathi Roberts Byrne  
Mary Redfearn Creed  
Cynthia Reid Dearmin  
Christine Hellebush Dismukes  
Charlene Caulkins Eason  
Patti Barnes Farless  
Mary Lou Caviness Faucette  
Cynthia Darlyn Garrett  
Marsha Newton Golombik  
Sue Baker Isaac  
Pamela Ellis Jameson  
Christine Earle Jones  
Janis Hackney Labner  
Jimmie Dremen McCamie  
Barbara Edhinger MeNeill  
Mary Spencer Palmer  
Jane McInnis Penny  
Linda Garner Phillips  
Sue Shivar  
Diane Phillips Smith  
Mary Victoria Spanhour  

MSN  
Elizabeth Margaret Carr  
Linda Cole Haber  
Sue Greenwood Head  
Jo Wollybough Terry  
Gwendolyn Hightower Waddell-Schultz  
Diane Carol Wilson
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Honors Roll of Giving</th>
<th>BSU</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Emily Scovil Eklund, Marianne Frances Marlo, Judith Musial, Diane Grace Vester, Louise Elsner Watts</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Susan Huffman Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Katherine Yamin Benvides, Linda Prior Bolm, Dorothy Lynn Cage, Beth Herring Chadwick, Jennifer Eisenmenger Charlton, Susan Adams Doughon, Joan Williams Grady, Lelia Cornatzer Gray, Lucy Ligon Hefflichinger, Diane Carol Husdon-Barr, Martha Henneys Hutson, Donna Renee Jarvis, Denise Farlow Jones, Deborah Ann Lekan, Teryl Dunlap Lensch, Pamela Kay Lowrance, Monica Miller Muldoon, Nora Ellen Raynor, Jennifer Castello Riker, Kendace Felgar Sanders, E. Anne Shlafide, Carolyn Biggs Sue-Ling, Annette Rountree Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Elizabeth Jane Abernathy, Mary Ann Carr, Melissa Ann D. LeVine, Marilee Schmelter, Elizabeth Brooks Spangle, Brenda Gail Summers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Kathleen Murphy Baum, Anderson Fisher Black, Pamela Ramsey Bonacci, Melanie Gayle Bunn, Mary Maddrey Chandler, Charlene Jackson Dunlap, Beth Robinson Francis, Alna Marie Holley, Mary House Kester, Anita Williams Killian, Marie Patterson Klein, Jean Hix McDonald, Jana Green Newsome, Annette Ivory Peery, Christy Morton Secor, Lisa Higgins Shugoll, Margaret Ham Snurdivant, Julie Smith Taylor, Cathy Barbour York</td>
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<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Jo Ann Harrodson Adams, Mary Capehart Hulbert</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Teresa Haggard Cruz, Cynthia Darlynn Garrett</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Rizza Hermosissima de la Guerra, Ria Pepin Estes, Sandra Whittington Faw, Robin Tate Harper, Kimberly Crickmore Osborne, Jane Brown Peace, Regina Snyder Pearson, Anne Boduch Seredy, Kathryn Kramer Watts</td>
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<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>BSN</td>
<td>Linda Garner Phillips, Pamela Linhart Sonny</td>
</tr>
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Honor Roll of Giving  
July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015
2003
BSN
Sean T. Gallagher
Terri Sue Giles
Erin Lynne Towns Lemon
Kristin Nicole Levoy
Ann Marie Lee Walton
Julie Christine Warren
MSN
Karla Jean Brown
Angela Jean Keene
Deane E. Schweinberg

2004
BSN
Rebecca Jean Hall
Monica Lowe Przybylak
Anna C. Stull
Allison Lee Thomas
Ann Campbell Walker
Blair McDonald Wellborn
Sandra Lynn West
Iryna Zhytkova
MSN
Cheryl Lynn Elliott
Esther Bosele Metiko
Brandi Hamlin Newman
Debbie S. Weaver
PhD
Bradi Bartrug Granger
Patricia Flannery Pearce

2005
BSN
Pamela Nance Bowman
Jilleon Formanczyk Inman
Diana Compton King
Heather Fund Lachiewicz
Amy Lawler Munday
Anne McPherson Pringle
Courtney Huffman Saine
Sarah Hoag Snyder
Laura Miller Stone
Jennifer Lynn Warber
MSN
Amy Davis Bell
Lori L. Ingle
Barbara Ann Jordan

2006
MSN
Kimberly Orwell Oliver
Megan Sarah Randall
Jennifer Ballard Squires
Tracy Elizabeth Vernon-Platt
Sebastian Christopher White
PhD
Donald Etheridge Bailey Jr.
Cydney King Mullen

