School of

Dean's Report 2019



compassion • integrity • excellence • inclusivity • collaboration • creativity

From the Dean



Welcome, and thank you for your interest and support in the SIUE School of Nursing. I'm proud to share how the School is responding to both the educational needs of students and the healthcare workforce.

I am especially excited to share that the State of Illinois has released \$10.5 million in planning funds to create preliminary designs for a Health Science Building on campus. The complex will cost \$105 million and will provide SIUE nursing, pharmacy, and applied health students the opportunity to learn professional skills in an innovative state-of-the-art simulation laboratory learning center. Students will engage in interprofessional education and participate in biomedical and clinical research, all with the goal of enhancing collaboration among all the health professions for improved healthcare delivery throughout the state of Illinois and the region.

With this investment in the future education of our students, we can continue to increase our innovations in teaching, and attract and retain the highest caliber students, thereby making even greater impact on **addressing the nursing shortage**.

I am also thrilled to announce the School's 2019 **NCLEX pass rate of 94**%, which far exceeds the 88% national and state averages.

In this issue of the Dean's Report, I'm excited to share details about our new psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner DNP program, as well as our partnership with SSM Health to offer a contemporary refresher course for newly hired nurses returning to acute care practice. Both of these programs exemplify how the School is **meeting specific healthcare** workforce needs.

Please enjoy articles on two of the School's 8,818 alumni, Cheryl Killion, PhD, RN, FAAN, BS '70, and Hannah Greenwalt, BS '19, both of whom are **impacting the health of our region and beyond.**

Find out how the School is **incorporating complex simulation experiences** through the use of state-of-the-art equipment to provide students with advanced learning opportunities and prepare them to lead in clinical settings.

The School remains dedicated to **providing diverse clinical experiences for students.** Learn about the new competitive four-year \$2.75 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration for its innovative Advanced Nursing Education Workforce program, as well as expanding global initiatives that provide opportunities for SIUE nursing students to deliver needed healthcare around the world.

Read how we continue our commitment to **providing high-quality**, **affordable and accessible programs** through scholarships, such as the Dr. Mary Mulcahy Endowed Scholarship, and corporate and community college partnerships.

For these successes and more, we owe great thanks to our faculty, staff, alumni, partners and donors. We are helping to **shape the changing world of healthcare for Southern Illinois, the surrounding regions, and beyond.** This is an exciting time for our School of Nursing! **Thank you for being a part of it.**

I hope to see you at our next School of Nursing Gala on September 18, 2020 at the Four Seasons in St. Louis.



About SIUE

Just a short drive from downtown St. Louis, the SIUE campus is home to a diverse student body of more than 13,000. SIUE awards degrees in undergraduate and graduate programs encompassing the arts, sciences, nursing, education, health, human behavior, business and engineering. The Schools of Dental Medicine and Pharmacy award first-professional doctoral degrees in dental medicine (DMD) and pharmacy (PharmD). Cooperative PhD programs in history, environmental resources and policy, engineering science, and computer engineering are offered with SIU Carbondale.

About the School of Nursing

The vision of the SIUE School of Nursing is to educate and develop nurses as care providers, scholars and leaders able to meet the health challenges of a diverse and complex world. The School values compassion, integrity, excellence, inclusivity, collaboration and creativity.

Retirements



Chris Durbin, PhD Associate Professor and Chair, Primary Care and Health Systems Nursing 22 years of service

to BS program since 2015

lled, marking an increase



Linda Omondi, DNP Clinical Associate Professor and Coordinator, WE CARE Clinic 8 years of service



Kim White, PhD
Clinical Associate
Professor and
Director, WE CARE
Clinic
19 years of service

accelerated RN to BS program



graduate programs

practice settings

Leading-edge Simulations Equip Students to Lead in Clinical Settings

Preliminary results from a School of Nursing study indicate Other innovative methods include the use of virtual students perceive mental health simulation activities to be more effective in their learning when incorporating standardized patients (live actors) as compared to

The study of third-year nursing students, "Standardized Patients versus Mannequins in Mental Health Simulation," is being conducted by Becky Luebbert, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, associate professor and chair of primary care and health systems nursing; Amelia Perez, PhD, RN, associate professor and chair of family health and community health nursing; Angela Andrews, PhD, RN, assistant professor; and Tracy Cooley, MSN, RN, instructor.

According to Luebbert, interacting with standardized patients provides students an opportunity to practice therapeutic communication in a safe environment. "Students were highly satisfied with the standardized patient simulations with several noting it made simulating care for patients with mental health needs very realistic," Perez said.

The use of standardized patients, commonly portrayed by students from the Department of Theater and Dance, is one of the various innovative simulation techniques the School employs to ensure students are well prepared for

"We are using standardized patients to teach all levels of students, from the undergraduate to the DNP level," said Amy Reed, MS, instructor and coordinator of the Simulated Learning Center for Health Sciences. "We have found it to be especially effective in teaching students how to communicate with patients and family, which is a vital component to providing overall patient care, and one that is far more difficult to teach in a didactic setting."

simulations using avatars. Using an off-site actor, the avatar steps into a particular persona and interacts with the nursing student in real time. Avatars provide a particularly useful method for learning mental health treatment strategies, allowing students to practice no-risk interventions in high-risk scenarios.

The School's newest technology, an Anatomage Table, enables students to explore the human body like never before. Students in the nurse anesthesia program are using the life-size, 3D table to virtually dissect and study the human anatomy and structural relationships in ways that were previously inaccessible.

"This cutting-edge technology engages students, reinforces knowledge, and offers opportunities to gain a deep understanding of the various anatomical structures and their interplay," said Chaya Gopalan, PhD, associate

Faculty are also employing lightboard studios in the didactic setting. The clear glass presentation panels enable instructors to face the class or video camera as they map out complex concepts and equations, and the writing is projected on the other side.

"Because the writing is projected on the other side of the lightboard, it provides a great way to interact with students," Reed said. "We use these frequently for online classes or any class where a video can assist in teaching important concepts."

These various, cutting-edge technologies are at the forefront of new pedagogical techniques and technological advancements in education, and are imperative to thoroughly preparing students to advance in clinical settings.





Global Learning Opportunities Diversify Students' Clinical Experiences

International exchange programs and service-based trips provide nursing students opportunities to deliver patient care around the world while learning about other cultures. Nursing students who study abroad learn to value service, diversity and compassion for underserved regions, and often must work through challenges they may face throughout their careers.

