

From the Director



► As we wrap up another academic year, I want to commend our students for their hard work, dedication, and commitment. Except for our Pathways to Nursing students, all of our students are professional, practicing nurses, juggling multiple roles, and managing the enormous burden and workload of going back to school. One of my favorite things about working at Chatham is learning about and speaking with our students.

Many come from diverse backgrounds, ethnicities and cultures, and practice in various areas of healthcare- with varying patient populations. Each year, I learn so much from them and marvel in the important work they do. While they usually thank me (and the rest of the faculty!) for our efforts, I cannot help but thank them for enriching me with their own stories and perspectives. Having students from all over the country has enabled me to learn about health issues in remote and sometimes, underserved areas, and in populations across all generations. So, THANK YOU, to students in all programs. And, thank you to the faculty, alumni, preceptors and staff who support and enrich Chatham Nursing Programs with their wisdom and hard work. I look forward to continue to be enriched and grateful throughout the next academic year!

Sincerely,
Dr. Diane Hunker, *professor and director of nursing programs*

Message from the Editors

► The Chatham University nursing programs are pleased to share this edition of *InTouch*, a 2018-2019 Year in Review. This issue provides an overview of student and faculty accomplishments, alumni achievements, and various activities that occurred over the last academic year. This newsletter was developed through collaborative writing with faculty of the nursing program serving as contributing authors.

Enjoy,
Dr. Meigan Robb and Dr. Emily Hopkins

From the Dean



► Chatham University, founded in 1869, is proudly celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2019. To honor this milestone, Chatham has planned a year-long celebration that highlights the school's pioneering contributions to the past, present, and future of sustainability and health, women's leadership and gender equity, and transformative

opportunities in liberal arts education, in Pittsburgh and beyond. The culmination of this celebration will be **October 11-13: Chatham 150 Celebration Weekend & Reunion Weekend**. The University will feature a variety of engaging programs, speakers, and events culminating in an immersive, interactive, and memorable celebration featuring the sights and sounds of each era of Chatham's history. We would love to have you join us for any or all of the weekend events. To learn more, visit 150.chatham.edu/150weekend.

I would also like to update you on recent events within the School of Health Sciences. The nursing program has completed a very successful self-study for accreditation process, including an onsite visit by CCNE this past spring, and we look forward to receiving their final report. The physical therapy and counseling psychology programs are moving forward with their own self-study for accreditation processes, while the occupational therapy program has been granted candidacy to transition to the entry-level doctorate degree. We are very excited to be matriculating the inaugural athletic training class this fall. In addition, we have completed year two (of four) of our federal HSRA grant that focuses on integrative care and we are finishing out our final year of the Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral for Treatment grant from SAMHSA.

Finally, I would like to recognize and thank Dr. Sue Sterrett, who will be retiring from the nursing program this summer. We wish her and her husband Chuck the best as they transition from the northern climate of Pittsburgh to that of Sanibel Island, Florida.

My best to you all,
Dr. Patricia Downey

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Nicole Hoh, Ph.D., RN, assistant professor of nursing



► Dr. Nicole Zangrilli Hoh has been in the nursing profession for nearly 20 years. Prior to entering the nursing profession, Dr. Hoh completed a BS in Psychology and Religious Studies from

Allegheny College in Meadville Pennsylvania, and worked in social service with at risk youth and adults with intellectual disability.

Dr. Hoh entered nursing as a diploma nurse from St. Francis Medical Center School of Nursing in Pittsburgh. While working as a staff ICU nurse, she completed her RN to BSN at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Hoh earned her BSN to Ph.D. from

the University of Pittsburgh and studied genetic variations and outcomes after severe traumatic brain Injury.

As part of her pre-doctoral education, Dr. Hoh had the opportunity to study at the NIH in Bethesda at the Summer Genetics Institute. She was then selected as a NIH/NINR T32 Postdoctoral Fellow for training for Nurses in Genomics and studied genetic variations and susceptibility to sequelae after traumatic spinal cord injury.

Dr. Hoh has taught pre-licensure students over 15 years, and has served as faculty at Duquesne University and the University of Pittsburgh. She also worked directly with Chatham University's Pathways to Nursing students as a faculty member

at UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing prior to joining the faculty at Chatham in March of 2019. Dr. Hoh has mentored and served on dissertation committees for numerous graduate students. She has also served as chair of the Research Committee for the International Society of Nurses in Genetics (ISONG), and has presented at the National Neurotrauma Society Symposiums.

