Inspiring.  
Audacious.  
Creative.  

Our nurse leaders propose innovations that can transform and improve the healthcare system.
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The state of the US healthcare system is in flux. Some good news: the number of those insured has steadily climbed since the passage of the Affordable Care Act. Yet costs and inefficiencies continue to rise while health outcomes and life expectancy in the US lag behind peer industrialized nations.

We asked NYU Meyers faculty and researchers to propose meaningful ways to improve the healthcare system for patients, their families, and providers. No proposal was too small; no idea was too radical. From technical efficiencies and better recordkeeping to transforming nursing education and where patient care is delivered, our nurses share their unique viewpoints to address gaps in care and coverage.

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Dear friends,

Another successful school year is in the books! I was so thrilled and inspired by our next generation of NYU Meyers nurse leaders who graduated in May. Congratulations to them and their families on this important milestone.

This spring, we were proud to announce our excellent placements in the 2020 U.S. News & World Report Best Nursing Schools. These rankings are a testament to our strong research program, a superior classroom experience, and the recruitment of top-tier students who keep patient-centered care and the health of society at the forefront of their values.

Here is a snapshot of our rankings.

#12 | Overall master’s
#13 | Adult-gerontology acute care master’s
#7 | Adult-gerontology primary care master’s
#9 | Psychiatric mental health master’s
#4 | Nursing informatics master’s

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable summer! I’m looking forward to many more of our shared successes this fall.

Best,

Eileen Sullivan-Marx, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean & Erline Perkins McGriff Professor

The Dean’s List

NYU Meyers has been selected to receive the President’s Organizational Support Award from the NYC–Black Nurses Association Chapter in June. We are thrilled to receive this honor and to support the group’s important work as the voice for Black nurses and as a tireless advocate for health equity.

President Hamilton announced that NYU will halt spending on single-use plastic bottles by 2020. A big step toward a more sustainable campus!

The Executive Board of the World Health Organization designated 2020 as the “Year of the Nurse and Midwife,” in honor of Florence Nightingale’s 200th birthday.

Follow me on Twitter @EileenSullivanM for the latest news from the College and in nursing.

Interprofessional Summer Scholars Program | July 8 – 12, 2019

Transforming Ideas into Fundable Projects

This week-long interprofessional intensive seminar helps junior and mid-level researchers advance their careers and build grant-writing skills through in-depth mentoring experience with nationally recognized interprofessional geriatric researchers. Scholars engage in scientific discourse and critical analysis of research aims, significance, and innovation through small group discussions with expert interprofessional faculty. There are also daily opportunities for one-on-one and small group mentorships.

Visit bit.ly/HIGNScholars for more information and to apply.
Why I Give

BY CATHERINE O’NEILL D’AMICO PHD ’07

D’Amico is director of programs at NICHE and serves on the nominating committee of the Meyers Alumni Association Board.

Before starting the PhD program, I worked as an adjunct faculty member for NYU Meyers. I loved working with older individuals who had chronic medical conditions by teaching them how to care for themselves and stay in their homes. I was impressed that NYU had a course to educate new nurses on how to care for this patient population and how to recognize many of the chronic conditions that they face. As the instructor for the course, I was able to see firsthand the change in attitudes and knowledge of undergraduates in the class. As a result, when I finally had the opportunity to return to school for my PhD, NYU Meyers was my first choice.

I entered the program as a full-time student in 2003. I was an “old” new student. At 53, I knew I needed to buckle down and finish so I could use my education to further the knowledge of others. Suddenly there was a glitch. The reason I could attend full-time was because I had a supportive husband with a great career. He lost his job unexpectedly—and I lost the way to pay my own tuition. I knew I could do the program part-time for a few semesters and ramp back up when the monetary crisis resolved. The program director at the time, Elizabeth Norman, told me I had no time to waste and she would help me find a way to pay tuition and have part-time employment. She did exactly as she promised by first helping me secure a federal traineeship that paid for six credits and then granting me enough adjunct hours to qualify for an additional three credits of tuition payment, which also provided a part-time salary. NYU and the funds they issued allowed me to finish my degree in four semesters.

During my time at NYU, I was introduced to groundbreaking experts in geriatric nursing, including then-Dean Terry Fulmer and Profs. Elizabeth Capezuti and Mathy Mazey. In addition, through the support of the John A. Hartford Foundation to the NICHE program, I was provided with the source of the data for my dissertation, which explored a common geriatric problem: pressure injuries.

NYU afforded me my lifelong dream of a career in geriatrics through both financial and professional support under the mentorship of excellent faculty who helped me maintain the momentum necessary to succeed. I have returned to NYU Meyers as director for the NICHE program where I contribute to the educational programs for frontline nurses who wish to improve the care of older adults in their organizations. I give to NYU Meyers to assist others who need support in many ways, particularly financially, to achieve their educational dreams. My financial support and work with the alumni association help contribute to the community with strong nurse graduates who will give expert care to all, especially to our growing population of older adults. I want to help provide the care I will need in the future.

In addition to giving financial support now, I am working with Karen Wenderoff, director of development, to include NYU Meyers in my will so I can continue to give back and further my legacy at the College.

Are we already in your will, trust, or other estate plans?

Thank you! If you have named NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing in your will, please let us know because it helps us plan for the future. It also allows us to thank you for your generosity and to honor your loyalty to NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing.

If you have already included NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing in your will, call or email Karen Wenderoff, director of development, at 212-992-5924 or kmw2031@nyu.edu and she will add your name as a member of the Society of the Torch. The Society of the Torch is a special group of alumni, faculty, and friends of NYU who have recognized the importance of planning their philanthropy by providing for the University and its schools and colleges through their wills and estates. Through bequests in wills, trusts, and other arrangements, these donors have found a satisfying way to leave a meaningful legacy. Or, if you’d like, your gift may remain anonymous.

Don’t have a will?

You’re not alone! Now is a great time to start planning, and please consider including NYU Meyers in your will. Contact Sally for suggested bequest language and NYU’s tax ID for you to share with your attorney.

Have you ever wished you could do more for NYU Meyers?

By including us in your long-term financial plans, you may be able to:

• Create a gift that benefits you and your loved ones;
• Provide immediate or tax-deferred tax advantages to yourself and your heirs;
• Generously support future generations of nursing professionals.

To learn more about this giving opportunity, please contact Karen at 212-992-5924 or kmw2031@nyu.edu.

Did you know there are creative ways to support NYU Meyers? Ways in which NYU Meyers, you, and your loved ones all benefit at the same time?
Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx signed a memorandum of understanding with Fudan University in Shanghai. This signing marks the beginning of a collaborative relationship between the two nursing schools.

Each year the Faculty Honors Reception takes place to recognize members of the faculty who received significant honors, awards, major grants, and other special recognition. Congratulations to this year’s awardees from Meyers!

The Greater New York Black Nurses Association hosted an All of Us informational session at St. Paul Community Baptist Church in Brooklyn, NY. During the event Prof. Sandy Cayo shared information about the program and its potential value to many communities of color across the country.

Prof. Caroline Dorsen and other NYU faculty participated in a roundtable on gay liberation, the contested legacies of Stonewall, and NYU’s role, then and now as part of NYU’s Stonewall 50 event series.
Health Systems Initiative in Liberia

- The NYU Meyers team for the Responsive and Resilient Health Systems project, alongside their partner, the Liberian Board of Nursing and Midwifery, hosted a three-day national stakeholders workshop to review and validate national nursing and midwifery curricula. They also conducted a two-day continuing professional development module in normal birth skills training for practicing midwives and nurses. Twenty-one midwives and nurses from 9 clinical sites/hospitals in Montserrado county, which has the country’s highest maternal mortality rates, attended the training.

- NYU Meyers has been exploring institutional collaborations with two leading Chinese nursing schools: Fudan School of Nursing in Shanghai and Central South University Xiangya School of Nursing. Areas that are being developed include a pilot advanced practice nursing program, student exchange opportunities, clinical simulation, as well as research in aging, HIV/AIDS, and chronic illness. In March, Prof. Jamesetta Newland, Prof. Emerson Ea, and Hongping Tian of Global Initiatives traveled to Xiangya School of Nursing in Changsha to discuss these potential collaborations.

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- Prof. Allison Squires spoke at Yonsei University’s nursing conference in Korea as the keynote speaker on nursing and global health leadership for sustainable development goals.

- NYU Meyers named collaborator in $12.9 million PCORI grant with Dentistry

- A $12.9 million Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) grant awarded to NYU College of Dentistry launched in January at the first of 60 elementary schools in the Bronx. NYU Meyers Prof. Judith Haber and OHNEP Program Director Erin Hartnett, co-principal and co-investigators, on this comparative effectiveness initiative, Carried Away, participated in the clinical intervention training. The federally funded five-year study aims to compare the effectiveness of two cavity-prevention techniques, fluoride varnish and silver diamine fluoride and sealants in a New York City borough with few dental providers and a high prevalence of cavities in school age children at twice the national average.

The Carried Away clinical team is comprised of dentists, registered nurses, dental hygienists, and dental assistants. The participation of nurses delivering the fluoride varnish and silver diamine fluoride intervention will allow the research team to compare the effectiveness of care provided by nurses and dental hygienists in a school setting in reducing tooth decay and cavities. The Carried Away program further supports the NYU Meyers mission to address population health disparities through expanding interprofessional oral health education and practice.
FACULTY NOTES

Clinical Assistant Prof. Sandy Cayo was named a 2019 Nurse Hero by O Magazine.

