

The Bobcat Nurse

Summer 2013



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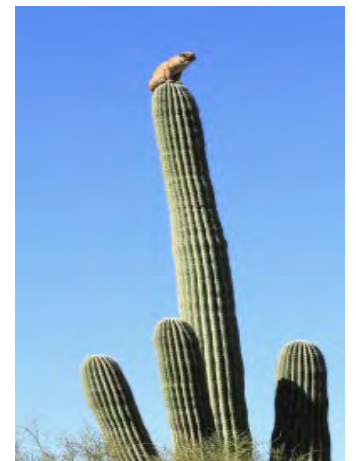


Send us your Bobcat Photos!

We are always happy to receive photos from BOBCATS and of BOBCATS. Send yours to kay.lafrance@montana.edu.

At bottom left: Graduates from the College of Nursing Caring for Our Own Program (CO-OP) who are now employed as Bobcat Nurses in Lame Deer.

At right: These photos were sent by Kathy Finney, alum and Dean's Advisory Council member, and taken by a friend in Arizona. That's one tough Bobcat!



Message from the Dean

Dear College of Nursing Friends:

“Nursing’s time has come!” Those are words that I heard this past year as I attended several national meetings. The need is great for nurses to assume even greater leadership roles in our health care system as costs continue to escalate yet our outcomes remain dismal compared to other developed countries. As you read this edition of the Bobcat Nurse, you will see ways that your college is responding to that need with the ultimate goal of improving the health of all as we educate the next generation of nurses.



We have accepted our first class of students who will enroll in our Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) graduate program. These students will be prepared as advanced practice nurses with expertise in primary care as well as in health policy, leadership, and systems. Our clinical nurse leader option now includes master’s nursing students taking classes with industrial engineering students so they can collaborate on how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of complex health care systems. You can read about our students reaching out to improve the health of vulnerable populations whether it is in remote villages in Central America or on the Ft. Peck Indian Reservation in Montana. Our nurse researchers seek answers to questions related to health disparities, resiliency, and patient safety. Several now have internal or external funding to support their work.

We had a glorious time celebrating 75 years of nursing at Montana State University this past year. It is now time to begin the next 75 years of excellence in the College as we educate nurses who will be leaders in our profession and seek answers to complex questions related to health and healthcare.

We invite you to walk with us as we begin our journey.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the Bobcat Nurse.

Best wishes –

Helen

Helen Melland, PhD, RN
Dean and Professor

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Research - Recent Block Grant Recipients

The College of Nursing Office of Research would like to acknowledge the support provided for these Block Grants from the Montana State University, Office of the Vice President for Research Creativity & Technology Transfer.

Expanding the Partnership for Blackfeet Hospice Care **Dr. Yoshi Colclough, Associate Professor & Principal Investigator**

Health disparities in hospice care exist for American Indian Nations and there are only a handful of hospice services available on Indian reservations where over 1.1 million American Indian's live. A partnership between Blackfeet Tribal members and Dr. Colclough has been developed to challenge the stigma of discussing end-of-life care and hospice. The long-term goals of Dr. Colclough's research program are to implement and test the effectiveness of interventions that offer comprehensive, culturally relevant, and sustainable hospice services for the Blackfeet Nation. An initial assessment study conducted with Blackfeet patients and families identified *struggle* as the predominant theme due to limited access to knowledge and resources related to end-of-life care.

In spring, 2013 Dr. Colclough received a block grant from the College of Nursing to support expansion of her research program. Aim 1 is to establish broader collaborative relationships among stakeholders in order to: (a) select a caregiver training group for Blackfeet patients, develop a hospice training intervention, and design a feasible strategy for implementing the intervention; and (b) address the misunderstanding of the hospice concept by developing a strategy to disseminate accurate hospice information. Aim 2 isto arrange the groundwork for securing external funding to implement the strategies described above.



