# Nursing to the second s

# ACHIEVING OUR POTENTIAL

#### PG. 5 Nursing Delivers Wide Range of Career Opportunities

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NEW ORLEAN School of Nursing

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# Message from Our Dean



As a major health crisis plays out around the globe, we are reminded that nurses, the largest sector of health care workers in every country, play a pivotal part in the frontline work that makes a difference to patients. Similarly, we are also reminded that nurses play an important role in health policy, research and the crucial activities of preventing and containing widespread disease.

Perhaps there has been no better time to advance the vital position of nurses around the world. In this issue, you can read about how the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing is supporting the efforts of the World Health Assembly in celebrating the Year of the Nurse and the Midwife. You can also learn about the important research our staff is undertaking to improve health care. Plus, you can see how our students are impacting local and global health outcomes through important community outreach.

I am proud of the School of Nursing's legacy in preparing nurse leaders to improve global health and deliver innovative nursing practice. Read on to learn about how we continually focus on a strategy of excellence, and the mapping process we recently undertook to help us concentrate on work we want to do in eight key areas.

Remarkable things happen every day in and around the School of Nursing. I appreciate the work of our faculty and the support of our alumni, clinical practice, and business partners that make these remarkable things possible. The world will always demand more nurses. We are making sure our graduates can meet that need as leaders.

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Demetrius J. Porche, DNS, PhD, PCC, ANEF, FACHE, FAANP, FAAN Dean and Helen A. & James B. Dunn Professor Louisiana State University Health – New Orleans School of Nursing

# WHO DESIGNATES 2020 AS THE **Year of the Nurse** and the Midwife

The value of nursing is almost inestimable. According to the World Health Organization, nurses and midwives make up nearly half of the global health workforce, with around 20 million nurses and 2 million midwives worldwide. The World Health Assembly, the governing body of the WHO, has designated 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and the Midwife to advance nurses' and midwives' vital position in transforming health care around the world.



"Nurses and midwives are the backbone of every health system. In 2020 we're calling on all countries to invest in nurses and midwives as part of their commitment to health for all," says Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

"It is clear that nursing is the largest component of the health care workforce, and without nursing there would be little health care," says Demetrius J. Porche, DNS, PhD, PCC, ANEF, FACHE, FAANP, FAAN, Dean of the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing.

To support the efforts to raise the profile of nursing and midwifery, faculty members at the School of Nursing will author a series of peerreviewed whitepapers on the important roles of nurses and midwives. Whitepaper topics will include: the role of the nurse and nurse practitioner; how the School of Nursing has contributed to community and health care; how the School of Nursing is helping boost the nursing workforce; and how nursing contributes to health care.

"As a leader and pacesetter, we have decided to author these whitepapers as a means to educate the public on nursing's role in the health care system, create public awareness of the many roles nurses engage in within health care, serve as a recruitment strategy for the profession and highlight the contributions of the School of Nursing," Dr. Porche says.

#### **Raising the Profile of Nursing**

Along with the important scholarship focus of the whitepapers, the School of Nursing continues to help raise the profile of nursing by recruiting potential students from diverse backgrounds and demographics.

"Patients deserve to be served by health care workers who represent them, individuals that they can connect with and who understand their needs," says Souad Salloum, Nurse Recruiter in the school's Office of Student Services. "In our nursing school, you see students from a range of ages and backgrounds, men and women, all there because they have desires for a health care career that makes a difference to people."

"I believe we play a critical role in improving the health care environment when we have students from diverse backgrounds graduating from our program and joining the workforce," she adds. "We are not only improving our communities by graduating qualified people, but also improving the health care systems that serve our patients."

#### Serving the Local Community

Because the School of Nursing is highly involved in local communities, residents already experience the value that nursing brings to individuals and communities.

"Our nursing students are always out in the community working with shelter homes, nursing homes and other local organizations via clinical rotations and service projects,"



#### "It is clear that nursing is the largest component of the health care workforce, and without nursing there would be little health care."

DEMETRIUS PORCHE, DNS, PHD, PCC, ANEF, FACHE, FAANP, FAAN

Salloum explains. "We also collaborate with the LSU Health Sciences Schools on community initiatives. In addition, students in our BSN program take a Community Health Nursing course that allows them to work on health issues that face local communities such as obesity, hygiene, poor nutrition, smoking and much more."

School of Nursing students are also active in student organizations that have made some important health impacts recently. Right after the collapse of the Hard Rock Hotel construction site in New Orleans in the fall, the Student Nurses Association (SNA) organized an urgent blood drive and was able to collect 92 units of blood. "This is just one example of how our students are passionate and contribute to improve our communities," Salloum says.

#### **Empowering Nurses**

Because nurses make up a majority of the health care workforce, and their skill is needed more than ever before, the School of Nursing is uniquely positioned to positively impact health on a large scale and empower the nurses who make this impact happen.

"We are excited that the strong focus placed on the nurse and midwife via this notable designation by the WHO will not only draw attention to the important role nurses play in health care, but will also raise the profile of nurses within health care systems and the community," Dr. Porche says. "We are excited to do our part in showcasing these roles and ensure that nurses are supported and prepared to meet the health care needs of the community, nation and world."

# Nursing Delivers Wide Range of Career Opportunities

Since Florence Nightingale's influence made nursing a respectable and important career, nursing has become one of the most in-demand professions in the world. Today, employment opportunities in the field are varied and growing, proving there's never been a better time to join the profession. Perhaps that's why the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing is represented by a wide variety of students, from recent high school graduates to midand late-stage career changers.

In 2019, students at the School of Nursing ranged from 19 to 72 years old, according to Souad Salloum, Nurse Recruiter in the school's Office of Student Services. "Many of our students come from completely different career backgrounds," she says. "One nursing student was a hairdresser for 15 years, and when asked why she chose to become a nurse, she said, 'I have been taking care of people from the outside for the last 15 years, now it is time for me to take care of them from the inside by taking care of their health."

