Kay Chafey has an explorer's nature: It led her to sign up with the Peace Corps one year out of nursing school; to conduct research on the ethical questions of autonomy, care and justice; and, more recently, to create a program in Montana to recruit Native Americans into nursing school and help them through the experience.

Chafey, PhD, RN, began her nursing career in 1962. That year, she left her home state of Arizona to take a position as a med-surg staff nurse at the University of California-San Francisco Medical Center. But her ultimate plan was to travel beyond the borders of the United States. Within a year, she netted an assignment with the Peace Corps that took her to Colombia for two years.

"Kennedy was president at the time. He was selling the idea of service, and I was taken with him," said the Montana Nurses Association (MNA) member. "I also liked the idea of traveling to another country. And putting my nursing skills to work with people other than my own had an appeal."

Her official Peace Corps job was to teach at the Colombian-equivalent of a licensed practical nurse program. What she found herself doing as well, however, was "a little bit of everything else" in her off-hours. For example, she took part in immunization programs, worked with a project to introduce a high-protein flour into the local diet as a nutrition supplement, taught lay midwives, and even helped the health department to persuade people to buy and install inexpensive latrines.

The experience galvanized her commitment to public health and prevention activities.

"Public health was a strong component in my baccalaureate program at Arizona State University," Chafey said. "I had wonderful teachers in my undergraduate program who helped lay the foundation for my interest in and knowledge of public health. But it was my experience in the Peace Corps that made me a true believer in the efficacy and economy of prevention and the contribution it can make to the world's health in the long term. My experience also helped me internalize the essential links between health and basic education."

"In Colombia, I saw how very little in resources could make a big difference," she said. "Kids who should have been walking were not. But after receiving nutrition supplements — such as flour that cost pennies — they were walking within weeks. Yet, most people refused to change their dietary habits to incorporate the supplements into their cooking."

So when Chafey returned to the States, she headed first for graduate school in Minnesota, and then back to Arizona, where she took a faculty position teaching public health nursing. Eventually she came to Montana, where she now serves as a full professor at Montana State University-Bozeman's (MSU) College of Nursing.

Over the years, Chafey has had many roles at MSU, including professor, researcher, assistant and associate dean of nursing and acting provost. She temporarily has put her research on the back burner in favor of teaching and working with Native Americans in a program called the Caring for Our Own Project (CO-OP), which she created in the late '90s.

In her role as teacher, she enjoys the opportunity to participate in the intellectual and professional growth of students.

"It's the adventure one shares with students that's exciting — and like any adventure even the difficulties are memorable," Chafey said.

In her other major role, Chafey strives to
I think there must be no better place than Montana in the summer. For those of you who are receiving this newsletter in a non-Montana place, we invite you to visit again - or come back to live. It is definitely the place to be - and the College of Nursing is the place where things are definitely “happening.”

This issue newsletter reminds us of the value of diversity, discusses opportunities for becoming part of the development efforts of the College, brags about the success of Zeta Upsilon, explains the innovative partnership between MSU’s College of Nursing and OHSU, and tells you about a great honor that was recently bestowed to “one of our own.”

We are so proud of all of the accomplishments of Dr. Kay Chafey who, over the years has made many contributions to the College and to MSU - but we are especially proud of her work now as the Director of the CO-OP (Caring For Our Own Project). CO-OP recently received another three years of federal funding. Thanks Kay - and congratulations.

The College has been effective in our funding efforts, and many of our alums and friends donate to the College. Please consider contributing to our success. There is a concern about the lack of state funding and the heavy reliance on private donations; every state and every state school is facing the same kind of dilemma. There is no answer except increasing tuition and/or seeking more funding from our faithful alums and friends.

Zeta Upsilon, the local chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, is a very active chapter, and has charter members still here, actively contributing at the state and/or international levels. If you’re in Montana, let this be an open invitation to reactivating your membership if you’re not a member, let us know if you are interested.

We are thrilled Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU) brought their doctoral program in nursing to Montana. Two of our faculty are currently enrolled in the program and three more faculty will begin classes this fall. The College of Nursing will have eight faculty enrolled in doctoral programs (one on leave of absence) beginning September, 2002. This is a remarkable feat and something we are very proud to announce. As the shortage continues for nursing faculty who are doctorally prepared, the College of Nursing is committed to assisting current faculty in their efforts to obtain their doctorates.