2007
BSN
Amy Verrecchia Athavale
Mallory Williams Grose
Lesley Merklein Harwell
Candace Michelle Lowery
Leigh Grant Mullen
Ann Plonk Wilson
MSN
Kristen Scott Camplin
Brenda King Landau
Megan Bumgarner Manuel
Janette Leigh Stender
PhD
Ann Neighbour Jessup
Darla M. Olson

2008
BSN
Barbara Guth Awdal
Lesley-Anne Bandy
Kathryn Marie Bauk
Holly Anne Broadthorpe-Horvat
Bonnie Frances Corbin Jennifer Pothoven Dougerty
Amy Jensen Dunlap
Carla Elizabeth Evans
Kendall Hager Hankins
Felicia Ann Hunt
Zenita Garcel Toews
Elisa Vongaj Madenayinta
Catherine Michelle Schrest
Laura Kathleen Towns
Jhemika Quane Watson
Jenna Hobbs Wineka
Laura Badalamenti Xanders

2009
MSN
Virginia Kay Chafin
Monica Christina Schmucker
Allison Lee Thomas
PhD
Meg Zomorodi

2010
BSN
Leigh Robison Allred
Anderson John Bradley
Lacie Katz Burton
Bilach Hassan Diba
Heather Lavon Ferrell
Anneka Geary Huegerich
Katherine Paige Humphrey
Jason Harper Kugler
Richard Charles Stratton
Catherine Lea Suit
Susan Elizabeth Vogel
Eri Taylor Wallace
MSN
Kevin David Cox
Heather Fund Lachiewicz

2011
BSN
Gregory Donato Calone
Ludmila Fedarzeka Crenshaw
Lisa Eileen Ecklund
Nicole Ashley Frazier
Megan Betsy Hayes
Francisco Bacatan Hilvano
Samuel Mbugua Njenga
Erica Nowak
Virginia C. Purrington
Sara Anne Schumann
Laura Seale
Eri Maret Smith
Anna Wilson Starkey
Anna Ward Wilkins

2012
BSN
Heidi Nicole Brown
John Robert Fratianne
Dorothy Akofa Freeman
Georgette Laura-Pereira Harrell
Jessica Brittian Helmen
Rebeca Alejandra Morello
Courtney Sorensen Orr
Alissa Moore Portencier
Wesley Adam Scrymgeour
MSN
Kristin Renee Allison
Sandra Krol Baker
Tamryn Fowler Gray
Sarah Conner Massey
Leigh Grant Mullen
Jessica Farmer Turner
Eri Wheeler Whitaker
PhD
Karen Elizabeth Jakub
Jinhee Park
Cheryl Ann Smith-Miller

2013
BSN
Kellie Anne Archer
Patrick Andrew Harrison
David Nathaniel Johnson
Ashley Marie Miller
Heidi Scerone
Steven Joseph Seta
Jennifer Erin Thrall
Emily Denise Weaver
MSN
Beth Farmer Blair
Mandy Sherman Blake
Kristen Nicole Levo
Candice Michelle Lowery

2014
BSN
Katherine Elizabeth Moore
MSN
Anderson John Bradley
Sean T. Gallagher

2015
BSN
Kelsey Laurence Akins
Elizabeth Pope Timberlake Allen
Sahle D. Allgood
Randy Osei Amasoko
Megan Nicole Bailey
Kathleen M. Barkley
Margaret Catherine Beeson
Lisa Nicole Bergmann
Gabriel John Blanchard
Jemima Balintongog Booncales
Cheryl Elizabeth Boone
Jenna Suzanne Boyd
Kirbie Lynn Burnett
Hayden Jayne Byrd
Tiffany Lauren Campbell
Canda Campbell
Leslie Castrejon
Alexandra Chir
Yvette Y-Hui Chuang
Marea Stirling Dobbins
Sarah Caroline Dunn
Rachel Laine Etsik
Isabel Amanda Faircloth
Anastasia Olesnevna Filonenko
Kasey T. Gragg
Romneal Deanna Green
Carolyn Jean Grigg
Wenting Han
Sara Ashley Hansen
Kendyl C. Knight
Laura Elizabeth Koff
Jill Amanda Leckey
Dominique Elizabeth Ledyard
Jane Park Lee
Jesutofunmi Adeoloyin Mabbo
Geeti Mandal
Matthew Gibson Marvell
Sarah Jane Matney
Kyong Sook Maxwell
Catherine Elizabeth McClain
Maeve McGarry
Darbie Elaine McPhail
Kaleb Medlin
Taylor Anne Mihok
Maor Miron
Kimberley Blythe Moenich
Michela Moneta
Christopher Pfohl Moor
Emily Catherine Morgan
Leah Morgan
Andrea Marie Morrow