"Cultural differences must be valued in order to deliver impactful and sensitive patient-centered care," said Valerie Griffin, DNP, assistant clinical professor and director of nurse practitioner specializations. "Students learn self-awareness and cultural competence by working with cultures different from their own.

"These global service experiences offer students humility in a way that is difficult to convey in a classroom setting or in the United States healthcare system," Griffin added.

By immersing themselves in global health initiatives, students benefit from enhanced cultural competency and a diverse clinical experience that will help them in their future nursing endeavors.

Since 2017, the School has hosted two trips with graduate students to Haiti, four trips with graduate students to Guatemala, one trip with graduate students to Costa Rica and two trips with undergraduates to Costa Rica. The number of patients treated per trip varies, with the most being seen in Costa Rica in January at 976 total; 495 of those patients were treated at one clinic in one day. Two more trips to Costa Rica are currently planned for 2020.

"One student commented that she noticed how much the patients in Costa Rica appreciated the care that was being provided," said Griffin. "They didn't seem to mind the language barrier."

"Students communicate through interpreters but also through body language and simple touch," Griffin explained. "Students and patients are able to connect through this compassionate, culturally sensitive care. It's a special and unique experience for everyone involved."

\$2.75 Million Grant to **Educate Working Nurses**

This summer, the School of Nursing continued its pioneering advancement of the nursing profession across Illinois with receipt of a competitive four-year \$2.75 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration for its innovative Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) program.

The multi-faceted educational effort is designed to increase the number of nurse practitioners who practice in rural and underserved communities throughout Illinois by providing a smooth transition from the student role to practicing Advanced Practice Registered Nurses into these areas.

Academic clinical partnerships between the School and Chestnut Health Systems, OSF HealthCare, Southern Illinois Healthcare and the SIUE WE CARE Clinic will bolster the program's success.

These partnerships will be strengthened through a preceptor development program focused on primary care mental health cases and student/ preceptor interaction scenarios. Additionally, the School will collaborate with these partners on the development of a regional conference for primary care settings highlighting mental health treatment, the opioid crisis, non-opioid pain treatment options, recognizing addictive behavior, rehabilitation and long-term followup strategies.

"Primary care providers face difficult clinical decisions related to opioid prescribing and mental health management," said Valerie Griffin, DNP, assistant clinical professor and director of nurse practitioner specializations. "We will focus our continuing education and training on evidence-based guidelines in these areas with the goal of increasing access to quality primary care throughout Illinois."

The ANEW program will provide financial support to student participants, as well as focused clinical educational experiences through deliberate placement in rural and/or underserved settings in the targeted region for a significant portion of their clinical practicum requirements.

"We're confident that the clinical partnerships possible under this grant will benefit students, patients seeking care, and communities as a whole."

Dave Sharar, CEO, Chestnut Health Systems

Abundant Opportunities Position Alumna for Dream Job

Throughout high school, Hannah Greenwalt, BS '19, achieved high grades, participated in extracurriculars, took on leadership positions and volunteered. Her sights were set on attending a high-quality university.

"The School of Nursing has excellent NCLEX pass rates, cutting-edge simulation capabilities and an ideal location, but as one of three children born within three years, it really came down to affordability," Greenwalt said. "I mainly chose SIUE because of the scholarships I was offered."

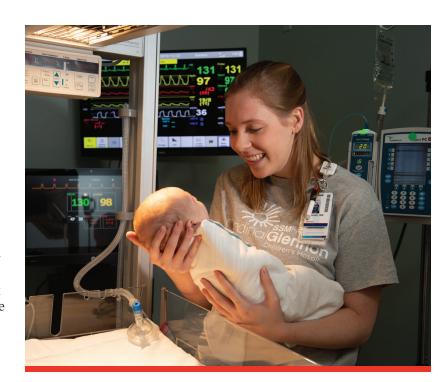
As a highly qualified incoming freshman, Greenwalt received direct entry admittance into the nursing program and quickly realized SIUE offers a competitive program for the most hardworking students. She focused her time, energy and effort on her courses while also getting involved in extracurriculars, including the Student Nurses Association and the Student Dean Advisory Board.

"With the support of scholarships, I was able to volunteer with student organizations on activities like bone marrow drives, health clinics, fitness events and more," Greenwalt said. "Those opportunities allowed me to learn outside the classroom as well as within."

Greenwalt learned nursing basics in the classroom. The simulation lab offered her the opportunity to practice her skills in a non-threatening environment and clinical rotations boosted her confidence in patient care. Along the way, she built meaningful connections with faculty, students and hospitals that were essential to her growth and success in the program and led to numerous job opportunities after graduating in May. She accepted a position as a neonatal intensive care unit nurse at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis.

"I went into this specialty with the desire to show the same level of care and compassion to the parents that I show to the newborn," Greenwalt said. "I believe that if we make a genuine effort to show compassion and reserve judgement, we create an environment that promotes bonding between the parent and child and establishes more open and honest communication between medical personnel and family."

Greenwalt attributes her ability to step into this role of providing crucial care to the abundant extracurricular opportunities and education afforded her by the School.



I can't help but be grateful for the institution and individuals who supported my learning and extracurricular involvement along the way.

Hannah Greenwalt, BS '19, NICU Nurse, SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital

Nurse Anesthesia Alumni Met in Chicago

Approximately 65 Illinois alumni of the School of Nursing's nurse anesthesia program attended an inaugural meet-up at the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Annual Congress in Chicago. The networking event allowed alumni and friends attending the conference to connect and engage with each other and was underwritten by the Illinois Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

"With the continued growth, development and success of the nurse anesthesia specialization, it's important to build lifelong engagement with our alumni," said Kevin Stein, DNP, nurse anesthesia program director. "Holding events in conjunction with conferences of this caliber also raises the profile and prominence of the program and the School of Nursing."

Alumni Advisory Board Identifies New Goals

The School of Nursing's Alumni Advisory Board (AAB) has undertaken several key initiatives to increase the size, strength, reach and impact of the organization. Under the leadership of President Jerrica Ampadu, PhD, assistant professor of family health and community health nursing, '97, '02; and Vice President Maria Ballard, DNP, lecturer of primary care and health systems nursing, '11, '14, '17, three overarching, long-term goals were established.

- Build a strong, engaged and diverse board.
- Develop student and alumni engagement through philanthropy and volunteer roles.
- Support the School's growth, development and impact.