Wound Protocol Testing **Dr. Karen Zulkowski, Associate Professor & Principal Investigator**

Hospital costs in the United States associated with wound care are estimated to be more than \$1.4 billion annually. Roughly 2.5 million people will develop pressure ulcers in the US each year. The average cost to heal one leg ulcer is estimated at \$1,951, and costs to care for a diabetic foot ulcer are roughly \$29,373. Medicare estimates that development of a pressure ulcer adds approximately \$47,000 to a patient's hospital bill. In addition, over 50% of the people who develop a pressure ulcer in the hospital go to a nursing home for further care. Venous ulcers also are a concern and occur in 1-2% of the older population. These wounds tend to be difficult to heal, easily become chronic, and reoccur frequently. Wounds of any type may become infected and lead to serious medical complications. As a result, finding methods to treat wounds more cost effectively, as well as correctly, is paramount.

The purpose of Dr. Zulkowski's block grant and pilot project is to define protocols for two future grants. This project will test feasibility of three data collection methodologies including: a) wound fluid collection, b) wound culture techniques and c) bacteria on gloves during wound dressing changes. Multiple testing methods are included in this grant as focus on wounds and the tested methodologies are relevant for inclusion in future research grants.

Recent Block Grant Recipients -Research

Norms of MD and RN Behavior in Montana

Dr. Susan Luparell, Associate Professor & Principal Investigator

Workplace incivility and disruptive behavior represent specific forms of flawed communication within health care organizations, and emerging evidence has demonstrated their widespread existence. Not only have incivility and disruptive behavior been associated with decreased job satisfaction and increased nurse turnover, they recently have been linked recently to negative patient outcomes, including serious injury and death. The way in which health care team members interact reflects the values and norms, that is, the culture, of their organization. The long term goal of Dr. Luparell's research program is to reduce medical error and other negative outcomes associated with disruptive behavior and incivility by transforming the culture within individual hospital organizations for the better.

The Center for Health and Safety Culture at MSU uses the Positive Community Norms (PCN) framework to improve health and safety. Grounded in social norms theory, the PCN framework seeks to grow positive norms across communities by cultivating cultural transformation. Among other things, PCN works to overcome misperceptions of behavioral norms in order to establish more appropriate behaviors for safe and healthy organizations. A first step in the PCN framework is to assess current perceptions of both descriptive norms (what people say they actually do) and injunctive norms (what people think they ought to do). Toward that end, the aims of Dr. Luparell's block grant are to: 1) develop and test suitable questionnaires to measure descriptive and injunctive norms of inter-professional and intra-professional behavior of MDs and RNs and 2) describe specific aspects of the current health care culture in Montana.



Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and Heart Failure (HF) Management of the Elderly in Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs): *Readiness for discharge, self-efficacy, and coping after discharge* **Dr. Teresa Seright, Assistant Professor & Principal Investigator**

COPD and HF account for the highest readmission rates in urban and rural hospitals across the United States. COPD readmissions are higher in CAHs in the Mountain census division of the United States compared to urban and rural hospitals. While considerable efforts are being made in Montana CAHs to collect data on chronic illness and improve care coordination, the patients' perceived ability to manage their own chronic condition and cope after discharge may not be assessed currently at the level required for compliance with evidence-based guidelines and discharge of patients with COPD and HF.

The objectives of Dr. Seright's block grant project are to: 1) derive prevalence of the use of evidence based HF and COPD discharge instructions in CAHs as compared to 30-day readmission rates; 2) determine patients' perceptions of self-efficacy at discharge; 3) determine patients' perceptions of self-efficacy after discharge, and 4) determine patients' perceptions of coping with their chronic illness after discharge. Dr. Seright will compare the current evidence-based guidelines in place for discharge of patients with COPD and HF at two Montana CAHs with four critical measurements: 30 day readmissions, patient perceptions of self-efficacy prior to discharge, self-efficacy after discharge, and coping after discharge.



Research Seminar Series 2013-2014

September 2013 will mark the the start of the third annual research seminar series. These five one-hour seminars showcase some of the exciting research being conducted in the College of Nursing and other departments on campus.

The College of Nursing Research Office broadcasts each seminar to our distance campuses (Billings, Great Falls, Kalispell, and Missoula) via interactive video.

The seminars are announced on MSU Today (<http://www.montana.edu/msutoday/>).

Please join us on the dates listed below to enjoy the 2013-2014 Research Seminar Series.

Seminars start just after noon and last 1 to 1 ½ hours.