Clinical Assistant Prof. Leon Chen was inducted as a fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

Clinical Assistant Prof. Michele Crespo-Fierro was named president-elect of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses–New York Chapter, which also named her nurse of the year.

Associate Prof. Victoria Vaughan Dickson was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International’s Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame.

Langone Health CNO/Associate Dean for Partnership Innovation Kimberly Glassman received the inaugural fellow award at the American Organization of Nurse Executives.

Clinical Assistant Prof. Selena Gilles passed the Certified Clinical Nurse Educator Exam. She also was accepted into the 2019 NLN LEAD Program.

Ursula Springer Leadership Prof. in Nursing Judith Haber was selected to be a senior scholar of the Santa Fe Group, a national oral health policy and advocacy organization.

Ursula Springer Leadership Prof. in Nursing Judith Haber and OHNEP Program Director Erin Hartnett received a $200,000 grant renewal from the DentaQuest Foundation to continue to build an interdisciplinary oral health network.

Clinical Assistant Prof. Stacen Keating was accepted to AACN’s 2019 Digital Innovation Bootcamp.

Mathy Mezey Prof. of Geriatric Nursing Christine Kovner was re-elected treasurer of the CGFNS International Board of Trustees.

Clinical Assistant Prof. Fidel Lim was named a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Assistant Prof. Chenjuan Ma and Amy Witkoski Stimpfel presented a webinar on “The Association Between Nurse Shift Patterns and Nurse-Nurse and Nurse-Physician Collaboration in Acute Care Hospital Units” for Becker’s Hospital Review.

Clinical Assistant Prof. Donna McCabe was accepted to the EJS Visiting Nurse Faculty Program at the Parkinson’s Foundation.

Assistant Prof. S. Raquel Ramos was accepted as a summer 2019 MD2K mHealth Training Institute Scholar at UCLA.

Faculty Fellow/Assistant Prof. Tina Sadarangani received $30,000 in funding from the NYU Center for the Study of Asian American Health and National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Pilot Project Program for Alzheimer’s Disease and its Related Dementias Research.

Associate Prof. Allison Squires was appointed chair of the nursing section at the New York Academy of Medicine.

Assistant Prof. Janet Van Cleave has been selected for the Mayday Pain & Society Fellowship: Communicating Science & Improving Care.

Prof. Donna Hallas receives Book of the Year Award from American Journal of Nursing

The American Journal of Nursing has named Behavioral Pediatric Healthcare for Nurse Practitioners: A Growth and Developmental Approach to Intercepting Abnormal Behaviors a recipient of its 2018 Book of the Year awards, honoring it with first place in the psychiatric and mental health category and third for child health. The book is edited by Donna Hallas, clinical professor and director of the pediatric nurse practitioner program.

Behavioral Pediatric Healthcare for Nurse Practitioners, written for practicing pediatric and family nurse practitioners and students, delivers strategic, evidence-based measures for recognizing and treating abnormal behaviors in children in the context of primary care practice. These measures are used to evaluate and treat behavioral health during each well-child visit across the pediatric life span and restore order to their patients and their families.

In addition to editing Behavioral Pediatric Healthcare for Nurse Practitioners, Hallas authored or coauthored four of its chapters on topics including infant development, infant depression and adolescent substance use. Profs. Sally Cohen, Caroline Dorsen, and James Weidel also authored chapters in the book and several pediatric NP students authored case study chapters.
Our faculty and students regularly attend elite conferences, travel abroad to conduct important research and collaborate with colleagues as well as give back to our community. Here is a snapshot of their latest work.

A Prof. Tara Cortes met with Rep. Lauren Underwood, a nurse and new member of Congress from Illinois, to discuss healthcare financing and workforce.

B Meyers OEHN students and faculty attended the 39th Annual ERC Scientific Meeting of the NY/NY ERC in New York. Prof. Amy Witkoski Stimpfel and PhD students Mimi Niles and Laura Ridge presented posters.

C Profs. Maria Mendoza, Donna Hallas, and Clinical Simulation Learning Center Director Natalya Pasklinsky spoke with President Andy Hamilton at the 2018 NYU Technology Summit.

D Prof. Mei R Fu was invited to give a podium presentation on mHealth and Symptom Science during the 2018 Peking University International Nursing Conference: Innovate, Integrate, Transcend.

E Prof. Nancy Van Devanter moderated a panel including PhD student Erica Liebermann entitled “Innovation in Sexual and Reproductive Health in Low-Middle Income Countries” at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting Expo in San Diego.

F Prof. Larry Slater presented with colleagues at the NCHC Annual Conference. The session explored innovative administrative strategies and processes for establishing and sustaining honors programs.

G Profs. Donna Hallas, Jamesetta Newland, and Mary Brennan attended the 2018 NONPF Special Topic Conference.
NEWS

STAFF NOTES

Assistant Director for Simulation Technology Jordan Genee and Instructional Design Coordinator Ryan Waingortin presented their work at the 2018 NYU Tech Summit.

The CSLC “Sim Steppers” came in 10th place out of 70 teams in the NYU Global Walking Challenge!

Another successful year supporting the NYU Annual Toy Drive sponsored by the Administrative Management Council.

NICHE Associate Director of Program Development Jennifer Pettis attended the Alzheimer’s Association New York State Advocacy Day 2019 with state Senator Daphne Jordan.
Going green
Recently, NYU Meyers distributed reusable water bottles to its staff and faculty to reduce the use of single-use plastic water bottles and disposable cups, meeting NYU’s goal of halting spending on these items by 2020. They can be filled with filtered water at stations throughout 433 First Ave.

Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx joins advisory council of TIME’S UP Healthcare

TIME’S UP has announced the launch of TIME’S UP Healthcare, a new affiliate which aims to drive new policies and decisions that result in more balanced, diverse and accountable leadership; address workplace discrimination, harassment, and abuse; and create equitable and safe work cultures within all facets of the healthcare industry.

“The outpouring of support we have received is indicative of the real thirst for change in our industry. Women make up 80% of healthcare workers, but only 11% of healthcare CEOs. We are well represented in this workforce, but not in positions of power,” said founding member Esther Choo. “TIME’S UP’s mission resonates deeply with our industry and we are honored to join the expansive and diverse TIME’S UP network to collectively transform outdated systems of power in our workplaces.”

“I am honored to serve on the advisory council for TIME’S UP Healthcare with an esteemed group of leaders who are looking to effect meaningful change in the healthcare industry and to promote dignity and safety in the workplace,” said Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx. “I look forward to being part of this important conversation and to promoting employee and patient wellbeing.”

NYU Meyers #5 nationwide in NIH funding

According to data compiled by the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research, NYU Meyers received a total of $8.2 million during the NIH’s 2018 fiscal year for research related to dementia, drug use, precision health, HIV care, and more.

“Research to advance nursing and health is at the core of NYU Meyers’ mission and the NIH have long funded our work in support of this mission. I’m proud that our talented researchers continue to successfully attract funding and that 2018 was a record year for new funding that bolsters our research portfolio,” said Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx.

Notable new NIH awards include:

- A five-year, $1.9 million grant from the NINR to establish the NYU Meyers Center for Precision Health in Diverse Populations, led by Associate Dean for Research Gail D’Eramo Melkus and Prof. Jacquelyn Taylor.

- A five-year, $6.1 million grant to Prof. Ab Brody from the NIA. The funding is being used to improve the quality of dementia care in 25 hospice agencies nationwide.

- A five-year, $3.5 million grant to Prof. Joyce Anastasi from the NINR. The grant funds a study investigating whether stimulating acupuncture points can help manage HIV-related neuropathic pain.

- A five-year, $3.5 million grant to Prof. Bei Wu from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research and NIA. The funding is being used to implement and study a unique oral health intervention for people with dementia that involves their caregivers.

TIME’S UP Healthcare is made up of women of all kinds from diverse backgrounds and specialties ranging from emergency medicine to psychiatry. Its founders and leaders represent a wide spectrum of healthcare professionals including doctors, nurses, physician assistants, clinical pharmacists and more, steadfast in the shared goal of improving gender equity and decreasing the burden of sexual harassment in healthcare.

In recognition of the fact that problems of gender inequity and sexual harassment affect all healthcare workers, TIME’S UP Healthcare organizers are committed to unifying professionals across fields and engaging and supporting organizations and individuals at every level of healthcare delivery.

“…”

CONFERENCE NEW ORLEANS 2020
Driving Geriatric Nursing Excellence

APRIL 27 – MAY 1 NICHEPROGRAM.ORG

Join nursing and healthcare thought leaders for four days of presentations, discussions, and networking.

We are looking forward to this high-energy opportunity to work alongside other members of the NICHE community to solve for unmet healthcare needs of older adults.

New this year: a healthcare makerthon!
Prof. Allison Squires selected as National Academy of Medicine distinguished nurse scholar-in-residence

by Rachel Harrison | Senior Public Affairs Officer

Prof. Allison Squires has been selected as the National Academy of Medicine distinguished nurse scholar-in-residence for the Future of Nursing 2020–2030 study. The National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Distinguished Nurse Scholar-in-Residence, supported for nearly 30 years by the American Academy of Nursing, the American Nurses Association, and the American Nurses Foundation, is a year-long opportunity for a fellow of the Academy to engage with nurse leaders and other scholars at NAM while helping to develop health policy at the federal level.

