

15 | 16

ANNUAL IMPACT



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

College of Nursing

USASK.CA/NURSING



TABLE OF CONTENTS

01	College at a Glance
02	Message From The Dean
03	Gone But Not Forgotten: A Memorial Tribute
04	Leaving a Legacy
06	Highlight Stories
28	Celebrating Research
32	A Look at Our Alumni
36	YOU Make a Difference

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Annual Impact Report was not created in 2015; therefore, this report is a compilation of College of Nursing highlights from 2015 and 2016 calendar years.



COLLEGE AT A GLANCE

VISION

The College of Nursing is a world leader in educating nurses in interprofessional health care, research, practice, innovation, capacity building and policy development.

MISSION

As University nursing faculty in Saskatchewan, the College of Nursing strengthens nursing, health and the health care system, through the creation and integration of knowledge from research, education and practice.

PROGRAMS

The College of Nursing offers the following programs:

UNDERGRADUATE

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
Post-Degree BSN

GRADUATE

Master of Nursing (MN)
Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (NP)
Post-Graduate Nurse Practitioner Certificate (NP)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing

LOCATIONS

The College of Nursing has campuses in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert. We also distribute our undergraduate BSN program to students in Ile-a-la-Crosse, La Ronge and Yorkton.



○ COMPLETE PRE-PROFESSIONAL YEAR (YR 1)

Athabasca University online also offers all courses required for the pre-professional year.

■ BSN YEARS 2 - 4

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



In keeping with the College of Nursing's long track record of success in teaching, research and community engagement, 2015 and 2016 were once again distinguished by remarkable accomplishments made by faculty, staff and students.

Since March 2016, I have had the honour of serving the College of Nursing as Interim Dean. As I look back on these 10 months, I am proud to say the college has achieved goals, received awards and exceeded our collective expectations.

The year 2016 was challenging for Saskatchewan, for health care and for post-secondary education. But by working together across jurisdictions we have accomplished, and will continue to accomplish, a great deal. It has never been more important to choose our activities wisely – to select activities that will produce the greatest strategic impact. What is more gratifying than investing our energy in initiatives that integrate service, teaching and research? As technology continues to improve and post-secondary education extends its reach through partnerships both at home and abroad, it has never been more important to be engaged in health service delivery – to make, and to be seen to make, a profound difference in our communities.

As I look forward into 2017, I am very excited about some of the initiatives we are working on. Newest among these is our work with the community of Warman, Saskatchewan, and the proposed nurse-led, interdisciplinary, primary health care clinic. Under my leadership and the leadership of Her Worship Sheryl Spence, Mayor of Warman, a steering committee has been meeting twice a month to oversee the execution of a community health assessment, as well as the development of a business plan for the proposed clinic. Warman has experienced difficulty in retaining family physicians, requiring many individuals and families to receive primary care in Saskatoon. A nurse-led clinic would enhance community access to local primary-care services and provide an excellent interdisciplinary team-based experience for nursing and other health science students. This clinic would complement the

already established physician practice in the community by offering extended hours and a diversity of services, including community-based health promotion.

The second project I am looking forward to in 2017 is the expansion of our faculty and student presence in schools. Traditionally, the College of Nursing has had a great impact in schools and we hope to build upon this. Through a more planned deployment of College of Nursing faculty practice, there is an opportunity to expand primary health care services to children and youth – while again offering our next generation of nurses, physicians and other health providers enhanced opportunities to work with a variety of health professionals and the community. This will allow us ultimately to better meet the health needs of children and youth.

Universities are respected and deep-rooted institutions. Today, boundaries between empirical evidence and fiction are sometimes blurred. Going forward, we must not be complacent about our academic ideal and our faith in collegial processes. The development of nursing education and the progress of the nursing profession over the past half century required leadership, sacrifice and compromise. We must all be prepared to take a more active role in their preservation and continued progress. I have every confidence that the College of Nursing will continue to work with its many stakeholders to lead the way in the coming years.

I trust you will enjoy learning more throughout the following report about the various ways in which the College of Nursing activities throughout 2015 and 2016 have influenced the nursing profession and the growth of the nursing discipline.

Sincerely,

Beth Horsburgh, RN, PhD
Professor and Interim Dean, College of Nursing

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO TWO FORMER DEANS



◆ YVONNE BROWN

DEAN OF NURSING 1989 - 2000

Yvonne Brown was born and raised in Strasbourg, Saskatchewan. She moved to Saskatoon in 1958 to attend the College of Nursing where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, a Bachelor of Arts with great distinction and a Master's of Education in Educational Administration.

During her tenure as Dean, Brown was instrumental in establishing the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan. With sites in Saskatoon and Regina, she led the college in the creation of a collaborative partnership between the University of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Polytechnic (formerly called Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology). First Nations University of Canada would join the collaborative in 2003 when the college added a third site in Prince Albert. Brown also influenced the profession of nursing by contributing to the establishment of degree as entry to practice in Saskatchewan, which was a significant shift at that time.

Brown's friends and family say that one of the highlights of her career was taking groups of nursing students to India annually for an international experience in their senior clinical practicum. She had a long and distinguished career in health sciences. Her main area of professional practice and scholarly work was in perinatal loss, AIDS and the effects of cultural practices on women's health.

Brown made several lasting gifts that will continue to have an impact on the College of Nursing for many years to come. One was the creation of a comprehensive history book about the College of Nursing, called *70 Years of Nursing Education at the University of Saskatchewan*, which she co-authored with her husband of 53 years Barry Brown, and her colleague and friend Barbara Smith. She also created a student award in her parents' name, which currently supports Master of Nursing students studying gerontological nursing. As well, the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association honoured Brown for her leadership, creating a convocation award for students graduating with the highest marks in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Saskatchewan.

Faculty at the College of Nursing knew Brown as a wonderful role model and advocate for excellence in nursing. Brown passed away peacefully in March 2016. Her impact and presence in the nursing profession will be greatly missed.



◆ HESTER KERNEN

ACTING DEAN OF NURSING - 1973

DEAN OF NURSING 1974 - 1980

In 1953, Hester Kernen accepted a position as Professor of Public Health Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan and was appointed to the School of Nursing, as it was then known. She held the position until 1973, when she was appointed Acting Dean of the College of Nursing, and then Dean, in 1974.

During her tenure, the School of Nursing, under the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan, became the College of Nursing, an independent college on campus. This decision was not only symbolic, but also a reflection of the times. The college, supported by the nursing student society, approached the university to make this change, as it was time for nurses to be recognized as vital, independent members of the health care team. The college supported the province of Saskatchewan in making the shift from delivering nursing education at hospital schools to delivering curriculum through the College of Nursing.

For the next six years, Kernen led the newly formed College of Nursing through a climate of great change in the profession, both within the college and at the national level. Kernen was known for being very organized and an excellent administrator. She focused her nursing career on public health. She received an honorary life membership to the Canadian Health Association, the Western and North-Western Region Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing and the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA). Lifetime membership is the SRNA's most prestigious award, given in recognition of outstanding service to registered nursing in Saskatchewan.

Kernen retired in 1980 and passed away in July 2016. She will be remembered for her leadership through this very important time in the history of the College of Nursing and of registered nursing in Saskatchewan.

LEAVING A LEGACY: *Lorna Butler*



Visiting with alumna Lucy Willis

“

I leave the College of Nursing with great pride and appreciation for the faculty, staff and students of the college. Together, we have made great strides in health education. To all the Registered Nurses of Saskatchewan, health region administrators, Northlands College, Parkland College, leaders within Treaty 4, 6, Onion Lake Cree Nation, Lac La Ronge Indian Band, the Village of Ile-a-la-Crosse, Town of La Ronge, the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association, our alumni, our students and the public, I offer my sincerest thanks for helping the College of Nursing and our students attain both success and leadership in nursing education. I could not have led the college the way I did without the support from each and every one of you.”

– Lorna Butler, RN, PhD

INNOVATOR. PASSIONATE. ENGAGED.

These are just three words often used to describe former College of Nursing Dean Dr. Lorna Butler. Butler came to Saskatchewan and joined the College of Nursing in 2007 as Professor and Dean. During her tenure, she led the college through enormous change, including the introduction of a new non-direct entry four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, the creation of the Post-Graduate Nurse Practitioner Certificate and the development of three new nursing education sites across Saskatchewan. Butler’s vision and leadership will forever leave an impact on both health sciences education and health care in Saskatchewan and beyond.

◆ IMPROVING ACCESS TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

“The pursuit of post-secondary education should not be disadvantaged by geography”— that’s a phrase Lorna Butler lived by. Dean Butler believed students across Saskatchewan should have the opportunity to obtain a first-class nursing education without leaving their communities. In September 2012, the first students in La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse started their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. May 2015 saw these first students complete a degree nursing program in northern Saskatchewan. In September 2014, the first Yorkton students to take degree nursing started their BSN program and in May 2017, these students will be the first to complete a nursing degree in Yorkton.

◆ INTRODUCING ROBOTICS IN NURSING EDUCATION

An undergraduate program in rural and remote communities has its share of barriers to overcome, including the availability of local faculty and instructors. Dean Lorna Butler’s solution to this obstacle was to introduce robotics. By using remote presence (RP) technology, nursing students living in La Ronge, Ile-a-la-Crosse and Yorkton are connected to faculty located at College of Nursing sites in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert.

The technology allows faculty to engage with learners at remote sites to teach and assess clinical competencies. The first 'robots' were located in the Northlands College Nursing Skills Lab in Air Ronge and the Keewatin Yatthe Regional Health Authority at St. Joseph's Hospital and Health Centre in Ile-a-la-Crosse. These communities were the first in Canada to use this innovative technology for nursing education. When Butler started in the College of Nursing, she was approached regarding the critical shortage of health care workers in rural and remote communities. By launching the RP technology initiative, Butler was able to help reduce this shortage.

◆ CONNECTING NORTHERN NURSES GLOBALLY

Accessible nursing education is critical for a stable and effective northern health care system. Lorna Butler looked beyond Saskatchewan and created the University of the Arctic Thematic Network on Northern Nursing Education. The network aims to make nursing education accessible in rural and remote areas of the circumpolar North, where, in general, there is a high density of indigenous population.

By creating a network of institutions providing decentralized and distributed nursing education to northern communities in Norway, Canada, Siberia, Sweden, Finland, Iceland and Greenland, Butler hopes to improve the teaching of northern nursing education, share best practices and form a community of students and educators. The goal of the network is to address the accessibility and quality of baccalaureate nursing education in northern regions and bring together students and educators annually to examine and improve the clinical practice of nursing in a northern context.

Dr. Lorna Butler left the College of Nursing in March 2016. She joined the Office of the Vice-President, Research as the Senior Strategist for Distributed and Technology Enhanced Learning and Discovery, and further assumed the role of Acting Director at the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development at the University of Saskatchewan, where she continues to partner with northern communities in the university's discovery and learning mission.



Top to bottom: Guests at the International Remote Presence Forum; Presenting on distributive learning in the Philippines; Welcoming the first Yorkton students into the BSN program at the annual pinning ceremony; Celebrating the introduction of remote presence technology with La Ronge nursing students

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

■ CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS AND THANKING DONORS AT ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

Undergraduate and graduate nursing students are recognized annually with more than 100 scholarships and awards at the College of Nursing awards ceremony. The tradition continued in 2015, as well as 2016, when we celebrated with our donors, students, and their families, and presented scholarships and awards totaling just over \$240,000 annually.

Megan Jacobsen, a fourth-year nursing student at the Prince Albert Campus, received the College of Nursing 75th Anniversary Award for Excellence in Leadership in 2016.

"Receiving an award as a student is very humbling. The recognition of my hard work as a student leader is beneficial to my professional development, and the financial assistance allows me to focus on my studies. Most importantly, I feel being able to include this award on my resume as I prepare to graduate will impact my professional career greatly," said Jacobsen.

"Every gift in support of nursing education is a gift towards better health care," said College Relations Officer Anna Pacik. "University of Saskatchewan nursing graduates are employed as leaders throughout the province of Saskatchewan and around

the globe. During the current economic times when every dollar counts, supporting nursing education is a win on so many levels. Thank you to our donors, whose gifts help our students shine brightly."



