8 How About We? How Design has Begun to Integrate with Health Education
10 Making Life Better for the At Risk and Underserved: Community-Based Initiatives
18 Alumna profile: Alicia Georges MA ’73
Dear friends,

2016 was our most exciting year yet. Thanks to the generosity of Howard and Rory Meyers, we accepted a $30 million gift that will be used to fully fund the education of a number of first-generation, low-income undergraduate nursing students every year as well as support faculty to pursue new and rigorous programs of research. There are so many wonderful things to celebrate about this historic gift, but I can think of no bigger thrill than for our institution to be named after Rory, a beloved wife, nurse, and philanthropist!

This gift comes at a critical moment in healthcare—a time for the re-imagining of how best to deliver high-quality, affordable care. And nurses are leaders in the innovation required to tackle this challenge and, more broadly, the world’s most pressing issues: health disparities, poverty, mental health, climate change, chronic illness, substance abuse, and the effects of an aging population.

As a nationally recognized leader in nursing education and research, our College and its distinguished faculty work hard every day to ensure that tomorrow’s nurses and scientists are prepared to advance quality healthcare for all as interprofessional leaders, clinicians, and educators. In 2016, U.S. News and World Report ranked our graduate nurse practitioner in gerontology program second in the country and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) ranked us eighth in NIH research funding. In addition, we are honored to receive the prestigious designation as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education from the National League for Nursing.

In this fall’s issue of NYU Nursing, we look back on the 35th anniversary of the first HIV/AIDS diagnosis in the US. Several of our faculty were intimately involved in the epidemic’s beginnings in New York City and they recount their memories of what was then a truly frightening time—for both the patients who received a positive diagnosis and for the family, friends, and professionals who cared for them.

We also introduce readers to our new faculty members, all of whom bring their deep knowledge of healthcare delivery to our students in the classroom and through their research. I am so glad they joined us.

Each day, as I move about our building, the city, and Washington Square, I am motivated by the energy and vitality! Our students, faculty, and administrators are rising to society’s challenge to provide humane, pioneering care to anyone who needs it. It is most certainly an exciting time to be a nurse and to be at the College.

Warm regards to you and your loved ones as we head into the holiday season.

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

STATEMENT ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Welcome.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY RORY MEYERS COLLEGE OF NURSING is committed to the inclusion and support of individuals and ideas from all who comprise our multicultural community. The College embraces the richness of diversity in its multiple dimensions that exist within and around us, including: race, ethnicity, nationality, class, sex, gender identity/ expression, ability, faith/belief, sexual orientation, and age. It acknowledges that each member of our community brings a unique collection of identities and experiences that contribute to our collective dialogue. We believe in the value of diversity and its many points of view, which serve to enhance the quality of the teaching, research, service, and employment experiences at the College.

NYU Meyers strives to acknowledge, value, and celebrate our diversity while putting into action meaningful expressions of inclusion. We take pride in working together to build a diverse, equitable, and civil community where everyone feels safe, healthy, and free to be themselves, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds.

The College is committed to meeting the healthcare demands of an increasingly diverse population with an equally diverse faculty and workforce. We invite your presence and support as we build our valued community.
NYU Meyers students marched in the gay pride parade in New York City this summer to show solidarity with the LGBT community.

More on page 27.
18 Alumna profile: Alicia Georges MA ’73

20 Celebrations

24 STUDENTS
A Nurse and a Gentleman

27 STUDENTS
A Space to Share

28 Student life

32 Greetings from Alumni Association President Penny Maneghan Klatell, PhD ’75, MA ’71

33 Class notes

35 Why I Give
Ellen D. Baer, PhD ’82, MA ’73

36 Leadership and Dean’s Circles
NYU Meyers Earns National League of Nursing’s Prestigious Designation

ew York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing is pleased to announce that it has earned the National League of Nursing’s prestigious designation as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education™ for 2016-2021 in recognition of its sustained efforts in “creating environments that enhance student learning and professional development.” NYU Meyers was first recognized as a COE by the NLN for the years 2012-2016.

Schools of nursing apply for COE status based on demonstrated and sustained excellence in faculty development, nursing education research, or student learning and professional development. Healthcare organizations may apply in Creating Workplace Environments that Promote Academic Progression of Nurses. Applicants must also have a proven commitment to continuous quality improvement. Through public recognition and distinction, NLN’s COE program acknowledges the outstanding innovations, commitment, and sustainability of excellence these organizations convey.

“NYU Meyers is thrilled to again be recognized by the NLN as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education,” said Eileen M. Sullivan-McBride, dean and Erline Perkins McGriff Professor. “As a national leader in nurse education, we are committed to sustained, evidence-based, and innovative research in the field of nursing science. Our distinguished faculty work hard to ensure that tomorrow’s nurses and scientists are ready to advance our profession as interprofessional healthcare team leaders, as clinicians, and as educators.”

“The NLN is proud to recognize those schools and organizations that are doing the outstanding work that sets them apart from others,” said NLN president Dr. Anne Bavier. “By publicly acknowledging these best practices,” added NLN CEO Dr. Beverly Malone, “we promote the preparation of a diverse, culturally competent nursing workforce to deliver safe, effective patient care in our complex, dynamic healthcare environment.”

NYU Meyers is one of 15 that have achieved COE designation in 2016-2021. The program was inaugurated in 2004, and with this year’s awardees, there are now 56 schools and organizations that have attained COE status.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

- The College welcomed Behavioral Sciences Training in Drug Abuse Research (BST), a highly successful pre- and post-doctoral training program, led by co-directors Gregory Falkin and George De Leon. The Program will continue its collaboration with the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research to support drug abuse research.
- Ab Brody, assistant professor, was named a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and of the New York Academy of Medicine.
- Winslow Burleson, associate professor, received a $2.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation to develop a well-integrated software/hardware instrument incorporating visual, audio, and physical components, known as the NYU Holodeck.
- Jeff Day, clinical assistant professor, presented on HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis at the 29th annual Associate of Nurses in AIDS Care Conference in November.
- Emerson Ea, clinical associate professor, received a citation of honor during the Philippine-American Friendship Day Celebration presented by the president of the Borough of Queens, New York.
Mei R. Fu, associate professor, received a R01 technology innovation research award from the National Cancer Institute to develop precision assessment of lymphedema risk through machine learning.

Marya Gwadz, senior research scientist, and her team received a five-year, $5.8 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to design a study that increases engagement along the HIV care continuum for black and Hispanic people living with HIV who are neither taking antiretroviral therapy nor well engaged in HIV primary care.

Holly Hagan, professor and co-director of CDUHR, was an invited plenary speaker at the 5th International Symposium on Hepatitis Care in Substance Users held in Oslo where she presented on the epidemiology of HCV among people who use drugs, specifically on primary prevention.

Erin Hartnett, director of Oral Health Nursing Education and Practice (OHNEP) and Teaching Oral-Systemic Health (TOSH), was a panelist at the 2016 Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Weekend annual event.

Christine Kovner, Mathy Mezey Professor of Geriatric Nursing, has been appointed to the Board of the CGFNS, which serves the global healthcare community by providing a comprehensive suite of credential assessment products to meet specific needs.

Fidel Lim, clinical associate professor, and Matthew Marsaglia, instructional technologist, were awarded a Curriculum Challenge Fund grant to implement high-quality educational programming in nursing humanities, beyond the confines of the classroom, to provide a qualitatively robust approach to enhance patient-centered care competencies of future nurses.

Gail D’Eramo Melkus, associate dean for research, presented at the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science, State of the Science Congress in September. Her presentation was entitled Lifestyle determinants: Self-management for black women with Type 2 Diabetes.

Madeline Naegle was named professor emerita beginning in fall 2016. She also was named a fellow in the Health and Aging Policy Program.

James Pace, senior associate dean for academic programs, was named a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Allison Squires, associate professor, was elected as co-chair of the Research Committee for the National Council of Interpreters in Health Care.

Shiela Strauss, clinical professor, was the keynote speaker at the Dental Medicine 2016 Conference held in Toronto where she presented on research involving screening for diabetes at dental visits using gingival crevicular blood.

Janet H. Van Cleave, assistant professor, and Mei R. Fu, associate professor, were selected to participate in the 2016 John A. Hartford Foundation Change AGEnts Initiative Communications Institute in Chicago in support of their project, Developing a pragmatic electronic patient visit questionnaire for symptom and function assessment of patients with head and neck cancer.

Victoria Vaughan Dickson, associate professor, and Amy Witkoski Stimpfel, assistant professor, received a five-year award from the Center for Disease Control’s National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health to provide doctoral-level training in occupational and environmental health nursing.

Mary Jo Vetter, clinical associate professor, presented at the Swiss National Forum of Managed Care on opportunities and challenges for home care organizations in integrated healthcare systems.