Finally, let me just say a few words about how extraordinarily pleased we are that Mary Delaney Munger is a 2002 recipient of an Honorary Doctorate from Montana State University - Bozeman. Mary is only the fifth nurse in our 65 year history to be so honored. At commencement, without a note, Mary spoke clearly and thoughtfully to each of the graduates - and I watched from the platform as the room became very quiet and thousands of people listened closely to her words. She has always been an inspiration to me - this graduation day, she became an inspiration to so many more. Congratulations (once again) to Mary.
Development Update

Caring For Our Own
The Caring For Our Own project (CO-OP) continues to grow in its enrollment and success at MSU – Bozeman College of Nursing. This program’s purpose is to recruit, retain and graduate increased numbers of Native Americans who will enter and graduate from the College of Nursing with Bachelor of Science degrees in nursing. Currently the program has 26 American Indian students (all from Montana at this time), 10 of whom are juniors and seniors. The first four graduates of the program graduated in May 2002. There are five students currently in the program who are planning to continue on for a master’s or one of the new BSN to PhD programs that prepare nurses for research careers. Although the project just received grant funding totaling $857,493 for three more years, student scholarships and funds are needed to maintain the project. A CO-OP fund was recently established for this purpose and two pledges have already been received.

To learn more about the project, please visit the website at: http://www.montana.edu/nanurse.

Endowed Scholarships
Due to the high cost of nursing education, the MSU – Bozeman College of Nursing is working to make more endowed scholarships available for our students. There are several avenues donors can consider to assist students and support the College of Nursing. Some examples are:

• An alternative to the endowment is a Term Limited Named Scholarship: Donors give $10,000 designated to a scholarship in memory of someone or under the donor’s name and according to criteria determined by the donor. The scholarship will continue as long as the funds are available.

• College of Nursing Memorial and Scholarship Fund: Donations would be pooled with this current endowment and donors would be listed within this fund. This account generates funds for scholarships for the College of Nursing.

• Permanent Named Scholarship: A permanent named scholarship is generally restricted to a student enrolled in the College of Nursing who is selected by the college scholarship committee and requires a minimum of $15,000 endowment. If specific criteria are desired (such as class status or minimum GPA), a $25,000 minimum endowment is required. The minimums can be pledged over a period of years. The scholarship would not be awarded until the minimum was achieved. During the pledge period, all of the income would be reinvested. Then, the scholarships would be awarded. For example, if the objective is a $15,000 endowment, donors can give $10,000 outright now and pledge the balance over a three-year period. Donations from others and reinvested income would be applied toward the minimum.

• General Support Endowment: A minimum of $10,000 will create an endowment. The income will be used by the College of Nursing to support its greatest needs.

Funding Available
If you are an MSU – Bozeman College of Nursing alum, faculty, graduate or undergraduate student and are currently working on projects focused on rural nursing research or rural health research, you may be eligible for funding through the Helen Jacobsen Lee Endowment for Rural Nursing Research.

Pioneer Nurses
The College of Nursing has established the "Montana Pioneer Nurses Memorial Scholarships" to honor pioneer nurses in the state. This scholarship fund grew out of discussions with the family of Mildred A. Hill. Mildred's family wanted to start a scholarship fund to honor her and her nursing friends and colleagues who were strongly supportive of Montana nursing education programs.

Mildred Hill became a registered nurse in 1931, which was six years before the College of Nursing program began at MSU-Bozeman. Her nursing work was in Havre and in the Dillon area. Mildred was an active member of the Kennedy Deaconess Hospital Alumni Association and attended its annual meetings for many years. She was also an active member of the Montana Nurses Association and served two years as President and two years as Secretary of the MNA District 7 in Havre.

For more information concerning these development opportunities and other giving options, please contact Colleen Schwanke (cschwanke@montana.edu or 406-994-2710).

Straight from the Dean
Approximately every 6-8 weeks, Dean Lea Acord sends College of Nursing update emails to our alums. If you would like to receive these emails, please contact Christy Huddleston (chuddleston@montana.edu or 406-994-3784) and she will add you to the Dean’s email list.
Nurses Challenged to Change Nursing Practice and Nursing Education
by Rita Cheek

For two days nurses discussed the workforce crisis in healthcare with two advocates who challenged nurses to change nursing practice and nursing education through leadership and mentorship. To conquer the significant, traditional barriers in the delivery of nursing care to an increasing number of patients, nurses need to take individual and group action. The group discussed strategies to meet short and long term healthcare workforce needs in Montana.

In a series of presentations Dr. Ed O’Neil described the complexities of multiple forces contributing to the nationwide shortage of nurses, comparing Montana with other states. Major components are the aging population (including nurses), increasing diversity of the population, expectations of women in the workplace, desires of generation “next”, changing health care environment, biotechnology, and technical information. He proposed that nurses change nursing by first Scrambling, then Improving, Reinventing, and finally Starting Over. Recruiting and retaining nurses are not sufficient to address this shortage of workers as it has been in the past. He clearly demonstrated compelling reasons for creating new models for both nursing practice and nursing education and provided evidence that simply changing existing models cannot effectively address patients’ needs in the future. He moderated a discussion of these issues among nurses, health care administrators, students, and selected members of the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Health Care Workforce Shortage from across the state. Dr. O’Neil, MPA, PhD, is Associate Professor of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco.

