



College of Nursing Newsletter

December 2018/January 2019

Kris Claussen, Editor



From the Desk of...

DEAN JULIE SEBASTIAN

Moving Forward With Rural Health

UNMC recently released a report entitled, *Rural Health 2030*, in which recommendations were made for refreshing our approach to rural health over the next ten years. With the College of Nursing's five campuses educating nurses at all levels throughout the state, and the extensive research and practice initiatives in which faculty are engaged that focus on rural health, we are positioned perfectly to make major contributions in this area.

The Nebraska Center for Nursing completed a model for dynamically estimating nursing workforce supply, demand, and shortages between now and 2025.¹ The data under any scenario show a worsening shortage of nurses over this time frame and disproportionate impact of the nursing workforce shortage on rural and frontier areas.

In today's technological age, telehealth offers tremendous promise for serving people in rural areas as well as those who are homebound or otherwise unable to easily seek care in urban areas. Dr. Lynne Buchanan and her team's *ALIGN* grant funded by the U.S. Healthcare Resources Services Administration is pioneering new ways to teach nurse practitioner students and support their preceptors in clinical care delivery. The Behavioral Health Education Center's (BHECN) participation in Project ECHO out of the University of New Mexico is another wonderful example of working together to support clinicians in rural areas. Our own Office of Continuing Nursing Education provides nursing CEUs for these programs.

The extensive research done by faculty in the College of Nursing for many years on the use of wearable technologies, and web-based solutions for diagnostics, monitoring, psychoeducational support, and self-management are on the forefront of enabling more people to be active partners in their own health. As an example, Dr. Christine Eisenhauer from the Northern Division will be honored in February as one of the UNMC New Investigators for her research promoting health among rural adults. A current example of a rural practice innovation is the project led by Dr. Nancy Meier entitled, "*Geriatric Cognitive and Mental Health Program for Rural Nebraska*" funded by Women Investing in Nebraska for Dr. Meier and her team's work based out of Scottsbluff. I offer my sincere congratulations to the many faculty, and research and practice staff, and students and research assistants involved in these and so many other important academic, research, and practice innovations.

The Rural Health 2030 Steering Committee is planning a Rural Health Summit in April, 2019 at our new building in Lincoln. A broad array of interested stakeholders will be invited and the focus will include attention to the recommendations of the 2018 report. I am delighted that the Summit will be held at the UHC/CON Lincoln building and think that will be a wonderful location for generating innovative ideas for strengthening collaboration with partners in rural areas.

Taken together, the College of Nursing's broad array of academic, practice, research, and lifelong learning programs partner with many people throughout Nebraska and beyond to address rural health in proactive and futuristic ways. The health of rural communities is vital as we move forward and we are proud to contribute to this goal.

My thanks to Gwen Porter and Kristi Brummels from the Northern Division for their wonderful work as our newsletter editors for the last two years. Please join me in welcoming and thanking Kris Claussen in the Lincoln Division for accepting the editorship of the newsletter!

Julie Sebastian
Dean and Professor

¹Nebraska Center for Nursing. (2017). *Nebraska's Multiregional Nursing Workforce Model. Technical Report and Main Findings*. Lincoln, NE: Author.

AWARD RECOGNITION

2019 AANP Advocate State Award for Excellence

Roberta (Bert) Kroeger, MSN, APRN-NP, Lincoln Division, will be receiving the 2019 AANP Advocate State Award for Excellence! This is a prestigious award given once each year to a dedicated advocate in each state who has made a significant contribution toward increasing the awareness and recognition of nurse practitioners. She will be honored as the Nebraska honoree during the 2019 AANP National Conference being held in Indianapolis, June 18-23.

Distinguished Alumnus Awards



Drs. Kathy Hanna and Robin Lally were inducted into fellowship in the American Academy of Nursing. Our alumna and one of our inaugural Hall of Fame inductees, Dr. Beatrice Kalisch, was recognized as an AAN Living Legend as well. All three of these amazing nurses epitomize making a difference through their unique talents, intellects, and leadership.