Dispatches from a Fulbright Assignment

by Jeremy Rowe
Research Scientist

For six weeks in April and May, I worked in Sarajevo, Bosnia on a Fulbright Specialist assignment with The National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina to begin working with the director and staff to start digitizing, enhancing, and improving access to their collections, and expand outreach to the community. Established in 1890, The National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina is a major cultural and scientific institution with collections including archaeology, art history, ethnology, geography, history, and natural history. The National Museum is internationally known as home of the oldest Sephardic Jewish document in the world. This illuminated manuscript, the Sarajevo Haggadah, was created in Barcelona around 1350. Rebuilding after the war that ended with the Dayton Accord in 1995, the country slowly began to recover, but due to a funding crisis triggered by the 2008 economic downturn, heating and power for the museum were turned off, staff were released, and the museum was forced to close completely in October 2012. Despite lack of salaries, a small core of dedicated staff continued to protect the museum and its collections, and care for the botanical garden. After being closed for almost three years, in September 2015, thanks to a donation from the US Embassy of BIH Ambassador Fund, the museum was finally able to reopen, but the institution and its staff faced huge challenges recovering and trying to start to make up lost ground.

As part of my assignment, I prepared examples and tests to explore simple digitization techniques to help provide examples of and create a foundation and plan for, future grant proposals. This task at times proved difficult.

The Library originally wanted to prioritize digitizing its entire 300,000-card catalog. However, some cards were handwritten in Cyrillic characters, and others poorly typewritten with weak impressions and overlapping letters. This fact led us to explore collaboration with other institutions, to add a workstation to the reading room, and to focus on prioritizing providing access to materials in their collections based on uniqueness and use. My unique experience in Sarajevo has led me to encourage my colleagues here at NYU Meyers to get involved with the Fulbright Program and to explore collaborations with colleagues abroad and across the University from other disciplines.
YEaR TWO ReCAp:
Faculty Development and Mentorship Program

BegInning in 2014, the College launched an ambitious professional development and mentorship program, generously funded by the Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation. The program’s goal was to address the current shortage of academic nursing faculty equipped to educate registered nurses for the realities of healthcare in the 21st century. In particular, the faculty, through extensive consultation, identified the widening gap between education and practice, as well as the lack of role models and individualized mentoring, as its two key challenges.

After a successful launch, year two focused on improving the quality of teaching and teacher preparation, recruiting and retaining top-tier faculty members, and preparing them to incorporate innovative tools and technologies into the classroom. Faculty had a variety of development opportunities ranging from roundtables and webcasts to continued training with an instructional technologist, whereby they could gain and enhance new skills.

Two innovative workshops launched this year and were well received. The first was a collaboration with Arts Fusion Initiative, a multidisciplinary group of Juilliard-training artists dedicated to concert programming and educational outreach. Through the use of poetry, live music, and dance improvisation, faculty built community and collective understanding. In addition, a conflict management training left participants with practical tools and insights to resolve professional conflict through role-play and direct feedback.

“The Rudin family has had a long history of providing scholarship support for nurses, initiated at NYU beginning in 1986. As the family became more and more involved in this area, it understood the need to support programs that made certain that the students were being instructed in the classroom by the most talented and well-trained professors. In order to achieve the goal of keeping teachers current and challenged in their work, the directors of the Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation provided and continue to provide significant support for professional development and continued learning opportunities for these educators. Such support is absolutely critical both for the educators and for their students.”

—May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation
MEET OUR NEW FACULTY

Theresa Bucco
Clinical Assistant Professor

Prior to coming to NYU, Theresa Bucco was a hospital-based instructor at Northwell Health/Staten Island University Hospital. She holds a BSN from Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing in 1977, an MSN from Wagner College in 2006, and a PhD from Seton Hall College of Nursing in 2015. The topic of her dissertation was “The relationship between patients’ perceptions of nurse caring behaviors, nurses’ perceptions of nurse caring behaviors, and patient satisfaction in the emergency department.”

Sandy Cayo
Clinical Assistant Professor

Sandy Cayo received a BS in nursing from The College of New Rochelle in 2008. She completed her DNP at Fairfield University in 2014 and currently is a family nurse practitioner maintaining her practice in Trumbull, Connecticut. Her main research interests are in family medicine, urban health, and complementary and integrative health. Her doctoral research focused on improving minority bone marrow transplant donor attitudes toward donation. She has worked with first-generation and minority nursing studies to help improve retention in academic nursing programs and continues to work with disadvantaged populations through education of wellness as a whole.

Before joining NYU, Cayo was a lecturer at The College of New Rochelle and Fairfield University. She was recognized in 2015 with the Insight into Diversity award for her work in improving attrition rates among African-American and other minority nursing students.

WHY NYU?

WHEN I WAS ASKED on my interview why did I pick NYU, I said why not? It is the very finest nursing education program. Now I pinch myself every day that the Rory Meyers College of Nursing chose me. It is an absolute honor and pleasure to work in a world-class organization. Administrators, faculty, and staff are knowledgeable, professional, and welcoming. I plan to embrace the mission and vision of the College and live up to the standard for faculty here at NYU.

I CHOSE NYU because after meeting the faculty here, it was clear that the passion for educating future nurses of the world was the number one priority. There was a palpable sense of pride and distinction from both students and faculty at NYU Meyers. I knew that this was where I was supposed to be.
Karen Smith
Clinical Assistant Professor

Karen Smith completed a BSN from East Stroudsburg University in 2001, an MSN with board certification as a family nurse practitioner from Misericordia University in 2004, and a DNP from Wilkes University in 2016.

Smith’s research interests include the reduction of antibiotic resistance through the use of evidence-based practice guidelines in the clinical setting, addressing factors that may be affecting the adoption and consistent use of evidence-based guidelines, and establishing a cultural approach that encourages collaboration, focusing on organizational and individual accountability.

Prior to joining the faculty at NYU, Smith was the project leader in the development of three underserved population rural health clinics that were the first centers in Northeast Pennsylvania to use an NP model of practice. Smith was awarded Rural Health Leader of the Year by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and was awarded a HRSA grant for three years.

**MY DECISION TO JOIN NYU** was influenced by the reputation of excellence in nursing education that the College provides to its students and the opportunity to collaborate with national and global leaders in education, practice, and research.

Bei Wu
Dean’s Chair Professor in Global Health
Director of Global Health and Aging Research
Director of Research at the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing

Bei Wu’s career in gerontology has been distinguished by collaboration with researchers in various disciplines, particularly in nursing and dentistry, at many academic institutions and organizations in the US and abroad. As a principal investigator, Wu has led a significant number of projects supported by federal agencies such as the National Institutes of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Her numerous publications cover a variety of issues related to aging and health, including oral health, long-term care, dementia, and caregiving.

Wu was previously The Pauline Gratz Professor of Nursing and Professor of Global Health at Duke University, where she served as director for international research in the School of Nursing. She was also a senior fellow of the Duke University Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development. Wu is a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education. She is the immediate past-president of the Geriatric Oral Health Group of the International Association for Dental Research and immediate past-chair of the Mentoring Committee at the Gerontological Society of America.

**NEW YORK CITY** is an exciting and dynamic place to live and learn with rich culture and diversity. NYU is well-known for its wide reach, and as a researcher who is interested in global health, it is a great place for me to expand my work.

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**EVERYONE IS A DESIGNER THESE DAYS.** Online, an article encourages me to lead a well-designed life, while a banner ad entices me to design my own Nikes. My father, recently retired, has committed to “redesigning the garage.” The new coffee shop in my neighborhood is hosting a bagel design workshop. It should not be a surprise, then, that design has reached healthcare.

In 2014, Toronto General Hospital named its first creative director. Internationally renowned design firm IDEO has shifted its focus away from industrial design toward healthcare and human services. A nascent community of doctor-designers are sharing their creative work online through #PrescribeDesign.

More recently, design has begun to integrate with medical education, especially in Canada, the UK, and pockets of the US—Philadelphia and Palo Alto, for example—where advanced degree programs are forming in step with an increasing demand for technology-agnostic professionals who can create healthcare experiences that are useful, usable, delightful, and impactful. Unlike Brooklyn's latest couture bagel store, there is reason to be optimistic about nursing’s new ally in patient-centered care.

What we talk about when we discuss design is often handbags, living rooms, and concert posters. However, there is a growing cadre of professionals working to confront ill-defined challenges with not only quality and craftsmanship as their aims, but also utility, accessibility, and sustainability. These designers come from a long line of professionals that practice, in some shape or form, design thinking. In the *Sciences of the Artificial* (1969), Herbert Simon, Nobel Prize laureate and researcher, defined design as the transformation of existing conditions into preferred ones, and described design thinking as “always linked to an improved future. Unlike critical thinking, which is a process of analysis and is associated with the ‘breaking down’ of ideas, design thinking is a creative process based around the ‘building up’ of ideas. There are no judgments in design thinking. This eliminates the fear of failure and encourages maximum input and participation. Wild ideas are welcome, since these often lead to the most creative solutions. Everyone is a designer, and design thinking is a way to apply design methodologies to any of life’s situations.”

