



# College of Nursing Newsletter

April/May 2019

Kris Claussen, Editor



From the Desk of...

## **DEAN JULIE SEBASTIAN**

### **College of Nursing Annual Meeting Emphasizes Teamwork and Wellbeing**

The College of Nursing Annual Meeting, held in Lincoln on May 8, was a rousing success! Many thanks to the members of the Planning Committee, led by LaDonna Tworek, for their hard work and pulling together a coherent theme around teamwork and wellbeing. It seems everywhere I go, I hear about the trends toward greater collaboration, teamwork, and matrix organizational structures in our networked age.

Katherine Jones, PhD, PT provided the keynote presentation for the CON Annual Meeting and did a splendid job explaining TeamSTEPPS as one systematic approach to teamwork that leads to improved outcomes. She explained the concept of multi-team systems that include core teams, coordinating teams, and contingency teams as a strategy to create effective organizational outcomes. We practiced an exercise in team communication that surprised many of us. We may have thought we were great communicators and yet were challenged by this brief activity!

Both Dr. Steve Wengel, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Campus Wellness at UNO and UNMC, and Connie Boehm, Director of UNL Big Red Resilience, spoke about wellbeing. I had the pleasure of attending Connie's breakout session and recall her focus on starting something small to promote wellbeing. Small changes can add up to big impacts on a healthy lifestyle. I think many of us thought the short break to walk over to the Lincoln Division's new building and tour the beautiful spaces was just such an opportunity to promote wellbeing! The link between these topics is the impact of high functioning teams on wellbeing. I love this quote from comedienne and actress Amy Poehler:

**"Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life forever."**

We have the privilege of being in that kind of environment – amazing people, incredible talent, and wonderful generosity of spirit.

The following week, at the ICAN 2019 Women's Leadership Conference in Omaha, one of the keynote speakers, futurist Mike Walsh, spoke of the importance of breaking out of linear, hierarchical ways of working and moving seamlessly into collaborative, adaptive teams. He referenced his newest book, *The Algorithmic Leader* (2019), to explain how he arrived at his thinking about teamwork by using an anthropologic approach to analyzing the impact of technology and artificial intelligence on work today. We have so many opportunities to work in teams with the College's five campuses, some courses taught across campuses, some courses involving a team on a single campus, research teams, and inter-professional clinical teams, to name a few. Of note, two groups received the College of Nursing Spirit of Teamwork Award this year at the CON Annual Meeting!

I wish all of you a lovely summer and encourage everyone to spend a little time reflecting on how we can continue improving and supporting our many and varied teams, and cultivate an environment of wellbeing for all. Have a great summer!

Julie Sebastian, PhD, RN, FAAN  
Dean and Professor



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## Governor Ricketts Approves State Budget Package, Including NU Funding

Governor Pete Ricketts signed into law a two-year state budget package that will fund core needs of the University of Nebraska, and keep tuition affordable for NU's 52,000 students. "Our Legislature and Gov. Ricketts recognize the incredible value of investing in the University of Nebraska, which has been proven to bring long-term impact and much needed economic growth to our state," Dr. Gold said. "This budget enables UNMC to continue carrying out its mission of transforming and improving the quality of life locally, nationally and globally."

The budget funds NU's request for state dollar increases of 3% in 2019-20 and 3.7% in 2020-21. Those increases will cover core needs including operations, utilities, salaries and health insurance.

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## Pathway Summit Looks to the Future

Approximately 50 leaders from UNMC, Nebraska's state colleges, and UNK attended the *Pathway* summit held at the UNMC CON Lincoln facility on May 16th. "The pathway programs have been successful in returning many students to rural areas to practice, but rural health workforce challenges continue, and our health care system is changing," said Nikki Carritt, Rural Health Initiatives Director at UNMC. "The summit provided us with an opportunity to provide feedback on where the pathway programs currently are, as well as discuss strategies we collectively could take to improve them."