The Alumni Weekend at UNMC was held last fall with the theme, "Living the Legacy". Dean Julianne Sebastian felt this an apt theme as each of us is trying to improve health through education, research, and/or practice, and building a legacy for excellence into the future. Our own Dr. Jan Twiss, PhD, APRN-NP, WHNP-BC, was the recipient of 2018's Distinguished Alumnus award and gave a wonderful lecture about her career as a women's health nurse practitioner. The College of Nursing celebrated all of its award

recipients at the annual UNMC Alumni Banquet. In addition to Dr. Twiss, the award recipients are: Carissa Luecke, DNP, RN, Nursing Excellence Award; Jill Thewke, MPA, Honorary Alumnus; Dieu-My Tran, PhD, RN, CNE, Nursing Excellence Award; Kelly Hasenauer, DNP, APRN, FNP, Dorothy Patach Spirit of Service Award; Audrey Nelson, PhD, RN, Heritage Award.



UNMC College of Nursing 40 Under 40 Nurse Leader Honorees

Windy Alonso, PhD, RN

Delia Djalilova, BSN, RN

Breanna Hetland, PhD, RN, CCRN

Rachel Kunkle, MHA, RN, GRN, CDP, CADDCT

Elizabeth Mollard, PhD, APRN-NP, WHNP-BC, IBCLC

Renee Paulin, MSN, RN, CWOCN



NEW EMPLOYEES (July 1—January 31)



Taylor Anderson, MSN, RN
West Nebraska
Instructor
Email: taylor.anderson@unmc.edu



Angela (Kim) Hayes, MPH, BSN, RN
Omaha
HEROES Program Coordinator
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Kahla Atherton, DNP, RN, FNP-BC
Omaha
Clinical Assistant Professor
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Amy J. Hoffman, PhD, MSN, RN
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Professor, Assistant Dean, Omaha Division
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Photo
Not
Available

Nichole Baer
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Daniel Jensen
Omaha
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Kelly Betts, EdD, RN, CNE
West Nebraska
Assistant Dean / Assistant Professor
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Heather Kaestner, MSN, APRN-NP, FNP-C
Kearney
Nurse Specialist/Instructor
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Stefani Boardman
Omaha
Student Services Resource Associate
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Annette Kasselmann, MSN, BSN, RN
Omaha (transferred from Northern Division)
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Kelly Buchanan, MSN, RN
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Jenelle (Jennie) Kolterman, MSN, RN
Northern
Instructor
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Lori Carlen, MSN, RN
Lincoln
Instructor
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Lisa Krabbenhoft, MSN, RN
Lincoln
Nurse Specialist/Instructor
Email: lisa.krabbenhoft@unmc.edu



Emily Coffey, MSN, RN, MHA
Omaha
Instructor
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Angela (Angie) McDermott, MS, LIMHP
Kearney
Academic Success Coach
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Kristin Dickinson, PhD, RN
Omaha
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Brittany Schlueter, BSN, RN, EMT
Omaha
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Melissa Florell, MSN, RN
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Bridget Thoene, MSN, RN
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Heidi Gubanyi, MSN, RN
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Konnie Wood
Omaha
Special Project Coordinator
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CENTRIC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CENTRIC (The Center for Patient, Family & Community Engagement in Chronic Care Management) is glad to announce funding for another pilot study.

Letters of Intent were due 02/04/19

Full applications will be due 04/12/19

In addition to pilot funding, CENTRIC also has small "Just in Time Accelerator (JITA)" funding available for CON faculty and post-docs. Applications are accepted at any time and are reviewed on a monthly basis at the CENTRIC monthly Core meeting usually falling on the last Monday of each month.