Interim Dean Dr. Beth Horsburgh with award recipient Megan Jacobsen

■ POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW CONTRIBUTES TO ONCOLOGY NURSING

In September 2016, Postdoctoral Fellow Meridith Burles had the opportunity to attend the International Conference on Cancer Nursing in Hong Kong, China, along with Saskatoon-based Professor Dr. Lorraine Holtslander and Sister Agatha Ogunkorode. During the conference, Burles learned a lot about innovative research and new developments in oncology nursing. She delivered two presentations and participated in one poster presentation about the research she has been working on in collaboration with College of Nursing faculty. Specifically, she presented research findings from two phases of research led by College of Nursing's Dr. Jill Bally about the development and evaluation of a support intervention for parents of children with life-limiting and life-threatening illnesses. As well, she shared the findings of an analysis she completed regarding ovarian cancer articles featured in popular women's magazines.

As a sociologist who studies health, illness and health care, this was an excellent opportunity for Burles to network with other researchers, practicing cancer nurses and academic publishers. Her participation in the conference led to an invitation to write an opinion piece for *Cancer Nursing Practice* (to be published in 2017), and another invitation to submit a manuscript to the *Canadian Journal of Oncology Nursing*.

Attending the conference was an important reinforcement of the beneficial collaborations that are possible between the social sciences and nursing. Many attendees praised the research being pursued, the incorporation of sociological concepts and theories into health research and the identification of implications for nursing. Burles' conference participation will have a lasting impact, as she returned home with a renewed sense of enthusiasm for research in these areas and an appreciation for seeking diverse venues for sharing knowledge.



Postdoctoral Fellow Meridith Burles

■ CONTINUING EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR NURSES SUPPORTS NURSES IN FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITIES

For the past 45 years, Continuing Education and Development for Nurses (CEDN) has been delivering education and professional development to nurses and other health care professionals in Saskatchewan. Individuals who participate in their programs have told CEDN they use new knowledge and skills at the point of care. This practical application has had a positive impact on the delivery of safe, quality care to the citizens of our province.

Since September 2015, CEDN has partnered with the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) of Health Canada to provide continuing education workshops for Home and Community Care Nurses working in First Nations communities in Saskatchewan. Home Care Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) from rural and remote communities in the province have benefited from their participation in several workshops including cancer care, palliative care, case management, auto-immune conditions, infectious disease processes and treatment and the application of clinical data to population health program planning.

The FNIHB Health Canada partnership is an extension of CEDN's ongoing work to assist with the co-ordination and delivery of

a yearly multi-day workshop for RNs and LPNs who work in rural and remote primary care settings in the province. The work CEDN is doing with FNIHB Health Canada is having a widespread impact on service and program delivery for Saskatchewan residents in rural and remote locations.



CEDN delivers a clinical skills workshop in Saskatoon

■ MASTER OF NURSING GRADUATE REFLECTS ON EXPERIENCE

Completing a Master of Nursing degree brings great personal and professional pride. Maggie Kennedy is still only just realizing the impact that completing the program at a distance had on her life.

Knowing that she was taking the program at a distance, Kennedy was determined to reach out often to her peers and educators to stay connected, engaged and motivated. She fondly remembers the encouragement and support she received from College of Nursing professors and staff.

"Completing the intense course load while working full time was demanding, but being able to transfer my learning into practice at the same time drove my ambition to learn more and to contribute meaningful knowledge and research to my practice and the profession," said Kennedy.

"In particular, a course focused on publishing a paper encouraged me to research and reflect on my practice setting. To my surprise and delight, my paper, *The Importance of a Role-Specific, In-Hospital Ward Clerk Education Program*, was recently published in the peer-reviewed journal *Hospital Topics*, meaning this information will hopefully have an impact on current and future practice."

Kennedy added, "The structure and support of this course encouraged me through the process, and I have used that

knowledge to support my peers in their professional writing to share knowledge and impact."

At the end of her program, Kennedy walked proudly across the stage on June 2, 2016, for convocation. She looks back fondly on that day as one that allowed her to reflect on the struggles and successes that got her there. "I reflect often on the impact that the many aspects of the Master of Nursing program had (and continues to have) on me personally and professionally."



Master of Nursing graduate Maggie Kennedy

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

ANNUAL PROVOST'S AWARD RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING TEACHING

Honoured for their achievements in outstanding teaching and educational leadership, Limited Term Lecturer Dr. Don Leidl and Assistant Professor Dr. Carol Bullin received the annual Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2015 and 2016 respectively.

Leidl has been with the College of Nursing since the fall of 2012. When asked about his teaching style, he said, "My goal is to create a student-centred learning environment that is supportive during the transformative process associated with nursing education, so nursing students can discover their own style of providing holistic nursing care."

Bullin joined the college in 2011 as an experienced clinician and educator. Open to innovation, she accepted the challenge of being the first professor to teach nursing education using remote presence (RP) technology. She is a member of several research teams involving RP technology, and has had an impact internationally as an expert in this field.

Congratulations Don and Carol. We are proud to have the two of you on the College of Nursing team.



Dr. Don Leidl



Dr. Carol Bullin

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR DISTRIBUTED LEARNING

The College of Nursing has been involved with distributed learning initiatives at the undergraduate, graduate and continuing professional education levels for almost two decades. Numerous programs have created foundations that subsequent programs have built on, leap-frogging each other and continually enhancing proficiency at the college. Our growth has been focused on high-quality, effective, broad and sustainable access to new learning opportunities, for both students and researchers, in communities across the province and around the globe.

Working with University of Saskatchewan (U of S) Information and Communications Technology network services, the college was able to expand the USASK network to our faculty, staff and students located in Prince Albert in 2015. The introduction of the USASK network in Prince Albert leveraged past learning from the creation of the U of S Regina Campus in 2012, and the impact was immediate. Faculty, staff and students now have direct access to institutional resources like SharePoint intranet, U of S secure file and print servers and the Blackboard Learning Content Management System. Students can register for Nursing Central accounts on demand and access course resources through the new USASK wireless network. Direct-dial phone numbers, U of S-integrated voicemail and a dedicated video conference boardroom are other operational improvements promoting communication and the U of S sense of place in Prince Albert. As well, classroom video conference and remote presence robotic infrastructure has been upgraded to U of S standards, setting the stage for a new era of distributed learning linking Prince Albert faculty to our northern sites.

With such a significant investment in infrastructure, services and technology-based opportunities in Prince Albert, there was

also a need to build capacity on the human resources side. The E-Learning Centre in the College of Nursing supports and promotes innovative and effective technology solutions for the complex operations of a large, distributed college in the areas of teaching, administration and research. In the summer of 2016, George (G.R.) Yannacoulis became the first official E-Learning Centre staff member at our Prince Albert site. As a local support resource, G.R. is pioneering the role and working closely with faculty and staff in Prince Albert. The position also has a provincial responsibility for several college-level development initiatives that allows G.R. to collaborate with colleagues in Saskatoon and Regina. The dedicated staff in the E-Learning Centre help the college to meet our strategic directions in quality improvement, innovation and efficiency through comprehensive technology solutions that leverage institutional resources and tailor them to the academic mission of the College of Nursing.



E-Learning Centre staff member George (G.R.) Yannacoulis in Prince Albert

■ AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Guests were treated to a variety of interprofessional education (IPE) sessions in February 2015 when Dr. Ivy Oandasan from the Toronto Western Family Health Team visited Saskatoon. "Interprofessional education is one of the underlying principles of our Bachelor of Science in Nursing curriculum and our goal is that our graduates become competent, collaborative practitioners in the Health care context," said Associate Dean Central Saskatchewan Campus Dr. Hope Bilinski.

Oandasan's presentations left a lasting impact on those who attended. Her presentation titles included *The What, How and Why of Interprofessional Education: Catalyzing the Leadership of Nursing; Collaborative Leadership: The Secret Ingredient for Advancing IPE at the U of S; Giving You an Edge for Tomorrow's Health Workforce – Why Interprofessional Education Should Matter to You Now* and *It Takes a Community to Develop Saskatchewan's Health Workforce – Highlighting the Role of the Clinical/Academic Interface*.

"We were very fortunate to have someone like Dr. Oandasan, an internationally recognized leader in IPE, here to speak with us about strategies and structures that contribute to a

successful IPE curriculum," said Bilinski. "She was an engaging and energizing speaker, and her passion to contribute to the advancement of interprofessional education and interprofessional collaboration was clearly evident."



Dr. Ivy Oandasan's lecture on interprofessional education

■ PRINCE ALBERT CAMPUS DELIVERS UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM IN THE NORTH

Innovative technology gave the College of Nursing the opportunity to expand its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program to northern Saskatchewan in 2012. When the northern students first started their program, the technology connected them to faculty located in Saskatoon. This changed in September 2016, when faculty in Prince Albert began using the same technology to deliver courses to students in La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse, giving students the opportunity to learn from a larger pool of faculty.

Assistant Professor Tania Kristoff, located in Prince Albert, was one of the faculty members who started teaching the northern students in 2016. "Teaching a class to students in Prince Albert, La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse at the same time has been great! It is really nice to integrate the different perspectives and experiences of the various students in one class."

Assistant Professor Dr. Anthony de Padua, also located in Prince Albert, couldn't agree more. "I really enjoy hearing the northern students' perspectives. I appreciate their level of dedication to the program and the different viewpoints they share from living in the North. I especially appreciate them sharing with the other students the challenges of having non-northern nurses work in their communities and how they may not necessarily understand the realities of life in the North."

Delivering the BSN program from Prince Albert has not only been a change for faculty, it's also had a big impact on the

students, as they now 'share' their classroom. Mia Scrivener, second-year student in Prince Albert, had this to say about bringing together students in La Ronge, Ile-a-la-Crosse and Prince Albert: "Everyone gets along really well. In my opinion, the use of videoconferencing has brought our classes closer. We get the opportunity to communicate back and forth and the professors in Prince Albert encourage all of the students, no matter where they are located, to participate."



Assistant Professor Tania Kristoff simultaneously teaches students in Prince Albert, La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

EXPANDING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE PRE-PROFESSIONAL YEAR

The ability to attract students to our non-direct entry undergraduate program offered at six sites across Saskatchewan also means students need to be able to complete their first year (pre-professional year) around the province as well. In 2015, the College of Nursing signed two agreements to ensure the first year would be available for students living in Caronport and Onion Lake.

A conversation between Briercrest College and Seminary in Caronport and the College of Nursing had been ongoing for several years, but in July 2015, it was confirmed that Briercrest would offer the complete pre-professional year required to apply into the University of Saskatchewan Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. The first students enrolled in classes in fall 2015.

A week after the Caronport announcement, the University of Saskatchewan's Colleges of Education and Nursing signed a memorandum of understanding with Onion Lake Cree Nation giving students the option of entering either education or nursing, or completing prerequisites for other health sciences

in Onion Lake through the support of the already-established Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP), run by the College of Education.

"The College of Nursing has been responsive to the needs of rural and remote communities by offering students the opportunity to obtain a nursing degree without leaving their communities," said College of Nursing former Dean Dr. Lorna Butler. The pre-professional year was already available in a number of communities, but the addition of these two locations will allow more students in both southern and northern Saskatchewan to access the first year, creating a positive impact for both the students and their communities. "Having sufficient numbers of qualified, local aboriginal nurses to provide health care is key to improving aboriginal quality of life and well-being," said Dr. Heather Exner-Pirot, College of Nursing Strategist for Outreach and Indigenous Engagement. "The partnership with Onion Lake allows the college to extend the opportunity to make nursing education more responsive and accessible."



Agreement signing with Briercrest College



Memorandum of Understanding signing at Onion Lake

SPREADING THE WORD USING SOCIAL MEDIA

Do you 'like' us? Do you tweet about us? The College of Nursing has an active presence on both Facebook and Twitter and has been working hard over the past couple of years to use these channels to share informative articles, college stories, photos, event listings and much more. We are proud of our strong presence on both online platforms. By the end of 2016, we had 3,784 Facebook friends and 1,652 Twitter followers, an increase of over 168 per cent and 160 per cent respectively since the end of 2014.