Squires is a global health workforce capacity-building researcher with a special interest in improving immigrant and refugee health outcomes. During her time as the NAM distinguished nurse scholar-in-residence, Squires aims to bring her sustainable development perspectives to examine methods of increasing interprofessional collaboration and maximizing the skills of nurses across the spectrum.

“I am honored to be selected for this opportunity to represent the American Academy of Nursing, the American Nurses Association, and the American Nurses Foundation while undertaking this important work at the National Academy of Medicine, in collaboration with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation,” said Squires. “This is an excellent chance for me to utilize my international focus to advance NAM’s research on health equity and the sustainability of our nation’s nursing workforce.”

The review committee—which included leadership from the American Academy of Nursing, the American Nurses Association, the American Nurses Foundation, the NAM, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation—selected Squires for her strong policy background as well as her stated focus to examine and address sustainability of the workforce from the perspective of integrating social determinants of health.

“Collaboration with the National Academy of Medicine, especially in regard to selecting a distinguished nurse scholar-in-residence role,” said Karen Cox, president of the American Academy of Nursing, “is a time-honored testament to nursing’s role in charting a course for improved health outcomes through policy.”

In 2009, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation partnered with the Institute of Medicine (currently NAM) to produce the Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, which set a vision for nursing’s role in 2020. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will again partner with NAM to undertake the Future of Nursing 2020–2030 study, which will evaluate current and emerging trends within the health and nursing fields to create a framework for reducing health disparities, improving the health and well-being of the population, and creating a culture of health throughout the nation.

“The Future of Nursing 2020–2030 study comes at a critical time,” said Ernest Grant, president of the American Nurses Association. “The confluence of an aging workforce, technological advances, and a demand for care in the community means the profession needs an evaluation of our future direction. The study will be vital to determining nursing’s course in the coming decades.”

“Prof. Squires will do tremendous work in her role as distinguished nurse scholar-in-residence for the National Academy of Medicine,” said Tim Porter-O’Grady, board of trustees chair of the American Nurses Foundation. “Her unique contributions in policy, research, and community engagement will enable her to advance the important work of the Future of Nursing 2020–2030 study.”
While the concept of underwater living is not new, underwater habitats are quite rare...

Prof. Winslow Burleson and diving pioneer develop portable “underwater tent”

by Rachel Harrison | Senior Public Affairs Officer

Divers are one step closer to being able to camp underwater, thanks to an underwater habitat developed by Prof. Winslow Burleson and diving pioneer and explorer Michael Lombardi.

The habitat provides a portable deep-sea space for divers, similar to a basecamp for mountaineers. The tent-like structure and its dedicated life support system, which creates a breathable environment, was awarded a patent in late December.

Advances in technology have enabled divers to explore deeper and stay there longer. However, these excursions require divers to undergo decompression—the process of allowing absorbed gases to be released from the body’s tissues at a slow rate—in order to prevent decompression sickness. Long decompression stops before an ascent can leave divers cold, tired, dehydrated, and exposed to the elements.

“There are a number of health and safety challenges to deep and long duration diving. In water, people can lose heat much faster than in air and moving through water requires much more energy. The air diver’s breath is very dry, which can lead to dehydration. On deeper and longer dives, the pressure experienced by divers requires extended decompression stops, to avoid decompression sickness,” said Burleson.

Enter Burleson and Lombardi’s underwater habitat, which provides a portable respite for divers for decompression and other activities. Divers can enter the tent-like structure, remove their equipment (including mouthpiece and breathing apparatus, since they’re entering a breathable environment), and then engage in a variety of tasks from eating to examining specimens they’ve collected to napping or relaxing.

While the concept of underwater living is not new, underwater habitats are quite rare—only one permanent undersea habitat dedicated for science exists today (a laboratory run by Florida International University). A unique feature of Burleson and Lombardi’s underwater habitat is its portability: the habitat and its anchoring system is portable enough for divers to travel with it in their checked luggage.

The other significant advance is the habitat’s modular life support system, which has a replenishable source of oxygen, a scrubber, and a fan to remove carbon dioxide from the environment, continuously cleaning the air in the tent. This unique ability to control the atmospheric composition creates a safe and breathable environment for divers.

The research team successfully deployed the habitat during a test dive off the coast of Rhode Island in October, conducting the first-ever field deployment of the patented life support system. They will continue to conduct a series of test dives this spring, and will begin to spend longer periods of time underwater, up to 8-12 hours, and possibly overnight, within the next six months.

Our nurse leaders propose innovations that can transform and improve the healthcare system.
Health information sharing for patient-centered care

by Chenjuan Ma | Assistant Professor

The US healthcare system is undergoing reform from a fee-for-service system to a value-based payment model and patient-centered care has become its focus. Yet one significant challenge to patient-centered care is the difficulty in obtaining adequate patient information (e.g., medical, social, psychological, etc.) for timely and optimal clinical decision-making.

Despite having the most expensive healthcare system in the world, Americans do not receive the best outcomes. The fragmentation of the US healthcare system has caused unsustainable cost increases, poor quality, and inequality. In 2017, the healthcare costs increased 3.6% from 2016 to $3.7 trillion or $10,739 per capita, which shared 17.9% of the gross domestic product. Compared to other wealthy countries, like the UK or Switzerland, the US spends about twice per capita on healthcare but performs worse on major health outcome indicators.

One potential approach to achieve patient-centered care without using extra resources is health information sharing across systems, settings, and providers. Along with the development of technology, substantial improvements have been made in implementing electronic health record (EHR) systems since the passage of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act in 2009. The interoperability of different EHR systems has also been significantly improved in recent years. With robust, interconnected EHR systems, key pieces of a patient's health record can be electronically accessed and reconciled as needed through the continuum of care. This will enable clinicians to make optimal clinical decisions in a timely fashion and reduce misdiagnoses, suboptimal care, and duplicative utilization. It will also result in safe, effective, and efficient transitions across care settings.

That said, the execution of health information sharing is not without challenges, which include but are not limited to 1) unclear definition of the extent to which information should be shared, 2) concerns of confidentiality and privacy and other data safety issues, 3) weak incentives, 4) lack of relevant regulation and legislation, and 5) lack of education to providers.

Health information sharing holds great promise to reduce healthcare costs and improve the quality of care. All stakeholders, executives, policymakers, clinicians, patients, researchers, and educators, can contribute to accelerating that process.

Empowering and reimbursing community providers to integrate health and social services for their constituents

by Tina Sadarangani | Assistant Professor

Registered nurses are uniquely trained to think about all the needs of vulnerable patients, not just their healthcare needs. However, nurses, and other healthcare providers are often in the frustrating and fruitless position of treating healthcare conditions that are exacerbated by non-clinical factors.

Take the case of Mrs. Chen, an older homebound patient in wheelchair with type 2 diabetes who is on a fixed income and lives alone. She has access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), commonly referred to as “food stamps,” but she can’t leave her house to purchase her groceries. Her blood sugar fluctuates and she is prone to dangerous episodes of hypoglycemia. No medication will cure her lack of access to healthful foods that underpins her health problems. Fortunately members of the community, including the RN at the adult day health center, go out of their way to bring food items to her and check in on how she is doing.

Mrs. Chen’s situation is extremely common, but illustrates that supportive relationships in the community, rooted in social and cultural congruence, play a powerful role in health and well-being. From my research as well as from professional experience, using community ‘insider’ knowledge, building social networks, having a safe place to live, and a sense of belonging can all help break down the barriers that hinder many people from having good health.

To facilitate successful aging and allow older adults to age in place, we need to reimagine the continuum of care as not simply being inclusive of hospital, rehabilitation facilities, and home-based care. We need to start viewing and reimbursing communities as a potential locus of care, rather than continuing to view them as safety net providers.

By empowering community organizations through reimbursement, we can better meet the needs of all people, including older adults—especially those who have may have specialized needs related to culture, language, or transportation. By ideologically shifting our focus to communities as care providers rather than individuals, we reduce fragmentation, improve availability of services, and provide respite for informal caregivers who may be providing unsustainable levels of support for older adults.

continued on next page
Improving health of our youth through education

by Sally Cohen | Clinical Professor

To improve the health of our children and youth, we need to enhance the linkages between education and healthcare. This endeavor would entail linking individuals, organizations, systems (including information technology), social media, and policies at the community, state, and national levels. We would find a way to tear down long-standing silos and replace them with innovative integrated collaborations. Some say that the HIPAA and FERPA laws in healthcare and education, respectively, make it impossible to collaborate because they prevent sharing of information about children. But if we want to improve the lives and well-being of children and youth, how can we do so without being able to engage the professionals and other adults who educate them and keep them healthy? If children and youth are not healthy, they cannot easily learn. And if they are lacking essential literacy and other skills, then their health is in jeopardy.

If we can send people to space, can’t we find a way to move these systems, policies, and people so that we build our resources together instead of sparring over policies that impede such work?

