Leaving A Legacy
Stand Out in a Crowd!
The University of North Dakota College of Nursing
Established on the North Dakota campus since 1909

Greetings Alumni and Friends!

This issue of CONNECTIONS has a strong focus on philanthropy and giving. At the College of Nursing, we have been fortunate to have received many gifts over the years from alumni, students, parents, friends, and faculty. Some gifts were expected as we worked with the donor to allocate the funds per their wishes. Other gifts were more of a welcome surprise, one that provided for a “very good day” at the College!

Philanthropy is not a contemporary notion. Perhaps the most famous private gift from the classical period was that of Plato providing an endowment gift of productive land for his academy. Today, concern for mankind leads us to give to others, in the form of time, talent and treasure. Nurses are particularly philanthropic, often giving of themselves when they see a need in their practice or community. This inclination to give is with the intention of improving or promoting, in some way, the wellbeing of others.

You may have heard that the University of North Dakota has launched a truly unprecedented capital campaign, North Dakota Spirit, intended to improve the lives of our students and faculty, and ultimately, to use its resources to make significant contributions to the state’s economy and workforce. The campaign goal of $300 million is possible, with your help. Your partnership supports UND’s commitment to its passionate students, inspirational educators, innovative programs, and extraordinary places.

I must pause and say “thank you!” for your many gifts. Your annual gifts provide needed resources for the operations of the College of Nursing. Whether designated for students (scholarships, grants or stipends), for faculty (research funding, grants, etc), for a certain program (Recruitment and Retention of American Indians into Nursing (RAIN), Family Nurse Practitioner, etc), or for a specific operation (Clinical Resource & Simulation Center), your gifts have an incredible impact on the College.

The average student works thirty hours a week to make ends meet and three of every four students are in need of financial aid. Alumni scholarships sometimes make the difference as to whether our students can afford to attend college. Alumni resources also enable faculty to conduct research, travel to present investigative findings, and bring innovations to the classroom. Without a doubt, the College’s successes are enhanced by resources provided through your gifts.

If you are thinking of giving to the North Dakota Spirit capital campaign, please know that you can designate a specific area in the College that you would like to support. We truly appreciate every gift made to the College, be it an annual donation or a planned gift, such as naming the College in your will; every dollar makes a difference. Whether serving as a preceptor for our students, providing a voice in today’s healthcare arena, or providing a financial gift, I thank you in advance for your continued philanthropy on behalf of the College of Nursing.

Best wishes.

Julie Anderson, RN, PhD, CCRC
Dean

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Cover photo courtesy of Becky Cournia

www.nursing.und.edu
Diane (Morrison) Langemo, ’69 has had a wonderful nursing career, but she would be first to tell you that she didn’t accomplish it alone. Her long career in education and research was made possible, in part, through good advice and a timely donation, which has inspired her to give back as well.

When Diane began pursuing a degree in nursing at the St. Joseph School of Nursing in Grand Forks, she had no idea what was in store for her future. To start - it was suggested that she transfer schools… to UND. “My thought was that they didn’t want me in their program; however Sr. Ann did me one of the biggest favors throughout all my education,” shares Diane. “Obtaining my BSN degree provided me with a fantastic education in nursing, a strong background for further education, and the opportunity to have a wonderful career.”

Diane went on to graduate from the University of Washington with a MS in Nursing degree. “I felt my education compared exceptionally well with my classmates from many Ivy League and Big 10 schools.” She also earned her PhD in Higher Education and Nursing at the University of Minnesota, but never forgot her roots; she began teaching at the UND College of Nursing in 1970 and didn’t retire until 2000. During that time she taught undergraduate Foundations of Nursing, Adult Health Nursing, and senior level Nursing Leadership, along with several graduate courses, including Nursing Research.

It was at UND, in 1987, when another life-changing opportunity presented itself. Just as Diane was preparing to launch her program of research in pressure ulcer wounds, Gaymar Industries donated $50,000 to UND to support pressure ulcer research. “This financial contribution supported the research of five faculty for nearly 10 years! Needles to say we were extreme misers in how it was spent.”

Gaymar Industries was co-founded by North Dakota natives John & Marilyn Whitney, from Dickinson and Kulm respectively. They are also both UND graduates, John with an engineering degree and Marilyn with a degree in social work. The company originally manufactured welded products like placemats and book covers for the consumer market; however the company soon entered the growing field of health care products. Over 42 years, John and Marilyn grew the business into a high-tech company specializing in products for pressure ulcer management and temperature management.

Making An Impact
The Whitney’s generous $50,000 gift has significantly impacted the professional nursing and research careers of nine current and former faculty, as well as several College of Nursing graduates (many former students are co-authors on articles). “The gift got us started and sustained us for nearly 10 years. In addition, we have received in-kind support from the College of Nursing and UND, several research grant awards, research travel awards, and support from a variety of manufacturers who have contracted with us to conduct research on their behalf.”

All told, over the past 24 years the research group has authored over 100 publications and seven book chapters. They have also been a part of several hundred presentations, many international; many research grants and several research awards, including an international award from Sigma Theta Tau, the international honor society of nursing.

Thanks to this financial support, faculty have been able to conduct research and become experts in pressure ulcers and wound care. As a result they have brought a first-rate national reputation to the College of Nursing. Students have also benefited by receiving the most up-to-date educational information on pressure ulcers and care of wounds. Those students who have worked with the research team have heard more about ulcers and wound care than they would have otherwise. Students have also attended national wound care conferences and been introduced to national and world leaders in the field.

