





The mission of the College of Nursing is to transform lives through premier nursing education, innovative research, the highest quality care and promotion of health equity.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Where is the new normal we were expecting in 2020-21?! One of the essential aspects of the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing mission is our dedication to excellence and our ability to pivot when necessary to achieve it.



As the pandemic waxed and waned into a second year, faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners developed creative ways to continue exceeding expectations. I believe the combination of shifting pandemic guidelines, learning more about the impact of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and its variants on various populations, and promoting vaccine literacy contributed to our broader understandings of health literacy and social determinants of health and education. You will read in these pages about the innumerable ways this college community, and nursing more broadly, came together to develop creative ways to promote health and prevent illness, harness technology for improved health and self-management, and dedicate ourselves to eliminating health inequities and structural racism.

We acknowledged the impacts on wellbeing and the exhaustion that sometimes resulted. Nurses and other health professionals were lauded as heroes, and while the thank you's were appreciated, we need to rethink how we take care of ourselves and one another. Interestingly, enrollments in the UNMC College of Nursing were at an all-time high this year. Many students talked about wanting to be part of the solution, whether at the bedside, in the community, or in faculty, research or leadership roles. The solutions are embedded in our support and care for each person, fostering optimum health and wellbeing for all.

One of the underlying themes has been that not only are we part of a bigger community focused on health and inclusion, but we care about one another and those who will follow us in the future. We care that we treat one another with kindness and respect, and we care that we do our best for ourselves and others even under challenging circumstances. I thank you for the part you play in making the world the most health-promoting equitable place in which a holistic perspective toward quality of life is valued. Please enjoy reading the stories of success, creativity, commitment and originality that fill the pages of this annual report!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Juliann G. Sebastian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

**Juliann G. Sebastian, PhD, RN, FAAN**  
*Dean and Professor*



# LEADERSHIP

## Executive Council

Susan Barnason, PhD, RN, APRN-CNS, CEN, CCRN, FAHA, FAEN, FAAN

Molly Belieu, PhD, MA

Kelly Betts, EdD, RN, APRN, CPNP-BC, CNE

Kati Bravo, PhD, RN, CPNP-PC

Cathrin Carithers, DNP, RN

Liane Connelly, RN, PhD

Beth Culross, PhD, GCNS-BC, CRRN, APRN-CNS, FNGNA

Michelle Ellermeier, MSN, RN

Kate Fiantdt, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN

Amy Ford, DNP, RN, APRN-NP

Kathy Hanna, PhD, RN, FAAN

LeAnn Holmes, DNP, APRN-NP, FAANP

Teresa Hultquist, PhD, APRN-CNS, PHCNS-BC

Heidi Keeler, PhD, RN

Louise LaFramboise, PhD, RN

Robin Lally, PhD, MS, BA, RN, AOCN, FAAN

Lisa Muschall, MBA

Sue Nuss, PhD, RN

Jana L Pressler, PhD, RN

Juliann G. Sebastian, PhD, RN, FAAN

Lynnette Stamler, PhD, DLitt, RN, FAAN

LaDonna Tworek

Lani Zimmerman, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN

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## Committee Chairs, 2020 – 2021

Annette Kasselmann, MSN, RN  
*Academic Review Committee*

Nancy Meier, DNP, RN, APRN-NP  
*Committee on Nominations*

Juliann G. Sebastian, PhD, RN, FAAN  
*Executive Council*

Michelle Ellermeier, MSN, RN  
*Faculty Coordinating Council*

Kelly Gonzales, PhD, RN, APRN-NP, FNP-C  
*Faculty Practice Committee*

Michelle Ellermeier, MSN, RN  
*General Faculty Organization*

Breanna Hetland, PhD, RN, CCRN-K  
*Nursing Research Committee*

Kathy Hanna, PhD, RN, FAAN  
*PhD Affairs Council*

Missy Ofe Fleck, PhD, RN

Beth Culross, PhD, RN, GCNS-BC, CRRN, APRN-CNS, FNGNA

*Professional Graduate Nursing Affairs Committee*

Lani Zimmerman, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN  
*Promotion and Tenure Committee*

Mary Petersen, MSN, MBA, RN, APRN-CNS  
*Undergraduate Admission, Progression, Graduation & Scholarship/Grant Committee*

Cathy Binstock, MSN, RN, ANP-BC & Sarah Dillon, MSN, RN  
*Undergraduate Curriculum Committee*

Trina Aguirre, PhD, RN  
*Undergraduate Exam Review Committee*







## UNMC 'HEROES' statewide training resumes

In May 2021, the Healthcare and Emergency Responder Organization Education through Simulation (HEROES) program resumed its statewide training.

Since receiving a University of Nebraska Programs of Excellence Grant in 2005, HEROES has provided in-person, statewide instruction and hands-on emergency preparedness training to teams of health professionals and students in the health professions. HEROES staff typically provide training in-person and through resources on its website and its mobile simulation unit.

Led by the UNMC College of Nursing, available training includes responses to biological, chemical, radiological and natural disaster emergencies, mass casualty incidents and more. Faculty and staff collaborate with other UNMC colleges and the Center for Preparedness Education.

Over the past year, the HEROES program has delivered emergency preparedness training in-person to small groups as well as virtually

to community colleges, private colleges and universities to fill the gap when COVID-19 curtailed in-person events.

Just after the COVID-19 pandemic began in the United States, HEROES staff created and posted training modules on its website. The site has received almost 300,000 views for modules on making, wearing and maintenance of cloth face coverings for the public; guidance for health professionals use of procedural and surgical mask; N95 disposable filtering facepiece respirator: donning and doffing; and N95 respirator limited reuse - health care professionals providing clinical care.

"The spread of the SARS Co-V 2 virus and associated guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention created the opportunity to quickly and easily provide accessible information to the health care community," said Elizabeth Beam, PhD, assistant professor in the UNMC College of Nursing and assistant director of research for the Nebraska Biocontainment Unit. "Beginning in

February of 2020, COVID videos and print media have instructed providers and the public on the safe and effective use of face coverings and respirators."

In-person training visits are scheduled for late May and early June for Creighton University paramedic students, Clarkson College of Nursing summer students, regional hospitals and emergency medical services in western Nebraska.

HEROES also is partnering with the Nebraska Public Health Laboratory to provide training for donning and doffing N-95 and powered air purifying respirators-level personal protective equipment. Training also will include collection of lab specimens for testing.

## UNMC students part of COVID vaccine effort in north Omaha

UNMC students, faculty and staff partnered with the North Omaha Area Health (NOAH) clinic to provide COVID-19 vaccinations at Clair Memorial United Methodist Church.

In March 2021, five nursing students, a medical student, five nursing faculty and three staff worked with other volunteers to administered 118 vaccines over about five hours.