Nurses—especially those of us in child, family, school, and mental health—can lead the way by forging partnerships with funders, entrepreneurs, and innovators willing to take a risk and experiment or try demonstration projects that put children and youth at the center of concentric and harmonic circles around them. And of course, we need to include the voices of children, youth, and young adults. We can begin by strategizing and figuring out tactics. Let’s have nurses launch and lead the conversation.

Focused nursing education to enhance the profession

by Larry Slater | Clinical Associate Professor

In order to become a registered nurse, students must go through a nursing curriculum that prepares them for what The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice describes as baccalaureate generalist nursing practice. Similarly, pre-licensure nursing graduates take the NCLEX exam, which is designed to assess competencies consistent with generalist nursing practice. A majority of nursing students today are coming into their education with more long-term goals in mind. Whether it be their area of nursing focus based on patient population age, specialty, or setting, or some combination therein, students are looking for an education that provides them with the most “bang for their buck” and starts them on the path to reach their goals. While it can be argued that all pre-licensure graduates must demonstrate competencies across the lifespan and across settings, in reality, nurses will be working in specific areas with specific patient populations and client needs.

I can imagine a nursing education that is more flexible to meet the ever-growing diversity of our student population. There would continue to be generalist education with critical criteria to address the basic content (e.g., pathophysiology, pharmacotherapeutics, fundamental nursing care, the general nursing process) and development of critical clinical thinking with appropriate basic clinical experiences across the lifespan. Students could then sit for licensure (if a computer exam is still deemed the best reliable measure of clinical reasoning) after completing the generalist curriculum and after such receive an RN candidate (RN-C) license. Students would then continue to move into their specialization phase, working in a robust educational environment that allows students to select higher level clinical development based on long-term goals.

For example, while one may choose to focus on emergency or intensive care nursing, others may choose a primary care or community health focus. Some may still choose to maintain a more generalist focus or some may wish to concentrate on nursing informatics. Included in this second phase of the student’s education would be the opportunity for students to work with an RN-C license, based on the standards and scope of practice designated for this new form of licensure. Upon successful completion of the specialization sequence students would then apply to become a full RN.

This new educational model would not be designed to increase the length of time to graduation. It would facilitate students becoming eligible for participation in the workforce after generalist training as an RN-C while completing the remainder of their formal education. During the specialist education, the RN-C can set students up for success by expanding real-world practice that is more in line with their individual long-term goals while also promoting professional development, networking, and experiences that may even assist them in gaining initial employment.

“I can imagine a nursing education that is more flexible to meet the ever-growing diversity of our student population.”

Larry Slater
Educating nurses to care for older patients

by Mattia Gilmartin | NICHE Executive Director

According to the national population projections provided by the US Census Bureau, by 2030 all baby boomers will be older than age 65 and by 2035 there will be 78 million people 65 years and older. These changing—and challenging—demographics open opportunities for innovative approaches to improve the care older adults receive and to support healthy aging through patient-centered initiatives that meet their unique physical, psychological, and spiritual needs.

Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders (NICHE) of NYU Meyers aims to propel change in the US and abroad by delivering an evidence-based organizational development program that educates nurses to care for older patients by improving quality and safety. Currently 12% of US hospitals have adopted the NICHE model and, through the dedication and focus of staff nurses, nurse managers, and clinical leaders, these early adopters are transforming the patient experience and improving health outcomes.

The NICHE model emphasizes the power of well-prepared nurses by focusing on the fundamentals that make a difference and extends nurses’ spheres of influence on their units and in their organizations to provide the best possible care to older adults. By educating all nurses about the use of evidence in their daily practice, we are bridging the gap to promote healthy aging and well-being for older adults.

Caring for the aged is a specialty. And it is critical that the nursing workforce is prepared with the expertise to care for them. Although progress has been made to develop age-friendly healthcare services, gaps in the knowledge and skills of the nursing workforce persist. NICHE inspires nurses to become leaders and proactive thinkers by recognizing the power of aligning themselves with patient interests.

The Patient: Front and center

by Fidelindo Lim | Clinical Associate Professor

The idea of patient-centered care has been a subject of discourse for all of healthcare’s modern history. The urgency to fulfill its mandates is made more urgent by the growing diversity of the population and the chronically unaddressed needs of vulnerable populations such as ethnic and socioeconomic minorities and transgender persons. With the increasing realization of healthcare disparities and the limits of evidence-based practice as it currently stands, I would like to imagine a return to the ideals of patient-centered care with meaningful use of technology and human interaction. The All of Us Research Program is one such effort to propel healthcare research that takes into account individual differences in lifestyle, environment, and biology, toward delivering precision medicine — the lofty aim of patient-centered care.

While genomics, epigenetics, and ethopharmacogenetics supply the measurable evidence, the practice of narrative medicine will enhance the interpretation of the facts of health and illness, and transform statistics into stories. Patient-centered care means that providers — nurses, physicians, social workers, dentists — should be engaged in the effective therapeutic use of self, which remains the most enduring instrument in health and healing in spite of bewildering advances of healthcare technology.

To create a cadre of future providers who are fully attuned to patient-centered care, health profession education must include the patient in the teaching-learning process. The faculty can bring to the classroom “expert” patients who will narrate their fears and triumphs as experienced navigators of this behemoth called the healthcare system. In bedside rounds, inclusivity will come alive if the team will sincerely ask the patient “what’s your plan?” even as they are presented with the best evidence on how to manage their conditions.

I would like to think of a future when nurses, in the company of all healthcare professionals, will expertly absorb, interpret, and act on the stories and plights of their patients, while processing intricate algorithms of personalized medicine. When that time comes, the unseen, but felt, energies of caring, empathy, compassion, and science will converge.

“Caring for the aged is a specialty. And it is critical that the nursing workforce is prepared with the expertise to care for them.”
Mattia Gilmartin

“In spite of bewildering advances in healthcare technology, the most enduring instrument in health and healing remains therapeutic use of self.”
Fidelindo Lim
Our students have rich academic and social experiences—collaborating with leading organizations, giving back to the community, and honing their clinical skills, to name a few. Here is a collection of highlights from the spring and summer.

1. January ’19 graduates on the job at NYU Langone Health
2. Students with perfect attendance in AE III for the fall 2018 semester were recognized with a certificate.
3. The LEAD Scholar class of 2021 gathered at Bryant Park’s skating rink to enjoy the winter and celebrate the end of the semester.
January '19 graduates on the job at NYU Langone Health

Students with perfect attendance in AE III for the fall 2018 semester were recognized with a certificate.

The LEAD Scholar class of 2021 gathered at Bryant Park's skating rink to enjoy the winter and celebrate the end of the semester.

Profs. Sandy Cayo and Selena Gilles, along with the National Black Nurses Association and Meyers students, spent Black Nurses Day on Capitol Hill.

Students worked with alumni to review and finetune their résumés.

Students and faculty attended the Meet the Nurse Managers event presented by the API-NSA, LGBTQ-NSA, and CCNSA student organizations.
January 2019 graduates celebrated their accomplishments at the annual Valedictory Breakfast.

Prof. Chin Park and students participated in the 2019 NYU All-University Games, winning third place in dodgeball and first place in air hockey.

MEN students, accompanied by Prof. Fidel Lim, taught students about heart health at La Salle Academy high school.
January 2019 graduates celebrated their accomplishments at the annual Valedictory Breakfast.

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Students and staff welcomed admitted Meyers undergraduate students for NYU’s annual Weekend on the Square.

The MEN basketball team took third place in the university intramural league.

Students and mentors participated in reflection exercises using cartoons, video, poetry, and spoken language.
“I thought that perhaps my best contribution to the profession would be to take my passion for research—developing new knowledge about how to improve the work environment for nurses—and bring it to the nurses working at bedside.”
Prof. Amy Witkoski Stimpfel didn’t start out looking to upend a time-honored tradition in the nursing profession. But between her experiences as a new nurse working in a hospital and her attraction to research, that may be exactly what she’s doing.

“My observations as a staff nurse made me question why we were staffing and scheduling nurses the way we were, and what evidence was needed to change the status quo,” said Witkoski Stimpfel, explaining her progression from hospital floor nurse to research faculty at NYU Meyers.

“I always had an interest in research, even as an undergraduate at Villanova University. When I looked around at my peers, very few seemed as excited. But my professors there were so encouraging of me to pursue an advanced degree and to do research. I sought several summer positions as an undergrad, doing bench research in a lab and working on inpatient units conducting clinical trials.”

Better to help others through research

“After those research lab experiences and working as a staff nurse, I thought that perhaps my best contribution to the profession would be to take my passion for research — developing new knowledge about how to improve the work environment for nurses — and bring it to the nurses working at bedside. While I am not currently working in patient care, I do think it’s important to stay in touch with bedside nurses in order to keep research questions relevant and useful.”

“My dissertation was a secondary analysis of a large multi-state nurse survey conducted by Linda Aiken, a nursing health services research pioneer of University of Pennsylvania College of Nursing.”

“I explored the relationship between nurse work hours and patient satisfaction and nurse job outcomes in a sample of more than 22,000 nurses. Some of the major findings were that we found that, as the proportion of nurses in a hospital working 13 hours or more on their last shift increased, patient dissatisfaction increased, measured by the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and System (HCAHPS) scores. This is significant because hospitals are reimbursed, in part, based on those scores. Similarly, as the proportion of nurses working 13 hours or more increased, nurse burnout also increased.”