The AAB subsequently established the following strategic and structural objectives.

- Recruit additional members representative of diverse roles in the nursing profession.
- Enhance the organizational structure and function by establishing standing committees to drive key objectives.
- Form sub-committees to better connect with alumni throughout the region, state and nation.

"The AAB will be instrumental in strengthening the relationship between the School, alumni and the community," Ampadu said. "As the School expands, these relationships are essential in supporting its mission."



Killion Inducted into SIUE Alumni Hall of Fame



Eight remarkable University graduates were honored at the 2019 Alumni Fall of Fame ceremony, including Cheryl Killion, PhD, RN, FAAN, who received her bachelor's in nursing in 1970. A nurse and medical anthropologist, Killion has dedicated her career to preventing and eliminating health inequities. Her work includes ethnographic studies of pregnant women, mental health needs of Belizean citizens, safety needs of women and girls following the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, and integrative health and healing among older African Americans.

After graduating from SIUE, Killion went on to earn a Master of Science in maternal child nursing from the University of Colorado, and a Master of Arts and PhD in anthropology from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Currently, Killion is an associate professor of nursing at Case Western University. Previously, as the director of the Center for Minority Health at Hampton University, she led the Schools of Nursing and Pharmacy in conducting federally funded health disparities research and outreach

initiatives. She has also served as a faculty member at the University of Michigan; the University of California, Los Angeles; and Cairo University in Egypt.

Along with being active on the School's Alumni Advisory Board, Killion has also served on the board of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Minority Health Advisory Committee and is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Killion has fond memories of her years at SIUE and described the University as a place of new growth with possibilities everywhere. She credits her undergraduate classes with inspiring her to promote wellness and facilitate healing throughout her professional career.

"At SIUE, I was exposed to a myriad of health conditions in a diverse range of clinical settings and community sites," said Killion. "Caring for patients in acute care settings, as well as in the community, broadened my understanding of the human condition and multiple possibilities to promote wellness and facilitate healing."

"It means the world to me that my colleagues and peers have formalized their affirmation of my work.

This award provides great incentive for me to be more diligent in my endeavors to serve, build and grow."

Cheryl Killion, BS '70, MS, PhD

Endowed Scholarships Foster Student and Faculty Excellence

As a professor emerita with 45 years of experience in nursing education, Mary C. Mulcahy, BSN, MSN, EdD, continues to foster development within nursing education by supporting the School of Nursing with two endowed scholarships.

Since retiring in 2012, Mulcahy has committed herself to supporting the efforts of the School by extending the concept of community service, one of the School's tenets of nursing leadership. She has proven this exemplary commitment by establishing the Scholarship for Excellence Endowment, which awards five \$1,000 scholarships to junior and senior undergraduate nursing students each vear.

"I enjoyed my time at the University. I am grateful for the campus and the opportunity to work with this School and the faculty, staff and students here."

Professor Emerita Mary C. Mulcahy, BSN, MSN, EdD



Dean Laura Bernaix, PhD, RN, and Professor Emerita Mary C. Mulcahy, BSN, MSN, EdD, presented Jasmine Castillo and Alec Gee with Scholarship for Excellence awards at the 2018 Annual Scholarship Luncheon.

This year, Mulcahy established the SIUE School of Nursing Faculty Development Endowment to encourage and support faculty development by hosting nationally renowned experts in nursing education and convening an annual conference for SIUE nursing faculty. Department chairs, in collaboration with the dean, associate dean and assistant deans, will identify and recruit potential speakers who are experts in areas such as:

- Simulation
- Classroom management and engagement
- Clinical and classroom evaluation
- Online instruction
- Critical thinking

Mulcahy brought years of experience in curriculum development when she joined the ranks at SIUE. During her time with the School, she helped revise undergraduate curriculum by adding an emphasis on theory and researchbased practice. Previously, the curriculum had been strictly skill-based.

"It's really changed from the idea that your only role as a nurse is a caregiving role," stated Mulcahy. "You are still giving care, but you are helping patients care for themselves. There is also far more emphasis on providing data for the decisions that you make to assure it is research-based practice."

Additionally, Mulcahy assisted in creating the RN to BS online program, creating a program in Carbondale and starting a second degree program within the School. By working to develop these opportunities, she, among other nursing faculty, promoted the advancement of nursing through higher education in the state of Illinois.

"We positioned Edwardsville as a leader in nursing education," Mulcahy said. "I can't take total credit for that. (Professors Emerita) Jackie Clement, Mary Ann Boyd, Kathy Ketchum and I all worked together to help move the School forward."

Priorities Align Contributions with Needs

Gifts to the School of Nursing support continued growth and success of the School, which ultimately impacts the quality of nursing care provided in our region, state and nation.

The following funding priorities reflect important and emerging needs:

- General Development Fund: advance student and faculty development programs, alumni relations and events
- Annual and Endowed Scholarships: attract, support and retain diverse and deserving students
- Dean's Leadership Society: support the Simulation Program, WE CARE Clinic initiatives, and global education
- Nurse Anesthesia Program Development: support the continued growth and development of the nurse anesthesia specialization
- Nurse Anesthesia Annual Clement Scholarship Challenge: help meet the growing need for scholarships in the nurse anesthesia specialization with matching gifts from Professor Emerita Jackie Clement, PhD
- 3rd Biennial Alumni and Friends Gala: secure sponsorship and auction items to support the upcoming fundraising event

Give online at siue.edu/nursing/giving or return the attached envelope.

Recognizing Our Donors

We are grateful to the following donors for their generous support of the SIUE School of Nursing during fiscal year 2019. These philanthropic gifts provided much needed and deeply appreciated support for our students, programs and School.

Thank you for partnering with the School to achieve excellence in nursing education, research and service for the benefit of students, patients and providers in this region, state and nation.

For more information on supporting the SIUE School of Nursing, visit siue.edu/nursing/giving, or contact Patricia McDonald at pmcdona@siue.edu or 618-650-3906.