Nebraska's rural pathway programs date back to the early 1990s. Early on, UNMC partnered with the state colleges to provide guaranteed admittance to programs, with expectations that students would spend significant time training in rural areas and then return there to practice. Today, nine professions at UNMC participate in the Rural Health Opportunities Program (RHOP) with state colleges and the Kearney Health Opportunities Program (KHOP) at UNK. Another program in public health, PHEAST, also attracts rural students. A fourth program, Urban Health Opportunities Program (UHOP), targets underserved urban areas. Through 2017, more than 587 students have graduated from the programs targeting rural areas. Of those, 44% were still practicing in rural Nebraska, and another 18% practiced in urban Nebraska.

Bob Bartee, Vice Chancellor for External Relations stated, "There's no question these pathway programs have had success in placing providers in rural Nebraska. With changes to the rural health landscape over the past 25 years, now is the time to infuse new creativity and energy to meet these changing needs. The summit really crystallized some innovative ideas to move forward."

"A report from the summit will highlight those ideas, as well as action steps for moving forward," Carrit said. "Bringing together stakeholders to brainstorm on these programs was invaluable."



(Left) Sen. Matt Williams of Gothenburg spoke at the summit, stressing the importance of growing the health care workforce for rural areas of the state.

(Right) Paul Turman, PhD, Chancellor of the Nebraska State College System, and Marysc Rames, PhD, President, Wayne State College, participate in a roundtable discussion with Merlin Vogt, DDS, Assistant Dean, Student Affairs, UNMC College of Dentistry.



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## AACN Announces Nursing Faculty Selected to Participate in the 2019 Digital Innovation Bootcamp

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) announced the 35 nursing faculty from across the nation who have been selected to participate in the 2019 AACN-Apple Digital Innovation Bootcamp: From Content to Action, to be held June 24-27 in Austin, Texas.

Sue Schuelke, PhD, RN, Lincoln Division, was one of the 35 faculty selected through a very competitive application process that was completed by more than 130 nursing faculty and staff.

AACN launched this initiative to provide new opportunities for nursing faculty to leverage the latest technology to enhance learning in the classroom, laboratory, online, and clinical settings. Those invited to participate in this highly interactive event will enjoy sessions on preparing digital content, developing iOS mobile apps and multi-touch books, and creating an engaging learning environment. Those selected to attend this bootcamp are applauded for their commitment to leveraging the latest technology and digital innovations to foster a truly interactive learning experience for today's nursing student.



**Congratulations Sue!**

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## Grant Recipients

The CON received word on May 3rd that the *Health Disparities* grant submissions by Dr. Margaret Emerson, Omaha, and Dr. Nicholas Guenzel, Lincoln were selected for funding:



**Margaret Emerson**, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC, Omaha Division (Harsh, J., Dinkel, D. & Watanabe, S.)  
Feasibility of Using Smartphone Apps in Primary Care to Manage Underserved Patients with Mental Illness



**Nicholas Guenzel**, PHD, RN, APRN-NP (Dombrowski, K.)  
Peer Recovery Coaches to Help Native Americans Recovering from Addiction

Two CON Faculty Receive Faculty Diversity Awards—the award is for up to \$50,000 per year for up to two years!



**Trina Aguirre**, PhD, RN



**Marcia Shade**, PhD, RN



Louise LaFramboise, PhD, RN, CNE (Project Director) and her team have been awarded a three year HRSA grant entitled “Activating Veterans: The Call to Primary Care Nursing”. Other members of the team include Cathrin Carithers, DNP, RN (Co-Project Director), Teresa Hultquist, PhD, MSN, RN, PHCNS-BC, NE-BC, Heidi Keeler, PhD, RN, and Molly Belieu, MA. In this project, the



“University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Nursing (CON) proposes to recruit and prepare veteran undergraduate (UG) nursing students to practice to the full scope of their license as members of primary health care teams in the development of a sustainable primary care (PC) workforce to meet the needs of Nebraskans. The CON will facilitate partnerships within the University of Nebraska (UN) system and the Veterans Administration of Nebraska and Western Iowa Health Care System (VA) to develop dual admission programs and clinical opportunities that address the issues unique to veterans.” There are several tie-ins from the aims and activities of this grant to others the CON already holds or has applied for. While only the first year funding is guaranteed, as per usual, the totality of the grant request is in excess of \$1.3 million. This is almost the earliest in the year that we have heard about a HRSA grant. It will begin July 1, 2019.