"Participating in the vaccine clinic at Clair Memorial United Methodist Church was a wonderful and memorable experience," said Oliver Ramirez-Gutierrez, student in the UNMC College of Nursing. "Everyone was excited to receive their vaccine and it was nice to not only be a part of what can be considered a historic moment in time, but to also do so with other health professionals, volunteers, and members of the North Omaha community."

"Serving the community, by providing COVID-19 vaccines has been one of my favorite clinical experiences so far," said Bernadette Harnisch, nursing student. "The communities we have served have all been so excited and grateful to receive their vaccines to help end this pandemic and protect the health of others."

Nursing student Therese O'Malley said working in the vaccine clinics was a great opportunity to serve the community. "We all go into nursing because we want to help people, and there no better way right now than to give the vaccine," she said. "Everyone has a story behind their COVID experience and it's a pleasure to be able to help grandparents see their grandchildren, people see their parents, or just be around friends again as we all have missed out on during the pandemic."

Kati Bravo, PhD, program director of the bachelor's degree in nursing program and assistant professor UNMC College of Nursing, said the vaccine clinic was especially important because the church is in proximity to an underserved minority population which has been proportionately more affected by coronavirus.

"We want our nursing students to recognize and appreciate that nurses provide care wherever it is needed," Dr. Bravo said. "This means taking care to diverse settings and learning from the community while participating in delivering nursing services."



*UNMC volunteers helped administer COVID-19 vaccinations in the community.*

"Administration of the vaccines is vitally important and so are the opportunities for education, sharing stories, and gaining a deeper understanding of the communities students will serve as professional nurses. So many of the clients at the vaccine clinic expressed a sense of gratitude and thanked us for coming to their neighborhood to provide care," Dr. Bravo said.



## Pilot to explore use of technology to address loneliness, pain management

Marcia Shade, PhD, has received notice of funding for an IDeA-CTR pilot grant titled: "The Loneliness Epidemic: Tailoring Interventions to Reduce Loneliness and Pain in Aging Adults Through Voice Assistants."

"One-third of older adults experience loneliness," said Dr. Shade, an assistant professor in the UNMC College of Nursing. "Perceived loneliness among older adults leads to increased rates of depression, self-neglecting behavior, pain and increased mortality rates."

Conversational voice assistant (CVA) devices (ie: Amazon Echo or Google Home) provide a unique intervention for loneliness, she said. Her team's pilot project will explore both the potential of personalizing CVA to attenuate loneliness intervention effects and the relationship between a personalized loneliness intervention and pain.

"Interventions that address loneliness need to be adaptable, involve the older adult, and allow for productive engagement; these aspects are ever more important during a pandemic," Dr. Shade said.

An interdisciplinary and inter-institutional team of researchers will conduct a 12-week randomized control pilot study with older adults that live alone and self-report experiencing pain symptoms. Participants will interact with a standard or a personally enhanced loneliness routine delivered through a conversational voice assistant.

"We look forward to the study and the potential to impact an important issue for older adults," Dr. Shade said.





## Nurse practitioner residency program launched

In July 2020, UNMC welcomed its first cohort in a new residency program for recently graduated nurse practitioners in rural and underserved areas.

Five residents participated in the program, which provides on-the-job training. Participants receive training and mentorship from health professionals and gain proficiency in working with these populations.

The program is the result of a four-year, \$1.67 million grant funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

LeAnn Holmes, DNP, principal investigator, said the grant is funding the first NP residency in the region and will focus on preparing new nurse practitioner graduates both academically and clinically for the unique challenges of practicing primary care in rural and underserved communities.

"The residency allows them more time, experience, support and specialized training," Dr. Holmes said. "Our residency focuses on areas that are medically underserved, and may be rural, where nurse practitioners are more likely to be practicing by themselves. The residency program framework has shown to be effective in helping retain new graduates as well as a way to serve this population."

**Who's eligible to apply for the program?**  
Nurse practitioners specializing in family care, women's health or pediatrics who have graduated within one year from a master's or doctorate program as a nurse practitioner. Residents receive a salary for a full year.

In launching the program, the college worked with a statewide network of primary care facilities to establish residency practices.





# New programs to address Nebraska's nursing shortage

As part of its continuing effort to address Nebraska's nursing shortage, UNMC will offer two new programs: a new master's degree program and a certificate program for internationally educated nurses. In addition, an accelerated option will be offered in the registered nurse to bachelor's degree in nursing program (RN to BSN).

Applications are being accepted now.

"There is a critical nursing shortage facing the U.S.," said Juliann Sebastian, PhD, dean of the UNMC College of Nursing. "Nebraska is projected to have a shortage of 4,000 nurses over the next few years. This tremendous need requires creative approaches for expanding educational opportunities for nurses."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job outlook for nurses is expected to grow by 15%, which is much faster than average.

The new Advanced Nurse Generalist Master's Degree in Nursing, which begins in the fall, is a new specialty track is for nurses looking to advance their skills and knowledge but are not seeking nurse practitioner certification.

The 39-credit hour program, which will be offered primarily online, will include a clinical practicum in the students' specialty clinical area with a preceptor. Short immersion experiences will be scheduled throughout on College of Nursing campuses.

Curriculum includes health care economics and policy, care coordination and organizational improvement.

"This master's program is ideal for nurses, particularly those in hospital or other direct patient care settings, who want to solve problems to enhance patient outcomes or seek leadership opportunities," said Missy Ofe Fleck, PhD, director of the program.

The college also will offer an eight-week option for the online RN to BSN program in addition to its current 16-week RN to BSN online program. The new option was added to increase flexibility for nurses who would prefer shorter courses.

The program, which is for registered nurses with an associate's degree in nursing or a diploma in nursing, is offered by the University of Nebraska through NU Online.

The second new program offered is Nursing in the U.S. Context, an undergraduate certificate beginning this May.

The goal of the program is to better prepare internationally educated nurses for practice in the U.S. and for exams necessary to make them eligible for RN licensure. An active RN license in the U.S. also is a prerequisite for applying to post-licensure programs such as the RN to BSN and master's and doctoral programs.

The program consists of a minimum of 12 undergraduate credit hours of coursework, clinical simulation and some hours in a clinical setting completed over two semesters. The curriculum provides an understanding of nursing and health care in the U.S., professionalism, communication roles and responsibilities, as well as practicing medical English.

For more information about the programs, contact Stef Boardman via email or by calling (402) 559-4113.





# UNMC and UNL collaboration on IVR nursing simulations

The UNMC College of Nursing partnered with a group of creative computer science and engineering senior design students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to develop two immersive virtual reality (IVR) games.