The second day Dr. Harriet Feldman focused on the Hallmarks of the Professional Nursing Practice Environment recently released from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). She reviewed strategies for leading and mentoring in nursing to confront the frequent changes in nursing and health care. Dr. Feldman, PhD, RN, FAAN, is Dean and Professor of Nursing at Pace University Lienhard School of Nursing in New York City.

The program concluded with a panel discussion led by Jo Ann Walsh Dotson, Chief of the Family and Community Health Bureau at the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. Three nurse leaders described the nursing shortage in Montana from their perspectives. Panelists were Sami Butler, Montana Nurses’ Association; Rita Harding, Indian Health Service; and Dr. Barbara Landrum, Barrett Memorial Hospital. Each one confirmed local problems and empowered nurses to take action.

This educational program, "Facing the Future: Addressing the Nursing Workforce Crisis in Montana through Leadership and Mentorship” was sponsored by Zeta Upsilon Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing in cooperation with the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Fellowship Program, Montana State University - Bozeman College of Nursing, and the Montana Nurses’ Association. The program was April 4th and 5th at Montana State University - Bozeman.

Reprinted from the MNA Pulse.

The MSU College of Nursing is on the Web at www.montana.edu/nursing

By visiting the College of Nursing Web site today, you can:
✦ receive the latest news and announcements from the College
✦ check up on what your classmates are doing
✦ connect by phone or email with faculty and staff
✦ pursue continuing education opportunities
✦ find helpful Web sites for many other nursing organizations

COLLEGE OF NURSING VISION STATEMENT

The College will foster excellence in Professional Nursing as a key for a healthy Montana through...

Innovative baccalaureate and graduate education

Dynamic research and scholarship

Creative service

Exceptional practice

Progressive local and international partnerships
Oregon Health & Science University Offers PhD Nursing Education in Montana

Oregon Health & Science University School of Nursing is bringing its PhD program in nursing to multiple regional campuses in Montana and Oregon over the next several years. The OHSU School of Nursing PhD program has been offered since 1985 at OHSU’s Portland, Oregon, campus. Now, in collaboration with the Montana State University-Bozeman College of Nursing and with the assistance of a three-year federal training grant, OHSU delivers its PhD program to students in Billings and Helena, Montana, and will begin delivery of the program this fall to students in Missoula, Montana, and Ashland, Oregon. Beginning in fall of 2003, the program will admit students in Bozeman, Montana and La Grande, Oregon.

When asked why Montana nurses might pursue a PhD through OHSU’s distance PhD program, Beverly Hoeffer, DNSc, RN, FAAN, professor and associate dean of academic affairs at OHSU and director of the PhD program, describes the opportunity as entirely unique. "It literally brings the program to students at local Montana campuses through videoconferencing and online methods, connecting them with the OHSU School of Nursing Portland campus. It brings together students and faculty from rural and urban settings and immerses them in one program, giving new meaning to a community of scholars."

Kathleen Chafey, PhD, RN, professor at the Montana State University College of Nursing in Bozeman, is the co-director of the regional program in Montana. "A major reason we sought funding for this program was the increasing need for doctoral-prepared nurses in rural western states who can conduct research and assume leadership positions in academic and health care settings. As nurse educators retire, we face the reality nationally, but especially in rural areas like Montana, of a critical shortage of PhD-prepared faculty needed to prepare the nursing workforce of the future."

Current students enjoy the program's flexibility, which provides them access to doctoral study while enabling them to remain in their own communities. Jean Ballantyne, fourth-year PhD student who serves as the campus director for the Billings campus of the MSU-Bozeman College of Nursing, comments on her experience: "Not only have I had the benefit of study in one of the top ranked schools in the country, I have lived in my home town of Billings, without an interruption in my employment." Students find that the program requires minimal travel and makes it very feasible for persons who are "placebound." The program of study allows students at the regional campuses to complete the program in a minimum of five years.

Nancy Findholt, another fourth-year candidate who serves as faculty on the La Grande campus of the OHSU School of Nursing believes, "the distance education program developed by OHSU has been well-planned. It is possible to feel closely connected to the university and still live several hundred miles away. The quality of the technology and the significant technological support has made distance-learning easy."

Why should master's-prepared nurses consider getting a PhD in nursing? Findholt strongly believes in the role of the PhD-prepared nurse. "Our profession - and the world - needs individuals who can design and conduct nursing research. Nursing research is essential to ensure that the health care provided to clients, and the health care system itself, is maximally effective."