For Diane, this research has allowed her to develop a wonderful professional nursing career, just as she imagined after attaining her BSN degree. She has served two terms as President of the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel and is currently a Board member. She has received an international wound care award, served on the planning panel for an annual national wound care conference, and currently serves on the Editorial Advisory Board for the journal Advances in Skin & Wound Care. Diane was also honored with the Stout Award from the UND Alumni Association in 2006.

“This gift has had an immeasurable impact upon so many people it is beyond amazing,” shares Diane. “From my perspective, perhaps the best illustration is my involvement as co-author of the 2009 International Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Guidelines.” This international document is being translated into 13 languages and potentially impacts the millions of individuals throughout the world who experience, or are at risk to develop a pressure ulcer, as well as the millions of health care professionals who care for them. “It is entirely evidence-based and we reviewed all the research literature that existed on pressure ulcers. My years of work with the pressure ulcer research group at UND prepared and led me to this wonderful opportunity.”

Paying It Forward
Recognizing the impact of a gift, Diane and her husband, Mark, ’66, ’72, have also given back to the College of Nursing. They established the Eric & Helyn Morrison Nursing Scholarship in honor of Diane’s parents. “Both of our parents were strong advocates for education. My siblings and I started this after the death of our father. Helping current undergraduate nursing students in their educational quest has been most rewarding.”

At the graduate level, Diane was one of the first faculty to teach in the UND College of Nursing Master of Science program and co-drafted the grant proposal for the Master of Science program in Nurse Anesthesia. In 2006, the Dr. Diane Langemo Graduate Nursing Scholarship was established. “I value graduate education and research so much, particularly in what it has enabled me to accomplish throughout my career, and I really wanted to share this opportunity with others.”

The Pressure Ulcer Wound Research Team
June Anderson, Dean
“I was thrilled to be invited to join the pressure ulcer wound team when I joined the College. Having a father and a son who had both recently experienced a pressure ulcer, wounds were of particularly high interest to me. The team approach to research works and the synergy created through this team is phenomenal.”

Darlene Hanson, Clinical Associate Professor
“Our research focus has been to increase the knowledge about what pressure ulcers are and what can be done to prevent them. One of our studies was about ‘what’s it’s like to have a pressure ulcer.’ This was a particularly interesting qualitative study that increased our understanding of the meaning of a pressure ulcer to an individual that has one.

The most rewarding part of this research is that we have heightened the awareness of the seriousness of pressure ulcers in local agencies. Agencies continue to assess patients on a quarterly basis, continuing the prevalence audits that we initiated approximately 20 years ago, in addition to the ongoing, daily assessments and interventions that prevent pressure ulcers.”

Susan Hunter, Associate Professor
“Being a part of this research group has allowed me the opportunity to network with colleagues from across the globe who experience the same concerns and are doing research on the same problems as we are—how to prevent and treat pressure ulcers. Traveling to Europe made me realize what a small world we are, we are all in the same boat and we can gain knowledge and skills from each other. Being a part of this group has enriched my life in so many ways—it has caused me to stretch and to expand my horizons and knowledge.”

Pat Thompson, Clinical Associate Professor
“The work of this research team has improved our ability to recognize and incorporate evidence-based standards into the nursing curriculum. The scholarship done by this group has also made a significant impact on innovative prevention and management programs for wound care in a variety of health care settings. We have disseminated a large portion of this research at local, state, national, and international conferences.”

In Eui Oh, graduate student
“This is a remarkable experience as I get to learn the full spectrum of doing research that I only read from books. I am learning how to develop research questionnaires, perform literature reviews, collect data, date tabulation, statistical analyses, and preparing for presentations and publications. I not only get to see the process, but also I can make a real contribution to it.”

The Pressure Ulcer Wound Research Team
CON Top 10 things to know

1. Enrollment is at an all-time high
   - Pre-nursing: 378
   - Undergraduate nursing: 332
   - Nutrition & Dietetics: 100
   - Graduate nursing: 274

2. Clinical Simulation & Resource Center
   - Opened in 2008
   - Houses 6 high fidelity simulators, from infant to adult

3. Northern Plains Center for Behavioral Research
   - One of the first buildings in the nation built with National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding to facilitate the work of scientists in nursing and psychology partnering with interdisciplinary colleagues in the behavioral sciences

4. PhD in Nursing
   - The only such program between Minneapolis and Spokane, WA
   - Enrollment is capped at 25-30 students to provide an ideal learning environment

5. Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
   - The DNP degree will be offered beginning in the fall of 2012

6. Family Nurse Practitioner specialization
   - Flagship advanced practice primary care specialization
   - Has been in existence since 1993 and is currently at capacity with 57 students

7. RAIN Program
   - Has provided support for and graduated 152 American Indian nurses at the BSN level
   - 39 BSN graduates have gone on to complete a Master’s degree
   - 83% of American Indian graduates are working in Indian country

8. NCLEX licensing exam
   - The pass rate for BSN graduates exceeds 90%

9. Alumni reach far and wide
   - Over 4,700 alumni live and work in all 50 states, Canada, Norway, China, Nepal, United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Ecuador

10. Support for Students
    - Alumni and donors have established 25 scholarship funds

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North Dakota Spirit: The Campaign for UND
On October 8, 2010, the University of North Dakota and the UND Foundation announced a $300 million fundraising campaign, North Dakota Spirit: The Campaign for UND.

