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Notes from the dean

Dear alumni and friends,

It is my pleasure to greet you and thank you for all your support last year. I am proud to share our accomplishments and plans, among them the publication and finalization of our multi-year nursing workforce diversity grant. Judy Ulibarri ’08, an early participant in our multicultural program, will begin an appointment to the board of the Oregon Center for Nursing as a representative of the Portland chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses. I am also pleased to welcome Michael Reyes Andrillon, our new director of multicultural programs, who is committed to building on the success of our multicultural program, expanding support to more students from under-represented groups.

This year, we reflect upon and celebrate our community connections: institutional partnerships, clinical sites, volunteer opportunities and other ways our campus members connect to the metropolitan community. Our students, alumni and faculty are the heart of our local community, and your commitment continually energizes me. Indeed, I learn almost daily how students and alumni work to make positive impacts on campus and beyond.

It is an honor to highlight this edition’s feature, which focuses on some of our recent alumni who are participating in a hospital RN internship program at Legacy Health. These highly competitive internships prepare our graduates to excel in their nursing practice. The success of our alumni at securing these positions at Legacy and other organizations reflects our solid program.

I want to encourage nursing alumni to participate in the 2011 Nurse Lobby Day in Salem on Feb. 15. Linfield will send a contingent of student nurses to the capital to meet with legislators and discuss improved health care delivery for Oregonians and advocacy for nurses in the workplace, as well as other issues important to nurses. It is a unique opportunity for nurses and student nurses to connect directly with lawmakers and have their voices heard.

Finally, I want to invite you to stay connected with Linfield and the School of Nursing. We’d love to hear about your professional and personal accomplishments – share those with Chris Kahle, development and alumni relations officer. In the coming year, I look forward to meeting with recent alumni and established professional alumni at our gatherings and community advisory council meetings for multicultural programs and clinical sites. Also, please join us for our signature spring event at Mercy Corps on April 19 with a keynote presentation by Neal Rosenberg, Ph.D., RN, from Goldfarb School of Nursing in St. Louis, Mo. (see back cover for details).

Bonnie Saucier, Ph.D., RN
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dean of Nursing/Health Sciences
Come teach with us!

Are you interested in a unique alumni role? Want to enhance your clinical practice with teaching experience? Do you have a passion for supporting new nurses? If so, consider returning to campus to teach as an adjunct faculty member at Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing.

We are continually enhancing our adjunct faculty pool at the School of Nursing, and who better to teach Wildcat student nurses than Wildcat RNs. Many alumni have joined us as adjuncts to share their expertise with our students. Ann Mills ’03 taught courses in Fall 2010, and she says, “It was refreshing to come back to Linfield as an alumna. Being an adjunct clinical instructor gives you time one-on-one with students. I was proud and honored to share my experience as a nurse with them. And knowing where they come from and where they are going forges a special bond between alumni and students.” Become part of that tradition.

For more information on the opportunity and the criteria for serving in the adjunct faculty pool, contact Laura Rodgers, associate dean of nursing and professor, at 503.413.7173 or larodger@linfield.edu.

Thank you. Thank you. And thank you.

Last year, more than 200 nursing and health sciences alumni and friends made gifts to support health care education at Linfield College – and most were new donors. Thank you for your support and investment in an education that has earned recognition from health care providers and patients wherever our graduates are employed.

This year, we have a unique giving opportunity. Five members of Linfield’s Board of Trustees have pledged a $50,000 matching gift if Rising Alumni, graduates from 2000-10, donate $50,000 this year. To be matched, each gift must be at least $25; you may direct your gift to nursing, health sciences, Portland scholarships, the Linfield Fund or any area you choose. Rising Alumni are our new philanthropists!

I also want to invite you to join our online community by liking our page at www.facebook.com/LinfieldPDX, where we post campus happenings, alumni events, photos and videos. Our growing membership (500+ at press time) posts, comments and shares professional insights. Facebook provides an easy way to connect with your former classmates and meet fellow alumni in an active and fun forum.

I encourage everyone to send personal and professional updates to alumniPDX@linfield.edu for inclusion in Linfield Magazine’s class notes or to update your contact information. If you have any questions or ideas for alumni programs, gatherings or stories in E-Cat or Linfield pdx, drop me an email or Facebook message.

Have a fantastic 2011!

