

Pitt | nurse

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF NURSING MAGAZINE
Spring 2015



Quarantine!

Nursing and Managing Epidemic Outbreaks

On August 8, 2014, the World Health Organization declared the Ebola epidemic in West Africa to be an international public health emergency.

On August 19, President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia ordered an entire section of the city of Monrovia to be cordoned off in an attempt to control the spread of the virus. Riots ensued.



“As can be seen with the Ebola epidemic, nurses are literally at the front lines of treatment, prevention, and policymaking when it comes to dealing with infectious diseases.”

Two nurses at a Dallas, Texas, hospital were exposed to Ebola in October 2014 when they cared for the first patient diagnosed with the disease in North America, Thomas Eric Duncan. The nurses both survived, but panic followed when it was discovered that one of them had flown on a commercial flight before she was symptomatic.

In the latter part of October, nurse Kaci Hickox was detained for several days at a New Jersey airport upon her return from treating Ebola survivors and victims in Sierra Leone. Then she was ordered to be quarantined at her home in Maine, even after twice testing negative for the disease. She challenged any mandatory quarantine but abided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations that those exposed to the virus limit their time in public and closely monitor their health.

Since then, debate about quarantines and travel bans for those who served as health care providers in Ebola-stricken countries, as well as those exposed to the disease incidentally, has raged in the media. The various arguments range from concerns about public safety and making people feel as though they are being protected from epidemics to the impact on detained health care workers and others—from loss of freedom and wages during a quarantine period to discouraging nurses and doctors from practicing where

they are needed most. This is not the first time that quarantines have been instituted in the name of public health; as you'll read on page 10, there is a historical precedent for the use of containment to control diseases that dates back to the 17th century in this country.

Caring for those suffering from infectious diseases is a critical role for nursing professionals, whether at an Ebola treatment center in West Africa, an AIDS hospice in the United States, or an inner-city emergency department in China where patients are routinely diagnosed with SARS. As can be seen with the Ebola epidemic, nurses are literally at the front lines of treatment, prevention, and policymaking when it comes to dealing with infectious diseases.

I invite you to explore this issue of *Pitt Nurse* magazine, which looks at quarantine from several perspectives—historical, legal, and systematic. We also address contemporary control of infections and infectious diseases other than Ebola through vaccination. We thank our external contributors for their thoughtful essays featured in this issue and hope their work will lead to further productive discussion of how to treat infectious patients with dignity while protecting the health of the community at large.

Thank you for reading this edition of *Pitt Nurse* magazine. We hope that our readers like the new look of the magazine as well as our redesigned Web presence at nursing.pitt.edu. We value your engagement with the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, FAAN
Dean and Distinguished Service Professor of Nursing
University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing

P.S. As this magazine was going to press, we received word that the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing is now ranked FIFTH among schools of nursing in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2016 America's Best Graduate Schools. Please visit nursing.pitt.edu for more information about this recognition of the excellence of our graduate programs and selected areas of concentrations!

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Photo by Dominique Faget, AFP, Getty Images



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About the cover: Pitt Nursing looks at the timely topic of the use of quarantine to reduce the spread of infectious diseases.

Inaugural White Coat Ceremony Held at Pitt Nursing

More than 150 sophomores and students in the Accelerated Second Degree BSN program participated in the School of Nursing's first white coat ceremony, held on August 23, 2014. This event was made possible through an initiative hosted by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. These organizations joined together to introduce the white coat ceremony to schools of nursing; prior to this, the ceremony was usually held only in medical schools. Pitt Nursing was pleased to be one of only 100 schools of nursing selected to be part of this pilot program, which emphasizes a commitment to comprehensive, patient-centered care among future nursing professionals.

The school welcomed alumnus Laura Fennimore (MSN '87, DNP '09), director of clinical programs at UPMC Health Plan, to give the keynote address at the ceremony. Her address explored the role of nurses within today's health care system and the impact nurses will have on the future of health care. Remarks also were given by Abigail Slocum, a senior and then-president of the Nursing Student Association at Pitt.

The highlight of the evening was when each student was introduced to the audience and helped into his or her white coat while being congratulated by school leaders and presented with a pin specially commissioned for the occasion. A reception followed the event for participating students and their families.



Laura Fennimore, above, alumnus and director of clinical programs for a health care plan, offers the keynote address at Pitt Nursing's first white coat ceremony.



PittNursing

Alumni Day Celebration

Saturday, May 16, 2015, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Join the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing at the University Club for a fun-filled afternoon reconnecting with classmates and faculty members; learning about the latest happenings at the school; and enjoying a cooking demonstration by Chris Fennimore, producer and host of *QED Cooks*.

RSVP by May 7, 2015, at nursing.pitt.edu/events or by calling 412-624-5328.



Pitt Nursing Student by Day, Blogger by Night!

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, cosponsor of the white coat ceremony program for nurses, has invited one student from each funded school to join a team of bloggers. The students create a monthly posting in answer to a universal question that might address anything from their humanistic interactions with patients to their participation in the white coat ceremony or their future plans. Pitt



Nursing is pleased to note that second-year student Michelle DeGerolamo was selected for this honor and has already completed two postings to date. Upon earning her BSN, DeGerolamo plans to continue her education in order to become a nurse practitioner specializing in the neonatal field. You can read the blog at humanism-in-medicine.org/meet-nursing-student-bloggers.

2014 Scholarship Luncheon

In September 2014, the School of Nursing hosted its annual scholarship luncheon, an event that brings together those who donate to the school's various scholarship funds and the students who benefit so greatly from the donors' generosity. More than 160 students and donors joined Pitt Nursing faculty members and administrators for a luncheon and presentation of scholarship certificates. Pitt Nursing congratulates all of the scholarship awardees and thanks all of the donors, whose gifts make it possible for students to devote themselves to their nursing studies and research activities without undue financial pressure.



Top, from left to right: Rose Morris, Filomena Varvaro (Vincent and Filomena Varvaro Scholarship Fund)

Center, from left to right: Dean Dunbar-Jacob, Lauren Davis, Shirley Powe Smith (African-American Nursing Alumni Scholarship)

Left, from left to right: Joey Mazarella, Maria Thurner-Diaz, Brianne Benton (Army ROTC Partners in Nursing Education Scholarship)



Cameos of Caring®

On Saturday, November 8, 2014, more than 1,200 people joined the School of Nursing in recognizing 68 nurses from Western Pennsylvania with the Cameos of Caring Awards. These awards celebrate outstanding staff nurses, advanced practitioners, case managers, educators, and advocates for organ and tissue donation. At this 16th annual gala, the School of Nursing recognized several Pitt Nursing alumni and students:



- Kimberly Kaloz Ackerman (MSN '10)
 - Mary Cothran (PhD '96)
 - Linda Dudas (MSN '09)
 - Blaney Firestone-Howard, DNP student
 - Allison Grzybek (MSN '91)
 - Elizabeth Katrancha (BSN '01, DNP '14)
 - Rebecca Kronk (MSN '99)
 - Jennifer Mabold (BSN '96, MSN '00)
 - Christine McKenna (MSN '97)
 - Janice McNulty (MSN '97)
 - Bonnie J. Mountain (BSN '94)
 - Derek A. Reckard (MSN '06)
- Congratulations to all Cameos of Caring winners!



Event sponsors included: UPMC, Center for Organ Recovery and Education, and STAT Staffing Medical Services Inc.

Administrative Appointments

Associate Professor Rosemary L. Hoffmann, PhD, has been appointed coordinator of online programs for the school. Hoffmann developed the school's first online program, the Clinical Nurse Leader Program. The school now offers 15 online graduate and certificate programs. Hoffmann is the program director of the Clinical Nurse Leader area of concentration and received a Provost's Innovation in Teaching Award to help incorporate high-fidelity human simulation technology in the undergraduate program.