For more information regarding the program, please contact Dr. Beverly Hoeffer at (503) 494-3894, or via email hoefferb@ohsu.edu or Dr. Kathleen Chafey at (406) 994-4493, or via email kchafey@montana.edu. Additional information regarding program specifics can also be found on OHSU’s Web site: www.ohsu.edu/son.
Zeta Upsilon Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing enrolled 27 undergraduate nursing students, 4 graduate nursing students, and 5 registered nurses as new members of the chapter on Saturday, April 5th. The evening ceremony took place at Montana State University - Bozeman with friends and family gathered together with Zeta Upsilon members to honor these nurses and prospective nurses. Zeta Upsilon is co-sponsored by nursing programs at Carroll College and Montana State University - Bozeman.

The undergraduate nursing students from Carroll College were Kellie Kovacich, Donna Millan, Christine Tester, and Joanna Wareham. Undergraduates from Montana State University - Bozeman were 10 students from the Billings Campus: Sadie Adair, Hillary Corson, Breana Dyk, Kathleen Pehan, Larisa Rolando, Stacy Schott, Jamie Selvey, Kindra Vincent, Johnny Willcut, and Joyce Young; 6 students from the Great Falls campus: Angela Davis, Kristi Engebretson, Kimberly Hawks, Tiffany Koch, Cara Law, and Tandi Wickens; and 6 students from the Missoula campus: Jimee Sue Boltz, Jenna Luck, Karen Jones, Holly Jordt, Jennifer Sheldon, and Jamie Solberg. The graduate students were Rhonda Bales, Billings; Ernest Cadenhead, Bozeman; Laurie Glover, Great Falls; and Cynthia Walton, Great Falls. Nurses enrolled as Community Leaders included Jack Burke, Missoula; Joline Hartz, Missoula; Carol Moore, Billings; June Sargent, Billings; and Elizabeth Witt, Great Falls.

Each fall Zeta Upsilon seeks new members. Those selected are inducted into the chapter in the spring. Enrollment into the honor society is a lifetime membership. Active members receive a subscription to the Journal of Nursing Scholarship, access to the Sigma Theta Tau International Library, grant opportunities, and resources to enhance their nursing careers among other benefits. Locally members have an opportunity to participate in chapter activities and receive the chapter newsletter as well as grant opportunities. For details about membership in Sigma Theta Tau International go to their web site at www.nursingsociety.org. If you are interested in joining or transferring to Zeta Upsilon Chapter, contact Ardella Fraley at 406-251-3429 or amfraley@uswest.net.

Reprinted from the MNA Pulse.

You’re Invited - 65 Year Anniversary!

The MSU - Bozeman College of Nursing is celebrating its 65th anniversary in 2002. Come visit Bozeman, MSU and the College of Nursing (CON) during MSU’s Homecoming the weekend of October 4th-5th. In addition to commemorating 65 years of excellence in baccalaureate nursing education, the CON recognizes its 45th anniversary of master’s education and 25th anniversary of Sherrick Hall. We are planning an observance of the past, present, and future of nursing education. Please join us on Friday, October 4, 2002 at Sherrick Hall from 9:30 am – 10:30 am for a College of Nursing update presented by Dean Lea Acord. Later on Friday afternoon, we will have a College of Nursing open house at Sherrick Hall from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm with food, fun, and highlights from our 65th, 45th, and 25th anniversaries. In addition to participating in the College of Nursing anniversary events, you will also be able to take part in the many Homecoming activities on campus and within the community. This year’s Homecoming honors special reunion groups such as the classes of ’62 and ’77. We hope to see you in October! Come enjoy yourself, receive College of Nursing goodies, wear your nursing pins, and witness the unveiling of our Sherrick Hall Honor Wall which will recognize individuals who give scholarships and endowments to the College of Nursing. Please RSVP to Christy Huddleston (chuddleston@montana.edu or 406-994-3784).
Congratulations to our Great Falls Campus MSNA member students who participated in the Charity Challenge, a fund raiser for Great Falls community agencies. Students rode their bikes from the Canadian border to Great Falls, Montana and raised over $4,200 for local charities. Special recognition to Kim Hawks ’02 who planned and facilitated the event. GREAT WORK!! (From left to right: Sarah LaMotte and Kim Hawks at the Charity Challenge.)

Lianna Myers (left), a first semester junior at the College of Nursing’s Great Falls campus, is one of this year’s selected students for the Septemviri Honor Society. She is pictured with Christian Madson, a previous Septemviri recipient.

Great Falls faculty member Sharon Howard presents at the April 2002 WIN Conference.

Congratulations to Billings campus faculty member Carolyn Collis, Great Falls campus faculty member Liz Witt, Billings campus student Kindra Vincent ’02, and Great Falls campus student Tracy Richman ’02 who received faculty and student recognition at the MSU Alumni Association and the Bozeman area Chamber of Commerce Awards for Excellence ceremony in February 2002. The awards are designed to recognize students who have outstanding academic, extracurricular and community service achievements. In turn, honored students choose a mentoring faculty or staff person to also receive an Award for Excellence.

