Dear Colleagues,

As this remarkable Spring semester winds to a close, all of us can reflect on the many challenges, both personal and professional, we have collectively faced resulting from the COVID-19 crisis. Despite new and unfamiliar hurdles placed in their paths, College of Nursing faculty, students, and staff have continued to forge ahead with research endeavors and use their talents, convictions, and wealth of experiences to help students succeed and give to those in need. This issue highlights innovations arising from this spirit of giving and recognizes the unique contributions made by members of our College community.

During the pandemic, nursing faculty, students, and staff have responded to new ways of accomplishing work. Remote instruction and learning for all nursing courses became a reality in a matter of days, new policies were enacted to ensure students’ academic progression, and meetings and conferences moved entirely online. As leaders and change agents for both delivery of care and healthcare innovation, nurse innovators are well-positioned to develop and implement creative solutions. CON faculty linked new and continuing research with innovations necessitated by the COVID-19 crisis. Their contributions at this precarious time include both scholarly work such as grant-funded projects, as well as personal acts of giving highlighted throughout this issue.

Over the last few months, I have thought more deeply about the vital contributions of nurses and nursing research and practice and how these ideals are expressed in the Some Days poem found on the first-floor mural in Henderson Hall. In collaboration with the Wick Poetry Center, we hope to re-envision the poem in light of our present circumstances. To view the video and contribute a line or stanza to the poem, please visit https://communitypoems.travelingstanzas.com/somedays.

Mary K. Anthony, PhD, RN
Professor, Associate Dean for Research

College Innovations

Tracy Dodson, MSN, RN, with Drs. Chris Woolverton and Rick Ferdig, Andrew Snyder, and Janet Reed, MSN, RN, CMSRN, had their letter to the editor, “Re-purposing of Surgical Wrap Textiles for Use as Protective Masks during Pandemic Response,” published in Applied Bioscience.

Drs. Dana Hansen, Amy Petrinec, and Tracey Motter developed the website, “Building Resiliency During Serious Illness,” to provide resources to families with loved ones hospitalized during the pandemic. Families may also share experiences and receive support from the researchers’ blog. The website may be found at https://www.kent.edu/nursing/building-resiliency-during-serious-illness-crisis.

Jennifer Shanholtzer and Jeremy Jarzembak were instrumental in the donation of two ventilators from the Olga A. Mural Simulation Lab in Henderson Hall to University Hospitals Portage Medical Center in Ravenna to help care for patients during the pandemic. The College of Nursing also donated many additional needed items such as sterile gloves, gowns, and masks. Kent State Salem donated ventilators to the Salem Regional Medical Center in Salem, Ohio. Donations were made prior to Governor DeWine’s statewide mandate.

Amy Petrinec, PhD, RN, was interviewed by and quoted in the Kent Record-Courier about the importance of outdoor exercise during the COVID-19 crisis to maintain physical and mental health.

Jennifer Shanholtzer, MSN, RNC, CHSE, served as a panelist for a virtual panel discussion held by Laerdal Medical titled, “Challenges in the Current Environment for Nursing Education.”

(continued below)
**College Innovations**

**Heidi Weisel**, Andrew Snyder, and Amy Veney helped develop People Protecting Each-other Sustainably (PPEs), a grass roots organization of Portage and Summit County residents creating sustainable, handmade face masks to local first responders. The PPEs team has nearly 100 donors and volunteers who have donated over 3,000 face masks to more than 25 front-line provider organizations.

Utilizing 3D printing and laser-cutting resources available at Kent State University, students and faculty from the College of Nursing, University Libraries, Research Center for Educational Technology, and Colleges of Public Health, Architecture and Environmental Design, and Aeronautics and Engineering are participating as part of the Kent State University Design Innovation (DI) Initiative to respond to COVID-19 by prototyping and producing face shields and masks for medical personnel on the front lines. Protective equipment has been donated to the Kent State Police Department, DeWeese Health Center, and MedWish International.

**Scientific & Scholarly Presentations**

**VIRTUAL**


**CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19**


**Faculty Recognitions**

Kim DePaul, MSN, RNC-OB, lecturer at Kent State Trumbull, was certified as a Clinical Nurse Educator.

Diana Fleming, PhD, MSN, RN received her PhD in Prevention Science from the College of Public Health.

Ann James, MSN, RN, has been honored by the Women’s Center through the Kent State University Mothers, Mentors, and Muses program recognizing those who have been instrumental in the lives of students and colleagues.

Jeremy Jarzemba, MA, BSN, BS, RN; Krista Hawkins, MSN, RN; Tracey Motter, DNP, RN; and Karen Mascolo, DNP, RN, had stories of their personal nursing journeys published on the Northeast Ohio Year of the Nurse website at yon2020neo.com, an initiative spearheaded by the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University.

**Faculty Publications**


**New Grant Awards**

Kim Cleveland and Drs. Gregory Gibson (Department of Sociology) and Christopher Woolverton (College of Public Health) were awarded funding by Sigma Theta Tau, Delta XI Chapter for their project, *Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) KSU Community Survey*.