Scott Coulson, MBA, has been promoted to director of Pitt Nursing's Educational Technology and Innovation (ETI) department. ETI is responsible for the technology and instructional support services used by the school's faculty members, staff members, and students. Coulson is part of developing strategic decisions regarding computing services, new learning resources, technology, and instructional design needs for the entire school.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Supports PhD Student Researchers

Dean Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob is pleased to announce that the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has awarded the school a grant of \$150,000 as part of the foundation's Future of Nursing Scholars program. Under the supervision of Principal Investigator and Associate Professor Susan Cohen, PhD, the funds will be used to support new PhD students who will be designated Future of Nursing scholars. The foundation award will enable Pitt Nursing to enroll two additional students in the school's PhD program, which was founded in 1954.

The goal of the Future of Nursing Scholars Program is to develop PhD-prepared nurse leaders who

are committed to careers that advance science and discovery, who will enhance and extend nursing education, and who will fundamentally change nursing and health care. The program advances the Institute of Medicine's recommendation in its *Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* report to double the number of nurses in the United States with doctoral degrees.

New FAAN Inductees

The school congratulates the following alumni on their induction as fellows of the American Academy of Nursing:

Linda Goodfellow
(BSN '75, MNEd '80, PhD '00)

Lenore Resick
(BSN '78, MSN '88)

Margaret Rosenzweig
(MSN '86, PhD '01),
current faculty member

Join Us for Summer Golf Outing

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing invites you to join us for the Nancy Glunt Hoffman Memorial Golf Outing on July 13, 2015, at the beautiful Shannopin Country Club. Last year, more than 70 participants enjoyed the challenging course and had fun with the tournament, skills competition, dinner, and a highly competitive silent auction. We hope that you will join us for the 2015 event, which will help to underwrite the work of the Nancy Glunt Hoffman Endowed Chair in Oncology Nursing. More information is available at nursing.pitt.edu/events.



Nurse Anesthesia Now a Department

In fall 2014, the graduate program in nurse anesthesia became its own department within the school responsible for the faculty members and curricula for the MSN and DNP programs in nurse anesthesia. The chair of the department is John M. O'Donnell, DrPH, and the vice chair for administration is Michael Neft, DNP. The nurse anesthesia program was recently ranked first in the *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Graduate Schools 2016 report.

Dean Honors Faculty for Excellence in Teaching

Each year, the dean accepts nominations for the Dean's Distinguished Teaching Award, an honor created to recognize those faculty members who best represent the school's commitment to excellence in teaching. Initiated in 1989, this award goes to one tenured faculty member and one nontenure-stream faculty member who are nominated for their efforts to encourage student development, their use of innovative teaching methods, and the integration of their research with their teaching endeavors. For 2014, Dean Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob presented the Distinguished Teaching Award to Linda A. Dudjak, associate professor, and Jennifer Hagerty Lingler, assistant professor. Congratulations to these amazing nursing educators!



Linda A. Dudjak



Jennifer Hagerty Lingler



**Infection Control in
Acute Care in 2015:
The New Norm**

When I began my career as a nurse three decades ago, I remember being lectured about the importance of washing my hands. Now, 30 years later, I could not have anticipated the change in the knowledge base necessary for an acute care infection control program to be successful. Many days, I wish I had gotten a minor in epidemiology!

Although that sounds lighthearted, I am very serious. Every month brings new and developing data and discoveries about the importance of infection prevention in health care clinical science research. Hospital-acquired infections lead to tens of thousands of patient deaths annually in the United States. The critical role we nurses play in preventing the spread of disease has been well-documented for a very long time. However, our work today carries implications well beyond the individual patient.

In the fall of 2014, the United States received a very loud wake-up call in the form of the Ebola virus brought to this country from West Africa, where thousands had already died. The belief held by many was that the United States was prepared and able to care for this type of extremely infectious patient. We all discovered very quickly and painfully that this was not the case. There was much to learn about Ebola itself, with even more to master about providing care while wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). While one U.S. hospital learned about this lack of preparedness in the most public fashion, this infection of health care workers could have happened at any hospital.

Such is the state of actual practice gaps in infection prevention. We struggle to achieve 80 percent compliance with hand-washing guidelines, let alone the perfect donning and doffing of ever-more-sophisticated effective PPE. Leveraging this wake-up call is critical to our future success. It is ironic, but true, that when health care workers were faced with the potential of catching a deadly disease themselves (versus unknowingly giving someone else the disease), the strict protection processes carried new weight and significance. So the question then becomes, how do we create

that same sense of urgency in day-to-day care? It's not possible to positively identify the source of the infection. The lack of immediate and identifiable consequences of any action leaves us to rely upon the goodwill of the dedicated, hardworking, caring professionals with whom we work every day.

While I have great faith in all the evolving systems and processes that have been designed to prevent infection in 2015, we still need to make it simpler and easier for clinical staff members to use those available tools. There is research that needs to be done on the basics of barriers to infection prevention and on the design of monitoring systems that allow the individual to be aware of his or her personal compliance. While there are many emerging tools on the market, those tools do not fill all of the gaps in protection and prevention, not to mention they are extremely costly. There are ample savings to be had by reducing infections. However, convincing health care leaders about the actual value of such efforts when the costs of an infection spread across every line item, from staffing to drugs, length of stay, and readmissions, is a complex mathematical process. Leaders in some ways must simply believe the cost will be eliminated if we invest in safety precautions and processes. Therefore, the dilemma continues.

The most direct way to improve this situation is to involve the patients themselves. Patients and families must become advocates for protecting themselves. Of course, we have a responsibility as nurses to be the ultimate patient advocates. This means having the patient and his or her family feel safe enough to advocate for themselves. Fear is still a real issue in health care today. Nurses are uniquely situated within the health care team to help to reduce that fear. When we reduce fear and patients feel safe enough to ask caregivers to wash their hands, use the correct PPE, and question antibiotic use, we will then make a real dent in this issue that has plagued health care for centuries.

Hospital-acquired infections are one of the leading causes of death in the United States. The critical role we nurses play in preventing the spread of disease has been well-documented for a very long time.



Infectious Diseases, Infection Control, and Nursing

By **Ja Hyun Kang**, PhD, CIC
Assistant Professor
University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing

Early in the 20th century, infectious illnesses such as respiratory (e.g., pneumonia and tuberculosis) and diarrheal (e.g., typhoid and cholera) diseases were the major causes of death in the United States. Currently, chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, and stroke rank as the leading causes of death, as the incidence of infectious diseases has been reduced dramatically through public health efforts such as improved sanitation, the discovery of antibiotics, and the development of vaccines.

The use of penicillin during World War II revolutionized medical treatment, as the antibiotic saved many soldiers from amputation and/or death. In the late 1950s, it seemed as if humans would conquer infectious diseases. However, infectious pathogens have developed drug resistance to almost all available antibiotics and still threaten human lives. Additionally, disease outbreaks such as the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) pandemic in 2003 remind us of the enormous threat posed by infectious diseases—consider the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic that killed nearly 5 percent of the world's population. As demonstrated by the recent cases in Texas, where nurses contracted Ebola while treating the first U.S.-diagnosed Ebola patient in 2014, health care personnel (HCP) are at serious risk of contracting infectious diseases while doing their jobs.

What is the best preventive measure against infectious diseases? The answer is vaccination, if one exists for the specific illness. Vaccination is the most cost-effective way of avoiding infectious diseases by creating antibodies through the introduction of attenuated or killed pathogen(s) into the human body. For example, the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that influenza vaccinations prevented roughly 90,000 influenza-associated hospitalizations during the 2013–14 flu season. Having more individuals in a group or community vaccinated against a disease reduces the probability of transmission, as those susceptible to being infected are protected by being surrounded by large proportions of those who are vaccinated. This is called herd immunity. However, when individuals ignore the importance of—and avoid—vaccination for reasons such as personal beliefs, vaccine-preventable diseases often strike without warning. Consider the recent outbreak of measles at a California theme park. Although the measles vaccine is one of the most effective vaccines, at least 103 people contracted measles at the park because most of them were unvaccinated.