While design thinking has been practiced since the ’70s, its spread may be contributed to Stanford’s Design School, which deeply embedded the approach into its curriculum. Many of the University’s design school alumni went on to lead Bay Area companies—Apple, Google, Intuit—to breakthroughs in their industries. While historically labeled as a fuzzy or soft discipline, the value of good design was later articulated by a 2014 study by Motiv Strategies, which found that design-centric companies beat the S&P by 228% between 2003 and 2013. This finding, called the Design Value Index, catalyzed commercial interest in design as a central part of strategy and culture.

Healthcare and education face increasingly relevant challenges, and some consider design thinking, and design in general, to be one of several approaches these sectors can take to match a level of innovation and change seen in similarly complex sectors such as transportation, hospitality, and banking. For nursing education specifically, a newer challenge is how to prepare a generation of nurses who can bring their unique perspective to the development of the spaces, services, objects, digital interactions, and complex environments in the delivery of healthcare.
At NYU Meyers, we are taking steps toward supporting this future. This fall, the first design-infused course began in our graduate informatics program. The overall goal of the course is to equip students with a framework to approach healthcare challenges with a creative, empathetic, and sustainable mindset, as well as the confidence to see themselves as designers of spaces, services, products, and experiences.

In Consumers and Interactive Health, students self-assembled into groups of shared general interest—education, communication, environment, and behavior. Over time, these groups subdivided into groups with more defined questions that remain open to a range of possibilities:

- How might we support the long-term health of breast cancer survivors?
- How might we encourage breastfeeding during hospital stays?
- How might we better communicate the admission process to non-native English speakers?
- How might we improve the experience for visitors of patients undergoing anesthesiology?
- How might we enable nurses to lead healthier lives at work?

Throughout the semester, student groups engaged in ethnographic research, talking with people who experience these challenges and observing them in their contexts. These sessions gleaned motivations and constraints and, most importantly, revealed where the real problem was. As a class, students brainstormed a divergent array of solutions for each group and, considering each idea against their research, time constraints, and priorities, whittled down ideas to one they would develop a prototype of—a rough draft to convey basic functionality. These prototypes were then tested with the same audience, and the resulting feedback was used to inform improvements on the prototype or to completely pivot their project in another direction.

In parallel with iterations on their designs, the course introduces fundamental entrepreneurship education to help students consider their projects’ distribution channels, cost structures, and revenue streams, among other business considerations. Should students desire to move forward with their projects, the course’s last weeks provide guidance for next steps, including how to advance projects through NYU’s Leslie Entrepreneurship Institute.

For a first course that fuses design and nursing, the variety of projects was remarkable. On top of mobile apps and websites, students have designed a lounge for visitors of perioperative patients, renovated a van into a mobile breastfeeding resource, and delivered meal kits containing recipes and fresh ingredients to people with congestive heart failure. While there were times when connecting prior nursing knowledge and new design concepts was difficult, students ultimately created projects that would hold their own with New York’s design schools.

The most promising lesson is that perhaps none of this should be surprising. After all, nurses inherently possess the two skills that good design is contingent upon: empathy and grit. ■
To this end, the research faculty excels in obtaining research grants for community-based studies at home and abroad, to detect and effectively address the needs of at-risk, underserved, and vulnerable populations.

In recent years, NYU Meyers has received or collaborated on more than $18 million in research grants for local community-based projects. The College, ranked eighth in NIH funding, received $13 million of all grants from the organization.

Studies range from providing primary care to underserved adolescents in Brooklyn and elders on the Lower East Side, to training at-risk teen mothers in Massachusetts to become better parents, from teaching women at city YMCAs to recognize and attend to their own cardiovascular health to assessing the effectiveness of settings in New York State to serve runaway homeless youth, and two studies involving HIV populations—heterosexuals at high risk, and those persons living with HIV/AIDS not currently using antiretroviral therapy, in Brooklyn, the Bronx, and East Harlem.

Not only do these community-based studies aim to make life better and safer by taking on some of the city’s, country’s, and world’s most challenging health issues, they also provide many exciting new venues where undergraduate and graduate students can expand the clinical experiences that develop competencies related to primary care and community health nursing of various populations.
community grants
FROM 2010 TO 2021

- **Noelle Leonard**, senior research scientist, was awarded a **$650K grant** from the NIH to foster autonomous and adaptive emotional regulation functioning to promote sensitive, non-abusive parenting and the reduction of behaviors, including substance use, that place adolescent mothers and their offspring at risk.
  Community area: **New York State**

- **Marya Gwadz**, senior research scientist, received **$593K** from the **William T Grant Foundation** to study program quality and outcomes for runaway and homeless youth.
  Community area: **New York State**

- **Judith Haber**, Ursula Springer Leadership Professor in Nursing, was awarded a **HRSA grant** to improve access to primary healthcare in a medically underserved adolescent and immigrant population through school-based primary care services, health literacy education, and linkages to community resources. In addition, it offered clinical experiences to undergraduate and graduate students that developed primary care and cultural competences.
  Community area: **YMCA Greater New York**

- **Marya Gwadz**, senior research scientist, along with co-investigators Charles Cleland and Noelle Leonard received **$5.8 million** from the NIH through 2021 to optimize an HIV care continuum intervention for vulnerable populations. The study aims to identify which of five components contribute meaningfully to improvement in viral suppression as well as to build the most cost-effective and efficient intervention package.
  Community area: **South Bronx and East Harlem**

- **Victoria Dickson**, associate professor, received **$100K** from the Cigna Foundation to establish strong working relationships among the College, Cigna, and the YMCA. This alliance enabled the three partners to explore and test how YMCA staff and resources, together with the College’s training and tools, could be used to mobilize and inspire many more women to actively address cardiovascular disease and its risk by embracing necessary self-care skills and practices to improve heart health for the participants and their families.
  Community area: **YMCA Greater New York**

- **Leslie Taub**, clinical associate professor, received a **HRSA grant** for **$1.2 million** to expand access to primary care for older adults. The program was an innovative, replicable model of community-based primary care coordination and located at a retirement community and three senior centers where underserved and high-risk adults over 60 reside.
  Community area: **Lower East Side**
The Beginnings of Symptom Management
by Joyce Anastasi
Independence Foundation Professor of Nursing

DURING THE EARLY 1980S, a case was brought to me of a young man in his late twenties. Tim had a fever of unknown origin—possibly due to infection with HTLV-III (as HIV was called then). All that could be done was to try and manage his amassing symptoms and infections. At that time, fear and uncertainty were widespread and not every health worker wanted to work with AIDS patients. Nearly everyone was wearing isolation gowns, gloves, masks.

The fear in Tim’s face was distressing. Not only did he have to cope with this uncertain prognosis, but also with the fearful reactions of some of his caregivers. The emotional repercussions of this illness were staggering. It is difficult to imagine now the amount of discrimination and ignorance then. After a year and three months of caring for him, Tim passed away. While caring for him, it became clear that nurses can make a difference by the manner of care we provide; comfort, symptom management, emotional support, and advocacy are essential in treating people with terminal illness.

As one of only two clinical nurse specialists on a new multidisciplinary AIDS team at Bellevue Hospital, the numbers of our patients grew and resources were limited. The complexity of symptoms and the stigma around the sociological aspects of the illness propelled the immediate necessity to teach and train staff, medical/nursing students, and other healthcare providers. This need led to establishing one of New York State’s first specially-designated AIDS programs at St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital Center, and later, to the development of an HIV/AIDS subspecialty program. The emphasis was on immersing students in all aspects of the illness, from the pathophysiology of HIV/AIDS to the social, economic, ethical, and legal issues. By preparing nurses with clinical, research, administrative, and management skills, a new cadre of nursing professionals led and influenced the care for people with HIV.

As the epidemic changed with treatment options, symptom management, drug adherence, and side effects of medications took hold. The need for groundbreaking research and unprecedented service approaches led to my involvement as director of the Center for AIDS Research at Columbia University, which pioneered nurse-led NIH-funded studies.
In direct response to patients’ most distressing symptoms and needs, we heralded innovative models of research for gastrointestinal conditions like diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting, as well as lipodystrophy and neuropathic pain. We created a robust portfolio of patient-oriented research, like one of the first combined behavioral dietary interventions for chronic diarrhea in HIV, the Healthy Life Choices Project, which became part of the establishment of standards of care and curriculum by the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care. This kind of spearheading work led to us receiving several NIH research grants.

This exciting work is extended at the Division of Special Studies in Symptom Management at NYU Meyers, which is at the forefront of studying non-invasive interventions for the management of chronic conditions. The lessons learned from HIV gave us the opportunity to advance our models of novel research to other chronic illnesses like irritable bowel syndrome, which can impact quality of life throughout the disease process.