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Ms. Bettvanne R. Shannon '83

Mrs. Donna S. Shepard '73 '94

Mrs. Marcia Slightom '67 Mrs. Shelia M. Smith '93

Mrs. Shirley M. Spranaitis '69 Ms. Julia L. Stanfill '87 '96

Mr. Ric Stephenson '70 '74 '77 and Mrs. Vonda Stephenson

Mrs. Sandra L. Steppig '75 Mrs. Leatha K. Striegel '71

and Mr. Randall D. Striegel

Ms. Diana S. Szaras '72 Ms. Tanisha M. Tillman

Ms. Andrea T. Tobiasz '84

Mr. Ryan E. Topel '08

Mrs. Molly A. Tucker '14 Dr. Amy K. Ulrich '09 '16

and Mr. James L. Ulrich Mr. Eric Vineyard '16

Mrs. Laura A. Votapka '90

Mrs. Judith K. Waligorski '68 Mrs. Martha M. Watts '72 '79

Rev. Edward R. Weston '73 and Mrs. Nancy R. Weston '77 '94

Ms. Michelle M. Willemarck '08

Mrs. Vera D. Williams '95 '04 Ms. Rhonda K. Wilson '03

Mrs. Lvndsv R. Winstead '01 Ms. Debra A. Wyatt '10

Mrs. Janet E Zeidler '77 '94 Ms. Jenni-Ann Ziebarth '89

Matching Gift Companies

Luncheon Celebrates Students' and Schools' Achievements



The School of Nursing had much to celebrate at its 12th Annual Scholarship Luncheon, including dramatic growth in enrollment and program development, thriving global initiatives, and national recognition for its high-quality programs and value.

Nearly 45 nursing students received scholarships, valued at \$44,000, an increase of approximately \$13,000 over last vear.

Nursing student Ethan Field, of Marine, received the Airman David Lee Jenkins Scholarship. Field serves with a medical unit in the Army National Guard to ensure soldiers are medically fit to deploy.

"It is an amazing feeling to receive a scholarship for the first time," Field said. "I'm truly grateful and appreciative of the time the Jenkins family took to read my application and select me as their recipient."

"Our donors, students, faculty and staff are shining examples of why the School of Nursing continues to thrive and receive national attention for its first-rate offerings," said Dean Laura Bernaix, PhD, RN. "Thank you all for contributing to our students' success and removing some of their financial stress."

Annual gifts and endowed scholarships are monumental in helping students achieve their educational and professional goals.

Dean Laura Bernaix, PhD, RN

2019 Scholarships and Recipients

Airman David Lee Jenkins Honoring Past **Scholarship** Ethan Field

Alta Gracia Myers **Scholarship** Bobbie Borgman

Ann Heiden Wharton Memorial Nursing Award Kathryn O'Brien

Anthony Oliver & Felissa Lashley Award in Nursing Amanda Grogan

Cecil Howard Griffin & Florence Bowmaster **Griffin Scholarship** Caleb Culbreath **Emily Hartmann**

Chancellor Sam Goldman Scholarship for Nursing Excellence HoChung Kim

Dr. Jacquelyn M. Clement Scholarship in Nursing Cory Austin Alyssa Jimerson

Dr. Gloria Perry Graduate **Nursing Excellence Award** Maghy Schrage

Empowering Future SON Scholarship Megan Meyers Kayla Herzing

James M. & D. Corinne **Comrie Scholarship** Katelyn Presley Caralyn Papenberg

Janet N. Rarick **Scholarship for Nursing** Sydney Kesner

Janice M. Bloomfield **Memorial Nursing Student** Scholarship Kimberly Simpson

Nursing Alumni Heritage Award Scholarship Lauren Huff Shatara Ellis HoChung Kim

Nursing Gems of 2009 Award Joshua Farmer

Outstanding Student in Nursing Award Kasin Whitehead Katelyn Hardiek Macie Christisen Hannah Greenwalt

Pearl Morgan Memorial Award in Pediatric Nursing Nicole Lepping

Pre-Clinical Nursing Scholarship Janki Patel Brynn Flack Madalyn Crawford

Rita E. Boyd Scholarship in Nursing Michelle Voudrie

Roberta Lee MacDonald Memorial Award Carmen Huddleston

Ron McBride Mackenzie Lee

Scholarship for Excellence Holly Valette Hannah Greenwalt Emily Holmes Serena Strullmyer Kara Kucinick

Shirley Strohmever Memorial Nursing Award Rebekah Bonniwell

SIUE School of Nursing Faculty Scholarship-Carbondale Ciarra Marrero

SIUE School of Nursing Faculty Scholarship-Edwardsville Landry Crabtree

SIUE Student Nurses Association Scholarship Jessica Vignone Sydney Kesner Jordan Schaal Mallery Reiff

St. Clair County Medical **Society Alliance** Scholarship Anna Holdener

Stacey Jo Probst Memorial Nursing Award Andrew Poole

Stahlschmidt Family **Legacy Scholarship** Christian Telford Cassidy Vollmer

The Winston Family **Scholarship for Nursing** (SNAP) Sydney Oats

Bette Bemis Nursing Scholarship Luke Peters Bailey Jarman

Alissa Donato

New Program Readies Returning Nurses

Nurses are vital, highly skilled care contributors. But for those nurses returning to practice after time away from bedside care, the transition can be challenging given the ever-changing nature of healthcare.

To combat those challenges and ensure a smooth transition, the School of Nursing has partnered with SSM Health to offer a contemporary refresher course for newly hired Return to Practice (RTP) nurses. The Refresher Education for Acute Care Hires (REACH) program launched in July and will be offered every summer for SSM.

"New strategies to increase the nursing workforce are continually being developed," said Roberta Harrison, PhD, RN, associate dean for academic programs and community/global partnerships. "One strategy is developing ways to increase interest in experienced nurses to return to inpatient care."

REACH was developed by the School's faculty, including Emily York, DNP, MBA, APRN, instructor in family health and community health nursing; and Chelsea Howland, MSN, RN, and Mary Frazier, MSN, RN, instructors in primary care and health systems nursing. The course includes face-to-face lectures, skills and simulation activities, post-competency evaluations, and "on-the-job" clinical experience with SSM assigned preceptors.

"This was the first time for the SIUE and SSM collaboration to provide our RTP nurses a dynamic and safe learning environment," said Elizabeth Vick, RN, BSN, clinical onboarding coordinator for SSM. "SIUE held an open house to showcase what is in store for RTP candidates, and I was so impressed with the faculty and their excitement with this new partnership. I know that the nurses participating in this program will walk away feeling confident and prepared to return to the bedside."

Harrison said the REACH program will allow newly hired SSM nurses the opportunity to review fundamental nursing concepts, practice in a contemporary simulated environment, and work side-by-side with the School's faculty to review and enhance nursing skills in an inclusive environment.