New research study in Journal of Advanced Nursing

Witkoski Stimpfel further honed her findings in a new study, recently published in Journal of Advanced Nursing, with colleagues Mathey Mezey Prof. of Geriatric Nursing Christine Kovner and Senior Biostatistician Jason Fletcher. With funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, they set out to research the hours that new nurses work.

The study subjects consisted of newly licensed nurses, four cohorts from 2004–2005 through 2014–2015 from 13 states and Washington, DC. Kovner started collecting these data beginning with the 2004–2005 cohort and continued over a decade. The research team analyzed 4,500 surveys from these new nurses and discovered many things, with good and bad implications for both nurses and their patients.

On the positive side:

• New nurses appear to be working a similar proportion of 12-hour shifts as more experienced nurses based on other studies;
• The majority of nurses work the shift and schedule they preferred;
• The research team did not find meaningful increases in overall weekly work hours or overtime hours, compared to previous studies;

Pertaining to overtime, the study found:

• Newly licensed nurses work an average of 39.4 hours per week;
• They work predominantly in 12-hour shifts;
• More than 13% report having a second job;
• New nurses prefer working the day shift and the preferred shift length is 12 hours;
• 12% of new nurses report working mandatory overtime, though this is also restricted by law in 18 states;
• 45.6% work voluntary overtime

That said, earlier studies have associated working overtime with patient outcomes (e.g. medication errors), occupational injury among nurses (e.g. needle sticks), and factors like burnout and job dissatisfaction. So, a conclusion of this study is that hospital schedulers should be aware of the downside — for both patients and nurses — of overtime and long shifts.

Walking to work at NYU

Amy Witkoski Stimpfel joined the Meyers College of Nursing as an assistant professor in 2013 following a T32 post-doctoral fellowship in the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research at the University of Pennsylvania.

“I interviewed around the country after my post-doc but ultimately NYU was the top choice. My husband and I met in New York City, actually close to NYU, so it’s sentimental to me, too. I never imagined I would have the opportunity to live in New York City and work at one of the top nursing schools in the county. It’s been wonderful. I live very close to my office at Meyers, consider it a major perk to be able to walk to work every day!”

What’s on her horizon

Her research at NYU Meyers focuses on identifying modifiable conditions in nurses’ work environments that influence nurse well-being and clinical outcomes. Her scholarship uses theories and methodologies from health services research, occupational health and safety, sleep/chronobiology, and nursing. Witkoski Stimpfel is also currently the co-program director of the NIOSH-funded doctoral training program in occupational and environmental health nursing.

Witkoski Stimpfel is currently funded by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing for a year-long study of nurses in their first five years of practice. She and her team are using innovative virtual focus groups to learn more about their sleep, work stress and substance use.
FEATURE

UPDATES FROM THE Sim Center

by Natalya Pasklinksy | Director, Clinical Simulation Learning Center
Interprofessional collaborations with LIU and NYU Steinhardt

The Clinical Simulation Learning Center (CSLC), along with the acute care psychiatric nursing faculty, teamed up with Long Island University’s pharmacy program to deliver an interprofessional simulation experience utilizing standardized patients on opioid use disorder. Nursing and pharmacy students collaborated to assess and create a plan for a patient with chronic back pain.

In addition, Prof. Mary Brennan, Assistant Director of Graduate Simulation Charles Tilley, and Adjunct Prof. Jibran Majeed developed simulations focusing on diagnosis and management of abdominal pain and renal failure, which the students then collaborated on to develop evidence-based plans of care.

CSLC Director Natalya Pasklinsky and Assistant Director Gina Robertiello, in collaboration with NYU Steinhardt Department of Physical Therapy, developed the first interprofessional simulation in which first sequence baccalaureate nursing students and graduate physical therapy students participated. Students rotated between five different scenarios created to encourage teamwork and collaboration between the professions.

Integrating simulation across our curricula

Evidence-based practice in the undergraduate program

The CSLC teamed up with the Integrating Evidence into Clinical Practice course to bring the students a new and different experience. “Phantom of the ER” was created as an “immersive theatrical experience.” Learning objectives were aimed at implementing evidence-based practice when caring for patients with acute coronary syndrome (ACS) and to identify cultural and gender-specific presentations of ACS using best evidence. Two scenarios followed best practice while the remaining two inappropriately triaged and managed the patients. The Sim Center was staged to look like a busy ER with other patients and mannequins dispersed throughout the rooms and hallway. Students rotated between the rooms and alternated between being observers and active participants. Standardized patients, course faculty, simulation staff, and senior nursing students were trained and played roles in the scenarios.

Palliative care in undergraduate and graduate simulation

In Spring 2018, NYU Meyers received a grant from the Hugoton Foundation to integrate palliative care across the graduate and undergraduate simulation curricula. Prof. Susan Altman and the Assistant Director of Graduate Simulation Charles Tilley continue to develop a perinatal loss simulation utilizing feedback from student focus groups. The undergraduate program is in the process of developing simulations for stillbirth and care of a baby born to an addicted mother.

Family nurse practitioner program

The FNP program integrated on-campus and off-campus physical assessment clinical into graduate health assessment. Prof. Babette Biesecker continues to develop the “Day in the Life Simulation,” a multi-patient simulation that challenges these nurse practitioners to diagnose and manage healthcare complaints across the lifespan.

Pediatric nurse practitioner program

Prof. Donna Hallas incorporated novel live-stream simulations into the pediatrics curriculum. The live-stream simulations are structured as either a solo student or group of students acting as the “Primary Care Team” lead for a 15-minute scenario, ranging from allergic reactions to behavioral issues in children and adolescents, which was live streamed into the classroom. The students in class critiqued the “Primary Care Team” in their ability to efficiently obtain a history, perform a physical, and identify pertinent diagnostics. Constructive feedback on the management plan was then presented to the team by students and faculty in the context of evidence-based practice.

Nursing education program

The graduate nursing education students had, for the first time, the opportunity to develop their own simulations under the mentorship of Prof. Maria Mendoza and Assistant Director of Graduate Simulation Charles Tilley. The students developed undergraduate simulations in the areas of complex wound care, code response, and care of the transgender patient utilizing the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning standards.

New accreditation by the Society of Simulation in Healthcare

The CSLC team worked tirelessly to achieve accreditation by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH) and were honored at the SSH President’s Ball in January. Congratulations to the entire team for receiving this new recognition!

New simulation: Respectful LGBTQ care

NYU Meyers students participated in a new simulation on improving LGBTQ care in honor of Diversity and Inclusion Month in February. Nathan Levitt BS ’11 (left), director of the transgender program at NYU Langone Health, was the standardized patient presenting to the ER in pain. Together with Educational Specialist Katherine Marx and the CSLC team, Levitt guided conversations on LGBTQ health, respectful communication, and using inclusive language.

Faculty Development Academy

Prof. Beth Latimer and Instructional Technologist James Nguyen launched the Faculty Development Academy Simulation Portal. This new resource for both full-time and adjunct clinical faculty who practice in clinical simulation includes links for simulation essentials as well as resources for educators to assess and develop their debriefing skills and clinical simulation practice.
In January, I had the pleasure of joining a cohort of undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral nursing students on a study away trip to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Naturally we took the requisite trips to museums, monuments, and neighboring countries. However two weeks in a foreign land brought so much more than sightseeing and sunny weather in the dead of a New York City winter; it also brought an opportunity to get a true flavor of healthcare in the country. Trips to various healthcare facilities brought not only enlightenment, but also shining examples of fortitude and resilience.

“Painting helps me.” Milagro, an 18-year-old bedridden girl, explains how she manages the stress of her chronic, debilitating condition. Sheltered by the Argentine healthcare system since birth, Milagro has aged out of the nation’s responsibility for care. She faces the grim prospect of returning to a home without air conditioning, television, internet access, or federally-funded home healthcare. Nevertheless, she greets her foreign visitors with a winning smile and warm disposition.

“Blue is my favorite color!” Santi, a 5-year-old boy in a room neighboring Milagro’s, suffered the mangling of his left arm in an escalator accident. Imitating his favorite superhero, Spider-Man, he crawls one-armed across a dirty facility floor, all the while smiling and conversing freely with his American guests.

One of Buenos Aires’ poorest palliative care units houses Milagro and Santi. Located amongst the hustle and bustle of Buenos Aires’s Recoleta neighborhood, Hospital de Niños Dr. Ricardo Guitiérrez is an example of Argentina’s struggling healthcare system. Wheelchair-bound patients who present for outpatient care must be physically carried upstairs due to the Ministry of Health’s denial of an elevator. That does not deter the palliative care nurses, doctors, and social workers, however, who work tirelessly to provide the very best care possible for their patients.

In contrast to Hospital de Niños Dr. Ricardo Guitiérrez, Hospital El Cruce S.A.M.I.C. Dr. Néstor Carlos Kirchner is a high-tech, state-of-the-art hospital located in Florencio Varela. Gleaming signs, modern architecture, and lavish landscapes greet each visitor. Administration provides each nursing unit with the latest technology. Nurses, physicians, administrators, and researchers dedicate themselves to finding treatment modalities — even cures — for some of modern medicine’s most perplexing diseases.