- $100 million to support students
- $100 million to support faculty
- $50 million to support programs
- $50 million to support facilities

The $300 million goal is spread among students, faculty, programs, and places in every college. The goal for the College of Nursing is $10 million. As of February 14, 2011 the College has raised $1,142,650 towards its goal. The dollars that have been contributed are broken down by the four priority areas in the chart below.

**CON campaign gifts by priority area**
July 1, 2005-Feb 14, 2011

- $157,563 Students
- $5,145 Educators
- $269,378 Programs
- $627,374 Annual Excellence
- $36,190 Facilities

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The College of Nursing is at a very exciting place in its history and we hope that you will consider being a part of our future. The entrepreneurial ideas of faculty, staff and administrators are sure to advance the College, but we cannot do it alone. Together, through philanthropy, we can build truly innovative and unparalleled programs that will revolutionize the healthcare industry and shape the future of the UND College of Nursing.

Investing in the future of healthcare now is the right thing to do at just the right time. By partnering with the College of Nursing, which is in its second century of improving health, you can make a real difference in the world.

The changes in healthcare today necessitate innovative and entrepreneurial approaches to new and existing issues.

Diabetes, a shortage of registered dietitians, lack of adequate healthcare in rural areas, the aging baby-boomer generation, obesity, fewer available faculty to teach students, patient safety, the nationwide nursing shortage; the list goes on. You know and hear about them everywhere you go. The issues facing nursing, nutrition and dietetics continue to grow, to expand, and to demand action.

The UND College of Nursing has acknowledged these challenges and is stepping to the plate to address them, but we cannot do it alone. The College invites you to become a partner in caring and help create the future of healthcare. With your investment, when students graduate they will be the next generation of leaders, ready to affect change in our society.
Students are our business: the sole reason we are here. At the College of Nursing, faculty have a passion for quality healthcare and believe in the student’s ability to be successful beyond their wildest dreams.

The comprehensive curriculum taught at the College provides students the opportunity to become proficient in the skills and abilities necessary to become highly-competent healthcare leaders in the state, region and nation.

Recently, a preceptor for our nurse anesthesia program shared the following.

“I wanted you to know the high caliber of students we are seeing at our clinical site in Bismarck. It is very remarkable to say the least! You do an outstanding job of selecting and preparing these fine young people for a career in nursing. The report just released by the Institute of Medicine puts the role of nursing at a high level for the future of healthcare in the U.S. Keep up the outstanding work of preparing today’s students for the challenges they will face as healthcare providers in the future.”

Providing a first-class education for our students helps them to achieve their dreams, but it also has a positive impact on the lives of each and every patient they work with. Student organizations further allow the development of leadership skills in order to be patient advocates in the healthcare arena.

Unfortunately obstacles and personal circumstances often stand in the way of achieving dreams. Scholarships offer students the ability to make a career choice based on what’s in their hearts, rather than their bank accounts.

Grateful Students

According to Brooke Brekke, BSN ’08, “the scholarship I received was very helpful to me in continuing my education. This generosity will make a difference in the lives of so many students in the years to come. It means so much to me to know that others care about helping students reach their goals.”

“I consider it a privilege to attend graduate school at UND,” shares 2010 nurse anesthesia alumna Marco Moser. “The knowledge I’ve gained from faculty and the experiences of using quality training facilities has made me realize the effort I put into my education was well spent. The UND College of Nursing has prepared me to be successful in future career goals.”

Our students are first-rate and they continue to shine after graduation, a result of quality faculty and personal drive, but also because of the direct support you provide to them. Your continued support will ensure a well-prepared healthcare workforce for the future.

Priority Needs for Passionate Students

Student Development Fund $500,000
Named Endowed Scholarships $25,000+
Scholarship Support Any Amount
Annual Excellence Fund Any Amount

DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 70 percent of UND students are working up to 30 hours per week in order to support their education and living expenses.

Emily Bailey, senior

What has been your favorite part of the nursing program? My favorite part of the nursing program has been working closely with both students and faculty. With each faculty member having a different background and set of experiences in nursing, it has allowed me to have a well-rounded educational experience. Faculty and staff, as well as my peers at the College of Nursing, have been very supportive of me. This support has propelled me forward to accomplish my goals and be active in my school.

What are your future goals in the nursing profession? Ultimately I would like to work in home health nursing. I feel this is an ever expanding service in our country that can benefit a great deal of patients and families. In order to achieve this goal, I plan to work in a variety of medical-surgical units to strengthen the skills I have learned in school and obtain real-world experience. I eventually see myself returning back to school to become an educator or nurse practitioner. I hope to be the best nurse I can be, providing quality patient care and acting as a valuable mentor for my peers.

How did the scholarship you received help you? I received scholarships as a student, both through the University and the College of Nursing. As a student who is paying for her own schooling, I have to find a balance between working and classes. This is not an easy task, so the opportunity for financial help means the world to me. It allows more time to focus on my classes and the ability to participate in extracurricular activities such as the Nursing Student Association and Emerging Leaders.

Why did you get involved in NSA and what is the best part? The Nursing Student Association offered me many opportunities that I would not have experienced otherwise. As future nurses, being part of a professional organization can expand our strengths and abilities in the health care field, and this attitude really begins at the student level. I have the opportunity to work with students in every part of the nursing program, as well as professional nurses in the region and in the nation. This has expanded my scope of knowledge and opened many doors for me in terms of careers and education. I encourage every student to become involved as early as possible because in numbers we have a greater strength.
The strength of a great university resides in its faculty. Faculty at the College of Nursing are knowledgeable in numerous areas, are expert practitioners, actively pursue scholarly and research endeavors, and are dedicated to service in the community and across the nation.