#### **Something for Everyone**

Perhaps one of the reasons for nursing's popularity as a career choice is that it offers myriad career paths that suit different skill sets.

"You can work directly with patients and provide care at hospitals, military bases, nursing homes, travel nursing, schools,

private clinics and much more," Salloum explains. "You can be behind the scenes improving patient health care delivery through research at health centers, universities or with government health agencies. As a nurse, you can also educate new nurses at a hospital or join academia as a nursing faculty member teaching future nurses."

Kendra Barrier, PhD, MSN, RN, CNE, Assistant Dean for Student Services and Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing, is an excellent example of the varied paths nursing can take.

"I always wanted to be a nurse because I love caring for people. Although I am not a bedside nurse anymore, I now care for nursing students and colleagues," she says. "My nursing skill focus has changed to be a great listener, a coach, a mentor, a tutor and a great resource to over 1,000 students. For me, nursing has been a great fit!"

#### **The Right Nursing Education** at the Right Time

To support the need for more nurses, the School of Nursing carefully crafts and follows a strategic plan that aligns mission and vision with goals and objectives. Of particular importance is delivering an educational experience that is attractive to a diverse audience of students and that effectively equips graduates to excel in the field.

At the School of Nursing, students can choose from a range of generalist or advance practice nursing programs, depending upon their career goals. Generalist programs at the school include BSN, RN-BSN, Career Alternative RN Education (CARE) and Early Admission RN (EARN) programs. Advanced practice programs include Clinical Nurse Specialist, Nurse Anesthesia, Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Leader and Public/ Community Health Nursing.

"As a school, we are uniquely positioned to educate a diverse population of students of all ages and experiences," Dr. Barrier explains. "We are a leader in education, research and scholarship with strategic initiatives to transform nursing and health care."

One of those initiatives on the horizon is a holistic admission process. "When implemented, this process will allow us to review an applicant's experiences and attributes as part of the process for accepting an applicant as a student," she says.

#### **Encouraging Future Nurses**

Students who come to the School of Nursing often do so because they heed a calling inspired by examples of other nurses.

"It is fascinating to see individuals from different stages of life want to go into nursing," Salloum says. "Some prospective students say they want to be a nurse after witnessing the enormous work nurses do in taking care of a loved one. Others get inspired by having a member in their family who is a nurse, and they see the impact nurses make in their communities."

Once these students are on campus, the faculty and staff then help them find and define their career path.

"As recruiters, administrators and faculty in nursing, we play a major role in making sure that these individuals are aware of what nurses do and the opportunities within this profession," says Salloum. "Once we introduce them to nursing skills and the different career routes, it's exciting to see how their individual career horizons open up."





# LOCAL BUSINESS & NURSING STUDENTS UNITE

#### **Care Transcends Boundaries in Global Health Initiatives.**

Each February and May, students from the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans Schools of Nursing, Medicine, Dentistry and Public Health travel to Andahuaylas, Peru, a small village where basic health care is either limited or not available. Interprofessional teams set up mobile primary care clinics at different sites each day (within the same district) to provide care in an extremely rural community and make a difference in the health of this severely underserved population.

Students benefit greatly from this global health opportunity, learning and serving simultaneously in a very different health care system. They return with new perspectives on health care delivery in Louisiana and greater insight into the art of compassion, which transcends boundaries. Undergraduate nursing students who have successfully completed Junior II coursework are eligible to apply to the program, and sponsorships help offset costs needed for supplies and travel.

The following nursing students received sponsorships from these businesses to participate in the outreach to Peru:

Kathryn Wright (undergraduate who participated in the February 2020 trip) Mediterranean Shipping Company • Econify

Kristina Rigterink (undergraduate who is slated to participate in the May 2020 trip) Law Offices of Tamara Kluger Jacobson

• Thionville Family

Sara Lass (graduate who is slated to participate in the May 2020 trip) • ADEETA Corporate Staffing



#### **Collecting Supplies for Fellow Nurses in Peru**

Nursing Skills and Technology Center faculty worked with a local vendor to collect the following supplies for the School of Nursing at Universidad María Auxiliadora in Peru.







Following **Her Passion** to Achieve **Her Potential** 

In mid-March 2020, as the health care community and country struggled to come up with ways to control and contain an unprecedented pandemic, Jaymalisa Whatley (BSN '19) teleconferenced with the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing's Senior II class from her post in Washington, the hardesthit state at the time. Now a medical oncology ICU Nurse at the University of Washington Medical Center, Whatley shared information and insights about COVID-19.

As a teenager, Whatley couldn't have imagined her current role – as a nurse who regularly helps save and improve patients' lives and as a valuable health information resource for students at her alma mater.

When she was in eighth grade, she recalls an assignment to go home and talk to her parents about what she wanted to be when she grew up. At the time, "the best we could come up with was something in the hospitality industry," she says.

Mom Latina Whatley says she always knew her daughter had the potential to do great things, but the family didn't have the money or resources to pay for the education it would require.

It turned out what Whatley needed most was a little inspiration. An encouraging high school teacher supported her interest in the health care industry, and specifically nursing. She showed Whatley that education was the way forward and that, with enough

Now working fulltime in a career she loves, Whatley is helping inspire other Louisianans to realize their own career aspirations through diligence and hard work.

passion and willingness to put in the hard work, she could reach her potential. Whatley has taken the reins of her own success story ever since.

As a junior, she penned the winning entry in the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) and Nurse.com 17th Annual Essay Contest with a piece about the NSNA's resolution "In Support of Advocacy for Policies Supporting Affordable Health Coverage and Quality Care."

At the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses 2018 Student Nurse Convention, Whatley won the "Louisiana Student Nurse of the Year" award and scholarship and had her resolution passed regarding diversity in nursing. At her May 2019 graduation, she received the Chancellor's Award.