Hospital de Pediatría S.A.M.I.C. Prof. Dr. Juan P. Garrahan, a public pediatric hospital located in the heart of Parque Patricios, El Garrahan — as it is known — caters to the needs of the area’s infirmed children. El Garrahan greets its visitors with bulletin boards overflowing with finger paintings, hallways painted in vibrant colors, cats playing in a courtyard, and one smile after another. The pride felt by the nursing administrator was palpable as he escorted our group from one nursing unit to another. A visit to La Casa de Ronald McDonald, a partner of Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires, provided the group with an uplifting end to the study away journey. Tidy beds filled elegantly appointed rooms, cupboards overflowed with fresh fruit and vegetables, and libraries held books for children and adults. For those Argentinians who desperately need respite, La Casa de Ronald McDonald serves as a comfortable place to rest their heads.

Fourteen days and thirteen nights later, my students and I were equal parts exhausted and exhilarated. Not only did our travel fulfill a curriculum requirement — Nursing Issues and Trends within the Healthcare System — it enlightened and inspired. We all left with a sense of wonder and gratitude.
The primary goal of Comparative Health Systems: United States and Italy was for students to experience a full-immersion of Florentine healthcare services, social and cultural aspects of health, and history and art as it pertains to nursing and health. The 2019 cohort was a diverse group of students ranging from undergraduate all the way to pre-doctoral student with a varied set of life experiences, ages, ethnicity, cultures, and racial backgrounds, which speaks to the College’s missions of inclusion and diversity in its narrowest and broadest senses. Prior to arriving in Florence, many of the students did not know each other and by the end of course, they had forged strong lifelong bonds.

The course began with a formal lecture at the beautiful NYU campus, Villa La Pietra. Ercole Vellone, a prominent cardiovascular researcher at the University of Rome Tor Vergata, presented to the students on the Italian healthcare system. Vellone discussed Italy’s national health system and discussed the differences on timing, access, and quality between the northern and southern Italian regions. He explained that although healthcare utilization may be saturated and access to services may take slightly longer in certain parts of the region, the quality of services and care is good throughout. We also learned that Italy has similar healthcare challenges to the US, such as providing care for an aging society. This will be important for nurses to think about as they go out into the workforce and experience the ways in which care is accessed and delivered here in the US.

For field trips we walked to local sites in Florence and traveled by bus to nearby cities in the Tuscany region. The field trips in Florence included a visit to an ambulance service that was started during the 15th century to transport the sick during the Black Plague. We also visited Florence Nightingale’s birth place, a villa situated on a hill that overlooks all of Florence. During these trips students were also able to learn about a key cultural difference in how Italians view religion in their everyday lives. They place a strong emphasis on symbols, such as the cross, paintings of Jesus using gold leaf, and Mary adorned with a halo throughout museums, healthcare facilities, and building structures.

Students had to perform a windshield assessment or a “walking tour” of Florence. During that assessment, students identified that in some areas the streets and sidewalks were narrow and how the cobblestone streets could be problematic. They pondered how persons with disabilities were able to safely navigate such terrain. It was then they realized that they had not seen anyone using a wheelchair, walker, or cane on the streets. This is vastly different from their experiences where persons living with disabilities are not typically in the Florence area because it is so busy. Instead they are in surrounding areas outside of the city limits. Learning about safety through the windshield survey helped the students understand how “reasonable accommodation” via the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 may sometimes be taken for granted when traveling abroad.

One of the greatest benefits of the January course was that it provided an opportunity for the students to savor Southern European culture through food. They also noticed many restaurant signs emphasizing that the food was homemade. The local grocery store had many healthy eating choices consisting of fresh lean meats, vegetables, fruits, olive oils, and, of course, wine.

Students noticed that alongside healthy eating, many people in Florence walk instead of drive. They were surprised when they researched how one in three Italian’s are overweight.

Students also learned that 28% of Europe use tobacco products despite regulations increasing taxation. There has been little change in tobacco use in the past decade. Smoking cessation is a sensitive topic in Italy. Many people smoke and at younger ages. Our nursing students believe that in Italy, nursing should take a culturally respectful approach towards education on smoking cessation.

We ended the January term with a visit to the Galleria dell’Accademia, where Michelangelo’s statue, David, is displayed. The sheer size and power of this marvelous work of art was breathtaking. And it provided a dramatic ending for two memorable weeks in Florence. We said “ciao” to our students, bidding them safe travels as they journeyed home. Grazie mille to NYU Meyers and NYU Florence for providing an experience for students that creates international leaders in nursing science.
No matter how you slice it, Sapana Patel has her very capable hands quite full. Too busy and varied to actually chart a typical day, this NYU Meyers College of Nursing BS ’04 and MS ’07 alumna also went on to earn her DNP from Yale in 2018. The nurse practitioner and mother got the entrepreneur bug long ago—and, it fed her continued pursuit of degrees, which then perpetuated her entrepreneurial pursuits! “My specialization is in adult primary care,” she explained. “NYU provided the foundation for my nursing career. Graduating from a prestigious program not only prepared me to excel as a nurse practitioner but also created opportunities that I never fathomed existed for NPs. Five years after graduation, I was given the opportunity to be adjunct faculty in an NYU master’s program. This allowed me to take on the role of educator, give back to my profession, and network with nursing experts from academia. “NYU empowers their nurses to be leaders, to be innovative. By immersing myself in such a culture, I was able to push the traditional boundaries of nursing and start looking at my practice through an entrepreneurial lens. As my passion for integrating entrepreneurship into nursing was ignited, I knew I needed a platform to empower other nurses. It was soon after that I decided to further my education and applied to get my doctorate degree.” Patel is currently in leadership positions in no fewer than four companies and academic programs, and she is a certified adult primary care nurse practitioner in occupational health for Princeton University and adjunct faculty at NYU Meyers. And she’s got two young sons.

“When nursing meets entrepreneurship… innovation happens.”
“Healthcare requires an infusion of NPs with a prerequisite of passion for innovation and entrepreneurship to drive health reform.”

How does she do it?

“My days start with your typical morning routine — lunches, school bags, and a walk to the bus stop — followed by conference calls, site visits to Aura Dermatology” — one of the companies she’s helped form — and, “following up on emails.”

What exactly does Sapana Patel do as an entrepreneurial nurse practitioner? Let’s break it down...

Teaching other nurses to be entrepreneurs

As CEO and co-founder of Let’s Practice, a company committed to empowering nurse practitioners to start viewing their practice through an entrepreneurial lens, Patel explains that it’s “a platform that was created to provide nurse practitioners with free resources on the various elements to consider when starting their entrepreneurial journey. Nursing is at the forefront of health reform and will require entrepreneurial expertise to navigate the complex healthcare system. Our subscribers can download free resources that provide high-level information on the various intricacies of entrepreneurship. We also host one-day Business 101 intensive seminars to assist nurses considering entrepreneurship.”

Patel is also the COO of Aura Dermatology, which she calls “an innovative business model that is a partnership between a physician and a nurse practitioner to create an atmosphere where the patients are the center of our success. (It is a business) model where our value proposition is providing a patient experience that is focused on quality and wellness.”

Teaching entrepreneurship at Northeastern

In addition, Patel is consulting director of the Health Innovation and EntrepreNURSEship Program at Northeastern University. For this role, she commutes to Boston from her home in New Jersey.

“My role at Northeastern is to facilitate programs and partnerships that nurture the entrepreneurial spirit in nurses[…] and public health professionals and to provide the tools that will help them become leaders in innovation.

“We currently reach more than 5,000 health professionals and have hosted 17 events and are finalizing the details for our third annual NP Entrepreneurship Conference.

“Our vision for the program is to achieve national eminence as a leader of health-care innovation for nurses and other front-line healthcare professionals. Along with Executive Director Karen Giuliano, we are collaborating to create a center for excellence to guide nurse practitioners in establishing profitable NP-led practices as well as a center of excellence for nurse-driven medical product development.”

Santa’s Little Allstars’ holiday toy drive begets Unity SME

“Starting off as a grassroots movement in 2011, two friends and I came together to host a toy drive now known as Santa’s Little Allstars. The goal was simple: teach and engage the younger generation about social responsibility and provide holiday cheer to children who could really use something to smile about.

“Last year, we hosted SLA events in 11 cities, 10 states across the nation. To date we have raised more than 20,000 gifts, have partnerships with 57 corporate partners, have engaged 1,000 volunteers, and donated gifts and other much-needed supplies to 36 charities across the nation.”

“As the event grew, we realized that our Santa’s Little Allstars dream could have a path that would help us make a greater impact on this world’s social canvas. This led to the inception of our 501(c)(3) charity, Unity SME, a nonprofit committed to educating all people on the importance of social responsibility.”

Still a practicing NP

Sapana Patel finds her “boots on the ground” experience valuable to her development.

“Having nurses at the decision-making table provides a unique perspective. Nurses provide 80% of patient care and are able to bring the patient perspective to policy changes. In order to be a successful entrepreneur, I need to continue to practice as an NP so that I can better understand the impact decisions have on all levels of healthcare — administrative, clinical, and patient. Having said that, my time as a clinician has decreased as I take on more administrative roles.”

When asked if she has a typical day or week, she laughs.