In addition to the shortage of nurses there is also a faculty shortage. The College is competing with programs across the country to attract stellar faculty members. Competitive salaries at other institutions or full-time practicing positions in the community often lure faculty candidates away.

The faculty we seek to recruit will bring with them experience of working with colleagues who are leaders in the field, have a strong research background, and possess the desire to build programs of unparalleled quality.

Attracting and retaining quality faculty allows the College to educate our students to become tomorrow’s most competent healthcare leaders. A robust program of support is needed to strengthen the reputation of the College.

- Endowed faculty positions
- Faculty research fund for start-up programs, publication costs and presentation travel expenses
- Dollars to support educational and professional needs of current innovative and exceptional faculty

A Dedicated Educator
UND has a lot to offer, as Dr. Tracy Evanson, BSN ’87 and associate professor states. “The things that attracted me to this position are also what keep me here: an outstanding national reputation for nursing education; an active and growing graduate program; a supportive collegial atmosphere among faculty and staff; numerous supportive programs to help faculty members achieve excellence in education and scholarship; and the ability to grow into leadership positions within the College and University. I’ve always been proud to be a UND graduate, and I’m even more proud to be a faculty member!”

Priority Needs for Inspirational Faculty

Nursing Endowed Chair
$2 million

Behavioral Research Endowed Chair
$2 million

Professional Development Fund
$500,000

Faculty Research Fund
$1 million

Faculty Fellowship
$250,000

Annual Excellence Fund
Any Amount

DID YOU KNOW?
During the 2009–2010 academic year, 12 external ($2,428,604) and 4 internal ($80,000) research funding proposals were submitted by College of Nursing faculty.

Lucy Heintz, clinical instructor

What classes do you teach, and at what level?
I teach Health Promotion at the undergraduate and graduate level, Public Health Clinical at the undergraduate level, and Public Health Practicum at the graduate level. I have also taught Communication, Family and Diversity and Public Health Theory at the undergraduate level. In addition, I coordinate the public health clinical experiences for the undergraduate students.

What is your favorite part of teaching and what keeps you going each semester?
My favorite part of teaching is seeing students apply the concepts being taught in the classroom. I am able to witness this mostly in Public Health Clinical, which allows me the opportunity to work with a smaller group of students. I enjoy seeing it all come together for students when they complete presentations and assignments. I also very much enjoy hearing from former students and being updated on what is going on in their lives.

What do you hope students learn/take away from you classes?
I hope they take away an appreciation for the role of nursing at the population level of care and the importance of the need for nurses to focus on disease prevention and health promotion across the lifespan, no matter what area of nursing they practice in. I also hope they recognize the need to be familiar with medical and social services in the communities they end up living in to better serve the clients they care for.

What is your area of specialty, and why did you choose it?
I worked as an occupational health nurse for 22 years prior to coming to UND to teach. I am not sure if I chose it or it chose me. I was working as a director of nursing at a hospital, which provided occupational health services to several local manufacturing plants. When one of them had an opening for an occupational health nurse, it seemed like a natural transition for me to move into the position, since I had a familiarity with the role of the nurse in that setting. The role of the occupational health nurse is very unique and fulfilling and one that I fit into very comfortably.

Dr. Jody Ralph, assistant professor

What classes do you teach, and at what level?
I teach Pathophysiology for undergraduate students. It has a lot of content and complex concepts, but the information is very important for their future nursing courses, success on the NCLEX and their careers.

What is your favorite part of teaching and what keeps you going each semester?
The money, fame and glory (ha ha ha). Actually my favorite part about teaching is the same thing that I love about being a nurse: making a difference in someone’s life…. working hard to make a difficult day or treatment or educational concept a little easier, a little better. It’s very satisfying. With each new semester, the students’ desire to learn the course material and become excellent nurses prompts me to seek out the best tools (animations, lectures, activities) to help them.

What is your area of specialty, and why did you choose it?
Pathophysiology. It chose me. The amalgamation of science, research, health, behavior, cutting edge technology, remarkable pictures, and idiosyncrasies of the human body is fascinating. For example, before I was a nurse scientist, I had no idea that the kidney is added during a kidney transplant so a patient may have 3 or 4 kidneys, that bone marrow transplant patients can change their blood type, or that a cancerous prostate can grow from the size of a strawberry to the size of a small melon.

What is your research focus and how do you find it rewarding?
My research focus is prostate cancer and the impact of obesity and diet on prostate gene expression. I enjoy setting up the research question and the growing anticipation to discover the answer is like a child waiting for Christmas! Science is very complex so it is very unlikely that one person will find the cure for cancer. But it is nice to know that I can participate in getting us one step closer…. being part of something bigger than anything I could accomplish on my own. I love it.
The programs and educational tracks established by the College of Nursing are making a huge impact on healthcare in the state of North Dakota and beyond as our graduates gain employment across the nation. The College has made great strides in establishing essential programs of study and research while building strong partnerships statewide.

However, the demands of healthcare are constantly increasing. The College plans to address these needs by implementing new degrees and a number of enrichment opportunities to recruit and retain students while ensuring they are well prepared.