Even for safe and effective vaccines, vaccination compliance tends to be suboptimal because some parents, patients, and even HCP resist universal vaccination. For example, an annual influenza vaccination is strongly recommended for HCP because influenza outbreaks in health care facilities have been linked to low vaccination rates among HCP. The overall HCP influenza vaccination rate remains well below the national target of 90 percent as promulgated by the Healthy People 2020 initiative. According to CDC, the influenza vaccination compliance rate for HCP was only 62.9 percent in the early phase of the 2013–14 flu season, which was unacceptably low. As a key patient safety measure, mandatory influenza vaccination for HCP is being advocated, and many hospitals have adopted or are considering mandatory influenza vaccination for staff members. Despite some controversies (e.g., some reported side

effects), we should value the benefits of vaccination.

In the case of infectious diseases for which no vaccines are available, we need to follow infection control recommendations. Once we understand the epidemiology of infectious diseases as chains of infection (infectious agent → reservoir → portal of exit → mode of transmission → portal of entry → susceptible host), we can understand infection control strategies: They aim to interrupt infection chains. To prevent the transmission of infectious agent(s), we first need to isolate infected or probable cases as soon as possible and implement appropriate precautions, based on the disease transmission mode (i.e., airborne, droplet, or contact). Additionally, we can prevent—or at least reduce—the risk of transmission by using personal protective equipment (PPE, mask, gown, and gloves) and by thoroughly disinfecting care items and environments. Importantly, hand hygiene is the single most effective way of interrupting infection transmission, which is why it is constantly emphasized.

From the perspective of infection control principles, the aggressive quarantine of exposed nurses during the incubation period for the Ebola virus—which has no cure, no vaccine, and a high rate of mortality—to protect the public seems like a safe decision. We must be vigilant in light of the recent exposure to Ebola among the Dallas nurses despite the recommended PPE use and the expense of implementing protection measures such as the two-buddy system for monitoring use of PPE in designated hospitals. Because we nurses frequently interact with patients at the bedside, we must be aware of the risks and ways to prevent the spread of infectious diseases—both for their safety and ours.



Ja Hyun Kang recently received an award from the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology's APIC Heroes Implementation Research Scholar Award program. This grant for \$50,000 will support her work on using PPE to ensure safety. Kang notes that "the recent Ebola outbreak reminds us that appropriate use of PPE is very important to protect health care personnel as well as patients. However, very little is known about how health care workers actually use the equipment in their practice."

She goes on to explain that there are some discrepancies among PPE guidelines provided by agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization as well as confusion about how to effectively use such equipment in diverse health care settings. Given the lack of a highly standardized and clear protocol for PPE use, the goals of this proposed study are to ensure safety for both the health care professionals and patients by providing a standardized best practice protocol for the optimal use of PPE. She also aims to create and optimize an educational intervention across health care facilities as well as professional health schools.

Quarantine: A Historical Overview

By Jonathon Erlen, PhD
History of Medicine Librarian
University of Pittsburgh Health Sciences Library System

The history of quarantine—the use of governmental authority to restrict the movement of persons with supposed infectious diseases from coming in contact with the general public—can be traced back to the biblical tales of efforts to deal with the spread of leprosy. The first governmentally imposed quarantine in Western Europe was created by the Italian city-state of Venice in 1348 in an attempt to prevent the bubonic plague, commonly referred to as the Black Death, from entering this city. By the time of the establishment of British colonies in North America in the early 17th century, all major European and Asian nations had established some forms of temporary quarantine laws to prevent the importation of epidemic diseases.

The first quarantine measure in the American colonies was enacted in 1647 with the Boston ordinance that required all incoming ships to stop at the harbor's entrance to gain clearance to enter the port city. By the 19th century, all states with major ports had enacted some type of quarantine laws to preserve the public's health. These laws were mostly temporary, appearing only when an epidemic was expected to arrive from abroad. Once this threat was believed to be over, these laws, while remaining on the books, were, for economic reasons, seldom enforced.

Early quarantines were originally enacted purely as public health measures. However, by the end of the 19th century more stringent federally administrated quarantine actions had expanded to include a harsh economic reality. The purposes of the federal immigration laws of 1882 and 1891 were expanded from keeping out carriers of certain diseases to also keeping out persons who were seen as potentially non-productive members of society—those deemed “likely to become a public charge.” This new, expanded quarantine policy was used at both Ellis Island in New York, N.Y., beginning in

1892 and Angel Island in San Francisco, Calif., starting in 1910. In 1878, Congress passed the initial National Quarantine Act to enforce these new immigration restriction policies.

The quarantine rules in 20th-century America have expanded and become more draconian. In World Wars I and II, the federal government authorized the quarantining/ imprisonment of thousands of women who were prostitutes or thought to become prostitutes around major cities and military bases in order to protect American troops from syphilis. By the end of the 20th century, local governments in many major cities were quarantining/ imprisoning individuals, mostly the homeless, with active tuberculosis for direct observational therapy, taking away their civil rights in the name of public health.

Quarantine activities have greatly expanded over history. Having begun as desperate public health measures to protect citizens from imported diseases ranging from the bubonic plague, smallpox, cholera, yellow fever, and tuberculosis to our more recent threats from AIDS, SARS, bioterrorism, and now the Ebola virus, these laws are used to keep out individuals who are deemed to pose a real or imagined threat to our communities, not only from their health conditions but also from their anticipated actions.



**ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS!
INFANTILE PARALYSIS**

"Act of Assembly approved May 14, 1909, provides that anyone violating the provisions of this Act, upon conviction thereof may be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$10.00 or more than \$100.00, to be paid to the use of said county, or to be imprisoned in the county jail for a period of not less than ten days or more than thirty days, or both, at the discretion of the court."

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**QUARANTINE
SCARLET FEVER**

No one shall enter or leave these premises except as provided in the Rules and Regulations of the State Department of Health or Local Board of Health.

The Law and Quarantine

By Mary Crossley, JD
Professor of Law,
University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Fears of deadly contagious disease and attempts to prevent its spread have a long lineage, first appearing in biblical directives to separate lepers from a community. More recently, the fear's intensity has inspired films like *Quarantine* and *Contagion*. But for most readers, the contemporary story that the term “quarantine” evokes is that of a nurse, Kaci Hickox, who, after treating patients infected with Ebola in West Africa, was subjected to attempts at quarantine when she returned to the United States.

The term quarantine often elicits more emotion than understanding. This essay's goal is to clarify the term's usage and several legal issues regarding the government's quarantine power.

Quarantine refers to restricting the movement of a person who has been exposed (or may have been exposed) to an infectious disease during the period of communicability so that the person cannot transmit the disease during the incubation period. As such, it may restrict a person from leaving a particular place (such as his or her home) or from entering places (like public transit or movie theaters) where the individual would be in close contact with others. “Quarantine” stands in contrast to “isolation,” which refers to separating a person known to be infected from other people in order to prevent transmission, but the two terms are sometimes used interchangeably. In either case, a person's freedom of movement and association is restricted, with the protection of public health and safety as the justification.



The power to mandate a quarantine attaches to different levels of the government depending on the situation. The federal government's authority to order quarantines is limited to situations in which a person who has been exposed is entering the country or traveling between states, risking interstate disease transmission. By contrast, in cases where the risk of transmission is limited to a single state, state or local law governs. State and local governments' quarantine authority flows from their “police power,” a term that describes a state's broad authority to pass and enforce laws promoting public welfare, safety, health, and morals. Thus, although the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may issue guidelines for handling the public health threats posed by a contagious disease, those guidelines do not bind state and local governments in addressing intrastate threats.

Making matters more complicated, while each state has some form of law authorizing quarantine orders, those laws vary significantly from state to state. And many state laws are quite old and may not incorporate contemporary understandings of disease transmission. As a result, a public health official or court may have to do its best to apply an old law to a new disease threat.