HONOR ROLL OF GIVING – JULY 1, 2014 TO JUNE 30, 2015

Fall/Winter 2015
Susanna Nduaro
Trang M. Nguyen
Meghan E. Niles
Chizoba Ijeoma Nnoruka
Mariah Elizabeth Normant
Alexis Marie Pagnotta
Esita Yagnesh Patel
Jenna Anne Petrie
Morgan Elizabeth Powell
Jennifer Ashley Powell
Meredith-Scott Marie Powell
Veronica A. Rainford
Koyoyna Latisha Ray
Kimyona Latoya Ray
Sarah Elizabeth Sandlin
Stephanie Saturne
Graciela Sophia Seila
Charles Paul Sessions
Hayley W. Shelton
William Harold Smith
Lauren Catherine Somloi
Julie R. Swain
Katherine Marie Terry
Rachel L. Timberlake
Judith Robin Underwood
Alyssa R. Weidig
Maria Wynn
Jeena Yoo
Molly Sage Zaslav
PhD
Hayley Henrikson Extrem
Carolyn Louise Lekavich
Britt Frisk Padols

Faculty, Staff, and
Former Faculty
Josephine K. Aseru Adjei
David Barger
Linda S. Beeber
Victoria Brunn Benson
S. Scott Berrier
Diane C. Berry
Janet H. Blue
Audrey Joyce Booth
Ashley Leak Bryant
Sue Little Caviness
Linda R. Cronenwett
JoAnn B. Dalton
Diane Holditch Davis
Samuel Philip Deal
Margery Dudley
Anne Hopkins Fielb
Barbara Jo Lorek Foley
Beverly Brown Foster
Cynthia Mary Freund
Sandra Gail Funk
Cheryl Lynnette Giscombe
Tamryn Fowler Gray
Joanne Sumney Harrell
Donna Sullivan Havens
Norma L. Hawthorne
Karen B. Harrow
Patty Maynard Hill
Sandra Rose Hoffman
Carol Clarke Hogue
Lauren Hipp Hundle
Ann Neighbors Jessup
George Knaff
Kathleen A. Knaff
Mary R. Lynn
Barbara A. Mark
Deborah K. Mayer
Gail O’Sullivan Mazzocco
Lisa H. Miller
Merle H. Mishel
Amie Modigh
Katharine Anne Moore
Barbara Nechan-Carlson
William Brent Niz
Sonda M. Oppeval
Mary H. Palmer
Susan Foley Pierce
Mary Lynn Piven
Theresa Raphael-Grimm
Shields Rodgers
Pamela Johnson Rowsey
Margaret Sandelowsk
Gwendolyn Dorminey Sherwood
Annie H. Skelly
Lee Etta Remett Smith
Kristen Marie Swanson
Theresa Swifi-Scanlan
Anita Star Tesh
Suzanne Thoyer
Debbie Ann Travers
Wanda Edleen Wazenegger
Anne Aldridge Webb
Jia-Rong Wu
Jessica Zegre-Hemsey
Meg Zomorodi