To keep expanding our presence in 2017, we invite you to contribute. We are always looking for new content. If you have

news that would make a good feature story, or know someone who deserves to be profiled, please send your suggestions to kylie.kelso@usask.ca. The impact of social media is incredible, and the engagement we've experienced with our friends and followers is fantastic, so we would love to have you join us today.



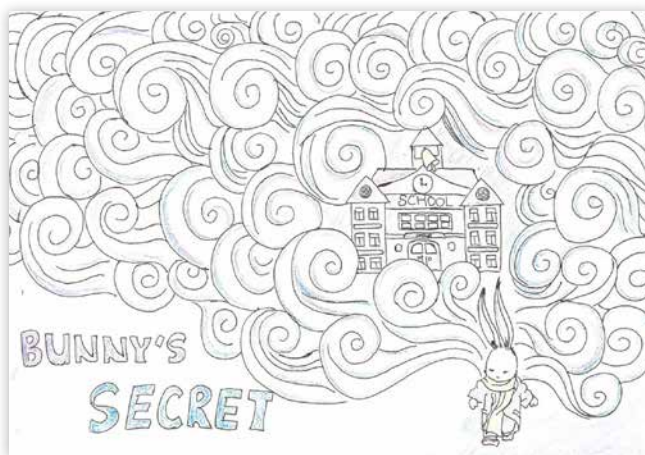
BRINGING CREATIVITY INTO THE CLASSROOM

Who says the classroom has to be all about quizzes and term papers? Not Saskatoon-based Assistant Professor Dr. Wanda Martin. In the final term of 2016 in her community health nursing class, she decided to give students the choice between writing or getting creative. "It was a big experiment for me and well suited to the community health class. Students could choose to write a traditional paper on their own, or work in a group to produce something creative."

The focus of the community health nursing class is health promotion. Topics such as community assessment, program development, social marketing, and issues unique to Saskatchewan's aboriginal, rural and remote populations are covered throughout the term. The purpose of the art-based assignment was to identify an issue that a community health nurse might encounter and to plan an alternative approach to talk about the issue. About half the class took part in the art-based project option.

"Students commented on how nice it was to use the creative part of their brain," said Martin. "This is one way, I think, we can encourage imagination while sharing hidden talents." The final projects included a photo series, an original song, infographics, advocacy videos and a children's story book called *Bunny's Secret*.

Kyle Moroziuk, Marissa Schedlosky and Meagan Yagelniski really enjoyed completing this assignment. "Our group wanted to do a project on sexual assault awareness, as the project was meant to be directed at a community. Considering we are all students on a campus, we wanted to focus on an issue impacting the community of university students. It was a very rewarding and meaningful project to do."



Children's storybook – *Bunny's Secret*

COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR A GOOD CAUSE

The last few months of the year are always a busy time on campus, as students wrap up first term. At the end of 2016, some third-year students in Saskatoon-based Limited Term Lecturer Kristen Haase's class decided to have a little fun, while giving back at the same time: the group participated in a food bank challenge, in support of the Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre.

Students were encouraged to bring donations that were then judged on weight and diversity of items. Between the 130 students, there was a great variety and large volume of donations. Students got creative, bringing everything from care packages with toothpaste, socks and backpacks, to blankets and baby formula. One student arrived with the trunk of her car full of donations!

"End of term can be really stressful and students tend to spend a lot of time focusing on their studies and themselves," said Haase. "I wanted to give them an opportunity during this busy time to remember what's important in nursing: serving others."

The donations collected by Haase's students were used as part of a larger collection effort organized by Graduate Program Coordinator Jill Brown. For the fourth straight year, Brown rallied the College of Nursing to collect items for the annual Rock 102's 'Stuff the Bus' campaign. The contribution from Haase's class

definitely had an impact on the number of bins the college filled, as we were able to significantly fill more bins than we have in the past, resulting in recognition and a prize for being one of the organizations that collected the most items. The prize of \$500 was divided between funds for graduation and a spring BBQ to be held in 2017 to welcome new Post-Degree nursing students.



Stuffing bins for the Saskatoon Food Bank & Learning Centre

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

■ EBOOKS: ENHANCING LITERACY AND TRADITIONAL VALUES OF SASKATCHEWAN FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN

Music, pictures, stories and culture play an important role in increasing a First Nations child's literacy. Literacy gaps among First Nations children are a persistent issue impacting many communities in Saskatchewan. Prior to school entry, many children have weak language skills that have been associated with behaviour and attention problems. Technology, and specifically electronic books (ebooks), can help to bridge this gap.

College of Nursing aboriginal student Rene Lerat, based at the Regina Campus, and Rhonda Kayseas, Treaty 4 Literacy Director, had an idea about a project that would help meet the needs of preschool children and their families. They partnered with Dr. Lynn Jansen, Associate Dean Southern Saskatchewan Regina Campus, Professor Dr. Sandra Bassendowski and Aboriginal Nursing Advisor Heather Cote-Soop on a collaborative and innovative project that focused on the design and creation of an ebook for First Nations children aged 0-5.

Using First Nations teachings, the Seven Sacred Teachings, and a variety of stories, the ebook is interactive, easily accessed and used by families on a variety of mobile devices. The ebook is designed to promote an increase in early literacy as a social

determinant of health. Sydney Lerat, third-year nursing student at the Regina Campus, joined the project in summer 2016 and focused on getting feedback on the integration of the ebook into the community. Rene presented the key aspects of this project at two conferences in Montreal and Vancouver in 2016. The date for the release of the ebook to the public has not been confirmed yet, but is expected in 2017.



"The mind conceives information and the heart believes in it. Indigenous knowledge, identity, and values must be the foundation when teaching our children to believe."

— Chief Cadmus Delorme

Bringing traditional teachings together to bridge the gaps in literacy

■ NURSE PRACTITIONER GRADUATES MAKING AN IMPACT IN SASKATCHEWAN

Graduates of the Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (NP) program are making an impact in health care accessibility and health outcomes for Saskatchewan residents. The majority of the twenty-one Saskatchewan NP graduates in 2015 and 2016 are actively practicing as Nurse Practitioners in rural, remote and under-served communities, enhancing access to high quality, patient and family-centred primary health care.

Rural and remote communities in Saskatchewan face unfortunate health disparities, including higher rates of chronic diseases and disabilities, lower average-life expectancy and poor self-rated health status, much of which is attributed to poor access to care. The advanced nursing and medical knowledge of Nurse Practitioners positions them well to address these health inequalities through patient-centred, holistic, wellness-oriented approaches to care. Working in several rural and remote communities including Maple Creek, Macklin, Strasbourg, Meadow Lake, Watrous and Nipawin, among others, College of Nursing NP graduates have positively impacted accessibility to primary health care and are working with other members of the health care team to reduce the gaps in care for these communities.

Vulnerable populations also face health inequalities that Nurse Practitioners can help address. Graduates are having a positive impact on these populations through their work in areas such as mental health, inner-city schools, geriatrics, chronic disease management and indigenous health.

We are proud of all our NP graduates and the impact they are having on the communities they serve.



Nurse Practitioners provide primary care to families

STUDENT TEAM CLAIMS TOP SPOT AT NATIONAL COMPETITION

The constantly changing and complex environment surrounding health care requires providers to work in interprofessional teams. In March 2016, an interprofessional team from the University of Saskatchewan demonstrated this collaborative approach and claimed top honours at the 2016 National Health Care Team Challenge (HCTC) in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The HCTC is an interprofessional, educational activity that strives to promote teamwork and collaboration within student teams.

The team – consisting of students from nursing (Jessica Landrie and Hallie MacLachlan), pharmacy and nutrition, veterinary medicine and physical therapy, as well as a patient advocate and team advisor – presented a plan of action that was interprofessional and focused on patient-family centred care. This was the University of Saskatchewan's first time entering the national challenge after winning the inaugural provincial challenge held in January.

"I cannot express enough the amount of pride I have for this team," said Jessica Landrie, executive member of the Health Sciences Students' Association and College of Nursing student. Working together as a team and applying their collective skills and knowledge not only won them the competition, but

provided them with an opportunity to work hands-on as an interprofessional team, which will have a lasting impact on their careers.



(l to r) Amanda Geradts (nutrition), Jessica Landrie (nursing), Hallie MacLachlan (nursing), Carly Legault (veterinary medicine), Heather Thiessen (patient advocate/advisor), Lin Wang (pharmacy) and Matthias Muller (physical therapy)

RURAL GRADUATE STUDENT COMPLETES MASTER OF NURSING PROGRAM

Tracy Gabriel lives in a rural town in Saskatchewan. Travel to Saskatoon on a weekly basis to complete her graduate program was unreasonable and relocation was not an option for her and her family. Residing in Springside, a small town located twenty-five kilometres west of Yorkton, Gabriel feels very fortunate to have been able to complete her online Master of Nursing from the comfort of her home. "I found the program worked well for my lifestyle. I completed the course work at times that were convenient for me, which also allowed me to maintain regular employment as a Registered Nurse in the emergency department in Yorkton and preserve a positive work and family life balance."

Gabriel started the Master of Nursing program in 2013 and completed it in 2016. During her time as a graduate student, she was also employed as a Clinical Instructor in Yorkton, working with College of Nursing undergraduate students during their clinical experiences at the Yorkton Regional Health Centre, a role she continues today. Taking her graduate education has opened many doors for Gabriel. "Since the completion of my Master's, I have had the opportunity to teach an undergraduate theory class to students here in Yorkton, and through the use of videoconference technology, the material is also delivered in

real time to students at the Regina Campus. Completing my graduate program through the College of Nursing has allowed me to have a positive impact on future Registered Nurses, the community and the clients I serve."



Master of Nursing graduate Tracy Gabriel

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

■ ASSISTANT PROFESSOR SONIA UDOD PRESENTS AT PRESTIGIOUS GLOBAL CONFERENCE

Faculty in the College of Nursing often have the opportunity to present their research to nursing colleagues at various conferences, but to be selected as one of only three Canadian nurse researchers to present at an impressive international conference for management and organization scholars is a real honour.

Assistant Professor Dr. Sonia Udod was selected to deliver her presentation titled, *Swimming Upstream: Role Stressors and Coping Strategies of Nurse Managers*, at the Academy of Management Annual Meeting and conference in 2016. The paper from which her presentation drew was based on her Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) study *Investigating Role Stressors and Coping Experiences of Nurse Managers in Rural and Urban Acute Care Facilities in Saskatchewan and Alberta* (Udod, Cummings, & Care). Udod's paper was reviewed by three members of the Academy for inclusion in the Health Care Management division.

"I was very pleased our paper was accepted for oral presentation at this level," said Udod. "Belonging to such a prestigious organization allows me to network with key researchers in my area of study and bring new and meaningful understandings and findings to my students within the College of Nursing and

advance my own program of research." Subsequent to the Academy of Management Annual Meeting, Udod's paper was accepted for publication in *Leadership in Health Service*, to appear in early 2017. The journal publishes manuscripts on theory and best practices to improve and impact health care organizations and services worldwide by developing effective leaders.



Dr. Sonia Udod

Photo courtesy of SHRF

■ FIRST DEGREE NURSING GRADUATES IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

As the 2014/15 academic year came to a close, the College of Nursing could not have been more excited to celebrate the first graduates of the new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in northern Saskatchewan. Prior to the start of this program in 2012, students in La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse would have had to leave their community to take their degree nursing education in Saskatoon, Regina or Prince Albert.

"When the idea to deliver nursing education in northern Saskatchewan was brought forward, I had never been to Ile-a-la-Crosse," said former College of Nursing Dean Dr. Lorna Butler. "But the one thing I did know was the College of Nursing is committed to a 'learn where you live' philosophy and if northern Saskatchewan needed more nurses, we wanted to help."

"Learning from home has been a blessing, as I was able to focus on my studies without having the added pressures of living away from family and friends," said 2015 La Ronge graduate Christina Davies. "Taking the program in the North has brought many unique experiences, including learning via the robot. Being able to complete the entire Bachelor of Science in Nursing program where I live has been an incredible opportunity that I will never forget. I look forward to giving back to my home community of La Ronge as a Registered Nurse."