September 16, 2013: Dr. Elizabeth Kinion

Professor, MSU College of Nursing
*Enhancing an American Indian Community's Understanding of
Early Childhood Caries with Baseline Data:
Be Happy When You Smile/Beautiful Smile*

October 21, 2013: Dr. Waded Cruzado

President, Montana State University
*Of Worlds and Dreams that Never Were:
Literature and Land-Grant Universities*

November 18, 2013: Dr. Karen Zulkowski

Associate Professor, MSU College of Nursing
Nurses' Pressure Ulcer Knowledge: What Don't We Know

March 17, 2014: Dr. Marilyn Rantz

Curators' Professor, Sinclair School of Nursing, U of Missouri
The Engaged Leader's Research Trajectory

April 21, 2014: Dr. Nic Ward

Professor, MSU College of Engineering
*The Role of Safety Culture, Social Ecology
and Personal Agency in Traffic Safety*

SIELOFF-KING ASSESSMENT of Group Outcome Attainment in Healthcare Organizations

Dr. Christina Sieloff has dedicated her research career to developing a middle range theory. She hypothesizes that nursing groups within healthcare organizations can set and reach goals that affect institutional outcomes positively, such as achieving a patient's desired results, assuring patient safety, and helping a health care organization run more efficiently and effectively. Dr. Sieloff has developed an instrument called the Sieloff–King Assessment of Group Outcome Attainment within Organizations to measure how well nursing groups function. Dr. Sieloff's research is based on two assumptions: 1) nursing groups exist within health care organizations and are subsystems within nursing units and work areas (registered nurses, who have been working on a unit/work area for the same period of time, constitute nursing groups) 2) nursing groups establish desired outcomes that follow from established healthcare organizational outcomes, benchmarks, and standards, and focus, primarily, on the achievement of patient outcomes. As it has been demonstrated in the literature that nursing care makes a difference as to whether patient outcomes are achieved, Dr. Sieloff's research is expected to have high clinical significance and impact.

The research instrument developed by Dr. Sieloff has been demonstrated psychometrically to measure nursing group's ability to achieve their established outcomes. For several years, Dr. Sieloff has been testing the validity and reliability of this instrument, which has led to a variety of changes in the name of the instrument and how some of the questions are worded. These small but significant changes ensure that the intent of the theory and the related instrument were consistent with today's health care environment and its terminology. The instrument can be used by a variety of professionals and organizations to evaluate a nursing group's contribution to a health care organization and to allow nursing groups to plan and improve their level of outcome attainment.



RESEARCH ON FIBROMYALGIA (FM) & MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEACHING

Dr. Linda Torma is studying resilience (specifically in older adults) as a novel variable in FM research. Very little is known about resilience in older adults living with FM, and even less is known about its influence on physical function in the presence of FM. Dr. Torma's research has shown that older adults with FM have moderately high levels of resilience that increase with age despite moderately high levels of pain and moderately impaired physical function. Dr. Torma believes understanding the phenomenon of resilience in the context of FM is a first step to developing interventions designed to reduce the impact of FM and promote resilience in older adults living with FM. Dr. Torma's next study will test the feasibility and efficacy of Tai Chi to improve functional mobility. She will assess symptoms in older adults including resilience and body awareness.

Dr. Torma is also working with industrial engineers from the College of Engineering at MSU on a course designed to strengthen engineering and nursing collaborations. This connection between the Colleges of Nursing and Engineering was developed in response to the Institute of Medicine report stating that the quality of healthcare can be improved greatly by incorporating systems engineering tools shown to improve safety and quality in other industries. In order for these tools to be effective, systems engineers must understand the unique processes of the healthcare delivery system, just as nurses must understand the engineering aspect of the tools. Dr. Torma and David Claudio (industrial engineer) have introduced this collaboration into the professional academic preparation of both nurses and engineers. Together the students are learning the healthcare engineering and concepts, language, and techniques they will encounter in their respective fields.

Student News



Honor CO-OP Students

The Caring for Our Own Program (CO-OP) honored its highest number of graduates ever with nine undergraduates and one graduate student receiving traditional Pendleton blankets and shawls at a celebration with friends and family before the May Pinning Ceremony. *From L to R in front: Misty LaFranier, Mariya Couch, Angela Racine, Samantha Harrison. In back: Erika Long Knife, Jessie Small, Raelene Schott, Larna Old Elk, Kiley Theis. Not pictured: Janet Erickson, graduate student.*



Collaborate With Community

MSU College of Nursing students and a team from Summit Air Ambulance use a Sherrick Hall simulation lab for joint training opportunities. MSU nursing simulation labs are becoming popular educational sites for other education partners including the MSU WWAMI program and students in the Bioscience class at Bozeman High School.

