

VITAL SIGNS

Summer 2018

Newsletter of the University of Mississippi School of Nursing

Volume 4: Issue 4

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SON student sends assistant dean Over the Edge

Courtesy of: Public Affairs

It's not every day a student in UMMC's School of Nursing emails a professor to ask her to jump off a building, but that's just what Lauryn Mendrop did.

The BSN graduate and former school philanthropy chair emailed Dr. LaDonna Northington, assistant dean for undergraduate programs, to see if she'd help the SON raise funds for Friends of Children's Hospital through the Over The Edge with Friends fundraiser in April. The effort encouraged hopeful participants, called Edgers, who raised funds to rappel down the 14-story Trustmark building in downtown Jackson.

"I noticed Over The Edge last year and wanted to help," said Mendrop, of



Lauryn Mendrop, center, asked Dr. LaDonna Northington, left, and Dr. Josie Bidwell to compete in Over the Edge, a Friends of Children's Hospital fundraiser.

Madison, "but then I started thinking, 'How can we involve the whole School of Nursing in this?'"

Before long, the school was entered in the Over The Edge leader board but needed some leaders.

That's where Northington and Dr. Josie Bidwell, associate professor of nursing, joined the effort. Donors to the School of Nursing's funds voted on who did the rappelling: Northington or Bidwell.

"I knew 100 percent that Dr. Bidwell would do it," Mendrop said. "I wasn't sure about Dr. Northington, so I got up my nerve and asked."



Northington gets ready to rappel off the 14-story Trustmark building during Over the Edge fundraiser.

... continued on page 4

Mission: To develop nurse leaders and improve health within and beyond Mississippi through excellence in education, research, practice and service.

Dean's corner



*Dr. Kim Hoover,
professor and dean*

"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time." J. Lubbock

This summer we said good-bye to two long-time nursing leaders, Drs. Robin Wilkerson and Ellen Williams. They both leave legacies that include teaching multitudes of nurses—undergraduate and graduate. Wilkerson began and ended her nursing career with the Medical Center. She started as a pediatric nurse in 1980 having earned her BSN and later her MSN from the SON. By 1994, she was working full-time with the SON and served as assistant dean—twice. She was also active in the alumni association where she twice served as president. Most importantly, she is incredibly service oriented, currently volunteering with five different organizations to advocate for others. After moving her family to Oxford, she was a regular spectator at the UM football games! We thank Dr. Wilkerson for the lessons in strength, patience and grace.

Also an alumna, Williams came to us as the director of our Nurse Educator track in 2014 after many years of service in nursing education at Northwest Community College. She worked her way up the ladder from instructor to dean of nursing there. In the clinical arena, she worked in psychiatrics, child and adult mental health, medical-surgical and served as a hospital director of nursing. Williams even operated her own business for 13 years—Tyson Homecare and Home Medical Equipment. She loves a good UM game too, but her football loyalty lies with the University of Alabama. Her husband Charlie told me, "She's a diehard Ole Miss fan, except that one game!" We thank Dr. Williams for brightening our days with her smile and her ever-present kindness and compassion.

The faculty and staff are grateful for the time you gave to nursing education and to UMMC. We wish a happy retirement and lots of time with the grandchildren!



*Dr. Robin Wilkerson, left,
and Dr. Ellen Williams*

Welcome to the SON!

The SON has grown its ranks again with one faculty, two staff and three clinic members since the last issue. **Dr. Elisa Torres** joined as a new research professor from the University of Michigan. **Bettie Butler** was hired as project manager for practice and community engagement and the DNP program. On the Oxford campus, **Jessica Hill** serves as the education administrator. Johnson school-based clinic welcomed **Madalyn Martin** as patient service coordinator. At UNACARE, nurse **Michelle Clark** joined psychiatric/mental health nurse practitioner **John Farr**.

Editor's Notes

Vital Signs, a School of Nursing internal publication, is published three times per year. Content includes alumni, faculty, staff and student achievements, as well as photos from the semester. Please direct comments, suggestions or questions to nsrecruiter@umc.edu.

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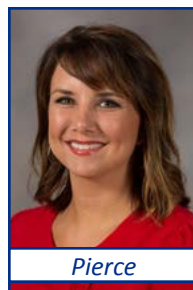


umc.edu/son/news/

"The School of Nursing is dedicated to developing nurse leaders through unique community-based systems serving vulnerable populations; innovative partnerships; exemplary clinical experiences across the continuum of care; evidence-based practice and a research-intensive environment; a focus on excellence in teaching and lifelong learning; and highly qualified, expert faculty."

Alumni greetings

I hope this letter finds you well and hope you are having a prosperous and productive 2018. The University of Mississippi School of Nursing is blessed to have such an active and engaged alumni association. Your support of the SON is very much appreciated and makes me extremely proud to be a part of this elite group.



Pierce

2018 has proven to be a very busy year, with alumni participating in several events. I had the privilege of speaking with the junior class at their Honor Code ceremony prior to their first clinical experience last fall. A luncheon for the Class of 2018 hosted on March 7, in which board members served as panelists and discussed expectations for entering the nursing profession. This year, the Alumni board teamed up with the UMMC Hospital Week and Nurses Week activities and sponsored several activities, including a popsicle and alumni pin give-away and the Inez Driskell Alumni Lecture, in which Dr. Tonya Moore presented. Our 2018 Nursing Alumnus of the Year, Michael Adcock (BSN 2000; MSN 2003), was recognized during the lecture. Michael is the executive director for the UMMC Center for Telehealth.

Congratulations to all of our recent graduates and welcome to the SON alumni family! Please consider getting involved—there are many ways to do so. Consider serving as a board member, volunteering to be a standardized patient, serving as a panelist or guest speaker, supporting the school through monetary donations and attending alumni sponsored events. Membership in the nursing alumni chapter is FREE. Visit umc.edu/son, umc.edu/alumni and/or follow us on Facebook (University of Mississippi School of Nursing and UMMC Alumni Affairs).

To update your contact information, please email alumni@umc.edu or call the alumni office at (601) 984-1145. I look forward to continuing to work alongside each of you in supporting our school. Please contact me or the Office of Alumni Affairs if you are interested in becoming involved in any way.

Sincerely,
Heather Pierce, BSN, RN-BC
Nursing Alumni President, 2017-19
Class of 2002 (BSN)
(601) 815-3860 • hpierce2@umc.edu

Upcoming events

**Oxford Accelerated BSN
Pinning Ceremony**
Fri., July 20

Classes end
Fri., Aug. 3

**Oxford Accelerated BSN
Orientation**
Tues., Aug. 7

**PhD and RN-BSN
Orientation**
Wed., Aug. 8

**MSN, PMN and DNP
Orientation**
Thurs., Aug. 9

Classes begin
Mon., Aug. 13

Labor Day holiday
Mon., Sept. 3

Fall break
Mon.-Fri., Nov. 19-23

Classes resume
Mon., Nov. 26

**Jackson Accelerated BSN
Pinning Ceremony**
Fri., Dec. 14

Classes end
Sat., Dec. 15

**Jackson Accelerated BSN,
MSN and PMN Orientation**
Wed., Jan. 2

RN-BSN Orientation
Thurs., Jan. 3

Classes begin
Mon., Jan. 7



70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SON (1948-2018)

The SON is celebrating its 70th year educating nurse leaders and is planning an event to honor this occasion. Stay tuned!

