

The job description of a dean includes a number of responsibilities but none as important as assuring that students have an education that prepares them with essential knowledge and skills. While this is true of deans in every discipline, the important role that nursing and health professions graduates have in the lives of patients makes this an even more critical outcome.

In previous columns, I have shared my pride in the dedication and excellence of our college faculty. This and prior newsletters have reported on college faculty teaching creativity, scholarship, and service activities. Less recognized but extremely important to our education mission are the adjunct and volunteer faculty who regularly share their expertise with students. I want to briefly highlight a few of these individuals. In future *y* issues, we will feature other health-care professionals who generously contribute their time to help prepare our graduates to be excellent practitioners.

Nurse practitioner students spend many hours in classroom study, but their clinical practice expertise would not develop without the physicians and nurse practitioners who share their expertise and serve as preceptors for students. **r e r e n c e l e** of Tri-State Orthopaedics is an excellent example of physicians and nurse practitioners who are making a difference in the education of our students. Dr. Alvey recently hosted third-year family nurse practitioner students at his office. He arranged for patients to be present so he could

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essica MacLeod instructor in nursing, has received a grant from the USI Omicron Psi chapter of Sigma Theta Tau international nursing honor society to support dissertation research on the topic of everyday living of adolescent girls with epilepsy. MacLeod is a doctoral candidate in Indiana University's Ph.D. program in nursing science.

Richard E. Orr assistant professor of nursing, has received a Mitchell Fellowship award from the College of Nursing and Health Professions to support her clinical practice and to complete clinical requirements in a psychiatric nurse practitioner program. She is enrolled in a post-master's certificate program at Rush University.

An article by **Mara E. Hoac** reporting the findings of research conducted in the College of Nursing and

Health Professions' dental hygiene clinic was published in the March 2007 issue of *Dental Hygiene*, a national publication for dental hygiene faculty and students. Womack studied the effect of soft lighting, aromatherapy, and music therapy to improve the comfort zone of dental patients. Womack is an instructor in the dental assisting/hygiene programs.

Richard E. Orr assistant dean for nursing, has been invited to contribute a chapter to a 2008 book on evidence-based practice in nursing.

Teri L. Turner assistant professor of nursing, has submitted a chapter on communication for the seventh edition of the textbook by authors Patricia A. Potter and Anne Griffin Perry. **Mara E. Hoac** instructor in nursing, was invited to write the chapter on health-

care delivery systems. In addition, Wehmer wrote an article on perioperative hypothermia for the premier edition of Lippincott Williams and Wilkins' *Perioperative Nursing*.

Sharon E. Orr instructor in nursing, is pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Case Western Reserve University.

Uli Kuric instructor in nursing, is co-author of the chapter on neurotrauma in the eighth edition of the textbook *Neurotrauma* to be published this year by Elsevier Health Sciences. The book is by Joyce M. Black and Jane Hokanson Hawks.

Denise E. Orr instructor in dental hygiene/dental assisting, has been selected as the USI Outstanding Graduate Student in Secondary Education for 2007.

Name _____

Address _____

- College of Nursing and Health Professions (where the need is greatest)
- Dental Assisting/Dental Hygiene programs
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- Nursing programs
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Honors a salutes our achievements

More than 140 students majoring in programs offered by the College of Nursing and Health Professions were recognized with scholarships or awards in March at the college's annual Honors Day ceremony.

Many donors were on hand to present the awards they made possible and to meet the outstanding students who will benefit in the coming year from their generosity.

Dr. Elaine Boure, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, said, "These generous friends of the college recognize the important role of private gifts in developing the excellence of our graduates."

Lawrence scholarship endowment

The endowment for the Melissa Faye Lawrence Endowed Nursing Scholarship has increased to more than \$250,000 with additional gifts and matching Lilly grants.

John Lawrence established the endowment in spring 2006 in memory of his deceased wife, a nurse. Additional gifts, including another generous gift from Mr. Lawrence, were received in late 2006. He also secured for the fund a major gift from a friend in Ohio who asked to remain anonymous.

The Lawrence scholarship is the largest scholarship awarded in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. It was presented to **Harlan Lane** at the 2007 Honors Day ceremony.