Make History

Students Model Nursing Uniforms at the 75th Anniversary Gala!



Explore Other Cultures

Students construct beaded medicine bags under the guidance of Mr. Ken Smoker before traveling to the Fort Peck Reservation for an intensive pediatric clinical experience led by faculty member Julie Ruff.



Celebrate Student Success

Three outstanding nursing students and their mentors have been awarded the 2013 Award for Excellence, one of MSU's highest honors. Pictured from left to right are Jamie Aippersbach and his mentor Michelle Huntley, Shannon LaRocca and her mentor Susan Luparell, Dean Helen Melland and Courtney Pawlowski who selected Kimberly Peterson (not pictured) as her mentor. Congratulations to students and faculty for this exceptional achievement.



Congratulate Accelerated Students

The first cohort of Accelerated Nursing Students recites the "Pledge for the Professional Nurse" at the Summer 2012 Pinning Ceremony in the Procrastinator Theatre. All 15 students passed the NCLEX-RN on their first attempt.



Faculty News

Jane Scharff receives Jonas Scholar Award

Jane Scharff has been named a Jonas Scholar at the University of Missouri-Columbia as she pursues her doctoral degree. Scharff is a faculty member in the college and has served as campus director on the Billings campus for many years and will transfer to the campus director position in Bozeman beginning fall semester 2013. The Institute of Medicine's 2010 report on *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* advocates for doubling the number of nurses in the U.S. with doctoral degrees. The limited supply of nurses with doctorates has had a significant impact on the ability of nursing schools to educate sufficient numbers of professionals needed to engage in the highest level of practice, research, and scholarship. Less than one percent of the nation's nurses hold the doctoral degree, and the majority of those with doctorates (53.7%) have acquired degrees in fields other than nursing.



The Jonas Nurse Leaders Scholar Program was created in 2008 to support educational development of new nursing faculty and stimulate models for joint faculty appointments between schools of nursing and clinical affiliates.

College of Nursing now offers Doctorate of Nursing Practice Degree

The Montana Board of Regents approved the first doctoral graduate degree program in nursing on September 20, 2012. The first class will begin studies in the fall. The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree prepares experts in advanced clinical practice. Additionally, graduates will have skills in systems leadership, clinical scholarship, informatics and health care policy. Two areas of specialty are available for the DNP-degree seeking student at MSU – Nurse Practitioner focused on Family/Individual population and Nurse Practitioner focused on Psych/Mental Health population.

The College of Nursing will continue to offer the Masters of Nursing (MN) degree which is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Students are prepared to take certification examinations as a Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL). MN graduate students are educated to be leaders at the bedside with a broad range of opportunities to influence health practices.

In Search of Knowledge

Is there a Doctor in the House?

Jennifer Sofie and Deanna Babb have joined the ranks of doctorally prepared faculty in the College of Nursing. Jennifer earned the DNP from the University of Colorado and Deanna earned the DNP from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Congratulations Dr. Sofie and Dr. Babb!

And congratulations to Glenna Burg and Carolyn Wenger, College of Nursing faculty members, who received Awards for Excellence at MSU's Spring Convocation. Glenna received the Excellence in Online Teaching Award and Carolyn received the President's Award for Excellence in Service Learning.



Serving Montana

Students serve Montana communities by providing assistance with health screenings, Special Olympics, homeless shelters, bone marrow drives, Hands Only CPR Clinics and more. MSU nursing students from Bozeman also spend two weeks on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation providing primary care services to the school children of this profoundly underserved area.



Health Fair participants enjoyed MSU student assistance with CPR training and an anatomy puzzle in Hardin, Montana (above).

Starting Early: 4th graders from Irving Elementary School in Bozeman learned the “basics” during a field trip to Sherrick Hall (top right).