The Office of Student Affairs is proud to present the official SON 70th anniversary t-shirt. If you are interested in purchasing this commemorative t-shirt, please contact the Office of Student Affairs at 601-984-6213, or email Copucine White at cwhite@umc.edu.

Over the Edge (cont.)

Northington's response: "OK, Lauryn. I'm trusting you."

The school raised over \$1,000 which secured either Northington or Bidwell a place in the rappelling line. Fundraising later revealed a landslide vote to send Northington Over the Edge.

Friends of Children's Hospital, a nonprofit dedicated to raising funds for Batson Children's Hospital, has made a \$20 million pledge to the Campaign for Children's of Mississippi for expansion of pediatric facilities at UMMC. For this year's Over The Edge fundraiser, more than \$165,000 has been raised toward the overall goal of \$200,000.

Northington, Bidwell and Mendrop all have ties to pediatric nursing, with Northington starting her career

in 1979 at UMMC's PICU. Bidwell got her start nursing in 2003 at Batson Children's Hospital. Mendrop started out in the PICU where she worked as a student nurse tech and has been hired as a nurse in the Pediatrics ED.

"I wouldn't rappel off a building for just anybody," Bidwell said. "Pediatric nursing is our specialty. Where your first job is as a nurse grows you into being the nurse you are meant to be. I can walk through the halls at Batson, and it still feels like home."

For Northington, the advent of the new children's tower, set to open in 2020, is nothing short of amazing. "Having been at UMMC as long as I have, it is exciting to see the evolution of services provided to pediatric patients. We are happy to give toward expanding pediatric care."

Nursing alum champions high-reliability health care



Stokes

Courtesy of: Public Affairs

Health care is a demanding field, whether in the clinical environment or the executive suite. Even so, Chuck Stokes has been up to the challenge since his 1977 graduation from the University of Mississippi School of Nursing. Last March, he reached the pinnacle of his career — so far — when he was named CEO of Memorial Hermann Health System in Houston, Texas after serving nine years as chief operating officer. Memorial Hermann consists of 15 hospitals and a physician workforce of 5,500 and 26,000 employees overall.

He gives credit to the UMMC nurses who taught and worked alongside him for his career success.

"The people I worked with at the University back then always told me, 'Keep the focus on the patient,'" Stokes said. "One of the reasons I've been very successful is I've always put the patient first. High quality, safe care to the patients, that's what will make your career."

In his role as chair of the American College of Healthcare Executives, Stokes worked with Dr. Gary Kaplan, CEO of

Virginia Mason Health Systems in Seattle, to put together a "blueprint for success" for health care organizations seeking high reliability.

"We interviewed the top 50 health care systems in the country. We interviewed people from nuclear power, the military, aviation and oil and gas industry — other high reliability organizations — and we produced this 44-page document, a very practical way of getting on the journey to high reliability," Stokes said.

"That was my most significant accomplishment as a chair-elect and chair," Stokes said.

Stokes' efforts for quality in health care do not stop there. He and his wife have given the Medical Center \$25,000 to set up the Chuck and Judy Stokes Endowment for High Reliability.

Designed to encourage high reliability in research by graduate students in the School of Nursing, it will be used to establish an award for the benefit of one or more nursing graduate students engaged in high reliability projects. The students should be nominated by the program director, be engaged in a high reliability project that would benefit from monetary support, and be in good academic standing.

Transplant team player: Seawright shines on national level



Ashley Seawright proudly displays her Advanced Transplant Provider Award in front of some of her team members.

Courtesy of: Public Affairs

When the University of Mississippi Medical Center's abdominal transplant program got a serious reboot in 2011, Dr. Ashley Seawright was already on the care team that would soon produce a significant uptick in patients receiving a life-saving liver, pancreas or kidney.

Seawright, the Department of Surgery's clinical director of transplant surgery and surgical oncology and surgical chief of advanced practice, was a transplant nurse practitioner when Dr. Christopher Anderson, chairman of the Department of Surgery, arrived at UMMC that year. His charge: Bring back the liver transplant program following a 20-year hiatus and build up the abdominal transplant team to keep that momentum going.

Seawright's contribution to that successful effort, her leadership and her dedication to ensuring a high level of care for those receiving a new organ are just a few reasons she's being recognized by the American Society of Transplant Surgeons with its Advanced Transplant Provider Award. She accepted the accolade during the society's recent annual meeting in Miami.

Although the distinction is a personal honor, Seawright said, "it's a really big deal for UMMC. My name is attached to it, but what people will remember is that UMMC got the award."

Seawright wears many hats, but the common thread is her coordination of all transplant team members, said Dr. Mark Earl, associate professor of transplant

surgery. "She's the key, not just in caring for patients herself, but in making sure others on the team have the infrastructure they need to make sure patients receive world-class care."

Seawright is a front-line caregiver who recruits and trains new transplant nurse practitioners, serving as a mentor. "She leads by example and is willing to work hard, stay late and go the extra mile to make sure the patients are cared for and all of their needs are met," Earl said.

Seawright was nominated for the ASTS honor, bestowed mostly on nurse practitioners and physician's assistants, by transplant team members including Anderson and Dr. James Wynn, professor of transplant surgery. What followed was an extensive review by the society's leadership team, Seawright said.

"Ashley is the glue that binds our growing kidney, pancreas and liver programs together as a leader in both clinical practice and clinical program administration," Wynn wrote in his letter nominating Seawright. "Our expansion and growth would not have been possible without Dr. Seawright."

"I was happy to see that as a nurse practitioner, I was being recognized with my surgical peers nationally," said Seawright, an ASTS member. "One of the things that's so great about the ASTS is that you not only meet with your advanced practice peers throughout the country, but you get to visit with surgeons who have been very inclusive. Dr. Wynn is very good at introducing us to people from across the nation so that we can share practice ideas."

Seawright joined the UMMC transplant team in 2007 as a nurse practitioner after receiving her master of science in nursing in the acute care nurse practitioner program at the University of Mississippi School of Nursing.

She earned her doctorate of nursing practice from the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing in 2010, then earned a certificate in 2011 from the Millsaps College Business Advantage Program. Seawright is an instructor in the School of Medicine for the Department of Surgery's Division of Abdominal Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery, and she's served as lead nurse

Seawright on national level (cont.)

practitioner for the department since April 2014.