The first game, titled Nurse's Escape, is an interactive way to test a nurse's sepsis knowledge with each escape room based on a sepsis bundle component. Sepsis is one of the leading causes of deaths and hospitalizations each year so equipping nurses with the right skills and information to treat sepsis in a timely manner can save lives and money. In the game, the participant must treat the millionaire's illness before time runs out.

The sepsis game, which can be played on an Oculus or Oculus II headset, is posted on the Sepsis Alliance website and the American Association for Critical Care Nurses website. CON team members included Sue Schuelke, PhD, Janet Nieveen, PhD, Elizabeth Mollard, PhD, and Tess McKinney. To load the game, use the following link: <https://sidequestvr.com/app/3848/nurses-escape>.

The second IVR game, titled Rollover Ranch, is a tractor safety game that will be used as an outreach program. Funded by a Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH) grant, the game simulates tractor, ATV and electrical safety. Tractor and ATV rollovers are the biggest cause of farm-related deaths each year.

The safety game allows the user to drive around a farm and complete different activities, all while operating the equipment safely and avoiding hazards. If the player takes proper safety measures, they should be able to complete the activities and survive to tell their friends.

Funding for this project was provided by CS-CASH and the U.S. Department of Agriculture grant. Michelle Ellermeier, Kearney Division, and Sue Schuelke, PhD, Lincoln Division, were co-PIs on the project. To load the game, use the following link: <https://sidequestvr.com/app/3813/rollover-ranch>.

# Dr. Moore authors statement on COVID-19 in NICU

Tiffany Moore, PhD, has a passion for mothers and their newborns. She's worked in the neonatal intensive care unit for years.

Dr. Moore, an associate professor in the UNMC College of Nursing, is lead author on a joint position statement from the National Association of Neonatal Nurses and National Perinatal Association. The paper, titled "Mothers with COVID-19 and their Newborn Infants," aims to provide advice to new moms with COVID-19.

The statement encourages keeping the mother and newborn together while respecting the unique challenges individual institutions may encounter.

Dr. Moore said some hospitals in major hotspots have been separating mom and baby if mom is COVID-19 positive.

"With the pandemic, there are a lot of unknowns, so the nurse scientist in me said, 'Let's look at all the information and see what the literature says,'" Dr. Moore said. "We found studies, but there are a lot of unknowns about what to do in this vulnerable population. We don't have enough science to have all the facts."

Her research is on the effects of chronic stress on moms and babies. She said the first hour after birth, as well as the first few days and weeks, is critical for bonding, development and ultimately on emotional and physical development.

She and colleagues set out to provide some guidance to parents and caregivers on the front lines in hospitals. They created a shared decision-making model that would give the facts on COVID-19 transmission to help parents decide what is best for their family.

"Very few newborns have gotten sick with COVID-19," Dr. Moore said. "We still don't know but are staying up to date on what we do know. We hope our guidance will start conversations and provide parents and providers with knowledge and the ability to have that important conversation."

She said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics

originally suggested separating mom and baby because little was known about COVID-19. The World Health Organization recommended keeping them together based on the importance of mother-infant bonding and low risk of transmission.

Dr. Moore said it's wise for COVID-19-positive moms to use masks and good hygiene. She added that there are no studies that suggest moms with COVID-19 should not breastfeed.

## Funding supports digital navigation training

Margaret Emerson, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC, received notification that the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN) would provide research funds totaling \$30,000 for the development of digital navigation training.

In addition, her abstract for the American Psychiatric Association was accepted for presentation at their annual conference. Dr. Emerson's presentation is titled: "Mental Health App Evaluation and Application: Updating the APA's Framework and Novel Approaches to Mobile App Use."

Dr. Emerson joined the UNMC College of Nursing as an assistant professor in 2018. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice from UNMC.

Her research has focused on expanding integrated care to improve access to psychiatric treatment, leveraging technology, especially in underserved populations. Her efforts specifically have been focused on the incorporation of mobile apps to promote depression related self-management for those who encounter barriers to psychiatric treatment in integrated environments. She serves as an expert panelist for the American Psychiatric Association's App Advisor Panel.

# Briefs

## College of Nursing student creative writing awards announced

When nurses and nursing students share their experiences with each other, their stories educate, provide lighthearted moments, inspire, build camaraderie, and help them cope with stress.

When UNMC College of Nursing faculty members Mary Petersen and Mark Darby received a two-year UNMC Faculty Diversity Grant to provide an outlet for nursing students to share their stories, they created the UNMC College of Nursing Creative Writing Awards. The stories will be integrated into teaching to help students learn about nursing.

On April 14, 2021, the college held a virtual banquet to applaud 23 authors and thank the 61 entrants (from all five campuses and all degree programs) who wrote compelling stories for the inaugural contest.

Anne Lano, a student in the family nurse practitioner program in the College of Nursing Kearney Division, and one of the winners of the UNMC College of Nursing Creative Writing Awards, just had her story published in the American Journal of Nursing Blog.

Congratulations to Lano and all the winners:

### Winners—\$2000 Award

James Vermillion—2020: noun/twen(t)-twen(t)/  
Definition: Diversity; Adversity

Nick Swan—Being the Diversity

Laurie Sewell-Muller—Chronicles of a Community  
Mental Health Nurse: Tuesday Afternoon Haile  
Buggi—From Cocoon to Butterfly

Abbey Klein—The Color of Pregnancy

Anne Lano—Where Are You Frooooooom?

### Honorable Mention—\$400 Award

Porcelain Shaw—A simple question and a chance to  
Be Grant Fabry—Eternity

Stephanie Clark—I know you

Zeinab Alazri—Let's Share the Treasure

Timothy Constant—Pieces of Me Bri Banaag—  
Serenity to Solidarity Jasmine Jallen—Two Years  
Ago

### Publication Award

Carolyn Hanus—A Walk

Anna Nelson—Birth: The Miracle that Transcends  
Diversity

Laurie Sewell-Muller—Chronicles of a Community  
Mental Health Nurse: Tuesday Morning Shaun  
Warkentin—Drinking Down the Sun

Lauren Struble—El Fantasma

Emily Blanchard—I Am Here To Take Care Of You

Justin Graham—Male Nurse Haiku

Shayna Kruse—Midwest Nurse in 2020

Cara Dolezal—This is Their Story

The Creative Writing Awards Team included Mark  
Darby, Mary Petersen, Amelia Stoltman and  
Margaret Gilmore.



## Nursing's office associate publishes debut novel

Brandon Morehouse, office associate in the UNMC College of Nursing, has published his debut novel, *New Age Gods: Discovery*. It is available at: *New Age Gods: Discovery*: Morehouse, Brandon: 9798739340856: Amazon.com: Books.

