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Linfield *pdx*

LINFIELD COLLEGE | PORTLAND CAMPUS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

2012



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About the cover



Linfield nursing students hone their skills in a variety of environments on campus and off, including hands-on clinicals at local hospitals and agencies. Laurie Racicot '11, left, and Mary Espinas '11 practice and refine their skills in the Experiential Learning Center, or ELC (formerly Nursing Learning Resource Center) in Peterson Hall on the Portland Campus. Twelve hospital beds set the stage for student nurses to learn, practice and perfect nursing skills in a friendly environment. Personnel include registered nurses who are available on a scheduled basis for assistance. In addition to the ELC, the High Fidelity Simulation lab provides opportunities for students to experience and practice life-like scenarios with computerized manikins.

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Notes from the interim dean



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Change seems to be the only constant in the world of nursing education! A new curriculum is in place at the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing this year, following more than three years of study and planning by nursing faculty.

The revised curriculum was developed in response to educational outcomes expected of baccalaureate nursing programs by our accrediting authorities. It also takes into account changes required since our program moved to a two-year (upper division) model.

The Integrated Experiential Learning (IEL) course is emblematic of the changes. This new clinical component represents the application of theory to practice. Historically, many theory courses have had their own clinical components; in this model, concepts and content from all theory courses in a given semester are embedded in a core clinical module. Learning experiences are developed to enhance the application of theory in low, mid, and high fidelity (simulation) labs as well as those that occur at clinical sites in Portland and nearby communities.

We are pleased thus far with the new curriculum. As always, changes such as this require significant coordination and communication, and the faculty is working hard to make the transition as smooth as possible for our students.

The number of applicants for our traditional and accelerated programs of study leading to a BSN remains high. Our RN-BSN program, designed for working RNs who wish to complete their baccalaureate degree, has also experienced continuing growth. In addition to our curriculum change, we have launched a national search for a new dean, who may be in place by summer 2012.

A very special event is planned Monday, March 19, at Mercy Corps when we host an evening reception and program that will honor our alumni and feature a presentation focusing on global health initiatives by experts here in the Northwest. Julie McElrath and Ken Stuart, who are leading efforts to develop vaccines to battle a host of infectious diseases including malaria, HIV and TB, will share insights into their work around the globe. For details, and to register, see the back page of *Linfieldpdx*. I hope to see many of you there.

In the important work of educating future professional nurses, we will continue to prepare our students for the challenges they will encounter in the ever-changing, dynamic profession of nursing!

Pam Wheeler, Ph.D., RN
Interim Dean of Nursing

'Eric' heads into retirement; replacement sought

Dear Friends,

I have been poked, prodded and vaccinated. My name and gender have been changed on a whim. I've been called Mr. Gonzales, Merle, Mrs. Hamilton or Miles. But really, I'm Eric. And for the past six years, I've had the pleasure of working with more than 1,000 nursing students. Some of you, I hope, remember me, because you spent some rather intimate – and stressful – moments providing me with excellent care to keep me alive.

Since I came to the Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing, my blood pressure has been checked 10,000 times, and thousands of IVs have been started, infused and removed which makes my left arm feel a bit rubbery. I've taken more medication than the stockpile at your neighborhood drug store. I have succumbed to heart attacks and strokes and been relieved of debilitating pain.

All of my chronic and acute conditions have taken their toll through more than 5,000 simulations. My body is giving out and it's time to retire. But I can't do it without your help. A replacement manikin is needed to ensure future students have access to this innovative and experiential learning in high fidelity simulation.

Though a price can't be put on a human life, it can on my replacement – \$50,000. In the coming weeks, you'll hear from some of my friends in College Relations about helping fund this initiative. I hope you'll join other alumni and friends in the effort to help me retire.

Sincerely,

Eric
Eric

Simulation Lab Manikin

For information on how to help, visit www.linfield.edu/sim.



Gantz, Carpenter receive award

Jane (Lemieux) Carpenter '75 will be honored Monday, March 19, as the 2012 recipient of the Lloydena V. Grimes award for Excellence in Nursing given by LGSSN.

Carpenter is director of surgical services at Providence Medical Center in Portland, a position she has held since 1995. She has extensive experience as an operating room nurse and manager and is well known and respected throughout Oregon for her leadership and dedication. Carpenter has many ties to Linfield: her husband, Scott, is a 1976 alumnus and her daughter, Emily '11, has a degree in elementary education. For information on the March 19 event, please see the back page.



Nancy Rollins Gantz '73, who has worked in more than 45 countries during her career, was the 2011 recipient. Gantz was instrumental in opening the first free-standing children's cancer hospital in the Middle East, the King Fahd National Children's Cancer and Research Centre, in 1997. The hospital was based on a patient care model developed by Gantz called CAPPS (Cultural Appreciation through Professional Practice and SYNERGY).