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Honors Society of Nursing

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Rafael Manuel Aguierre
Thelie Rupert Ainsley Jr.
James McMillan Allison
Chris Alford
Melissa Kate Anderson
Kenneth F. Anderson Jr.
Kenneth G. Anderson
Thelma M. Anderson
Richard C. Andringa
Steven A. Aquino
Douglas Paul Arburs
Todd Aaron Ashe
Nancy Charlene Astrike
George Ray Avant
Phyllis Kesler Avant
Elizabeth A. Ayers
Robert Joseph Bach
A. John Bailer
Steven Eugene Bailey
John Linley Baker
Daniel Wayne Ballard
James Owen Barber
Timothy Eric Barker
James Albert Barnes III
Habb F. Bass
Kathleen A. Bassil
J. Gary Batchelor
Bruce W. Beaver
Walter Joseph Beckworth
Patricia B. Berger
Steven Berkowitz
Wallace F. Berman
Stephanie Boyle Berrier
Elain Livas Bingham
Lawrence Clinton Black Jr.
Richard Peters Blankenship
J. William Blue Jr.
M. Robert Blum
Paul Bolin Jr.
Brantley Cleveland Boo Jr.
Kristin McCarthy Bradbury
Bradford Blase Briner
Ashley Morgan Brinkman
Eunice M. Brock
Richard Franklin Brooks
Jean Johnson Brower
Daniel Elmer Brown
Kevin T. Brown
Virginia R. Brown
Steven Edward Brueggemann
David Leigh Bruening
H. David Brunton
E. C. Bryson Jr.
Matthew Douglas Buehrle
John Gilbert Buie Jr.
James Burchall
Clarence Harvey Burke
Curt Burnett
Paula Burnett
Armond D. Burris
Allan Charles Buss
Wesley Grimes Byerly III
John J. Byrne
Richard Earl Caddy Jr.
Joseph Handel Callcott Jr.
Matthew Douglas Camblin
Louis James Cardarella
Shamia Denise Carlton
Robert Lewis Carswell
Betty Moore Caruso
Susan Self Caulfield
W. Lowry Caulfield
Sarah Caviness
Chad Eric Cecil
Mary T. Champagne
Curtis Gay Chambers
John Preston Chandler
Clark Hanes Charlton
B. Robert Chen
Lori Prevatt Chriscos
Debbie Rockenhausen Chused
Paul Leon Chused
Brian Leslie Costney
Annie W. Coffey
Joseph Lawrence Cole
Robert Joseph Coleman
Bradford Creamer Connett
Joseph Irwin Converse Jr.
Sue Folger Converse
Margaret Ellen Cook
Jimmy Dean Cooley
Sally McDonald Covingtion
Dale Smith Cox
Robert Walter Creed
Mike Crecitelito
John Lewis Crouse
Theron Ritchie Crump
Paul Edward Crampler
Robert George Culpa III
Charles William Darden
Benjamin Franklin Davis Jr.
Richard S. Davis
C. W. Davis Jr.
Kearny Williams Davis
Nancy Diane Walters Davis
Mark Charles Davis
Georganna Davis
Beatrice Joan Davis
Stephen Robert Dawson
Mollie Hood DeWalt
Mark Wesley Dewhurst
Thomas William Dickinson
Ann Fountain Dill
Thomas Green Dill Sr.
Mary Carroll Alexander Dodd
Tim Donahue
Luning Dong
Michael Kevin Dougherty
Stephen Mark Doughton
James M. Doughs Jr.
Noel Dunivant
James Inman Dunlap

Jack Delbridge Dunn
James Millard Eason Jr.
John Harold Eder Jr.
Margaret Hilda Elliott
Lucien Crenshaw Ellison
Virginia Banty Ervin
Anthony Estwood
L. Wood Farless
Mary Merritt Farmer
Joseph Nicholas Farrell III
Barbara A. Farris
Robert Jackson Fauscette Jr.
G. Lynn Featherstone
Donald Burton Feldman
Al Ferguson
Stephen T. Fisher
Ann Flaherty
John David Fletcher
Mildred Price Fletcher
J. J. David Fletcher
Jill F. Fletcher
Joseph E. Foley
Jim Leslie Foster
Jennifer Joan Fousdy
John Patrick Foudy
Dell Frost Fowler
J. Thomas Fox Jr.
William Thomas Francis Jr.
Robert Aaron Frantz Jr.
Elian Grady Frantz
Homa Jackson Freeman Jr.
Gary Stephen Fried
Matthew Roy Friedman
Nancy Scott Fuller
W. Ervin Fuller Jr.
David E. Gadis
Susan Gallagher
Stephen Lewis Gardiner
Edward Carlton Garmer
Laura Shoffner Garrett
Teddy Roger Garrett
Patrick William Garrison
Carl T. George
Robert Gibson Jr.
Robert Clayton Gibson III
Sue Gainey Giles
Terry Scott Giles
Stephen Cooper Gilliam
Dorothy Clare Genter Gilreath
John Franklin Gilreath III
John Christopher Glantz
George A. Glazigber
Karen Ekenberry Glubigber
Robert Alan Golombk
Mark Lloyd Gordon
Frank Joseph Gordon
Don Arvaco Grady
John Henry Gray Jr.
E. Dianne Greenhill
Barbara Gries
Mary Cameron Griffin
Edward Brent Guffey
Lawrence J. Haber
THOMAS AND LANDON FOX ESTABLISH SCHOOL’S FIRST DNP SCHOLARSHIP

Thomas Fox, M.D., and his wife Landon, BSN ’56, are long-time supporters of the School of Nursing. Their latest gift establishes the SON’s first Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) scholarship, which will be awarded to students wishing to pursue a career in advanced practice pediatric nursing.

The Thomas and Landon Fox Graduate Pediatric Nursing Scholarship will help fill a key need for DNP scholarships. Launched in 2013, the DNP program prepares nurses for clinical leadership and hands-on advanced practice. More than 60 DNP students are currently enrolled at SON.

“We are enthusiastic about offering this new opportunity to future students,” says Tom. “By establishing this first DNP Scholarship, our hope is that this will inspire others to consider investing in this new opportunity for an advanced degree.”