UPCOMING CONTINUING NURSING EDUCATION PROVIDED BY UNMC CON CNE

All times are CST

- Feb. 1 **Pain and Substance Use Disorder ECHO Webinar series: High Risk Patients and Suicide**
Register before January 28 Live FREE webinar noon-1:15 1.0 contact hour
<https://www.unmc.edu/bhecn/education/project-echo.html>
- Feb. 2 **Rural Medical Education Symposium 2019**
Live FREE webcast 7:30-11:10am 3.0 contact hours
Register now: <https://rural.talemhealth.com/>
- Feb.8 **Rural Connect: Increasing HPV Vaccinations Rates in Rural and Underserved Settings**
Live FREE webinar noon-1:00pm 1.0 contact hour
<https://ruralconnect.talemhealth.com/#accreditation>
- Feb. 8 **Lymphoma Study Group Dinner**
Hilton Omaha \$25 Registration Fee 6:30-8:00pm 1.0 contact hour
<https://www.unmc.edu/cce/catalog/clinicmed/lsg-ash/index.html>
- Feb. 9 **Hematology Highlights: A Post ASH Review**
Hilton Omaha \$50 Nursing Registration Fee 7:45am-12:30pm 4.0 contact hours
<https://www.unmc.edu/cce/catalog/clinicmed/lsg-ash/index.html>
- Feb. 15 **4th Annual Elevating the Conversation: The Ecology of Well-being in the Health Professions**
Scott Conference Center or via Live Stream 8:00am-4:00pm 4.0 contact hours
\$30 Registration Fee / \$15 Students/Residents/Fellows
<https://www.unmc.edu/cce/wellbeing2019/>
- Feb. 18 **Pain and Substance Use Disorder ECHO Webinar series: Adolescent Pain and Substance Use Disorder**
Register before February 14 Live FREE webinar noon-1:15 1.0 contact hour
<https://www.unmc.edu/bhecn/education/project-echo.html>
- Feb. 19 **Rural Connect: Increasing HPV Vaccinations Rates in Rural and Underserved Settings**
Live FREE webinar noon-1:00pm 1.0 contact hour
<https://ruralconnect.talemhealth.com/#accreditation>
- March 1 **Pain and Substance Use Disorder ECHO Webinar series: Withdrawal Management**
Register before February 25 Live FREE webinar noon-1:15pm 1.0 contact hour
<https://www.unmc.edu/bhecn/education/project-echo.html>
- March 13 **Opioids: Healthcare's Paradox: Education and Resources for the Workforce**
Scott Conference Center, Omaha \$50 Registration Fee 8:30am-2:45pm 5.25 contact hours
<https://www.unmc.edu/bhecn/education/2019-opioid-conference>
- March 14 **Opioids: Healthcare's Paradox: Education and Resources for the Workforce**
Younes Conference Center, Kearney \$50 Registration Fee 8:30am-2:45pm 5.25 contact hours
<https://www.unmc.edu/bhecn/education/2019-opioid-conference>
- March 18 **Pain and Substance Use Disorder ECHO Webinar series: Relapse Prevention**
Register before March 14 Live FREE webinar noon-1:15pm 1.0 contact hour
<https://www.unmc.edu/bhecn/education/project-echo.html>

Watch for more BHECN Core Topics and Olson Center for Women's Health webinars in 2019!

For more information on live, online or independent activities, visit: www.unmc.edu/cne



Monday, March 4, 2019

Gamma Pi At-Large Winter Program

Engaging Students and Faculty Using Zoom/Distance Learning

presented by

Lora Claywell, PhD, MSN, RN, CNE

Professor, Loretto Heights School of Nursing, Regis University

Target Audience:

Advanced Practice Nurses, registered nurses, and nursing students

Educational Objectives:

- ❖ Define learner engagement
- ❖ Describe why learner engagement is important
- ❖ Determine how learner engagement is promoted
- ❖ Utilize resources to increase learner engagement in alternative delivery models
- ❖ Consider how learner engagement strategies may be applied in context (Q&A)

Agenda: all times CST

5:30pm Dinner and Poster Scrolling (Dinner may be offered at CON Divisions, contact your Division for information)

6:30pm Business Meeting

7:00pm Engaging Students with Zoom

Please bring a canned or personal care item to the meeting that will be donated to a local organization for the underserved in your community.