“Since I began leading the program in 2011, it has become clear to me that through some troubling past times, Ashley remained a stable role model who championed communication, collaboration and was uncompromising about delivering quality patient care,” Anderson said in a nomination letter. “She has enthusiastically embraced our program’s growth from a kidney transplant program to now a high-volume kidney, pancreas and liver transplant program. She continues to set the bar for excellence in patient care, and she

supports evidence-based changes in practice.”

Seawright is the only non-physician serving on ASTS’s living donor committee. Such connections show UMMC’s growing reach in the national transplant landscape, Earl said.

“I’m just one member of an outstanding team,” Seawright said. “It’s so important for our nurse practitioners here to see that they are doing great things.”

Fuqua’s passion for nursing inspires endowed scholarship gift



Fuqua

Courtesy of: Public Affairs

Dr. Sonja Fuqua spent the better part of her career in clinical nursing, but her passion for the field didn’t end when she left the hospital for the Jackson Heart Study almost two decades ago. In September, she brought her devotion full circle by establishing the

Dr. Sonja R. Fuqua Sigma Theta Tau Endowed Scholarship in Nursing.

Her initial \$25,000 gift established the endowment, and an estimated \$221,534 planned gift will fund the scholarship that will be awarded to University of Mississippi School of Nursing students who are members of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society, Theta Beta Chapter, at UMMC. Fuqua also requested that the scholarship give preference to students who are from diverse and historically underrepresented communities and who have an interest in clinical practice.

“I was pleased but not surprised given Dr. Fuqua’s longstanding commitment to the School of Nursing, nursing education, practice and scholarship,” said Dr. Kim Hoover, dean of the School of Nursing.

Fuqua is still an active member in Sigma Theta Tau, and as a nursing student, she was a charter member of the honor society when it was founded here in 1982. The society strives to advance world health and celebrate

nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership and service. Fuqua has held several leadership positions with the organization, including chapter president, and serves on the organization’s 2017-2019 international leadership board as a Region 8 coordinator.

“The SON established my roots in nursing. It’s not what I do; it’s who I am,” she said. “I’m not actively practicing but still involved with the clinical aspect in a different way.”

In her clinical career, Fuqua also served as a nurse preceptor and mentor to nursing students, including Dr. Audwin Fletcher, professor and director of Family Nursing Practitioner-Adult Geriatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.

“Sonja is probably one of the most sincere and passionate nurses I know,” said Fletcher. “Her genuine concern for her patients inspired me over 25 years ago as a student nurse.”

Hoover is always grateful for alumni involvement and especially for new scholarship opportunities for nursing students. “Without the support of alumni, we would not be able to provide the current level of resources for our students and faculty,” she said. “Without financial support, some students would not consider nursing education. Scholarships allow students to focus on their education rather than working to pay tuition and other expenses.”

Telehealth leader named nursing **Alumnus of the Year**



Adcock

Courtesy of: Public Affairs

When Michael Adcock, executive director of the UMMC Center for Telehealth (CT), decided on a career in nursing, his motivation was not uncommon—to help people. He did just that when he started as a nurse at Batson Children's Hospital in 1998, but

he had no idea he would eventually be helping people across the globe through telehealth. The UM School of Nursing Alumni Chapter honored Adcock's work by naming him 2018 Alumnus of the Year as a part of Nursing Alumni Week.

Adcock earned his ADN at Hinds Community College in 1997 and went on to receive his BSN in 2000 and his MSN in 2003 at the University of Mississippi SON.

"Hinds did a good job of preparing me for clinical nursing, focusing on bedside manner, but UMMC broadened my horizons. The policy course is what made me want to go into administration," said Adcock.

At Batson, he spent five years in clinical nursing and then made the switch to health care administration. After additional health care administration roles in North Carolina and Louisiana, Adcock returned to UMMC in 2015 to the CT.

"I wanted to help more people at a time. I realized I could help more people if I could make the leadership environment better," said Adcock.

The CT has made over 500,000 patient encounters in 68 of Mississippi's 82 counties possible by connecting patients and caregivers to Medical Center health care providers remotely, in real time, using video calls and interactive tools. Adcock said UMMC's CT is one of the most comprehensive in the country and in 2017 was named a Telehealth Center of Excellence by the Health Resources and Services Administration, one of two named centers in the country. This allows the center to serve as a national model for telehealth research and resources.

"Our main purpose is to connect people. We connect patients to providers, but also providers to providers," said Adcock. "We give people access to high quality health care as close to home as possible. We're just changing the delivery models and the efficiency."

Adcock credits his nursing training and early work experience with his leadership style today. In his first role as a clinical nurse at Batson, Adcock provided direct patient care, but also worked with hospital administration and nursing and support staff to develop, "Get it Right: A Staffing Methodology."

Adcock has testified on behalf of the CT in front of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the House Small Business Committee, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. He has also traveled internationally including recently to New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom and Ireland to share UMMC's best telehealth practices and bring new ideas home.

Dr. Kaye Bender, president and CEO of the Public Health Accreditation Board in Alexandria, Virginia, was dean of the SON when Adcock was in graduate school and sees him often in D.C. "I'm so proud to see him grow into the role he has. When I first got to know him, he was a young nurse with energy and knowledge and looking to find his place in nursing," said Bender. "When I saw him testify about telehealth, I knew he had found his niche, the right blend of health care and administration."

Adcock said one of the best parts of his work with the CT has been watching the progress. "We get to see how we're impacting Mississippi. In health care administration you don't always get to see what you've done, but here there's tangible change," said Adcock. "And, we have the best team in the country."

Dr. Kim Hoover, dean of the School of Nursing, said that nurses and nurse practitioners are integral to this work. Hoover goes on to say, "Michael and his team are committed to finding ways of using this technology to ensure that things like distance, lack of transportation, and maldistribution of practitioners aren't barriers to Mississippians accessing the care they need."

Jill Hill students help classmates, community stay healthy



Dr. Josie Bidwell gives moral support during a blood glucose screening.

Courtesy of: Public Affairs

Janiyah Harris took the blood pressure cuff off a wellness fair participant's arm.

"Your blood pressure is normal," she said as her patient, Tyree Williams, jotted his systolic and diastolic numbers on a sheet of paper before going to tables offering blood glucose testing and lessons in CPR.

Both are students at Jim Hill High in Jackson, where Janiyah is training to be a Community Health Advocate (CHA) as part of the school's Health Academy. She's a sophomore, and Williams is a junior.

"I first thought I wanted to be a dentist," she said, "but the health fair has encouraged me to think about a medical career."

To make sure more people can get the medical information they need, UMMC offers CHA training to members of the community so they can become health screeners, said Dr. Josie Bidwell, a UMMC associate professor of nursing who's worked with Health Academy students and teachers at Jim Hill since 2016.

"Our most important partners are those who make up our community," she said. Those community partners include Jim Hill and students at other Jackson Public Schools with Health Academies: Forest Hill, Murrah and Lanier.