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Becoming Nurses Together

Married with three children, having just lived through the many challenges of being nursing students, Holly and Caleb Jordt graduated in May 2002 and have already launched their nursing careers in Missoula, Montana. The couple said going through their nursing program together was probably better for them than most couples since they understood the demands of the program and each other’s rigorous schedules. They learned from each other’s expertise and clinical experiences and therefore believe they received helpful insights into the profession. Both agreed the College’s faculty is amazing stating if they had a lifetime top ten list of instructors, six of them would be from the MSU - Bozeman College of Nursing. Caleb summarized their nursing education experience in one word, “Flexibility.” The Jordt family: Caleb, Holly, Cody, Kylee and Caden.
Sue Barkley Scholarship Endowment

In honor of the contributions of Margaret "Sue" Barkley, RN, MS (1920-2000), Diane Savage ’69 of Sidney, Montana and Tommy Shelby ’68 of Missoula, Montana plan to establish an endowment in her memory.

Sue represented the qualities of professional nursing in all that she did. She respected the value of education, especially the one she earned at the MSU - Bozeman College of Nursing. She encouraged her nursing students to know all that she could offer and demanded that they continue to always know more. She taught the principle of "Those who receive our nursing care must receive the best care we know how to give and that standard rises to a new level each day as nursing knowledge expands." She was always on the edge of expanding knowledge and moved students with her. She was a mentor to the practice of nursing and led by example. The endowment in her name will allow for the extension of her commitment to nursing students of the future.

Below is a biographical sketch of Sue’s life that was printed in the Winter 2001 Nursing Notes. If you are interested in contributing to this special scholarship, please contact Diane Savage at: P. O. Box 533, Sidney, MT 59270; 406-433-9770 or 406-488-7152; Tommy Shelby at: 628 So. Avenue West, Missoula, MT 59801; or Colleen Schwanke at: cschwanke@montana.edu or 406-994-2710.

Remembering Margaret Antoinette "Sue" (Mundt) Barkley

Margaret Antoinette “Sue” (Mundt) Barkley was born June 5, 1920 to Walter William and Emma C.A. (Ehlers) Mundt. She was one of seven children they raised on their dry land farm outside of Carter, Montana. The family moved to Great Falls during the 1930s and Sue graduated from high school there in 1937. She immediately began the nursing program at Montana Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing, earning her diploma in 1941. She completed the additional requirements to earn the baccalaureate degree at Montana State College (MSC) in 1951. In 1959, she completed the requirements for the master’s degree in nursing from Indiana University where she specialized in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing at the urging of Dr. Anna Pearl Sherrick.

In the early years of her nursing career, Sue worked in obstetrical (OB) nursing at both Montana Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls (1941-43; 1947-52) and Bozeman Deaconess Hospital (1943-47), filling the dual roles of instructor and head nurse or supervisor. After 10 years in OB, Sue took on the same dual roles, but this time in the outpatient department of the Great Falls Clinic from 1952-1957. After these 15 years, Sue pursued a new endeavor; she enjoyed working as the MSC School of Nursing Education Director and psychiatric nursing faculty member at the Warm Springs State Hospital and Extended Campus from 1957 to 1972. During those years, Sue taught every nursing student psychiatric nursing, including students who were at Warm Springs from other nursing programs in Montana and other states in the West.

From 1972-1974, Sue served as the Assistant Director of the School of Nursing on the Bozeman Campus. In 1974, upon the resignation of the Director, Dr. Laura O. (Copple) Walker, Sue became the Acting Director of the nursing program at Montana State College until Dr. Anna M. Shannon accepted the position in 1975. Sue then continued to work with Dr. Shannon as the Assistant Dean in the School of Nursing until Kathleen Chafey assumed that position in 1977. Sue played an important role in the “Roving RN” program which took baccalaureate nursing education to the nurses of the rural areas of the state (Lewistown, Havre, Kalispell, Miles City and Sidney) from 1980-1983. She continued to work in the College of Nursing on a part-time basis after her “official” retirement in 1984 and she was honored by the Montana Board of Regents with the title of “Professor Emeritus” in 1988.

Sue was always active in the professional nursing organizations of the state and was particularly interested in nursing history, serving on the History Committee of the Montana Nurses’ Association for many years. She was a charter member of the Zeta Upsilon chapter of Sigma Theta Tau and was appointed to the Montana State Board of Nursing for two terms (1980-84; 1984-88). In 1993, Sue was selected as one of Montana State University’s most distinguished alumni as a representative from the College of Nursing for the University’s Centennial celebration.