Students Traveled to the Dominican Republic (fall 2012) and to Ecuador (spring 2013) to share their knowledge and skills with under-served rural populations in those areas. Karrin Sax, College of Nursing faculty member, led students into the Amazon basin to provide primary care in collaboration with pre-med students from North Carolina State University.

Students typically saw 120 patients each day and provided HIV screening, basic health assessments, wound care, dental screenings, health education and pre-natal care.

The College of Nursing at Montana State University partners with Timmy Global Health to provide these basic health care needs in Latin America.



Making a Difference Beyond Our Borders

Celebrating our Donors

Every effort has been made to ensure that all names are listed correctly. This list represents donations given from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. If your name has been inadvertently omitted or misspelled, please contact Deb Keenan at 406-994-7906 or dkeenan@montana.edu.

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You for
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Celebrating our Donors

KURTZ FYALL GIFT ESTABLISHES ENDOWMENT FOR OUTREACH

Marion Kurtz Fyall (BSN, Class of 1945) was born in Havre to parents who valued education. She was raised on her parents' homestead south of Gildford, Montana. She attended the one room school house, Pride of the Prairie, through 8th grade. Her father built a small house on the school grounds for his family during the school weeks of winter. Later, Marion (and her siblings) lived in Havre during the week while her parents stayed on the farm. Marion graduated from Havre High School before attending Montana State University during WWII. She met her husband, Andrew Fyall, first as her nursing patient, and later became his bride of 46 years. Marion served the Edmonds School District as a school nurse from 1967 - 1985 and resided in Edmonds, Washington from 1957 until her death in 2012.

Like her parents, Marion valued and appreciated education and established an endowment to assist MSU nursing students as they participate in service and outreach efforts. Marion was passionate about nursing and the integral role students play in the care of patients, particularly in underserved communities and the public health sector.

This endowment will assist students providing nursing care to populations in many communities in Montana, most recently to young people on the Fort Peck Reservation, and beyond.



Pictured l to r: Carol Fyall, Brian Fyall, Marion Kurtz Fyall, John Fyall.

MEET DEB KEENAN, DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Howdy, Bobcat Nurses! My name is Deb Keenan, and I am honored to serve as your liaison between the College of Nursing and the Alumni Foundation. As a Director of Development, I raise philanthropic support for MSU. More specifically, I serve as the "Go-To Gal" for donors looking to support the future of healthcare by giving to the College of Nursing. Here at MSU, our faculty cultivate the next generation of nurses through rigorous study and challenging clinical experiences. As I write to you, our nursing students are learning to care for our friends and families. I believe in these students, and I believe in the fine faculty educating them.



I began this job in March 2013, and I continue to be in awe of this program. The caliber of students...the superbly dedicated faculty...the vision leadership of Dean Melland...Wow! These are very exciting times at the College of Nursing. In the last two years, the College of Nursing celebrated 75 years of excellence and launched a successful accelerated program. In August of 2013, the first cohort of DNP students (Doctor of Nursing Practice) begins their journey. As we continue to build upon these successes, know this: we could not do it without you. Your private philanthropic support elevates this program from good to great. Tuition only simply cannot pay for all the needs of all five campuses, faculty, and programs. A nursing program of this caliber requires private funding.

Your dollars mean scholarships for students, new sim lab equipment, and funding for faculty research. Your support means that students can say "yes!" to traveling internationally for powerful nursing experiences. Your choice to invest in the College of Nursing means that our instructors can attend national conferences to learn how to become even stronger teachers. Without a doubt, your estate gifts and bequests allow the College of Nursing to reach new heights. On behalf of the MSU Alumni Foundation, thank you for your powerful support. Please reach out to me anytime to brainstorm ways you can partner with us. Whether you want to honor someone's legacy through a scholarship or include the College of Nursing in your will, I am here to help.

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ALUMNI REUNION

MSU Alumni returned to campus in May to celebrate 50th, 60th, and 70th reunions during commencement weekend in Bozeman.

Nursing alums gathered for a tree planting ceremony, visited Sherrick Hall for a simulation presentation, and enjoyed lunch with classmates and MSU Administrators. Many attended the Pinning Ceremony later that day.

L to R: Dean Helen Melland, Sharon Erickson, Margaret Kleinhans McCracken, Mary Jane Johnson Swett, Shirley Cudney, Deb Keenan, and Sylvia Mummert.