Omaha Center for Nursing Science (CNS) RM

Parking structure on NE corner 42 & Dewey

Enter CNS (gray) building from Dewey through North Entrance, take elevator/steps to 3rd floor

Dinner \$10.00 - Pay at Door for Omaha Campus

RSVP to campus location/contact representative by Thursday, February 28, 2018 or [Register here](#)

Omaha: CNS 3030

Carol Geary, carolr.geary@unmc.edu or Jennifer Jessen, jjessen@csm.edu

Lincoln: HCCN 332

Sue Schuelke, sue.schuelke@unmc.edu

Kearney: HSEC 106

Sarah Dillon, sarah.dillon@unmc.edu

Norfolk: Room 156

Kassidy Horst, kassidy.horst@unmc.edu

Scottsbluff: Harms B132

Dana Samson, dsamson@unmc.edu

Course ID: 19CN068

The University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing Continuing Nursing Education is accredited with distinction as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. This activity is provided for 1.0 contact hour under ANCC criteria.

FIVE CAMPUSES SHARING ONE MISSION!

KEARNEY DIVISION NEWS

The Student Nurses Association sponsored our annual Nursing Career Fair that was held early October. Fifteen Kearney and surrounding vendors were present. College of Nursing (CON) and College of Allied Health Professions (CAHP) students attended.



October ended with Kearney Division's annual Frightening Food Contest. Health Science Education Complex (HSEC) faculty, staff and students (CAHP and CON) brought "frightening foods" to share at their lunch pot luck. Monetary and food donations were accepted to benefit the Midwest Community Foodbank. Over 147 pounds of food and \$100.00 was collected.

In November, Kearney welcomed Angela (Angie) McDermott as part of the team in the new Academic Success Coach position. Angie engages students with a holistic approach to facilitate student success; provides students with individual and group appointments; and has developed a student toolbox from which students can access resources on topics of interest.

Late November, 15 undergraduate baccalaureate nursing students, 3 graduate students, and 1 doctoral student were inducted into Sigma International, Gamma Pi At-Large Chapter. The ceremony honored the achievements of the inductees and the nursing profession.

In late November, Dr. Cathrin Carithers participated in UNK's first Frank Discussion held at the G.W. Frank Museum of History and Culture. The topic was Influenza on the Plains, 1918-2018. Dr. Carithers presented "Immunizations: Past to Present."

The traditional baccalaureate students provided flu shots for UNMC and UNK students, faculty, staff and their families as part of their Population as Client project in NRS 413 Population-Centered Care. The students held three flu shot clinics beginning in October. Over 250 influenza immunizations were given.

Mary Girard and the Kearney Division welcomed nine graduated Accelerate Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) students to join the healthcare workforce in December. All are employed, eight in Nebraska. January 2019, a cohort of ten ABSN students were admitted.

The Kearney Division hosted the Leadership Kearney #28 youth and adults at the HSEC for Education Day in early December. Groups got to participate in hands-on activities with the iWall, high-fidelity simulation manikins, anatomage table and the energized lab. This was a fun afternoon for all!

To celebrate the Christmas holidays, the HSEC faculty and staff collected donations to pack care boxes that were sent to our soldiers for the holidays. In addition, we had a holiday potluck and ugly sweater contest. It was wonderful for us to get together and celebrate!

In January, Kearney faculty and staff engaged in training for our new iWall. Kearney faculty and students have begun to integrate active learning activities using the iWall to connect students from Lincoln, Omaha and Scottsbluff. Students have embraced this new technology and enjoy the hands-on approach to synthesis and application of their concepts into practice.



LINCOLN DIVISION NEWS

The Lincoln campus new building opened in the Fall of 2018 with an enrollment of 78 undergraduate students in Semester 1 and 69 undergraduate students in Semester 3. The skills and health assessment labs are state of the art and students were delighted to begin hands on learning in the new building. The White Coat ceremony was held on September 7 in the new Willa Cather Dining Center on the University of Nebraska campus. The speaker for the event was Dr. Susan Hassmiller, a UNMC graduate and current Robert Wood Johnson Senior Advisor for Nursing. A reception followed at the new College of Nursing building for all students, family members and friends. Over 400 people attended this event.