Scholarship remembers nurse Frances Alexander

Friends and co-workers of nurse **Frances Alexander** of Newburgh, Indiana, have established a scholarship in her memory.

Jagelewski died April 18, 2006. She last was employed as a case manager at HealthSouth Tri-State Rehabilitation Hospital in Evansville. A nurse, she helped establish the LifeFlight program at Welborn Hospital while working there.

The Fran Jagelewski Memorial Nursing Scholarship benefits a USI student who is a senior in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program. Criteria include financial need and an interest in trauma nursing or cardio-respiratory nursing. The award was presented to **Justin Anderson** at the 2007 Honors Day ceremony.

Additional gifts designated to the scholarship can be made to the USI Foundation, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712.

Gifts designated to the sc

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llison Shafer named GLVC Scholar Athlete

llison Shafer who is double-majoring in nursing and health services, has been named the Great Lakes Valley Conference Scholar Athlete of the Year for women's cross country.

Shafer accumulated a 3.882 grade point average in her first three semesters at USI and earned a 4.0 GPA during the fall semester.

"I chose the nursing profession," she said, "because I enjoy being able to interact with people on a daily basis. Also, I feel that you can experience a great sense of personal satis-

faction by being a nurse. Knowing that I have done my best to improve someone's life is a rewarding feeling!"

On the cross country course, Shafer was the GLVC

Female Runner of the Year after winning the conference championship with a 6k time of 21 minutes, 46.07 seconds. She helped the Screaming Eagles to a second-place team finish at the GLVC championships and went on to the NCAA II Great Lakes Regional Championships where she finished second. She earned All-America honors when she finished 15th at the NCAA II National Championships in Pensacola, Florida.

Shafer holds the Aline Nunn Renner Deans Scholarship at USI. She is from Plainville, Indiana.

Miessler in class of Athletic Hall of Fame

Miessler coordinator of instructional broadcasting for the College of Nursing and Health Professions, is one of seven inductees in the inaugural class of the USI Athletic Hall of Fame. A player from 1992-95, he is USI's only three-time All-American in baseball. The first members of the USI Athletic Hall of Fame were inducted at a ceremony in February.

Jennie Hiam instructor in nursing, has been named Nurse Practitioner of the Year by the Indiana Chapter of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

Hiam and winners from every state will be recognized at the AANP 22nd National Conference June 20-24 in Indianapolis. In addition, the Indiana chapter will hold a reception in her honor.

Marcia Lancaster Indiana representative to the AANP, said Hiam was selected by her peers for her commitment to the community, especially her service to uninsured and incarcerated individuals; for her work in the education of family nurse practitioners; and for her groundbreaking role as a nurse practitioner in Indiana.

Hiam has been a nurse practitioner since 1972, which dates to the early days of advanced practice nursing in Indiana. She already had earned a master's degree in nursing when she completed a family nurse practitioner program at Indiana University.

"It sounded very exciting to me because we could do so much more and meet people's needs so much better. It broadens your nursing," Hiam said.

Robin O'Connell dean of the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions said, "Jennie Hiam is a caring, dedicated, and excellent nurse practitioner who serves as a role model for nurse practitioners in Indiana. Her contributions to nurse practitioner education and her excellence of

care for patients make her a worthy recipient of this award and a valued graduate nursing faculty member here at the University of Southern Indiana."

Hiam said it has been shown that family nurse practitioners provide excellent and effective care. For her, the mark of a good family nurse practitioner is the practitioner's relationship to people.

"It's not the number of procedures you can do or their sophistication. It's your relationship to people—patients, families, and staff. If you don't have a relationship, you're not going to be effective. The nurse practitioner movement is designed to improve health care. With good relationships we are much better able to provide care."

Hiam joined the College of Nursing and Health Professions faculty in 1997. She serves the community by working part time at ECHO Community Health Center. As a faculty member, she participated in writing and now is involved in implementing a grant program from the Division of Nursing to provide health-care services to inmates in Vanderburgh County correctional facilities.

In nominating her for Indiana Nurse Practitioner of the Year, a former student wrote, "The one thing that she impressed upon me the most while I was her student was that every person has value and is worthy of my caring and respect, regardless of his or her current situation."

A peer who nominated Hiam wrote, "Whether she is explaining a medical condition to an illiterate patient or demonstrating to a student how to do a complete physical

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