Now working full-time in a career she loves, Whatley is helping inspire other Louisianans to realize their own career aspirations through diligence and hard work - even though she works three time zones way from her home state. To aggressively move Louisiana forward, the Board of Regents recently unveiled a new attainment goal that calls for 60% of all workingage adults in Louisiana to hold a degree or high-value credential by 2030. They featured Whatley in their campaign video, as an example of the incredible rewards of supporting and developing local talent.

"The state needs you and your talent, and it is our responsibility to develop that talent," Whatley says.

Learn how Whatley overcame challenges that once seemed insurmountable to follow her passion for patient care: masterplan.regents.la.gov

# **Redefining the Path** to Nursing Excellence

For many people disenchanted with their careers, the missing ingredient is often the lack of doing something they feel makes a difference. Those who have already completed a non-nursing degree program may find going back to school to become a nurse can be a fast-track way to a more fulfilling career.

Since 2003, the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing has offered that route via the Career Alternative RN Education (CARE) program of study. The program is designed for individuals who have earned bachelor's degrees in other fields and who would like to become nurses. Successful completion culminates in a Bachelor of Science in nursing degree.

#### **Realizing the Benefits** of a Nontraditional Start

Before pursuing a degree at the School of Nursing, CARE graduate Vanessa Shields (BSN '18) lived and worked in Washington, D.C., as an intelligence analyst. After earning a master's degree in international politics and security, 10 years of government service and some time spent living abroad, Shields realized that "working toward social justice was integral to my values." That realization set her on a path to becoming a nurse practitioner.

"The accelerated BSN program at the School of Nursing was the beginning of that journey," says Shields. "The CARE program was rigorous and gave me a solid base to move forward with my career in nursing and health advocacy. While a student, I advocated for integrating LGBTQ health content into undergraduate nursing curriculum to help address health disparities often experienced by this community. The School of Nursing was very receptive and even opened LSU's first gender-inclusive bathroom on the Health Sciences Campus during my last semester, showing real leadership."

Shields now lives and works in rural coastal Maine, where she is finishing a Master of Science program to become a family nurse practitioner. She currently practices as a forensic nurse at three rural hospitals, conducting exams and providing care for survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and child abuse. She also serves on the board of Maine's LGBTQ youth advocacy agency, OUT Maine, where, as the only health sector board member, she advocates for comprehensive, respectful and empowering health care access for LGBTQ youth.

Shields says.

CARE students build on their previous knowledge and have impacted the profession in a variety of ways, says Stephanie Pierce, PhD, MN, RN, CNE, Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing, who has served as CARE's program director since 2005. "It has been amazing to see students from various backgrounds, science and non-science, contributing and continuing to make a difference in health care delivery."

#### "The CARE program was rigorous and gave me a solid base to move forward with my career in nursing and health advocacy." VANESSA SHIELDS (BSN '18)

The CARE program follows the same curriculum as the school's traditional three-year BSN program, but its pace is accelerated. The first and last blocks of the program are traditional 15-week semesters, while the theory portions of the middle three blocks' courses are accelerated.

CARE students have the same amount and types of clinical and simulation training as traditional students, including 900 hours of hands-on practicum.

"CARE and traditional students share many courses, and CARE students are also required to participate in Team Up, which is our interprofessional initiative for all schools here at the Health Sciences Center," Dr. Pierce explains.

One of the things Dr. Pierce is most proud of is CARE graduates' approximately 98% pass rate for the National Council

"My experience in the CARE program provided me with leadership opportunities and lifelong mentors, helping set the stage for my fulfilling career as a nurse leader,"

#### A Common Curriculum, Condensed

Licensure Examination (NCLEX). Another of her points of pride is their readiness to take on the nursing profession's challenges.

"CARE students learn to adapt, problemsolve and develop clinical reasoning at a very fast progression," she says. "Their academic and life experiences contribute to this."

#### **Bolstering the Pipeline** with Well-Prepared Providers

In preparation for a projected 2030 nursing shortage driven by retirements of RNs in the Baby Boomer generation, the School of Nursing's clinical partners have requested initiatives that will increase the number of academically prepared nurses in the profession's pipeline. In response, the School of Nursing's CARE program increased the number of students accepted, from 45 three years ago to 70 in the current year.

"We have always had more applicants than spots available," Dr. Pierce says. "All three of our undergraduate BSN programs – including CARE – are focused on attracting diversely experienced students, so we use a comprehensive admission process, not just GPA and hard metrics."

That process includes in-depth interviews and a proctored essay at the School of Nursing. Prior to admission, all students must complete 43 hours of required prerequisite coursework, including biology lecture and lab, microbiology, physical science and developmental psychology, with a grade of B or better in each.

"Students understand that these prerequisites will build a stronger foundation for successful progression through our program, and many have willingly gone back to retake some prerequisites due to the competitive nature of our application process," Dr. Pierce says.

The CARE program admits students each fall. The application deadline is January 15. Details of the application process can be found at nursing.lsuhsc.edu/care/ application.aspx.

# MAPPING IT OUT:

# Our Strategy for Excellence

Success doesn't just happen: It has to be planned. The LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing makes a disciplined effort to understand and commit to actions that will move the school forward into a successful future. To accomplish this, the school has developed a strategy map that is designed to guide efforts from 2020 through 2022.

"The strategy map is similar to a strategic plan but provides overall direction to guide our future and decision-making, while maintaining flexibility for innovation," says Demetrius J. Porche, DNS, PhD, PCC, ANEF, FACHE, FAANP, FAAN, Dean of the School of Nursing. "Our goal is to use this map to help us improve nursing, population and global health outcomes in a dynamic health care environment."

To achieve that goal, the map outlines eight focus areas of opportunity for the School of Nursing:

- 1 Enhance academic excellence
- 2 Expand research programs and culture
- 3 Transform academic-practice partnerships
- 4 Execute strategic presence
- 5 Optimize the organizational environment

- 6 Maintain a civil, collaborative, caring, diverse and inclusive culture, climate and healthy work environment
- Enrich effective communication channels
- 8 Permeate continuous quality improvement decision-making

The mapping process happens every three years. "Our previous strategy map helped us successfully initialize or implement the majority of our priority items between 2017 and 2019," Dr. Porche says.