While the government's authority to quarantine is well established as a general matter, its exercise in a particular case may be contested, and a description of the law of quarantine would be grossly incomplete without addressing how individual rights limit the government's power. Although the public's interest in protection from contagious diseases can override individual claims of freedom to move and associate freely, persons who are involuntarily quarantined can invoke legal protections. Procedurally, a person subjected to a quarantine order has due process rights to notice and a hearing. In terms of substance, the fundamental question is whether the quarantine is scientifically justified and goes no further than needed to protect the public. Thus, a court may inquire whether the quarantine, as ordered, reflects the “least restrictive alternative” for guarding against transmission.

These general principles are easily stated, but their application is fraught with complexity. Variation among state laws, the interplay of federal and state authority in a globalized and highly transitory society, and lingering scientific unknowns about contagion risks may all combine with a liberal dose of public fear to produce cases without clear legal answers.



Degree Programs

AT THE SCHOOL OF NURSING

For complete descriptions of the academic offerings at the School of Nursing, please visit nursing.pitt.edu/degree-programs.

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Traditional Four-year BSN Program
Accelerated Second Degree BSN
RN Options

GRADUATE*

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Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)
Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
Nurse Anesthesia
Nurse Informatics

DNP

BSN to DNP

Clinical Nurse Specialist
Adult-Gerontology
Nurse Administration
Nurse Practitioner
Adult-Gerontology Acute Care
Adult-Gerontology Primary Care
Family (Individual Across the Lifespan)
Neonatal
Pediatric Primary Care
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Post-Masters's DNP

Clinical Nurse Specialist
Adult-Gerontology
Psychiatric Mental Health
Nursing Administration
Nurse Anesthesia
Nurse Practitioner
Adult-Gerontology Acute Care
Adult-Gerontology Primary Care
Family (Individual Across the Lifespan)
Neonatal
Pediatric Primary Care
Psychiatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

PhD

*Numerous graduate areas of concentration are available online as well as on-site.

Notable Alumni

We invite you to meet University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing alumni who have become extraordinary leaders in their respective fields:

Schools of Nursing Deans

Margaret Grey, DrPH, FAAN
Yale University
Terri Weaver, PhD, FAAN
University of Illinois at Chicago
Bernadette Melnyk, PhD, FAAN
Ohio State University
Susan Bakewell-Sachs, PhD, FAAN
Oregon Health & Science University
Mary Kerr, PhD, FAAN
Case Western Reserve University
Barbara Broome, PhD, FAAN
Kent State University
Valerie Howard, EdD
Robert Morris University
Mary Pat Lewis, PhD
SUNY Delhi
Marlaine Smith, PhD, FAAN
Florida Atlantic University
Kathy Mayle, MNED
Community College of Allegheny County

Military

Patricia Horoho, MSN, FAAN
U.S. Army Surgeon General and
Commander, U.S. Army Medical
Command

Hospital/Health Administration

Michael Harlovic, MSN
President and CEO, Allegheny General
Hospital
Amy Pollard, MSN
President and CEO, Nicholas H. Noyes
Memorial Hospital
Rita Doll, MA
Founder, Angeles Home Health Care
Anne Hast, DNP
CEO, Advanced Surgical Hospital

Health System Administration

Tami Minnier, MSN, FACHE
Chief Quality Officer, UPMC; Executive
Director, Beckwith Institute for
Innovation in Patient Care
Helen Burns, PhD, FAAN
Senior Vice President and Chief
Nursing Officer, Exela Health
Andrea Mazzoccoli, PhD, FAAN
Vice President and Chief Nursing
Officer, Bon Secours Health System
Melanie Shatzer, DNP
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Health First

Federal Government

Catherine Dischner, MSN
Assistant Deputy Undersecretary for
Organizational Integration, Veterans

Health Administration, U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs
Wendy Henderson, PhD
Principle Investigator, Biobehavioral
Branch, Division of Intramural
Research, National Institute of Nursing
Research, National Institutes of Health
Holly Williams, PhD
Program Analyst, Office of Evaluations
and Inspections, Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

Industry

Darinda Sutton, MSN
Chief Nurse, Cerner Corporation
Laura Fennimore, DNP
Director of Clinical Programs,
UPMC Health Plan
Cynthia Brown, MSN
Senior Clinical Research Associate,
Merck & Co. Inc.
Diane Scott, BSN
U.S. Operations Owner, iOpendr
Institute for People and Performance

Professional/Academic

Deborah Trautman, PhD
CEO, American Association of Colleges
of Nursing (AACN)
Rosemary Hoffmann, PhD
Board Chair, Commission on Nurse
Certification, AACN
Victoria Rich, PhD, FAAN
Chair, State Steering Committee,
Pennsylvania Action Coalition
Cynthia Roth, MPM
President and CEO, West Virginia
University Foundation
Nancy Rothman, EdD
Independence Foundation Professor of
Urban Community Nursing and Director
of Community-based Practices, Temple
University, Department of Nursing
Patricia O'Donoghue, PhD
Interim President, DePaul University

International

Yu-Mei Yu Chao, PhD
Adjunct Research Fellow, National
Health Research Institutes, Taiwan
Prakin Suchaxaya, PhD
Coordinator; Gender, Equity and
Human Rights; World Health
Organization
Phensiri Dumrongpakapakorn, PhD
Assistant Dean, Boromarajonani
College of Nursing, Thailand

Salah Al-Zaiti, PhD, ANP-BC

Assistant Professor

In just two short years, Salah Al-Zaiti has gone from a research assistant in graduate school to the recipient of a national new investigator award and a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. After joining the faculty in 2013, Al-Zaiti was named the winner of the 2014 Martha N. Hill New Investigator Award by the American Heart Association's Council on Cardiovascular and Stroke Nursing and the Go Red for Women campaign. His award-winning work explores the use of cardiac autonomic function to predict sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), and is a potentially less invasive and less expensive approach to selecting proper candidates for implantable cardioverter-defibrillator therapy.

"This work describes a novel pathway linking the autonomic function to regional myocardial sympathetic innervation as a way to support SCA risk stratification," explains Al-Zaiti. "It's one aspect of my larger research program to help clinicians identify patients with active coronary disease early during care and to recognize who needs more aggressive therapy and follow-up."

Much like his recent career, Al-Zaiti's research agenda has grown. In 2006, this RN was working as a bone marrow transplant nurse in an oncology acute care unit in Jordan when he became fascinated by the complexity of the cardiovascular system because he often saw cardiac arrhythmias in post-transplant patients and wanted to know more. In 2008, he enrolled at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York, going on to earn his master's (nurse practitioner) and PhD (cardiovascular nursing with a minor in statistics) degrees. During his graduate studies, he was mentored by Mary Carey and James Fallavollita



of the University at Buffalo's Center for Research in Cardiovascular Medicine. "They encouraged creativity and independence, which allowed me to establish the preliminary work necessary to launch my current independent program of research in improving risk stratification and diagnostic accuracy of myocardial infarction [MI] using computerized electrocardiograms [ECGs]," states Al-Zaiti.

This support led to collaborative research programs exploring cardiac death risk factors among firefighters with Dave Hostler, associate professor of emergency medicine at Pitt; similar factors among different types of first responders; and a nursing informatics project to develop a clinical decision support tool to triage MI cases prior to arrival at the hospital. ECG signals are transmitted via 3G networks to the hospital from the ambulance, and Al-Zaiti's cloud-based algorithms help to determine the risk levels of each patient and to identify potential treating physicians and treatment strategies. The latter project has garnered funding from the Emergency Nurses Association in conjunction with the American Nursing Informatics Association.

Al-Zaiti's research endeavors reflect the diversity and evolution of topics covered by nursing research. However, Al-Zaiti points out that they all have a common factor: the perspective of the nurse. "We can combine medical advancement with patient needs in a systematic approach because we nurses, in comparison to other medical professionals, are more familiar with the patient's needs, struggles, and emotional and physiological status. We know exactly what patients need, not just what technology or technique is available."