"Children were needlessly dying from curable cancers due to the lack of resources and skilled clinicians," she said. Now they receive appropriate treatment and have the opportunity of life.

Gantz, of Mesa, Ariz., is the editor of *101 Global Leadership Lessons for Nurses: Shared Legacies From Leaders and Their Mentors*, showcasing the power of mentoring new leaders.

The Rosenberg file:

- B.A., honors, French: Saint Louis University
- B.S., M.S., Ph.D. nursing: University of Missouri, Saint Louis

Research:

- Helped develop protocols for HIV-infected pregnant women to remain healthy and to keep infants from becoming HIV infected. As a result, now less than 2 percent of all babies born to HIV-infected mothers in the U.S. have HIV.

- In 2009, began a cross-sectional study to examine Cameroonian nursing students' perceptions of HIV-related stigma. His work is changing the view of HIV and enhancing the caring of individuals worldwide who are infected with HIV.

RN-BSN Program

- Total Enrollment: 171
- Oregon: 149
- Portland Metro area: 68
- Out of state: 22
- Developed through Linfield-Good Samaritan School of Nursing in partnership with the Linfield Adult Degree Program

For details go to:

www.linfield.edu/dce/rn-to-bsn

Online enrollment explodes



Neal Rosenberg

Growth in Linfield's innovative online RN-BSN program has exploded and Linfield's new associate dean is not surprised.

"Online learning is the cutting edge, visionary delivery mode of nursing education," said Neal Rosenberg, associate dean of nursing for distance education. "This program is just as rigorous as face-to-face classes, with highly qualified nursing faculty providing the online experience."

The program has seen enrollment increases of 29 percent in four of the last five years and a 38 percent jump this year.

A total of 171 students were enrolled in the fall, with the majority coming from Oregon and the Northwest and a handful from other states.

"As more hospitals require a baccalaureate degree, nurses with an associate or diploma degree are needing to return to school if they want to be hired or advance in the profession," Rosenberg said. "We are dealing with busy, working adults. This program provides the flexibility to do the work when it fits best in their schedule."

In addition to submitting regular assignments and homework, RN-BSN students are required to participate in group discussion boards with peers and patient-centered community projects that are 100 percent delivered in the virtual setting. Students also complete a clinical experience that is tailored to their learning and professional growth. It can be arranged in the area in which they live or can be carried out internationally. Under the recently revised curriculum, students can complete their BSN in three terms.

As a busy flight nurse working full time for AirLink at St. Charles Health Systems in Bend, Linda Gregory '12 can log in to her computer at any time to work on her courses.

"My schedule does not fit well with a traditional school and I needed to continue to work while going to school," Gregory said. "This was the perfect option because I can work on assignments at any time of the day or night."

Gregory said it's important to be motivated and she spends time each day on assignments. She said the faculty have been excellent and have given thoughtful feedback that is helpful beyond the classroom.

"If I needed guidance or a request they were either a phone call or email away," she said. "I feel they are more attentive than when I was a student in school many years ago."

Gregory will complete her senior practicum in Bolivia, working with Operation Smile, which organizes international teams which perform surgeries on children and young adults worldwide who suffer from facial deformities such as cleft lips and cleft palates. Gregory may pursue a master's degree as a family nurse practitioner, but her long-term goal is to get involved with some type of nursing or medical research.

Rosenburg, who previously served as an assistant professor at the Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes Jewish College on the Washington University School of Medicine campus in St. Louis, Mo., was attracted to Linfield because of the rigor of the RN-BSN program and the quality of the faculty. His master's program covered online learning and he took 20 to 25 percent of his Ph.D. courses online.

"I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and I saw first-hand the rigor that an online course can offer," he said. "I want to be a part of something and share those experiences with students at the baccalaureate level because I think this is the direction we are going for bachelor's, master's and doctoral education."

'I believe this about nursing...'

Cristina Muro '11 wants to make a difference – whether she's helping migrant workers, working in a hospital setting or perhaps someday teaching other nursing students. Muro moved to the U.S. as a child and completed a bachelor's degree in social work at the University of Texas at Arlington, before moving to Oregon. She is one of 24 LGSSN students in the 18-month accelerated program to receive a \$10,000 scholarship through the Robert Wood Johnson New Careers in Nursing (NCIN) program. The program is designed to create a diverse professional workforce by providing scholarships to individuals underrepresented in the profession, including men and minorities. Muro was recognized by NCIN after submitting the following award-winning essay answering the question "I believe this about nursing..."