Currently, Dr Hoh's program of scholarship is working with professional and family caregivers of people with neurocognitive disorders (intellectual disability and developmental disabilities) to address issues of care approach and caregivers stress via evidence-based practice.

Retiring Faculty

Sue Sterrett, Ed.D., MSN, MBA, associate professor of nursing



► Dr. Sue Sterrett will be retiring from Chatham University on August 2, 2019. She has been a professor at Chatham since 2008. She soon will be transitioning to the warm climate of Sanibel Florida where she will continue to teach as an adjunct faculty member for the nursing programs. Dr. Sterrett recently completed a Photovoice research study with Chatham colleagues from the counseling

psychology program (Jen Morse), and the physician assistant studies program (Judy Truscott), during summer 2018. The focus of the study is the community's view of healthy and unhealthy aspects of their environment. Dr. Sterrett hopes to repeat the study next year as she maintains involvement in community development work in the South Florida farming industry.

Betty Robison, MSN, RN, adjunct professor

► Betty Robison has provided her gerontological expertise to students in Chatham's RN-BSN program since 2007. At the end of the spring 2019 term, Betty announced that she was retiring and dedicating herself fulltime to Robison Acres (www.robisonacres.com), a nursery business created by her and her husband. Betty has been a tremendous asset to the RN-BSN program, providing both faculty and students with the knowledge needed to improve the care of geriatric patients across multiple settings.

RECENT FACULTY AND STAFF SCHOLARSHIP

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Gazza, E.A., Shellenbarger, T., **Hunker, D.F.** (2018). MSN Students' Self-Assessed Use of the Knowledge, Skills, and Attitudes of Scholarly Writing. *Nursing Education Perspectives*, 39(6), 350-354.

Hunker, D. F., Robb, M., Spadaro, K. C., & Wasco, J. J. (2018). Developing executive nurse leaders: Exemplar for using information technology to bolster professional role development of BSN-DNP students. *Journal of Doctoral Nursing Practice*, 11(2), 160-164.

Robb, M. (2019). Refining your feedback to students. *Journal of Christian Nursing*, 34(5), 265.

Robb, M., & Hunker, D. F. (2018). Identifying motivational factors for enrolling in a doctor of nursing practice program. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 57(11), 680-683.

Robb, M., & Shellenbarger, T. (2018). Increasing electronic health (eHealth) literacy: A three-pronged approach. *American Nurse Today*, 13(7).

Shellenbarger, T., Gazza, E.A., **Hunker, D.F.** (2018) Advancing Scholarly Writing of Baccalaureate Nursing Students Using the knowledge, skills, and attitude self-assessment for writing development. *Nurse Education Today*, 69, 109-112.

Walter, L., & Robb, M. (2019). Promoting discharge readiness through staff education: A family-centered approach. *Journal for Nurses in Professional Development*, 35(3), 132-136.

Wasco, J. J. (2019). Leveraging Real-Time Knowledge: Teaching Online RN-BSN Students the Health Impacts of Climate Change. *Creative Nursing*, 33(3)

Book Chapter

Spadaro, K., & Provident, I. (2019). Health benefits of meditation. Book chapter in *Nutrition, fitness and mindfulness: An evidence-based guide for clinicians*. Dr. Jaime Uribarri and Dr. Joseph A Vassalotti, Eds., Springer Science. In press.

Podium and Poster Presentations

Doas, M. (2018). Promoting Empowerment Interventions among Patients Undergoing Mental Health and Substance Use Therapy. Podium Presentation at the APNA (American Psychiatric Nurses Association) 32nd Annual Conference, Columbus, OH.

Doas, M., & Robb, M. (2019). Humor as a Pedagogical Strategy. Podium presentation at the Pittsburgh Regional Faculty Symposium, Pittsburgh, PA.

Doas, M., & Spadaro, K. (2019). Preparing MSN nurses for the future of healthcare: Integrating MSN specialty tracks in the practicum and capstone courses. Podium presentation at the AACN 2019 Master's Education conference, Tampa, FL.

Larson, J, **Fisher, MD**, Feller, L. & Schweinle, W. (2018). Professional Nursing Values Development: Are We Doing Enough? Poster presentation at the National League for Nursing Summit, Chicago, IL.

