



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA
MEDICAL CENTERSM

ALUMNI

College of Nursing Alumni Council Newsletter - Summer 2018

Upcoming Events for College of Nursing Alumni

[College of Nursing Norfolk Campus Centennial & White Coat Celebration](#)

August 24, 2018
2:30 - 5:00 PM
Norfolk, NE

[College of Nursing Lincoln Campus Centennial & White Coat Celebration](#)

September 7, 2018
3:00 - 5:00 PM | White Coat Ceremony & Program
5:00 - 6:30 PM | Reception & Tours
Lincoln, NE

[UNMC Alumni Reunion Weekend](#)

September 21-22, 2018 | Omaha, Nebraska
Honor years are those ending in "3" and "8"
The reunion schedule is [available here](#).
If you would like help organizing a class party, [contact us](#).

[College of Nursing Alumni Council Distinguished Alumnus Award Lecture](#)

By: Janice J. Twiss, PhD, APRN-NP, WHNP-BC (BSN 1965 & MSN 1979)
September 21, 2018
3:00 - 4:00 PM (CST)
Omaha, NE (broadcast to all UNMC College of Nursing Campuses)
This event is free and comes with 1 hour of continuing education from the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

[Kick-Off with the UNMCAA Minnesota vs. Nebraska Tailgate Party](#)

October 20, 2018
Lincoln, NE
*The tailgate will take place in the two hours prior to kick off.
Tickets are \$22/person and are for the tailgate only. Registration is coming soon.*

Engage With Us on Social Media

[UNMC College of Nursing Kearney Division Alumni Facebook Group](#)

[UNMC College of Nursing Norfolk Division Alumni Facebook Group](#)

[UNMC College of Nursing Alumni Facebook Page](#)

[UNMC Alumni Association Facebook Page](#)

[UNMC Alumni Association Twitter](#)

[UNMC College of Nursing Facebook](#)

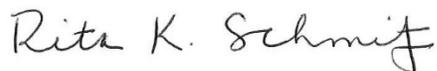
Alumni Council News

Message from the College of Nursing Alumni Council President

Dear Fellow Alumni:

It is an absolutely wonderful time to be President of the College of Nursing Alumni Council. As I write this summer message, I am completely in awe of the accomplishments of the College over the past few months. It is heartwarming to read about the activities on each campus and all of the opportunities that are available for current and future students both undergraduate and graduate. You will read in this newsletter about several exciting upcoming events that we have planned. Please join us for any function that would work into your schedule. It is certainly a time for all of us to celebrate and embrace the true spirit of being an alumnus of the UNMC College of Nursing.

Sincerely,



Rita K. Schmitz '83, MSN, RN



Alumni Reunion Weekend: September 21-22, 2018

College of Nursing alumni with graduation years ending in a 3 or an 8 are invited to attending Alumni Reunion Weekend. Click [here](#) to learn more about the weekend, including a schedule of activities, class party information, how to book your hotel room, register, and more!

2018 Alumni Award Recipients Announced

The College of Nursing Alumni Council will recognize six individuals for their accomplishments and service this fall during Alumni Reunion Weekend. These awards will be presented at the Alumni Celebration & Awards Banquet at the Hilton Omaha on Saturday, September 22. The award recipients include:



Janice J. Twiss



Dieu-My T. Tran



Carissa S. Lueck



Kelley Hasenauer



Audrey E. Nelson



Jill L. Thewke

Distinguished Alumnus Award

Janice J. Twiss, Ph.D., APRN-NP, WHNP-BC
BSN 1965, MSN 1979

Nursing Excellence Award

Dieu-My T. Tran, Ph.D., RN, CNE
BSN 2010 – Lincoln, Ph.D. 2014

Nursing Excellence Award

Carissa S. Lueck, RN, BSN, DNP – DNP 2018

Dorothy Patach Spirit of Service Award

Kelley Hasenauer, DNP, APRN – MSN 2001

Heritage Award

Audrey E. Nelson, Ph.D., RN – BSN 1972

Honorary Alumnus Award

Jill L. Thewke, MPA

Congratulations to these outstanding individuals. Their bios are [available online](#). Click [here](#) to purchase tickets to the Alumni Celebration & Awards Banquet on September 22, 2018.