Tom and Landon (Landy) say that they make supporting nursing education a priority because as nurses continue to play increasingly important roles in the delivery of health care, their education for these increased responsibilities is even more vitally important. They focused the scholarship on pediatrics because of Landy’s work experience in this field.

In 2010, Tom and Landy established an endowed undergraduate scholarship that has already given opportunities to many students. They also give generously of their time. Landy is a member of the School’s Alumni Association Board of Directors, and Tom is a former member and former treasurer of the SON Foundation Board of Directors.

“Because Landy is a graduate of the SON and benefitted so much from her experience at UNCC, we have a strong loyalty to the School,” says Tom. “Having supported the University for over 50 years, we want the SON to be outstanding and remain among the highest ranked schools in the United States. We appreciate having Anne Webb’s guidance as we were looking for another way to support the SON.”

“Because Landy is a graduate of the SON and benefitted so much from her experience at UNCC, we have a strong loyalty to the School”

Landon and Thomas Fox

“By establishing this first DNP Scholarship, our hope is that this will stimulate others to consider investing in this new opportunity for an advanced degree.”
Professor Victoria Soltis-Jarrett, PhD, PMHCNS/NP-BC, FAANP, is the recipient of the SON’s newest endowed professorship: the Carol Morde Ross Distinguished Professorship in Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing.

Carol Morde Ross, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, UNC ’64, and her husband Coleman, UNC ’65, created the professorship, which is the first one in the state to focus on psychiatric-mental health nursing advanced practice and education. It will support Dr. Soltis-Jarrett’s continuing work to enhance advanced psychiatric nursing practice while developing the psychiatric nursing workforce.

“I am delighted that Victoria is receiving this professorship,” says Carol, who has a deep love of psychiatric-mental health nursing. “I’m very proud of the work she is doing to make a difference in the state’s mental health.” As an advanced practice nurse, Carol saw patients in private practice for many years. Through her work with the Interfaith Council, she remains committed to meeting both the physical and emotional health needs of the homeless in Chapel Hill.

“Establishing this professorship brings attention to psychiatric-mental health, which is often hidden or not talked about,” says Dr. Soltis-Jarrett, who is renowned at the state level, nationally, and internationally. Over the last decade Dr. Soltis-Jarrett secured crucial funding for the School’s PMHNP program and led the transformation of its curriculum. With funding from HRSA, she is now preparing PMHNPs to provide behavioral services in acute, primary and long-term care settings.

The support provided through the new professorship allows Dr. Soltis-Jarrett to explore innovative ways to expand mental health care in North Carolina. For example, she is collaborating with several federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) to integrate behavioral health assessment into their clinics. This includes training staff to administer screening tools for depression and substance abuse and helping to identify other types of training and tools that the staff needs to better assess and treat mental health problems.

Carol and Dr. Soltis-Jarrett both care profoundly about helping those with psychiatric illness and mental health challenges, and this shared passion has forged a strong relationship over the years. “By having Carol’s name on the professorship I feel like she is with me,” says Dr. Soltis-Jarrett. “My work also carries her voice and passion.”

“I am delighted that Victoria is receiving this professorship. I’m very proud of the work she is doing to make a difference in the state’s mental health.”

—Carol Morde Ross, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, UNC ’64
The Dr. Virginia Neelon Endowed Graduate Nursing Scholarship was established to honor the distinguished career of Virginia Neelon, PhD, RN, upon her retirement from the faculty at the School of Nursing in May. Dr. Neelon served the School for nearly four decades and directed the Biobehavioral Laboratory (BBL) for almost 25 years.

On May 14, Dr. Neelon was honored with a celebration of her career and an official presentation of the endowed graduate nursing scholarship, which will support a doctoral nursing student studying in the BBL each year. At the event, many former students and colleagues discussed the tremendous impact Neelon and the BBL had on their careers. As the endowment grows over time, the fund will help recruit strong scholars to continue the important work begun by Dr. Neelon.

“To have scholarship support gives students the opportunity to explore important questions related to biobehavioral responses and how best to measure those responses,” Dr. Neelon said, “It is wonderful to be honored with support for a scholarship that will allow students to study and understand these responses.”

The BBL began in 1989 as part of the Research Support Center at the UNC School of Nursing. As the inaugural director of the BBL, Dr. Neelon provided expertise and training in the use of minimally invasive instrumentation to measure biobehavioral responses to stress and illness. Over the years, the BBL has expanded its mission to enhance knowledge and skills in biobehavioral science, physiological measurement and instrumentation.