**Congratulations to All!**

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## 2019 CON Annual Meeting—ALL SYSTEMS GROW

The annual College of Nursing Faculty/Staff meeting was held Wednesday, May 8, 2019 in Lincoln. Although the weather was a bit rainy, the attendance this year was excellent with 160 faculty and staff from all five divisions coming together at the Willa Cather Dining Center to have an opportunity for professional development and to continue building relationships.



There were a number of presentations held throughout the day. The always highly anticipated State of the College review of the 2018-2019 academic year was presented by Dean Julie Sebastian followed by a presentation on the TeamSTEPPS, an evidence-based teamwork system, presented by Dr. Katherine Jones, President of the Board of Directors for the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety.

Faculty and staff then attended break-out sessions of their choice which included Undergraduate or Graduate course group work, or they could attend one of the following sessions: *Design Thinking Boot Camp* presented by Kati Bravo and Stacy Werner; *Uncovering Truth by Telling Lies: Using Fiction Techniques to Integrate Nursing* presented by Mark Darby and Mary Petersen; *Workplace Safety and Personal Awareness* presented by Officer Chassidy Jackson-Goodwin of the Lincoln Police Department; and *Five Types of Procrastination* presented by Traci Johns, Executive and Productivity Coach.

The audience enjoyed a lunch presentation by Sara Walcott, Collections Manager at the UNL International Quilt Study Center, who gave a brief history of quilting. She shared photos and interesting facts about some of the Quilt Center's collection which has grown to over 6,000 quilts representing more than 50 countries and spanning five centuries.

In the afternoon, faculty and staff attended break-out sessions revolving around wellness which included a session on *Enhancing a Culture of Well-being* presented by Dr. Steve Wengel, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Campus Wellness for UNO and UNMC; or *Chair Yoga*, led by MJ Jobes. Everyone also had an opportunity to tour the new impressive College of Nursing building on the Lincoln campus.

The day wrapped up with the College's annual awards ceremony where 13 awards were given out. We were honored to have on the phone, three of our former deans, Dr. Rosalee Yeaworth, Dr. Virginia Tilden, and Dr. Ada Lindsey. Each former dean respectively announced the recipient of their named award.

All in all, another successful meeting thanks to the planning committee chaired by LaDonna Tworek, and members Jennie Kolterman and Tom Gaffney from Norfolk; Taylor Anderson and Bobbi Hartshorn from Scottsbluff; Gloria Geiselman and Beth Atwood from Kearney; Cara Mouw and Cathy Binstock from Omaha; and Diane Brage Hudson and Tom Mason with special assistance from Sherrie Ames and Amy Frizzell from Lincoln.

## 2019 Faculty / Staff Awards



**Ada M. Lindsey Professional Service Award-Clinical Practice**  
Nicholas Guenzel, PhD, RN, APRN-NP



**Ada M. Lindsey Professional Staff Award**  
LaDonna Tworek



**Dean's Excellence in Teaching Award**  
Kelly Gonzales, PhD, APRN-NP, FNP-C



## 2019 Faculty / Staff Awards continued



### Distinguished TEAM Award (Tie)

Clinic with a Heart Lincoln Division Faculty/Staff Volunteers: Paula Schulz, PhD, RN; Rita Antonson, MSN, RN, APRN-NP; Christie Campbell-Grossman, PhD, RN; MJ Jobes, MA, RN; Roberta Kroeger, MSN, RN, APRN-NP; Myra Schmaderer, PhD, RN; Rita Schmitz, MSN, RN; Nancy Waltman, PhD, RN, APRN-NP (Not pictured: Kris Claussen; Kathy Duncan, Emeritus Faculty; Tom Mason; Sheri Rowland, PhD, MSN, APRN-BC FNP; Sue Schuelke, PhD, RN; Dawn Tassemyer, MSN, APRN, FNP-C)