The book tells the story of Helen Morrigan, the adoptive mother to eight teenage gods, genetically-engineered by the United States military to use as weapons for control over the world. The military wants to keep their existence a secret, for now. In fear of the new gods growing strength, the military creates another god to keep them in check. But he doesn't turn out the way they want. When a suspected double agent infiltrates the team, in hopes to control the new weapons, it ignites a centuries long war over control of humanity's fate. With Morrigan preoccupied, the teenage gods flounder. Instead of fighting for humanity, they battle each other. If the gods cannot come together, the world will fall into a global civil war.

## Innovation Day Spring 2021

On March 18, the College of Nursing's General Staff Organization set aside an entire day to explore ideas, build bridges and problem-solve to find workable solutions. The second-ever organized Innovation Day included representatives from each nursing campus.

### The following groups met:

**O Drive Group:** Kris Claussen, Bobbi Hartshorn, Lori Turner, Gwen Porter, Gloria Geiselman

*This group considered and checked with stakeholders before Innovation Day to create the best outcome. They focused on updating the organization and file folder structures for the O Drive. These changes made it easier for people looking for information in the drive, reduced the number of "clicks" through the folders, created an archive of older information, and allowed each division to accurately have their files stored.*

**Room Scheduling Year End Report 19/20:** Tess McKinney, Amelia Stoltman, Courtney Smith

*This group created division-based reports on room usage, number of academic bookings, most popular bookings, tech requests and the number of hours of tech utilization. Information was pulled from general scheduling to create reports, which helps with room planning, staffing and tech needs.*

**360 Tours:** Cara Mouw and Tess McKinney

*This team worked to finish labeling rooms on the Omaha campus and posted them on the CON website by division. "Tours" are used in simulations and even virtual escape rooms.*

**Student Wellness Stations:** Sarah Bentley and Kelly Stratman

*This group spent time finding and producing printable inspirational and motivational quotes. The goal was to imagine and possibly configure wellness stations to include a quote bucket and destressing and coping skills. The inspirational quotes were added to the student distribution bags for distress week.*

**Office Supply:** Cara Mouw, Ana Lara-Ramirez, Laura Lesiak, Amanda Filipi

*The group went through stagnate office supplies and organized them in CNS 4 and created a small surplus pile. They also created an inventory list for organization and thoughtful ordering. Next steps will be to review and if needed, remake labels on cabinet doors, create a process for each division, share a master list and supply ordering procedure and process.*

# Nursing Alumni Highlights 2020-2021 Fiscal Year

- MISSION** Engage alumni and support UNMC.
- VISION** Informed, inspired and invested alumni and friends.
- GOALS** Prepare students and new alumni to be engaged.  
Engage alumni with UNMC and each other.  
Impact institutional priorities.  
Empower alumni partners to achieve measurable outcomes.

## IMPACT

### ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

**50** alumni participated in a continuing education event with a discount provided by the College of Nursing Alumni Council

**60+** alumni participated in a class reunion

**58** emails containing special content including continuing education opportunities, special events and reunions, newsletters, and behind-the-scenes campus updates

**1,100+** followers connected through College of Nursing Alumni-affiliated social media platforms and **1,898+** through Alumni Association social and professional networking sites

**47,000** alumni make up the membership of the UNMCAA; all UNMC alumni are welcomed as members. The College of Nursing has the second largest cohort of alumni, with more than **13,000**

**3** alumni recognized for their distinguished accomplishments through awards program

**10,113** views of special content featured on Adobe Spark Pages to engage and inform alumni about award recipients, students saying thank you to donors and class notes of friends and colleagues



## STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

**420** students participated in white coat professionalism ceremonies supported by the College of Nursing Alumni Council

Student representatives serve on the nursing alumni council

Students were invited to join *Alumni Connections*, the Alumni Association's own version of LinkedIn, where they can connect with alumni for networking, mentoring, explore discussion boards and interest groups and more

**921** students received alumni lapel pins welcoming them into the Association upon their graduation

## MULTI AUDIENCE STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

**13** virtual events for alumni, students and friends

**60+** email communications to inform and engage internal and external constituents

**4,900+** views, **133.1** hours of watch time of content on Alumni Association YouTube channel

**12** volunteers on the nursing alumni council who meet regularly with the dean, the alumni office and the development director from the NU Foundation to plan engagement strategies in alignment with college and campus priorities



# Research & Other Scholarly Activities

Grant funding—at an eight-year record high of \$3.8 million this fiscal year—continues to support a wide range of research, instructional and development efforts at the College of Nursing. These efforts are critical to growing our body of knowledge and infrastructure in the classroom, clinic and beyond.

- **In the clinical setting**, faculty developed, piloted and analyzed applications and programming, such as the mindLAMP app to support shared decision-making in clinical practice and the CaringGuidance™ e-health program feature to facilitate psychosocial patient-clinician communication.
- **In the classroom**, faculty trialed new curriculum and teaching methods, including a storytelling technique, immersive virtual reality, and incorporation of agricultural safety and health into the CON program.
- **Beyond**, faculty created programming to address workforce related needs in nursing. Notably six grants were funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration this year, including new projects to (1) develop a primary care NP residency in rural and medically underserved populations and (2) prepare APNs to lead interdisciplinary teams in providing behavioral health services.
- **Across all settings**, numerous projects responded to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by examining and incorporating accessibility elements such as tele-health or remote teaching—activities of particular import to enhancing the College of Nursing’s five-campus, statewide reach.

## FY21 CON Scholarly Activities at a Glance

**87** publications

**44** active sponsored projects

**33** faculty serving as principal investigator or project director on a sponsored project

**\$13.5M** in total budgets for active project

**\$3.8M** in funding issued this year

**46th** top NIH-funded nursing school (2020)

# Research spotlight



## Nicholas Guenzel, PhD, RN, APRN-NP

### Program of interest:

Dr. Guenzel's research is focused on developing effective interventions to support people with addiction through the early stages of recovery. His focus has been on Native Americans

as they often have higher rates of addiction but also have unique values and practices that can be leveraged to support addiction recovery. He has served as PI of two grants on Native American peer recovery coaches to support addiction recovery. This research further focuses on interventions largely delivered by trained peers as they often have the lived experience to connect with people struggling with addiction at a level that may be unattainable for health care providers who either do not have the personal experience or are restricted from sharing it.

### Research goals:

1. Develop ways to support individuals in the early stages of addiction recovery.
2. Test the effectiveness of the interventions.
3. Examine intervention delivery and outcomes to further improve its effectiveness.



## Breanna Hetland, PhD, RN, CCRN-K

### Program of interest:

Dr. Hetland's novel program of research focuses on designing and testing technologically driven integrative health interventions that reduce symptom burden and improve patient and family outcomes

the intensive care unit (ICU).