Decades since the height of the crisis, nursing research has truly influenced the approach to HIV care. For example, early work on gastrointestinal conditions and pain impacted the current awareness for lifestyle modifications as an integral part of HIV care. Whereas at the peak of the AIDS crisis, nurses were crucial to urgent care of an epidemic, nurses are now the vanguard of providing care for a chronic condition.

Current treatment regimens have transformed HIV into a manageable chronic disease, but symptom management and quality of life issues must now contend with an aging HIV-positive population. Immunologic and clinical outcomes may be less robust than in younger patients, and certain coexisting conditions, like metabolic disorders and chronic pain, are more common, as is the risk of polypharmacy. The next shift is focusing on the chronic comorbidities and subspecialty care that many older patients require alongside HIV management. Similar to the earlier era, the emotional and social support that nurses can provide are essential, especially to older HIV patients who are likely to live alone and at more risk of isolation.

From the early years of fear and loss to the progress today of people living with HIV much longer, nursing’s contributions then—and into the future—are influential and essential.

Testing Interventions for People Who Inject Drugs

by Sherry Deren
Co-Director, Center for Drug Use and HIV/AIDS Research

WHEN REPORTS OF HIV among injection drug users first surfaced in the early 1980s, I was working at the New York State Division of Substance Abuse Services. It soon became clear that in addition to men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs (PWID) were at the highest risk of infection. In recognition of this fact, in the mid-1980s, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) began funding multi-site projects to further understand risk behaviors and to begin testing interventions to reduce risks of transmission.

At the time, with a PhD in social psychology, I was overseeing cost effectiveness and other evaluation studies. But it became clear that there was a critical need to conduct studies about HIV among PWID.

I received my first HIV research grant from NIDA beginning in 1989, known as the Harlem AIDS Project, and moved to what was then called the Narcotic and Drug Research, Inc. We set up research sites in three communities in NYC—West, Central, and East Harlem—to recruit PWID and contribute to the growing knowledge about this population and the effectiveness of interventions to reduce risk behaviors. These early studies included recruitment of PWID and their female sex partners, based on the emergence of a considerable group of women infected through heterosexual sex with substance-using men.

In the mid-1990s, it became clear that the multiple socio-behavioral and epidemiological grants that we had obtained to study HIV and substance use could greatly benefit from a center structure. In this center we would have research resources to benefit all projects and to facilitate new cross-disciplinary synergies to study and inform HIV prevention and care. We received funding from NIDA for the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research, established in 1998, and our investigators have made major contributions to knowledge about the epidemic and how to address it.

At the height of the crisis, New York City was the location of the largest HIV epidemic among PWID in the world.
with prevalence reaching 50-60%. Currently prevalence is estimated at 12%, with success attributed to a combination of interventions: syringe exchange programs, drug treatment services, and antiretroviral treatment (ART).

In our earliest projects, many of which involved HIV testing and counseling, providing test results to those previously unaware of being HIV infected was a frequent task, difficult for the research participants and the project staff. Without effective treatments, there were concerns that sharing these results with others would result in increased stigmatization, loss of family and friends, and other negative consequences. Currently, it is known that adherence to ART treatment can lead to a near-normal life span for those HIV-infected.

Another change over time is the realization that research must look at multiple, multi-level factors that can influence prevention and care. In the early years, gaining knowledge about prevalence and risk behaviors in various populations was the aim of many studies and the data collected focused on individual risk behaviors. It has become clear that there are multiple influences on transmission and behaviors, and studies now also collect information on social factors and structural/policy influences.

Looking back at my almost 30 years of research on HIV-substance use, my personal impressions cover both the work itself and its outcomes, and the colleagues I have encountered. Much has been learned regarding HIV transmission and how to halt it, and how to improve engagement and adherence to treatment. This knowledge can benefit our efforts to control other infectious diseases, in PWID and other populations.

In addition, I have been privileged to work with many dedicated, gifted investigators and other staff, many of whom were directly impacted by HIV and its devastating outcomes, especially prior to ART. Their dedication, commitment to research that has practical applications, and respect for participants of research projects have been inspiring and have made me especially grateful to be part of this ongoing work.

**Fear and Stigma Surrounding Blood Donation**

by Nancy Van DeVanter
Professor

**IN THE FALL OF 1985,** I accepted a position at the Greater New York Blood Center (GNYBC) as a co-investigator and program director for an NIH-funded psychosocial intervention study designed for HIV antibody positive blood donors. The CDC had identified blood transfusion as a risk factor for transmission of HIV in 1982, though at that time, there was no test to detect the virus. It was only until 1984, when the Human Immunodeficiency Virus was identified, that the development of a blood test began, with provisional guidelines for blood donor screening published the following year by the CDC. Screening of the US blood supply by all centers across the country began that year.

The GNYBC is the largest of its kind in the US and collected about 450,000 pints each year at that time. In the first year of screening, more than 600 HIV-infected GNYBC blood donors were identified. Part of my role as director for

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**What challenges remain**

- Addressing the impact of non-injection drug use on HIV prevention and care. Non-injection drug use impacts sexual risk behaviors and treatment adherence and interventions to address this are needed.
- Monitoring and rapid response to new threats or outbreaks, like prescription opioid misuse, are needed.
- While many effective interventions, biomedical and socio-behavioral, have been developed, some have not been brought to scale in the US or in many parts of the world.
- Continued need for innovative interventions for populations at high risk.
the research program was to develop a model for counseling HIV positive donors about the meaning of the test.

Unfortunately, at that time very little was known about what a positive test meant. Moreover, there were no medical treatments available.

Clearly, in addition to identifying medical resources for these individuals, we would need to address their psychosocial needs. Our research study offered a unique opportunity to assess the psychosocial challenges and to develop intervention methods to provide support and to enhance behavior changes that could reduce the risk of transmission of HIV. To do this, we recruited a team of six psychiatric nurse clinicians to help develop and implement a model for HIV post-test counseling and identify the needs for additional ongoing psychosocial interventions.

Over a period of almost two years our team of nurse clinicians counseled more than 1,200 HIV positive blood donors. The HIV post-test counseling program was widely disseminated in peer review publications and at numerous national and international conferences as HIV testing was made available to the general population. Together our team developed a theoretically grounded group social support and behavior change intervention that was implemented in a randomized controlled clinical trial. The study demonstrated a significant impact of a positive HIV test result on depressive symptoms and sexual behaviors of these blood donors.

We also learned that this work created a heavy psychological burden for nurses. To reduce the risk of burnout, the study provided nurses with peer group support, clinical supervision, flexible work schedules, time out for mental health breaks, and semi-annual retreats with an organizational psychologist.

Today, HIV is a chronic disease. Fierce advocacy by the affected communities and healthcare providers increased research that has changed the course of the epidemic. Federal programs like the Ryan White Care Act developed models of comprehensive care including needed social services that support adherence to medical care for those infected.

It’s a very different world than it was in 1985 when there was so much fear and stigma and very little hope. I believe all of us who had the privilege to work in HIV through that time found it to be a profound experience that made us better clinicians and human beings. We learned so much from our patients and their families and friends about coping with uncertainty and stigma, hope, courage, compassion, and the power of community advocacy.
O
n September 16 and 17, Rory Meyers College of Nursing, the Colleges of Dentistry and Global Public Health, and the School of Medicine hosted a symposium entitled Transforming Whole Person Care Through Interprofessional Medical-Dental Collaboration. The conference was generously supported by the Josiah Macy Jr., DentaQuest, Edward B. Shils, and Pacific Dental Services Foundations, as well as the Colgate-Palmolive Company, National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education, National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health, and the New York Academy of Medicine.

Held in the Health Science Corridor and organized and chaired by Judith Haber, The Ursula Springer Leadership Professor in Nursing, and Daniel Malamud, professor of basic science at the College of Dentistry, the interactive conference hosted thought leaders from diverse health policy, research, education, and clinical practice systems, in a series of engaging keynotes, plenaries, and presentations. The event’s primary goal was to provide a forum for disseminating effective evidence-based national initiatives and models that advance integration of oral health and overall health into emerging person-centered care models.

Over the two-day symposium, attendees discussed proposals surrounding education, practice, policy, and guidelines to reach the goal of integrated whole person care. In addition, they examined barriers for advancing this type of interprofessional oral health as a standardized component of clinical education and practice, evaluated research to assess the impact of this kind of integration, and addressed quality and costs models that promote collaboration.

“On behalf of all the colleges that organized this terrific event, we’re grateful to the funders who enabled us to be an innovation incubator for advancing an interprofessional approach to integrating oral health with overall health. This commitment, supported by our deans and the University at large, can have a significant positive impact on patient outcomes, delivery system change, and the elimination of barriers within healthcare teams.”