CHAs are trained to staff health screening events where blood pressure and glucose testing can indicate a referral to medical care is needed.

"We want to give students a skill that they can take back to their communities," Bidwell said. "My hope is what they learn here will not only improve the students' lives but will trickle into their homes and families so everyone has the information they need to live healthier lives."

Jadarius Page, a Jim Hill senior, said the day's lessons in healthy living and emergency response gave him something to consider after graduation.

"I want to study engineering," he said, "but I might also want to become a paramedic."

Health fairs such as the one held at Jim Hill show the growth of UMMC's partnership with JPS' Health Academies, Bidwell said.

"Kids will rise to the expectations that we set for them. I am so proud when these students see what they can do and what can be their future," she said. "It makes my heart smile every time I come here."

SON alumni recognized as best of the best



Winners of Excellence in Nursing Awards are, from left, Brittany Ransom, Cissy Lee, Alice Chaney Herndon, Lillie McCoy, Jasmine Moore, Michelle Goreth, Sarah Gilbert, Martha Cooley, Neal Loving and Teresa Fink.

Five SON alumni were honored during UMMC's Excellence in Nursing Awards ceremony in May. Class of 2018 DNP and 1999 BSN graduate, **Dr. Michelle Goreth** was recognized for Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year. 2008 BSN graduate **Sarah Gilbert** garnered the Inpatient Clinical Practice Nurse award. Nurse Educator honors went to 2017 DNP graduate **Dr. Brittany Ransom**. Three-time graduate **Dr. Cissy Lee** (BSN 2010, MSN 2012, DNP 2015) took home Nurse Manager of the Year while **Neal Loving**, 1998 BSN graduate, rounded out the awards with Nurse of Distinction. Congrats to all of the award winners!

Faculty promotions

Congratulations to our faculty members who received promotions since the last issue! **Dr. Robin Christian** was promoted to professor. **Dr. Lishia Lee** and **Dr. Jill Clayton** were promoted to associate professors. **Katie Hall** and Oxford faculty member **Neeli Kirkendall** advanced to assistant professor positions. Accolades also go to **Dr. Tina Ferrell** incoming RN-MSN director and **Kimberly Douglas** incoming Nurse Educator track director. **Teresa Jones** was also promoted from staff to instructor status. Kudos to all and thank you for your support of the SON!

Doctoral students complete degree requirements



Andries



Causey



Goreth



Lacey

Congratulations to all seven DNP doctoral students who completed their degree requirements and graduated during the 2018 Commencement ceremony! Kudos also goes to Dr. Angie Duck, PhD student and first-time recipient of the SGSHS dean's scholarship/stipend, who met her requirement for the PhD in Nursing program.

Dr. Chelsey Andries' systematic review was "Effectiveness of interstage home monitoring on survival rates, weight gain, hospital admissions, and cost savings in infants with hypoplastic left heart syndrome: A systematic review." Her secondary reviewer was Dr. Michelle Palokas.

The title of Dr. Sherri Causey's scholarly project was "Proactive evaluation to assess the perceived need for routine human immunodeficiency virus testing in the community health center." Her committee members were Dr. Debrynda Davey and Dr. Debbie Konkle-Parker.

Dr. Michelle Goreth's systematic review title was "The association of premorbid neuropsychological conditions and pediatric mild traumatic brain injury/concussion recovery time and symptom severity: A systematic review." Her secondary reviewer was Dr. Michelle Palokas.

The title of Dr. Lanise Lacey's scoping review was "Preventative interventions, protocols,

or guidelines for trauma patients at risk for cervical collar related pressure ulcers: A scoping review." Her committee members were Dr. Michelle Palokas and Dr. Jean Walker.

Dr. Kruti Patel's systematic review title was "Comparison of vegetarian versus animal-based low protein diets on estimated glomerular filtration rates in chronic kidney disease patients: A systematic review." Her secondary reviewer was Dr. Kim Hoover.

Dr. Kelli Patrick's systematic review title was "The effectiveness of droxidopa compared to midodrine on standing blood pressure and orthostatic intolerance symptoms in adults with neurogenic orthostatic hypotension: A systematic review." Her second reviewer was Dr. Tina Martin.

The title of Dr. Jennifer Remington's systematic review was "Effectiveness of dietary inorganic nitrate in lowering blood pressure in hypertensive adults: A systematic review." Her secondary reviewer was Dr. Karen Winters.

Dr. Angie Duck's dissertation title was "The Relationship Between Amount of Physical Activity and Postural Balance in Rural Community Dwelling Adults Age 65 Years and Older." Her chair was Dr. Mary Stewart.



Patel



Patrick

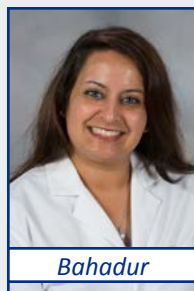


Remington



Duck

Nelson Order inductees



Bahadur



Calcote



Smith



Zhang

Congratulations to this year's Nelson Order inductees from the SON! Devinna Bahadur, Jeanne Calcote, Dr. Kandy Smith and Dr. Lei Zhang join the order named after former UMMC Vice Chancellor Dr. Norman Nelson. Thank you all for your dedication to our students! Dr. Smith was also nominated to represent the SON in the Regions Bank TEACH prize selection.

Assistant professor recognized for inclusive excellence

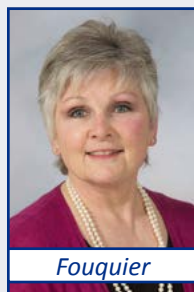


Harrington

Dr. Marilyn Harrington, assistant professor, received honorable mention for the Beacon Award during the Pillars: Recognition of Service and Inclusive Excellence. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion held the awards celebration at the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum in Jackson.

The Beacon Award recognizes a faculty member, whether clinical or non-clinical, who demonstrates inclusive excellence in teaching, instruction, research or clinical practice. The candidate must display a high degree of professionalism and must be a mentor to diverse faculty, staff and students. They must show professional activity that advances health care and improves outcomes of diverse communities.

Minority health advocate



Fouquier

Dr. Kate Fouquier, associate professor, was recognized during the Marian Wright Edelman Distinguished Lectureship Series as one of two recipients for the 2018 Minority Health Month Leader award. The awards were established by the Myrlie Evers-Williams Institute for the Elimination of Health Disparities to

honor minority health leaders in the state. Her work as director of the Lanier High School Teen Wellness Clinic showcases her commitment to partnering with the community for minority health equity. Congratulations!

Bidwell honored

Congratulations to Dr. Josie Bidwell, associate professor, who was selected to receive the 2018 Magnolia Award from the Mississippi Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics for her support of the dietetics profession and contributions she has made to human welfare. She received the honor at an awards banquet in March at the Mississippi State University Riley Center in Meridian. In April, Bidwell was honored with the 2018 Excellence in Advanced Practice Award from the Society of Pediatric Nurses at their national conference in Denver.