Meet Abigail Slocum, a senior who is about to graduate and just completed her term as president of the Nursing Student Association (NSA). A Pennsylvania native, Slocum is looking forward to working in labor and delivery nursing as well as pursuing a master's degree in midwifery. Although her years of service to NSA, including her service as formal chair and a member of the Board of Directors, are coming to a close, she feels that the experience will benefit her for a lifetime.

Q: What do you see as the role of NSA?

A: I see NSA as an instrument for helping nursing students to develop professionally and personally. Personally, I feel that it has not only shaped me into the new nursing professional I hope to be, but it also has helped me to grow as a person and to make friendships that I will never forget.

MEET A STUDENT LEADER

Abigail Slocum

Q: What does the NSA do?

A: Pitt NSA is part of the professional organization National Student Nurses' Association [NSNA]. Both the national and local organizations are dedicated to providing opportunities for nursing students to gain the social, leadership, and technical skills necessary for future career success. At Pitt, we have three types of activities, and a student must participate in all three to be an active member: professional development, service, and social activities. We assist with school-hosted events such as blood drives and open houses. In addition, we participate in service activities, such as Pitt Make A Difference Day and volunteering at a women's shelter, and create social events to bring our students closer together. As an organization, NSA also hosts the nursing clothing sale, the schoolwide bone marrow drive, and the annual nursing formal.

Q: Why is it important for students to join NSA?

A: I think one of the most important things students can gain from active membership in NSA is the chance to explore what is out there in the world just waiting for them to participate in or do something about. When we take part in these activities and attend these conventions, we see not only so many different facets of life and care but also all the opportunities that nursing can provide us in our careers. It's really a very empowering experience!

Q: What benefits do students see from their participation in NSA?

A: Networking, networking, networking! From making fast friends at the first meeting to the advisor who will write you an amazing recommendation to the recruiter from your dream hospital who will read that

letter, you meet them all, and they all help you get where you want to be!

Q: For you, personally, what did participation in NSA mean?

A: Empowerment. I found that I loved being in the company of nursing students driven to grow and learn beyond the classroom. I was practically addicted to the state and national conventions, and the people I met and the speakers I heard at them made me feel like I was born to be a nurse.

Q: How will holding a leadership position benefit you?

A: I learned so much this past year. To be a great nurse, you not only have to have the skills to do the tasks at hand, but you also need to have the skills to take it to the next level—the ability to delegate, communicate, innovate, and problem solve, to name just a few! After a year as president, I think I have most developed in my communication skills. I really had to learn when to listen, when to talk, when to compromise, and how to effectively make points and state needs. I truly hope that these skills will help to improve the care I give my patients as both a nurse and a future nurse leader.

Q: What was or is the best part of your Pitt Nursing experience?

A: The growth. I think it's amazing that we can enter as a raw group of young students, and in a mere four years, Pitt can push us beyond what we thought and help us to advance into the rising nurses of tomorrow. Looking back at my four years, I just couldn't be more proud to have developed personally as a part of such a remarkable institution and to graduate with such an incredible group of new nurses.



Alumnus Leaves Lasting Impression on Profession and on Pitt Nursing Landmark



The lobby is used heavily by students, faculty members, and visitors as well as for functions year-round. This renovation made the school even more welcoming, comfortable, and sophisticated and it makes a great first impression.

Rita Doll, founder of what was once the largest independent home care service in Los Angeles County, Calif., always knew she wanted to be a nurse. The problem was that she wasn't sure how to begin.

Then, during her senior year at Aspinwall High School (now the Fox Chapel Area High School) near Pittsburgh, the secretary told her about the St. Margaret School of Nursing, a hospital-affiliated nursing program. Doll didn't know this program existed or that she'd be eligible for financial support.

"I'm fortunate because many people helped and encouraged me a great deal," says Doll. "Without my nursing degree, I'd probably still be waiting tables," she jokes.

After graduating from St. Margaret, Doll went on to earn Bachelor of Science in Nursing Education (BSNEd) and Master of Arts (MA) from the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. She began her career with what is now the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, and then moved to the West Coast and worked at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Hollywood as well as several other facilities in the region.



In 1980, she established Angeles Home Health Care, which she led as president for more than three decades. The agency specialized in skilled nursing services that provided patient-centered home health care in the Los Angeles area. In 2014, at age 86, Doll decided to retire and sell her business.

“I’m proud of what my employees accomplished over the years, from establishing teaching programs to producing disease manuals. It’s nice to know in an ever-changing world of health care, we did what we could to equip others in the field with valuable knowledge,” Doll says.

Her mother and stepfather, Angelica Lombardi Mulley and Cyril Mulley, instilled a strong work ethic in her that was evident as soon as she entered the workforce at age 13. She credits their unwavering support for her successful career and remembers her mother telling her, “Nurses will always have work.”

It was in her parents’ memory that she decided to make a significant gift to the School of Nursing in 2007. Her generous gift helped to renovate the main portion of the first-floor lobby of the Victoria Building. The lobby is used heavily by students, faculty members,

and visitors as well as for functions year-round. This renovation made the school even more welcoming, comfortable, and sophisticated and it makes a great first impression.

A plaque prominently displayed in the lobby acknowledges Doll’s support, and her two Pitt nursing diplomas also are on exhibit.

An active Pitt alumna, she served as secretary for the Southern California Pitt Club for several years. Doll’s great-niece Amanda Lombardi, one of seven Lombardi family members who have attended Pitt, earned her BSN in 2008 and her MSN in 2013. Doll is confident that during her long career, she inspired other nurses to pursue advanced degrees. She hopes that her gift to the School of Nursing will motivate other alumni to make a lasting impression on the school’s community.

If you are interested in making a donation to the School of Nursing, please contact Janice Devine, director of alumni relations and development, at 412-624-7541 or jad154@pitt.edu.



Recognized as a major nursing research center, the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing is committed to fostering research that generates new health care knowledge related to direct clinical practice and public health policy. Pitt Nursing researchers address the most challenging issues facing today's health care practitioners, health care systems, nursing educators, and policy makers.

Photo by Jasmine Goldband, Trib Total Media



Charron-Prochownik Wins Eli Lilly and Company Grant

Congratulations to Professor **Denise Charron-Prochownik**, PhD, FAAN, for successfully acquiring funding from Eli Lilly and Company for her project, Tailoring Preconception Counseling for Hispanic Adolescents with Diabetes. This yearlong grant in the amount of \$65,247 will help to expand her existing work (the READY-Girls Program) on the value and promotion of preconception counseling (PC) for young women with diabetes.

Little is known regarding the awareness, attitudes, and behaviors related to PC, family planning, and contraception vigilance of adolescent Hispanic females with diabetes. Furthermore, for adolescent Hispanics, female members of their social network (such as their mothers) play a key role in providing culturally relevant information on reproductive health practices and should be involved in the formative phases of the intervention.

With the support of this grant, Charron-Prochownik will explore the understanding of reproductive health and diabetes, PC, risks of unplanned pregnancies, the importance of tight metabolic control, and family planning and contraception vigilance among female adolescent Hispanics with diabetes and their mothers. This information will be used to adapt the Reproductive Health Education and Awareness of Diabetes in Youth for Girls (READY-Girls) program to be culturally and linguistically appropriate for this Spanish-speaking group.

The Eli Lilly and Company funding will facilitate the testing and adaptation of READY-Girls to 13–21-year-old Hispanic females with either type 1 or type 2 diabetes. Designed by Charron-Prochownik, this READY-Girls intervention has been adopted by the American Diabetes Association as the model PC program for teens with diabetes.

Telerehabilitation Research Recognized by Association of Rehabilitation Nurses

Ji Yeon Choi, PhD, assistant professor, was recently announced as the recipient of the Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation/American Nurses Foundation Research Grant Award. This award is presented to those whose research contributes to the advancement of nursing science and the enhancement of patient care.