— Judith Haber
The Ursula Springer Leadership Professor in Nursing
Alumni Day

NYU Meyers hosted its annual Alumni Day on October 22, which kicked off with a panel on alternative careers. Panelists Rebecca Callahan BS ’06, Barbara Cohen, PhD, JD, RN, and Lydia Cristobal, MS ’13, BS ’09 provided their unique perspectives on pursuing nontraditional nursing careers. Attendees, which included parents, alumni, and current students, were able to ask the panelists questions and solicit advice.

Following the panel, alumni, parents, students, and friends gathered for a casual breakfast. It was a great opportunity for everyone to meet new people and for the College to honor Rising Star Award winner Halley Ruppel MS ’13, Nancy Roecklein MS ’11 was also presented with a plaque in appreciation of her term of service on the Alumni Board. ■

Celebrating STTI’s Founder’s Day with Upsilon Chapter

by Maryann Peterson BS ’14
Archivist, Upsilon Chapter

On October 6, the Upsilon Chapter held Founder’s Day Feast, Fun, and Fizzies, attended by students, faculty, and current Sigma Theta Tau International members. Founder’s Day celebrates the origins of The Honor Society of Nursing, when in 1922 six nurses from the now Indiana University School of Nursing came together to celebrate excellence in nursing through leadership, scholarship, and service. The founders chose the name Sigma Theta Tau, which represent storge, tharsos and time—or love, courage, and honor—three qualities that encompass nursing. Upsilon Chapter was founded in 1961 by 65 student and faculty members of the NYU Department of Nursing Education.

At the start of the evening, a brief reception was held, which included networking opportunities and a photo booth. Clinical Assistant Professor Larry Slater, president of Upsilon Chapter, then spoke about the rich history of STTI and Upsilon Chapter, as well as the current practices of the Society. Later on in the evening, Professor Eloise Cathcart addressed the room with an inspiring story about a day in the life of a nurse. At the end of the night, everyone toasted NYU Meyers, Upsilon Chapter, STTI, and Founder’s Day.

The Founder’s Day call to action from STTI’s President, Dr. Cathy Catrambone, was to participate in 90 minutes of service. Members of Upsilon Chapter, both new and old, will be heeding that call through volunteering with New York Common Pantry throughout the 2016-2017 term. ■

1961 Charter member (left to right): Beatrice Perlmutter, Pearle Morrison, Alice Perry, Joan Walsh, Gayle Argus.
AGING PEOPLE EVERYWHERE:

Feel safer knowing that C. Alicia Georges, EdD, MA ’73, RN, FAAN is next in line to lead AARP!

by Druanne Dillon

“I’m president-elect of AARP from June 2016 to June 2018, when I’ll assume the presidency,” she said. “Until then, I chair AARP’s National Policy Council, serve on the Officers’ Committee and Governance Committee, fill in for the president if he can’t attend something, and also speak when there are requests for someone to address a group.”

In recognition of how big of a portfolio she has: “And I have a job!” And no minor job, at that. C. Alicia Georges has chaired the Lehman College Department of Nursing since 2002, is a professor at both Lehman College and the Graduate Center at the City University of New York, and is a member of the adjunct faculty at Excelsior College.

Born and raised in St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands, Georges described her family as ambitious. “We were told to attain as much as we could to be ready for the next thing,” she said. “My family has always been connected in community and community work, so my trajectory made sense.”

She came to the US for college—one of the few higher education options for a young woman from St.
Thomas—and got her BS in nursing from Seton Hall University. “I always knew after I graduated with my bachelor’s in nursing that at some point I would earn my master’s, and a PhD.”

Initially, however, Georges practiced as an RN with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York. But over time, she observed that the ones who got promoted had master’s degrees. So she came to NYU in 1971—back when the nursing program master’s was 60 credits, she added—for a master’s in Community Health Nursing Administration and Supervision.

When it came to deciding her field work, Georges recalled, “I lived in the Bronx and had also worked in the South Bronx. I was concerned about what was going on with health issues there, where we needed some nursing leadership.” The South Bronx, at that time, shook with tension and violence as crime rates and arson escalated, half the population fled, and gangs and drug dealers moved in.

However, the “in and of the City” philosophy of NYU, along with some really great mentors like Prof. Erline McGriff, former faculty member, made Georges’ South Bronx community work happen.

“Erline was so supportive of me when I was doing my administration and supervision teamwork in the South Bronx,” Georges said. “She was right beside me, facilitating, pushing, to make sure I got the most out of it. It was really a wonderful experience.”

Through the guidance of the College’s faculty members McGriff and Effie Hanchett, Georges began to take courses in policy and public programs in the school of public administration. “One of the courses taught me about how community boards work in New York City; that was a rude awakening!” she reminisced. “Talk about an old boys’ club… But when the city charter changed in 1977, I applied and got on the board…and I stayed on for almost 20 years. That’s where I got to do a deeper dive into policy development and what goes on in public funding, capital budgets, and local government processes.”

Somewhere in there, Georges rose in the Visiting Nurse Service, started teaching, found time to get her EdD from University of Vermont, and did research studies aimed at eliminating health disparities and improving the health of minorities and the disadvantaged.

Today, Georges makes her mark with nursing students in New York City, teaching about health disparities, community health, trends and issues, and health policy.

Is there one thing Georges credits NYU with?

“The whole involvement in community,” she said. “I went to school in New Jersey! Without NYU, I never would have gotten that! I wouldn’t have gotten involved in the Community Board, wouldn’t have done a deeper dive into the kinds of health issues and problems in the borough of the Bronx. But because of NYU and the faculty and the assignments and projects and field experiences, that’s how I got involved.”

As Georges prepares to lead AARP, she stressed how much it’s about the future of nursing.

“A big issue is caregiving,” she explained. “Whether you’re giving care to a spouse, a significant other, a child, or a family member, our membership is concerned about from whom and when and where they will get care.

In 30 states now, AARP is working to get the Care Act passed. It’s already been signed into law in New York. The AARP Legal Counsel for the Elderly just got a homeless woman back pay in Social Security. AARP runs one of the largest drives to end hunger. We ask presidential candidates what their views are of Social Security. We’re concerned about people having financial security – one of the biggest sources of bankruptcy is medical expenses. I could go on and on. For the next four years, I’ll be talking AARP. We’ve got a whole thing about seniors reimagining their lives. What’s next for them?”

What’s next for Georges? Keeping all the balls in the air. “I’m great calendar,” she advised. “Try not to overdo it. Learn to say no. I try not to make any commitments without a calendar.”

“Without NYU, I never would have gotten… involved in the Community Board, wouldn’t have done a deeper dive into the kinds of health issues and problems in the borough of the Bronx.”
NYU Meyers regularly holds panel discussions, gatherings, and celebrations for our current and former students. Here are some of these events’ highlights.

A: Left to right: Wendy Budin PhD ’96, past president of Meyers Alumni Board; Rebecca Zack Callahan BS ’06; Barbara Cohen; Elizabeth A.M. Barrett PhD ’83; Nancy Roecklein, MS ’11, BA ’82; Susan R. Silverman; Penny Klatell, PhD ’75, MA ’71, Meyers Alumni Board president.

B: Rebecca Zack Callahan, speaking about the Maven Clinic, a digital clinic for women.

C: Barbara Cohen answers a question about nursing and law.

D: Meyers students and alumni are excited to hear about nontraditional nursing career paths.


E: Left to right: Mathy Mezey; Tara Cortes, PhD ’76, MA ’71; Alicia Volk; Norman Volk; Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx; Claire Fagin PhD ’64; and Terry Fulmer ADCRT ’01.

F: Barbara and Donald Jonas of the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare (center), with donors Leonard Haber and Margaret McClure.

G: Claire Fagin moderating the conversation on “Addressing the Workforce in Geriatrics” with keynote speakers Terry Fulmer, president of The John A. Hartford Foundation, and Mathy Mezey, professor emerita and founding director, Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing.

H: Dinner guests cheering on Mathy Mezey, Claire Fagin, and Terry Fulmer (standing).

J: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation scholars gather for the program closing celebration.

K: Left to right: Robert Berne, executive vice president for health; Kevin Meyers; President Andrew Hamilton; Craig Meyers; Kelly Meyers; Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx; Howard Meyers; Rory Meyers; and NYU Board of Trustees Chair William Berkley.

L: Howard and Rory Meyers come onstage for the dedication ceremony.

M: Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx gives remarks during the dedication ceremony.

N: Alumnae left to right: Alicia Georges MA ’73; Bea Goodwin, PhD ’70, MA ’60; Ellen Baer, PhD ’82, MA ’73.
NYU Meyers graduates are ready for commencement ceremonies to begin.

Honorees: Terry Fulmer, Humanitarian Award; Sheila Burke, Helen Manzer Award; Loretta Jemmott, Distinguished Nursing Colleague Award; with Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx and trustee Howard Meyers.

NYU Meyers donors, friends, and faculty toast Dean Sullivan-Marx on a great year.