### Distinguished TEAM Award (Tie)

The Awesome Threesome: Douglass Haas, MSN, APRN-NP, AGACNP-BC, CCRN-CMC; Patricia Hotaling, BSN, RN; Bunny Pozehl, PhD, APRN-NP, FHSFA, FAHA



### Donna Westmoreland Excellence in Faculty Mentoring Award

Rita Schmitz, MSN, RN



### Kathryn Sandahl Philp Creativity and Innovation Award

Kirsten Curtis, MSN, RN



### Pennie Z. Davis Faculty Research Award

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



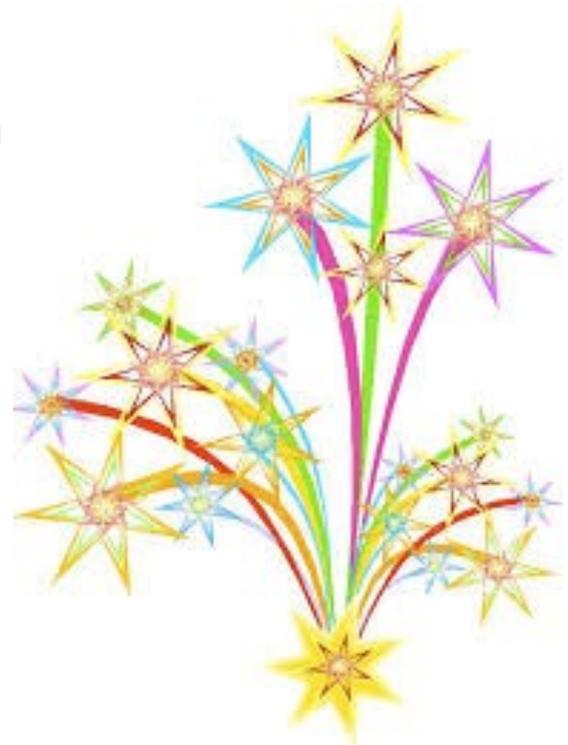
### Rosalee C. Yeaworth Teaching Excellence Award

Janet Nieveen, PhD, RN



### Virginia Tilden Leadership Development Award

Louise LaFramboise, PhD, RN



## 2019 Faculty / Staff Awards continued



**Staff Excellence Award**  
Tia Stevenson, BSN



**Staff Leadership Award**  
Sandra Sasse, MSN, RN



**Staff Spirit Award**  
Buffi Union, BA



**CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE!**

### 2019 Annual Meeting



GFO Chair Rita Schmitz introduced incoming Chair Michelle Ellermeier—and passed the gavel. Thank you Rita for an outstanding year chairing the GFO and FCC. And...best wishes to Michelle in the 2019-2020 academic year.

*Thank you!*



Thank you LaDonna Tworek—for your humor and the fabulous job you do each year pulling this annual meeting together. Also, thank you for bringing that same humor to the GSO as Chair this past year — we wish Gloria Geisman, incoming chair, all the best.