Dr. Anna Shannon has commented that “she gave her all to the College.” Though the College of Nursing was a most important part of Sue’s life and she continued to come to the office every day after her retirement for many years, her family and a number of hobbies occupied a significant part of her life outside the college.

Sue died on August 18, 2000 in Ashland, Oregon, where she had lived near Susan, Tom, Tim and Christopher Daley, her daughter’s family, since 1996.
ensure the continued success — and funding — of CO-OP. The purpose of the program is three-fold: increase the number of Native Americans enrolled in MSU’s nursing program; provide them with a strong support network throughout their university experience; and, increase the overall number of Native American registered nurses.

Chafey said she saw the need for this type of program since she began with the College of Nursing as assistant dean 25 years ago.

"As assistant dean, I took on advising Native American students, and I saw so many needs that we were not sensitive to. I saw a lot of potentially good students who went by the wayside because of cultural, economic and social factors. Very seldom was I convinced that the students were not intellectually up for nursing. Actually the opposite was true. I felt like we let these students down when they came here."

Chafey found an opportunity to make the CO-OP project a reality after attending a conference sponsored by the Division of Nursing (Bureau of Health Professions, HRSA) in 1997. The Nurse Leadership '97 Invitational Congress was entitled "Caring for the Emerging Majority: A Blueprint in Action," and it strengthened her resolve to make a difference for Native American students.

"Everything I heard resonated with my experience. So I formed a team and mapped out a project. I wanted CO-OP to be a program for Indian people by Indian people. I felt without a grassroots approach, the program would be gone when funding was gone."

Chafey eventually won a three-year grant from the Division of Nursing, and the program officially began in 1999. So far, the CO-OP team has been successful in more than doubling Native American enrollment in the nursing program. There are now 26 Native Americans among 500 nursing undergraduates and the enrollment is expected to reach 40 by fall 2002. This will represent 8 percent of the college's undergraduate enrollment. (The percent of Native Americans in the Montana population is 6.2 percent.)

The project's success is due, in part, to strong partnerships with Montana reservations, Native American nurse mentors, public and tribal community college leaders, the Indian Health Service and other key community leaders. The components of the program include providing students with financial support, both in dollars and money management advice, a strong social support network and various formal and informal academic opportunities throughout their college careers.

The CO-OP team also recently began a program called "Bridge to Success," where students come to MSU prior to the start of their first semester to take seminars aimed at sharpening skills in basic science, computing, writing and studying, as well as learn how to successfully navigate life at the university.

As for future goals, Chafey wants to boost CO-OP's efforts to reach out to middle and high school students and counselors to promote health care careers among Native Americans. She also wants to bring a Native American nurse on to MSU's nursing faculty.

"I grew up as a minority person — a non-Hispanic white in a mostly Hispanic mining town," she said. "I've always felt comfortable with people of different ethnicities. I greatly admire the Indian people for their ability to survive and thrive. And, I have a sense that I have the trust of the students and the people I work with."

She certainly has the admiration of her nurse colleagues.

"Kay is one of the brightest and most talented people I have ever met," said MSU College of Nursing Dean Lea Acord, PhD, RNCS, FAAN, now dean of University of Florida's College of Nursing, describes Chafey as innovative and creative. She cites the CO-OP program as a good example of those abilities.

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Said Long, "She's devoted to excellence in nursing education and practice and has a special commitment to students and patients who are vulnerable and under-served."

Chafey is successful in working with other populations, because she's very open to other people and non-judgmental in her approach, Long added. And one of her strongest assets, is her sense of humor.

"She really has the best sense of humor of any nurse I know, and she uses it in a skillful way to help students and colleagues — and even maybe herself — get through stressful and challenging times." Chafey plans to retire in a few years from nursing — a career she believes has been a good choice.

"I am curious about a lot of things, and you can't be interested in public health without a broad focus," Chafey said. "Nursing — by virtue of what it is — has allowed me the latitude to explore and be involved in a wide and diverse range of issues and pursuits."

It's unlikely she's going to give up exploring any time soon.

Susan Trossman is the senior reporter for The American Nurse.

Help Wanted

Naturopathic Physician of 10 years experience looking for FNP with interest in gynecology and family practice to work in an integrated setting of Naturopathic Physician of 10 years experience looking for FNP with interest in gynecology and family practice to work in an integrated setting of

Dr. Michael Lang
Bozeman, MT
406-586-1100
bewell@3rivers.net
Alumni Updates

• Marianne Beene, BSN 96, after graduation worked as a Clinical Nurse Educator for a Medicare Fiscal Intermediary on the East Coast, as an independent Medicare consultant, and now as the RN Case Manager at a 240 bed skilled nursing facility. She lives in Louisville, CO.