Howard Meyers shakes hands with Sherry Deren, co-director of the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research (CDUHR).

Left to right: Mark Bodden, vice president of Rudin Foundations; Terry Fulmer; Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx.

NYU Meyers faculty and staff gather for a celebratory end-of-year boat cruise on the Hudson.

The dedicated NYU Meyers Information Technology team poses for a picture.

Staff and faculty gather for a picture with the captain.
Senior Associate Dean for Academic Programs Jim Pace chats with an event attendee.

Panel event on “Quality of Life Matters: The Essence of Palliative Care” in the lecture hall.

Panelist Ab Brody, assistant professor, continues the discussion with lecture guests.

Craig Meyers meets Craig Schoon, as Kellie Bryant and Susan Schoon look on.

VirtuCare team (Mary Jo Vetter, clinical associate professor; Christine Mavaro; and student Karyn Jonas) gives a presentation on innovation and entrepreneurship during the Leadership Circle Reception.

Special honorees Kevin and Craig Meyers pose for a picture with Dean Eileen Sullivan-Marx.

Old friends share an embrace at the reception.

Several attendees photographed at NYU Langone Hospital.
“It does not make a thing good, that it is remarkable that a woman should do it. Neither does it make a thing bad, which would have been good had a man done it ....”
— FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, 1859

The preceding quote is the second-to-last sentence of Nightingale’s famous book. Her allusion to the equality between sexes looks as if it has been added as an afterthought. In the discussion about men in nursing, her ideas may seem portentous, but it is doubtful if she ever imagined that men would be infiltrating the field.

The number of male nurses and men enrolling in nursing programs are at all-time high. According to the US Census Bureau in 2013, the latest figures show that approximately 9.6% of nurses in 2011 are male compared with 2.7% in the 1970s—representing a more than 200% increase. At our College, about 10% of advanced practice students and 14% undergraduate students were male during the school years 2014 to 2016. Eight of the full-time faculty are male—or 11%. Nationwide, enrollment of men in entry-level nursing programs remains stable at about 15% since 2012. It is likely that these numbers will increase in the next decade as more media attention is given to the reality of nursing as a viable and rewarding profession for men and women alike.

Enter — MEN.

The student-led interest group MEN came about in 2009 when a group of male students sent out a call for anyone who identified as male to gather and brainstorm about establishing a student activity group.

In its by-laws, MEN adopted the objectives of the American Assembly for Men in Nursing (AAMN) as its core purpose. These goals include:

- **To empower male nursing students** to be responsible for their holistic health and well-being in order to serve as role models in the community.

- **To promote awareness of health-related issues** affecting the male population by addressing their unique health challenges.

"It does not make a thing good, that it is remarkable that a woman should do it. Neither does it make a thing bad, which would have been good had a man done it ...."

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- **To empower male nursing students** to be responsible for their holistic health and well-being in order to serve as role models in the community.

- **To promote awareness of health-related issues** affecting the male population by addressing their unique health challenges.
• To promote cultural competence among all its members to recognize the male perspective of nursing.
• To advocate for the growth and development of its members as leaders in nursing and in society through education, outreach, advocacy, and service.

Throughout each school year, MEN organizes and collaborates with other student groups to provide high-quality extracurricular programming to not just meet its educational mission, but to promote comradery and mutual support among male students in the program. Some of the more recent events hosted by MEN include bike rides and indoor rock climbing, résumé writing and interviewing skills, men’s health awareness campaigns and fundraising, alumni networking, picnics, and presentations on various clinical topics of interest.

While the group’s purpose relates to men in the nursing profession, MEN is open to students of all genders, with some of its executive board members in the past being female. One significant outcome of the group is that several key MEN alumni established New York City Men in Nursing, an official chapter of AAMN.

The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health
While many health professions are becoming more gender-balanced, the nursing workforce has remained predominantly female. The impact of the increasing number of men entering nursing is still emerging and not yet fully understood. Other countries have long established policies to deal with instructional and practice variations based on religious restrictions. For example, in a nursing school in Oman, male students are not allowed in maternity wards. High-fidelity simulation offers male students the “hands-on” experience in labor and delivery.

One important consideration in the slowly increasing gender diversity in nursing education is for faculty to be aware of the well-known gendered characteristics in learning, while keeping in mind that every individual is unique. Gendered differences is a potential topic for nursing education researchers.

Career Trajectories of Male Nursing Students
Hospitals remain the largest employer of all registered nurses, with 63.2% providing inpatient and outpatient care in a hospital setting. Staff nurse—or its equivalent—is the most common job title of RNs in the US. However, there is no comprehensive data on current career choices of male nurses. Older data indicated more men work at hospitals in proportion to the number of female RNs.

What is certain today is that the highest representation by men in all fields of nursing practice is in nurse anesthesia. The US Census Bureau reported that 41% of all Certified Registered Nurses Anesthetist (CRNAs) are males. An online survey by Hodes Research in 2005 reported that the top three specialties reported by men were critical (27%), emergency (23%), and medical/surgical (20%). Awareness of the trend of career trajectories and aspirations of male nurses has important implications for nursing education and clinical stakeholders.

A Nurse and a Gentleman
Males are collectively called gentlemen, yet the virtue of gentleness, as a social construct, is mostly associated with women. Perhaps, it is one of the many reasons why it is especially pleasing to see men exemplify gentleness in a nursing role. What male nurses can offer to nursing is to breakdown the stereotypes of professional gender roles. Compassion, courage, good faith, and other virtues are all universal, and can be found among male and female nurses. At NYU Meyers, we believe in these values and are glad to see a growing number of men living them personally and professionally.

“Academic nurse leaders… should work together to… partner with education accrediting bodies, private and public funders, and employers to ensure funding, monitor progress, and increase the diversity of students to create a workforce prepared to meet the demands of diverse populations across the lifespan… These efforts should take into consideration strategies to increase the diversity of the nursing workforce in terms of race/ethnicity, gender, and geographic distribution.”

—Institute of Medicine, The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health
On October 16, NYU Meyers, led by Amy Knowles, assistant dean for student affairs and admissions, participated in the American Cancer Society’s annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Central Park. Students, alumni, faculty, and administrators actively raised thousands of dollars in support of raising awareness about breast cancer. The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk is a celebration of survivorship—an occasion to express hope and shared determination to make this century breast cancer’s last. In addition, the Walk serves as a memorial to all those lost: both the ones you may have known and those you never knew.

On behalf of the NYU Meyers community, we salute Dean Knowles and everyone who donated and participated in support of this worthwhile cause.

**FAST FACTS**

Breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in women in the US.

It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women.

The chance of a woman having invasive breast cancer some time during her life is about 1 in 8.

The chance of dying from breast cancer is about 1 in 37.

Good news: Breast cancer death rates have been going down due to earlier detection and treatment.

There are currently more than 3.1 million breast cancer survivors in the US.

American Cancer Society
A Space to Share

IT TOOK ME SOME TIME AFTER COMING OUT to find and build a lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community. I remember feeling lost and alone, with no idea of where to meet other people who identified with the acronym.

And so I turned to the internet for help. I frequented LGBT advice sites and queer blogs. I scrolled deep into their archives and found posts about coming out and how to meet and find other queer people.

Most of these articles said some variation of the same thing: Get involved with LGBT community centers or organizations, but remember that there doesn’t always need to be a specific place to go to meet other LGBT people. Simply put, we are everywhere. It was then that I started living my life more openly and embracing that part of my identity. The heaviness of coming out and not knowing other queer people started to lift.

I began nursing school with an understanding of the power and importance of community. With that in mind, I started attending LGBT Nursing Student Association (LGBT-NSA) meetings and events, hoping to meet and connect with other queer students. Now, as I prepare to enter my fourth sequence and have taken on the role of president, the value I place on this experience working with LGBT patients, and the improvements and challenges they have witnessed as healthcare providers. It was a powerful event. We were able to hear from professors in a way that we aren’t able to during class; the conversation was open and honest, and deeply personal.

We all agreed to work to make this type of event a regular occurrence each semester. We had planned to host the next roundtable in the fall of 2016, as the new cohort arrived and traditional students were back on campus. But then, unfortunately, the shooting in Orlando at Pulse nightclub happened. We decided to convene sooner as a result. This type of unthinkable horror was a reminder, albeit one we wish we’d never have had to process, that our community needs to be heard and understood.

This summer, the LGBT-NSA also hosted an NYC Doula Collective workshop on doula support and working with LGBT families giving birth. It was an eye-opening event and a meaningful supplement to the third sequence Maternity Nursing course. We are also actively working to collaborate with more student organizations here to promote intersectionality of interest groups and identities since, as nurses, we will all work with LGBT patients, families, and co-workers.