Choi was selected for this honor based on her study, Providing Telerehabilitation at Home for Adult Intensive Care Unit Survivors and Their Family Caregivers. This study will provide preliminary data for a full-scale, randomized, controlled trial of her telerehabilitation system, Post-intensive Care Unit Versatile and Integrated System for Telerehabilitation (Post-ICU VISYTER). Choi hopes this system will facilitate family-centered self-management programs for ICU survivors and their families as the patients make the transition to the community.

Associate Professor Margaret Rosenzweig (right) is pictured here with Jackie Simon, Pitt Nursing research specialist (left) and study participant Deborah Reifman (center). Rosenzweig's study of breast cancer care disparity was featured in a recent *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* article on the decline in federal funding for basic and applied research.

Pitt Nursing Research Team Honored with Racial Justice Award

The YWCA Greater Pittsburgh bestowed one of its 23rd Annual Racial Justice Awards in the Health Care category on the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing ACTS Research Team. The ACTS (Attitude, Communication, Treatment, and Support) Research Team has been conducting community-based research for more than a decade on interventions to mitigate the disparity in the breast cancer experience for African American women from screening through end-of-life care. The team includes faculty member **Margaret Rosenzweig** and staff members **Mary Connolly**, **Tamami Hamada**, **Debra Otey**, **Jacqueline Simon**, and **Howard Stein**. This project has received significant funding from the American Cancer Society (2009–15) for the development of regional clinical trials of an intensive psychoeducational intervention that addresses attitudes, communication, treatment, and support that will help African American women to adhere to treatment and, therefore, increase survival rates among this population.

Are You a Prescriber?

Need to have the latest research and pharmacology updates at your fingertips? Want information that will impact your practice immediately?

Sign up for the Pitt Nursing continuing education pharmacology and clinical practice update series. This year marks the fifth year for this popular series that focuses on pharmacology updates with corresponding clinical practice implications. Monthly programs cover today's topics, such as treatment of hyperlipidemia and medication issues for geriatric patients.

How to Become as Tech Savvy as Your Students!

Tired of being behind the technological curve while your students are light-years ahead of that curve?

Pitt's nursing continuing education series Emerging Learning and Integrated Technologies Education will not only push you further along your career, but also help you to be a more effective educator. Learn about mobile and social technologies, designing online assessment tools, and how to infuse your curriculum with informatics concepts.



Need Continuing Education But Have No Time to Attend Classes?

Between working shifts, teaching students, and trying to have a home life, it's hard to find the time to earn the required continuing education contact hours. Through Pitt's nursing continuing education enduring/online activities, you can explore topics in addiction, ethics, technology, arthritis, chronic diseases such as diabetes, and best practices—all from the comfort of your home and whenever you have the time.



School of Nursing Continuing Education

conted@pitt.edu
412-624-3156
nursing.pitt.edu/continuing-education

INTERDISCIPLINARY LEADERSHIP FORUM

Extraordinary leadership goes beyond disciplinary boundaries. It's not limited to business, but spans across fields from nonprofit management to hospital systems, academic settings, and community agencies. So, to truly enhance your leadership skills, it helps to reach out to experts from a broad spectrum of fields.

At the **Interdisciplinary Leadership Forum**, jointly provided by the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Continuing Education department and the WPIC Child and Adolescent Services Leadership Institute, there is an opportunity to do just that. This forum will bring together leadership experts from a variety of fields such as business, education, psychology, public health, occupational therapy, and nursing. One featured speaker will be James E. Rohr, former CEO and chairman of the board of PNC Bank, who will explore the theoretical and practical components of leadership.

Participants will address the core question, "What can we do as leaders to improve patient care?"

Friday, May 29, 2015

8:30 a.m.–2:35 p.m.

The Boiler Room Pittsburgh
1070 Banksville Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15220

Contact Hours Awarded: 5 (upon successful completion of Forum)

Cost: \$99 (cost includes forum, lunch, and coffee breaks)

For more information, please visit nursing.pitt.edu/continuing-education

CLASS NOTES

1960s

Rosemarie Rizzo Parse

(MNEd '62) has published her 10th book, *The Humanbecoming Paradigm: A Transformational Worldview*.

1970s

Mary Lou Bond (MN '73)

was honored with a 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award for Excellence in Nursing by the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing and was made a 2013 Honorary Alumnus by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Nursing. She is an adjunct professor of nursing at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Kathleen B. Gaberson

(MNEd '76), **Marilyn H. Oermann** (MNEd '75), and Teresa Shellenbarger coauthored the fourth edition of *Clinical Teaching Strategies in Nursing*.

Patricia (Drogos) O'Donoghue

(MN '73, PhD '88) was named interim president of DePaul University from August until the end of 2014. Prior to becoming interim president, O'Donoghue held multiple positions at DePaul, most recently interim provost and vice president for strategic initiatives and alumni

outreach. O'Donoghue also is president emerita of Mount Mary University in Milwaukee, Wis., where she served as president from 1997 to 2006.

Nancy Stuever (MNEd '78)

currently serves as interim director of the nursing programs at Marian University, where she also serves as associate professor and chair of graduate nursing. Stuever, who received her BSN from Carlow University, was recently elected to its Board of Trustees for a three-year term.

1980s

Janice (McCarron) Broniec

(BSN '82) recently received an achievement award from the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania. Her project, A Clinical Nurse Leader-led Multidisciplinary Heart Failure Program: Integrating Best Practice Across the Care Continuum to Reduce Avoidable 30-day Readmissions, was one of four awards for her institution, St. Luke's University Hospital in Bethlehem, Pa. Broniec currently serves as a heart failure care coordinator at St. Luke's.

Gayle S. Jameson (BSN '82, MSN '97)

recently had an article published in *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*. "A Pilot Study Utilizing Multi-omic Molecular Profiling to Find Potential Targets and Select Individualized Treatments for Patients with Previously Treated Metastatic Breast Cancer" appeared in the September 2014 issue.

1990s

Sister **Thea Krause** (MSN '98), ethicist and nurse practitioner at the Van Zandt VA Medical Center in Altoona, Pa., was a keynote speaker at Saint Francis University's Health Ministry Conference in October 2014.

2000s

Krista Bragg (MSN '00, MSN '06, DNP '10)

recently accepted the position of director of surgical services at Health First. Health First is central Florida's only fully integrated health system, with a mission to positively change the health and wellness of the communities it serves.

Amy Maniatis (BSN '00)

recently graduated from the University of Maryland with an MSN-HSLM. Currently Maniatis works as a cardiac ICU RN at the University

of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore, Md.

Ruth Tarantine (MSN '06)

serves as the chair of online nursing graduate programs and nursing faculty at a private university. Tarantine also is co-owner of Eldercare Navigators, where she assists seniors and chronically ill individuals with navigating the health care system. Recently she wrote the book *Against All Odds: How to Move from Provider-Centered Care to Patient-Centered Care*, which chronicles her own struggles and challenges with the U.S. health care system during her quest to provide her elderly mother with an acceptable standard of care.

Renee Thompson (BSN '01, MSN '04, DNP '13) started her own company, traveling across the globe as a speaker, educator, and consultant. She also is the author of two books, *"Do No Harm" Applies to Nurses, Too!* and *Celebrate Nursing: Human by Birth, Hero by Choice*.

2010s

Lindsey Heckes (BSN '14)

recently accepted a position at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. There, Heckes will work on the cardiology step-down unit. This position will allow her to work with patients from all over the Midwest who are undergoing everything from coronary artery bypass surgery to heart transplants.

Mary Kish (MSN '10)

was honored as a "Health Care Hero" by the *Pittsburgh Business Times* for her work as a nurse practitioner in Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC's neonatal intensive care unit. Currently Kish splits her time between Magee and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, acting as a familiar face for parents who have to use both facilities.

Julie Lesneski (MSN '14)

received her Pennsylvania CRNP license and is starting a position at an internal medicine office in Windber, Pa.