Phyllis Probert, a 2015 BSN graduate in Ile-a-la-Crosse, understands completely the impact of having the degree nursing program in the North. "The graduation of three aboriginal nurses in this area of northern Saskatchewan, the improvement in our families' lifestyles and overall well-being, the addition of Cree/Dene-speaking nurses in northern hospitals and the overall pride in our communities and my hometown of Beauval to have gained another nurse are just a few reasons to be thankful for having this program in Ile-a-la-Crosse."



First degree nursing graduates in Ile-a-la-Crosse
(l to r) Savannah Sylvestre, Bernice Desjardin and Phyllis Probert

■ USING ROBOTICS TO BRING TOGETHER STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The use of remote presence technology is spreading. At the Grand Challenges Canada: Stars in Global Health meeting, held in January 2015, innovators who are using robotics for health care education in the Philippines, Canada, Siberia and the United States came together to share knowledge. The meeting also served as the official launch of robotics in nursing education in the Philippines and Siberia.

The Grand Challenges Award provided funding to purchase a remote-presence RP-Xpress unit for the North-Eastern Federal University (NEFU) College of Nursing in Yakutsk, Siberia and the University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center (UERMMM) in Quezon City, Philippines. University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing's Dr. Lorna Butler presented the remote presence tele-mentoring systems to the Deans of Nursing from both universities. InTouch Health, a leader in remote presence technology, also connected from Santa Barbara, California to provide the lab demonstrations. Simultaneously, the four countries participated in creating a global nursing education initiative called the Innovative Learning Institute for Circumpolar Health.

Using the RP-Xpress, communities of students and faculty will share expertise, knowledge and insights to address the challenges facing indigenous people in achieving health and well-being. The intended outcome of the Learning Institute is the application of remote presence to provide high quality,

accessible education for nursing students to 'learn where they live.' Students and professors will work together globally to address the social determinants of health experienced by indigenous populations in locations where accessibility, remoteness and low economic status have an impact on chronic disease management. Students will learn that nurses who are working in rural and remote regions face very similar health care challenges no matter which country they live in, and that technology can connect them with experienced colleagues they can call on.



Attendees at Grand Challenges Canada: Stars in Global Health Meeting

■ WELCOME UCAN AND THE PATHWAY FOR ABORIGINAL STUDENTS

The College of Nursing created the country's first aboriginal nursing program, the Native Access Program to Nursing (NAPN), in 1985, when there were only 35 aboriginal baccalaureate-prepared nurses in Canada. When the College of Nursing moved from the previous undergraduate program model to the current indirect-entry Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in 2012, it was time to re-examine the NAPN program and its name. Welcome UCAN – the University of Saskatchewan Community of Aboriginal Nursing. The core of UCAN has been and will continue to be student support and advising. Aboriginal nursing advisors located in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert work with students at all sites to establish impactful relationships, build community, provide advisement and offer support.

When UCAN was introduced, the college went one step further and developed a pathway for aboriginal students helping them transition from high school, into university and ultimately into the workforce. "We've never had a problem attracting aboriginal students to nursing," said College of Nursing former Dean Dr. Lorna Butler. "Where we've had challenges is in getting them successfully through the door with some of the tougher prerequisite courses. We're now putting more resources into science and math success at the K-12 level, including easy access to bursaries for tutorial

support in high school chemistry and math for rural aboriginal students."

In March 2015, the College of Nursing officially launched UCAN and the pathway program with a celebration at the Saskatoon Campus, followed by province-wide events throughout the spring at one Yorkton, Regina, Prince Albert and northern sites.



The UCAN pathway for aboriginal students

ACADEMIC ADVISORS ENHANCE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

The College of Nursing values academic advising and understands its importance both in guiding current learners through their studies and in recruiting prospective students to our programs. The work our Academic Advisors do truly enhances the student experience and has a lasting impact on the students they work with.

Throughout the year, our Academic Advisors across the province give presentations at schools, meet with students who visit College of Nursing sites and arrange a variety of activities for current students. Profiled below are just a few examples of activities our advisors participated in during 2015 and 2016.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN OPEN HOUSE

Every fall the University of Saskatchewan hosts an open house on campus in Saskatoon for prospective students from across the province. Those who attend Open House have the opportunity to experience life as a U of S student—explore the campus and facilities, take part in hands-on activities, meet university staff and faculty and speak with current students about the uSask experience. College of Nursing advisors took part in both the 2015 and 2016 U of S Open House events.



Students experience nursing 'hands-on' at Open House

MILLER COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL CAREER FAIR

Over 1,000 students from five Regina Catholic high schools attended the Miller Comprehensive High School Career Fair in June 2016. College of Nursing advisors from the Regina Campus hosted a booth to interact with the students and share their knowledge about the profession and the undergraduate nursing program.



Professional Academic Advisor April Mackey hosts booth at Miller Comprehensive High School Career Fair

BOWLT FORWARD CAREER FAIR

Academic Advisors attended the Bowlt Forward Career Fair in Saskatoon in 2015 and 2016. Organizers of the event hope to increase high school students' awareness about education and training for meaningful employment and give the students a chance to explore various career opportunities. The event was hosted by Tommy Douglas Collegiate and Bethlehem Catholic High School.



Professional Academic Advisor Sheila Watts interacts with prospective students at the Bowlt Forward Career Fair

PET THERAPY DOGS REDUCE STRESS

Students in Saskatoon were given the opportunity to de-stress with pet therapy dogs in 2015, an activity arranged by College of Nursing Academic Advisors. For a couple of days in November, during the Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) for some students, pet therapy dogs visited the College of Nursing over the noon hour giving students a chance to de-stress and take their mind off their challenging work.



PAWS your stress

NORTHERN LIGHTS YOUTH HEALTH CAREERS SYMPOSIUM

In partnership with the U of S College of Medicine and the Northern Lights School Division, the College of Nursing hosted the Northern Lights Youth Health Careers Symposium in 2015 and 2016. Students from Cumberland House, Beauval, Green Lake, La Loche, Pinehouse and Sandy Bay participated in two days of health-related, hands-on activities. The event gives the students an opportunity to interact with a variety of health care professionals.



Professional Academic Advisor Pat Taciuk coordinates hands-on activities during the Northern Lights Youth Health Careers Symposium

TRY A CAREER DAY

Try a Career Day is hosted annually by the Regina District Industry Education Council in Balgonie, Saskatchewan. The three-day event offers interesting and interactive career exploration opportunities for over 6,000 youth from Regina and surrounding area. College of Nursing Aboriginal Nursing Advisor Heather Cote-Soop attended in both 2015 and 2016 and arranged a couple of hands-on activities, including a Glo Germ handwashing station and an activity that had students plot their heart rates on a graph.



Students take part in a Glo Germ handwashing activity at Try a Career Day

NORTHERN CAMPUS PINNING CEREMONIES

The College of Nursing brought back the traditional nursing pinning ceremony in 2014. During these ceremonies, pins are distributed to students to mark progression throughout their program. Students receive a Year 2, 3 or 4 pin at the start of term 1 and are encouraged to wear their pins during their placements to communicate with community members about their level of education. At our northern sites, students in La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse receive their pins as part of a more formal ceremony and social gathering including not only the students, but their families as well. Prince Albert Campus faculty and staff, including their advising team, organized and attended the pinning ceremonies in both La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse in 2015 and 2016.

HEALTH LINKS

The Health Links event targets grade 10 and 11 students keen on health care careers. Our Academic Advisors, along with current undergraduate students, participated in this event in both 2015 and 2016. Both years, they had approximately 100 high school students from Saskatoon and surrounding areas participate in four stations, where the high school students had the opportunity to learn hands-on skills from the nursing students. The nursing session at the Health Links event is intended to demonstrate to high school students what the daily role of a Registered Nurse is. Prospective students also participate in a career fair during lunch as part of the event.



Undergraduate nursing students help prospective students try nursing at Health Links

WORKING TOGETHER CAREER FAIR

The Yorkton Tribal Council hosts their Working Together Career Fair annually in May for over 1,000 students from First Nations and non-First Nations communities and high schools around the Yorkton area. College of Nursing Aboriginal Nursing Advisor Heather Cote-Soop and Professor Emerita Dr. Karen Semchuk attended the career fair in both 2015 and 2016. They engaged students in hands-on activities and spoke to them about the undergraduate program offered in Yorkton.



Working Together Career Fair in Yorkton



La Ronge students at annual pinning ceremony

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

PROVIDING SUPPORT AT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS NATIONAL WINTER GAMES

In March 2016, over 600 Special Olympics Athletes travelled to Corner Brook, Newfoundland to participate in the National Winter Games. As part of the games, the Healthy Athletes program was offered, including health promotion focused on education and empowering the athletes to advocate for themselves. To effectively screen and provide education for all the athletes in four days, Dr. Janet McCabe (Health Promotion Clinical Director for Saskatchewan and Assistant Professor at the College of Nursing Prince Albert Campus) forged a partnership with the Western Regional School of Nursing (WRSON), Grenfell Campus, located in Corner Brook. Faculty at WRSON included the hours preparing for and delivering programming at the National Winter Games as part of their community health theory and clinical course. Their students had the opportunity to learn how to best work with and support individuals with intellectual disabilities in a health promotion context and learned about the health inequities faced by this population.

McCabe and her team, consisting of undergraduate student Emily Philips, Master of Nursing students Thea Herzog and Laura Davies and former College of Nursing faculty member Dr. Jennifer Kryworuchko, worked closely with WRSON faculty and instructors to support the hands-on clinical experience for their undergraduate nursing students working at the games.

"The WRSON students designed interactive health displays and games that addressed health promotion topics, such as hand

washing, healthy eating, hydration and physical activity," said McCabe. "Our U of S nursing students, who all had experience working with this population in the past, provided on-the-ground support to students and instructors, positioning them as leaders during the event, and providing an opportunity to mentor and connect with students on a national level. The experience will leave a lasting impact on everyone who participated."



Master of Nursing student Thea Herzog provides healthy eating education for Special Olympics Athletes

DR. ALEXANDER CLARK DELIVERS MYRTLE CRAWFORD LECTURE SERIES

Distinguished scholar Dr. Alexander Clark delivered several lectures to College of Nursing staff, faculty and graduate students, as well as the University of Saskatchewan community, in November 2016, as keynote speaker for the Myrtle Crawford Lecture Series.

The impact of hearing such a high profile speaker in person really energizes the community and increases the connection with his work. "It was an honour to have Dr. Clark take the time from his busy schedule to spend three days with us discussing his passion," said College of Nursing Professor and Research Lead Dr. Louise Racine. "It's one thing to read about his work and his research in the many journals he is published in, but it's another thing to hear him speak in person, interact with the audience and have the opportunity to ask him questions."

Clark is a Professor in the Faculty of Nursing and Associate Dean of Research at the University of Alberta. He has a groundbreaking program of research in cardiovascular health. More specifically, his program focuses on helping people with heart disease live longer and better lives. The topics he lectured on during his time in Saskatoon included *What complexity and*

realist theory mean for patient-oriented research: Insights, innovations and advances; Heart Disease is everyone's business: How research can help us all live better & longer and Presenting research better: Insights from theory, science and yourself.



(l to r) Dr. Alexander Clark, Interim Dean Dr. Beth Horsburgh and Research Lead Dr. Louise Racine

HELPING TO ENGAGE STREET-INVOLVED YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY

A partnership between the College of Nursing and community partner Street Culture Project Inc., has been helping to engage street-involved youth in Regina since 2014. The Street Culture Project is a non-profit, charitable organization that actively works to empower vulnerable youth within the community.

College of Nursing undergraduate students doing their community placements at Street Culture engage with youth and provide informal teaching and life-skills training. The nursing students develop and deliver weekly evening sessions for youth, based on feedback and ideas received from the youth themselves. Each session begins with the preparation of a healthy meal, providing the youth with a hands-on opportunity to develop their cooking skills and learn about nutrition. The meal is then followed by a recreational and/or interactive educational activity, such as arts and crafts, games in the park, board games and others. Each session typically lasts two to three hours.