Bidwell

Service pins awarded

Summer is here, and we are celebrating nine faculty and staff members who have received their service pins since the last issue for a combined 115 years. Staff member **Copucine White** leads the list with 25 years of service. Long-time staff member **Lisa Vaughan** and UNACARE staff member **Shonda Brown** follow with 20 years. **Dr. Tina Ferrell**, assistant professor, was awarded her 15-year pin. **Dr. Mary Stewart**, professor, and **Deidre Morgan**, instructor, turned in 10 years. Rounding up with five years, are **Dr. Christian Pruett**, assistant professor, **Aurianne Beard**, part-time instructor, and staff member **Jocelyn Palmer**. Thank you for your years of service to UMMC and the SON!

Winters selected DAISY Faculty Award winner



Dr. Karen Winters, left, receiving the DAISY Faculty Award from Dr. Kim Hoover. Far right, Dr. Tina Ferrell, chair of the Awards and Scholarship Committee, looks on while describing the Shona tribe sculpture entitled "A Healer's Touch."

After 16 years working in hospital settings, Dr. Karen Winters joined the SON faculty in 1995. "Over the past 20+ years, it has been my mission to provide students with skills and encouragement they need to achieve their maximum potential," Winters said. "I came to the SON because I enjoy teaching, and I wanted to expand my teaching experience from staff development in a hospital setting to teaching students in an academic setting."

The professor of nursing was described as going above and beyond what is asked of her by one of her students in a DAISY Faculty nomination. "Dr. Winters has quite possibly been one of the most influential instructors in my pursuit of a DNP degree," former student Dr. Jennifer Remington said. "It is very obvious that she has a genuine interest in academia and helping her students pursue their goals."

Winters credits the resources and support of the SON with allowing her to explore innovative teaching strategies and ever-changing technology in her courses and her career trajectory.

Characterized as humble by some of her students, Winters was awarded the 2018 DAISY Faculty Award, given biennially to a faculty member who exemplifies the SON's core values as well as conveys attributes that contribute to a positive impact on nursing students.

"Dr. Winters shows respect for each student she comes in contact with," Andrew Majeste, DNP student, said. "She demonstrates excellence in her lectures and course development; is accountable to her students and fellow faculty; brings diversity to the [SON] through her background as a PhD-prepared research nurse and her involvement in the DNP program; and demonstrates integrity through her adherence to the professional standards of nursing. [She] is a great mentor to students across the nursing education landscape."

Winters thanks the two students who nominated her for the illustrious honor and goes on to say "I could never have imagined the opportunities the SON has provided me in terms of research, leadership and professional collaborations."

Other nominations were received for Dr. Chelsey Andries, Devinna Bahadur, Dr. Josie Bidwell, Dr. Tina Ferrell, Katie Hall, Jennifer Hargett, Dr. Marilyn Harrington, Dr. Laree Hiser, Dr. Lishia Lee, Dr. Sharon McElwain, Dr. Mary McNair, Deidra Morgan, Dr. Mary Stewart and Amy Williams.

Palmer completes certification courses

Congratulations to Jocelyn Palmer, education administrator, on her graduation from the Administrative Services Certification Program and the Executive Services Certification Program through the Mississippi State Personnel Board. Over the past year, she gained skills and knowledge for professional growth and improved public service.

PhD student and faculty publish in nursing journal



PhD student Michael Parnell, along with Dr. Jennifer Robinson, associate dean for research and scholarship, published an article "Social network analysis: Presenting an underused method for nursing research" in the international peer-reviewed, scientific Journal of Advanced Nursing.

DAISY in Training Award



Luke LeBlanc receives the inaugural DAISY in Training award at the Traditional BSN Pinning ceremony.

Congratulations to Luke LeBlanc, BSN graduate, for being selected as the DAISY in Training Award winner for the Traditional BSN Class of 2018!

The DAISY Foundation was established in 1999 by the family of Patrick Barnes who died at the age of 33 of complications of a bleeding disorder. The Barnes family wanted to find a way to turn their grief into something

positive that would honor Patrick, so they came up with “DAISY” – Diseases Attacking the Immune System. Through determining what the DAISY Foundation would do, they kept coming back to the one positive thing: the amazing care he – and the family – received from Pat’s nurses. The family was overwhelmed by the clinical care, compassion and kindness that his nurses provided daily. To help recognize these unsung heroes they created The DAISY Foundation specifically to say thank you to nurses. Over the years, more than 1 million nominations have been received and more than 3,000 nurses across the world have been honored with the DAISY awards.

The DAISY in Training Award was modeled after the original DAISY award. This recognition program is designed to highlight outstanding compassionate care provided to patients and families by nursing students. LeBlanc was nominated by Nikki Cohran, 5C nurse manager, in Batson Children’s Hospital.

Cohran wrote, “Luke came to 5C as a student nurse [and] began to work as a student nurse tech. From the moment I met Luke, I knew that he was special. He radiated the most respectful, kind, compassionate and optimistic attitude. Luke made a connection with each family he came in contact with.” Cohran had a total of eight DAISY nominations from patients and/or their families since Luke has been on 5C.

Cohran continued with saying, “I’ll tell you why I believe Luke deserves this award. As a cardiac step-down unit,

we frequently have patients who stay for long periods of time. [One] particular patient stayed on our unit for months. She was waiting for a new heart. She was also by herself often as her mother was receiving chemo treatments for a new cancer diagnosis. It was not uncommon for us to pass the room of this patient and for Luke to be rocking her to sleep, laying on the play mat assisting her with her developmental skills, bathing her without being asked, reading to her, or just giving her the love, she needed. We were all very attached to this infant, and since mom could not be by her side, one of the nurses started a journal to document her daily progress/milestones. Luke wrote in the journal often. He was a vital part of that process, and mom was overjoyed to read the updates every time she came to visit. It truly made her feel as if she was not missing out so much. The kindness and compassion I saw Luke demonstrate with this patient was unbelievable. When we got news that our sweet baby was receiving a new heart, Luke cried tears of joy when he was informed and was the first one to come and check on her on his off day. The love and compassion didn’t just stop with her. Luke continues to make it a point to give his best every single time he is on 5C. He often is able to communicate with patients who are difficult, gain their trust, and build a lasting relationship. I have come across many students in my 10-year career on 5C, however, there has been no student like Luke.”

“When I received the DAISY in Training Award while attending the [state’s] flagship [nursing] program, it was an amazing honor,” said LeBlanc. “The SON promotes excellence [and] expects nothing less. This particular award is unique because it is focused on caring for the patients as a whole including their emotional needs. The DAISY Award reminds nurses what their career is all about: caring. To get this reminder at the end of my student career and the beginning of my life-long career was something I am eternally grateful for and drives me to care for my patients’ clinical needs [to] bring them joy, hope and comfort.”