“I can honestly say ‘no’. Each day is a new adventure and I wouldn’t want it any other way. You can imagine that as mom to two amazing, energetic boys, my days are filled with a lot of Mommymyyyyy requests. My role as a mom is the one I cherish the most and it is also the reason I strive to excel in my career and follow my passions. Are there days that are overwhelming and tiring? Absolutely, but I also know that there is always a tomorrow.”

“My passion stems from my love for nursing and entrepreneurship”

“Healthcare requires an infusion of NPs with a prerequisite of passion for innovation and entrepreneurship to drive health reform,” Patel said. “My goal is to continue to empower them to follow their passions. I want to continue to integrate entrepreneurship into academic nursing programs as it is vital for nurses to have the business acumen necessary to create change in today’s evolving healthcare landscape. I also would like to continue to build innovative and sustainable NP-owned business models across all practice environments.”
CELEBRATIONS

NYU Meyers regularly holds panel discussions, gatherings, and celebrations for current and former students. Here are some of these events’ highlights.

Alumni Weekend
Wine Tasting
October 26, 2018

A Ingrid Milera, MS ’20, BS ’16 and Dana Cosentino MS ’10
B Christine Wilson BS ’12; Hilyar Bloom BS ’12; Liz Bossov BS ’12; Lauren Hostetler BS ’12; Avangeline Vacketta, MS ’20, BS ’12
C Anne Sansevero MA ’96 and Sally Marshall

Alumni Weekend:
Reversing gender inequality and redefining women’s health
October 27, 2018

D Caroline Dorsen, PhD ’14, BS ’97; Victoria Vaughan Dickson, John Merriman, Marilyn Sommers MA ’76
E Merriman and Sommers MA ’76
F Dorsen, PhD ’14, BS ’97 and Victoria Vaughan Dickson
G Faculty speakers: Marilyn Sommers MA ’76; Vaughan Dickson; Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx; Merriman; Dorsen, PhD ’14, BS ’97
Alumni Weekend
Dean’s Luncheon
October 27, 2018

Alumni and faculty award winners:
Judith Haber, PhD ’84, MA ’67; Nathan Levitt BS ’11; Maryann Peterson BS ’14; Natalya Pasklinsky, DNP ’21, MS ’10; Barbara Krainovich-Miller; Sullivan-Marx; Karen Ballard MA ’68; Cartwright PhD ’05; Merriman; Peg McCarthy PhD ’13

First row: Beth Latimer, DNP ’11, MA ’93; Cathy O’Neill D’Amico PhD ’07; Sharon Wexler, PhD ’07, MA ’85; Noreen Brennan, PhD ’05, MA ’96; Second row: Sommers; Kaye-De-Ann Rattray, MS ’16, BS ’07; Tara Cortes, PhD ’76, MA ’71; Monefa Anderson, MPA ’96 (WAG), BS ’07

AAN Conference Reception
November 3, 2018

Left to right: Virginia Peragallo-Dittko MA ’88; William Rosa, BS ’09, BFA ’04 (Tisch); Mattia Gilmartin; Sullivan-Marx; Cartwright PhD ’05; Kathleen Neville, PhD ’93, MA ’85

Barbara Jonas Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Lecture
November 5, 2018

Psychiatric-mental health NP students with Michelle Knapp, Candice Knight, and Danielle Conklin, DNP ’18, MS ’15, BS ’13
Alumni reception hosted by Robin Schafer BS ’99

December 5, 2018

Selena Cabral, MA ’08, BA ’03 (Steinhardt); Kelly Houlihan, BS ’09; Christopher Vasquez, Sarah Brosch, BS ’13; Robin Schafer, BS ’99; Sullivan-Marx; Sally Marshall; Janet Griffin; Monica Melo BS ’97; Dana Deravin Carr; Monique Scott MS ’15; Toby Marxuach-Gusciora, MA ’80, MA ’75 (Steinhardt); Ellen Greffenius, BS ’94; David Greffenius

Dean’s Council holiday dinner

December 11, 2018

Left to right: Judith Haber, PhD ’84, MA ’67; Cortes, PhD ’76, MA ’71; Luis Cortes; Barbara Calabrese, MA ’92; Howard Meyers BS ’64 (Stern), NYU trustee

James Pace with Maria Vezina, MA ’77

Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx with Susan Bowar-Ferres PhD ’87 (left) and Timothy Shi BS ’12 (right)

Winter mixer

January 30, 2019

Nicole Kirchhoffer MS ’18 and Renee Sanchez MS ’13

Barbara Witek, BS ’19; Polina Pletinskaya, BS ’19; Briana Tae, BS ’19
NYU Board of Trustees visit Meyers
February 27, 2019

Trustees met students in the Clinical Simulation Learning Center.

Left to right: Casey Box, MPA ‘11 (WAG), BA ’09 (GAL), Cyrell Preposi, MS ’20, BS ’15, BA ’08 (CAS), AA ’05 (LS); Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx; Rachel Breece BS ’21; Gladys Vallespir Ellett, PhD ’21, BS ’04; Larry Slater, Joseph Landy

Sullivan-Marx demonstrated wound care to NYU trustee Casey Box in the Clinical Sim Center

Healthcare innovations: Intersections among nursing, dentistry, and engineering
March 13, 2019

Panelists: Luke Dubois, Allison Vorderstrasse, Rumi Chunara, Ron Kosinski, Winslow Burleson
Why did you decide to become a nurse?

Growing up, I was exposed to nursing through my family; my mom, sister, and aunt are nurses. When I was a senior in high school I couldn’t decide what major to study in college, but always had a vision of one day being a CEO. Being able to lead a team or even an organization was an exciting thought as a teenager. I then realized that nursing could be my vehicle to becoming a CEO.

What was your experience like at NYU Meyers?

It was one of the best experiences of my life. The program was well-designed, the professors were excellent, and many of the classmates I met during my time there have become my lifelong friends.

Did you have a special relationship with a particular faculty member? Who was it and why?

Since the first day I met Prof. Eloise Cathcart, I was inspired. She was articulate, humble, charismatic, empathetic, and passionate about her work. I attribute much of my personal and professional success to her. We have been in touch since we first met ten years ago and she has been there for me as a coach, mentor, confidant, and friend.

What got you interested in nursing administration?

Working as a staff nurse I have seen first-hand the effects poor nursing management and leadership can take on the provision of quality patient care, staff performance, and job enjoyment as well as organizational performance and success. I wanted to be the leader I did not have, so I worked hard to climb the clinical ladder to become a charge nurse. But then I realized the scope of work was limited and I believed in order for me to make an impact on staff and patient care, I had to become a nurse manager. However, with limited experience, I knew I had to learn more about nursing leadership so I enrolled in the master’s in nursing administration program.

Why is nursing administration an important and fulfilling field within the profession?

Nursing administrators shape the landscape of the healthcare delivery system by setting the culture on a patient care unit(s) and impacting the effectiveness of the entire healthcare team. I obtained such gratification from caring for my patients that I was worried I would lose the fulfillment moving from bedside to board side. However, I realized after some time as a nurse administrator that my fulfillment now comes through the frontline staff and managers by making an impact on the practice and making sure that frontline staff have everything they need to provide excellent care and work effectively together.

What does your role currently entail? What is your favorite part?

I’m currently the Chief Experience Office (CXO) at the Brooklyn Hospital Center. As the CXO, I oversee the patient experience program for the organization, which consists of redesigning and implementing our patient interaction touchpoints and I lead operational process improvement which impacts the patient experience. My favorite part is being able to work with the staff and leaders in the organization and serve as a coach for them on process redesign and improvement methodologies as well as experience design which leads to positive and memorable patient interactions.

What advice do you have for new nurses?

1) Don’t be afraid of failure.  
2) Don’t listen to the naysayers.  
3) Have a vision.  
4) Find your purpose.
Greetings from the Alumni Association President

Dear alumni,

When alumni and students ask what opportunities exist to connect with this powerful community, I direct them to the growing list of volunteer programs and events offered by the Meyers Alumni Association.

Students welcome the chance to meet alumni and alumni are excited to meet students. These connections are a priority for the Alumni Association and two programs in particular were very successful this year.

There were 67 alumni who spoke to first sequence baccalaureate students in the Professional Nursing class this academic year about shared their professional experience and insights in various fields including ICU, OR, midwifery, informatics, and more. Students had the opportunity to learn firsthand about the many career opportunities in nursing and the daily life on particular hospital units.

45 alumni participated in the mentoring program. They met with students on a monthly basis to answer their questions and offer support as they prepared to launch a new career in nursing.

Whether you speak to a class or meet with a student over coffee, I encourage you to get involved at Meyers and help build the alumni community.

Alumni speakers
Are you an enthusiastic alum who would like to share your professional experience with our students? We are currently in search of individuals who work in a wide range of specialties to participate in panel discussions, individual speaking opportunities, class lectures, and more.

Alumni awards
Nominate outstanding alumni for the awards program. The Meyers Alumni Association recognizes exemplary alumni who demonstrate the mission of the college through their contributions to the profession and to healthcare.

Rising Star Award
Recognizes graduates of the last five years who has made great strides in his or her nursing career while representing and supporting the mission and values of the College.

Distinguished Alumni Award
Recognizes alumni who have demonstrated outstanding contributions to the disciplines of nursing and healthcare.