When the partnership began, the nursing student sessions were held in conjunction with other Street Culture programming; however, in spring 2015, nursing students started delivering the sessions on Tuesday evenings, an evening where the youth have free time and may not always be on site. This was intimidating for the nursing students, for fear that none of the youth would show up, but ultimately attendance did not vary from the previous sessions. "The programming on Tuesday nights delivered by the nursing students, creating that and having the kids buy into that, I think that's second to none," said Mike Gerrand, Director of Operations at Street Culture. "It's a first-rate experience and the youth want to be a part of it."

"The experience I had during my time with Street Culture was the most rewarding rotation of my entire nursing education," said Regina Campus undergraduate student Erika Kendrick. "This opportunity opened my eyes to how valuable and vital community nursing is to vulnerable populations. I believe it is important to continue to provide these youth with opportunities for personal growth, as I have seen first-hand the positive impact it can have." During fall 2014, spring 2015, fall 2015 and winter 2016, nursing students delivered 39 interactive educational/recreational sessions to approximately 257 youth at Street Culture.

This partnership would not be possible without the generous donation from K+S Potash Canada, who donated \$21,000 over three years in June 2015. Learn more about this community partnership at nursinginthecommunity.usask.ca.



Street Culture Project youth

Photo courtesy of Street Culture Project Inc.

FACULTY AND STUDENTS HELP FACILITATE HOPE SYMPOSIUM IN LA RONGE

It's no secret there was crisis and a great deal of loss experienced in northern Saskatchewan during the second half of 2016. During the last weekend in November, a series of workshops were held in La Ronge focused on HOPE, resiliency and celebrating life. Faculty and nursing students from the Prince Albert Campus, as well as Saskatchewan Polytechnic, boarded a bus to La Ronge to help facilitate the HOPE Symposium for students of northern Saskatchewan, with the goal to have a positive impact on northern communities.

"The students and faculty were asked to present suicide prevention workshops for more than 200 students from grades 7 to 12, along with some family members," said Dr. June Anonson, Professor at the Prince Albert Campus. "The workshops were very well received and other events over the weekend included recreational and cultural activities and practical 'hands-on' support for suicide prevention." The students attending the weekend of HOPE were predominantly from La Ronge, but included students from five surrounding communities as well. The weekend was followed up with ongoing support for students and their families provided by the

La Ronge Mental Health Services & Counselling Centre and Lac La Ronge Indian Band Health Services.



Prince Albert nursing students travel to La Ronge to facilitate the HOPE Symposium

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

■ CELEBRATING INDIGENOUS NURSES IN SASKATCHEWAN

As the first celebration of its kind in Saskatchewan, the College of Nursing was proud to host an Indigenous Nurses Celebration Gala in November 2016 to honour and acknowledge the contributions made by indigenous nurses over many decades to improve the health and well-being of residents of Saskatchewan and beyond.

Janet Spence-Fontaine, a Cree First Nations nursing alumna and the first known indigenous Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN '65) graduate of the University of Saskatchewan nursing program, delivered the keynote address. "I carry the promise of wonderful surprises yet to come, and go forward with my personal mission to create and heal," said Fontaine. Throughout the evening, guests were treated to music, a fantastic shawl dance and a trip down memory lane on the history of indigenous nursing programs.

"The suicide crisis in northern Saskatchewan deeply impacts many of our nursing students and their families located in La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse, as well as our alumni who work in the North," said Dr. Heather Exner-Pirot, College of Nursing Strategist for Outreach and Indigenous Engagement. "This was a particularly important time to highlight the achievement and

contributions of indigenous nurses in Saskatchewan, as they are incredible role models in their communities."

This celebration gala would not have been possible without a very generous donation from Drs. Murray and the late Gerri Dickson.



BSN student Jennifer McGillivray

■ ALIGNING RESOURCES TO MATCH PRIORITIES

As the College of Nursing experienced a change of leadership at the beginning of 2016, a review was started to look at finances, with an aim to ensure all budgets were properly aligned and specific program costs were understood. This is a normal process when there is a change in leadership and an important procedure to ensure the College of Nursing runs efficiently. "This review took place to familiarize our new Interim Dean Dr. Horsburgh with College of Nursing finances and to ensure that we are in a good financial position going forward," said Shawn Anderson, Director of Finance and Administration in the College of Nursing.

The University of Saskatchewan is under financial pressure from the Government of Saskatchewan, mainly due to troubles in the resource sector and a reduction in commodity royalty revenues. This financial pressure has had an impact on the College of Nursing, but luckily, we have felt the pinch less than other colleges across campus. "We have stable funding and are in a good position to weather the downturn in the economy," said Anderson.

In 2016, the University of Saskatchewan started on a financial reorganization process called "service design and delivery." This restructuring is ongoing within the central financial units of the university. "This will change financial processes in the

College of Nursing going forward, but the goal is to better serve the faculty and provide a more efficient financial structure that eliminates duplication and focuses on customer service," said Anderson. The financial team in the College of Nursing has been a part of this process to ensure the best possible outcomes for our college.



COLLEGE RELATIONS OFFICER RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS CERTIFICATION

Globally recognized as the primary credential for fundraising professionals, the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) certification is a prestigious accomplishment. The College of Nursing is delighted to share the news that College Relations Officer Anna Pacik received her CFRE certification in March 2015.

"Being able to work every day with people who want to make an impact is inspiring, and at the same time very humbling," said Pacik. "The journey of attaining my CFRE designation was an enjoyable challenge, one that has left me with a profound appreciation for the world of philanthropy."

Certified fundraising professionals make certain that donors' philanthropic visions are honoured and fulfilled. For organizations that are fortunate enough to employ certified fundraising executives like Pacik, these employees do more than secure a gift—they are strategic leaders who use their knowledge of relationship building, ethics and accountability to help fundraising prosper.

"Anna is one of very few College Relations Officers in the province, and indeed the country, to achieve this success," said College of Nursing former Dean Dr. Lorna Butler. "She is determined to build a strong reputation for the College. Achieving this goal is a testament to her professionalism and leadership for Advancement."



College Relations Officer Anna Pacik

SRNA AWARDS FOR THREE COLLEGE OF NURSING FACULTY

The Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association (SRNA) recognizes individuals annually who are making an impact in the world of nursing.

The Elizabeth Van Valkenburg Award for Excellence in Nursing Education is awarded to a Registered Nurse who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of nursing education. A testament to her excellence in teaching, Dr. Carol Bullin received this award in 2016. Bullin had this to say about the award. "Teaching and learning are active processes for which both the teacher and student share responsibility. This perspective was best articulated in 1883 by Florence Nightingale when she wrote about nurse educators preparing nursing students – she asked, *'What is training? We can't put into you, what is not there. We want to bring out what is there. Training is enabling you to use the means you have in yourself'*" (as cited in McDonald, 2009, p. 188)."

The Effie Feeny Award for Excellence in Nursing Research is given to a Registered Nurse or group of Registered Nurses who have made an outstanding contribution in the field of nursing or health-related research that enhances the nursing profession. Dr. Louise Racine received this award in 2015 and Dr. Angela Bowen in 2016.

"I am interested in researching issues connected to culture,

social justice, globalization and migration and how these factors shape nursing and health care delivery in Saskatchewan and beyond," said Racine. "I am fortunate to have received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation to allow me to do the research I love. I am honoured to have received this award."

"I did not expect research to be so exciting, but it is!" said Bowen. "I have been a clinical nurse, an educator in a clinical unit and within teaching programs and also an administrator, but research was an unexpected delight in my career. I am most pleased that my maternal mental health program of research has had an impact on practice, and most importantly, on the health of women and their families both here at home and around the world. Thank you to my peers and students who nominated me."



Dr. Carol Bullin



Dr. Louise Racine



Dr. Angela Bowen

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

EVALUATING ABORIGINAL NURSE GRADUATES' TRANSITION TO PRACTICE

Nursing graduates are faced with many challenges as they enter the workforce. These stressful experiences can be intensified for new graduates who identify as an ethnic minority. Drs. Noelle Rohatinsky and Heather Exner-Pirot have been looking at this transition for our new aboriginal nursing graduates.

"Many aboriginal Registered Nurses work in their home communities after graduation and often, the retention of nurses within these communities is a concern," said Rohatinsky. "As newly graduated Registered Nurses enter the workforce, many feel unprepared to begin their nursing career in demanding and remote environments."

Encouraging experienced aboriginal Registered Nurses to support new nursing graduates during the transition can have a positive impact on the newcomers to the profession, because the established mentors know exactly what they are going through. It also allows for recognition and sharing of indigenous knowledge. "We know aboriginal nurse mentorships

are particularly beneficial during the first year of employment," said Exner-Pirot. "An advisory committee composed of aboriginal students and mentors has been established to provide ongoing guidance for the program, including peer mentorship opportunities."



(l to r) Drs. Heather Exner-Pirot and Noelle Rohatinsky

USSU CELEBRATES TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) Teaching Excellence Award recognizes professors who demonstrate teaching excellence at the U of S – by not only giving students access to knowledge, but also providing them with the tools by which to turn that knowledge into wisdom. The College of Nursing is pleased to celebrate the impact that Dr. Tracie Risling and Cheryl Besse, award recipients in 2015, and Dr. Shelley Peacock, award recipient in 2016, have had on their students.

Risling was nominated by students in her NURS 200 class and she thanks them for their initiative and participation in the award process. "I believe teaching is a partnership, and every classroom I enter is an opportunity to share information and support learning, but also to form relationships and learn about, and from, my students," said Risling.



(l to r) Cheryl Besse and Dr. Tracie Risling

Besse was nominated by students in her NURS 330 class. "I am humbled to receive this award, especially considering there are so many incredible teachers across campus who are equally deserving," said Besse. "I can think of no greater honour than to be nominated by the students. The fact is, I am just doing what I love to do. It is my privilege to be a part of the students' journey and while this award is a tremendous acknowledgment, I am rewarded every day to have the opportunity to be their teacher."

NURS 202 students nominated Peacock for her enthusiasm, organization and fairness of evaluation. "I am most humbled to be nominated by our students. It is an honour for me to be able to teach what I am passionate about and hopefully inspire students to be the best nurses they can be as they provide safe, competent care to the patients, families and communities we have the privilege of working with," said Peacock.

Congratulations Tracie, Cheryl and Shelley – our students are lucky to have you!



Dr. Shelley Peacock

■ YORKTON WELCOMES 'SEYMOUR'

It's official: the community nursing robot in Yorkton that helps to educate nursing students has a name! Say hello to 'Seymour'. The name was put forth by Carol Stringfellow after residents in the Sunrise Health Region were asked to send in suggestions during a community contest held at the end of 2015. "I chose the name because I thought it was applicable due to the fact that students from rural sites can actually 'see more' when they have the ability to visually connect with faculty at College of Nursing sites," said Stringfellow. The winning name was selected by a panel of judges comprised of University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing and Yorkton community volunteers.

As a distributed site, Yorkton receives undergraduate nursing education delivered via Seymour (remote presence technology) from faculty located at the College of Nursing site in Regina. This enables students to learn where they live, which has a positive impact on the students' studies and the community as a whole. "This cutting-edge technology makes it easier for nursing students in a smaller city, like Yorkton, to access top quality education," said Minister of Rural and Remote Health Greg Ottenbreit. "Remote presence technology is a great way to deliver health education and services in rural and remote communities."



Minister of Rural and Remote Health Greg Ottenbreit with Seymour

■ ACHIEVING LONG-TERM GOAL OF ABORIGINAL STUDENT REPRESENTATION

It is well known that a representative workforce is key in making health care services more accessible and acceptable for diverse client groups. An increase in the number of aboriginal nurses can have a positive impact on this population, and with their help, gaps in health outcomes among the province's aboriginal population will close.

The College of Nursing is extremely proud to say we have achieved our long-term goal of proportional aboriginal representation in our student body. During the 2015/16 academic year, we had an undergraduate enrolment of 165 aboriginal students, which is 17.3 per cent of the undergraduate student population in the College of Nursing.