Pitt Nursing
Alumnus Wins
State Honor

The School of Nursing congratulates **Donald Bucher** for winning a 2014 Nightingale Award of Pennsylvania. Bucher, (MSN '07), DNP, ACNP-BC, CCRN, is an acute care nurse practitioner at UPMC Hamot. He provides care for critically ill and injured ICU patients and supervises the advanced practice providers in UPMC Hamot's hospitalist, critical care, and palliative care groups.

Bucher was recognized in the Advanced Practice RN category at the Nightingale Award's statewide ceremony in Camp Hill, Pa. The annual gala celebrates each Nightingale award winner for his or her provision of outstanding patient care, superior clinical nursing skills, and extraordinary compassion. Congratulations to Bucher for being honored with this prestigious award!



Pitt Nursing's Honored Alumni

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing was pleased to present **Adelle M. Lotinsky** (BSN '10, MSN '13) with its Outstanding Young Alumni Award and **Prakin Kotchabhakdi Suchaxaya** (MSN '81, PhD '84) with its Distinguished Alumni Award at a ceremony held during the fall term.



Adelle M. Lotinsky, top, Prakin Kotchabhakdi Suchaxaya

The Outstanding Young Alumni Award is bestowed upon a recent graduate who is making significant contributions to the profession early in his or her career. Lotinsky serves as corporate director of clinical education for LifeCare Management Services and is responsible for educational and competency programming for 24 hospitals and 17 nurse education coordinators. Lotinsky has developed and implemented a companywide education plan with the goal of offering pertinent, contemporary programming to enhance the skills and knowledge of thousands of employees in the nursing, rehabilitation services, and respiratory therapy departments, among others.

The Distinguished Alumni Award honors a graduate of the School of Nursing for his or her accomplishments in terms of his or her leadership roles; achievements in the profession of nursing; service to the profession; and contributions to social, economic, or political areas. Suchaxaya is the coordinator for gender, equity, and human rights for the World Health Organization in New Delhi, India. As such, she is responsible for the mainstreaming of gender, equity, and human rights within the health care systems in her coverage area. Until recently, she served as a regional advisor in nursing and midwifery for the organization.

Suchaxaya earned her master's degree and PhD in nursing at Pitt and began her work with the World Health Organization in 2005 after a distinguished career as a professor and administrator at Chiang Mai University in Thailand. She has served on the Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council's executive board and held the position of deputy secretary-general for that organization. Recently, Suchaxaya was honored with the Princess Srinagarindra Award, which is presented annually and reflects the distinguished reputation and level of service of an outstanding nurse leader.

Congratulations to these alumni award winners, who are truly deserving individuals and outstanding representatives of the school and the University in all they do.

PITT NURSING

in Memoriam

Mary J. Angel
(BSNEd '50, MLit '57)

Christine M. Keffer
(BSN '87)

Mary Sullivan Arenth
(BSNEd '48)

June Fumiko Kikuchi
(MN '69, PhD '79)

Evelyn B. Baird
(BSNEd '50)

Karen F. Little
(MSN '06)

Beatrice D. Beckett
(BSN '67)

Charles Shannon Lucza
(BSN '02)

Ann E. Blishak
(BSN '59)

Barbara T. McCormick
(BSN '67)

Esther E. Brown
(BSNEd '54)

Susan M. O'Toole
(MSN '92)

Sandra Gray Colton
(BAS '77)

Ellen L. Rzewnicki
(BSN '79)

Martha Modrak Costello
(BSNEd '57)

Marilyn M. Salem
(BSN '54)

Mary A. Dzik
(MN '72, PhD '78)

Jennifer A. Stefaniak
(BSN '94)

Shirley Morrison Francisco
(MN '75, PhD '89)

Beverly A. Steinert
(BSNEd '48)

Sara Ports Fritsch
(BSN '62)

Catherine Hilaire Thompson
(BSN '63)

Mildred M. Heigley
(BSNEd '58, MN '63)

Mary G. Whayland
(BSN '55)

Upcoming Events

Spring Graduation and Pinning Ceremony

Friday, April 24, 2015
4 p.m.
David L. Lawrence
Convention Center
Third Floor Ballroom
1000 Fort Duquesne Boulevard
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Alumni Day

Saturday, May 16, 2015
11 a.m.
University Club
123 University Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Pitt Nursing Day at the Zoo!

Saturday, June 6, 2015
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
7340 Butler Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Nancy Glunt Hoffman Memorial Golf Outing

Monday, July 13, 2015
11 a.m.
Shannopin Country Club
1 Windmere Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15202

For more information, visit nursing.pitt.edu or call 412-624-0856.



Sheila Alexander



Salah Al-Zaiti



Alice Blazeck



Cynthia Danford



Heidi Donovan



Linda A. Dudjak

FACULTY DISTINCTIONS

Sheila Alexander, PhD, associate professor, was elected president of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics.

Salah Al-Zaiti, PhD, assistant professor, received the American Heart Association's 2014 Martha N. Hill New Investigator Award for his work on the role of heart rate variability in predicting sudden and nonsudden cardiac death in ischemic cardiomyopathy.

Catherine Bender, PhD, FAAN, professor, has been named secretary elect for the International Network for Doctoral Education in Nursing.

Assistant Professors **Alice Blazeck**, DNSc, and **Gretchen Zewe**, PhD, were recognized for their 2013 paper "Simulating Simulation: Promoting Perfect Practice with Learning Bundle-supported Videos in an Applied, Learner-driven Curriculum Design," which was published in *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*. The paper was recognized by the Society of Simulation in Healthcare as one of the top 10 papers of 2014 and also recognized as best paper by the International Nurses Association for Clinical Simulation & Learning.

Betty Braxter, PhD, assistant professor, was one of three finalists in the Nursing Education-Academic category honor at the 2014 Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania.

Lora Burke, PhD, FAAN, professor, has been appointed chair of the Council Operations Committee of the American Heart Association.

Cynthia Danford, PhD, assistant professor, was noted as one of the "25 Top Pediatric Nursing Professors" by NursePractitionerSchools.com.

Heidi Donovan, PhD, associate professor, has been invited to serve as a member of the Institute of Medicine's Committee on the State of the Science in Ovarian Cancer Research, which will identify key gaps and challenges, consider opportunities for advancing ovarian

cancer research, and examine avenues for translation and dissemination of new findings and information to patients.

Linda A. Dudjak, PhD, associate professor, has been appointed to the advisory committee for the American Nurses Association's Professional Issues Panel on Workplace Violence and Incivility.

Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, FAAN, dean and distinguished service professor of nursing, was presented with the UPMC Health Plan's Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Education, Practice, and Research Award.

Sandra J. Engberg, PhD, FAAN, professor, was featured as one of the "25 Top NP Program Professors" on the Web site NursePractitionerSchools.com.

Richard Henker, PhD, FAAN, professor, has been elected to the Board of Directors of Health Volunteers Overseas, a nonprofit agency dedicated to improving the availability and quality of health care through the education and training of the health workforce in resource-scarce countries.

Rosemary Hoffmann, PhD, associate professor, was elected to the Board of Commission on Nursing Certification of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Kathy Magdic, DNP, FAANP, assistant professor, has been re-elected vice president of the Pennsylvania Coalition of Nurse Practitioners.

Ann Mitchell, PhD, FAAN, professor, has been invited to become a scientific advisor for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, one of the leading nonprofits dedicated to understanding and preventing suicide through research, education, and advocacy.

Lorraine Novosel, PhD, assistant professor, was recently appointed to the board of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners' Network for Research.

Professors **Kathryn Puskar**, DrPH, FAAN, and **Ann Mitchell**, created curriculum standards and guidelines as part of their Substance Use Education for Nurses: SBIRT project. The curricular materials have been vetted by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and are featured on the association's Web site as a BSN tool kit for nursing schools.

Elizabeth A. Schlenk, PhD, associate professor, is president-elect for the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals.

Linda Siminerio, PhD, assistant professor, has been named chair of the National Diabetes Education Program, a joint program of the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is currently executive director of the University of Pittsburgh Diabetes Institute.