On November 2 the Induction Ceremony for Sigma Theta Tau International Gamma Pi chapter was held in the second floor classroom for Lincoln inductees. Twenty undergraduate students and two graduate students were inducted.

Lincoln faculty and staff participated in the initial Gaumard high-fidelity manikin training on December 14th. Plans for additional Gaumard training to assist faculty in becoming more familiar with simulated learning is being pursued.

Lincoln faculty are exploring the possibility of using Media Outreach to publicize their new Sim Center in the Round. Karen Chase, Media Specialist with Russo Partners LLC

in NYC, helps facilities with simulation training programs like ours get media coverage to spotlight the cutting edge nature of simulated learning free of charge. Ms. Chase has been in contact with the Lincoln Division, and it is hopeful that within the upcoming year, we will be able to showcase all of our high-fidelity manikins, as well as the six simulation labs, to inform others about these new facilities and equipment.



Three examples of outreach results are: **Boston Children's Hospital—Super Tory:** <http://boston.cbslocal.com/2017/12/06/super-tory-robot-baby-simulator-childrens-hospital/>; **Florida International University in Miami—Pediatric HAL:** WPLG 10 News reports: <https://vimeo.com/306493333>; **Minneapolis—Pediatric HAL:** WCCO 4 News reports: <https://vimeo.com/306493333>

Semester 1 students participated in vaccination clinics during the fall semester. The clinics were held at the College of Nursing, College of Dentistry and the UHC Student Health. Close to 900 vaccinations were administered to students and faculty.

Lincoln Division faculty and staff continue to remedy issues and concerns with AV and IT connections with the other campuses. New tabletop microphones and other hardware and software have been installed to help streamline clearer connections. The ongoing plan for classroom support includes hiring an additional tech in Lincoln as well as working with One IT to utilize the assistance of UNL student workers; and adding a half-time LRC/simulation expert. These positions should be posted within the next four to six weeks. Faculty are looking forward to having additional support staff available to help address AV, simulation, and IT concerns.

In January, Lincoln expanded its cohort of accelerated students from the usual 8 to 14 students. Lincoln was able to accommodate this increase because an additional instructor was added to the Lincoln faculty roster. Early this year, Lori Carlen, MSN, APRN-AGCNS, BC, CEN was hired as a half-time instructor to assist with undergraduate coursework, with a special emphasis on the accelerated program. She currently works half-time as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in the ER and Observation Unit at CHI Health St. Elizabeth Regional Medical Center and will continue to do that while also on faculty at the Lincoln Division. We are hoping to use her expertise in emergency and trauma care in the design of scenarios with our ER/ICU sim lab.



Lincoln faculty and staff provide services to Clinic with a Heart (CWH), a faith-inspired organization that serves the uninsured and underinsured through a ministry of healthcare. The Lincoln CON volunteers provide free healthcare each month where there is a fifth Tuesday and/or Thursday. Due to several recent Lincoln faculty retirements, we are experiencing a shortage of NP providers for the Clinic. The remaining dates in 2019 when Lincoln Division will be providing services are: Apr. 30, May 30, July 30, Aug. 29 and Oct. 29. We are reaching out to NPs on other campuses who may be interested in volunteering services to please contact Dr. Paula Schulz at 402-472-7336 or pschulz@unmc.edu.

The Nebraska Association of Nursing Deans and Directors (NANDD) will be holding their quarterly meeting in the new building in Lincoln on March 7th, from 10-4:30 pm. The Lincoln faculty and staff are pleased to be able to showcase the facility to other nursing deans and directors in the state.

The Rural Health Education Network will be holding their annual meeting in our new College of Nursing facility the last week of April. Specific information will be provided, including the event date, once it is received.

NORTHERN DIVISION

Faculty and staff at the College of Nursing-Northern Division partnered with Northeast Community College to provide care packages to more than 150 residents at the Norfolk Veterans Home in December. They also provided snacks for the residents.

The College of Nursing-Northern Division welcomed its first class of accelerated nursing students on January 7, 2019. Until this time, the Northern Division was the only UNMC CON campus without an accelerated program. The four students in Norfolk's program are expected to graduate in December 2019.