Piotrowski, M., & Robb, M. (2019). Resilience and Autonomous Learning: Potential Opportunities for Development in Current and Future Health Leaders. Podium presentation at the 2019 Clinical Research Forum, Pittsburgh, PA.

Robb, M., Hunker, D. F., & Panton, L. (2019). Academic Writing Feedback: Using VoiceThread to Engage Online Students in the Feedback Loop. Podium presentation at OLC Innovate 2019, Denver, CO.

Hunker, D. F., & Robb, M. (2019). Maintaining Online Program Rigor: A Look at Full-Time Versus Adjunct Faculty Grading Practices. Podium presentation at OLC Innovate 2019, Denver, CO.

Provident, I., **Spadaro, K., & Schulte, P.** (2019). Koru Mindfulness: Reflections of faculty from several universities. Round table presentation at the 2019 Contemplative Practices for Higher Education Conference at James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Robb, M., & Doas, M. (2019). Developing Future Nurse Leaders Through Brief Project-Based Learning Activities. Poster Presentation at the AACN Master's Education Conference, Tampa, FL.

SCHOLARSHIP (cont)

Shellenbarger, T., & **Robb, M.** (2018). Leading Faculty Scholarly Development within Nursing Programs: Overcoming Barriers and Promoting Growth. Podium presentation at the National League for Nursing Summit, Chicago, IL.

Slade, J. (2019). Use of a modified RAFT technique to enhance online education. Podium Presentation at the 2019 Distance Teaching & Learning Conference, Madison, WI.

Slade, J. (2019). Sparking emotion through an interactive video lesson. Podium Presentation at the 2019 Pittsburgh Regional Faculty Symposium, Pittsburgh, PA.

Slade, J. & Walter, L. (2018). Using Technology to Create a Community in Online Education. Podium presentation at the National League of Nursing Summit, Chicago, IL.

Spadaro, K., & Borello, B. (2019). Scholarly writing challenges: Learning to properly format academic writing. Podium presentation at OLC Innovate, Denver, CO.

Spadaro, K., & Hunker, D. (2019). Why promote mindfulness in nursing academics? Students share their mindfulness experiences. Podium presentation at the AACN 2019 Master's Education conference, Tampa, FL.

Walter, L. (2019). Promoting Family-Centered Care to Achieve Discharge Readiness—Educating Nurses. Podium presentation at the National Advanced Practice Neonatal Nurses Conference, Palm Springs, CA.

Walter, L. (2019). Flipgrid: Engaging Students Through Video. Interactive presentation at the Pittsburgh Regional Faculty Symposium, Pittsburgh, PA.

Wasco, J. J. (2019). Climate & Health: Curriculum Integration & Development. Podium presentation at the UC Carbon Neutrality Initiative's Climate Curriculum Innovation Workshop for faculty from the UCLA School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, and School of Nursing, Los Angeles, CA.

Nursing Program Faculty Member's Term of IRB Chair Comes to an End



► Dr. Kathleen Spadaro's seven-year tenure on Chatham University's Institutional Review Board started in 2012 as a member of the review panel. Her term on the board will come to end summer 2019. This University position provided excellent training and ongoing review of human subjects protection that enhanced her work with doctoral nursing students seeking IRB approval for their evidenced-based practice (EBP)

change projects. Three years ago, Dr. Spadaro volunteered for a leadership role on the board, the Chair position. Her chair responsibilities included approving IRB account requests, assigning expedited proposal reviews to members and co-chairs, reviewing all exempt proposals, leading bi-monthly IRB meetings with full board proposal reviews, and organizing annual IRB retreats. In addition to these regular duties, she undertook two new initiatives: changing NIH training to CITI training (required for new researchers and students designing EBP projects) and upgrading the IRB system. Both initiatives took time, energy, administrative support, patience, strong communication skills and endurance. Yet the results were rewarding with a positive impact to the larger university system. Dr. Spadaro encourages other nurses to seek leadership roles not only within their profession but also beyond to demonstrate their skills and abilities to their larger organization or agency.