Nursing Alumni Mentoring Network
Join our team of mentors to enhance the Meyers experience for current undergraduate students. Mentors commit to meeting with their mentees once a month during the academic year via phone, email, or in person. Events providing networking opportunities for all participants in the program will take place throughout the year.

Meyers Alumni Association Board
Help us build a strong alumni community at Meyers! NYU Meyers Alumni Association fosters a lifelong connection between the school and alumni, from the beginning of their journey as students and throughout the many life stages as an alum. Board members plan events, oversee alumni awards, assist with fundraising, and advise on communications. For more information on joining the board, please contact the Alumni Relations office at nursing.alumni@nyu.edu.

Sincerely,

Monefa M. Anderson
BS ’07, MPA ’96 (WAG)

SAVE THE DATES

June 19
Professional networking panel and reception

July 17
Summer social

October 25–26
Alumni Weekend
1960s
David Bachman BS ’64 wrote a school of nursing history entitled *They Delivered the Future: The History of the Good Samaritan Hospital/Training School of Nurses from 1899–1948.*

1970s
Carol Hoskins, PhD ’78, MA ’73 is happily retired with her husband in Chapel Hill.
Adrienne Lamia-Liander MA ’79 is looking forward to enjoying retirement after a full career.
Mary Sharon Ward-Miller MA ’74 received her DNP from Case Western in May 2018.

1980s
Raymond Esteves BS ’84 has retired as AVP of Behavioral Health Services at Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center.
Barbara Glickstein BS ’85 is the 2019 honoree at the annual Project Kesher Gala.
Joyce Griffin-Sobel PhD ’88 is the incoming president and CEO of the Helene Fuld College.
Lynette Livingston BS ’84 is employed with the Nurse-Family Partnership, a non-profit organization which arranges for home visits to low-income first-time mothers for two years following birth.
Neville Strumpf PhD ’82 will receive an honorary degree of doctor of sciences from University of Pennsylvania in May.

1990s
Peggy Compton PhD ’93 is the recipient of an R21 grant from NIDA entitled, “Effect of opioid taper on pain responses in patients with chronic pain.”
Michele Crespo-Fierro BS ’90 is the sponsor of the Jorge Prada Memorial Scholarship.
RoseAnn DiMaria-Ghalili PhD ’98 has been appointed assistant dean for interprofessional and collaborative research at Drexel University.
Cathleen Hadley-Samia BS ’94 has spent her entire career at Hillcrest Hospital, part of the Cleveland Clinic, now working in its antepartum unit.
Leo-Felix Jurado MA ’91 was elected chair of the Department of Nursing at William Paterson University.
Ann Marie Mauro PhD ’98 received the AACN Excellence and Innovation in Teaching Award.
Vidette Todaro-Franceschi PhD ’98 authored a book entitled *Compassion Fatigue and Burnout in Nursing: Enhancing Professional Quality of Life.*

2000s
Poornam Agarwal BS ’08 recently graduated from an NP program and is working at an orthopedic facility.
Mary Joy Garcia-Dia MA ’02 recently published a book entitled *Project Management in Nursing Informatics.*
Erica McCartney BS ’09 has moved back to the Seattle area and is working as a resource nurse in the ICU at Swedish Edmonds. She is also working on her DNP.

Laurel Hallock-Koppelmann BS ’07 was named recipient of the 2019 American Association of Nurse Practitioners Oregon State Award for Nurse Practitioner Excellence.
Ramona Ramadas BS ’07 formed a startup that takes a transformative approach to working with vulnerable populations.
Billy Rosa BS ’09 gave the Florence Wald Lectureship for Hospice & Palliative Care in April for the Minnesota Network of Hospice & Palliative Care Annual Conference.
Erika Surinach BS ’05 has been promoted to pediatric nurse manager.
Stacey Piccinati Woods, MS ’06, BS ’02 is now working at Arizona Mother-Baby Care, a collaboration between multiple hospital systems to write and implement clinical pathways for high-risk maternal and fetal conditions.

2010s
Alissa Cantone BS ’10 will begin her part-time FNP studies this summer.
Lois Collins MS ’18 is now the pediatric ambulatory clinical nurse manager at Maimonides Medical Center.
Selena Gillespie BS ’16 has started a new job as a pediatric and adult hospital-based forensic nurse.
Jackie Goodman BS ’10 has started a new position as assistant director of nursing at Oceans Healthcare of Greater New Orleans.
Rohini Jaikaran BS ’17 participated in her first medical trip abroad to Kathmandu, Nepal.

Paul Jones BS ’12 published the article entitled “Quality improvement: A structured daily checklist” in *American Nurse Today.*
Minjae Kim MS ’17 graduated from Yale School of Public Health with an MPH.
Ashley Kritzer BS ’18 has been working in the ER for six months.
Karen Lu BS ’12 has been working in obstetrics since graduating.
Melissa Ojemeni PhD ’18 is now living in Seattle and will begin an adjunct faculty position at Seattle Pacific University.
Sarah Richey BS ’10 relocated to Boston where she has been a nurse in the outpatient melanoma clinic at the Mass General Cancer Center for two years.
Kathryn Rittweger BS ’17 has relocated to Seattle.
Joe Schomburg BS ’10 has started a new position as associate director of spine surgery at Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles.
Jessica Trowers BS ’18 is a new nurse in the surgical intensive care unit.
Christopher Wright Jr., MS ’19, BS ’14 is a nurse practitioner in hematology oncology at NYU Langone Health Cancer Center.
Aleksandra Zagorin, DNP ’14, MA ’02 is undergraduate program director at Wagner College School of Nursing.

IN MEMORIAM
Margaret McNally MA ’80 passed away at age 65 after a 22-year battle with cancer.
2019 Estelle Osborne Legacy Celebration

For the 28th year, we celebrated the life of Estelle Massey Osborne, a pioneer in organizational administration and the first Black nurse to receive a master’s degree in nursing, by recognizing a distinguished alumnus/a whose professional career embodies Osborne’s legacy. This year’s honoree was Edilma Yearwood MA ’77.

Keynote speaker Loretta Sweet Jemmott, vice president for health and health equity at Drexel University, spoke about critical strategies for engaging the community and using their voices to design and implement evidenced-based health interventions to promote the health of residents in vulnerable underserved communities.

Following Jemmott’s presentation, we honored Edilma Yearwood as this year’s Estelle Osborne recognition awardee. Yearwood, chair of the Department of Professional Nursing Practice at Georgetown University School of Nursing & Health Studies, has carried on the spirit of Osborne’s work by advancing the professional development of nurses, serving as a role model, and actively participating in professional organizations for more than 40 years. She has focused her research on underserved, immigrant, and vulnerable populations using a respectful and empowering engagement model.

We were also pleased to welcome two of Estelle Osborne’s relatives: great-great-niece Safiya Morgan and great-nephew David McGruder.

This annual celebration would not be possible without the vision of its founders: Gloria Chandler Ramsey MA ’87, BS ’83; Phyllis Lisanti PhD ’87; and late former Division Head Diane McGivern.

MAKE A GIFT TO THE ESTELLE OSBORNE SCHOLARSHIP

Join us in establishing a scholarship named in honor of Estelle Osborne. Endowing this scholarship will ensure that we are able to award scholarship funds in perpetuity to high-achieving undergraduate and graduate students from underrepresented communities.

Ways to give:
• Donate online at nursing.nyu.edu/estelleosborne.
• Send a check made payable to NYU with Estelle Osborne Scholarship in the memo line. The College’s address is 433 First Avenue, 6th floor, New York, NY 10010.
• Call 212-998-5359 and we will take your credit card information over the phone.

Thank you for standing with us at the forefront of efforts to open the nursing profession to the widest possible range of students!

About Estelle Osborne (1901–1981) Estelle Osborne, a true nurse leader, was educational director at the Freedmen’s Hospital in Washington, DC. She served five years as president of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, which was established to promote professionalization, education, and practice opportunities for Black nurses. Following service during World War II, Osborne concentrated on opening doors to higher education for Black nurses. In 1946, she joined NYU, becoming the first Black faculty member in what is now NYU Meyers.
GIVING

*Donations as of April, 2019

We are grateful to the individuals who have included NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing in their estate plans. By providing a legacy gift to Meyers College of Nursing, these individuals are helping to further the education of nursing professionals into the future.

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE  $2,500 and above

American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Cancer Society
Jeremiah A. Barondess, MD
Barbara (MA ’92) and Michael Calabrese
Rebecca (BS ‘06) and Robert Callahan
CVS Health Foundation
Julie and Glenn Davidson
DentaQuest Foundation
Claire (PhD ’64) and Samuel (GSAS ’64) Fagin
Arlene T. Farren (PhD ’06, MA ’87)
Catherine Taylor Foster (PhD ’74)
Margery (PhD ’83) and John Garbin
Evelyn Gioiella (PhD ’77, MA ’63)
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DEAN’S CIRCLE  $1,000 – $2,499

Monefa Anderson (BS ‘07, WAG ’96)
Nellie Carter Bailey (MA ’80)
Amy Berman (BS ’06)
Linda Burnes Bolton
Susan Bowar-Ferres (PhD ’87) and Dean Ferres
Frances Cartwright (PhD ’05) and Peter Alcarese
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*deceased
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