The College has been making steady progress towards this goal for several years, growing from a 9.2 per cent undergraduate aboriginal student proportion in the 2012/13 academic year. Strategist for Outreach and Indigenous Engagement Dr. Heather Exner-Pirot credits much of the success to the College's 'learn where you live' model. "The College delivers the full

degree program in six locations across the province including sites in Ile-a-la-Crosse and La Ronge. Currently, half of our aboriginal students are studying there or in Prince Albert. It makes the degree much more accessible, and it is more likely they'll stay and practice as nurses in their home communities or regions after they complete their degrees."

Heading into the 2016/17 academic year, we were once again proud to say our aboriginal student representation grew again to 18.9 per cent of undergraduate students, with a 93 per cent retention rate. Going forward, we will focus on aboriginal graduate student retention, with the goal of growing the number of aboriginal nurse administrators, instructors and researchers.



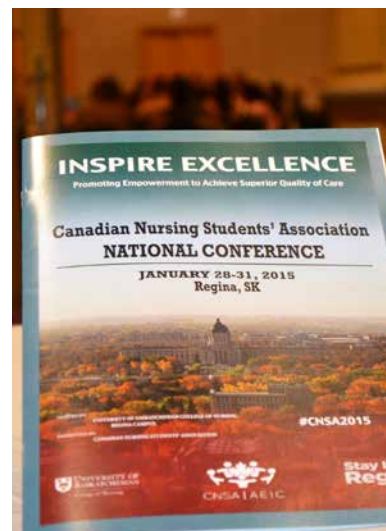
Aboriginal undergraduate student representation in the College of Nursing

HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

REGINA CAMPUS HOSTS NATIONAL NURSING CONFERENCE

The College of Nursing Regina Campus hosted a national nursing conference in January 2015, attracting more than 400 nursing students and nursing professionals to the city of Regina. “The annual Canadian Nursing Students’ Association (CNSA) national conference is an event that hundreds of nursing students look forward to every year,” said University of Saskatchewan nursing student and CNSA National Conference Director Justin Eisenkirch. “When I attended the conference in Vancouver in 2014, I left with a newfound motivation and enthusiasm for my education and future career.”

Over the course of the four-day conference, attendees had the opportunity to participate in hands-on workshops, listen to keynote speakers and interact with exhibitors from all branches of health care. The impact of the conference theme, Inspire Excellence: Promoting Empowerment to Achieve Superior Quality of Care, was evident throughout the sessions. When asked about the overall success of the conference, Eisenkirch replied, “Being the National Conference Director was an amazing experience, but it was nothing compared the satisfaction I felt when I was able to see my cohorts from across the country learning and interacting with the other future leaders from across Canada.” The University of Saskatchewan Regina Campus was proud to be the newest chapter school in the history of the CNSA to be awarded the prestigious national conference.



CREATING A PARTNERSHIP WITH CIRCLE PROJECT ASSOCIATION

The College of Nursing has been working with community partner The Circle Project Association Inc. to reduce the impact of domestic violence, as well as teach school-aged students about wellness. The Circle Project is an urban-based aboriginal organization that provides programs and services in Regina, such as family violence programing, lifestyles counselling, a children’s centre, stabilization services, employment preparation and an infant and toddler daycare. Partnering with Circle Project gave Raymond McKay, a fourth-year aboriginal student at the College of Nursing’s Regina Campus, the opportunity to work as a Research Assistant and community role model in summer 2015.

The Circle Project has offered family violence programing in Regina for over 20 years, but recently the organization noticed a substantial increase in the demand for this service. During his summer employment as a Research Assistant at The Circle Project, McKay was asked to investigate and estimate the cost of one incident of domestic violence based on a scenario involving two adults and three children under the age of seven. It was estimated the initial costs associated with one violent incident could reach over \$112,000. The research that McKay worked on during his employment at The Circle Project was used to help prepare the *Economic Impact: The Cost of One Incident of Domestic Violence* report. The College of Nursing also partnered with Circle Project and the Regina Police Service to host the inaugural “Hearts in the Park” event at Regina’s Victoria Park in June 2016. The event was held in honour of loved ones who have felt the impact of violence and the *Economic Impact* report was officially released during the event.

The second project McKay was asked to work on in summer 2015 was to plan and organize a three-day Circle Project summer

wellness camp for school-aged students, who attended the Children’s Centre. The camp included hands-on activities, presentations, a field trip, healthy lunches and snacks. McKay served as a positive role model for the children and their families.

“The willingness to engage in a true community partnership between the College of Nursing and Circle Project has resulted in benefits for both organizations and the community at large,” said Ann Perry, Executive Director at Circle Project. “When we can work together in meaningful ways, we have the opportunity to produce significant positive outcomes and move a little closer to bridging the gaps in our community.”

Learn more about this community partnership at nursinginthecommunity.usask.ca.



(l to r) Dr. Lynn Jansen, Raymond McKay and Ann Perry

■ LAVAL UNIVERSITY RECOGNIZES DR. RACINE AS AN INFLUENTIAL GRADUATE

College of Nursing Professor Dr. Louise Racine was selected as an influential graduate of Laval University in 2016. This prestigious honour is given by the Association des diplômés de l'Université Laval to graduates who have excelled in their careers and social commitment.

Racine's impact on nursing is longstanding. Entering the profession in 1978 as a Registered Nurse (RN), she received her RN diploma from the Cégep de Sainte-Foy and a Certificate in Health Administration from the Université de Montréal in 1991. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1994 and Master of Nursing in 1996 from the Faculté des sciences infirmières de l'Université Laval, and in 2004, she received her Doctor of Philosophy in nursing from the University of British Columbia. She has practiced more than 14 years in general surgery, ear, nose and throat, head and neck surgery, urology and gynecology.

"It is a great honour to have been selected as an alumna of excellence by the Association and my alma mater," said Racine. "Recognition of my pioneering work in immigrant and refugee health, as well as my contributions to the profession and discipline of nursing both nationally and internationally, means

a lot to me. I very much appreciate this recognition as Laval University is world class and a member of the select U15 club in Canada."

Racine was one of only 115 graduates newly identified as influential graduates in 2016.



Dr. Louise Racine

■ NP PROGRAM RECEIVES SRNA 5-YEAR PROGRAM APPROVAL RATING

The College of Nursing offers both a Master of Nursing - Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner program, as well as a Post-Graduate Nurse Practitioner Certificate for those who have already completed a Master of Nursing degree. To ensure graduates are educated to provide safe, competent, quality care and meet the criteria for provincial nurse practitioner (NP) licensure through a national certification exam, the program is regularly reviewed by the provincial regulatory body.

The college is extremely proud to have received the highest level of approval possible (five-year approval rating) from the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association (SRNA) Nursing Education Program Approval committee in 2015. In particular, we were commended for our interdisciplinary approach in student learning, positive feedback from employers on the preparedness of graduates, physical resources available for students and excellent leadership. We are especially pleased to be acknowledged for this impact on students and the profession as a whole.

"NP programs are assessed by knowledgeable academic leaders involved in NP education across Canada," said Dr. Mary Ellen Andrews, Director of the Nurse Practitioner Program. "The review process provides an opportunity for constructive dialogue to ensure national perspectives can be reflected in educational programming."

As a testament to the quality of our nurse practitioner education, we are pleased to say our graduates have had a 100 per cent pass rate on the Canadian Nurse Practitioners Exam since inception of the programs.



HIGHLIGHT STORIES OF 2015 | 2016

■ EXCEEDING NATIONAL EXAM PASS RATES

The National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) was adopted for the first time in 2015 as the new standardized test for all undergraduate nursing graduates in Canada. The exam, used in both Canada and the United States, is designed to assess the knowledge, skills and abilities that nurses need, in order to provide safe competent care as licensed professionals. When results were released in early 2016, the College of Nursing was proud of our newest alumni. Results indicated that University of Saskatchewan (U of S) graduates achieved an 88 per cent overall success rate on the exam, which is higher than both the Canadian (84 per cent) and United States (84.5 per cent) average pass rates.

Although U of S nursing graduates have consistently outperformed the national average, ongoing quality improvement that will continue to have an impact on these

results is still an important focus in the College of Nursing. "We will continue to work with our academic and regional partners, as well as the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association, to prepare students for success as Registered Nurses in the twenty-first century," said Dr. Beth Horsburgh, Interim Dean in the College of Nursing. Strategic initiatives that build on the strengths of the undergraduate program were developed and starting to roll out by the end of 2016 with nursing faculty and Continuing Education and Development for Nurses to further improve student success rates.



■ MAMA KWANZA WORK CONTINUES TO HAVE MAJOR IMPACT IN TANZANIA

The Mama Kwanza (Mother First) Socio-Economic Health Initiative received \$3.6 million in 2013 and since then, a seemingly endless number of health and social-wellness programs have emerged in the Arusha region of Tanzania. While creating four permanent Mama Kwanza clinics and a series of health literacy kiosks to improve access for health services for women and children and vulnerable groups in Arusha and Ngorongoro, the initiative has used unique strategies to achieve health in its broadest sense.

With support and a vision from Dr. Pammla Petrucka, Professor at the Regina Campus, and partner Green Hope Organisation, youth collecting plastic on the street has become the JIJI SAFI (Clean Village) project, which helps street youth earn an income. The JIJI SAFI initiative is employing approximately 10 youth on a daily basis. These youth earn a sufficient living and many of them are often able to get off the street. The soft plastics that are collected from the streets are recycled into boards that are then used to make desks for a number of schools. The desks are typically made of lumber, so by using plastic boards, the project is saving trees. One tree large enough to wrap your arms around equals enough

lumber to make three desks. The recycling method does not use chemicals, thereby reducing the impact on the environment. Recently, a group of five Canadian aboriginal interns helped to refurbish two classrooms at one school in Arusha.

Another Mama Kwanza initiative helps young girls to become self-sustaining. Often due to unplanned pregnancy, for which girls are expelled, or due to the family deciding to support the son to go to school and not the daughter, many young girls leave school early in Tanzania. The Mama Kwanza initiative has provided these young girls basic life skills, including crocheting, cooking, sewing and raising chickens, digital literacy and vocational skills, including entrepreneurship training and budget development to improve future employment potentials.

The funding received for Mama Kwanza through Global Affairs Canada has been used to create so many valuable programs in Tanzania. "All the projects that have been created as part of Mama Kwanza are about sustainability – sustain—to feed and nourish—and ability—to have capabilities, knowledge and skills," said Petrucka.



Desks made of recycled plastics collected by street youth



Young girls learning how to sew



"I always had a goal of becoming a Nurse Practitioner through undergraduate training in physiology and nursing. My dream has been fully realized with support of the U of S College of Nursing graduate programs."

Erin Boyce,
RN, BSc (Physiology), BSN, MN (NP)



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CELEBRATING RESEARCH



(l to r) Drs. N. Rohatinsky and T. Risling

College of Nursing researchers have made significant strides forward in their programs of research during 2015 and 2016. In addition to the projects that are led (and co-led) by nursing faculty, staff and students throughout the following pages, a number of our researchers are also engaged as co-investigators and collaborators in numerous health research projects with other research units. Congratulations to all our faculty, staff and students!