As president of the group, I would love to see the LGBT-NSA continue to grow and build community within NYU Meyers. In order to do so, we need as many students and faculty to get involved as possible to ensure that voices of all people are heard and that identities are better understood.
NYU Meyers students have rich academic and social experiences—collaborating with the UN, learning about patients’ cultural sensitivities, and honing their clinical skills, to name a few. Here is a collection of highlights from this year.

**March of Dimes Walk**

Meaghan Carney, Christa DiMaria, and Natalie Sardonia raised awareness of premature birth, birth defects, and infant mortality in the March of Dimes Walk.

**Clinical rotations**

Students wrap up a day of rotations at their clinical site.

**NYU Langone pediatrics**

Kori Hibbard, Kaela Cogswell, Camille Collet, Paige Boyauian, and Richard Buchanan waved thumbs up at their pediatric clinical.

**NYU Langone pediatrics**

Kori Hibbard, Kaela Cogswell, Camille Collet, Paige Boyauian, and Richard Buchanan waved thumbs up at their pediatric clinical.

**Summer clinical**

Valentina D’Ambrosio, Samantha Torres, Nicole Alvarez, Shannon Foley, Ara Lee, and George Giaccobe were ready to start their summer clinical.

**Study abroad in Madrid**

KP Mendoza, Samantha Moreno, and Sydney DeBari celebrated the end of their study abroad experiences with friends and tapas at NYU Madrid’s end-of-semester fiesta.

**Undergraduate Nursing Student Organization**

The Undergraduate Nursing Student Organization (UNSO) E-Board met to plan a full program of extracurricular and professional development events for fall 2016.
New hires

May 2016 grads began their first week of employment at NYU Langone.

Soccer and nursing

Yousuf Elgohary’s life in a picture: soccer player at heart and a nurse in the making.

Clinical: Adult and Elder II

Angela Vilasi, Helena Yejin So, Caroline Doscas, Instructor Karla Rodriguez, Melissa Dweck, and Elena Villar celebrated their last day of Adult and Elder II clinical.

Mid-Autumn Festival

The Asian Pacific Islander Nursing student association hosted a Mid-Autumn Festival celebration.

Summer semester

Minjae Kim, Jose Balarezo, Kattalina Navarr, Anuja Sherestha, Aanal Shah, Bonnie Tseng, and Patricia Davis celebrated their last moment of the summer semester after finishing their exams.

Melissa Ojemeni and Tina Sadarangani, PhD students at the College, participated in the first-ever Inauguration Week Lightning Challenge Competition on campus. Master’s and doctoral students were challenged to impart the significance of their academic research to engage and excite a general audience in just three minutes! Tina and Melissa were just two of six finalists across NYU who participated. A special kudos to Tina, who was awarded the audience choice prize of $500 for her research on immigrants who come to the US in later life, their lack of access to affordable insurance, and its implications on cardiovascular health.
Nursing Cohort Program
Section three of the Nursing Cohort Program had their first outing in the fall and wrapped up its day at an ice cream shop!

Scientific Sessions at ENRS
Neesha Ramchandani, along with her son Amir, and Lisa Babkair attended the 28th Annual Scientific Sessions—ENRS.

Baby & Me
Kelsey Morrison is working with Baby & Me, a program geared towards parents and expectant mothers who have various risk factors that might hinder the child’s development.

Clinical practice: Geriatric syndrome
Minjae Kim attends geriatric syndrome clinical practice with Moon Duong.

Heart attack awareness
Tracy-Ann Cantone, Cindy Tran, Catherine Yen, Kelsey Reyes, Camille Ann Collett, and Fabiola Joseph raised awareness about heart attacks in women in the African-American community.
Undergraduate nursing students work at NYP Weill Cornell as companions, leading to RN positions after graduation.

The Nursing Entrepreneurship Organization and Geriatric Student Interest Group sponsored a bake sale for the Louisiana relief fund.

Nurseries Alumni Mentoring Network (NAMN) is a new network from the Office of Advising and Academic Services where current students—with a particular focus on first generation students and students of color—are paired with our esteemed alumni from all over the world to be a source of guidance and inspiration to the next leaders in nursing. NAMN mentors and mentees commit to a one-year mentoring relationship.

Donna McCabe, clinical assistant professor, was the keynote speaker for the first reception and spoke of the importance of emotional intelligence in mentoring relationships and nursing.
One of the thrills of volunteering at NYU Meyers is the opportunity to witness first-hand how much the College and University continue to evolve. NYU has campuses in New York City, Washington, DC, Abu Dhabi, and Shanghai, as well as satellite sites in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and North and South Americas. The University is one of the largest private institutions in the US and is among the most respected in the world. Having completed two degrees at NYU, I can say I am very proud to be an alumna!

Another point of pride is Rory Meyers College of Nursing, which has had a great year. As you’re aware, NYU Trustee Howard Meyers and his wife, Rory, a former nurse, made a very generous gift of $30 million to rename the College in Rory’s name. The best thing about this amazing gift from the Meyers family is that 75% is dedicated to scholarships for traditional four-year students. Think about all the students whose lives will be changed by graduating debt-free! With the high cost of education today, the Meyers’ generosity gives us yet another reason to be proud to be part of the NYU community.

Along with our new name, we recently launched a new website to more accurately reflect the College’s innovation and strong positioning in nursing. I encourage you to visit www.nursing.nyu.edu to see the sleek design.

I have enjoyed partnering with my many alumni colleagues during the past two years on the Board. I am sad to say goodbye to a few members whose terms have ended, although I know many will continue to be engaged in other ways. Please join me in thanking Erin Hartnett DNP ’11, Nancy Roecklein, MS ’11, BA ’82, Maureen Bueno PhD ’03, Vanessa Cheng MS ’13, Ana Cheung BS ’14, Julie Lee BS ’14, and Aura Miranda-Agosto MS ’11. I would also like to thank student representatives Evelyn Cunningham BS ’16 and Patricia Williams MS ’18 for making the time to be involved with the Alumni Association even though they had rigorous academic schedules.

We held successful elections in June and had a record number of nominations for open positions. I’m excited to welcome the newcomers and to welcome back returning members. Please see the box insert on the next page for a full list of the 2016-2017 NYU Meyers Alumni Association Board.

We also put out a call for nominations for the Rising Star Award and again received a record-breaking number of submissions. Congratulations to the 2016 Rising Star Award recipient, Halley Ruppel, MS ’13, RN, CCRN. Halley is a PhD candidate at the Yale School of Nursing and a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Future of Nursing Scholar. Her research focuses on critical care nurses’ use of technology and its subsequent impact on patient care.

I was so glad to meet many of you on Alumni Day this year and hope you got a chance to catch up with old friends and meet new ones too. I particularly enjoyed our panel of experts who discussed their nontraditional nursing careers. “The Road Less Traveled: Nontraditional Nursing Journeys” was similar to a program we presented last spring when we had sold-out attendance.

Last year, the Alumni Board started a tradition that requires each member to make an annual gift to the annual fund, which helps NYU Meyers award scholarships and supports faculty and program development. In essence, it helps to provide much-needed resources to help the College remain a top-rated institution. I ask all of you to join the Alumni Board in supporting the College with a gift of any amount.

As always, be sure to stay in touch. You can email me at apresident.nursing@nyu.edu with any questions or suggestions about how we can improve outreach to alumni. Also, be sure to send your news or updated contact information to nursing.alumni@nyu.edu.

Looking forward to connecting with you at a future event!

Penny Manegan Klatell, PhD ’75, MA ’71
Alumni Association President
CLASS NOTES

9 of our alumni were named American Academy of Nursing Fellows this year.

Maureen Dailey BS ’78
Rose Ann DiMaria-Ghalili PhD ’98
Mary B. Dougherty MA ’78
Leo-Felix Jurado MA ’91
Pamela Y. Mahon, MA ’80, PhD ’01
Ann Marie P. Mauro PhD ’98
Mary Jane Smith PhD ’74
Jean E. Swinney BS ’64
Rothlyn Pond Zahourek PhD ’02

Congratulations to Colleen Conway-Welch PhD ’73 and Joyce Fitzpatrick PhD ’75 who were named Living Legends by the American Academy of Nursing!

In Memoriam

Ruth Teitler ’51 died at age 98. She attended NYU on a scholarship, took classes in Greenwich Village and at Metropolitan Hospital on Welfare Island, and practiced for many years in veterans’ hospitals in the Bronx and Brooklyn. During World War II, Teitler served in the Army at a base caring for soldiers who were amputees—a job she cherished.

Last fall, Teitler gifted the College one million dollars to be used for students who, like herself, have financial needs. She had previously included the College in her will, but decided to donate the money while living to create a legacy around patient care, compassion, and dignity. She also wanted the opportunity to meet the recipients who would benefit from her generosity—and she did.

1974
Arlene Lowenstein BA ’74
was named a Living Legend by the American Nurses Association Massachusetts and, as of this fall, retired from Simmons College.