Cameos of Caring Nurse Educator Award



► Chatham University nursing programs would like to congratulate Dr. Jennifer Wasco for being nominated for the *2019 Cameos of Caring® Nurse Educator Award*. Dr. Wasco recently participated in a congressional visit with the Medical Society Consortium on Climate & Health and the American Lung Association to ask the members of congress to talk publicly about the concerns impacting the population's

health. She was also recently invited to speak to the UCLA Schools of Nursing, Medicine, and Dentistry, as part of the University's Carbon Neutrality Initiative. Dr. Wasco shared creative pedagogical approaches for incorporating climate and health content into existing curricula. The future of nursing relies on the quality of instruction nursing students receive from today's expert nurse educators like Dr. Wasco. Dr. Wasco will be honored at the *Cameos of Caring Gala* at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh on November 2, 2019.

Pathways to Nursing Yields Excellent Outcomes

► Pathways to Nursing (PTN) is an innovative collaborative partnership between Chatham University and UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing that is resulting in excellent outcomes. This educational option allows undergraduate students to complete a traditional first year of college at Chatham University and two years of diploma nursing education at UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing (SSON). After successfully passing the NCLEX exam, students complete coursework and earn a BSN through Chatham University's online RN-BSN program.

PTN has grown from six students in 2013 to more than 70 in 2019. Much

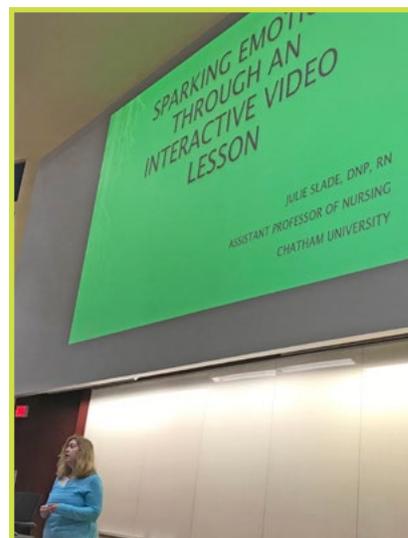
of this success is attributed to peer mentoring. PTN students have an online support site housed in Chatham University's learning management system (Moodle) that provides a virtual environment for peer support and study groups. Additionally, there is a PTN Mentorship Club that offers encouragement through live mentoring interactions between new and experienced nursing students.



This past spring, eight PTN students graduated from SSON and passed the NCLEX-RN exam on the first attempt. All of the graduates are starting full-time RN positions at local hospitals, and will begin the RN-BSN program this fall.

Teaching Excellence Remains Focus of Nursing Faculty

► Enhancing teaching excellence has been the focus of nursing faculty for the past two academic years. Nursing faculty have been actively involved in a University-funded book club focused on reflective practice and collaborative professional development. Under the facilitation of Dr. Meigan Robb (nursing faculty) and Lauren Panton (manager of instructional technology) faculty across all three of Chatham University's locations came together on a monthly basis to discuss new teaching strategies and approaches learned from reading the books *Small Teaching: Everyday Lessons from the Science of Learning* by James Lang and *The Spark of Learning: Energizing the College Classroom with the Science of Emotion* by Sarah Rose Cavanagh. Book selections reflected the keynote speakers of the *Pittsburgh Regional Faculty Symposium*. Numerous book club members were accepted as presenters at the annual symposium, where they shared their new approaches to promoting teaching excellence.



Dr. Richard J. Schilling and Barbara Whiteside Schilling Pathways to Nursing Scholarship

► Barbara Whiteside Schilling '50 and Dr. Richard Schilling have established the Dr. Richard Schilling and Barbara Whiteside Schilling Pathways to Nursing Scholarship at Chatham University. This fund will award \$10,000 per year to one eligible student during their final year of study when they enter the BSN component of Pathways to Nursing. For the 2019-2020 academic year, Makayla Fulton is the scholarship recipient.

The Schillings established this scholarship to honor and support Pathways to Nursing students who passed the NCLEX licensing exam and are licensed as a Registered Nurse (RN). They hope this assistance will enable the recipient to concentrate on his or her studies rather than finances during their final year as they complete their BSN degree.

The Schillings also fund the Barbara Whiteside Schilling '50 Scholarship Fund, the Dr. Richard J. Schilling and Barbara Whiteside Schilling Physician Assistant Fellowship, and the Dr. Richard Schilling and Barbara Whiteside Schilling Doctor of Physical Therapy Fellowship at Chatham University.