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**NEW EMPLOYEES (April 1—May 31)**

***Welcome to the UNMC College of Nursing team!***



Bobbie Barton, Academic Success Coach, Omaha Campus  
Phone: 402-559-4121  
Email: bobbie.barton@unmc.edu



Ann Callies, Academic Success Coach, Lincoln Campus  
HCCN, Room 350T  
Phone: 402-472-4712  
Email: ann.callies@unmc.edu



Tess McKinney, Enterprise AV Technologist, Lincoln Campus  
HCCN, Room 310M  
Phone: 402-472-0156  
Email: tess.mckinney@unmc.edu



Diane McMurray, MSN, RN, Instructor, Lincoln Campus  
HCCN, Room 310J  
Phone: 402-472-7499  
Email: diane.mcmurray@unmc.edu



Diana Schneider, Accounting/Administrative Support Associate, Omaha Campus  
Phone: 402-559-6572  
Email: diana.schneider@unmc.edu

**2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR RETIREES**

Kathy Wulf—August 2018  
Carol Meyer—September 2018  
Jan Twiss—December 2018  
Patty Ealy—May 2019  
Suz Wilhelm—June 2019

***We wish you well in the next chapter of your life!  
Thank you for your dedication to the  
UNMC College of Nursing!***

**2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

**40 Years**

Peggy Pelish  
Nancy Waltman

**30 Years**

Hilary Christo  
Nancy Farris  
Bobbi Hartshorn  
Rita Schmitz

**20 Years**

Tom Mason  
Mary Wendl

**15 Years**

Mary Cramer  
Valeta Creason-Wahl  
Patrick Rejda  
Sandra Sasse  
Robert Schmida

**10 Years**

Molly Belieu  
Ernestine Cook  
Therese Matthews  
Leeza Struwe

**5 Years**

Catherine Binstock  
Beth Burbach  
Andrew Chisholm  
Lyndsay Dean  
Patricia Ealy  
Kathryn Fiantt  
Angela Hayes  
Daniel Jensen  
Lynnette Stamler  
Denice Ott  
Jana Pressler  
Buffi Union  
Kami Wattenbach

***Thank you for your continued  
service to the  
UNMC College of Nursing!***



# FIVE CAMPUSES SHARING ONE MISSION!

## KEARNEY DIVISION NEWS

The Kearney Division has been busy with the closing of the Spring 2019 semester. Kearney faculty, Dr. Stacy Werner along with Omaha faculty, Dr. Kati Bravo, attended a week-long Stanford Education Workshop in California entitled "Design Thinking Bootcamp: From Insights to Innovation". We look forward to hearing more from them on this engaging experience.

The Kearney Division had a great turn out of not only pets but students, as our local Pet Therapy volunteers came to the Health Science Education Complex foyer before an exam to calm nerves and demonstrate what an important role pets have in our overall wellbeing. In April, Kearney had Dr. Steve Wengel, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Campus Wellness, visit our campus and speak to College of Allied Health Professions (CAHP) and CON faculty, staff, and students on wellbeing and strategies to promote health.



At the end of April, faculty and staff held an ice cream social for the traditional BSN seniors to congratulate them on a job well done!

The CON and CAHP hosted a Backstage Pass event for high school students in central Nebraska. The event was well attended by approximately 80 students. CON faculty facilitated active learning experiences that addressed wound care and vital signs with the students.



In May, we sadly said farewell to instructor Patty Ealy on her retirement. We wish her much success on the next phase of her journey. May also brought more farewells as we celebrated our future nurses during our graduation ceremony.

We are excited about their career opportunities and look forward to hearing where they are employed and how their education impacted them as they transition to UNMC CON alumni. We are pleased to announce that Dr. Stephanie Burge has been promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor. Congratulations, Dr. Burge! Finally, the Kearney Division is focused on hiring two undergraduate faculty members to join our team this August. Interviews have begun and we are excited about the process.



With summer months upon us, the Kearney Division faculty, staff and students are looking forward to warmer weather, walks in the park, and activities with family and friends. We look forward to our return to the HSEC in August to share stories about all of our summer experiences and gear up for another exciting year!