Cecelia Yates, PhD, assistant professor, has been appointed chair-elect of the Committee for Career Development and Diversity of the American Society for Investigative Pathology. She will officially become chair in June 2015.

FACULTY GRANTS

(since August 1, 2014)

Salah Al-Zaiti

Emergency Nurses Association/American Nursing Informatics Association

Redefining ECG Interpretation in Emergency Departments: Novel Methods for Real-time Detection of NSTEMI

University of Pittsburgh Center for Medical Innovation

Stratifying Prehospital ECGs of Ischemic Coronary Events to Guide Treatment Decision-making at Emergency Departments

University of Pittsburgh Central Research Development Fund

Myocardial Ischemia Detection for the Early Identification of Patients with Ischemic Chest Pain (MID-EPIC) Study



Sandra J. Engberg



Richard Henker



Rosemary Hoffmann



Kathy Magdic



Lorraine Novosel



Elizabeth A. Schlenk

Denise Charron-Prochownik

Eli Lilly and Company

Tailoring Preconception Counseling for Hispanic Adolescents with Diabetes

Ji Yeon Choi

Association of Rehabilitation Nurses/ American Nurses Foundation

Providing Telerehabilitation at Home for Adult Intensive Care Unit Survivors and Their Family Caregivers

Susan Cohen

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Future of Nursing Scholars program

Yvette Conley (with Ava Puccio, Department of Neurological Surgery)

National Institute of Nursing Research

Epigenomics of Patient Outcomes after Traumatic Brain Injury

Elizabeth Crago

University of Pittsburgh Central Research Development Fund

The Relationship of Hormone Levels to Outcomes after Acute Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

Christopher Imes

University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Center for Research and Evaluation

Exploratory Study of Gene Expression and Patient Outcomes among Adults with Diabetes and Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Ja Hyun Kang

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology APIC Heroes Implementation Research Scholar Award Program

Use of Personal Protective Equipment: Ensuring Safety (UPPEES) Study

Ann Mitchell

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

NFASD: Prevention through Partnerships

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

SBIRT Training for Nurse Practitioners Across the Lifespan

Lorraine Novosel

National Gerontological Nursing Association 2014 Judith V. Braun Award for Advancing the Practice of Gerontological Nursing through Research

Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
Preparedness as de facto Mental Health Provider for the Depressed Older Adult

FACULTY DEGREES

Diana Schroeder successfully defended her Doctor of Nursing Practice capstone project, Improving the Assessment of Pain in the Post Total Joint Replacement Patient Population: A Nursing-directed Intervention, on August 20, 2014, at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

NEW FACULTY

Marnie Burket, DNP, assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

Stephanie Deible, DNP, assistant professor, Department of Acute/Tertiary Care

Claudia Kregg-Byers, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Acute/Tertiary Care

Young Ji Lee, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Health and Community Systems

STUDENT DISTINCTIONS

The Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania selected two Pitt Nursing students as scholarship recipients for 2014. Scholarships are offered to students who have distinguished themselves by demonstrating deep levels of caring, compassion, community service, and academic achievement. Congratulations to **Marsena Ruth Pelton** (MSN '14), and current PhD student **Theresa A. (Timcheck) Koleck** (BSN '11).

BSN student **Marianne McCoy** and PhD student **Zhan Liang** were pronounced the winners in their respective categories at the school's fourth annual Scholarly Poster Presentation Symposium. McCoy's poster was titled "Importance of Interprofessional Teamwork among First-year Students," and Liang's was titled "Longitudinal Quality of Life and Subsequent Adherence and Persistence to Breast Cancer Chemotherapy among African American Women."

BSN student **Lisa Nagy** was awarded first place in the student poster competition at the 2014 Panamerican Trauma Society conference in Panama. Her poster covered the creation of the Pitt Trauma and Emergency League (PTEL), a multidisciplinary organization she founded in 2014. PTEL was formed to foster student interest and involvement in trauma and emergency care and prevention among preprofessional students through experiences relating to research, professional development, leadership, injury prevention, academic preparation, and an understanding of trauma and emergency care as a public and global health problem.

BSN student **Jessica Weiner** was honored with a "Highly Commended" (within the top 10 percent) rating in the Nursing and Midwifery category for the 2014 Undergraduate Awards, an international academic awards program that aims to celebrate and support the world's brightest and most innovative undergraduate students across all disciplines. Weiner, who was invited to present at the Undergraduate Awards Global Summit in Ireland, was

recognized for her work, "Testing the Teaching Kids to Cope—Youth Anger Intervention in a Rural School-based Sample."

BSN student **Jenna Zaldonis** was invited to give an oral presentation at the 2014 Annual International Conference on Nursing in Athens, Greece. Zaldonis discussed "Predictors and Influence of Recipients' Goal Orientation on Self-management Behaviors and Health Outcomes after Lung Transplantation."

Two Pitt Nursing students were selected to participate in Science 2014, Pitt's annual showcase of science and technology. BSN student **Rebecca Findle** was chosen to present her poster, "Examining Undergraduate Research Opportunities in Schools of Nursing," while **Leah Winner**, also a BSN student, gave a poster presentation on "Medication Regimen Complexity in Patients with Comorbid Conditions."

BSN student **Noreen Ahmad** has been elected president of the Nursing Student Association, Pitt Nursing's undergraduate student group.

Jennifer Burgher Seaman (PhD '14) successfully defended her PhD dissertation, "Patient-centered Outcomes among Seriously Ill and Nonsurviving Mechanically Ventilated ICU Patients."

A team of students in the Nursing Care of Clients with Psychiatric Mental Health Programs course won in the Film, Television, and Video category of the Generation Next competition. This is a competition for Southwestern Pennsylvania college students to promote greater understanding about mental health by recognizing those who undertake media projects to change the conversation about mental health. Pitt Nursing students who contributed to the Depression on Campus video included **Nicole Fazio**, **Lindsay Jones**, **Katie McMahon**, **Lindsay Metzger**, **Caleb Smith**, and **Frank Taylor**. The students, as well as Assistant Professor Judith Callan, were honored at the Southwestern Pennsylvania Media and Mental Health Awards ceremony (produced by the Entertainment Industries Council) held in Pittsburgh in December 2014.

STUDENT GRANTS

Grace Campbell (BSN '94, PhD '13), postdoctoral student
Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation
 A Pilot Study on Falls and New Falls in Women with Ovarian Cancer Receiving Neurotoxic Chemotherapy

Meghan Mattos, PhD student
National Institute of Nursing Research
Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award
 Mild Cognitive Impairment in Older Rural Dwelling Adults

Nicole Osier, PhD student
International Society of Nurses in Genetics
 The Effect of Genotype on Response to Melatonin Therapy in Traumatic Brain Injury

Ansley Stanfill, postdoctoral student
International Society of Nurses in Genetics
 Genetic Contributions to Depression and Anxiety after Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage

KEEP US POSTED

Please share information about your career achievements, advanced education, publications, presentations, honors received, and appointments. We may include your news in the Alumni News + Notes section or other media. Indicate names, dates, and locations. Photos are welcome! Please print clearly.

Name (include name at graduation as well as current name)

Degree(s) and Year(s) of Graduation

Home Address

Home Telephone E-mail Address (please note home or work)

Professional Position Name of Employer

Employer's Address

News

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JOIN IN THE APPLAUSE!

Pitt Nursing was ranked **fifth** among nursing schools in *U.S. News & World Report's* 2016 Best Grad Schools Report! Several programs/areas of concentration were also ranked in the top 10:

- Clinical Nurse Leader **#3**
- Nursing Administration **#5**
- Nurse Anesthesia **#1**
- Nursing Informatics **#6**
- Nurse Practitioner:
 - Adult/Gerontology, Acute Care **#5**
 - Pediatric, Primary Care **#3**
 - Psychiatric/Mental Health,
Across the Lifespan **#5**