The program aligns with SSM's strong commitment to continuing education in order to bring out the excellence in each and every participating nurse.

"The nurses participating will once again be able to take pride in their nursing work with the encouragement of the faculty," Vick concluded. "Healthcare is an evolving field, and with the program that SIUE has cultivated, our RTP nurses will be able to provide safe and healing care to meet the complex needs of our patients."



Experienced nurses who step away from practice in acute care settings for a variety of reasons may worry that they do not have the skills and knowledge needed to practice in the current environment. This population represents an untapped, excellent nursing recruitment resource for hospitals seeking acute care nurses.

Roberta Harrison, PhD, RN, Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Community/Global Partnerships



New Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Specialization Offered

The School of Nursing is offering a new mental health specialization beginning spring 2020. The new psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program (PMHNP) DNP will provide students with the required clinical competencies and theoretical foundation to deliver quality psychiatric mental health care. Part-time and full-time graduate tracks are available.

"Healthcare system administrators, clinical partners and community leaders are all asking for more providers to address the mental health care crisis," said Andrew Griffin, PhD, CRNA, APRN, associate professor and assistant dean of graduate programs for the School. "Expanding our nurse practitioner doctorate program to also offer a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner option is an important example of how SIUE's School of Nursing is addressing the health care needs of our community."

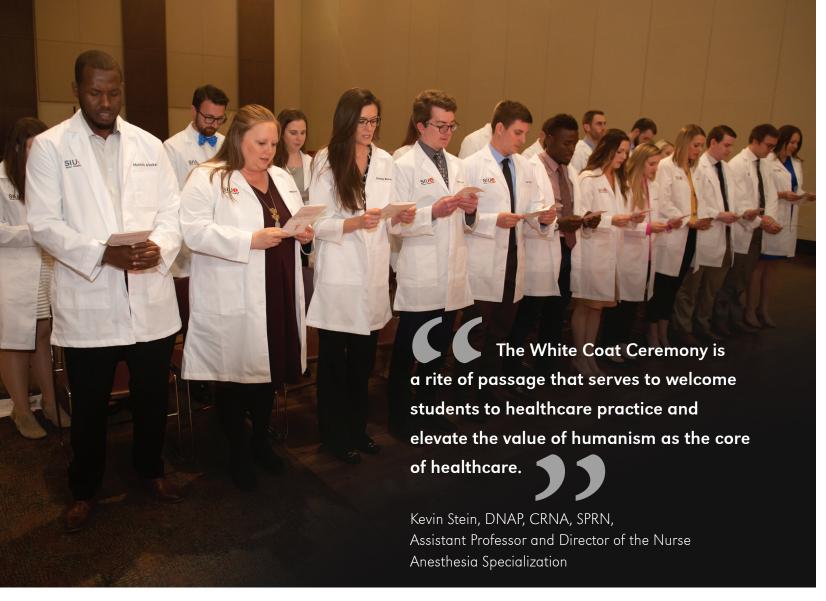
Students will learn advanced skills in evidence-based practice, leadership, policy, finance, informatics and genomics/ ethics. Required curriculum includes courses on advanced human physiology and pathophysiology, theory guided practice, neurobiology and clinical psychopharmacology, psychiatric interviewing, and more. Students will design and manage their own doctoral projects near the end of the program.

Graduates will be eligible to take the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner exam offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

The program will foster a hybrid learning environment, meaning most classes will be offered online, but learning will be supported by four on-campus immersion experiences. Additionally, lab opportunities will be available for students desiring more practice and one-on-one help with clinical skills. This format provides students with the best of both worlds; the flexibility of online learning with the personal nature of knowing and interacting with faculty.

"We are offering the PMHNP in three different ways," added Griffin. "Students can enroll in the program from their bachelor's to DNP, master's to DNP, along with a post-master's certificate for current family nurse practitioners. By maximizing opportunities for applicants, the School hopes to optimize future resources for the community."

Due to the current mental health crisis, PMHNPs are in high demand, especially in the southern Illinois region. Once board certified and licensed as an advanced practice nurse, graduates will be equipped to work in a variety of diverse settings, including private practices, outpatient clinics, schools, mental health agencies and more. Additionally, PMHNPs are qualified for leadership roles throughout various healthcare settings.



White Coat Ceremony Recognizes Nurse Anesthesia Doctoral Candidates

In May, 25 students were recognized at a White Coat Ceremony, marking the beginning of their educational journeys as nurse anesthesia doctoral candidates. The students were selected from a competitive pool of more than 130 applications, and will graduate in 2021 as the School's third cohort of doctorally prepared nurse anesthetists.

The white coat symbolizes scientific excellence and represents purity of purpose in becoming a nurse anesthetist, earned by those who pledge to deliver highly competent and compassionate care to those who seek help.

"These students spent four years preparing to become registered nurses, have worked at the bedside in critical care units providing for their patients, and have completed the first year of didactic study in their doctoral training," said Kevin Stein, SNAP, CRNA, SPRN, assistant professor and director of the School's anesthesia specialization. "They are now prepared to enter the clinical setting to begin practicing anesthesia."

The ceremony's guest of honor was Kent Fair, a certified registered nurse anesthetist and past president of the Illinois Association of Nurse Anesthetists. Fair delivered a speech focused on the compassion in anesthesia practice, and encouraged the doctoral candidates to practice kindness and empathy in their interactions with patients and colleagues.

"We are incredibly proud of these students, and it was a pleasure to recognize their efforts with this inaugural ceremony," Stein said.



Innovative Partnerships Equipping Nurses Across the Region

Nursing students at any of SIUE's partnering community colleges can choose the fast-track to obtain undergraduate or graduate degrees in nursing. This option provides students across the region with a seamless, cost-efficient and manageable way to continue their nursing education.

Students are able to earn undergraduate degrees in as little as one year and graduate degrees in as little as three years. Because the program is 100% online, students can complete their coursework when and where it's most convenient.

In addition to these community college partnerships, the School has teamed up with various healthcare corporations to offer their practicing nurses a convenient and affordable way to continue their education. Employees of these partnerships are able to complete undergraduate or graduate degrees in a flexible format online while continuing to work as a practicing nurse.

"Our innovative partnerships create more pathways and options that will position SIUE as the premier University for nursing education in the region," said Roberta Harrison, associate professor and associate dean of academic programs and community/global partnerships.