This process to develop the 2020–2022 strategy map took about a year and involved stakeholders including faculty, students, customers and consumers. "The administrative team conducted an environmental scan, evaluated our accomplishments from the existing strategic plan, and reviewed our mission, values and key strategies," Dr. Porche explains. "Administrative council members participated, and students were given an opportunity to provide input. Faculty provided input into the strategic direction by evaluating the existing strategic map for relevancy and where we should go in the future. Our academic practice partners were queried during our nurse executive meeting about future directions."

#### **Aligning with University Values**

The strategy map provides an at-a-glance picture of where the School of Nursing is heading. It aligns with the foundational elements of the LSU Health Sciences Center plan: to be recognized as an outstanding comprehensive public academic health sciences center that serves the needs of all citizens of the state of Louisiana by delivering professional education and training, conducting innovative research, providing high-quality patient care, and engaging in diverse outreach initiatives. "Our strategy map is consistent with the direction of nursing schools within academic health centers," Dr. Porche says. "It is also integral to and complementary to the LSU Health Sciences Center strategic direction."

The strategy map and the School of Nursing strategic plan also align with the philosophy and core values of the university. These include fostering a collaborative culture that encourages excellence, risk-taking and an openminded approach to challenges; maintenance of a culturally adept and globally engaged university culture; and celebration of innovative thinking.

The work ahead includes some exciting initiatives proposed on the map. These include expansion of academic-practice partnerships, actualizations of a preceptor academy, implementation of a nurse



#### **Ensuring Positive Progress**

The strategy map represents the promise the School of Nursing sees in its potential and a schoolwide commitment to achieve that potential. To get there, the school looks to the map to ensure that it makes decisions that are relevant to its communities of interest and that align with national nursing initiatives.

"The map has helped us identify work we want to do in our eight areas of focus and serves as a visual reminder of the path we want to stay on," Dr. Porche says. residency and fellowship programs, an expanded academic program and establishment of a PhD program in nursing, among others.

Because the plan's goals, objectives and strategies are established in each of the eight areas of opportunity, they ensure the ability to regularly monitor outcomes and incorporate that data into future decision-making. "The strategy map will be reviewed for progress by the administrative council at least twice a year," Dr. Porche says.

"This is an exciting time for our school," he says. "This map is a great tool that will help us make continued progress in efficiently and effectively achieving organizational and academic excellence."

#### MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY

Nurses impact health outcomes by promoting the well-being and empowerment of individuals, families, groups and communities, inside and outside the clinical setting. Here is a glimpse of how the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing contributed to its community over the last several months.

# **Helping Residents Bolster Gardens with Rainwater**



In February, Student Nurses Association members volunteered with Green Light New Orleans to prep and paint rain barrels that will be used to catch water for New Orleans residents' future home gardens. Rain barrels capture and store some of the rainwater that runs through a house's downspout and is the ideal choice for watering plants because it is free of chemicals. Conserving rainwater can help lower household water bills, especially during New Orleans' hot summer months.

### Celebrating Life-Changing Gifts

In early March, Student Nurses Association members volunteered at the Gift of Sight Celebration, hosted by the Southern Eye Bank at the Louisiana Children's Museum. Donor families, recipients and surgeons participated in this special event that honors the legacies of eye donors and celebrates the gift of sight. A butterfly release was held at the closing of the celebration as a symbolic representation of new life.



#### **Welcoming Next-Generation Nurses to Campus**

Students from Mount Carmel Academy, Archbishop Chapelle High School and Warren Easton Charter High School visited the School of Nursing this spring and had the chance to spend valuable time with nursing faculty and students. On campus, they learned more about the nursing profession, different nurses' day-today routines and strategies for dividing time between school, studying, clinical rotations and a personal life. Nursing faculty and students shared insights on admissions and information about the BSN program. Students also had opportunities to tour the school's Nursing Skills and Technology Center and observe high-fidelity simulations conducted by NSTC faculty.

# Planting an Urban Garden

Five Student Nurses Association volunteers partnered with Green Light New Orleans and five Michigan State University students to install an urban garden at Little Professor Child Development Center in Central City. The group planted the garden in December 2019, and by three weeks later, it was thriving.



### Inspiring Future Health Care Providers



School of Nursing faculty accepted donations for nonprofits doing important work at their biweekly Coffee for a Cause meetings with the dean. In 2019, they collected 300 pairs of socks and 700 pairs of underwear for the New Orleans Mission, provided new bed linens for 30 women at the New Orleans Women & Children's Shelter and donated nearly 500 single-serving food items to the food pantry at Joey's Hope NOLA.

In 2020, Coffee for a Cause is supporting Take Paws Rescue, which takes pets from shelters and prepares them for transport to foster homes, adopters, rescue organizations and other shelters around the country. Items being collected for this organization include puppy food, Ziploc bags, cleaning supplies, puppy pads, dog shampoo, toys, laundry detergent, trash bags, gently used linens and cash.

**October 2019:** School of Nursing representatives presented "Vaping and Its Effects" to Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center residents as part of an ongoing joint effort to improve health and wellness outcomes for youth in the center's care through education.

November 2019: Student Nurses Association Student Nurses Association (SNA) members volunteered with the American Heart Association's New Orleans Heart Walk. They assisted with setup, staffed tents and water stations, and cleaned up after the event





The School of Nursing's clinical group of Sophomore IIs participated in the Louisiana HOSA-Future Health Professionals 2020 State Leadership Conference in Baton Rouge in March 2020, sharing details of their personal experiences in clinical rotations and nursing school and showing high school participants how to take patients' vital signs and measure blood pressure. HOSA is an international student organization that empowers students to become leaders in the global health community through education, collaboration and experience.