“I have had 30 plus years of support, and it has been a joyful, exciting adventure,” she says. “I hope many students get the chance to start down a similar path of discovery.”

Dr. Neelon served as principal investigator on two NIH-funded studies, including a study of nursing interventions to prevent the development of acute confusion (delirium) in hospitalized elders. As part of this research, she and her collaborators developed the NEECHAM Confusion Scale, a tool to measure acute confusion by combining physiological, psychological and behavioral measures in a rapid clinical screen with minimal burden to patients. As Associate Professor Emerita, she continues her study of delirium, with a focus on populations with chronic illness and near end of life, and is conducting research with Dr. Barbara Carlson that explores the relationship of hypoxia, sleep and cognitive decline in older adults.

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**Nancy Hege Paar Undergraduate Nursing Scholarship Fund**

Honoring the wishes of his beloved wife, who requested in her will that a gift be made to the UNC School of Nursing for scholarship assistance, Dr. John A. Paar established the Nancy Hege Paar Undergraduate Nursing Scholarship Fund. The fund will assist students with tuition, fees and other expenses associated with pursuing an undergraduate nursing degree.

Nancy grew up on a farm in Forsyth County, N.C. She was the valedictorian of her high school class while also working in a florist shop. She was able to attend the UNC School of Nursing only because she received a scholarship from the School. Graduating in 1959, she was a member the School’s fifth class of Bachelor of Science in Nursing graduates.

Nancy had fond memories of the School and stayed in contact with many classmates. She recalled that Dean Kemble had lectured the nursing students always to eat to prevent fainting in the operating room or elsewhere. Unfortunately, Nancy once fainted during service at the Chapel of the Cross after skipping breakfast, and who should be there looking over her but the Dean.

Nancy met her future husband when she was working in the NC Memorial Hospital and John came to the hospital as an internal medicine intern. They married in 1961 after a six-week engagement and went on to have three daughters. Nancy and John celebrated their 54th anniversary in March 2015.

Nancy was very socially conscious and an early advocate for organic gardening, recycling and care of the earth. She and John were involved with assistance to refugees from the wars in Central America in the 1980s and worked with many other organizations and causes over the years, both local and abroad.

Nancy died of metastatic breast cancer on April 8, 2015. John says that he feels her gift was her way of passing along the opportunity she was given, with hope that it would go to someone who otherwise might not be able to attend the School of Nursing.

“Nancy was very grateful for the opportunity she had to go to UNC,” John says. “She remained a loyal graduate, even though she was married to a Duke man.”
THOMAS N.P. JOHNSON III ESTABLISHES WAR HEROES’ NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Thomas N.P. Johnson III has created the War Heroes’ Nursing Scholarships Fund, which supports five named merit scholarships for graduate or undergraduate nursing students at the UNC Chapel Hill School of Nursing. The inaugural recipients of the scholarships all participate in SON’s newly-formed military student group.

Tom says that he first understood the important contributions of nurses during his service as a Vietnam-era medic in the U.S. Air Force, an experience that would shape his later interest in supporting nursing education. The UNC Chapel Hill School of Nursing is the fourth nursing school to benefit from his generous giving. The new scholarships honor family members, high school classmates, friends and military heroes who are meaningful to Tom.

BSN student LaTronda Coble is the A1C William Hart Pitsenbarger USAF MOH Nursing Merit Scholar. This scholarship is helping her focus fully on her nursing studies without worrying about financial challenges. Airman Pitsenbarger was a U.S. Air Force pararescue crewmember during the Vietnam War who was killed in action as he rescued and treated wounded soldiers. He posthumously received the Medal of Honor for his bravery.

ABSN student Jennifer Tupper received the Flt. Lt. Parke Farr Smith Royal Air Force Nursing Merit Scholarship. She spent a decade in the Army National Guard working her way from Private First Class to First Lieutenant. This scholarship honors Tom’s uncle, who piloted numerous explorations and combat missions over Europe and North Africa as a U.S. pilot serving the Royal Air Force during World War II.

The Lt. James Alexander Smith III USNR DFC Nursing Merit Scholarship was awarded to graduate student Christin Heverly. She is a First Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve and wants to become a family nurse practitioner in the United States Army Nurse Corps. This scholarship honors Tom’s uncle who was killed in action while serving as a Naval Aviator in World War II. He was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroism and extraordinary achievement in aerial flight during action against enemy forces.

Jason W. Crockett is the Hon. William Clarence Klutz Jr. ’68 Nursing Merit Scholar. This scholarship is named for Tom’s long-time friend and high school classmate. Jason served in Germany as a junior officer in an armored cavalry squadron. He is currently working toward a Family Nurse Practitioner MSN.