Chris Kahle
Development and Alumni Relations Officer
Origins and history

It is difficult to discern the exact origin of cyclo-cross. One theory is that European road racers in the early 1900s would race each other to the next town and were allowed to cut through farmers’ fields, over fences or take any other shortcuts in order to get there first. This was also sometimes called steeple chase since the only visible landmark in the next town was the church steeple. It allowed road racers to stay in shape during the winter months and put a twist on road racing.

Because riding off-road in more difficult conditions than smooth pavement increased the intensity at which the cyclists were riding, it improved their on-the-road bike handling abilities. Forced running sections, or portages, were incorporated to help deliver warm blood to the feet and toes, as well as exercise other groups of muscles.

Daniel Gousseau of France is credited with having inspired the first cyclo-cross races and organizing the first French National Championship in 1902. Géo Lefèvre, the originator of the idea for the Tour de France, also played a key role in the early days of the sport. Cyclo-cross proved itself as a sport extending beyond the boundaries of France when in 1924 the first international race, Le Critérium International de Cross-Country Cyclo-Pédestre, was held in Paris.

Cyclo-cross began to become popular in the U.S. in the 1970s and in 1975 the first race was held in New England, but the first U.S. National Championship was held in Berkeley, Calif.


Nursing meets cyclo-cross

As a nursing student, Sean Babcock ’10 realized the importance and value of preventive health measures, including an active lifestyle. Cyclo-cross provides him a means to participate in a healthy activity that has a fun component, within a supportive community, and an excellent de-stressor from the rigors of nursing school.

“Fun in the mud” sums up cyclo-cross, a racing sport along a two-mile course that is half road and half cross-country. Racers carry their bikes through mud, and even expert riders will fall on the course. The very nature of the sport’s design makes it forgiving for the beginner and non-expert. “The racing community values anyone who is willing to conquer the course, no matter her or his ability – the vision is to include everyone, not weed out the weak,” according to Babcock. There are few barriers to access for race riders, even in terms of equipment, because any bike will do.

Babcock, whose interest in nursing was sparked while working at a local bike shop, chose the profession so he could help people in need. “My favorite bike customers were those who knew the least about cycling because they were brave enough to step into the shop and ask for help. They put themselves in a vulnerable position and were willing to trust our expertise. As a nurse, I know I can bring that same respect to those with health care needs,” he said.

Babcock sees similarities working with customers in the bike repair shop and dealing with patients in an emergency room. “In both environments, you need to calm those in need; you must prioritize quickly and respond to customer needs with care. Sharing information and listening are key techniques in both environments because you have to process everything and get the job done – which is all about helping people. You also have to be flexible, while having confidence in your expertise. Of course, the emergency room is high stakes, but the basic approach and required service strengths are similar.”

What he values most about the nursing profession is that it empowers practitioners to look at the whole person, not just the person’s condition. Not surprisingly, he’s met many fellow nurses in the local cyclo-cross community, both men and women.

One of Babcock’s personal goals – beyond winning races – is to promote his sport and career to inspire people to try new, healthy activities that support their overall wellbeing. To learn more about cyclo-cross, visit www.usgpicylocross.com or www.crosscrusade.com.
Linfield alumni join Legacy nursing community

This fall, 14 recent alumni from Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing started a new RN residency program with Legacy Health System. The competition to get into this novel program was fierce – out of 699 applicants, only 61 were chosen to become RN residents. The 14 from Linfield represented the largest group from any nursing school. “The success of these graduates speaks to the strength of our program, with so many of our alumni demonstrating their individual strengths to secure positions in Legacy’s incredibly competitive residency,” observed Deb Henry, clinical facilities administrator at LGSSN.

The residency, designed by Versant, Inc. for nurses and by nurses, is specifically intended to help new nurses gain the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to navigate the complexities of hospital work as they begin their careers. “The experience is intense. It condenses 12 months of training into 18 weeks,” said Jay Juliano ’09, who is based at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital Kern Critical Care Unit.

The program incorporates curricula and competencies, as well as specialty-focused knowledge. Though it’s based on Versant’s national residency program, it is specifically tailored to Legacy’s needs and systems, with coordination across nursing departments. “As the host of the first nurse residency program in Oregon, Legacy is excited to welcome this premier cohort,” said Mary Lyn Feldt, the RN residency program manager. “Versant has a successful record of addressing some key challenges in the nursing profession, like the high turnover rate in the first two years of practice and the aging workforce.”