#### **Igniting Interest** at STEM Fest



BSN students joined the New Orleans Pelicans and Saints STEM Fest at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in October 2019, giving K-12 students a chance to learn more about the role of nurses through hands-on activities. Nursing students taught young attendees how to listen to a toddler's heart and lung sounds, provide wound care on a mannequin foot and insert IVs using a silicon arm. They also explained the structure and function of human organs on the school's anatomy mannequin. In addition, nurse practitioner faculty offered a drainage and incision station, where children and parents could learn about incision removal.

#### COMMUNITY HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

January 2020: SNA volunteers helped the Audubon Nature Rangers plant 152 native tree saplings in a wetland forest habitat still recovering from Hurricane Katrina.

February 2020: SNA members volunteered at the Rock 'n' Roll New Orleans Marathon & Half Marathon, during which 12,000 runners and wheelchair participants raced through the streets of the city.



Good nursing is reliant on good research scholarship. Faculty at the LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing pursue research in order to guide health care policy, change perceptions and improve the lives of people across demographics. For three such faculty, endowed professorships recognize their original contributions to nursing and support their research endeavors.

#### A Focus on Simulation in Graduate Nursing Education



Alison Davis, PhD, RN, CHSE, received the Sister Henrietta Guyot Professorship in Nursing

to support her research on nursing education and high-fidelity simulation. The professorship helped increase the number of scenario-based high-fidelity simulations in the graduate nursing curricula. Dr. Davis studied whether or not that increase would positively impact the ability of graduate students to apply simulated knowledge to their practice.

Three simulation scenarios were developed for this project, including: a malignant hypothermia scenario, a cannot-intubate and cannot-ventilate scenario; and an amniotic fluid embolism scenario.

"I am still analyzing data from the research, but I hope to determine how these simulations enhanced student satisfaction with learning, and increased their knowledge and their confidence in managing those scenarios," Dr. Davis says.

Dr. Davis' research is important to nursing education for a variety of reasons, including enhanced preparation for onthe-job requirements and patient safety.

"Patient safety is a priority for every nurse. High-fidelity simulation is a safe learning environment where students can practice skills and clinical situations that do not occur frequently in practice, but have negative safety outcomes if not handled properly or in a timely manner, in some cases," Dr. Davis says.

#### Delving into Parkinson's Disease

Laura Bonanno, PhD, DNP, CRNA, received the Tucker H. Couvillon, III Professorship for Nursing Research in Parkinson's Disease. Her focus is twofold: to provide a resource manual to patients with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers, and to provide guidance to anesthesia providers on the perioperative management of patients with Parkinson's disease.



management of these patients, specifically when they are undergoing general anesthesia," Dr. Bonanno says.

Her research is ongoing and includes collaboration with two DNP nurse anesthesia students, Michelle Hellmers and Jarrett Gilliam, to develop an anesthesia protocol for the perioperative management of patients with Parkinson's disease as well as high-fidelity simulation training for nurse anesthesia students. The protocol was presented to certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) at a local hospital, where it was implemented for patients with Parkinson's disease who were undergoing surgical procedures. In addition, Dr. Bonanno conducted a focus group with patients and caregivers to determine gaps in resources currently available related to Parkinson's disease.



"The Parkinson's patient population is growing and there are very unique considerations regarding the pharmacologic

#### Working to Prevent Violent Patient Behavior

Marsha Bennett, DNS, APRN, CNE, received the St. Charles General Hospital Auxiliary Professorship in Nursing for her work in reducing aggressive and violent behavior of behavioral health unit patients directed toward staff. The professorship is a research-oriented project that uses both implementation science and research. Her research focuses on characterizing patients who engage in this behavior and developing an evidence-based approach to reducing this behavior.

"Aggressive and violent behaviors not only pose a risk to nurses and other staff, but also to the aggressive and violent patient and to the entire patient population on the units," Bennett says. "Studies estimate that between 30% and 76% of psychiatric staff have experienced a violent assault at some point in their career. For health care organizations and staff, violent episodes involving patients can bring about medical expenses, potential legal expenditure, sick leave and a high turnover rate."



An application of her research-based approach resulted in a more than 9% drop in aggressive and violent behavior in

patients on behavioral health units at a tertiary care hospital. The characterization study is expected to begin later in 2020.

#### FACULTY NEWS

# RESEARCH, PRESENTATIONS,

Marie Adorno, PhD, APRN, CNS, RNC, CNE; Paula Kensler, DNP, MBA, RN; and Todd Tartavoulle, DNS, APRN, CNS-BC, presented a poster titled "Innovative Practice: Socialization and Self-Awareness to Maximize Transition into the Nursing Educational Environment" at the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses **Baccalaureate Education** Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Kendra Barrier, PhD, MSN, RN, CNE, did a podium presentation titled "Social Media in Nursing Education: Revolutionary or Reckless" at the Southern Regional Education Board's Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

Kendra Barrier, PhD, MSN, RN, CNE, had her book Cardiovascular Nursing: Cardiovascular Emergencies published by Elite Publishing.

Colette Baudoin, MSN, **RN**, **OCN**, did a podium presentation titled "Evaluation of the Effectiveness of a Nurse Residency Program in Addressing Knowledge Gaps and Increasing New Graduate RN One-Year Retention Rates" at the East Jefferson General Hospital Cheryl Sanders Memorial Research Day in Metairie.

Marsha Bennett, DNS, APRN, CNE, did a podium presentation titled "Predatory Journals and Publishers: Use of a Published Checklist for **Evaluating Research Papers** Included in Scoping Reviews" at the Joanna Briggs Institute Annual Colloquium in Adelaide, Australia.

#### Marsha Bennett, DNS,

APRN, CNE, had an article titled "Evaluation of the JBI scoping reviews methodology by current users" published in the International Journal of Evidence-Based Healthcare.

Laura Bonanno, PhD, DNP, CRNA, had her book Comprehensive Healthcare Simulation: InterProfessional Team Training and Simulation published by Springer.