• Karen (Ohls) Eads, BSN ’86, has not yet retired from the Air Force. Although her papers were in, they offered her an assignment as a Family Nurse Practitioner. After receiving her Master’s 2 years ago from South Dakota State, she is employed full-time as an FNP. As of the end of November, 2001, she is stationed at Sheppard AFB, TX.

• Dan Ellis ’80 has retired from nursing and has followed his passion for cars. He is a client advisor at BMW of Murray in Salt Lake city, Utah (1-800-272-2691 ext.104 or dellis@bmwofmurray.com).

• Jennifer Fritz ’97 married Mark Millard after graduation and moved to Seattle, Washington. She worked as a floor RN, floor supervisor and then as Assistant Director of Nursing at Greenwood Park Care Center in Seattle until the birth of her first daughter Samantha in November 1999. She then began working as a nursing consultant and working towards her masters degree as a Family Nurse Practitioner at Seattle University. In April 2001, Jennifer gave birth to twin girls Gabrielle and Rachel.

• Congratulations to Sydne Mortensen ’01 on her marriage to Steven Skaer.

• Congratulations to Patricia O’Neill ’84 has written her second textbook: Caring for the Older Adult: A Health Promotion Perspective.

• Geneva Slaughter ’00 has been working at Southeast Alaska Health Consortium in Sitka, Alaska since graduation. In October of 2001, she started working in the Emergency department and I.C.U. and loves it. In March of 2002 she qualified for I.H.S. loan repayment program and will be working at S.E.A.R.C.H. for at least 2 more years. She lives in Sitka with her husband, two children, and yellow lab.

• Congratulations to Chelsie Stehman ’01 on her marriage to Aaron Stewart.

• Sara Boutilier-Wakefield, BSN, ’99, has been working in her home town of Helena, Montana as a public health nurse for the Lewis and Clark City-County Health Department and really enjoys it. This past September, she married a great guy. Her son, Ben, is now in kindergarten and he loves it.

• In June 2002, Shirley Oscarson Wood ’62 celebrated 40 years in practice and teaching in the area of maternal/newborn. She retired from Kent State University in June, having also taught and practiced at Case Western Reserve University, University of Rochester and University of Pittsburgh. Shirley says, “I have had a wonderful career and wonder if others from the early 60’s are getting ready to move on from active practice. If so, I would love to hear from them.”

• Mark Zygmund ’77 has been practicing as an anesthetist since 1985. He has been residing in Wolf Point, Montana for the last seven years. He is the proud father of Beau, Chance, and Alex(andra).

Student Updates

• Congratulations to Great Falls campus students Katrina Hoey and Patrick Smith on their marriage.

• Congratulations to Great Falls campus student Lianna Myers who was selected for Septemviri Honor Society, which is bestowed to only seven of Montana State University’s highest achieving students, recognizing their exceptional academics, contributions and services to and for others and their skills in working with people.


Faculty Highlights

• Bozeman faculty member Janice Hausauer received the 2002 Leader of Leaders Award given by the National Student Nurses’ Association, sponsored by Mosby Publishing. This annual award was presented at the NSNA (National Student Nurses Association) convention in April 2002 and is given to an “outstanding dean, faculty member, advisor, or state consultant who demonstrates distinguished support and service to nursing students.” Out of 562 nursing schools in the country, there were fourteen nominees and only one faculty member is chosen to receive the award.

• Retired Great Falls campus director and faculty member Sharon Hovey received a certificate of appreciation from the Department of the Army for her dedicated service to the Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps Nurse Program as the Great Falls Campus Director.

• Great Falls campus faculty member Susan Luparell was nominated for the Presidential Award for Teaching Excellence. Faculty are nominated for this award by students or faculty colleagues. Susan was nominated by two students from the Great Falls campus.

• Missoula faculty member Teresa Snyder, who has been a faculty member for the College of Nursing for 23 years, retired in May 2002.

• Faculty members Jean Ballantyne (Billings Campus) and Yoshiko Colclough (Bozeman Campus) are enrolled in Oregon Health Sciences University’s Nursing Doctoral program. Susan Luparell (Great Falls Campus) is currently enrolled in University of Nebraska - Lincoln’s doctoral program for Administration, Curriculum and Instruction. Maria Humphry (Missoula Campus) was recently accepted to Loyola University’s Nursing Doctoral program, and Chad Ellis (Missoula Campus), Dale Mayer (Missoula Campus), and Linda Torma (Missoula Campus) were recently accepted into Oregon Health Sciences University’s Nursing Doctoral program.
Mary Delaney Munger received an Honorary Doctorate degree from Montana State University – Bozeman. As a preeminent nursing leader in Montana and a nationwide advocate for the protection of the rights of registered nurses to have an influence over the conditions which affect their employment, it was an honor for the College of Nursing to nominate her. On May 9, 2002, the College of Nursing held a dinner in Mary’s honor. On Saturday, May 11, 2002, Mary received her honorary doctorate and was also asked by President Gamble to give the “charge” to the graduates. It was truly a week of celebration.