Legacy’s Linfield Alumni RN Residents

Katherine Allen ’10
Emanuel Medical Center, OR

Sarah Brown ’10
Meridian Park Medical Center, Progressive CU

Laura Carlson ’10
Mount Hood Medical Center, Med/Surg

Alejandrina Felipe ’09
Mount Hood Medical Center, Family Birth Center

Dana Fisher ’10
Good Samaritan Medical Center, Family Birth Center

Katie Hadley ’10
The Children’s Hospital at Legacy Emanuel, NICU

Kristen Johnson ’10
Good Samaritan Medical Center, Progressive CU

Jay Juliano ’09
Good Samaritan Medical Center, Kern CCU

Cynthia Olivares ’10
Good Samaritan Medical Center, Adult Psych

Kathleen Pearson ’09
The Children’s Hospital at Legacy Emanuel, Family Birth Center

Lisbeth Pelsue ’09
Emanuel Medical Center, Medical Specialties

Jennifer Streissguth ’10
Salmon Creek Medical Center, Family Birth Center

Jennifer Wieczorek ’08
Good Samaritan Medical Center, OR

Elizabeth Wyzik ’10
Good Samaritan Medical Center, Kern CCU

New faces

Faculty appointments

Robert Fox
visiting assistant professor, nursing

Anne Heenan
assistant professor, nursing

Susan Juedes
visiting assistant professor, nursing

Carmen Kellogg
assistant professor, nursing

Miriam Volpin
visiting assistant professor, nursing

Suchawadee Yimmee
assistant professor, nursing

Staff

Michael Reyes Andrillon
director of multicultural programs

Lisa Childs
assistant Nursing Learning Resource Center lab coordinator

Kent Cline
technical services specialist, library

Travis G.H. Dillard
end user support specialist

Kandys Greenlund
nursing clinical associate

Leticia Hernandez
financial aid and scholarship outreach counselor

Allison Horn
director of Portland Campus operations

Jennifer Keltner
administrative assistant, nursing

Susan Marek
accounting clerk

Will Morita
college public safety Portland liaison officer

Wendy Perman
assistant Nursing Learning Resource Center lab coordinator
Professional Service

Donna Talain ’10 currently serves on the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses Association national bylaws committee because of her strong commitment to and success helping launch student chapters. Talain, who was a campus leader in many arenas, started Linfield’s chapter and led a successful evening program focused on Asian American and Pacific Islander culture.

Judy Ulibarri ’08 has been chosen to serve on the board of the Oregon Center for Nursing representing the Oregon chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses. Ulibarri also serves Linfield as a member of the Multicultural Advisory Council at the School of Nursing. Check out our Facebook page in early 2011, where we will post video clips of an interview with Ulibarri in which she reflects on the power of a small college and its positive impact on her professional development. You can watch the videos and explore other media at www.facebook.com/LinfieldPDX or www.linfield.edu/portland/portland-campus-news.

Patrick Rodén receives 2010 Lloydena V. Grimes Award

Congratulations to Patrick Rodén ’85, the 2010 recipient of the Lloydena V. Grimes Award for Excellence in Nursing from Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing. Rodén is the first male nurse alumnus to be honored with the Grimes Award, which was presented on May 6 at the spring alumni reception and program in Peterson Hall.

The selection committee, composed of Linfield and GSH nursing alumni, noted that Rodén exemplifies qualities that define the future of nursing – he is grounded in his commitment to nursing practice, while inspired by volunteer work, creative research and advocacy in his field of gerontology. Rodén recently completed a Ph.D. in social gerontology at Fielding University in Santa Barbara, Calif.

His doctoral and ongoing research examines the positive role of creativity in the aging process. When asked what word best describes him, Rodén said “creative.” He has both a keen mind and warm heart, qualities nurses embody and value.

Rodén also nurtures an interest in technology and its power to transform lives, especially in the home environment via dispersed health care monitoring. He actively engages and connects with others in the Aging in Place movement via his website www.aginginplace.com.