OMAHA DIVISION NEWS



Beth Culross and Jill Thewke, co-chairs of Omaha Division meetings, have implemented a monthly theme for each meeting to focus on well-being and positivity. #BeKind was the first theme introduced and all were encouraged to exhibit and share acts of kindness. Teamwork was the theme at the December meeting. Faculty and staff took time to share out loud and on winter-themed shapes those individuals or groups that have made an impact on their work life. January's theme centered on #goTHRIVEon in honor of Dr. Jessica Nielsen. Jessica was passionate about helping others achieve the health and life they were destined to lead so all were reminded about the importance of self-care. Check out Jessica's blog at gothriveon.org.

In celebration of the Day of the Dead, also known as *el Día de los Muertos*, Tina Cook and Ana Lara-Ramirez put together a decorative display in memory of our deceased faculty and staff of the College of Nursing. They also shared some *pan de muerto* (Mexican bread of the dead).

El Día de los Muertos is a Mexican holiday celebrated throughout Mexico, in particular central and south regions and by people of Mexican heritage elsewhere. The multi-day holiday focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember friends and family members who have died, and help support their spiritual journey.



The Omaha Division would like to give a shout out to the Lincoln Division for donating student lounge furniture and classroom tables that were no longer needed due to the move to the new building. Omaha completed a much-needed update to the CON building student commons complete with new paint and the furniture from Lincoln. The tables were used in two CON building classrooms as part of the technology updates made over winter break. Thank you, Lincoln Division!



WEST NEBRASKA DIVISION NEWS



Twenty-eight students were inducted during the September 7th Nightingale White Coat Ceremony.

On September 24th, college of nursing second year students were joined by WCC and EMT students to participate in a HEROES afternoon of emergency care activities and role playing. Students rotated through six stations including a mental health scenario related to disasters/emergencies; an emergency transportation station where students used a med sled and chair transfers; Isopod use; a computer triage activity; infant/child CPR and

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) use.



Seventeen students were inducted into the STT Gamma Pi at-Large Chapter during the Sigma Theta Tau International ceremony on October 26th.

On November 4th, the Scottsbluff campus was again a host site for the Business Industry Tour for high school students considering a career in health sciences. College of nursing students served as tour guides and activity leaders throughout the day, directing, assisting, and encouraging potential students as they rotated through a variety of hands-on informational stations including the Sim NE Truck, a pharmacy activity, EMS/IV injections, Triage, iWall activity, and an Anatomage Table demonstration.



The Student Nurses Association hosted their annual career fair on November 11th. Vendors from the Panhandle area, Wyoming and Colorado attended. This event continues to be a good fundraiser for SNSNA, and is also a great opportunity for students to learn about possible future career opportunities.



Students took their Population Health Student Informational Health Fair booths on the road to the Scottsbluff Senior High School junior class last fall to give the high school students the opportunity to rotate through CON student-led prevention and health care related information/activity booths. The topics presented included Teen Pregnancy, Sex Trafficking, STIs, Suicide, Tobacco, Texting & Driving, Type 2 Diabetes, Anxiety, and Organ Donation. CON students received very positive feedback from the class. Students commented that they appreciated the information and activities, and also enjoyed the interaction with WND CON students.



The WND campus's 2nd annual *A Day to Give-A-Way* food drive netted 162 food items. Items were donated to the Community Partnership of Western Nebraska (CAPWN) food bank.

SNSNA students held a successful coat drive during the month of October and November. The coats were donated to local long-term care facilities.

On the third Thursday of November every year, the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health (NOSORH) leads National Rural Health Day, an annual day of recognition for those who serve the vital health needs of nearly 60 million people residing in America's rural communities, estimated to be one in five Americans. NOSORH is the member organization serving all 50 State Offices of Rural Health (SORH) with Nebraska headquartered in Lincoln.