PRECEPTOR SPOTLIGHT

Sheryl H. Heinicka, DNP '14, FNP-BC, APRN



► If you ask Dr. Sheryl H. Heinicka about why she feels passionate about precepting, she will say “it is a mutually beneficial relationship, and I gain deep satisfaction from my involvement, receiving just as much from the experience as the student receives.” During her journey to the DNP degree at Chatham University in 2014, she was paired and precepted by Chatham alumna Dr. Nancy Robinson, DNP '12. The relationship they developed continues today – they even had a social opportunity to meet up at a recreational vehicle (RV) rally in Georgia this past March.

Since her graduation, she has committed to precepting three DNP Chatham University students with the mission of giving back to the profession of nursing. She feels with over 33 years of experience in nursing in a variety of roles; she is armed with the necessary skills to be an effective preceptor and mentor.

Dr. Heinicka has her BSN from the Medical College of Virginia, and an MSN from the University of Virginia. For the past 18 years, she has worked in college health as a family nurse practitioner at the University of Florida. She continues to encourage nurses to pursue the DNP from Chatham University.

Precepting: A Rewarding Experience

Precepting is a formal arrangement between a novice and an experienced person for a defined period. Preceptors serve as role models working in a collaborative fashion with the student towards meeting established program goals.

Precepting is an immensely rewarding experience for both the student and preceptor. It is also an essential component to nursing education. The identification of preceptors grows increasingly difficult as competition for practice experience sites increase and doctorally prepared nurses are not yet vast in number. Take a moment to reflect on your practice experience preceptor and the valuable experience they provided. Please consider donating your time and knowledge to advance the field of nursing through precepting for Chatham University nursing programs.

As a preceptor, you are required to sign a student-preceptor agreement, provide a copy of your CV and your professional license number for verification and approval. If you are interested in precepting, please contact Jennifer J. Wasco, DNP, RN, practice experience coordinator, at jwasco@chatham.edu or 412-365-1378.

Nursing Faculty Member Leads IPE Committee Efforts at Chatham University

► This past year, Dr. MaryDee Fisher served in the role of chair of Chatham University's IPE Committee. The IPE committee offers a focused curriculum to students across health care professions that encourages learning communities that supports the development of clinical reasoning skills and effective collaboration.

During the fall term, Dr. Jonathan Weinkle joined the group for a discussion entitled *Vote Yourself Off the Island: Working Together to Heal*. The intent of the discussion was to build interprofessional communication and teamwork skills of the students in attendance. The students also participated in an interactive case study during the spring term that prompted dialogue about issues related roles/responsibilities and values/ethics.

The IPE committee members took part in a research initiative this past year through piloting a tool to assess students' confidence levels of practice across the four IPEC competency domains. The committee's vision is founded in data-driven decision making to improve IPE efforts, so that students can develop requisite knowledge and skills necessary for clinical practice settings.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

RN-BSN Student Seeks Assurance Certification for Family Business



► Lindsay Kimmel, BSN '19 is unlike typical nursing students. In addition to working as a nurse while attending school, she is successfully running a family cattle business. Although very different, ironically, both of Lindsay's endeavors embody Chatham University's mission to build a life of purpose and value, be an engaged citizen, recognize and respect diversity of culture, identity, and opinion, as well as live sustainably.

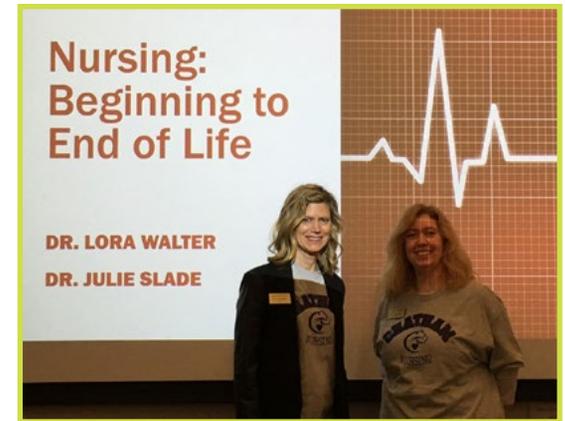
Approximately one-hour northeast of Pittsburgh, Lindsay is busy raising beef cattle with her husband Brian. Their sustainable heard consists of 15 brood cows, each with a calf, and one bull. Currently, they are in the process of being certified beef quality assurance growers (BQA). The aim of BQA is to implement better practices and ensure quality of the beef being received by their consumers. Factors involved with BQA include herd health, record keeping, and medication administration. It is also essential to have cattle feed custom mixed to assure an exact amount of each nutrient (carbohydrates,



proteins and other essential elements) is provided to the herd. This is critical for providing complete nutrition to a herd given the county's Selenium deficiency. Without proper Selenium supplementation growth and milk production are affected.