1985
Geri LoBiondo-Wood PhD ’85
received the 2016 John P. McGovern Teaching Award for Graduate Education from The University of Texas Health Center at Houston School of Nursing.

1987
Diana Mason PhD ’87 has
joined George Washington School of Nursing as a senior policy service professor where her expertise will guide nurses to become sought-out change agents in healthcare delivery.

1989
Janine Cataldo PhD ’89
was named chair of the Department of Physiologic Nursing at the University of California San Francisco.

1997
Theodora Sirota, PhD ’97,
MA ’86, BS ’66 was named professor and director of the Nursing Department at Caldwell University.

1998
Rose Ann DiMaria-Ghalili
PhD ’98 received $2.9 million in funding for her ROI from the National Institute of Nursing Research for her project, “Enhanced ultrasound treatment of chronic wounds with monitoring of healing and quality of life outcomes.”
Alumni

2001
Terry Fulmer ADCRT ’01 is the recipient of the New York Academy of Medicine’s Award for Exceptional Service to the Academy.

2002
Karen Hall Boschenstein
BS ’02 is serving as a Global Health Service Partnership Volunteer where she teaches the first undergraduate class in the West Nile region of Uganda.

Rothlyn Zahoyrek PhD ’02 was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing in October 2016.

2004
Doctoral student Mimi Niles BS ’04 was awarded the 2016-2017 Johnson & Johnson American Association of Colleges of Nursing—Minority Nurse Faculty Scholarship, which supports leaders in nursing education.

2006
Amy Berman BS ’06 received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Quinnipiac University.

Diane Cuff Carney, MA ’75 ADCRT ’06 has relocated to the Adirondacks where she works part-time as a psychiatric nurse practitioner at Adirondack Medical Center.

2007
Hongsoo Kim, PhD ’06, ADCRT ’07 was accepted as a Takemi Fellow of International Health at the Harvard School of Public Health.

2009
Cecilia Grino MS ’09 has a new research publication in Clinical Nursing Studies on the early prediction of severity of necrotizing enterocolitis in preterm infants.

2012
Kristina Ciudad Thompson
MS ’12 received a promotion to assistant professor and a tenure appointment at SUNY Orange.

2013
Tara Azizi BS ’13 graduated with an MSN in Adult-Gerontology Primary Care from UPenn in August.

Lydia Alicia Cristobal,
MS ’13, BS ’09 earned her doctorate from Yale University and has initiated the Houston Chapter of the Yale Veterans Association.

2014
Shannon Carroll MS ’14 works full-time at the NYU Student Health Center where she offers psychiatric services to current students in addition to opening her own private practice in Union Square.

2016
Brenda Yu BS ’16 has accepted a new grad position at Cleveland Clinic in the Cardiovascular Stepdown Unit.

Is NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing 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.

If you have already included NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing in your will, call or email Sally Marshall, director of development, and she will add your name so you become 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. We are delighted to recognize the generosity of members of the Society of the Torch. Or, your gift may remain anonymous, if you’d like.

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 how you can include us in your will, please contact Sally Marshall at 212-992-7525 or sally.marshall@nyu.edu.
Why I Give
Ellen D. Baer, PhD ’82, MA ’73

Although I am 77, I only retired from teaching nursing research three years ago. Nursing has been intellectually challenging, emotionally fulfilling, and spiritually rich. I credit NYU’s nursing program for almost all of these blessings because it is where I first became enamored with the ideas of nursing.

While I became proficient in the medical aspects of clinical nursing during my undergraduate studies, I became immersed in the intellectual aspects of nursing at NYU. Martha Rogers, former professor and head of what was then a division of nursing at the University, called this collection of ideas the Science of Unitary Human Beings, in which nurses honored the wholeness of persons throughout the lifecycle. These ideas provide the crux around which nursing’s work forms. And, they led me to my own history research, in which I have discovered many building blocks of modern nursing:

- Recognition of the need for nurses to have clinical knowledge in order to care safely for people, by Florence Nightingale in the 1860s and by Elizabeth Hobson in the 1870s;
- the clinical structuring of nursing by Agnes Brennan at Bellevue in 1894;
- the compassion of Lillian Wald at the turn of the 20th century;
- the patient advocacy of Lavinia Dock;
- the professionalizing strategies of Isabel Hampton Robb;
- the educational goals of Adelaide Nutting;
- Eleanor Lambertsen’s development of Team Nursing in the 1950s;
- Frances Reiter’s invention of the Nurse-Clinician Specialist in 1966;
- forays into advanced practice development by nurse leaders such as Loretta Ford and Joan Lynaugh;
- and finally the health policy research by Linda Aiken and others, investigating the impact on patient outcomes of nurse educational and staffing patterns.

In all cases, nurses interweave their work with knowledge and the new ideas change the work. Scholarship inspires “…nurses to reexamine old ideas and discover new and better ways to care for others,” according to Joan Lynaugh in Nurse’s Work. A deep appreciation of nursing scholarship is what I acquired at NYU and it was the foundation upon which I built my decades-long career.

I’ve been afforded the joy of seeing life through the prism of so many lenses—as a wife, mother, grandmother, nurse and nurse historian. My profession and family have enriched my life immeasurably.

And so to you who consider supporting NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing, remember that although there are challenges and trials in nursing, the work affords us a rich intellectual world, with real life complex problems to solve, and sacred relationships to experience. As a donor, I consider myself fortunate to pass these gifts on to a new generation of nurse leaders.

What more could anyone want?
Rory Meyers College of Nursing would like to say thank you to the members of the Leadership and Dean’s Circles, who generously support the College in its commitment to excellence in nursing research, education, and practice with annual gifts of $1,000 or more. These gifts provide financial assistance for students, enable the College to recruit distinguished faculty, and allow us to develop innovative solutions to emerging needs in healthcare.

**Leadership Circle $2,500 and above**

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Margie Yee and Richard Santa Ana

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* As of October 23, 2016
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Kathryn Ciccolini MS ’17
I am honored to have been named recipient of the Margret S. Wolf Hirschberg Scholarship. Having received this financial assistance has allowed me to continue my graduate studies at NYU Meyers and work towards higher levels of education and training.
I am wholeheartedly dedicated to the field of oncodermatology. For the past six years, I have designed the clinical and research practice and standards for assessing, diagnosing, planning, implementing, and evaluating care in patients experiencing dermatologic adverse events to anticancer therapy at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer. I’ve worked alongside a great team to further define the standards of this field.
Due to this assistance, I am able to continue work in oncodermatology as a nurse practitioner and will maintain my double board certification in nursing and oncology at the advanced level.

Melissa Morelli-Walsh PhD ’17
I am extremely grateful to be a recipient of the Susan K. Leddy Memorial Scholarship. My husband and I are raising four children in New York City, and it is a financial necessity that I continue to be employed while in school. One of the most challenging aspects of graduate PhD studies is the continuing balancing act of being an involved, supportive mother and productive, knowledgeable student. I meet these challenges daily by priority setting, strict time-management and through the support of my family and friends.
Fortunately, the Susan K. Leddy Scholarship has enabled me to decrease my workload and allow me more time to dedicate to my PhD studies. It has also been used to fund academic and professional conferences that have enriched my development as a successful researcher. Thank you to the Leddy family for their continued support.

Stephanie Niu BS ’16
As a first-generation student, I was afraid that I would not be able to attend a school like NYU Meyers. Four years and a bachelor’s degree later, I am honored and blessed to be one of the recipients of many scholarships, including the Harriet Heilbrunn Nursing Scholarship. It means the world to me knowing I was able to finish my undergraduate studies and become an RN because of this generous support.
Not only did the scholarship provide me with the means to finish my education, but it also encouraged me to develop my career. I joined the Asian Pacific Islander Nursing Student Association when I was a freshman and remained a board member until my senior year. I was also a part of NYU’s Commuter Assistant Program, where I helped new nursing students transition from high school to college. Furthermore, the scholarship sparked my interest in public health nursing.

Yeegee Cheng BS ’17
I am a recipient of the Rudin Foundation, Harriet Heilbrunn, and Switzer Foundation Scholarships. With a lightened financial burden, I was able to spend more time serving the community. I started a bake sale fundraiser for the earthquakes in Japan and Ecuador. I raised awareness around mental health in Chinatown and Flushing. And I served dinner to the homeless for the first time.
Through these events, I met faculty and students who make me proud to be in nursing—a profession that is dedicated to making the world a better and healthier place.
I would like to give a very special thank you to the scholarship donors for the generous support that they have provided me throughout my time at NYU. The scholarships remind me that someone out there supports my dreams and aspirations.

We are committed to raising much-needed funds for scholarships like these above. As the end of the year approaches, please consider making a gift online today: nursing.nyu.edu.

For more information, contact: Sally Marshall at 212-992-7525 or sally.marshall@nyu.edu.
Visit the new nursing.nyu.edu.