The two other nominees for the award were Cameron Howard and Reed Thames. Congratulations to all of the nominees and all future DAISY award winners!

DNP graduate represents UMMC in DC



The UMMC AAMC team including Dr. Michelle Goreth, second from the right.

Dr. Michelle Goreth, DNP graduate, along with other members of UMMC's team for the Association of American Medical Colleges for the AHEAD, Accelerating Health Equity, Advancing Through Discovery, grant represented the medical center in Washington, D.C. during a Health Equity Systems meeting. UMMC is one of eight medical schools who received this grant; and UMMC and community partners selected pediatric concussion prevention and reduction as its goal. The meeting was a strategic planning session about how to adapt to complex issues in a systems/cultural approach. The session also included lectures and discussions on leadership/governance, program evaluation and project management, among other topics. Goreth stated, "UMMC [SON's] DNP program helped me fully engage in national discussions on

leadership, quality, program evaluation and project management to help develop solutions to complex population health issues." She credits an assignment in her population health course with former dean and current adjunct faculty member Dr. Kaye Bender as the catalyst that led her down this path of her systematic review.

Quality Matters update



The SON now has four courses that have received Quality Matters (QM) certification. As part of the school's strategic initiative to create the best physical and virtual teaching and learning spaces, QM was adopted as the standard for evaluating quality in online course design. QM is a nationally recognized program that utilizes a rubric to evaluate courses for specific areas of interest for student success. Through the use of QM, we can continue

to integrate best practices into all areas of instructional delivery. Dr. Michelle Palokas helped lead the SON in this initiative by receiving certification for DNP 706: Evaluation Approaches, Models and Methods and DNP 740: Project Management. For the RN-BSN program, Amanda Criswell and Kim Douglas recently completed the QM review process, earning certifications for N 421: Transitions and Trends in Professional Nursing and N 407: Pathophysiology, respectively. An internal review team has been trained to provide guidance for faculty to prepare their courses for QM review. To date, the school has completed preliminary evaluation of over 30 courses. The SON's goal is to continue to have courses reviewed using the QM process and to have more faculty buy in.

Harris named MOD Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to Dr. Janet Harris for receiving the 2017 Volunteer of the Year award from the Jackson Metro March of Dimes. The associate dean for practice and community engagement was selected for this honor due to her leadership and support for the mission of MOD. She is the immediate past Board chair and serves on the National Volunteer Leadership Council. Among her many contributions for MOD in 2017, Harris conducted their strategic planning session and chaired the silent auction at Signature Chefs, a culinary fundraising experience. In May, she was also awarded a plaque from the American Heart Association for her 10 years of giving for the Circle of Red, a yearly commitment of \$1,000 for the Go Red for Women national movement. "I am very passionate about work with both of these groups—my dad died of heart disease and my older sister had polio as a child," Harris said. "I am thankful that the [MOD] is now able to focus on healthy moms and babies since they developed the vaccine that eradicated polio."



Dr. Janet Harris with her MOD Volunteer of the Year award.

Spring/summer semester activities



Gov. Phil Bryant addresses students during Lobby Day.



SON hosts the first Off-Campus Housing Fair at UMMC.



Jackson Accelerated BSN students pin their names to the Student Code for Honorable and Professional Behavior.



Instructor Melissa Klamm explains infant care during a tour of the SON clinical skills and simulation center for Lanier Health Academy students.



Junior and senior BSN students show off the SON during Family Day on the UMMC campus.



DNP graduates took to a photo booth to celebrate #DONE during a party with family in their honor.

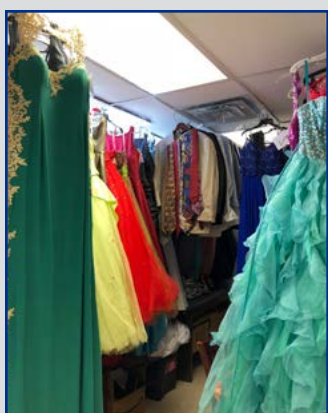


Luke LeBlanc, BSN graduate, received the 2018 Oglevee Award. Pictured with Dean Hoover, VC Woodward and Chancellor Vitter.

Spring/summer semester activities



SON Allstars participate in the Gurney Races, part of Hospital and Nurses Week.



The Lanier High Teen Wellness Clinic and the Office of Student Affairs organized a Prom drive for Lanier High. The community-wide drive pulled in hundreds of donations of dresses, suits, shoes, shirts, ties and jewelry to help support students. Local barbers and hair/makeup artists donated their time and services to get the students ready for prom. Thank you to all who helped with this project!



More than 200 students and preceptors were recognized during the 2018 SON Honors Day ceremony.



SON students enjoy the fruits of their labor at the 2018 Commencement ceremony.

Oxford campus activities



Family members tour the Oxford campus simulation lab.



Kaitlyn Scoufos shows her parents the infant simulator.



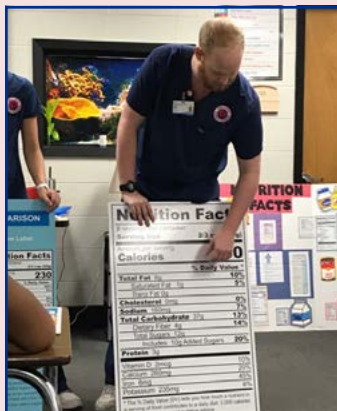
Paige Smith, Oxford Accelerated BSN student shows vital signs on SimMan 3G to her mother during Family Day.



Amanda Weeks, instructor, and Oxford Accelerated BSN student Katie Cayson demonstrate IVs during Family Day.



Oxford Accelerated BSN students present their research poster in the Martindale Student Services Center.



BSN students talk about nutrition and reading food labels during a visit to Oxford Middle School.



Neeli Kirkendall, assistant professor, and students at the MS State Student Council Convention held at Lafayette Middle School.

Guardian Society

In 1975, the Guardian Society was created to honor the UMMC's most generous individual donors. During the last four decades, UMMC alumni and other gracious benefactors have helped the SON maintain its standard of excellence by giving to the Guardian Society. Founding members have helped UMMC achieve unparalleled success in its three-fold mission of providing exceptional patient care, training the next generation of health-care providers and engaging in innovative research. Active members contributing annually help the SON sustain and ensure the future of nursing in Mississippi. We are grateful to our Guardian Society members for their leadership and generosity.