Doctoral student Sherita House received the Isaac Bates Grainger Jr. ’41 & Isaac Bates Grainger III ’68 Nursing Merit Scholarship, which is named for Tom’s long-time friend and high school classmate as well as his father, who both attended UNC. Sherita, a critical care nurse in the U.S. Navy Reserves, says that Tom’s generosity has inspired her to help others and give back to the community.

Tom says that he hopes these scholarships can help relieve the stress of paying for a nursing education and help ensure that nurses receive the very best education possible.
HAVENS ENJOYS HOSPITAL TOURS, LUNCH WITH ALUMNI

On September 30 – October 1, in conjunction with the NCNA Annual Meeting held in Concord, NC, Interim Dean Donna Havens and the SON’s Advancement team joined alumni for tours of two of the area’s impressive hospitals.

**Brandi Newman, BSN ’01, MSN ’04**, Assistant Vice President for the Carolinas Healthcare System provided the tour of Carolinas Medical Center Northwest, which boasts an attractive historical display of nursing memorabilia.

**Callie Dobbins, BSN ’01**, Assistant Vice President for Neonatal Services with Carolinas Healthcare System, led the introductions to the Levine Children’s Hospital.

Following the tours, Havens, along with Anne Webb and Katisha Paige of the SON Advancement Office, joined area alumni **Glenda Wooten, BSN ’82, Monica Muldoon, BSN ’81, Vonda Brown, BSN ’87, Ashley Capel, BSN ’11, Susan Lantz, BSN ’73, Karen Chandler, MSN ’76, and Marian Sharpe, BSN ’71** for lunch at Dressler’s.
CLASS OF 1955 CELEBRATES 60 YEARS WITH NEW BOOK

Members of the School of Nursing’s class of 1955 have worked for several years to write a book that would document their journey as the first graduates of the School and the first full class of freshman women to enter the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. They have now accomplished their goal with the publication of *Ahead of Our Time: Chapel Hill’s First Nightingales*.

In 1951 — the era of big bands and bobby socks — UNC Chapel Hill opened its doors to the new School of Nursing’s first class of female freshman students. The 220-page collection of memoirs recalls both the fun and challenges experienced by the 17 women who went on to complete the state’s first four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

Dean Elizabeth Kemble led the class through all their “firsts” with grace and dignity while also guiding them in what was expected from them as nurses both in and outside the clinical area.

The class of 1955 helped usher in a new approach to nursing education that shaped the rest of their lives and would forever change nursing in North Carolina. After graduating in 1955, class members took their skills and experiences across the state of North Carolina and the world. Holding the rare BSN placed them in leadership positions early in their careers, and their experience as trailblazers gave them confidence to tackle new challenges. Class members talked about their new book during an enrichment session at their 60th reunion in Chapel Hill in May.

Get your copy

*Purchase a paperback ($15) or Kindle eBook ($4.49) at Amazon.com. All profits benefit the School of Nursing.*

For more information, including bulk orders, please contact Nancy Lamontagne at nlamontagne@gmail.com or Bette Davis at betteldavis@gmail.com.
2015 ALUMNI AWARDS HONOR EXCEPTIONAL ALUMNI

Each year, the School of Nursing Alumni Board of Directors recognizes alumni and honorary alumni who make outstanding contributions to nursing, the community, the School and health care. This year’s winners were recognized at the Alumni Awards and Recognition Reception held at the Paul J. Rizzo Conference Center in Chapel Hill.

Katherine (Kathy) Moore, BSN ’78, MSN ’90, received the Distinguished Alumna Award in recognition of her unparalleled guidance and care for Carolina nurses as they move from applicants to alumni. She is a registered nurse, clinical assistant professor and assistant dean of student affairs at the UNC Chapel Hill School of Nursing. As assistant dean and during her time as director of the School’s Office of Admissions and Student Services, she has overseen student recruitment, application processing and admissions for all academic programs. Generations of students have benefitted from her wisdom, compassion and leadership.

The Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) award went to Dr. Audra Rankin, BSN ’05, assistant professor at the University of Louisville School of Nursing and pediatric nurse practitioner at the University of Louisville Department of Pediatrics. Her outstanding contributions were recognized by Louisville’s Business First, which named her as a “40 under Forty” honoree, and by the commonwealth of Kentucky, which appointed her as a Kentucky Colonel and Outstanding Kentuckian. In 2014, she co-authored the children’s book Gordon Galloway’s Mealtime Makeover, which encourages healthy lifestyle changes in families.