**Research goals:** Dr. Hetland has completed her doctoral degree in nursing and minor in integrative therapies and healing practices at the

University of Minnesota. Her doctoral work was federally funded (F31NR01459) and generated new knowledge regarding the implementation of integrative therapies during mechanical ventilation in the ICU. As a postdoctoral fellow at Case Western Reserve University (T32NR014213), she worked on a transdisciplinary team of innovative scientists who evaluated the effectiveness of avatar-based simulation technologies to improve patient and family caregiver outcomes in the ICU. In her current role at UNMC, she has evaluated integrative symptom management approaches during critical illness and examined the inclusion of family caregivers into the provision of patient care in the ICU. Most recently, she created and is testing a mobile app, ICU-CARE, that supports family caregivers in the management of ICU patients' symptoms. Additionally, she is conducting a clinical trial evaluating the psychophysiological impact of Paro, a therapeutic interactive robot, during rehabilitation sessions in the ICU. She also has a dual role as a critical care nurse scientist for the Critical Care Division at Nebraska Medicine where she works extensively with clinical staff to research and implement critical care evidence-based care practices. Through her research, education and training, she has gained valuable expertise in the conduct of critical care clinical trials, technology development and integration, and ICU family engagement. Her nationally recognized expertise in critical care nursing science has resulted in invited consultations, keynote presentations and expert commentary. Her impact on critical care research and practice is evidenced by her impressive dissemination record which includes 27 published reviewed papers that have been cited over 380 times.

**Goal of ICU-CARE study:** Establish the feasibility and acceptability of ICU-CARE for family caregivers and determine the influence of ICU-CARE on caregiving process and outcomes.

**Goal of Paro study:** Determine the feasibility, acceptability, and therapeutic effect of a therapeutic robotic animal, Paro, during rehabilitation sessions in the pediatric ICU.

# Active Sponsored Projects During FY21

**Aguirre, Trina**, Diversity Grant, UNMC Academic Affairs, 7/1/19-6/30/22: \$100,000

**Alonso, Windy**, Characterizing the Symptom Experience of Rural Individuals with Heart Failure and Multiple Chronic Conditions, Midwest Nursing Research Society, 4/1/19-3/31/21: \$7,500

**Alonso, Windy**, Improving adherence to exercise in rural patients with heart failure: Rural HEART Camp Connect, UNMC Center for Patient, Family, Community Engagement in Chronic Care Management (CENTRIC), 2/1/21-6/30/23: \$17,637

**Barnason, Susan**, Handoff to Home: Guidance for Patients with COPD after Hospitalization, UNMC College of Nursing Seed Fund, 1/1/21-12/31/22: \$10,000

**Berger, Ann**, Chemotherapy-related Changes in Neurocognitive Function and Symptoms in Colorectal Cancer Patients, Oncology Nursing Society Foundation and UNMC Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center, 5/1/18-1/31/21: \$63,101

**Carithers, Cathrin**, Educating Nurses to Practice at the Top of Their Scope in Telehealth Care Delivery, USDA, 3/16/21-3/15/24: \$377,880

**Carithers, Cathrin & Connelly, Liane**, Building Capacity toward a Culture of Inclusive Excellence (Innovation Award), NU Collaboration Initiative Fund, 2/1/20-1/31/21: \$3,000

**Cera, Jennifer**, Implementing a Nurse Practitioner-Led Delivery Model for Continence Care within Community Fitness Facilities – A Continence Community Education Program, Olson Center for Women's Health Advisory Committee, 7/1/19-6/30/22: \$25,000

**Culross, Beth**, Immersive Virtual Reality for COVID Primary Care Nursing (Faculty Scholars Grant Program), American Academy of Colleges of Nursing, 9/1/20-5/31/22: \$25,000

**Darby, Mark**, Diversity Grant, UNMC Academic Affairs, 7/1/20-6/30/23: \$91,125

**Dickinson, Kristin**, Cancer-Related Fatigue and the Adaptive Response to Oxidative Stress (R00), NIH National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), 7/26/18-6/30/23: \$993,690

**Dickinson, Kristin**, Reliability, Validity, and Clinical Utility of the Research Assessment and Clinical Tool-Fatigue (ReACT-F), UNMC College of Nursing Seed Fund, 12/15/19-6/30/22: \$4,000

**Dickinson, Kristin**, A Mouse Model of Cancer-Related Fatigue, UNMC Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center and GP IDeA-CTR (NIGMS-funded center), 2/1/20-6/30/23: \$25,000

**Eisenhauer, Christine**, Engaging Rural Men with Mobile Technologies for Weight Loss: A Randomized Controlled Trial (R15), NIH NINR, 9/1/17-8/31/22: \$380,556

**Emerson, Margaret**, Feasibility of Using Smartphone Apps in Primary Care to Manage Underserved Patients with Mental Illness (Health Disparities Pilot), UNMC Vice Chancellor for Research, 7/1/19-6/30/21: \$44,158

**Emerson, Margaret**, MindLAMP App Development, Lozier Foundation via UNMC COPH, 1/1/21-6/30/21: \$9,390

**Emerson, Margaret**, Digital Navigation for Training for Integrated Behavioral Health, UNMC Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska, 1/8/21-12/31/21: \$30,000

**Fiandt, Kathryn**, A State-Wide Nursing Education Model for Improving Primary Health Care in Nebraska, HRSA, 7/1/18-6/30/23: \$2,602,461

**Fiandt, Kathryn**, Registered Nurse in Primary Care COVID Funding, HRSA, 5/1/20-4/30/21: \$78,571

**Gonzales, Kelly**, Feasibility of mHealth for Self-Management in People with Parkinson's Disease, UNMC CENTRIC, 10/16/20-6/30/22: \$10,940

**Guenzel, Nicholas**, Peer Recovery Coaches to Help Native Americans Recovering from Addiction (Health Disparities Pilot), UNMC Vice Chancellor for Research, 10/1/19-9/30/20: \$49,899



**Guenzel, Nicholas**, Feasibility and Impact of Distance American Indian Peer Recovery Coaches (Native Center for Alcohol Research and Education Pilot Project Grant Program), National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (via Washington State University), 3/1/20-11/30/22: \$39,999

**Hanish, Alyson**, A SMART Design to Improve Sleep Disturbance (K01), NIH NINR, 2/1/19-1/31/23: \$268,839

**Hetland, Breanna**, Animal Assisted Interactions with An Animal Robot During Physical and Occupational Therapy Sessions in the Pediatric ICU: A Feasibility Study, UNMC Pediatric Cancer Research Group, 1/20/20-10/1/21: \$32,623

**Hoffman, Amy**, Managing Fatigue Using Virtual Reality for Post-Operative Lung Cancer Patients, NIH National Cancer Institute, 9/1/18-8/31/23: \$2,841,198

**Holmes, LeAnn**, Developing a State-Wide Primary Care NP Residency through an Academic-Practice Partnership, HRSA, 7/1/19-6/30/23: \$1,670,115