The College of Nursing Innovation Fund: Learn how your donations matter

The College of Nursing Innovation Fund was created in 2015 to support the work of the UNMC College of Nursing in partnership with the College of Nursing Alumni Council and the UNMC Alumni Association (UNMCAA). This fund replaces the former membership dues program and is the annual fund that provides opportunities to students, supports the people and programs of your Alumni Association, upgrades technology, funds white coat ceremonies, enhances innovative programs, and more. The work of the alumni council would not be possible without the support of so many generous alumni.

Pledge your donation of support [here](#). To see the impact of gifts to the CON Innovation fund, click [here](#).

Seeking Volunteers for the Alumni Council

Are you interested in making a difference in the lives of current and future students and alumni of your UNMC College of Nursing!? If so, apply for consideration to serve on the CON Alumni Council. Serving on the Council is a great way to stay engaged with your College, the University, and the lives of our students. A helpful packet of information has been created for your review [here](#). Please thoughtfully consider this opportunity to reconnect with your alma mater and to give back. For questions, contact Kat Hamilton in the Alumni Relations Office: kat.hamilton@unmc.edu or 402.559.1063.

The UNMC Alumni Directory is Now Available

Alumni can [request login credentials](#) and access the directory to search for classmates and colleagues. Please be sure to go to the "update your information" tab to keep your information current in the directory.

Class Reunions

Did you know that the UNMC Alumni Relations Office can help assist you in planning a class reunion? Reach out to [Kat](#), and see how easy it is to plan a time for you and your colleagues to reconnect.

COLLEGE OF NURSING NEWS

Message from the Dean



Dear College of Nursing alumni, friends, faculty, students, and staff,

I am so pleased to welcome you to this issue of the UNMC College of Nursing Alumni Council Newsletter! No doubt you will feel as I do when I read the articles, that the momentum and excitement in the College builds every day!

On behalf of our faculty, staff, and students, I would like to share with alumni how extremely proud we are of all that you do. The many ways you care for others, make your own healthy lifestyle choices, serve as vital members of your communities and our nation and world, and engage professionally in the route you have selected, we are proud of YOU! I always share with our incoming students how thrilled we are that they have selected the UNMC College of Nursing for their educational journeys and I tell them we welcome them as future alumni! The pages of this newsletter describe the many ways

we are moving forward as a College, building on the foundation that your work provides, and as our Chancellor, Jeffrey P. Gold, MD, always says, we are “maintaining the momentum”!

As we conclude the official celebrations of the College’s 2017-18 Centennial Year with celebrations in Norfolk and Lincoln, we are excited about beginning the College’s Second Century! This College was built by leaders, pathbreakers, and risk takers, and has grown by the work of courageous and talented women and men. We look to the future with new ideas and new programs such as the RN-BSN hybrid model in North Platte and the Accelerated Baccalaureate program in Norfolk, and new leaders such as our two new assistant deans and many wonderful new faculty members. We celebrate our 2018 Alumni Award recipients for their leadership, excellence, and creativity and we look forward to [Alumni Reunion Weekend](#), Sept. 21-22, 2018. I hope you will consider visiting the fantastic new building at Lincoln at some point ([here](#) is one upcoming opportunity) and joining us on one of the campuses to hear the [Audrey Solberg Smith Distinguished Lecture](#) on Sept. 5, 2018.

With appreciation for each of you and the work we are privileged to do!



Juliann G. Sebastian, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
UNMC College of Nursing

College of Nursing History Book for Sale



In celebration of the College of Nursing's 100th Anniversary, a beautiful coffee-table book has been created to showcase the history of the College. The book features historical information taken from the 1917-1987 College of Nursing book and continues through present day. You can purchase yours online [here](#) or call 402.559.4455. Don't miss out on an opportunity to take home a piece of UNMC Nursing history!