Patty Hill, BSN ’69, MEd ’74, was honored with the Carrington Award for Community Service. Dr. Hill served her community as a representative for the N.C. Health Services Commission (appointed by Governor Easley), the N.C. Commission of Public Health, and the Orange County Human Services Commission and was elected to the Charles House Foundation Board. In addition to her appointment to the UNC Board of Visitors, Dr. Hill was a School of Nursing Foundation Board Director and secretary/treasurer of the School of Nursing Alumni Board.

The Honorary Alumna of the Year award went to Megan P. Williams, MSN, RN, FNP, clinical assistant professor at the UNC Chapel Hill School of Nursing. She served as secretary and president for the Triangle Region of North Carolina Nurses Association (NCNA) and is currently leading the 4,000-member NCNA as its 51st president. Ms. Williams has represented North Carolina at the American Nurses Association Lobby Day and membership assembly and has served as faculty advisor for the School’s Association of Nursing Students since 2007.

Interim Dean Donna S. Havens, PhD, RN, FAAN, presided over the ceremony, which included remarks from Carol Morde Ross Distinguished Professor of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Victoria Solits-Jarrett, PhD, PMHCNS/NP-BC, FAANP.

Class of 1965 Celebrates 50th Reunion

After working for nearly two years to plan the reunion under the guidance of Karen Harrison and Kay Slattery, the class of 1965 gathered to celebrate its 50th reunion in May. During a luncheon in their honor at the School, class members enjoyed visiting with Interim Dean Donna Havens and engaging with student ambassadors.

Class members were forward-thinking in their conversations, asking Dr. Havens about the state of the School and her goals for its future. Their discussions with the student ambassadors centered on how nursing students learn today.

While at the School, the class of 1965 toured the Biobehavioral Laboratory, where they heard about the variety of biological and behavioral measuring techniques used by the School’s nurse scientists. The weekend was also full of activities sponsored by the General Alumni Association, including the presentation of commemorative medallions to the UNC class of 1965.
Second Annual Alumni and Student Mentor Mixer a Success

The Second Annual Alumni and Student Mentor Mixer took place in February at Graham Memorial. Nearly 40 alumni participated in panels that assisted students in job searches and professional aspirations. More than 50 students received valuable information and networking at the event.

The mentor mixer was sponsored by the SON Foundation, Inc., the SON Alumni Association and the SON Undergraduate Governance Council, with additional funding provided by the Annie Latham Odom Hayes Nursing Endowment. Ms. Odom Hayes was a statewide nursing leader and educator, and her son Art Odom created the fund to honor his mother’s legacy and support future nurses.

ALUMNI NOTES

1977

1984
Kimberly Davis Hunter, BSN ’84, MSN ’87, earned her MBA from the University of Tennessee in 1993. She currently serves as the Associate Chief Nursing Officer for Cleveland Clinic Main Campus and the Nursing Director of the Neurological Institute at Cleveland Clinic, and is pursuing her DNP. She and her husband, Gary, (UNC PhD 1999) have a son, Josh, who is a junior in high school.

2010
Alysson Michelle Perrin, BSN, RN, graduated in May 2015 from the Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions at Georgia State University (GSU) in Atlanta, GA with a dual degree Master’s of Science in Nursing: Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner and Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist. She was selected as a APRN fellow for the Post Graduate Fellowship in Oncology Nursing at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, where she had the opportunity to further learn and develop APRN skills to prepare her to serve across the entire spectrum of oncology care. She joined her fiancé, Justin Wright, ’11 MPH, in Houston in the fall of 2015.

2015
Lizzie Cotton, BSN, RN, accepted a job with 6 Children’s at UNC Hospitals.

In Memoriam
Barbara Helen Batchelor BSN ’85
Ruth Holmes Benedict BSN ’57
Angela Moore Butner BSN ’99
Elizabeth M. Doles BSN ’98
Carol Patricia Fray, former SON faculty
Mae Van Hiatt BSN ’62
Nancy Wills Hudock BSN ’62
Joan Steiniger Lucas BSN ’94
Jane Mulvey Lowe BSN ’59
Dorothy Jane Ketner McGirt BSN ’56
Evelyn Louise Perry MSN ’64
Aaron Poller, MSN, PMHNP-BC ’14
Nancy Hege Paar BSN ’59
Polly Ryan Wheless BSN ’73

2007
Classmates Leigh Mullen, BSN ’07, MSN, RN, FNP-C, UNC Graduate Clinical Site Coordinator and Clinical Instructor for the UNC School of Nursing and Whitney Poplin, BSN ’07 CPNP-AC, Vendor Coordinator for NC NAPNAP and practitioner in the Duke Pediatric Cardiac Transplant Program, catch up at the NAPNAP-NC Symposium in October 2015.
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