**Hotaling, Patricia**, Nurse Practitioner Residency Infrastructure Funding, Veteran's Affairs, 10/1/20-9/30/21: \$150,000

**Kotcherlakota, Suhasini**, Universal Design for Teaching and Learning (Faculty Diversity Grant), UNMC Academic Affairs, 7/1/20-6/30/22: \$96,789

**LaFramboise, Louise**, Activating Veterans: The Call to Primary Care Nursing, HRSA, 7/1/19-6/30/23: \$1,364,702

**LaFramboise, Louise**, Veteran Nurses in Primary Care COVID Funding, HRSA, 5/1/20-4/30/21: \$64,285

**Lally, Robin**, Facilitating Oncology Patient-Clinician Communication via E-health Innovations, GP IDeA-CTR, 11/1/17-6/30/22: \$50,000

**Mathews, Therese**, Increasing Access to Integrated Behavioral and Primary Care Services Through APRN-Led Teams, HRSA, 7/1/20-6/30/23: \$1,498,460

**Miller, Jennifer**, Promoting Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Adherence using a MET-PAP Intervention in Patients Newly Diagnosed with Obstructive Sleep Apnea, UNMC CENTRIC, 6/1/20-6/30/22: \$50,000

**Moore, Tiffany**, Diabetes During Pregnancy and Neonatal Outcomes: What I Wish I Would've Known, UNMC CENTRIC, 7/1/20-6/30/21: \$2,250

**Moore, Tiffany**, Diabetes During Pregnancy and Neonatal Outcomes: What I Wish I Would've Known, UNMC CENTRIC, 7/1/20-6/30/21: \$2,250

**Moore, Tiffany**, Toxic Stress and Social Emotional Maturity at 16 months, UNMC Edna Ittner Pediatric Research Support Fund, 11/1/19-10/31/21: \$35,000

**Pozehl, Bunny**, Feasibility and Acceptability of Peer and Coach Support to Promote Adherence to Exercise in Patients with Heart Failure, UNMC CENTRIC, 11/1/19-10/31/20: \$6,015

**Pullen, Caroline**, Jonas V Scholar Program, Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence, 8/1/19-7/31/21: \$10,000

**Rowland, Sheri**, Feasibility, Acceptability, and Preliminary Impact of an mHealth Cardiovascular Risk Self-Management Intervention in the Rural Hispanic Adult Population, UNMC CENTRIC, 5/1/19-9/30/21: \$50,000

**Schuelke, Sue**, Agricultural Safety and Health Curriculum: Preparing the Next Generation of Rural Nurses (CS-CASH Program Grant), National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health via UNMC College of Public Health, 4/1/20-3/30/22: \$20,000

**Schuelke, Sue**, Comparing High-Fidelity Simulation with Immersive Virtual Reality Simulation for Student Engagement, Competence and Clinical Judgment, Interprofessional Academy of Educators, 3/15/21-3/14/22: \$2,060

**Schmaderer, Myra**, Self-Management Interventions Using Mobile Health for the Multimorbid, GP IDeA-CTR, 2/21/19-6/30/21: \$74,365

**Shade, Marcia**, Enhancing Senior Living, Quality of Life and Independence through Utilizing Assistive and Interactive Technology, NU Collaboration Initiative Fund, 7/1/19-6/30/21: \$3,500

**Shade, Marcia**, Faculty Diversity Grant, UNMC Academic Affairs, 7/1/19-6/30/22: \$100,000

**Zimmerman, Lani**, Center for Patient, Family and Community Engagement in Chronic Care Management through Discovery, Dissemination and Diffusion, Hearst Foundation, 12/1/15-6/30/23: \$182,012

# Publications

The College of Nursing promotes a culture of research among faculty and infuses that culture in students enrolled in programs at all levels. Faculty are encouraged and expected to integrate research and scholarship into teaching and practice, and into all assigned work and service.

## List of publications for fiscal year 2020-21:

Albloushi, M., Ferguson, L., Hellsten, L., **Stamler, L.**, Kent-Wilkinson, A., & Bassendowski, S. (2021). Modification, Translation, and Psychometric Testing of the Arabic Version of the Belongingness Scale-Clinical Placement Experience (BES-CPE). *Journal of Nursing Measurement*, 30(1), 94-108. <https://doi.org/10.1891/JNM-D-20-00050>

**Alonso, W. W.**, Faulkner, K. M., **Pozehl, B. J.**, Hupcey, J. E., Kitko, L. A., & Lee, C. S. (2020). A longitudinal comparison of health-related quality of life in rural and urban recipients of left ventricular assist devices. *Research in Nursing & Health*, 43(4), 396-406. <https://doi.org/10.1002/nur.22052>

**Alonso, W. W.**, **Pozehl, B. J.**, **Schmaderer, M.** Diederich, T., & Moser, D. (2020). Rural patients with heart failure and multiple chronic conditions: A cross-sectional, descriptive study. *Journal of Cardiac Failure*, 26(10), s4. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cardfail.2020.09.133>

**Barnason, S.** (2020). Pathway to implementing a program of nursing research. *Journal of Emergency Nursing*, 46(4), 410-412. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jen.2020.05.011>

**Beam E. L.** (2021). Respiratory protection for health professions students must be addressed in light of lessons from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, 1-2. <https://doi.org/10.1017/ice.2021.375>

**Beam, E. L.**, Herstein, J. J., **Kupzyk, K. A.**, & Gibbs, S. G. (2020). A simulation approach to measure critical safety behaviors when evaluating training methods for respirator education in healthcare workers. *American Journal of Infection Control*, 48(8), 869-874. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2020.05.005>

Bhatt, V. R., Dhakal, P., Wichman, C. S., & **Pozehl, B.** (2021). Development and validation of the Therapy Preference Scale to understand patients' systemic cancer treatment preferences. *Future Oncology*, 17(1), 37-44. <https://doi.org/10.2217/fo-2020-0497>

Bingham, B., Knisely, M. R., **Shade, M.**, & Sowicz, T. J. (2021). Engaging pain management nurses in research and evidence-based practice. *Pain Management Nursing: Official Journal of the American Society of Pain Management Nurses*, 22(3), 247-249. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pmn.2021.03.005>

**Black, J. M.** & Berke, C. T. (2020). Deep tissue pressure injuries: Identification, treatment, and outcomes among critical care patients. *Critical Care Nursing Clinics of North America*, 32(4), 563-572. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cnc.2020.08.006>

**Black, J. M.** & Delmore, B. (2020). Surgical wounds and surgical reconstruction. In *Wound Care Essentials*, 5th Edition, Ed: S. Baranowski & E. Ayello Philadelphia: Lippincott Publishers, 542-561

**Black, J. M.**, & Berke, C. T. (2020). Ten top tips: Managing wound odour. *Wounds International*, 11(4), 8-11.

**Black, J. M.**, & Simende, A. (2020). Ten top tips: Assessing darkly pigmented skin. *Wounds International*, 11(3), 8-11.