If you know of a Linfield or GSH nurse alumnus/us who has marked her or his career with creativity, service and/or outstanding practice, we welcome your nomination for the Grimes Award. Nominations for the 2011 award are due March 15. Nominees must be registered nurses and diploma baccalaureate alumni of GSH or Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing. The award will be presented at the spring alumni event, April 19, 2011. Contact alumniPDX@linfield.edu or call 503-413-7879 for a nomination form. We recommend submitting new nomination packages each year for consideration of each nominee to share the latest information and successes of alumni.

Student nurse Whitney Hawk ‘12 and alumna Elaine Shreve GSH ’55 met and enjoyed time in the Camerawork Gallery during the reception for our alumni event, “Local talent, global passion” held in May 2010.
Why scholarships matter

These Linfield alumni and students are all recipients of critically important financial aid through the Dr. Joseph F. Paquet endowed nursing scholarship and supported by ongoing gifts from the Collins Medical Trust. Here they express the dreams that motivate them toward their nursing career goals. Their testimonials reflect the power of a small college and philanthropy.

“I pursued nursing to provide a stable future for my daughter and myself. My academic journey has strengthened my passion for helping people through promoting health. I hope to one day work to decrease health disparities among minorities. Ultimately I would like to attend graduate school and pursue a doctorate.”

– Erica Bailey ’11, student nurse

“My interest in nursing arose from a desire to work with people with disabilities and underserved populations. I chose nursing because of the varied opportunities to work with these populations. I received a degree in horticulture from OSU, and I also worked as an assistant in an elementary school prior to my nursing education. I would love to work with the geriatric population after graduation. Ideally, I hope to start my career in a small, community hospital and eventually move into a clinical or home health care setting.”

– John Sanders ’08, nurse alumnus

“Through school and life, I have learned that I want to help others and teach others how to live healthier lives. Nursing is a challenging career that will push me and allow me to continue learning throughout my life. My mother is diabetic, and since she was diagnosed I have been fascinated with the disorder. I hope to become a diabetic specialist so that I can help my mother and others managing their diabetes.”

– Whitney Hawk ’12, student nurse

“I returned to school to become a nurse because I wanted a career in which I would be challenged with problem solving and one in which I could work with people. Once I spent time in a clinical setting, I realized how much my critical thinking skills could help people. I am pursuing work in critical care in Montana as I develop my career in nursing and outdoor passions.”

– Stewart Chumbley ’10, nurse alumnus

“The Paquet scholarship assisted me in completing my nursing degree. I was the first in my family of seven to attend and graduate from college, so I was short on guidance and finances to reach my goal of becoming a nurse. My parents told me, ‘If you can pay for college, you can go to college,’ so I was motivated to compete for opportunities like the Paquet scholarship. Recently married, I am adjusting to life as I prepare to complete my licensure and begin practicing as a registered nurse.”

– Ester Aguilar ’10, nurse alumna

Your gifts provide greater access to education for our future health care providers. Make a gift today to support Linfield students at www.linfield.edu/gift.
We are thrilled to announce our spring event for nursing and health sciences alumni and friends Tuesday, April 19, 2011, from 5:30-8 p.m. This year, we will gather at Mercy Corps’ beautiful new headquarters in downtown Portland. President Thomas Hellie and Dean Bonnie Saucier will co-host the evening festivities. We especially welcome alumni from GSH Class of ’61, who celebrate their 50th reunion in 2011.

The reception will offer you an opportunity to connect with classmates, alumni, faculty and student leaders. Neal Rosenburg, Ph.D., RN, from Goldfarb School of Nursing in St. Louis, Mo., will share experiences and findings of his research of HIV health care workers in Cameroon in a keynote presentation. “I am honored to speak to Linfield alumni and share our work, most recently with eight BSN student nurses delivering peer-to-peer education on the care of HIV-infected pregnant women,” Rosenburg said.

As the capstone of the evening, Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing will present the Lloydena V. Grimes Award to an alumna/us exemplifying excellence in nursing. Nominations are due March 15, 2011; learn more about the award and download a nomination form at www.linfield.edu/portland/alumni. Self-nominations are welcome. If you have nominated someone before, please resubmit a nomination package with the latest information on your nominee for the selection committee to consider.

We will send invitations by email in the spring, shifting our outreach to align with Linfield’s commitment to sustainability. To make sure you receive an invite, send your preferred email address to alumniPDX@linfield.edu. Alternatively, call 503-413-7879 if you would like to attend but do not have email – we want to include you! Stay tuned for event details to follow in early spring.

Save the date!
April 19, 2011