Wendy Wells, WND Nursing Instructor, was recognized for her services by being named a 2018 Rural Health Day Community Star! Through her role as part-time NP-AHEC Education Coordinator, Ms. Wells promotes health-related careers to rural and underserved community kindergarten through post-secondary school students. It is her hope that at least some of her students will remain in the community to serve and address the Panhandle's health care workforce shortages. Wendy is featured in the 2018 edition of the

<https://www.PowerofRural.org> website, the official hub for National Rural Health Day and the Power of Rural movement. Information obtained from www.powerofrural.org & NP-AHEC newsletter.

Dana Samson and the WND team welcomed 8 students to the accelerated BSN program. Ms. Samson reports that the students are adjusting well and are excited to begin clinical experiences in the hospital!

WND is proud of our 2nd year students who are serving on the State Student Nurses Association Board this term: Molly Bloodgood, President; Shantel Lurz, First Vice; MacKenzie Bowker, Secretary; Lindsay Pfankuch, May 2018 BSN graduate serving as Student Advisor.

WEST NEBRASKA DIVISION continued

iWall Presentation/Faculty Development Session: Jerry Schledewitz, LRC Technologist and Tiann Colwell WHPN-BC, Nursing Instructor, presented at the Faculty Development session January 10th. Ms. Colwell discussed the iWall teaching capabilities across campuses, and Mr. Schledewitz reviewed the technology, and how it is used in different ways. For example, the use of Apple TV for debriefing recorded simulations; the email function used to send students a copy of the complete lesson from the wall for them to study during the week; and the ability for students to share active learning across the campuses

This year the SNA state convention is being held at the Gering Civic Center on February 16th. The convention will include vendors, speakers, focus sessions, business meetings, and great networking opportunities for future nurses. Attendees will have an opportunity to tour the Sim NE Truck. WND Nursing faculty Tiann Colwell, WHNP-BC and Barb Nickel, APRN-CNS will be among the presenters at the focus sessions. Ms. Colwell will present *Life as a Nurse Practitioner*. She will share details about the path that led her to where she is today; why she chose women's health; benefits of becoming an advanced practice nurse; and challenges nurse practitioners are facing today. Ms. Nickel will present *Critical Care Nursing*. She will provide an overview of critical care as a potential career path through exploration of a variety of scenarios/critical thinking exercises and group discussion.

Dr. Kelly Betts, Assistant Dean of the West Nebraska Division, has been asked to participate on the UNMC Dental Hygiene advisory board. Dr. Betts attended her first meeting in November to give input on how the College of Nursing students and dental hygiene students can work interprofessionally in the Scottsbluff/Gering communities.

Dr. Trina Aguirre and Ann Koehler are currently working on two manuscripts for her RFI: Assessment of and Treatment Applied to Food Addiction to Encourage Self-Management of Obesity grant, pilot study. One is near ready for submission and the second one is in progress. Dr. Aguirre is waiting to hear from the National Institute of Health for her proposed study, R01: Evaluation of behavioral/pharmacological interventions to identify effective, targeted treatments for overweight/obesity in two obesity subgroups, individuals positive or negative for food addiction.



Faculty and staff enjoyed chili, cornbread, veggies and desserts during their Fall Celebration.

In December they spent an afternoon at Dr. Bett's home for an early Christmas celebration that included food carry-in, gift exchange, and great conversation.



GENERAL STAFF ORGANIZATION (GSO)

The GSO has put out a plea to all faculty and staff: We are collecting non-perishable food for your local Food Banks, and new or gently used warm socks, gloves, hats, scarves, and coats for the Salvation Army in your community. Boxes will be available for donations on your campus until February 20th.

The GSO also invites you to participate in the Valentine's Day Box Contest and the Random Acts of Kindness (watch your emails!).

When was the last time you decorated a Valentine's Box?
When was the last time you received a Valentine's card in a
Valentine's Box?

Now is the time!!



- ♥ Decorate your box at home—be creative.
- ♥ Bring your box in no later than February 14th.
- ♥ Place your box outside of your office door for easy access.
- ♥ Best overall box on each campus gets a prize.

Then, show your co-workers that you care and are thinking about them. Place in as many boxes as you wish: a Valentine card, candy, a special "thinking of you" note, or whatever you feel, to spread kindness (which is the GSO theme this year)! Have fun!

Happy Valentines Day