**Cera, J. L.**, Schlittenhardt, M., Hull, A., & Quallich, S.A. (2021). Defining the role of the urogynecology nurse practitioner: A call to contemporary distinction through subspecialty certification. *Urologic Nursing*, 41(3), 141-152. <https://doi.org/10.7257/1053-816X.2021.41.3.141>

Chase, J. D., Otmanowski, J., **Rowland, S.**, & Cooper, P. S. (2020). A systematic review and meta-analysis of interventions to reduce sedentary behavior among older adults. *Translational Behavioral Medicine*, 10(5), 1078-1085. <https://doi.org/10.1093/tbm/ibz189>

Cotton, S., & **Moore, T.** (2020). Open letter to Black moms: Why they should all be breastfeeding. *Neonatology Today*, 15(8), 30-32. <https://doi.org/10.51362/neonatology.today/202081583032>

- Dean, L.,** Butler, A., & **Cuddigan, J.** (2021). The impact of workplace violence toward psychiatric mental health nurses: Identifying the facilitators and barriers to supportive resources. *Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association*, 27(3), 189–202. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10783903211010945>
- Deka, P., **Pozehl, B. J.,** Pathak, D., Williams, M., Norman, J. F., **Alonso, W. W.,** & Jaarsma, T. (2021). Predicting maximal oxygen uptake from the 6 min walk test in patients with heart failure. *ESC Heart Failure*, 8(1), 47–54. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ehf2.13167>
- Dickinson, K.,** Case, A. J., **Kupzyk, K.,** & Saligan, L. (2020). Exploring Biologic Correlates of cancer-related fatigue in men with prostate cancer: Cell damage pathways and oxidative stress. *Biological Research for Nursing*, 22(4), 514–519. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1099800420933347>
- Dickinson, K., Kupzyk, K.,** & Saligan, L. (2021). Evaluating dimensions of fatigue in men with prostate cancer receiving radiation therapy. *Cancer Nursing*, 44(1), 71–78. <https://doi.org/10.1097/NCC.0000000000000782>
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- Emerson, M. R.,** Harsh Caspari, J., Notice, M., Watanabe-Galloway, S., Dinkel, D., & Kabayundo, J. (2021). Mental health mobile app use: Considerations for serving underserved patients in integrated primary care settings. *General Hospital Psychiatry*, 69, 67–75. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2021.01.008>
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- Gandy, K., **Schmaderer, M.,** Szema, A., March, C., Topping, M., Song, A., Garcia-Ojeda, M., Durazo A., Domen, J., & Barach, P. (2021). Remote patient monitoring: A promising digital health frontier. *2021 International Conference on Information and Digital Technologies*, 297-302. <https://doi.org/10.1109/IDT52577.2021.9497599>
- Gefen, A., Creehan, S., & **Black, J. M.** (2020). Critical biomechanical and clinical insights concerning tissue protection when positioning patients in the operating room: A scoping review. *International Wound Journal*, 17(5), 1405–1423. <https://doi.org/10.1111/iwj.13408>
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# Student Awards

**March of Dimes Student Nurse of the Year Award** – Lizzie Kangas

**Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) Dissertation Award from the Physiology, Behavior, Genomics, and Society RIG**  
– Dilorom (Delia) Sass (May 2020 PhD Student)

**MNRS PhD Student Poster – 2nd Place**  
– Courtney Loecker

**Nebraska State Nurses Association (NSNA) Student Nurse of the Year Award**  
– Ervin vonSeggern (WND student)

**NSNA Individual Community Health Award**  
– Ervin vonSeggern

**NSNA Most Unique Community Health Award for assisting with covid screening, testing**  
–WND students

**NSNA Community Health Award also for assisting with the Monument Marathon**  
–WND Students

**NSNA State Stellar Chapter Award**  
–WND Students

**UNMC Interprofessional Academy of Educators (Inducted as an Associate Member)**  
– Jessica Semin

**UNMC Ronald Reagan Alzheimer’s Scholarship**  
– Tamara Braley

**UNMC Student Senate Student Impact Award**  
– Andrew Lim

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## Distinguished Visitors 2020-2021

### **Executive Council Retreat**

Marla Weston, PhD, RN, FAAN  
Chief Executive Officer  
Weston Consulting  
Washington, DC  
August 14, 2020  
“2020 & Beyond: Navigating Disruptions, Transitions & Transformations”

### **8th Annual Anna Marie Jensen Cramer Memorial Lectureship in Women’s & Children’s Health & Family Nursing**

Kristin Ashford, PhD, WHNP-BC, FAAN  
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Faculty and Interprofessional Education  
Director, Perinatal Research and Wellness Center  
University of Kentucky College of Nursing  
Lexington, Kentucky  
September 28, 2020  
“Positive Care of Perinatal Women with Opioid Use Disorder”

### **Toward a Culture of Inclusive Excellence Workshop**

Lindsay Bernhagen, PhD  
Director, Center for Inclusive Teaching and Learning  
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point  
Stevens Point, Wisconsin  
October 8, 2020  
“Building Capacity Toward a Culture of Inclusive Excellence”

### **College of Nursing Strategic Planning Retreat**

Daniel Pesut, PhD, RN, FAAN  
Principal Consultant  
Strategic Foresight Consulting  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
November 6, 2020

### **Audrey Solberg Smith Distinguished Lecture**

Lisa Coleman, PhD  
Senior Vice President for Global Inclusion and Strategic Innovation  
Chief Diversity Officer  
New York University  
New York, New York  
February 1, 2021  
“From ‘DEI’ Toward Transformation”

# Faculty & Staff Recognition

**American Academy of Nursing Fellow** – Amy Hoffman

**American Thoracic Society Nursing Assembly Early Career Achievement Award** – Breanna Hetland

## COLLEGE OF NURSING ANNUAL FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS

**Ada M. Lindsey Professional Service Award** – Margaret Emerson

**Ada M. Lindsey Professional Staff Award** – Lori Turner

**Distinguished TEAM Award** – College of Nursing Student Services - Denise Ott, Stefanie Boardman, Juli Bohnenkamp, Bertrail Smith, Rolee Kelly, Bobbie Barton, Amy Frizzell, Ann Callies, Hilary Christo, Sherri Petersen, Diana Rizzo, Kaycee Kube, Maegen Graham, Kelly Stratman, Jennifer Escher, Sarah Bentley, Sherrie Ames, Cindy Taylor, Bobbi Hartshorn, Carrie Holt, Molly Belieu