Together Lindsay and Brian recently ventured in creating a rotational grazing program with the assistance of the Natural Conservation Resources Service (NCRS). The purpose of this program is to prevent over grazing and thus decrease manure run-off which ends up in local river basins. Along with guidelines presented by the NCRS, Lindsay and Brian were able to fence in nearly 60 acres, dividing off 12, five-acre sections. This will allow the herd to be moved to a new five-acre section every two days.

Professionally, Lindsay is a recent graduate of Chatham's RN-to-BSN program. She is very passionate about assisting the community clinically through her work in mental health and currently practices nursing at an inpatient behavioral health unit. Given the prevalence and growing concerns of mental illness within society, Lindsay aspires to one day become a psychiatric nurse practitioner.



Nursing Faculty Participate in High School Career Exploration Day

► During the spring term, the School of Health Sciences welcomed area high school juniors and seniors to Chatham Eastside for an opportunity to explore different healthcare related professions (nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and physician assistant). Two nursing faculty with expertise in neonatology (Lora Walter, DNP, RNC-NIC) and hospice/end-of-life (Julie Slade, DNP, RN) were part of the team that engaged in dialogue with attendees. Drs. Walter and Slade discussed the many areas of expertise of a professional nurse and shared experiential examples to interact with students interested in pursuing nursing education. Attendees left the event equipped with a better understanding of both the responsibilities and opportunities associated with their future professional roles.

NURSING PROGRAM GRADUATES

► We are pleased to extend our congratulations to the following Chatham University nursing programs students that received a degree conferral in this past academic year.

AUGUST 2018

BSN

Cherok, Alexandra M
Devey, Monica
Ficklin, Kiya M
Genovese, Adrienne
Hall-Holland, Candace L
Hedglin, Angelica B
Morrison, Hannah R
Smith, Melissa M

MSN

Bingman, Christine A
Chen, Xu
Chen, Yu
Darnell, Lindsey L
Kilpatrick, Jennifer L
Li, Yan
Li, Yun
Lin, Yan
Lu, Wenting
Mefford, Alytsa A
Turzak, Pamela L
Yang, Jie
Zeng, Na
Zhuang, Yiqing

DNP

Alexis, Andrea M
Alvarado, Cesar R
Batts, Elizabeth R
Chari, Manjusha R
Dulski, Maura K
Dunifon, Crystal L
Ellison-Ruddock, Vashtina G
Gilles, Tara L
Graham, Paula L

Griffen, Shari
Iyengar, Anita C
Jamoona, Vidya
Johnson-Martell, Carmen I
Jones, Nichelle R
Jordan, Christopher A
Keels Andrews, Barbara J
Kimani, Joseph N
Kimble, Kimberly S
Langlotz, Ronald A
McGregor, Sarah M
Miller, Lee Ann
Moore, Erica L
Oliver, Eziaku J
Paphanchith, Natallie N
Pratt, Lisa M
Price, Diana L
Recker-Herman, Christine M
Reilly, Kristina B
Robinson, Frederika H
Rouse, Belinda G
Sanchez, Morgan M
Sewell, Victoria
Smith, Keisha K
Starling, Tomekia R
Thatcher, Katherine M
Udodi, Nkiruka G
Versluis, Donald
Williamson, Lisa M
Witherspoon, Keisha L

DECEMBER 2018

BSN

Allen, Stacie
Berry, Cordella
Caligiuri, Emily

Charlton, Travis A
Cottage, Jacob
Faltin, Jodi
Harmon, Ann
Hein, Robin
Patterson, Paula J
Reed, Sacoyia D
Torchia, Christina L
Walker, Jeanne-Marie

MSN

Gallagher, Kayla R

DNP

Abney, Tracy M
Aguirre, Kelly M
Bauer, Alison K
Cheeseman, Karen
Edmonds, Tomiko N
Egbuji, Ujay O
Fomengia, Julius A
Goldenberg, Elina
Green, Shawn K
Johnson, Jerwanda
Kimani, Naomi N
Mathew, Asha M
Mathis, Gwendolyn
O'Brien, Javonna T
Osborne, Andrew J
Radaci, Shannon L
Robertson-Jones, Tinnikka A
Tucker, Lucy
Turks, Kelvin D
Williams, Marcia Y
Zarchi, Tova