- A Visiting Scholars Program to expose students to experts in the field and open their eyes to opportunities in the profession
- A MS in Nutrition to meet the regional need for advanced level practitioners who are prepared to address the growing impact of nutrition-related disease
- A Doctor of Nursing Practice degree to prepare advanced practice nurses at the highest level to meet the nation's primary healthcare needs
- Outreach to international education markets to ensure diverse opportunities for students
- A Diversity Endowment which prepares students to provide culturally sensitive healthcare for an increasingly diverse nation
- Partnering with other UND entities to establish a faculty practice center that will meet the healthcare case management needs of Grand Forks and surrounding communities while providing an option for faculty practice outside the classroom

Evidence of strong partnerships
The Interprofessional Health Care Course at UND brings health-related majors together to learn about the role of other professionals and how to interact as a healthcare team. Co-op positions allow students to gain real-life experience prior to graduation. The Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is a collaborative effort with the UND School of Medicine and Health Sciences to improve access to health care in rural and medically underserved areas. The College has also partnered with nursing programs across the state for a Robert Wood Johnson Partner's Investing in Nursing grant to create a career-ladder for nursing education.

Priority Needs for Innovative Programs

- **Doctor of Nursing Practice**
  - $1.75 million
- **Master of Science in Nutrition**
  - $100,000
- **Visiting Scholars Program**
  - $100,000
- **Excellence in Behavioral Research**
  - $2 million
- **Diversity Endowment**
  - $2 million
- **Annual Excellence Fund**
  - Any Amount

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Five of the six master’s tracks are offered online. You can stay in your home and take classes from UND to further your nursing education.

**Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)**
The changing demands of the nation's complex health care environment require that nurses serving in specialty positions have the highest level of scientific knowledge and practice expertise possible.

In October 2004, members of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) developed a position statement which called for moving the level of preparation necessary for advanced nursing practice roles from the master's degree to the doctorate level by the year 2015. The position statement calls for educating advanced practice nurses, and other nurses seeking top clinical positions, in Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs.

The DNP degree is designed for nurses seeking a terminal degree in nursing practice and offers an alternative to research-focused doctoral programs. DNP-prepared nurses will be well-equipped to fully implement the science developed by nurse researchers prepared in PhD, DNSc and other research-focused nursing doctorates.

The UND College of Nursing’s proposed DNP program will be ready for student enrollment in the fall of 2012 and will have part-time and full-time options for post-baccalaureate and post-master’s students. The curriculum will build on current master’s tracks by providing education in evidence-based practice, quality improvement and systems thinking among other key areas. Six current College of Nursing faculty members are enrolled in DNP programs at other schools in order to be qualified to teach students who enroll at UND.

**Recruitment/Retention of American Indians into Nursing (RAIN) Program**
For 20 years the RAIN Program has been providing support and mentorship services to American Indian (AI) students pursuing nursing degrees at UND. There are only 91 American Indian nurses in ND, of which 78 have graduated from the RAIN Program.

RAIN is recognized as a premier program for assisting American Indians to gain access to and complete professional nursing education. The retention rate for RAIN nursing students at UND is over 90%, and 83% of RAIN graduates return to work in tribal communities. RAIN has assisted 152 AI students to obtain a Bachelor of Science (BSN) degree and 36 AI with their Masters of Science (MS) degree in Nursing; the most of any program in the nation.

Students participating in the RAIN Program are primarily from North Dakota, but some have come to UND from as far away as North Carolina - a total of 14 different states in all. Currently RAIN has over 250 potential participants listed in a database of pre-nursing, undergraduate nursing, associate degree and BSN nurses interested in enrolling at UND! Program graduates are currently filling positions in 20 states which have the highest AI populations and reservation communities in the U.S. Given the increasing national shortage of nurses in general, the drastic shortage within the Indian Health Service (IHS) and the fact that less than one percent of the over two million registered nurses in the United States are AI, a significant need for AI nurses continues.

**Accelerated Baccalaureate Program (BAC2)**
History, business administration, kinesiology, and English. These are a sample of the first degrees held by students who enroll in the accelerated baccalaureate program; not exactly required courses for a nursing degree. This intense 16-month program is designed for students who already have a college degree in another discipline, but want a career in nursing.

So, how does someone transition from history to nursing? “Although it is an intense workload, I love becoming a nurse,” states Holly Wingrove, a student in the second cohort which graduates in May 2011. “My first degree is in history. When I was about halfway through my degree, I learned that despite earlier struggles in school, I liked science. Even though I love history, I had learned I didn’t want to teach it, and this, simultaneously with my new-found confidence in science, led me to look at other careers. It didn’t take me long to find nursing and I threw myself into finding out if this was the career for me. I became a nursing assistant, started volunteering at a local hospital’s ER and I read anything nursing or medical-related I could. I soon realized that nursing was the career for me and I was filled with a motivation and ambition I had never experienced."

Faculty who teach BAC2 students have had to adapt their teaching style. BAC2 students are extremely eager to soak up knowledge and are much more interactive in the classroom, asking new and different styles of questions. These students have been through school before and are anxious to attain the degree they truly want so they can begin their career.
The learning atmosphere sets the baseline for the level of education and research offered at the College. Optimal facilities with a warm, welcoming and technologically adequate environment for students and faculty are necessary to serve the needs of our constituents – students, the future face of healthcare. We need to add, expand and enhance our facilities to support and sustain our move into the top echelon of programs. Priority needs include:

- Update technology in classrooms and lecture bowls for current teaching methods
- Renovate classrooms to be better designed and equipped for teaching and learning in the 21st century
- Provide lab space for faculty engaged in basic science research
- Sufficiently outfit the behavioral research facility with the necessary furnishings and equipment for performing this exciting research
- Upgrade computer equipment to effectively serve distance students and further integrate technology such as iPods, desktop video conferencing and screen-based simulation (such as Second Life) into the curriculum

Order to offer a full complement of experiences for students, the College must expand the Center and purchase additional simulators and equipment. These additions will range from task trainers and IV pumps to high-fidelity computerized mannequins.