## LINCOLN DIVISION NEWS

### Innovators in Education E-Learning Showcase

Two student-faculty teams in the College of Nursing [Megan Witcig, Ashli Glosser, BSN '19 Lincoln campus students and faculty advisor Dr. Libby Mollard] were featured at the Innovators in Education E-Learning Showcase. The showcase highlighted projects that were competitively awarded funding through the Office of Academic Affairs to create e-learning modules for UNMC. These projects were created over 7 months. During the showcase students and faculty were presented awards and gave live demonstrations of the projects. Information on the projects and students and faculty involved can be found here:

[https://www.unmc.edu/elearning/documents/E\\_Learning\\_Booklet\\_2019.pdf](https://www.unmc.edu/elearning/documents/E_Learning_Booklet_2019.pdf).



## LINCOLN DIVISION NEWS *continued*

The Lincoln campus faculty and staff recently received the UNL Chancellor's Cup (traveling trophy) for our efforts in the annual Combined Campaign/United Way drive! The traveling trophy will be presented each year to the department that has the highest percentage of faculty and staff response to the Combined Campaign/United Way drive. Tom Mason, the CON Lincoln campus coordinator for the Combined Campaign event, stated "it is quite an honor to be rewarded with this trophy, especially because this is the first time the UNL Chancellor's Cup has been awarded. It is especially important for us to participate in the Combined Campaign since our nursing students work with many of the campaign agencies as clinical sites throughout our community. Our participation in the drive is a way for us to acknowledge and give back to the participating agencies as they assist and work with us and our students."



The Combined Campaign/United Way drive was co-chaired by UNL Chancellor Ronnie Green, his wife Jane Green, and Charlie Foster, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

Chancellor Green expressed that the Combined Campaign/United Way is a very important campaign for the health and overall wellbeing of our community. He also stated that the UNL campus is seen as an integral part of the community and thus felt that we have a responsibility to give back to the community. As a result, he felt there should be some fun impetus shown to make the drive stand out as something relevant and important for all employees of the campus. So, in that vein, small prizes were awarded to individuals throughout the campaign. The grand prize is the awarding of the Chancellor's Cup. Thanks to each and everyone at the CON Lincoln campus for your efforts at making the drive a success for the agencies of the community, and CON-Lincoln's outstanding participation which allowed us to receive this award and acclamations from Chancellor Green's office on behalf of UNL.

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## NORTHERN DIVISION NEWS

The Northern Division is busy preparing for summer and fall activities. An externship program is currently underway for students who have completed their first year of nursing school. Students who apply for the externship are partnered with a preceptor for six weeks and refine their nursing skills through clinical practice.

Construction began on May 20th to reconfigure a room in the College of Nursing building in Norfolk to accommodate an iWall. The purpose of the iWall, which will be installed at the end of June/early July, is to facilitate cross campus education and collaboration. It also provides a mechanism for incorporating cutting edge technology into the classroom.

The Northern Division has partnered with Wayne State College to provide a nursing summer camp July 30-31. Although the Northern Division has hosted summer camps since 2012, this is the first year collaborating with Wayne State College for the event. Numerous interactive activities have been developed to engage students and introduce them to the field of nursing. The two-day event is open to 10-12th grade high school students.

Looking forward to fall, the Northern Division will offer two courses at Wayne State College. These classes include HSC 101 Introduction to Health Professions and HSC 296 Ethnicity and Culture in Health Care.

Diana Rizzo, Student Services Coordinator at the Northern Division, has created a "home base" retention strategy for students. Students are grouped based on personality types to help them form a community.

The Northern Division is looking forward to an exciting 2019-2020 academic year!

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## OMAHA DIVISION NEWS

On March 30th, the Omaha NSNA members attended a Student Nurse Collaborative event with other nursing colleges in the Omaha area. Colleges in attendance were UNMC-Omaha, Clarkson College, College of Saint Mary, Creighton



University, Metropolitan Community College, Nebraska Methodist College, and Midland University. Douglass Haas, NNA President, spoke as well as Liz Raabe from Nebraska Medicine. The student leaders of each campus served as panelists after the speakers and answered questions about how their club operates. This allowed everyone to get new ideas for how to increase membership and involvement in this organization. This event made the front of Nebraska Nurse Vol 52, No 2.