Mary was born in Butte, Montana; attended the St. James School of Nursing, a hospital based diploma program; and graduated in 1944. She served as both a school nurse and public health nurse before joining the Montana Nurses’ Association (MNA) where she served as Executive Director from 1955 to 1971. Because of her belief in the nursing profession and the need for nurses to further their education, she continued to attend school while working, receiving her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Montana State University - Bozeman in 1962 and her Master of Science in Community Health Nursing from the University of California, San Francisco, in 1972. Mary went on to serve as a nursing consultant, an assistant professor at Carroll College and a project coordinator and lobbyist.

What makes Mary one of the finest nurse leaders and role models for nurses is her work in the area of collective bargaining. In that role, she was instrumental in writing and lobbying for legislation in Montana that would protect the right of registered nurses and licensed practical nurses to bargain collectively. Mary’s determination was evident as she lobbied for legislation in 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967 and 1969. The bill, which legislators nicknamed the “Blue-Eyed Nurse Bill” in honor of Mary, was passed and vetoed in 1965; passed and signed in 1967; and made permanent in 1969. As a result of this legislation, the Montana Nurses’ Association negotiated its first contract for nurses in Glendive and Missoula. As part of the contract, minimum employment standards for general duty nurses were developed with a basic salary set at $250.00 a month for a 40-hour, five-day week. Additional local units of nurses were organized in order to implement the minimum standards. As a result of Mary’s work and this legislation, since 1969, MNA has represented thousands of nurses for the purpose of collective bargaining.

Mary did not limit her advocacy work to the state of Montana, she was also active at the national level. From 1962 to 1966, Mary was a member of the American Nurses’ Association (ANA) Committee on Economic and General Welfare; and from 1970 to 1979, she was a member of the ANA Commission on Economic and General Welfare, serving as Chairperson from 1974 to 1978. During her tenure on the Commission, the program was recognized for a number of accomplishments, including advocating a national salary goal in 1965; convincing ANA to support the Equal Rights Amendment; publishing guidelines for the development of Economic and General Welfare programs by state nurses associations; and serving as advisor to ANA and the state nurses associations about issues affecting the economics of nursing.

Mary has received a number of distinguished honors for her outstanding work on behalf of nurses in Montana. In 1977, the Montana Nurses’ Association established the Mary Munger Award for leadership in the interest of legislative, social or economic needs of the nurses in Montana. In 1978, MNA also named Mary Montana’s Nurse of the Year. In 1993, Mary was selected as one of MSU’s 100 Distinguished Centennial Alumni; and in 1996, she received the MSU Blue and Gold Award. Because of her national contributions to the protection of nursing practice, in 1996, Mary received the prestigious Shirley Titus Award from the American Nurses’ Association. This award is presented to an individual nurse who has made a significant national contribution to the economic and general welfare of nurses leading to the improvement of the quality of patient care. Less than twenty nurses out of a total of 2.2 million registered nurses in the United States have received this honor.

In addition to serving the nursing profession, Mary has provided significant service to the state through her work on the Governor’s Commission on Aging, the Governor’s Commission on the Status of Women, the Montana Equal Rights Council, the Montana Board of Personnel Appeals and the Montana Health Facility Authority. She has also been very active in the Montana Historical Society and continues to serve the nursing profession through her support of the Montana Nurses’ Association and Montana State University - Bozeman. At MNA, she was a writer and editor for the published history of MNA entitled Nursing in Montana: The Recent Past, and currently serves as a preeminent historian. In addition to her significant financial contributions to the MSU - Bozeman College of Nursing, Mary was also team captain for the Nurse Practitioner Project for the Second Century Campaign and currently serves on the Dean’s Advisory Committee. In addition, Mary serves on the Board of Directors for the MSU Foundation, a position she has held since 1999.

The College of Nursing was pleased with the overwhelming support and enthusiasm from nurses from all over the country who were thrilled to hear Mary was bestowed this honor. From all of us at the College of Nursing and in Montana, congratulations Mary!

Also printed in the MNA Pulse.
Please help us find our lost alums!

If you have any information on the following alums, please contact Colleen Schwanke (cschwanke@montana.edu or 406-994-2710).

a. Class of 1965: Janie Cromwell, Sondra Davis, Peggy Suzanne Evans, Marvelu R. Fischer, Myrna Marie House, Joan Lee Lea, Ar dys Eva Lorentzen, Doris Pearl Muller, Jana Bertha Murray, Carol Rose Queener, Florence L. Queener, and Donna Florence Ross.