◆ **Bold denotes College of Nursing faculty, staff and students**

◆ **Italics denote Principal Investigators**

Government of Norway

- High North Programme: Developing a Northern Nursing Workforce; **Drs. L. Butler, J. Bally, C. Bullin, H. Exner-Pirot**, B. Norbye (The Arctic University of Norway), C. Norvik (The Arctic University of Norway), M. W. Skaalvik (The Arctic University of Norway)

Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research

- UiT The Arctic University of Norway: Establishing a UArctic Thematic Network on Northern Nursing Education: Accessible and Decentralized Education for a Northern and Indigenous Health Force; **Drs. L. Butler, J. Bally, C. Bullin, H. Exner-Pirot**, B. Norbye (The Arctic University of Norway), M. W. Skaalvik (The Arctic University of Norway), Ms. E. Neuls (International Centre for Northern Governance and Development, University of Saskatchewan)

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

- Research Award: Recruiting Registered Nurses and Physicians to Rural Saskatchewan: Nursing and Medical Students' Mentorship Perspectives; **Dr. N. Rohatinsky**

Crohn's and Colitis Canada

- Nursing-led Inflammatory Bowel Disease Research Grant: Collaborating with Canadian IBD Nurses to Develop a Pilot Healthcare Transition Readiness Assessment Tool for Adolescents with Inflammatory Bowel Disease; **Drs. T. Risling, N. Rohatinsky**, L. Hellsten (College of Education, University of Saskatchewan), Ms. M. Kumaran (Health Sciences Library, University of Saskatchewan)



International gathering in Iceland to establish the UArctic Thematic Network on Northern Nursing Education



(l to r) Drs. L. Holtslander, J. Bally and C. Mpofu



(l to r) R. Thurmeier, Dr. M. E. Andrews, J. Luimes, Dr. H. Exner-Pirot, Dr. L. Butler and E. Neuls



(l to r) K. Stienwand, Dr. P. Woods, Dr. L. Butler and J. Stonechild

Retina Foundation of Canada

- Senior Research Grant: Caring for Kids Where They Live: Using Technology to Prevent Vision Loss in Northern Aboriginal Youth; **Drs. S. Spurr, J. Bally**

Canadian Association for the History of Nursing

- Inventory of Archival Sources for Historical Research on Outpost Nursing and Remote Hospital History in Northwestern Canada, 1880 - 1960; **Drs. H. Vandenberg**, G. Boschma (University of British Columbia), L. McBain (First Nations University of Canada)

Mitacs (with matching funds from International Mineral Innovation Institute)

- Accelerate Program: A Healthy Workplace for a Healthy Workforce: Identifying Predictors of Health Impacting Workplace Productivity in the Mining Industry of Saskatchewan; **Drs. L. Butler, H. Exner-Pirot, M. E. Andrews, J. Bally, C. Bullin, Ms. K. Haase, Ms. J. Luimes, Mr. M. Tomtene**, Ms. E. Neuls (International Centre for Northern Governance and Development, University of Saskatchewan)

Western & North-Western Region – Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (WNRCSN)

- Research Award: Study Abroad in Undergraduate Nursing Education: Self-reported Impact on RN Nursing Practice; **Drs. A. Kent-Wilkinson, M. Dietrich Leurer, L. Ferguson, L. Murray, Ms. J. Luimes**, V. Squires (College of Education, University of Saskatchewan)

Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF)

- Establishment Grant:
 - Evaluating a Theory-Based Hope Intervention to Support Parents of Children with Life Limiting and Life Threatening Illnesses; **Drs. J. Bally, L. Holtslander**, C. Mpofu (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan), H. Hodgson-Viden (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan)
 - Registered Nurse and Physician Mentorship in Saskatchewan's Rural Communities; **Drs. N. Rohatinsky, D. Rennie, J. Anonson, S. Udod**, O. Olatunbosun (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan)



(l to r) Drs. S. Peacock and M. O'Connell



Dr. H. Vandenberg



Dr. C. Peternelj-Taylor



Dr. A. Bowen

• Collaborative Innovation Development Grant:

- Interprofessional Pathways for Safe, Healthy Communities; **Drs. P. Woods, L. Butler, Ms. J. Luimes**, Mr. K. Stienwand (Prince Albert Police Service), Mr. J. Stonechild (Prince Albert Police Service)
- Concept Mapping to Improve Health Through Urban Agriculture; **Drs. W. Martin, P. Petrucka**, R. Engler-Stringer (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan), E. Micheels (College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan), D. Davidson (University of Alberta), Mr. G. Woods (College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan)
- Building Nurse Manager Leadership within the Lean Management System; **Drs. S. Udod**, D. Goodridge (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan), T. Rotter (College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan), J. Duchscher (Royal University Hospital), Ms. P. Simonar (Saskatoon Health Region)

- Research Connections Grant: Custody and Caring: 14th Biennial International Conference on the Nurse's Role in the Criminal Justice System; **Dr. C. Peternelj-Taylor**

**eHealth Saskatchewan
(Government of Saskatchewan)**

- Defining Empowerment and Supporting Engagement: Saskatchewan Patients and the eHealth Community Saskatchewan Citizen Health Portal; **Dr. T. Risling**

University of Regina

- Institut Français: Etude: Immigration Francophone Africaine en Saskatchewan: Exploration de l'espace de vie et son influence sur la santé des nouveaux arrivants; **Dr. L. Racine**, A. Leis (College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan)

University of Saskatchewan

• President's SSHRC Fund:

- Exploring the Effects of Ethical Leadership on the Organizational Research Culture of the University of Saskatchewan; **Dr. R. A. Springer**
- A History of Hospital Development and Funding in Southern Saskatchewan from 1860 - 1947; **Dr. H. Vandenberg**
- Mentorship and Youth with Exceptionalities: Building Sustainable Communities through Sport; **Dr. J. McCabe**
- FaceUS – Feasibility of an Age-Friendly Campus Environment at the U of S; **Drs. S. Peacock**, M. O'Connell (College of Arts & Science, University of Saskatchewan), M. Delbaere (Edwards School of Business, University of Saskatchewan)

• Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies Research Grants:

- Exploring Dementia Care in Corrections: An Integrative Literature Review; **Drs. S. Peacock, C. Peternelj-Taylor, L. Holtslander, M. Burles**, R. MacRae (University of the West of Scotland), Ms. M. Kumaran (Health Sciences Library, University of Saskatchewan)
- Correctional Nursing in Canada's Prairie Provinces: Roles, Responsibilities, and Learning Needs; **Drs. P. Woods, C. Peternelj-Taylor**

• Community-engaged Scholarship Research Seed Funding:

- Maternal Depression in Syrian Refugee Women Recently Moved to Canada; **Drs. A. Bowen**, C. Feng (School of Public Health, University of Saskatchewan), Ms. A. Ahmed (School of Public Health, University of Saskatchewan)
- Supporting Bereaved and Grieving Family Caregivers through Video Modeling Resource Development: Community Engaged Research with the Saskatoon Council on Aging; **Dr. L. Holtslander**



Dr. J. McCabe



Dr. S. Udod



Dr. L. Jansen



Dr. W. Martin



Dr. L. Racine

- Exploring Healthcare Transition Needs of Adolescents Living with IBD in Saskatchewan: A Collaborative Partnership; **Drs. T. Risling, N. Rohatinsky**, Mr. J. Hughton (Crohn's and Colitis Canada – Saskatoon Chapter)
- Evaluating Aboriginal New Nursing Graduates' Transition to Practice Experiences; **Drs. N. Rohatinsky, H. Exner-Pirot**
- Undergraduate Student Research Assistantships (Office of the Vice-President Research):
 - Building Capacity in Rural Communities – Understanding Barriers to Sports Participation by Children and Youth with Intellectual Disabilities; **Dr. J. McCabe**
 - Exploring the Role of Registered Nurses in Advancing the Use of Patient Centered Technologies; **Dr. T. Risling**
 - Safer Health Care Now Hoshins: Preventing Surgical Site Infections and Medication Reconciliation; **Dr. K. Semchuk**
 - Nurse Manager Roles (2015 and 2016); **Dr. S. Udod**
 - Mindfulness and Meditation; **Dr. L. Holtslander**
 - Home Care Knowledge Translation in an Aboriginal Context; **Dr. L. Jansen**
 - Concept Mapping to Improve Health Through Urban Agriculture; **Dr. W. Martin**
 - Appraisal of Instruments for Measuring Cultural Competency among Nursing and Health Care Students; **Dr. L. Racine**
 - Defining Empowerment and Supporting Engagement: SK Patients and the eHealth SK Citizen Health Portal; **Dr. T. Risling**
 - Nursing Student and Instructor Perceptions of Block and Non-Block Clinical; **Dr. N. Rohatinsky**
- The History of British Columbia's Hospital Association, 1918 - 1931; **Dr. H. Vandenberg**
- Undergraduate Student Research Assistantships (College of Nursing):
 - Early Years Literacy Development in Treaty 4: Knowledge Translation for Maternal Child Health; **Dr. L. Jansen**
 - Supporting Bereaved and Grieving Family Caregivers; **Dr. L. Holtslander**
 - From Pediatric to Adult Care: Healthcare Transition Needs of Adolescent IBD Patients in Saskatchewan; **Dr. T. Risling**
 - Aboriginal New Nursing Graduates Transition to Practice Experiences; **Dr. N. Rohatinsky**
- College of Nursing - RBC Community Development Fund:
 - From Pediatric to Adult Care: Healthcare Transition Needs of Adolescent IBD Patients in Saskatchewan; **Drs. T. Risling, N. Rohatinsky**, Mr. J. Hughton (Crohn's and Colitis Canada – Saskatoon Chapter)
 - Understanding Parents' Experience of Perinatal Loss: A Photovoice Study; **Drs. G. Lasiuk, S. Fowler-Kerry, A. Bowen**
- Faculty Recruitment and Retention Program:
 - Critical Thinking, Writing, and Nursing; **Dr. P. Malloy**
 - About Access: Exploring the Nurse Practitioner Role and Scope of Practice in Correctional Systems Utilizing Scoping Review Methodology; **Dr. B. Mishak**
 - Inventory of Archival Sources for Historical Research on Rural and Remote Hospital and Nursing History in Northwestern Canada, 1860 - 1960; **Dr. H. Vandenberg**

A Look at Our Alumni



Having the opportunity to meet many alumni, and listen to their stories, has given me a profound respect for the nursing profession. Our alumni are out there, changing the world.”

– Anna Pacik, College Relations Officer

■ Providing Care Worldwide

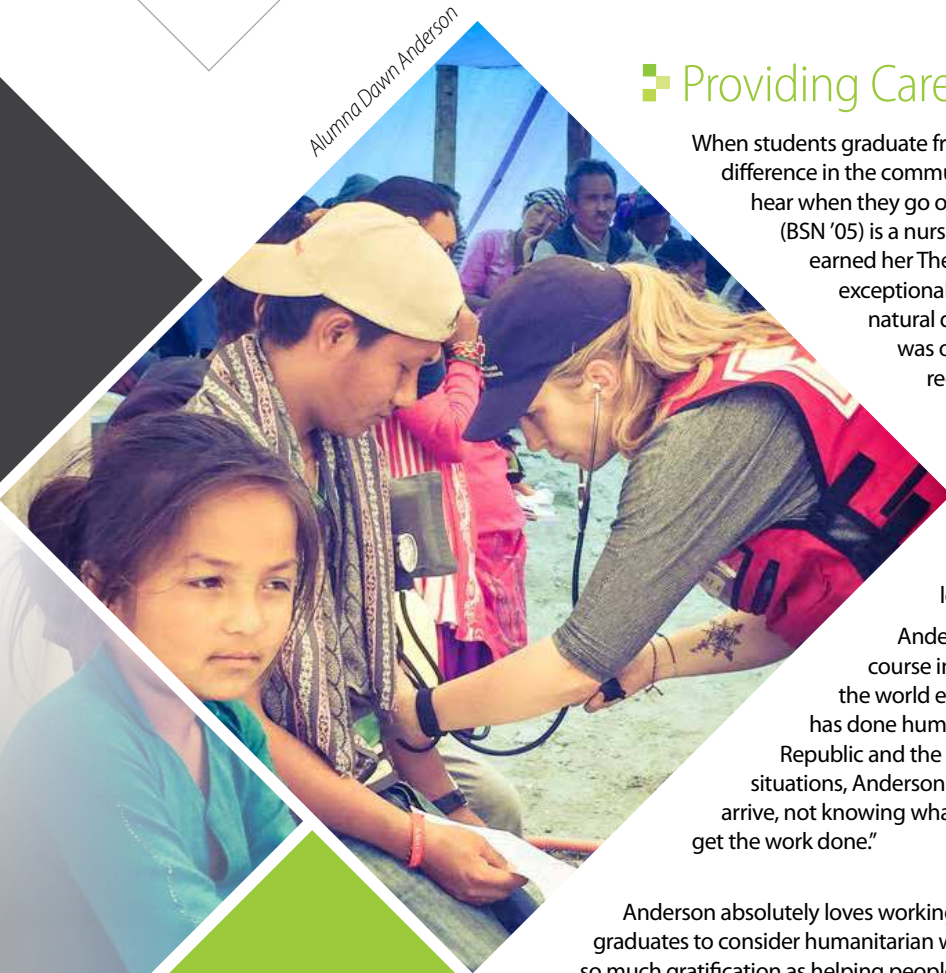
When students graduate from the College of Nursing, we know they will make a difference in the community in which they choose to work. But we are thrilled to hear when they go on to make a difference globally. Alumna Dawn Anderson (BSN '05) is a nurse who exceeds expectations, and her outstanding work earned her The Florence Nightingale Medal. This medal recognizes exceptional courage and devotion to victims of armed conflict or natural disaster. Nominated by the national Red Cross, Anderson was one of thirty-six nurses from eighteen countries who received the medal in 2015. She was also the only Canadian recipient.