University Cuts Ribbon on New Health Center & Lincoln Division Nursing Building

A new University of Nebraska facility in Lincoln is giving students access to improved health care while providing its nursing program a world-class learning and research space with capacity for future growth.

The 107,000-square-foot complex, located at 550 N. 19th St., along Antelope Parkway near 19th and S streets at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, opened for business on July 16, 2018. Half of the new facility houses the UNL Health Center, while the other half is home to the UNMC College of Nursing Lincoln Division. The university celebrated its completion with a grand opening ceremony on July 10. Read more [here](#). View photos of the facility [here](#).



Alumna Dr. Sue Hassmiller to Speak at the Lincoln White Coat Ceremony



On Friday, September 7, 2018, 75 new College of Nursing students will receive their white coat and say the nightingale pledge, but before they do, they will have the opportunity to hear from UNMC alumna, Susan B. Hassmiller, RN, PhD, FAAN '83. Alumni and friends have the opportunity to hear Dr. Hassmiller speak, as well as attend a reception and tour the College of Nursing Lincoln building. Learn more [here](#).

Dr. Hassmiller is the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Senior Adviser for Nursing. In partnership with AARP, Hassmiller also directs the Foundation's Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action. This 50-state and District of Columbia effort strives to implement the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine's report on the Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health and will additionally seek to build a Culture of Health. Hassmiller served as the report's study director. She is also serving as Co-Director of the Future of Nursing Scholars program.

Hassmiller's work has included service in public health settings at the local, state and national levels, including HRSA. She taught community health nursing at the University of Nebraska and George Mason University in Virginia.

Quilt in the College of Nursing Lincoln Building Represents Legacy of Alum



New and returning nursing students in Lincoln will notice a quilt displayed in the new UNMC College of Nursing Lincoln Division building shared with the University Health Center in Lincoln. The quilt, which hangs in the Sharon K. Holmberg, Ph.D., Health Assessment Laboratory, represents the career and life of Dr. Holmberg, a 1967 UNMC College of Nursing alum. Read more [here](#).

College of Nursing Expands RN-to-BSN Program to North Platte, NE

The College of Nursing launched a new initiative as a partnership with Great Plains Health and Mid Plains Community College that involves a cohort based hybrid model of the RN-to-BSN program. This initiative began in August of 2018 with the goal of helping to increase the nursing workforce in

Nebraska and provide greater opportunities for nurses to pursue baccalaureate and graduate degrees. The program runs through the University of Nebraska online, where the RN-to-BSN program is located and includes a face-to-face option once a month for students to work with a faculty member in North Platte. Learn more [here](#) or contact the College of Nursing Student Services Office via [email](#) or 402.559.4110.

College of Nursing in Norfolk to Offer Accelerated Bachelor's Degree

As part of a continuing effort to address the state's nursing shortage, the UNMC College of Nursing will offer an accelerated bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN) program at the Northern Division in Norfolk.

UNMC's College of Nursing currently offers accelerated programs in its four other divisions in Omaha, Lincoln, Kearney and Scottsbluff. The college's latest expansion of its programs includes a partnership with Wayne State College.

Accelerated BSN programs are one-year, intense programs that require students to take classes and do clinical rotations for three semesters in the spring, summer and fall. Students will begin classes on the Norfolk campus in January 2019 and graduate in December of the same year. Read more [here](#).

Two New College of Nursing Assistant Deans Hired

Dr. Connie Miller, assistant dean of the Omaha campus retired in the summer of 2018 and Dr. Susan Wilhelm in Scottsbluff stepped down from her role as assistant dean, but will continue her role as assistant professor.

We are excited to share that **Dr. Amy Hoffman** has joined the team in Omaha as the assistant dean and **Dr. Kelly Betts** has joined the Scottsbluff campus as the assistant dean there. Dr. Hoffman formerly served as an Associate Professor with Tenure in the College of Nursing at Michigan State University. Dr. Betts was an Assistant Professor at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Nursing.