Patient safety is an overarching issue across the broad spectrum of healthcare and clinical simulation is a key solution. “It is very, very real. It is not just another role play, this ‘patient’ responds physiologically, verbally and non-verbally to everything you do and say,” shares Suzanne Payne, BSN ‘08. “The machines are making noises, the patient and their family are talking to you, the doctor calls on the phone and the second nurse needs your attention. It is strikingly real and enhances your ability to multitask.”

Priority Needs for Extraordinary Places

Clinical Resource & Simulation Center
$1 million

Modernize Classroom (each)
$200,000

Enhanced Technology Infrastructure
$500,000

Annual Excellence Fund
Any Amount

The Northern Plains Center for Behavioral Research is one of the first in the nation for nursing. It was funded by the National Institutes of Health and opened in 2008.

Clinical Resource & Simulation Center (CRSC)

“Learning with the simulator takes place at so many levels. You learn by preparing. You learn from doing and the urgency/realism of the situation. You learn from watching others and the discussions after. It is even safe to learn from mistakes.” This comment from an undergraduate student encompasses what clinical simulation is all about. Nurses face life and death situations on a regular basis in the ‘real world.’ It is the College’s job as educators to prepare them for that in a safe way.

The Clinical Resource & Simulation Center (CRSC) opened at the CON in 2008 (formerly known as the Learning Resource Center) with one adult simulator for student use. One simulator for 700 students created a very high demand for lab time and was not a good ratio for optimal student learning. Since 2008, the College has been fortunate through the support of alumni, friends and foundations to purchase another adult simulator as well as pediatric, infant and birthing simulators. With an average of 50+ hours of regularly, weekly scheduled lab sessions, these additions to the CRSC have been welcome.

Undergraduate students are exposed to clinical simulation beginning in the first semester of the nursing program and continue until they graduate. The CON plans to add additional simulators in the future, as well as renovating the rest of the rooms in the CRSC. However, in order to enhance the high fidelity simulators, equipment such as IV pumps, fet dopplers, PCA pumps, and a simulated medical dispensing system are needed.

In the professional setting medicine errors are a top issue all across the country and are more exacerbated in the rural areas where nurses deal with limited support when providing care to patients. Additional equipment will allow more educational opportunities for students to encounter infrequent and atypical clinical problems and to practice concepts of communication. For example, the Simulated Medication Dispensing System (SMDs) and the Personal Care Analytic (PCA) pumps will allow for students to become proficient in the distribution of medicine to patients. PCA pumps are a potential safety issue because patients can have them available in the home setting to alleviate pain. If nurses are not well versed in utilizing this equipment they will not be able to educate patients and their families, which could result in serious drug dependency or overdose. In the rural settings, with limited staff available, nurses will likely be the first contact for troubleshooting these machines.

Currently Funded Research Projects

The Office of Nursing Research at the UND College of Nursing has been actively submitting grants, conducting studies, publishing manuscripts, and making presentations. Below are a few samples of funded research projects currently being conducted.

Dr. Cindy Anderson, ‘91 MS, associate professor of nursing and associate dean of research, studies the gene-environment interactions of pregnancy that increase risk for the development of hypertension in mothers and their children. The findings from her current study of the effect of nutritional status and placental genetic changes in women with pregnancy-induced hypertension will form the basis for further study of ways to identify risk for hypertension before it develops.

Dr. Tracy Evanson, ‘87, associate professor of nursing, is currently investigating the perceptions and experiences of rural nurses in relation to intimate partner violence (IPV) in their rural communities and practices, while also determining nurses in relation to intimate partner violence (IPV) in their rural communities and practices, while also determining their training needs and strategies to meet those needs. The findings from the current study will be used to develop an IPV training that is specific to the realities, challenges, and opportunities faced by rural nurses when working with families experiencing IPV. It is planned to deliver this future training to multiple rural sites in multiple states, and conduct evaluation research to determine the impact that the training will make on rural nurses’ practice.

Dr. Jody Ralph, ‘09 MS, assistant professor of nursing, is investigating the impact of obesity on genetic and epigenetic biomarkers of prostate cancer. The current study, utilizing tissue bank samples, will also test the feasibility of using very small samples obtained from prostate needle biopsies for genetic analysis.

Dr. Desiree Tande, assistant professor of nutrition and dietetics, is collaborating with Dr. Cindy Anderson and Dr. Jody Ralph. Their research project is examining the relationships between dietary factors and risk of pregnancy-induced hypertension among women during their first pregnancy. They are exploring potential nutrients and dietary patterns that may be identified as protective for this condition. Dietary information was collected during the first trimester and women were followed through delivery. The Departments of Nursing and Nutrition & Dietetics are collaborating with the Grand Forks Clinical Nutrition Research Center to complete this work.
CON Enrollment

At A Glance

<table>
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<th>Total</th>
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<td>RN-MS</td>
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<td>General Nursing</td>
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<td>Advanced Public Health Nursing (CNS)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Gerontological Nursing (NP, CNS)</td>
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<td>Psychiatric and Mental Health (NP, CNS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
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Faculty & Students

Dr. Cindy Anderson, ’91 MS, associate professor, was elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN), the profession’s highest national honor. “I feel privileged to be selected as a fellow. My career has been incredibly rewarding, built upon improving the health and well-being of mothers and their children.”

Dr. Anderson has also been selected as a member of the Steering Committee for the inaugural American Physiological Society Translational Physiology Interest Group, responsible for developing membership and coordination of symposia for the Experimental Biology meetings.