“I was so honoured that I was chosen for this medal and am blown away that I am in the same category as some amazing nurses I have worked with around the world,” said Anderson. “More than anything, this is representative of the phenomenal local nurses I have worked with on my missions.”

Anderson is a Registered Nurse, emergency room trauma course instructor and an active caregiver in regions throughout the world experiencing armed conflict and natural disaster. She has done humanitarian work in Haiti, Afghanistan, the Central African Republic and the Philippines. When asked about working in these situations, Anderson replied, “There is always a bit of fear when you first arrive, not knowing what to expect. But the fear is also what motivates us to get the work done.”

Anderson absolutely loves working as a Red Cross nurse and encourages other nursing graduates to consider humanitarian work as well. “There is nothing in my life that has given me so much gratification as helping people that are in desperate need,” she said. “We grow up in a beautiful, safe country and are given amazing opportunities in life, something missing in most places I work. I believe it should be part of everyone’s life goal to give back to humanity. You have to make a sacrifice to do it, but over a lifetime, the sacrifice is small and the rewards are endless.”

Alumna Dawn Anderson



■ Receiving U of S Alumni Achievement Awards

Established in 1978, the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) Alumni Association Achievement Awards celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of U of S alumni, and attest to the excellence of the U of S educational experience. Congratulations to two outstanding nursing alumni, Dr. Noelle Rohatinsky (BSN'02, MN'08, PhD'13) and Audrey Zettl (BSN'63), who were selected by the Alumni Association in 2016 to receive Alumni Association Achievement Awards.

Noelle Rohatinsky was nominated for this award for her commitment to the nursing profession and her dedication to aboriginal health initiatives. She is a faculty member in the College of Nursing, where her research looks at health care provider transitions to new work environments and facilitating transition in individuals who have chronic illnesses. "I feel privileged to be able to share my passion for nursing with others and am honoured to have received this prestigious award," said Rohatinsky.

Outstanding achievement and service in aboriginal initiatives and education earned College of Nursing alumna Audrey Zettl her 2016 alumni achievement award. Zettl has been an Anatomy and Physiology Instructor and Clinical Instructor in Saskatoon and Regina hospitals. She also co-founded Harvest Community Inc., a program that looks to enhance the lives of persons with intellectual disabilities. Later in her career, Zettl worked in advance practice as a Community Health Nurse in northern Saskatchewan and throughout the territories.

"My education from the U of S College of Nursing has served me well in my career and my life," said Zettl. "I am humbled by the brilliant effort of my classmates to nominate me for this award."



(l to r) Alumni Association Achievement Award winners Audrey Zettl and Noelle Rohatinsky

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Reconnect with old classmates, reacquaint yourself with campus and remember your time as a U of S student.

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Three Sisters Become Registered Nurses

Students often reveal that their motivation for becoming a nurse began because their mother, sister, or someone close to them is or was a nurse. In the case of the Parkinson family, it was the incredible example of their grandmother that inspired all three sisters to study nursing. Eldest sister Lindsay finished the Post-Degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program in 2013 and middle sister Davis (Carly) and youngest sister Calla both completed their BSN degrees in 2015.

"I grew up with my grandmother always telling me funny or crazy nursing stories and I always felt safe when I was with her just because I knew she was a nurse," said Lindsay. "Being the eldest sister, I have always encouraged and helped my sisters where and when I could. Even when we were young, I remember looking out for each other, so I guess nursing and caring for others came second nature to me."

Like her older sister, middle sister Davis (Carly) agrees her grandmother inspired her to become a nurse. "I spent lots of time with my incredible grandma. She not only was my grandmother, friend and hero – she was an incredible Registered Nurse. I loved listening to her stories and hearing how much she cared. I grew up always putting others ahead of myself and wanting to look after people. I knew nursing was where my heart was."

Youngest sister Calla completed two years at the University of Saskatchewan before applying into the College of Nursing. "I have always had a passion to work in the medical field and initially I wanted to become a veterinarian. As I grew up, my love for animals remained, but I developed a passion for helping people," said Calla. "I wanted to be part of people's journeys not only during the happiest moments in their lives, but also the darkest and most fearful ones too." Once accepted into the College of Nursing, Calla completed her degree requirements at the Regina Campus.

The influence of their grandmother set the Parkinson sisters down the career path

of nursing, but they all agree that having sisters in the same profession is also inspiring and helpful. "It's incredible that we all became Registered Nurses," said Davis. "I am extremely blessed to share this rewarding profession with them! We learn from one another in so many ways."

Calla agrees. "Having my sisters by my side through the entire journey, to not only motivate and encourage me, but also to listen or offer guidance, has been the greatest gift I could have asked for. I truly don't know how I would have done it without them."

Lindsay also feels having her sisters work as nurses is something she is extremely grateful for. "We are all very passionate about nursing and push each other to be better, to be more productive and more efficient. However, there is another side of nursing—the stress and trauma you are involved in during every shift. Having the support of my sisters, people within my profession who I love and trust, gives me the opportunity to talk to someone and unwind if my shift didn't go well," said Lindsay. "Working with my two sisters will only make our love for each other and the bond we have with each other continue to grow—it really is something unique."

“Having my sisters by my side through the entire journey, to not only motivate and encourage me, but also to listen or offer guidance, has been the greatest gift I could have asked for. I truly don't know how I would have done it without them.”



(l to r) Calla, Lindsay and Davis Parkinson

CAMPAIGN FOR STUDENTS

Dream big!

Our students have big dreams.

They come to the U of S passionate, determined and inspired to make a difference with their education. They see no limits to what they can accomplish, but they need your support to help them achieve their goals.

Master of Nursing student April Mackey aims to improve access to health care. Having already achieved one dream which was to become a Registered Nurse, April says, "I want my life's work to influence policies and programs to help people who experience barriers to health care."

Help students like April fulfill their lifelong dreams. Your donation to the Campaign for Students gives students a boost with scholarships and bursaries, easing financial worries and rewarding exceptional accomplishments, so they can stay focused on the inspiring visions in their minds.



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YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Philanthropy is said to be the practice of giving money and time to make life better for other people, often involving some personal sacrifice. With gratitude, the College of Nursing recognizes those philanthropists who have given greatly and sacrificed much in support of nursing education. Please enjoy these stories about just a few of our champions and visit our website for a listing of many more.

■ The June Peterson-Barber Nurse Practitioner Award - \$150,000

Dr. and Mrs. Douglas and June Barber understand the value of nurses when it comes to wellness. They believe Nurse Practitioners play a vital role in the health of older adults in long-term care settings, especially in rural areas where physicians are hard to recruit. They donated \$150,000 to the College of Nursing to support student Nurse Practitioners in rural settings. A portion of this gift also supports a pilot project taking place in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, looking at the potential for care improvements by having Nurse Practitioners in long-term care facilities.

In fall 2016, Raquel Carlson was the first student to receive the June Peterson-Barber Nurse Practitioner Award. Carlson is a Nurse Practitioner student who completed a rural placement in Weyburn at a long-term care facility under the supervision and mentorship of a local physician. She has also been assisting Dr. Diane Campbell, a College of Nursing faculty member, with the pilot project in Weyburn. "My hope for the future as a Nurse Practitioner is that I can provide enhanced and holistic care to the residents of nursing homes, and allow future patients and families to see the value of having a Nurse Practitioner in a long-term care setting," said Carlson.

The Barbers' gift to nursing education not only has an impact on the financial burden many university students experience, but on rural communities. These communities will have Nurse Practitioner students learning, making connections and possibly returning to work after graduation. Carlson said it best: "It is because of generous donors like you that I can now pursue this dream without the added financial stress, and hopefully make a difference in health care delivery. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for this award. It means so much to me."



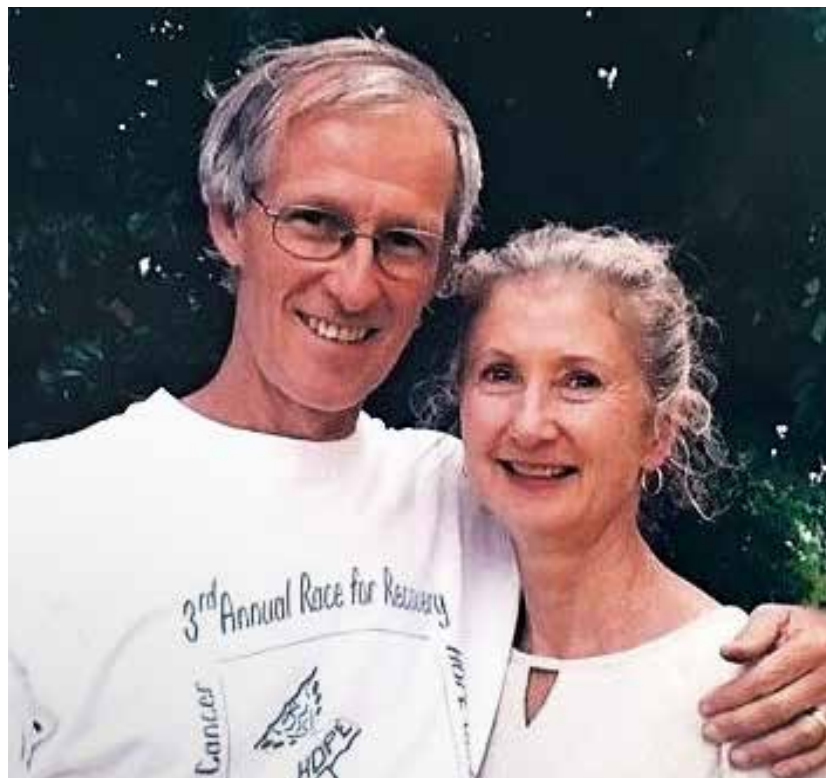
Dr. and Mrs. Douglas and June Barber

■ The Dr. Gerri Dickson Community of Aboriginal Nursing (UCAN) Fund - \$25,000

Before Dr. Gerri Dickson passed away in 2016, she and her husband Dr. Murray Dickson wanted to make sure the University of Saskatchewan Community of Aboriginal Nursing (UCAN) program, formerly known as the Native Access Program to Nursing (NAPN), had funds available to continue its support for aboriginal nursing students. Together they created the Dr. Gerri Dickson University of Saskatchewan Community of Aboriginal Nursing (UCAN) Fund and donated \$25,000. This gift represents the affinity and respect they have for programs that support our aboriginal nursing students.

During her time at the University of Saskatchewan, Gerri's impact on the NAPN program allowed the College of Nursing to graduate more aboriginal nurses since NAPN's inception in 1984 than any other program in Canada. Her desire to support aboriginal initiatives, and increase aboriginal student engagement and enrolment throughout Saskatchewan, will continue through this generous gift.

As part of the \$25,000 gift to the UCAN program, a five year award was created called The Gerri Dickson Leadership in Reconciliation Award. This \$2,500 annual award will continue to have a positive impact on nursing education and the aboriginal community by supporting student leadership in furthering reconciliation initiatives in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's calls to action.



Drs. Murray and Gerri Dickson



■ Change the horizon for hundreds of future students.

"A person can grow only as much as his horizon allows." – John Powell

If you'd like to make a difference in the lives of students, speak to us about setting up a gift in your will for the University of Saskatchewan. Choose the program, college or area you would like to support—the sky's the limit.

For more information, please contact:

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