By *Cristina Muro*

I believe this about nursing... It has entirely influenced my life and my long-term education and career goals.

My parents made a major decision for my family when we moved from Mexico to the United States in search of equal opportunity and better education. I grew up in an impoverished community on the Mexico-Texas border, but I consider myself fortunate and blessed to come from a family that places great value on education and the pursuit of upward mobility. Although English is my second language, the obstacles in my higher education were overcome through determination and a persistence to achieve advanced educational goals.

I have had the opportunity to work closely with the Oregon Latino community by focusing on diabetes prevention. As a chronic disease self-management coordinator, I worked one-on-one providing education, advocacy and support to a growing migrant community that is greatly affected by the diabetes epidemic. Through this experience, I became part of the grassroots movement taking place in our neighborhoods that helps at-risk populations develop the skills they need to improve and maintain individual and family health.

Nursing is a stepping stone towards my goal to impact public policy related to Hispanic health care needs. I plan to pursue a master's or Ph.D. in the future. An advanced degree, in combination with my knowledge of the Latino culture and my fluency in Spanish, will help decrease the severe shortage of Latina/Latino nurses in our community. Through nursing, I hope to continue to be part of the movement that promotes culturally sensitive models of intervention and effective health care to the growing Hispanic population.

I am proud to say that I received the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholarship through New Careers in Nursing Program in 2010 and that my educational achievements have been made possible with their support and generous funding. This scholarship lessened my financial needs and allowed me to focus entirely on school. I look forward to being able to give back to the community once I begin my career and with the help of this scholarship, complete my degree in nursing.



Cristina Muro '11

New faces

Faculty appointments

- Henry Breen, *visiting assistant professor*
- Joanna Kaakinen, *professor*
- Kim Kintz, *assistant professor*
- Carol Roberts, *nursing clinical associate*
- Jacqueline Webb, *assistant professor*

Staff

- Alex Asbury, *administrative assistant for RN-BSN program*
- Eric Huntsberger, *end user support specialist*
- Josh Merrick '07, *student services coordinator*
- Neal Rosenburg, *associate dean of nursing for distance education*
- Joanne Swenson, *academic advisor, adult degree program*
- Sarah Wegner, *admission advisor/corporate relations coordinator, adult degree program*
- Jamie 'Anne' Wittmann, *assistant director of registration and records*

Faculty/staff on the move

- Beverly Epeneter, *interim associate dean of nursing*
- Chris Kahle, *simulation operations manager*
- Pamela Wheeler, *interim dean of nursing*
- Kerrie Wilson, *academic advisor, adult degree program*

Alumni, student mentors boost success



Nora Edwards '11, left, was a mentor to Lynn DeLorme '12.

Linfield students are achieving academic success with a little help from their friends – and now alumni can also help.

Whether it's aid with classwork, learning the ropes or understanding time management, plenty of support programs exist for students on the Portland Campus. Alumni have the opportunity to share their knowledge and expertise by serving as mentors to current students through the Peer Resource Network (PRN) and the Academic Success Center (ASC).

Nora Edwards '11 had a lot of questions when she returned to nursing school. Despite a prior degree in sociology, nursing school was a huge shift in time management skills. She signed up with the Peer Resource Network (PRN) and found her mentor's advice and support so valuable, she became a mentor herself.

"I gained so much insight from my mentor and I wanted to share that information with other students," said Edwards, who graduated in December. She remains in touch with her mentor, who has assisted her with advice and support during her job search.

The PRN is designed to help students adjust to nursing school by offering advice on study skills and time management, and the opportunity to seek information on various programs and services.

"It is geared to instill confidence in students and to ease their transition into nursing school by providing support, guidance and inspiration while fostering the core values of nursing," said Lisa Burch, director of student services on the Portland Campus, who coordinates the PRN.

The PRN has three distinct modules to fit the needs of

Portland Campus students: fall and spring students can receive student-to-student mentoring; the accelerated students can receive student-to-alumni mentoring; and the multicultural component can be student-to-student or student-to-alumni.

The ASC is also helping students flourish. It offers a dedicated space in Loveridge Hall where students can go for tutoring or to work in study groups. "Although some faculty members engage course specific tutors, we also wanted to create a program where students could get general help not covered anywhere else," said Michael Reyes Andrillon, director of multicultural programs on the Portland Campus. Research shows that peer-led tutoring is one of the best practices for helping students be successful in the classroom. The center currently offers three main programs: peer-led tutoring, Spanish conversation workshops and English-as-a-second-language workshops.

Reyes Andrillon also hopes to involve alumni as mentors, especially to the multicultural students, who make up over 20 percent of the Portland Campus enrollment.