Celestine Carter, APRN, DNS, and Arlisha Mason, PhD, MSN-HCSM, RN, along with Kryshonda Alleyne, MN, APRN, FNP-C; Leanne Fowler, DNP, MBA, APRN, AG/ACNP-BC, CNE; Richard Smith, MBA; and Gloria Giarratano, PhD, APRN, RNC-OB, CNS, FAAN, received a \$10,000 grant from the Louisiana Clinical and Translational Science Center for their research titled "HIV in the African-American Community."



Benita Chatmon, PhD, MSN, RN, CNE, did a podium presentation titled "The Value of Mentoring for Early Career Faculty: Making Mentoring Work for You" at the Southern Regional Education Board's Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing Annual Meeting in Atlanta.

#### Alison Davis, PhD, RN,

CHSE, did a podium presentation titled "Developing a Large Scale Interprofessional Simulation Experience Throughout the Academic Year" at the Collaborating Across Borders VII conference in Indianapolis.

#### Alison Davis, PhD, RN, **CHSE**, presented a poster

titled "Enhancing Nursing Student Self-Perception of Role Communication Through the Use of High-Fidelity Simulation: Initial Findings' at the Collaborating Across Borders VII conference in Indianapolis.

Leanne Fowler DNP, MBA, APRN, AG/ACNP-BC, CNE, had two books, Cardiovascular Nursing: Fundamental Knowledge and Cardiovascular Nursing: Acute Conditions and Treatments, published by Elite Publishing. The books were

edited by Michelle Doran.

Deborah Garbee, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, FCNS, and Laura Bonanno, PhD. DNP, CRNA, had their book Comprehensive Healthcare Simulation Inter-Professional Team Training and Simulation published by Springer Publishing Company.

Deborah Garbee, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, FCNS, had an article titled "Moving Along: Team Training for **Emergency Room Trauma** Transfers (T2ERT2)" published in the Journal of Surgical Education.

Gloria Giarratano, PhD, APRN, CNS, RNC-OB, FAAN, presented a poster titled "Addressing the Rise of Congenital Syphilis in California and Louisiana" at the American Academy of Nursing's Annual Conference: Transforming Health, Driving Policy in Washington, D.C.

Quinn Lacey, PhD, RN, presented a poster titled "Social Workers and Case Managers' Perceptions of Factors Influencing African Americans; Decisions Choosing Long-Term Care Options for Older Family Members" at the TRIP Conference in Lafayette, Louisiana.



Susan Lee, MSN, APRN, **FNP-BC**, presented a poster titled "Implementation of an Adult Hypertension Awareness and Insight Scale: A Quality Improvement Project" at the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners conference in New Orleans.

Jennifer Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE, did a podium presentation titled "Healthy Work Environments" at the East Jefferson General Hospital Cheryl Sanders Memorial Research Day in Metairie.

Jennifer Manning, DNS, APRN, CNS, CNE, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Nursing Program, did a podium presentation titled "CNS Impact on Research, Evidence Based Practice, Performance Improvement/Quality Improvement" at the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists Research Committee Speaker Panel Webinar.

Connie McKnight, RN, MN, OCN, CRA, presented a poster about her research in secondary lymphedema, a potential debilitating chronic condition following breast cancer treatment. She presented at the 45th annual Oncology Nursing Society Congress in

San Antonio. An abstract of her research, titled "Secondary Lymphedema: Symptom Experiences & Management Options," was published in the journal Oncology Nursing Forum.

Nanette Morales, DNP, NP-C, DipACLM, did a podium presentation titled "Champions of Change" at the American College of Lifestyle Medicine annual conference in Orlando, Florida.

Melissa Nunn, APRN, MSN, **CPNP-PC**, did a podium presentation titled "Childhood Rashes: When to Worry" at the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners conference in New Orleans.

Melissa Nunn, APRN, MSN, CPNP-PC, presented a poster titled "Utilization of Sucrose Solution for Non-pharmacologic Pain Reduction in Infants During Venipuncture in a Pediatric Emergency Department: A Knowledge to Action Project' at the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners conference in New Orleans.

Demetrius Porche, DNS, PhD, PCC, ANEF, FACHE, FAANP, FANN, and Laura Bonanno, PhD, DNP, CRNA, along with three other co-

# **GRANTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

authors, were published in the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Journal. Their article, "Development of a Common Clinical Assessment Tool for Evaluation in Nurse Anesthesia Education," reports on a study ascertaining consensus on competencies, competency descriptors and progression indicators of the Common Clinical Assessment Tool (CCAT).

Demetrius Porche, DNS, PhD, PCC, ANEF, FACHE, FAANP, **FANN,** is the author of six articles published as JBI Evidence Summaries: "Fracture (Hip): Nerve Block Analgesia," "HIV/ AIDS (Adults) Aerobic Exercise," "Cardiac Catheterization Procedures: Pre-Procedural Care," "Pain Relief (Epidural): Abdominal Aortic Surgery," "Evidence Implementation Strategy: Academic Detailing" and "Heart Failure: Vitamin D."

Sherry Rivera, DNP, APRN, ANP-C, did a podium presentation titled "The Spectrum of Kidney Disease' at the Southeast Louisiana Area Health Education Center meeting in Hammond, Louisiana.

Randy Rosamond, RN, MPH, MSN, along with Gloria Giarratano, PhD,

#### APRN, RNC-OB, CNS,

**FAAN**, received a grant from the New Orleans District Nurses Association for their research titled "Healing Touch: A Strategy for Acute Care Nurses' Stress Reduction."

#### Deborah St. Germain, DNP, RN, CEN, did a

podium presentation titled "Human Trafficking Evidence-Based Screening Tools" and presented a poster titled "Violence-Based Injuries: Identification and Assessment" at the Interpersonal Violence Collaborative at the Yale School of Nursing.