**Donna Westmoreland Excellence in Faculty Mentoring Award** – Sue Schuelke

**Kathryn Sandahl Philp Creativity and Innovation Award** – Breanna Hetland

**Pennie Z. Davis Faculty Research Award** – Amy Hoffman

**Spirit of Shared Governance** – Michelle Ellermeier

**Staff Excellence Award** – Lauren Lesiak

**Staff Leadership Award** – Juli Bohnenkamp

**Staff Spirit Award** – Tess McKinney

**The Dean's Excellence in Teaching Award** – Sue Schuelke

**The Rosalee C. Yeaworth Excellence in Teaching Award** – Kami Loeffelholz

**Virginia Tilden Leadership Development Award** – Christine Eisenhauer

## COLLEGE OF NURSING RETIREMENTS & EMERITUS APPOINTMENTS

**Sheila Ryan** – Emeritus Professor - July 1, 2020

**Denise Waibel-Rycek** – Emeritus Instructor – September 1, 2020

**Cheryl Thompson** – Emeritus Associate Professor – October 31, 2020

**Tom Mason** – December 31, 2020

**Jana Pressler** – Emeritus Professor – December 31, 2020

**Paula Schulz** – Emeritus Associate Professor – December 31, 2020

**Hilary Christo** – May 7, 2021

**Jean Allen** – May 14, 2021

**Lea Kathol** – May 14, 2021

**Mary Wendl** – May 31, 2021

## Daisy Foundation & The American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Daisy Award for Extraordinary Nurses:

**Kathryn Wunder** – December, 2020

**Barbara Nickel** – May, 2021

## Degrees Received:

**Lyndsay Dean** – DNP – August 2020

**Kassidy Horst** – PMC – December 2020

**Molly Belieu** – PhD – May 2021

**Angela Johnson** – EdD – May 2021

## Graduate Faculty Status

**Sue Schuelke** – October 2020

**Amber Golden** – April 2021

**Mariya Kovaleva** – June 2021

**Head Start Association Region VII Excellence in Community Service Award** – Steph Burge

**Heart Failure Society of America Fellow** – Windy Alonso

**Heart Failure Society of America's Nursing Research Leadership Award** – Bunny Pozehl

**Impact in Education Visionary Leadership in Education Award** – Teresa Hultquist



### **Impact in Education Honorable Mention:**

**Educator Laureate** – Beth Culross

**Innovative Practices in Education** – Dawn Tassemeayer

**Inspirational Mentor of Educators** – Bunny Pozehl

**March of Dimes 2020 Distinguished Nurse of the Year** – Bunny Pozehl

**Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) Distinguished Abstract Distinction** –

Ann Berger

Myra Schmaderer

**MNRS New Investigator Award from the Acute and Critical Care Research Interest Group** –

Breanna Hetland

**Nebraska Nurses Association Positive Image of Nursing Award** – Jami Fulwider

**Northern Nebraska Area Healthcare SuperHero – Honorable Mention** – Jean Allen

**Promoted to Associate Professor** – effective 7-1-20 – Trina Aguirre

**Published his first book “New Age Gods: Discovery”** – Brandon Morehouse

### **UNMC Alumni Association**

**Distinguished Alumnus Award** – Shelly Schwedhelm (BSN 1991)

**Nursing Excellence Award** – Kosuke Niitsu (BSN 2009; MSN 2013, PhD 2017)

**Dorothy Patach Spirit of Service Award** – Kellee Grimes (BSN 2010)

**UNMC Distinguished Scientist Award** – Robin Lally

**UNMC Excellence in Pathways Award** – Robin Lally

### **UNMC Gold U Award:**

**Lisa Muschall** – April 2021

**Juli Bohnenkamp** – June 2021

**UNMC iEXCEL Academic Award – Honorable Mention** – Jennifer Cera

**UNMC iEXCEL Collaboration Award – Honorable Mention** – Kirsten Curtis

**UNMC iLEAD Program (Graduated)** – Kelly Betts

**UNMC Interprofessional Academy of Educators (Inducted)** –

Kelly Betts

Emily Coffey

AnneMarie DeVoll-Zabrocki

Tess McKinney

Sue Schuelke

Dawn Tassemeayer

**UNMC Interprofessional Academy of Educators (Granted Emeritus)**

Cheryl Thompson

### **UNMC Silver U Award:**

**Bridget Thoene** – February, 2021

**Taylor Anderson** – October, 2020

**Rita Antonson** – August, 2020

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## **UNMC YEARS OF SERVICE**

### **40 Years**

LaDonna Tworek

### **30 Years**

Bunny Pozehl

### **20 Years**

Lynne Buchanan

Janet Cuddigan

Jill Reed

### **10 Years**

Trina Aguirre

Liane Connelly

Bev Davey

Tim Gilbert

Rolee Kelly

Suhasini Kotcherlakota

Diana Schneider

Bertrail Smith

Lori Turner

Anne Wilber

### **5 Years**

Andrew Chisholm

Tia Stevenson

## COLLEGE-WIDE RECOGNITION

**Continuing Nursing Education (CNE) and the Center for Continuing Education (CCE)** received joint accreditation for four years by the governing bodies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)

**U.S. News & World Report** ranked the College of Nursing Doctor of Nursing Practice Program 40th (tied) out of 163 ranked schools

**Best Online Graduate Nursing Program** by U.S. News & World Report – CON Graduate Program tied at 83rd with two other institutions out of 176 ranked schools

**PhD Program** went through a successful five-year review

## NEW STAFF

**Kaycee Kube** – Academic Success Coach

**Sherrilyn D Peterson** – Academic Success Coach

**Debi Kibbee** – Administrative Project Coordinator

**Sergio Reyes** – Data Manager/Analyst

**Amanda Filipi** – LRC Associate

**Tyler Szymanski** – Project Coord/Liaison

## In Memoriam – UNMC College of Nursing mourns the loss of the following alumni:

### Alumni who passed

Peggy A. Radke, Class of 1992, 4/23/2021

Marie A. Kreman, Class of 1981, 4/26/2021

Evelyn C. Effken, Class of 1955, 4/7/2021

Shirley L. Dodge, Class of 1955, 4/9/2021

Laurie K. McVay, Class of 2003, 5/19/2021

Mary A. Toren, Class of 1948, 5/23/2021

Joan H. Nakashima, Class of 1951, 5/24/2021

Renee L. Votruba, Class of 1999, 5/31/2021

Robert C. Vestal, Class of 1984, 5/5/2021

Joyce E. Holcomb, Class of 1959, 5/8/2021

### Others who passed

Jill Thewke, Administrator II - CON, 1/15/21

Joyce Crutchfield, Associate Professor, 5/24/21

UNIVERSITY OF  
**Nebraska**  
Medical Center



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**[unmc.edu/nursing](http://unmc.edu/nursing)**