## OMAHA DIVISION NEWS continued



The Omaha campus is currently hosting two students from Kristianstad University in Sweden. Adam and Julia have been at the College of Nursing since April and will leave in early June.



## WEST NEBRASKA DIVISION NEWS

### A Message from Dr. Susan Wilhelm



As you may know, my last official day of work is June 30, 2019. This has been a wonderful journey for me. I love my College of Nursing family, and I have truly enjoyed working with everyone. I will miss you all! Best Wishes!

### WND Faculty Participate in Behavioral Health Careers Mini-Conference

A behavioral health careers mini-conference was held at the Harms Center at Western Nebraska Community College Wednesday, April 24, 2019. The conference was designed to introduce the variety of Behavioral Health Careers available for study and career paths to community high school and college students. Over 45 individuals attended.

Three concurrent sessions were conducted to introduce a specific behavioral career health pathway to the participants. The three roles and sessions were led by a Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counselor, a Psychologist and Substance Abuse Counselor Pathway, and by a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. During each session, a Case Study on Jeremy who had a behavioral health problem was discussed and the leader presented how their role would provide care and assistance to Jeremy. The education pathway for each of the three behavioral health careers was presented and included how the student could obtain their education at local and area community colleges and universities.



Nancy Meier, APRN-BC, DNP, presented the overview of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) and their role. The participants in the session identified key symptoms of the client, Jeremy, and then discussed how a board-certified PMHNP provider would complete an assessment and psychiatric history, complete laboratory tests, and identify a diagnosis. Then options for treatment were discussed by the group. The PMHNP Pathway for education was also reviewed.

During lunch, keynote speaker Dennis Gillan, discussed the importance of the behavioral health professions from his perspective.

Wendy Wells, BS, BSN, MSN, RN, Population Health/Leadership Instructor represented the UNMC CON and the NP Nebraska Area Health Education Center (AHEC), and assisted in the planning and coordination of the program.

Sponsors of the program included: Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN), Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska (CAPWN), Nebraska Area Health Education Centers (AHEC), Chadron State College, Western Nebraska Community College, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing.



Bobbi Hartshorn, Wendy Wells and Nancy Meier participated in National Walk at Lunch Day.

A baby shower for Hannah Weisgerber, BSN, MSN, RN, was hosted by the WND faculty and staff. Hannah and husband, Tanner, are now the proud parents of baby Hazel Grace, born May 11. Miss Hazel weighed in at 6 pounds 11 ounces.



UNMC CON Graduation Day in Western Nebraska!



During the WND 2019 graduation ceremony, Dr. Todd Holcomb, the President of Western Nebraska Community College (WNCC) was recognized in appreciation for his support of the UNMC College of Nursing. He was presented with a plaque from the WND. Dr. Holcomb will be leaving WNCC at the end of June to pursue another career in Iowa.

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**GENERAL STAFF ORGANIZATION (GSO)**

**GSO Reads** is a book club sponsored by the General Staff Organization Membership & Engagement Subcommittee. We meet via Zoom from noon to 1:00 pm. GSO Reads is open to all staff and faculty. Please contact Jill Thewke (jthewke@unmc.edu) if you are interested in joining the group.



**UPCOMING BOOK SELECTIONS**

- ◆ **A Spark of Light** by Jodi Picoult, a daring and enthralling novel about a hostage situation at a women's reproductive health services clinic
- ◆ **The Two-Family House** by Lynda Cohen Loigman, an engrossing family saga set in post-war Brooklyn. It focuses on two families linked by blood, marriage, and a long-held secret
- ◆ **Where the Crawdads Sing** by Delia Owens is an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and surprising tale of possible murder

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***Write it on your heart that every day  
is the best day of the year!***

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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The next CON newsletter will be sent out about August 19th to kick off the 2019-2020 academic year. Please send any newsletter articles to me between now and August 12th to be included in the next newsletter. Have a great summer!

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