Audrey Solberg Smith Distinguished Lecture: September 5, 2018

Clinical Nursing Education: Using Just Culture Principles to Address Student Performance and Document Concerns

Presented by: Mary Ellen Smith Glasgow, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN
Dean and Professor, Duquesne University School of Nursing

Reception: 4:30 - 5:00 PM (CT)

Lecture: 5:00 - 7:00 PM (CT)

UNMC Omaha Campus - Center for Nursing Science Building
4101 Dewey Avenue - Room 3030

Video broadcast Information:

Lincoln - UNL Campus - University Health Center - 550 N. 19th Street - Room 240

Kearney - UNK Campus - Health Science Education Complex - 2402 University Drive - Room 104

Norfolk - North East Community College - 801 E. Benjamin Ave. - Room 156

Scottsbluff - Western Nebraska Community College - 1601 E. 27th Street - Room B132

Target Audience: Faculty, nurses, and health professionals interested in clinical nursing education. This activity is provided for 2.0 contact hours under ANCC criteria.

Registration deadline is August 24th. To learn more or to register, click [here](#).

Escape Room Gives Prospective Students Insight Into Nursing



Faculty and staff at the UNMC College of Nursing Northern Division in Norfolk are using an engaging and fun tool in an effort to boost the number of Nebraska nurses -- escape rooms.

Called "Escape to Nursing," faculty and staff developed a new student recruitment strategy that gives high school and college students insight into the role and scope of professional nursing. Read more [here](#).

Quality CE leads to Quality Care

The UNMC College of Nursing Continuing Nursing Education program supports the mission of the University by providing the highest quality continuing education through programs designed for registered nurses with advanced and basic professional degrees in Nebraska and beyond. Activities aim to enhance the knowledge, skills, attitudes, competence, and performance of nurses, ultimately improving patient outcomes and community health. To meet the needs of adult learners, live programs and educational activities are delivered through state-of-the-art technology-based modalities that can be completed anytime and anywhere. Click [here](#) to learn more and to see a schedule of upcoming programs.

UNMC NEWS

UNMC Leaders Featured on RFD-TV



On Monday, June 18, Dr. Jeffrey Gold, the Chancellor of the University of Nebraska Medical Center and the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Dr. Juliann Sebastian, the Dean of the UNMC College of Nursing appeared on RFD-TV's show Rural America Live where they answered questions from viewers and spoke about:

- *Critical health care needs of rural areas and what UNMC is doing to address them*

- *UNMC's research on rural health care issues*
- *How UNMC is working to address the shortage of healthcare workers in rural areas*
- *How technology is impacting health care education*

You can watch the first two segments of the show [here](#).

UNMC outreach offers training to school nurses

In March of 2018, a student in the UNMC College of Nursing's master's degree program and staff from Simulation in Motion-Nebraska collaborated to take training to school nurses in the Omaha area.

Since launching the SIM-NE project a year ago, 133 training events have been completed serving EMS and hospital professionals throughout rural Nebraska. This was the SIM-NE first training event with a school district.



Amy Steinauer, a case management nurse at Nebraska Medicine, led the effort as part of her project requirement for the UNMC College of Nursing's master's degree program.

The project, which spanned two semesters, was the culmination of an organizational assessment at Papillion LaVista Community Schools, including reviewing the structure, culture and processes, including nurses and those they interact with, to evaluate potential new opportunities. Read more [here](#).

UNMC releases Rural Health Care Workforce Report

A 2018 rural health care workforce report issued by UNMC reveals that while there has been an 11 percent increase in the number of physicians in the state over the last 10 years, there are 13 counties that still do not have a primary care physician.

This and other key findings of the study appear in the 64-page report, "[The Status of the Healthcare Workforce in the State of Nebraska](#)." To read more about the background behind the report, click [here](#).

The University of Nebraska Advocates Program

Are you interested in receiving the latest updates on what's happening at the capitol, having an opportunity to share your concerns and ideas, and a platform to engage with your state representatives and other policy makers? If so, sign up for the [University of Nebraska Advocates](#) program.

The University of Nebraska Advocates program is a coalition of individuals who are passionate about their University, informed about the issues impacting higher education, and prepared to raise awareness of the University's contributions to the state of Nebraska and beyond.