Dr. Amy Petrinec received funding from Laboon-Stenporche and the Kent State University Research Council for her study, *Family Caregivers of ICU Patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Psychological Symptoms and Health-Related Quality of Life*.

Drs. Denice Sheehan (PI), Pamela Stephenson (Co-I), and Christopher Was (Co-I, Department of Psychological Sciences) received an R21 grant award from the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) of the NIH for their study, *Interactions Among Adolescents with a Parent in Hospice and the Hospice Care Team*. 

www.kent.edu/nursing/research
Student Research

**DNP Defense:** The following student defended her scholarly project and graduated with her DNP:

Tina Barker, *The Use of Clinical Pathways in Patients with Thoracic Injuries.* (Dr. Louise Knox, Chair; Drs. Tracey Motter and Lisa Onesko, members).

**PhD Defenses:** The following students defended their dissertations and graduated with their PhD:

Karen Distelhorst, *Transitional Care, Neighborhood Disadvantage, and Heart Failure Hospital Readmission: A Moderated Mediation Analysis* (Dr. Dana Hansen, Chair; Drs. Lisa Onesko, Lynette Phillips, and Amy Petrinec, members; and Dr. Jeffrey Hallam, graduate faculty representative & moderator).

Shadi Kanan, *Predicting Intentions to Physical Activity in Jordanian Patients with Coronary Artery Disease: Impact of Attitudes, Subjective Norms, and Perceived Behavioral Control* (Dr. Dana Hansen, Chair; Drs. Barbara Broome, Amy Petrinec, and Donna Bernert, members; & Dr. John Updegraff, graduate faculty representative & moderator).

Pictured above: Drs. Barbara Broome, Shadi Kanan, and Dana Hansen.

Year of the Nurse (YON) Stories

In recognition of the WHO 2020 Year of the Nurse, the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University is posting 365 nursing stories to their website at yon2020neo.com. Please consider adding the story of your personal nursing journey to those already posted.

Brown Bag Engagement Series

Many thanks to those who presented for the Center for Nursing Research’s monthly Brown Bag Engagement Series sessions which contribute to scholarly discourse and development within the College of Nursing. As a result of the pandemic, the Center for Nursing Research held its very first virtual Brown Bag session on April 13th.

Jan. 27th: Dr. Ann Ancona: Discovering the Art & Science of Pediatric Nursing: Nursing Students’ Experiences with Journaling in an Undergraduate Pediatric Clinical Rotation

Feb 24th: Jennifer Shanholtzer, Jeremy Jarzemba, and Onur Topuzlu: Emerging Technologies and Educational Trends in Healthcare Simulation

April 13th: Kay Gianantonio, Jonas Scholar Award Recipient: Primary Care: Dietary Supplement Use Among Patients and Implementation of Patient Supplement Education

Student Presentations


Undergraduate Symposium on Research, Scholarship, and Creative Endeavors (poster presentations)


**Harcula, K.** (2020, April). *The effects of a foster parent training program on managing foster youth’s behavior.* Mentor, Dr. Andrea Warner. (virtual).


**Solar, R.** (2020, April). *Peer-led education improving outcomes for adolescents with asthma.* Honors advisor, Dr. Jo Dowell. (virtual).

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**News You Can Use**

**National Institutes of Health (NIH):** In recent weeks, the NIH has provided updated information related to grant awards and COVID-19 to both current awardees and potential applicants. Guidance for proposal submission, award management, and funding opportunities related to COVID-19 may be found at their website, [https://grants.nih.gov/policy/natural-disasters/coronavirus.htm](https://grants.nih.gov/policy/natural-disasters/coronavirus.htm).

**NIH proposals due on or after May 25th will now use FORMS-F grant application forms.** FORMS-E packages have a sunset date of May 24th and are no longer connected with active funding opportunities. Biosketch forms remain the same (aside from a new expiration date), but significant changes were made to other forms, including the SF424 (R&R) Form, Research Plan, Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information, and various budget forms. A summary of these changes may be accessed at [https://grants.nih.gov/grants/electronicReceipt/files/high-level-form-change-summary-FORMS-F.pdf](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/electronicReceipt/files/high-level-form-change-summary-FORMS-F.pdf).

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**If you’re interested in joining our faculty, collaborating on a research project, or supporting our research efforts:**

**Contact Us**

**Center for Nursing Research**

Kent State University
College of Nursing
214 Henderson Hall
[www.kent.edu/nursing/research](http://www.kent.edu/nursing/research)
330-672-8767

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**Staff Notes**

**Gingy Stypa, MPA, CNPM,** Administrative Assistant to the Dean, has been honored by the Women’s Center through the Kent State University Mothers, Mentors, and Muses program recognizing those who have been instrumental in the lives of students and colleagues.

**Dixie Williams,** Administrative Secretary for the College of Nursing, celebrated her 20-year anniversary with Kent State University.