Todd Tartavoulle, DNS, APRN, CNS-BC, and Jennifer Martin, DNP, CRNA, did a podium presentation titled "Transforming Chaos into Calm: Using Mindset to Achieve Work-Life Balance" at the East Jefferson General Hospital Cheryl Sanders Memorial Research Day in Metairie.

Todd Tartavoulle, DNS, APRN, CNS-BC, did a podium presentation titled "Threading Advocacy Training in a Baccalaureate Nursing Education Curriculum" at the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses **Baccalaureate Education** Conference in Orlando, Florida.

### HONORS & AWARDS

Jessica Landry, DNP, FNP-BC, was named one of 2019's Louisianans of the Year by MyNewOrleans.com. Her profile appeared in the December blog post profiling people who stand out in their professions, give back and represent what's best about Louisiana.

Todd Tartavoulle, DNS, APRN, CNS-BC, was named a 2020 Health Care Hero by the business publication New Orleans CityBusiness. Tartavoulle was selected based on his achievements and community involvement.

## APPOINTMENTS

Carley Pigg, Coordinator of Grants and Development in the Office of Nursing Research, Scholarship and Science, has been appointed a Catalyst committee member of the Society of Research Administrators International. She will be responsible for helping to oversee and prepare the monthly SRAI newsletter.

### **CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING**

Sherri Hayes, MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CHSE, Simulation Coordinator and Educator Instructor of Clinical Nursing, has earned the Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator credential.



#### In Memoriam: Ann Baile Hamric

The LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing community was saddened to hear of Dr. Hamric's passing on February 9. The internationally renowned leader in

advanced practice nursing and nursing ethics served as an associate professor at the School of Nursing for four years and, during her time here, testified before the Louisiana Legislature advocating increased medical privileges for advanced practice nurses. Dr. Hamric was the senior editor of the definitive textbook on advanced practice nursing in 1997 – now in its 6th edition – which helped to define the emerging roles of nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists and clinical nurse specialists. Her extensive research on moral distress in health care professionals broke new ground in biomedical ethics, and her 37 publications continue to be widely cited.

#### **ALUMNI NEWS**

### **Alumna Named University of Mississippi Medical Center Dean**



Congratulations to 2002 Doctor of Nursing Science alumna Julie Sanford, who was named dean of the University of Mississippi Medical Center in July 2019. Dr. Sanford previously served as director of the School of Nursing at James Madison University in Virginia. She was inducted as a Fellow into the American Academy of Nursing in 2017. In 2018, she testified

before the U.S. Senate, advocating for nursing workforce development funding. She also served five years as chair of the International Network of Universities' Nursing Leadership Collaborative, composed of leaders in nursing education from around the world.



### In Memoriam: Shirley Holt-Hill

The LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing community was saddened to hear of the passing of 2004 Doctor of Nursing Science graduate Shirley Ann Holt-Hill in January 2020. Dr. Holt-

Hill recently retired from her post as a nursing professor at Pensacola State College and was a member of the Holt Sisters Gospel recording group. As a doctoral student at the School of Nursing, she completed a dissertation titled "Stress and Coping Among Elderly African Americans." She will be missed and fondly remembered.



### In Memoriam: Katherine Jane Blake

The LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing remembers alumna Katherine Jane Blake, who passed away in February 2019. A dedicated New Orleans nurse, she served local patients in many capacities

at Charity Hospital, Touro Infirmary Hospital, Baptist Hospital, Ochsner Medical Center and the New Orleans VA Medical Center, and also worked for the American Heart Association and the American Lung Association. We are grateful for her many years spent caring for our community, and she will be missed.

#### STUDENT NEWS



# A "Saintsational" Nursing Student

Morgan Bourgeois, a senior II nursing student, is also a dancer for the New Orleans Saints' Saintsations cheerleading and dance squad. A lifelong dancer, inspired by her mother - a dialysis nurse to pursue a career in nursing, she made the Saintsations team in April 2017, and has balanced her two passions ever since. Postgraduation, she hopes to work as a pediatric nurse in New Orleans.

#### **Graduate Student Receives Nursing Education Award**

Katherine Bass, an LSU Health New Orleans School of Nursing graduate nursing student, received the prestigious Joe Ann Clark Graduate Nursing Education Award. The Louisiana State Nurses Association (LSNA) offers this award in honor of retired LSNA Executive Director Joe Ann Clark's exemplification of the highest values of the nursing profession and significant contributions in nursing leadership and education. The award is designed to help nurses become nurse educators in academic environments. Financial arrangements for the award are managed through the Louisiana Nurses Foundation and the Fresenius Kabi/American Nurses Foundation Scholarship.





### Congratulations, 2020 SGA Executive Board

- The School of Nursing's Student Government Association 2020 newly elected executive board members include:
- 𝔅 Vice President Christina Hebert
- Social VP Madison O'Grodnick
- Social VP Alexis Thibodeaux
- G Historian Ne'Ja Sanders
- 𝔅 Parliamentarian Claire Wingerter

# **Two BSN Students Earn APNA Award**

Mark Lanpher and Sara Wilkerson, both BSN students, earned the 2019 American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) Louisiana Chapter scholarship, allowing them to attend the APNA 33rd Annual Conference in New Orleans in October 2019. Both recipients intend to pursue a career in psychiatric/mental health nursing.





Senior II nursing students presented their Change Project posters on November 14.