Patricia Magallanes '13, a first-year nursing student, said the ASC boosted her confidence and her understanding of course content and test-taking skills.

"It helped me be more prepared, manage my time, stay on top of studying and get one-on-one help," she said. "My test scores improved dramatically."

Students get additional support from their upper level peers who have been recruited by faculty members to facilitate review sessions for exams.

Bruce McMinn '12 developed review sessions for Nursing 305, the first nursing theory class, at the request of Professor Diane Welch. McMinn said the material is essential to the nursing curriculum and he wants to ensure that students have a strong foundation as they move into more complex courses.

"If someone is struggling with the material the entire time it can be self-defeating," he said. "I hope I can help give them more success and help them develop better study skills. Sometimes people are stopped by road blocks and if you help them get over it, they will be fine."

For information on volunteering, email prn@linfield.edu or call Burch at 503-413-7561, or Reyes Andrillon at 503-413-7273.



Bruce McMinn '12

Portland Campus offers diverse student activities

Portland Campus may be small, but don't assume there's little activity. Even with students ranging in age from 20 to 53, there is plenty of interaction outside the classroom. Portland Campus activities reflect a campus that is diverse in many areas including gender, ethnicity, age and marital status. Family Day emphasizes the focus on family and brings children and adults together for activities. The annual ping-pong tournament is popular among all students – and definitely brings out the competitive edge.

Once a month, the Associated Students of Linfield College-Portland Campus sponsors a luncheon that might focus on a specific theme or culture. ASLC-PC also offers students discount bus passes and movie tickets, and special rates to events in the Portland area such as OMSI exhibits or Blazer games. Alumni often return to share their perspectives on the working world and offer tips to seniors. And during finals week, Red Eye features late night food, raffles, games and other activities to give students a break from hitting the books.

With 14 student clubs and organizations and ASLC-PC, there are numerous positions to help students gain valuable leadership experience. Just who are Portland Campus students? Take a look at their profile below.

Who are Portland Campus students?

Enrollment	377
Percentage receiving financial aid	99%
Number of states.....	8
Percentage of Oregon residents	89%
Number of countries	3
International students.....	1%
Male/female ratio.....	18% / 82%
U.S. students of color.....	23%
Percent of graduates who study abroad.....	16%
Percent of students who have a prior degree	40%
Average age	28
Age range	20 to 53
Percentage in campus housing	19%
Student clubs/organizations.....	14
Student leadership positions.....	45
2011 graduates	174
Classes with fewer than 22 students	38%
Student-to-faculty ratio	10:1
Student-to-faculty ratio in clinicals.....	8:1

Students attend National Student Nurses' Association mid-year convention



Several Linfield nursing students are active in state and national organizations and attended the National Student Nurses' Association Mid-Year Convention in October. Those attending included, top from left, Jessica Stratton '12, Linfield Student Nurses' Association vice president; Elizabeth Diaz '11, Oregon Student Nurses' Association president; Amber Brunner '12, LSNA member; Margaret Ngai '12, National Student Nurses' Association vice president; bottom row, Caitlin Reid '11, OSNA treasurer; and Sarah Edminston '13 LSNA membership and outreach coordinator.

Global health challenges topic of spring alumni event

Save the date!

March 19, 2012

Two experts at the forefront of conquering infectious diseases such as HIV, malaria and tuberculosis will discuss their research and work here and abroad Monday, March 19, during a Linfield alumni reception and program at Mercy Corps in Portland.

“Global Health: Challenges and Promises in Preventing Infectious Diseases” will feature Julie McElrath, co-director of the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Division at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, and Ken Stuart, president and founder of Seattle Biomedical Research Institute. They will provide an overview of their work, describe some of their experiences in international settings, and discuss opportunities for graduates with diverse backgrounds. They will also share personal stories of their training and research and how they became interested in this work.

The event is open and free of charge to all who are interested in global health issues. The Lloydena V. Grimes Award for excellence in nursing will be presented and alumni from the GSH class of '62, who are celebrating their 50th reunion, will be recognized during the reception and program, which will be hosted by President Thomas L. Hellie and Pam Wheeler, interim dean of nursing. Refreshments will be served.

McElrath is a leader of a massive international effort to



Julie McElrath and Ken Stuart

develop a preventive HIV vaccine. Her groundbreaking research has generated new hope that a vaccine will someday become a reality.

Stuart's lab studies complex single-celled organisms that cause a staggering amount of human and animal disease world wide. His work has focused on leishmaniasis, Chagas' disease, African sleeping sickness and drug discovery. In addition, he serves as an affiliate professor of global health at the University of Washington.

To register, go to www.linfield.edu/globalhealth. Any questions? Email alumniPDX@linfield.edu.