Kevin Buettner, ’04, ’07, assistant director for the nurse anesthesia track, has been elected as the Region 4 Representative to the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) Nomination Committee. Buettner’s involvement in professional association activities started when he was a student in the UND nurse anesthesia track and he served a two-year term as the student representative to the North Dakota Association of Nurse Anesthetists (NDANA) Board of Directors.

Rose Cota, semester 3 nursing student, represented the College of Nursing at the ND Student Nurses Association Convention in Bismarck on Feb 4-5 and will be serving as Vice President on the state board for the upcoming year.

Tracy Evanson, ’87, associate professor, presented on a panel at the “Meeting with Early Success: A Home Visitation Symposium,” hosted by Prevent Child Abuse North Dakota, in Bismarck.


Shannon Hovda is the 2011 Nursing Student Association Student Nurse of the Year (SN0Y)! Shannon, a semester 4 student, participated at the ND Student Nurses Association Convention in Bismarck on Feb 4-5 to represent UND and compete for the State SN0Y.

Dr. Bette Ide, professor, was elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN), the profession's highest national honor. “I am very excited to be honored in this way, it is a nice cap to a long career!”

Bonnie Selzler, assistant professor, had a paper accepted for presentation at the 2011 National Association for Rural Mental Health Conference in Dubuque, Iowa in June.

Jenny Senti, ’82, ’96, doctoral student, had a manuscript accepted for publication in the Journal of Nursing Care Quality, titled "Patient Satisfaction with Birthing Center Nursing Care and Factors Associated with Likelihood to Recommend Institution”.

Dr. Linda Shanta, assistant professor, has been appointed as the Director of the Nurse Education master’s track. The Nurse Education track prepares graduate students primarily for faculty positions in nursing education programs. This track is distance-delivered and designed for students who are unable to pursue a full-time or residential program. "I am excited about this new role because it gives me an opportunity to blend my two professional passions, which are nursing and education.”

Maridee Shogren, ’91, clinical instructor, was named an “Outstanding Faculty Member” by the UND Greek Community. The nomination highlights Maridee’s respect for students, passion for nursing and charisma in the classroom. She also spoke at the Alpha Phi scholarship banquet and mentored several Greek nursing students. She took the time to learn about and include comments regarding Alpha Phi’s values and mutual support. Maridee was recognized for seeing the positive in every student and encouraging all in their strengths.

Cheryl Stauffenecker, ’92, ’00, clinical instructor, was the 2010 recipient of the Florence Nightingale Phenomenal Woman Award. The award, sponsored by the UND Multicultural Student Services Center, is one of eleven awards given annually named after a phenomenal woman in history. Stauffenecker was nominated by a nursing student, “Cheryl is a registered nurse who has provided back to the people, both locally and across the globe.” Stauffenecker has travelled to Haiti six times, most recently in March 2010, to provide assistance and care to the victims of the earthquake.

Cheryl was also presented with the Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Upsilon chapter’s Caring Award. “Cheryl is passionate about the health care needs of the underserved in our community,” shares her nominator. Stauffenecker believes in volunteering and giving back to society and has been instrumental in organizing many different activities that benefit the community.

Lois Ustanko, ’98, clinical instructor, was presented with the Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Upsilon chapter’s Excellence in Nursing Practice Award. “Lois is an excellent role model for her students as well as for her colleagues and should be admired for her outstanding nursing expertise, integrity and her inexhaustible compassion for people in need,” shares her nominator.

Melissa VanMatre, nurse anesthesia student, had her article titled "Anesthesia Considerations for Placenta Accreta" published in the International Journal of Nurse Anesthesia.

Nikki Wiese, semester 4 student, will have a paper published in an upcoming issue of Rehabilitation Nursing. The title of the paper is "Therapeutic Music and Nursing in Post-Stroke Rehabilitation".

Public health nursing students conducted a Wellness Fair for refugees in Grand Forks in November 2010. Topics covered included food safety, diabetes, hypertension, nutrition, personal hygiene, depression, medication safety, winter and weather safety, and how to spot health scams. Students also administered flu shots through collaboration with Grand Forks Public Health.

In 2007-08, graduate enrollment at the CON was 100 students. Today there are 274 students enrolled across the various tracks!
CONNECTIONS Development News

The Impact of a Gift - every dollar matters!

No matter what the size, your gift makes an impact at the UND College of Nursing. More than 4,700 alumni are making a difference in the world of healthcare. With a financial contribution to the UND College of Nursing, you can make a difference in the lives of tomorrow’s healthcare providers as well.

The charts below illustrate what would happen if each of our 4,700 alumni made a small yearly or monthly gift. A $10 or $25 gift from one person may not appear to make a difference, but when all the gifts are added together, the impact on the College of Nursing is astounding! Please consider partnering with us by making a gift to support the next generation of healthcare.

Potential impact of yearly gifts from each of our 4,700 alumni

<table>
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<th>Amount per year</th>
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<td>$10</td>
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Potential impact of monthly gifts from each of our 4,700 alumni

<table>
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<tr>
<td>$100 per month</td>
<td>$5,640,000</td>
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What is the impact on our students and programs?

- $47,000 could fund one-year full-ride scholarships for 3 students!
- $235,000 could renovate an out-dated classroom to house state-of-the-art technology for teaching today’s students!
- $1.4 million could hire a full time Clinical Simulation Coordinator and outfit our Simulation Center with additional high-tech and home-care simulation models to serve all levels of our student body!
- $5.6 million could renovate and upgrade the nursing building to make it more applicable to nursing education in the 21st century!