# Award Winners

#### **Valedictorian** Christina Leggio, BSN

#### **Salutatorian** Lilia Chester, BSN Hannah Pohorelsky, BSN

Sigma Theta Tau International – Undergraduate Ian Readeau, BSN

Sigma Theta Tau International -Graduate Susan Lee, DNP

Student Nurses Association Olivia LoCascio, BSN

Student Government Association Lauren Bridevaux, BSN

LSU School of Nursing Alumni, Undergraduate Steven Giorlando, BSN

**LSU School of Nursing Alumni, Graduate** Susan Lee, DNP

Elsevier Faculty Recognition Award – Undergraduate Brittany Blache, BSN

Writing Excellence/Faculty Recognition Award, Graduate Student Melissa Nunn, DNP

**Dolores Scheerle Award – Undergraduate** Lauren Bridevaux, BSN

**Dolores Scheerle Award – Graduate** Laurie Finger, DNP

**JoEllen Smith Memorial Award** Olivia LoCascio, BSN

**NODNA Leadership Award** Lauren Bridevaux, BSN

Outstanding Nursing Caring Award -BSN Student Gaylord Adams, BSN

Outstanding Nursing Caring Award -Graduate Student Anna Burge, MSN

Outstanding Nursing Caring Award -Faculty Jordan Ellis, MSN

**Dean's Award** Lauren Bridevaux, BSN

Magna Cum Laude Lilia Chester Christina Leggio Hannah Pohorelsky

**Cum Laude** Brenna Cuevas Hayley Stant Doctor of Nursing Practice Laurie Stine Finger Susan Elaine Lee Melissa Ferniz Nunn

#### Master of Science in Nursing Anna Caroline Edwards Burge

**RN-BSN** Isabella Booher Tabitha Rush Khidirov Felicitas Omozelle Okhakia

#### Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Gaylord Anthony Adams Vanessa Louise Alfano Haleigh Elizabeth Armstrong Jeanne Fielding Bass Latasha Ann Becnel Chelsy Renee Bennett Brittany Ann Blache Hayley Marie Blaise Allison Lauren Blanche Caroline Elizabeth Boudreaux Gina Marie Bouis Allison Frances Braud Marjorie Elizabeth Breda Lauren Ashley Bridevaux Lorenzo Bridgewater Jr. Morgan Cassels Brown Paige Ella Buisson Mia Elizabeth Casanova Kelly Christine Chaplain Lilia Noelle Chester Grace Kathryn Ciaston Nicholas Jonathan Clark Ierica Inez Cole Myalique Sha'ron Collette Megan Alexis Crowder Brenna Andre Cuevas Morgan Ann Daigle Nicole Marie Daspit Danielle Lynne Dean Kolbi Christian DeJean

Alexis Marina DeSalvo Holly Marie Dugas Nicole Lee Dupre Victoria Florita Durand Day Megan Elizabeth Evans Michelle Menesses Fanz Anna Marie Foltz Elise Michelle Fourchy Greta Davis Gerstung Steven Nicholas Giorlando Megan Michelle Gitz Jarett Alexander Gongora Taylor Ann Gorman Megan Genna Harmon William Garrett Hartman Taylor Pierre Hausler Brianna Rae Hebert Sara Kenney Heidingsfelder Claire Andre' Hill John Christopher Huffman Ashleigh Claire Hurrelbrink Shannon Rochelle Jackson Brooke Elizabeth Juneau Paige Catherine Kastner Claire Elizabeth Kingsbery Victoria Marianna Krig Donika Marie Lampton Lynleigh Angelle Landry Alexis Nicole LaVenia Isabella Seraphine LeBlanc Savannah Marie Leboeuf Allison Ann Ledet Christina Michelle Leggio Alexandra Garland Levi Monica Nicole Lewis Olivia Ann LoCascio Anna Gabriela Lopez Garrett Scott Malbrough Sara Elizabeth Marsilia Marie Angelle Matirne Adriana Arrigunaga McClure Dylan James Melancon Emily Lavie Mjelde

DECEMBER 2019 GRADUATES

Chanie Lynn Mollere Taylor Jordan Morvant Adley Amanda Murphy-Mejia Rehema Wanjira Muruthi Victoria Maria Nielsen Emily Ann Noggerath Jehovahbambi Sayo Owoeye Kristina Maria Percle Kylee Rae Pitre Hannah Pascal Pohorelsky Alison Kate Rausch Ian John Readeau Brittany Kaye Richard Brett Taylor Rooks Bailey Elizabeth Schehr Heidi Frances Schexnayder Colleen Ann Schilling Julia Catherine Schulze Kavla Kari Seals Reese Anthony Simoneaux Jacqueline Barker Slocum Joanna Elizabeth Smilari Azaria Simone Smith Keion RayLloyd Smith Hayley Elizabeth Stant Abby Kristine Starkovich Jena Romaire Sterling Christian Lee Stone Savannah Neal Stonebreaker Jennifer Lea Stringer Kara Ann Terrio Sophia Ann Tumminello Oghenemaro Cecilia Ugbeme Billy Micheal Wallace Madison Agnes Waller Alexandra Elliotte Walters Caroline Shannon Watts Sara Jane Weber Emily Elizabeth Wild Suzette Jamal Williams Kayla Mae Willis Christina Charlene Marie Wodajo

# FALL 2019 DEAN'S LIST

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Olivia LoCascio Olivia Loisel Ana Lopez Anna Lopez Olivia Lorio Charles Loupe Garrett Malbrough Ava Maraldo Madeleine Marchand Molly Marks Sara Marsilia Ava Martin Marie Matirne Madelvn Matute Adriana McClure Elle McCracken Madison Meyer Margaret Meyers Tyler Michel Ellie Millar Rachel Millet Emily Mjelde Brandi Mobley Kelsey Moffett Chanie Mollere Jeremy Moniz Fernanda Morales Brianna Morrison Taylor Morvant Rehema Muruthi Mia Mutz Mallory Navarro Lyndsay Nguyen Victoria Nielsen **Emily Noggerath** Catherine Norris Kelsie Oestriecher Madison Ott Jehovahbambi Owoeye Amanda Parenti **Rachel Pendleton** Kristina Percle Amanda Pisciotta Collette Pitre Kylee Pitre Noah Pizzuto Hannah Pohorelsky Zachary Price Emma Rabensteiner Ian Readeau Brittany Richard Madeleine Richard Kristina Rigterink Caroline Rodrigue Camille Rozas Maureen Russo Ne'Ia Sanders Lelia Saucier Bailey Schehr

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