MAY 2019

BSN

Bacon, Erin
Eichelberger, Melissa A
Fleiner, Maggie
Frock, Nadia
Gudim, Hannah M
Halek, Mark D
Spinneweber, Susan L
Trumbull, Brody A
Winans, Joshua L

MSN

Sheaffer, Emily A

DNP

Baird, Susan K
Bassi, Simranjit S
Burner, Lindsay
Caccamo, Linda A

Calder, Sean W
Champagne, Tamika J
Duncan, Lashandra N
Egberongbe, Eniayo
Fields-Sykes, Karen A
Garnica, Christian
Kuchenrither, Christine R
Kwofie, Vida
Lapine, Michele A
Laughman, Kimberly
Moseri, Fidelis A
Naranjo, Ronaldo R
Nguyen, Jennifer
Oh-Ciernick, Chin H
Papp, Michael A
Plato-Johnson, Lindsey S
Savage-Artis, Sheree
Smith, Carolyn E
Sutton, Keith

DNP On-Campus Residency Recap

► The Chatham University's School of Health Sciences Doctor of Nursing Practice program prepares nurses to practice as experts in the promotion and use of evidence-based practice in health care delivery systems. Twice per year, spring and the fall, DNP students from around the country gather on Chatham University's Shadyside Campus for a two-day retreat to share their evidence-based practice change projects in the form of a professional poster presentation. During this time, the faculty and staff, peers, colleagues, and the healthcare community learn more about each student's evidence-based practice change project through interactive dialogue. This year over 60 DNP students attended the required event.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

DNP Alumna Receives Endowed Professorship



► Kim Olszewski, DNP '12, CRNP, COHN-S/CM, FAAOHN was appointed the Breiner Family Endowed Professorship of Nursing at Bloomsburg University in January 2019. Dr. Olszewski is a tenured associate professor, graduate program coordinator, and director of nurse practitioner and DNP programs. She earned her BSN from Lycoming College and

her MSN-ANP from Bloomsburg University, both located in central Pennsylvania, and is a Fellow in the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN).

While working on her DNP at Chatham, her evidence-based project focused on screening obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) risk in commercial motor vehicle drivers. The results suggested that the OSA screening tool should be implemented as a clinical standard in occupational health clinics. Dr. Olszewski stated that achieving her DNP was both a personal and professional goal. Her DNP not only achieved a terminal degree in nursing, but also satisfied her need to apply evidence-based practice in her occupational practice. Further, the DNP supported her ability to become an educator. She stated that “this is the perfect blend of how practice meets education.”

In addition, Dr. Olszewski is co-owner and Vice-President of Mid State Occupational Health Services where she works as a nurse practitioner. This organization provides health screening for employers along the eastern US. She has presented extensively at regional and national meetings and has published several peer-reviewed articles. Her teaching and advising have been well-received at Bloomsburg and she earned the Distinguished Faculty Research Award in 2017. She is currently President-Elect for AAOHN.

DNP Program Celebrates First Mother/Daughter Alumni

► Patricia Ault, DNP '12, FNP-C is a dedicated health care provider with over 40 years of clinical nursing experience. As an advance practice nurse greater than 20 years has been focused on hematology/oncology and bone marrow transplants. During this time, Dr. Ault has also contributed to the profession through mentoring, precepting, and teaching both medical and nursing students. In addition to standard clinical care, she has functioned in an expanded role providing comprehensive evaluation and research on health care to individuals with acute and chronic leukemia. While pursuing her DNP at Chatham, Dr. Ault's graduate work consisted of developing and implementing quality improvement programs that addressed patient's adherence to oral anticancer medications. She has completed numerous other clinical quality improvement projects, as well as co-authored the development of a valid instrument to measure the symptom burden of patients with hematology malignancies since obtaining her DNP degree. In 2013, Dr. Ault began her journey teaching in the online classroom for Chamberlain University's Family Nurse Practitioner Program noting it is a very rewarding experience, much like her time spent as adjunct faculty in a traditional classroom setting.