For more information or to make a contribution, please contact:
Becky Cournia, Development Officer
UND College of Nursing
(701) 777-4526
becky.cournia@email.und.edu

The UND College of Nursing is growing and moving forward to meet the healthcare needs of the state and nation. The UND capital fundraising campaign will definitely make an impact on plans for the future.

It is important to remember that the campaign for the College of Nursing is about so much more than meeting a dollar goal. North Dakota Spirit: The Campaign for UND is about meeting the very real needs of students and faculty.

As we strive to move forward, we invite you to partner with us. Together, through philanthropy, we have the power to shape and define the future of the UND College of Nursing. You can help us:

- Provide scholarship support to help our high quality student body achieve their dreams
- Offer state-of-the-art equipment in the Clinical Resource and Simulation Center to provide safe patient care opportunities for student learning
- Support faculty researchers in their work to bring UND to prominence as a leader in behavioral research
- Develop a Visiting Scholars Program to expose our students to the fore-most experts in the nursing profession

When we meet with alumni across the country the phrase “UND Nurse” invariably comes up. Alumni are so proud of their education and are quick to reminisce about their time at UND. The initiatives above will strengthen the College of Nursing to ensure that nurses who graduate in 2025 will be prepared for the future of healthcare and just as proud to call themselves UND Nurses.

As we travel across the country to meet alumni, we urge you to join us at our events to hear about the exciting future ahead for the College, share stories of what your career has been like, meet fellow UND alumni, and find out how you can be involved in helping us to educate tomorrow’s most highly qualified nursing professionals.

DeAnna Carlson-Zink, ’87
Chief Development Officer, UND Foundation

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2010 there were 110 undergraduate scholarship applications received. Only a total of $34,600 was awarded to 39 students. This left an unmet need for 71 students!

Kristine Solberg, ’69 BSN
National Campaign Steering Committee member

Dean, UND College of Nursing

Becky Cournia, ’99
Alumni Relations & Development Officer, UND College of Nursing

In 2010 there were 110 undergraduate scholarship applications received. Only a total of $34,600 was awarded to 39 students. This left an unmet need for 71 students!
Addresses can be emailed to becky.cournia@email.und.edu. Alumni every other month. Are you missing out? Then send us.

Don't forget to register your email address with us. The College of Nursing – be sure to check us out, become a fan, and stay ‘in the know’ about your alma mater.

Keep in Touch with the CON

Where in the world are YOU?

Let us know what you’ve been up to and where you are located on the map!

What to share? Your name, graduation year, info on spouse and children, current job and employer, and any other exciting news. Responses will be printed in the next issue.

Send your update to becky.cournia@email.und.edu or mail to:

Grand Forks, ND 58202

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Where can you find a UND College of Nursing alumna/w?!

Donor Honor Roll - THANK YOU!

Thanks to the following alumni, faculty, staff, and friends for their continued support of the nursing program. Your generosity allows us to provide the best possible education for our students. Thank you for giving back! We recognize gifts received between Dec 2, 2009 - Dec 31, 2010.

$100,000+
Dr Lois J Merrif (dec.)

$10,000-$35,000
Jane S Nelson
Gertrude E Skelly Charitable Foundation

$1,000-$9,999
Dr Darla & Steven Adams
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$500-$999
Carolyn & Bruce Adams
Mary & Quentin Anderson
Alex Stern Family Foundation

$100-$499
Carolyn P Balsdon
Carol A Barg
Allison & Andrew Billon
Li Col Marlene A Brake
Li Col Jane (Ret) & Richard Braun
Andon L Bryant
Kevin C Buetner
Kerry & Robert Callanan
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Where can you find a UND College of Nursing alumna/w?!
Dr. Mary Wakefield visits the College of Nursing

Alumni are welcome to visit the College any day of the week, but Homecoming presents a perfect opportunity to reconnect and see how things have changed. On October 8, 2010 the College of Nursing held a social to greet alumni from far and wide, while also honoring its scholarship recipients, the Class of 1960 celebrating their 50th reunion, and Dr. Mary Wakefield, Administrator of the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) and former College of Nursing faculty, who received the Sioux Award.

More than 60 alumni, students and faculty gathered at the Northern Plains Center for Behavioral Research for a very engaging evening.

Students introduced themselves to alumni and shared nursing stories. Dr. Wakefield offered words of advice and encouragement to the crowd, faculty reconnected with former students and colleagues, and most inspiring of all was Dr. Wakefield being surrounded by students and answering all of their questions—what a fantastic opportunity for these students to interact with the highest ranking nurse in the US! As one attendee noted, “UND nursing students are top-notch, it’s possible the next Dr. Wakefield is in this room.”

The class of 1960 entertained us with a song they performed on the day they graduated, as well as with the rap song they wrote for their 30th reunion in 1990 (“get with the times” they said).

It was so great to see the interaction of all attendees. The College will soon be hitting the road to visit even more of our fantastic alumni so be on the lookout for an invitation in your area!

Homecoming 2011 is only a year away, be sure to mark Oct 21-22, 2011 on your calendar and plan to attend. Will it be time for your class to have a reunion? If so, contact the College and we’ll be happy to help you plan, beckycournia@mail.und.edu
Dr. Julie Anderson is completing the last year of a 2-year appointment as Dean of the College of Nursing. The College is currently engaged in a rigorous national search for our next permanent dean with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2011.

If you would like more information, or to refer a candidate, please visit www.nursing.und.edu and select ‘Dean Search.’