Current Community College Partnerships (new partnerships in bold)

- Illinois Eastern Community College
- John A. Logan College
- Kaskaskia College
- Lake Land Community College
- Lewis & Clark Community College
- Lincoln Land Community College
- Rend Lake College
- Shawnee Community College
- Southwestern Illinois College
- Southeastern Illinois College

Corporate Partnerships

- SSM Health (Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Wisconsin)
- HSHS (Illinois)
- Anderson Hospital and Community Hospital of Staunton (Illinois)
- BJC Hospital System (Illinois and Missouri)
- Baptist Health Hospitals in Paducah and Madisonville (Kentucky)
- Gateway Regional Medical Center (Illinois)
- Clay County Hospital (Illinois)

Instructional Designer Jodie Nehrt Aids in Creating Tools for Success



Jodie Nehrt, Instructional Designer

As a member of the University's Information Technology Services Instructional Design and Learning Technology (IDLT) team, Jodie Nehrt is the School of Nursing's instructional designer. In her role, she supports nursing faculty members in creating course content and assessments to ensure the delivery of engaging, innovative and high-quality activities, curriculum, courses and programs.

Before joining the School in 2018, Nehrt held an instructional design position at a small Illinois university. She also has worked in K-12 education as an English teacher and library media specialist.

"As a library media specialist, I discovered that I was more interested in supporting faculty and their pursuit of the right strategies, technology and tools to reach students," said Nehrt.

Now, Nehrt encourages faculty and assists them in the development of engaging learning activities through collaborative course design with a focus on consistency and ease of navigation for students and instructors.

While the University's instructional designers serve the entire institution, Nehrt's primary focus is assisting nursing faculty. The School was the first within the University to establish such a focused role for an instructional designer.

She is available to all nursing faculty for any instructional support needs, including answering grade center questions, online course tool use, content creation, assessment design and curricular alignment. She also assists with new faculty onboarding and offers workshops in course design and technology.

Nerht supports online, on-campus and hybrid courses, however, her role is particularly important in fully online courses due to the lack of synchronous contact between students and faculty. She strives to provide leadership to ensure the continual growth of the School's present and future instructional activities through the delivery of her focused resources and services to nursing faculty and students.

"My role is to help the subject matter experts design and present their content, assessments and other course assets to the students in the most accessible and engaging way possible."

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Renovations Give New Look to School of Nursing

Starting in June 2018, the School of Nursing has undergone numerous renovations to refresh its look.

Completed in the fall of 2018, the Dean's suite received the following updates:

- Carpet
- Paint
- Side chairs in offices
- Reception furniture and signage
- Student seating area
- Addition of east conference room photos highlighting current activities

Throughout this time, the School's third floor also received the following updates:

- Conference room
- Student tutoring room
- Student seating area

During the summer of 2019, the west side faculty offices received the following updates:

- Carpet
- Paint
- Side chairs in offices
- Seating and signage outside of chair's offices
- Dean's Display to highlight the School's current and past leaders

"Along with providing new spaces for students and faculty alike to grow, learn and thrive, the updates have boosted morale throughout the building," said Teri Gulledge, director of business affairs. "The new and improved spaces also lend to a view of vibrant, progressive programs to all who visit."

Retiree Restores Nurses' Nook Garden

After retiring as associate dean, Rhonda Comrie took on a new role for the School of Nursing. Along with serving as professor emerita, she has also stepped up to become the gardener of the Nurses' Nook.

"When I became a Master Gardener through the University of Illinois Extension Service, I learned that The Gardens at SIUE was one of the areas that master gardeners and master naturalists cared for. I volunteered immediately to help with refurbishing the Nurses' Nook and am very proud of the result."

According to Comrie, the plants in the garden are primarily native plants.

This year, astilbe and gray dogwood trees were added to the mix by Comrie and other garden volunteers. The team's primary focus was to renovate the area by clearing out weeds, mulching and adding new plants.

"Being able to help revitalize the Nurses' Nook has been a wonderful experience," Comrie said. "After we brought it back to its former beauty, many commented on how it was indeed a great area for garden visitors to relax, regenerate and rest."

Faculty Achievements

Grants

Ampadu, J.V., Luebbert, R., Harrison, R. & Bernaix, L. (2018). Holistic Admission and Nursing School Success. School of Nursing Faculty Scholar Award; \$3700.

Ampadu, J., Smith, N., **Bernaix, L., & Schmidt, C.** (2012-2018). Student Nurse Achievement Program. Health Resources & Services Administration; \$997,076.

Andrews, A. (2018). Nurse Educator Fellowship Award. Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE); \$10,000. Fellow.

Andrews, A. (2018). Collaborative Service Agreement. SSM DePaul; \$35,000.

Andrews, A. (2018). Impact of SystemCHANGE[™] Intervention on Medication Adherence in Older Adults with Heart Failure: A Pilot RCT. SIUE School of Nursing Faculty Scholar Award; \$920.

Comrie, R & Ampadu, J. (2018-2019). FCOI: IL Asthma Trigger Assessment Program. Illinois Department of Public Health; \$75,000.

White, K.W., Omondi, L., & DeGroot, M. (2018-2022). Nurse, education, practice, quality, and retention: Registered nurses in primary care. Health Resources and Services Administration; \$2,637,630.

Gaehle, K., Stein, K., Sobczak, B., & Perez, A. (2018). Using virtual simulation with graduate students to improve communication skills when faced with challenging situations. SIUE School of Nursing Faculty Scholar Award; \$2,125.

Gopalan, C., Locke, S., Bartels, L., Bracey, G., & Fickas, J. (2018). Examining faculty attitudes and strategies that support successful flipped teaching. National Science Foundation (NSF)– IUSE; \$598,492.

Gopalan, C. (2018). Examining barriers in the implementation of flipped teaching combined with retrieval practice. American Physiological Society (APS)–Teaching Career; \$10,000.

Luebbert, R. (Co-Investigator). (2015-2018). iCARE Suicide Prevention Grant. Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration; \$299,442.

Luebbert, R. (Co-Investigator). (2015-2019). NIH Centers of Excellence in Pain Management. National Institutes of Health; \$389,553.

Luebbert, R., Perez, A., Andrews, A., & Cooley, T. (2018). Standardized patients versus mannequins in mental health simulation. SIUE School of Nursing Faculty Scholar Award; \$1,600.

Luebbert, R., Harrison, R., & Bernaix, L. (2017-2018). Lightboard technology for the RN-BS online program. Illinois Board of Higher Education, Program Expansion Grant; \$30,488.