Founding Members:

Mrs. Sylvia M. Abney	Dr. Virginia L. Cora	Dr. Annette H. Hutcherson	Mrs. Beatrice R. Richardson
Ms. Betty J. Adams	Mrs. Lucretia R. Craft	Mrs. Ruth E. Hutcheson	Dr. Barbara P. Rogers
Dr. Ola B. Allen	Mrs. Mary B. Craft	Mrs. Frances G. Hyde	Dr. Edrie G. Royals
Ms. Nancy E. Anklaam	Mrs. Mary M. Crump	Mrs. Jackie L. Kapaun	Mrs. Nancy J. Self
Ms. Barbara E. Austin	Dr. Debrynda B. Davey	Ms. Jane Kelley	Mrs. Sherriel F. Shipp
Mrs. Denise S. Auttonberry	Dr. Sheila P. Davis	Mrs. Patricia D. Kimble	Mrs. Elizabeth G. Smith
Mrs. Delores B. Barlow	Mrs. Maxine R. Dement	Mrs. Shari M. Lackey	Dr. Kandy Smith
Dr. Kaye W. Bender	Dr. Theresa M. Doddato	Ms. Laurie G. Lee	Ms. Jean B. Speed
Mr. Robert C. Bertolet	Mrs. Diane H. Dukes	Ms. Rebecca S. Little	Mrs. Patti M. Sullivan
Mrs. Yvonne P. Bertolet	Mrs. Jan M. Evers	Dr. Sharon A. Lobert	Ms. Sonja Tate
Dr. Billy M. Bishop	Mrs. Pamela P. Farris	Mr. Bob Malone	Mrs. Vita K. Thaggard
Dr. Sue Bishop	Mrs. Seri G. Ferguson	Mrs. Julia C. McCormac	Mrs. Lucy Thompson
Mrs. Brenda R. Blackburn	Dr. Audwin B. Fletcher	Mrs. Stacy B. McCoy	Mrs. Rebecca B. Wade
Mrs. Bess C. Blackwell	Mrs. Tamara G. Ford	Mr. John M. Mills	Ms. Jeanette Waits
Dr. Barbara J. Boss	Dr. Sonja R. Fuqua	Mr. Geoffrey C. Mitchell	Dr. Jean T. Walker
Mr. Garry W. Bray	Mrs. Christi D. Hardy	Dr. Karen Mitchell	Mrs. Bobbie G. Ward
Dr. Lynda N. Brown	Dr. Janet Y. Harris	Mrs. Jennifer L. Moffitt	Mrs. Sandra H. West
Dr. Rosie L. Calvin	Mrs. Elizabeth L. Hatten	Mrs. Betty R. Noullet	Dr. Sallye M. Wilcox
Ms. Janet L. Carmichael	Dr. Lisa A. Haynie	Mrs. Betty P. Oates	Dr. Robin R. Wilkerson
Mrs. Candice W. Carr	Ms. Pamela F. Helms	Mr. Bobbie M. Ollie	Dr. P. Renee Williams
Mrs. Patsy H. Carroll	Dr. Peggy O. Hewlett	Ms. Laura K. Petersen	Mrs. Joyce W. Wright
Mrs. Rebekah I. Carter	Mr. Terrence Hibbert	Ms. Tara N. Price	
Dr. Mary A. Christ	Dr. Kim W. Hoover	Ms. Janis M. Quinn	
Mrs. Betty H. Cleveland	Ms. Jessica L. Hudson	Dr. Rene M. Reeb	

In Memoriam:

Mrs. Janice S. Felder	Mrs. Mary T. Howard	Ms. Edna Roberts
Mrs. Rexine M. Henry	Mrs. Cathy S. Hughes	Dr. Sharon Butler Wyatt

Active 2018 Guardian Society Members (qualifying gifts made in 2017):

Friends Circle:	Mrs. Mary B. Craft	Dr. Sheila D. Keller	Ms. Carolann Risley
Dr. Teresa B. Gillespie	Mrs. Helen R. Dolive	Ms. Rebecca S. Little	Dr. Jennifer C. Robinson
Dr. Kim W. Hoover	Mr. Dal Garber	Dr. Tina M. Martin	Ms. Janet Scott
Mr. James M. Parnell	Ms. Marena Gray	Mrs. Janet McGowan-Wall	Mrs. Allison Shivers
Dr. Kandy Smith	Mr. Criss A. Greene	Ms. Pam Melzer	Mrs. Kathy Smith
Mr. Robert Turnage	Ms. Lucy L. Hall	Dr. Tonya Moore	Mrs. Martha T. Smith
Explorers Circle:	Mrs. Christi D. Hardy	Dr. D. M. Phillips	Mr. Walter R. Taylor
Mrs. Susan H. Carson	Ms. Mary L. Hawkins Patton	Ms. Ginny Phillips	Mr. James D. Turnage
Mrs. Rebekah I. Carter	Mr. Terrence Hibbert	Ms. Heather K. Pierce	Mrs. Lisa Vaughan
Mrs. Melanie H. Cowlshaw	Mrs. Marilyn E. Kearney	Mrs. Terry J. Puckett	

All alumni and friends of the School of Nursing are invited to join the Guardian Society by giving annually to the school. Guardian Society members will receive special benefits based upon the amount of their annual donation and corresponding membership level. To learn more about how you can become a member of the Guardian Society, contact the Office of Development by phone at (601) 984-2300, or by email at dev-info@umc.edu. To join online, visit umc.edu/guardian-society.

Gail Malley (1972) shared: "At graduation in 1972 my name was Gail Robinson. Initially I worked in L&D at UMMC. The following year I met and married my uncle's crew chief in the USAF and moved to northern Maine. We had three sons and moved from Maine to Colorado to Rhode Island to Nebraska to Florida to Indiana to Ohio and back to Florida, where we now reside outside a small town midway between Jacksonville and Gainesville."

Brenda L. Watt (1991 BSN/2016 MSN Nurse Educator) works as the educator in the neuroscience ICU. Her daughter will be a senior in college next year and plans to pursue nursing, too.



Dr. Robyn MacSorley (1992 BSN/2010 MSN Nurse Educator) passed the Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator (CHSE) exam in June.

Shonda Lyons (2001) is the owner of Precision Healthcare Staffing in Brookhaven, Mississippi.

Dr. Jami S. Brown (2002 BSN) is an assistant professor in the CON at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. She received a Doctor of Health Education from A.T. Still University, Kirksville, Missouri, in 2009. Her areas of teaching include acute care/gerontology, adult health, internship, end of life and leadership and health policy. She is an active member of STTI, ANA, Tennessee Nurses Association, ABNF, AACCN and the NLN. She has been married for four years and loves to relax, travel, shop and play with her dog.

Kimberly Napper (2005 BSN/2007 MSN) teaches at Holmes Community College in their ADN program. "I love my job! The other great loves of my life are my husband, children and grandchildren. Life is good!"

Alice Chaney Watts Herndon (2006 BSN/2016 MSN Nursing and Health Care Administration) is the nurse manager of the Mother/Baby Unit at UMMC. Her team achieved Baby Friendly designation in September 2017 (2nd hospital in the state, 1st in the Jackson area) and was chosen for Nursing Team of the Year for 2018!