Cynthia Ault, DNP '19, NNP-BC is an experienced Board-Certified Neonatal Nurse Practitioner currently working in a large academic teaching hospital in Houston, Texas.



She is devoted to serving the neonatal population and her community by providing 24-hour neonatal coverage to affiliated hospitals within the system. Dr. Ault has dedicated her career to providing care for the vulnerable neonatal population and has over 20

years of experience in this specialty. This was exemplified by her doctoral work at Chatham which focused on preparing families to care for high-risk, medically complex infants. Without this preparation, discharge from the NICU and a successful transition to living at home are not possible.

Cynthia notes that her mother was an extremely positive role model and a primary reason for her pursuing a career in nursing. Although Cynthia practices in a different specialty than Patricia, in 2002, they had the honor of coordinating a medical mission to Haiti together. The purpose of the mission was to provide medical care and teaching to residents of a small village at a clinic that remains operational today. Not only did Cynthia follow in her mother's footsteps by pursuing a career in nursing—but she ultimately decided that pursuing a DNP at Chatham, her mother's alma mater was in her best interest as well. After witnessing Patricia achieve dreams of earning her pinnacle degree, Cynthia knew she wanted to follow in her footsteps. Congratulations to both Drs. Patricia and Cynthia Ault.

HONOR SOCIETY

Chi Zeta: Chapter Update



Sigma Theta Tau International
Honor Society of Nursing®
Chi Zeta Chapter

Chatham University has successfully maintained its Chi

Zeta chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing for five years. During the academic year, Chi Zeta contributed scholarship funds to Sigma, hosted a Founder's Day Event, and received an award. Given that the chapter is well established and noting the importance of participation within the Sigma community monies were donated to global Sigma programs that strengthen nursing's future.

This Sigma initiative was chosen based on its direct alignment with Chatham University's mission and focus on sustainability. In turn, Chi Zeta became part of the 2018-2019 Sigma Chapter Giving Club. The Founder's Day Educational Event took place in Fall 2018. Chi Zeta collaborated with the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments to host an engaging panel discussion at Chatham University. The focus of the panel was to discuss the connection between climate change and health. Objectives of the program were to create awareness and dialogue on innovative solutions within communities, healthcare organizations, professional organizations, and academic institutions. Additionally, these critical

issues integrated strategies for promoting health, well-being, and equity within respective venues. Panelists included Chatham University, ANHE, UPMC and the City of Pittsburgh. Based on the success of this event, Chi Zeta was recognized by Sigma with a Chapter Key Educational Award which recognizes chapters that excel in educational related activities.

A special thank you goes to Dr. Jen Wasco Chi Zeta Web Master for spearheading this exceptional event that enabled the chapter to receive an honorable Sigma recognition.



► Chi Zeta provides many opportunities for membership involvement in leadership, scholarship, and community service. The chapter website can be found at chizeta.nursingsociety.org. If you are a member of STTI but not part of Chatham University's Chi Zeta chapter, please consider joining our current membership by contacting STTI Membership Services at 888-634-8174 or memserv@stti.iupui.edu. If you are a current member and interested in joining the leadership succession committee, or education committee please contact the Chi Zeta Chapter President Dr. Michelle Doas at mdoas@chatham.edu

Please keep the Chatham University nursing programs updated with your achievements. We would like to share your scholarly work and projects with the Chatham University community. Send your stories, news and publications to G.McClellan@chatham.edu.

Also, consider joining our *Chatham University Nursing Programs* group on Facebook. It's a great place for students, alumni, and faculty to share and connect.

Stay connected and get involved with the Office of Alumni Relations! We offer numerous volunteer and networking opportunities as well as alumni receptions at professional conferences and exclusive events at local Pittsburgh attractions. Interested? Please send us an e-mail at alumni@chatham.edu or visit us at chatham.edu/alumni. Stay connected with the Alumni Association via Facebook.

Congratulations

► Chatham University Nursing Programs would like to congratulate Kathleen D. Becker, DNP '10, ANP-BC, FNAP, for being selected as an American Academy of Nursing 2019 Class Fellow. Each year the American Academy of Nursing selects individuals to honor based on professional accomplishments that have changed health and health care across the country and around the globe. Dr. Becker is among the 231 highly distinguished nurse leaders that will be inducted into the academy at a ceremony during the Annual Policy Conference being held in October 2019.