Lyerla, F. (2018). EMR usability and reducing the risk of litigation via policy and procedure hyperlinks. SIUE School of Nursing Faculty Scholar Award; \$2,000.

Perez, A., Stein, K., Gaehle, K., & Sobczak, B. (2018). Use of virtual simulation for graduate nursing students. Sub-funding from an SIUE Excellence in Undergraduate Education (EUE) Grant awarded to SIUE Information Technology Services; \$1,500.

Popkess, A. (2018). Wellness promotion and screening in Madison County. Illinois Nurses Foundation; \$995.

Popkess, A. (2015-2018). Collaborative Service Agreement. SSM DePaul; \$207.750.

Rowbotham, M. (2018). Breast-feeding friendly initiative. Illinois Nurses Foundation; \$307.

Stein, K. (2018). HRSA Nurse Anesthetist Traineeships Grant. Health Resources & Services Administration; \$78.111.

Stein, K. & Daus, C. (2018). Assessing the role of emotional intelligence testing in nurse anesthesia educational programs. SON Faculty Scholar Award, SIUE School of Nursing; \$2,215.

White, K. W., Wesley, C., Roucka, T., Butler, L., & Omondi, L. (2015-2018). Nurse education, practice, quality, and retention: Interprofessional collaborative practice. Health Resources and Services Administration; \$416,492.

Faculty Publications

Russell, C. L., Miller, C., Remy, L. M., Wessol, J. L., **Andrews, A.M.,** Aholt, D., Goggin, K. (2018). Improvement of immunosuppressive medication adherence using a SystemCHANGE™ intervention: Case study of an older adult kidney transplant recipient. *Nephrology Nursing Journal*, 45(2), 171-184,223.

Barron, M. L., Vanderkolk, K., & Raviele, K. (2018). Finding the fertile phase: Low-cost LH sticks vs. electronic fertility monitor. MCN: *The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing*, 43(3), 153-157.

Gopalan, C. & Kist, W. (2018). A Case study approach, combined with modified team-based learning, to teach the progression of metabolic syndrome to type 2 diabetes. *Advances in Physiology Education*, 42(1), 84–89. doi: 10.1152/advan.00141.2017.

Gopalan, C., Halpin, P.A. & Johnson, K.M.S. (2018). Benefits and logistics of non-presenting undergraduate students attending a professional scientific meeting. *Advances in Physiology Education*, 42(1), 68–74. doi. org/10.1152/advan.00091.2017.

- Halpin, P.A., Golden, L., Hagins, K.H., Waller, S. & **Gopalan, C.** (2018). Symposium report on "Examining the changing landscape of course delivery and student learning;" Experimental Biology 2017. *Advances in Physiology Education*, 42(4), 610–614. https://doi.org/10.1152/advan.00096.2018.
- **Imboden, A.,** & Fehr, K. (2018). Collaborative care of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: An innovative partnership to serve rural pediatric patients. Journal of *Pediatric Health Care*, 32(6), 584-590.
- **Luebbert, R.A.** (2018). Vulnerable populations: Decisional impairment. In Lach, H., Guidelines for scientific integrity: A handbook for research. Midwest Nursing Research Society.
- **Luebbert, R.A.** (2018). Vulnerable populations: Mental health. In Lach, H., Guidelines for scientific integrity: A handbook for research. Midwest Nursing Research Society.
- Herndon, C., Tait, R., Ferguson, M., **Luebbert, R.,** Rowland, K., Salsich, G., & Zoberi, K. (2018). Opioid overdose risk and naloxone. National Institutes of Health Pain Consortium Center of Excellence in Pain Education Learning Module, https://painconsortium.nih.gov/nih_pain_programs/coepes.html.
- Herndon, C., Tait, R., Ferguson, M., Levenhagen, K., **Luebbert, R.**, Rowland, K., Salsich, G., & Zoberi, K. (2018). Post-Mastectomy Pain Syndrome. National Institutes of Health Pain Consortium Center of Excellence in Pain Education Learning Module, https://painconsortium.nih.gov/nih_pain_programs/coepes.html.
- Tait, R.C., Zoberi, K., Ferguson, M., Levenhagen, K., **Luebbert, R.A.,** Rowland, K., Salsich, G., & Herndon, C. (2018). Post-mastectomy pain syndrome: Current status and future directions. *Journal of Pain*, 19(12), 1367-1383.
- **Lyerla, F.,** & Danks, J. (2019). Perianesthesia Nursing Malpractice: Reducing the Risk of Litigation. *Journal of PeriAnesthesia Nursing*, 34(3), 463-468.
- **Lyerla, F.,** Durbin, C., & Henderson R. (2018) Development of a Nursing EMR Usability Protocol. *CIN: Computers, Informatics, Nursing* 36(8), 393-397.
- **Gopalan, C.,** Bracey, G., Klann, M., & **Schmidt, C.** (2018). Embracing the flipped classroom: The planning and execution of a faculty workshop. *Advances in Physiology Education*, 42,648-654.

Faculty Presentations

Ampadu, J. V. (2018). The relationship between social support and diabetes self-management activities in adult African Americans. Midwest Nurses Research Society (MNRS) 42nd Annual research conference, Cleveland, OH.

- Andrews, A.M., Russell, C.L. (2018, November).

 Lessons Learned: A Feasibility Study on the Impact of a

 SystemCHANGE™ Intervention on Medication Adherence in

 Older Adults with Heart Failure. Memorial Regional Health

 Service's 12thAnnual Research Symposium. [Poster].