Dr. Jennifer C. Robinson (2006 PhD) shared this: "I have been at UMMC SON since 2008. For the past two years, I have been the associate dean for research and scholarship, a job I love! I also have the opportunity to

work with PhD students on research and their dissertations, as well as teach select courses in the program. I have four grown children and four darling grandchildren, a wonderful husband and two golden retrievers. My husband and I love to travel, and we love good food."



Debbie McGlaun (2011) is now an associate professor of health sciences at the University of Mississippi School of Health Related Professions (SHRP).

Dr. Denise Bynum (2012 DNP) has been the Northwest Mississippi Community College director of nursing division (ADN program) since 2014.

Tiffany Ciara Smith (2012 BSN) shared: "On May 5, 2018, I graduated from Alcorn State University with a MSN: FNP. I have been married to my loving husband Mickell for almost two years. I have been an RN for six years [and] look forward to my new career as an APRN."

Jim Miller (2013) worked as an NP in Family Medicine at UMMC for three years. He has been in Infectious Diseases at UMMC taking care of HIV patients for two years and started the Doctorate of Health Administration program at the SHRP.



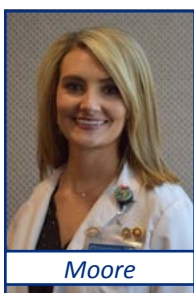
Alaina Herrington (2014) has been a nurse for more than 13 years working in multiple areas such as perioperative nursing, nurse management, HR and nurse recruitment. She is a CHSE reviewer and writer. She was named the Director of the Mississippi Academy for Simulation Training at UMMC's new 8,000 square foot simulation center. The UMMC Simulation and Interprofessional Education Center offers statewide, online simulation education training for nursing faculty and onsite student training.

Nikki Stevenson (2014) began her nursing career in the newborn nursery and has moved to UMMC's otolaryngology department.

Candace Magan Evans (2017 MSN Nursing and Health Care Administration) shared: "I had great instructors at UMMC. I would not be where I am without their dedication and passion." Evans accepted an instructor

position at MUW in their ADN program. "I could not have done it without the encouragement of [SON faculty] Amy Williams and Jeanne Calcote."

Stacey Neubauer Kitchens (2017 MSN) is on faculty with the Department of Psychiatry at UMMC. Her primary role is seeing outpatients at the Jackson Medical Mall, inpatients on the psychiatric unit and working in the PES. "I am loving my current role and am very thankful to have not only been educated here at UMMC, but to continue to serve this great organization!"



Moore

Kayla Moore (2017 MSN) passed the AANP AGPCNP boards last August and started working with NMMC Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in October. They specialize in interventional pain and improving function. She is also a provider for NMMC Seating Clinic, that performs wheelchair seatings and fittings.

Alex Shaw (2017 MSN) is a NP at Regional One Health. "I became a NP so that I would have the ability to make a major impact on patients' lives. I strongly believe in treating every patient as if he or she were my own mother." She is a member of STTI and the AANP.



Shaw

Jan M. Evers (1960 BSN, and 1973 MSN) retired from the SON as associate dean in 1991 and transferred to the Department of Medicine's Division of Infectious Disease as Resource Center Director of AIDS Education/Training Center. She remains highly active at the St. Phillips's Episcopal Church and enjoys good food and fine wine with members of her gourmet lunch group. As an active nursing alumna, Guardian Society member and Ole Miss Loyalty Foundation member, she likes to stay in touch with fellow alumni, especially classmates of 1960.

Judy Bernal Varner (1968) retired as a pediatric nurse in 2016 after 35+ years with Children's Medical Group in Jackson. She has three children and eight grandchildren. She enjoys keeping her grandchildren, traveling and working at Stewpot Community Services.

Terri Hamill (1984 BSN) received the 2018 AANP NP State Award of Excellence. She is the chair of the department

of graduate nursing at MUW where she has taught for more than 20 years in the MSN and BSN programs. "I feel honored to be recognized for this award. Knowing that fellow faculty [members] nominated me for this prestigious award, is very humbling."



Hamill

CLASS OF 1968 REUNION



The Class of 1968 celebrated their 50th reunion during Nursing Alumni Week this past May. They had a reunion lunch at the River Hills Club, where they received their 50-year pins. Standing from left to right are Shirlene Steele Priest, Betty Laird Pazich, Mary Shepard Abraham, Judy Bernal Varner, Loretta Lehman Cleveland and Charlotte Swales McHenry. Sitting from left to right are Harriet Tucker Walters, Annette Hamby Hutcherson, Sandra Holmes West and Jeanette Waits.

IN MEMORIAM

Martha Nell Christoffel Boudreaux (1979), 79, New Orleans - Dec. 14, 2017

Evelyn Ayers Strong (1965), 85, Pearl - Dec. 24, 2017

Ruth Slocum Rosenau (1973), 84, Simpsonville, S.C. - Jan. 31, 2018

Melanie Hellen Morano (1998), 61, Jackson - Feb. 8, 2018

Mary Ann Hastings Holyfield (1978), 87, Brandon - Feb. 18, 2018

Martha H. Collins (1963), 78, Ridgeland - April 22, 2018

Joanna Briggs Institute Colloquium



Dr. Robin Christian, left, and Dr. Michelle Palokas, director of the DNP program, right, with a JBC colleague from Kenya.

In May, Dr. Robin Christian and Dr. Michelle Palokas attended the 10th Annual Biennial Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) Colloquium in Antwerp, Belgium. The three-day event was focused on the implementation of evidence into practice. The professor and assistant professor, respectively, spoke at the conference about their editorial which integrates systematic reviews into graduate nursing education. The editorial was earlier published by JBI in their Database of Systematic Reviews and Implementation Reports. SON faculty and doctoral students have 27 accepted protocols and systematic reviews.

Earlier this year, the school completed the requirements to become the 6th Centre of Excellence of the Joanna Briggs Collaboration in the U.S. According to the JBI Collaboration handbook, these centres “have established themselves as a prestigious hub of expertise, through which high quality programs of evidence synthesis, transfer and implementation are achieved. They are recognized by the institute as an entity that provides leadership, support, guidance and mentorship to novice groups.” Stay tuned for more details! The next JBI conference will be stateside on October 8 in New Orleans. SON faculty and doctoral students are encouraged to attend.

Luther selected to expert panel



Luther

Dr. Cindy Luther, assistant professor and director of the Adult-Gerontology Primary Care and Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner tracks, was selected to serve on a content expert panel on the Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP Panel for the American Nurses Credentialing Center. As part of her duties, she visited the American Nurses Association (ANA) headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland and met with the panel to discuss certification exam test content outlines and review role delineation studies. According to ANA’s website, qualified CEP members must “spend at least 50% of [their] professional time engaged in practice in the role, population and specialty of the certification area to which [they are appointed].”



Areas of Research and Scientific Focus

- Community Wellness: Health Promotion and Risk Reduction
- Self-Management of Chronic Conditions
- Innovative Models of Nursing Education and Practice
- Health Systems and Outcomes
- Clinical and Translational Science