 Belleville, Il. (*winner of People's Choice Award).
- **Andrews, A.** (2018, November). *Worst case scenario: A clinical conference activity*. MU Nursing Educators Conference, Columbia, MO; Poster presentation
- **Andrews, A.** (2018, March). *Worst case scenario: A clinical conference activity*. Memphis Nurse Educator Institute, Memphis, Tn; Poster presentation
- Ashmann, D., Gaehle, K., Hamilton, A., & Wilson, L. (2018). *The implementation of a dedicated education unit*. Annual Belleville Memorial Hospital Research Symposium. Our Lady of the Snows, Belleville, IL.; Podium Presentation.
- **Barron, M. L.** (2018, October). *Nursing & allied health education: Role in delivery of NFP services*. Advancing Humanae Vitae, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, MO; Podium presentation.
- **Barron, M. L.** (2018, August). *Exploring barriers & opportunities in OB-GYN nursing*. National Association of Catholic Nurses Bi-Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX; Keynote presentation.
- Jackson, B, Anderson, K. and **Gaehle, K.** (2018, November). *PACU to ICU patient transfer*.18th Annual Research Symposium, Belleville Memorial Hospital, Belleville, IL.; Podium Presentation.
- **Green, L.,** & Gray, J. (2018, November). *Embedded evidence-based practice research skills assessment*. 22nd Annual Midwest Regional Nursing Education Conference, Columbia, MO; Poster presentation.
- Davis, R., & **Griffin, V.** (2018, March). *Pediatric pearls and procedure*. Saint Louis University School of Nursing Annual Conference, Saint Louis, MO; Podium presentation.
- Hamilton, A., Ashmann, D., Wilson, L., and Gaehle, K. (2019, November). *Nursing Fellowship: An Educational Option for Senior Nursing Students*. 18th Annual Research Symposium, Belleville Memorial Hospital, Belleville, IL.; Podium Presentation.
- Ferguson, M., Herndon, C., Rowland, K., **Luebbert, R.,** Salsich, G., & Zoberi, K. (2018, March). *National Institutes of Health Pain Consortium Centers of Excellence in Pain Education: Assessment of educational materials on the topic of post-mastectomy pain syndrome (PMPS) to student health professionals;* American Pain Society's Scientific Summit, Anaheim, CA; Poster Presentation.

- **Lyerla F.** (2018, November). Improving outcomes and reducing the risk of litigation via EMR design. HIMSS-Midwest Gateway Chapter Event: Leveraging Technology to Reduce Risk and Improve Patient Outcomes, Saint Louis MO.
- **Lyerla F.** (2018, October). *Minimizing the risk of Nursing Malpractice (related to the electronic medical record) in the perioperative setting.* Illinois Society of Perianesthesia Nurses Fall Conference: Edwardsville, IL.
- **Lyerla F.** (2018, May). *Electronic Medical Record Certification and Usability Requirements*. American Society of Perianesthesia Nurses National Conference, Anaheim CA.
- **Lyerla F.** (2018, May). *Legal Issues Associated with Nursing Documentation and Communication: Minimizing the Risk of Litigation.* American Society of Perianesthesia
 Nurses National Conference, Anaheim, CA.
- Perez, A., Stein, K., Gaehle, K., & Sobczak, B. (2018, November). Evaluating the use of virtual simulation among graduate students in Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Anesthesia, and Nurse Educator programs. 22nd Annual Midwest Regional Nursing Educators Conference, Columbia, MO; Poster presentation.
- **Perez, A.,** Cuervo Carruthers, H., & Nieto, M. (2018, November). *Interprofessional education to address linguistic and cultural competence in caring for Hispanic populations*. 22nd Annual Midwest Regional Nursing Educators Conference, Columbia, MO; Poster presentation.
- Ma, A., Poirier, T., Carruthers, H., Nieto, M., **Perez, A., Popkess, A., Stonecypher, T.,** Wilhelm, M., & Zuercher,
 J. (2018, November). *Community health clinics for Latinx communities in southern Illinois: Outcomes from an interprofessional co-curricular experience*. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, San Diego,
 CA; Podium presentation.
- **Perez, A.** (2018, October). *SIUE School of Nursing: Our simulation trajectory*. Mini Simulation User Network Conference, Edwardsville, IL; Podium presentation.
- Poirier, T., Carruthers, H., Ma, A., Nieto, M., Perez, A., Popkess, A., Stonecypher, T., Wilhelm, M., & Zuercher, J. (2018, September). *Developing interprofessional education outcomes using co-curricular community health clinics for underserved populations*. All Together Better Health IX (ATBH IX) Conference, Auckland, New Zealand; Poster presentation.
- **Reed, A. E., & Perez, A.** (2018, March). *Eliminating the fear factor: Utilizing high-and low-fidelity simulation to prepare students for maternal-child clinical experiences.* Memphis Nurse Educator Institute, Memphis, TN; Poster presentation.

- **Sobczak, B.** (2018, November). *iPad distraction and immunization in the primary care setting*. 2018 Memorial Regional Health Services 12th Annual Nursing Research Symposium, Belleville, IL; Poster presentation.
- **Stein, K.** (2018, November). *Clinical feedback: Developing effective student development*. Illinois Association of Nurse Anesthetists (IANA), Fall Meeting, Chicago, IL; Podium presentation.
- *Stein, K.* (2018, November). Exploring the impact of the Flipped Classroom on student registered nurse anesthetist learning. Midwest Regional Nursing Educators Conference, Columbia, MO; Poster presentation.
- **Warsing, J.** (2018, November). *Patient education:* Long acting injectable medication use in patients with schizophrenia. Midwest Regional Nursing Educators Conference, Columbia, MO; Poster presentation.
- White, K. W., & Deal, S. (2018, November). *Impacting the health of patients diagnosed with diabetes utilizing community diabetes education*. SIUE Meridian Society Afternoon Tea, Edwardsville, IL.
- **Yancey, V.** (2018, November). *The Power of Emotional Intelligence in Nursing*. Memorial Hospital, Research Day, Belleville, IL.
- **York, E.** (2018, February). *Evaluation of Egyptian Health Department Women, Infants, & Children (WIC) breastfeeding services: A doctorate of nursing practice project.* National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
 Annual Conference, Austin, TX; Poster presentation.

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Biennial Gala Planned for 2020

The School of Nursing invites alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends to the third biennial "Honoring the Past - Empowering the Future" gala. The gala will be held Friday, September 18, 2020 at the Four Seasons in St. Louis.

Gala guests will enjoy an upscale piano reception and elegant dinner dance featuring high-energy musical performances. Over 300 alumni, faculty and clinical partners and friends are expected to enjoy this truly spectacular evening.

The gala will celebrate the future vision for the School of Nursing. Proceeds will provide cutting-edge, augmented reality-based, nursing clinical simulation programs and equipment for the new Health Sciences Complex.

Support for the gala can be made through sponsorships and contributions for the live auction. Premier Sponsorships are available at \$1,000, \$2,500 and \$5,000 levels. Friends of the Gala Sponsorships are available at \$250, \$500 and \$750 levels.

For ticket and sponsorship information or to contribute to the auction, contact Patti McDonald, senior director of development, at pmcdona@siue.edu or 681-650-3906.

2018 Gala at the St. Louis Science Center's James S. McDonnell Planetarium

