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Williams honored with endowed scholarship

Endowed scholarships are established to encourage and empower future leaders to seek the funds necessary to further their education and continue the legacy of excellence started by the leader in whose name it was founded. Northwest Mississippi Community College (NWCC) honored the esteemed career of **Dr. Ellen Williams** with one such endowed scholarship in her name.

The endowment was made possible by a charitable event, "Shoot for the Heart," that was established during her six years as dean of the Division of Nursing. Since its inception, the event has raised just shy of \$200,000 for the nursing program at NWCC and is a sporting clays event that draws participants from all over the United States to Tunica.



Dr. Ellen Williams, center, holds plaque along with NWCC President Dr. Gary Lee Spears. Watching are from left, Roberta Mayfield; Dr. Denise Bynum, director of the Division of Nursing at NWCC; Lisa Vincent, Retired NWCC nursing instructor; Tom Pittman, executive director of the Northwest Mississippi Community Foundation; SON Dean Kim Hoover; the recipient's mother Ethel Peters; Dr. Marcia Rachel, the associate dean for academic affairs in the UMMC SON; and the recipient's husband, Charlie Williams.

Money from the endowment will be used for future nurse leaders who wish to further their education beyond the associate degree in nursing.

...continued on page 8

Annual luncheon pairs students with mentors

The School of Nursing hosted its annual Mentorship "Meet Your Match" Luncheon at the Norman C. Nelson Student Union, where 15 incoming Traditional BSN students met their mentors and other guest speakers. Dr. Tonya Moore, UMMC chief learning officer, served as the keynote speaker. She provided the incoming students with words of encouragement to "be the CEO of

yourself" by always putting their "best foot forward." Moore also stressed the importance of building relationships now in order to equip oneself for the future.

Moore was also the recipient of this year's Mentor of the Year Award after having received nominations from two of her mentees from the previous year.

...continued on page 12

Dean's Corner - In Memory of Dr. Sharon B. Wyatt

Spring is a wonderful time to celebrate the accomplishments of our students, alumni, staff and faculty. We also celebrate our community and service partners without whom we could not achieve our mission of developing nurse leaders and improving the health of Mississippians.

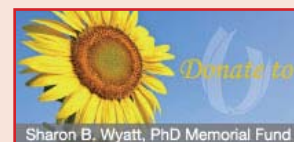
None was more committed to developing models of improving health than Dr. Sharon B. Wyatt, the Harriet G. Williamson Professor of Nursing and professor of medicine. Dr. Wyatt died Nov. 5. On faculty for more than 20 years, she was a master practitioner, researcher and educator who will be missed by her colleagues and former students.

The Sharon B. Wyatt Memorial Fund has been established in her honor. Donations to the fund will be used to support national and international travel to conferences for PhD in Nursing students.

For more information or to make a donation to the fund, visit the School of Nursing website at <http://umc.edu/son/> and click the donation box to the right.



Dr. Sharon B. Wyatt



Teen clinic promotes healthy choices, healthy futures



Davelin Woodard, a senior in the University of Mississippi School of Nursing, helps out by arranging health brochures at the new Lanier High School Teen Wellness Clinic.

By: Ruth Cummings, UMMC Division of Public Affairs

For today's teens, a cheeseburger might sound better than a salad, and riding to school definitely preferable to walking - yet few would choose to be obese, or to begin developing heart disease or hypertension at an early age.

Students at Lanier High School in Jackson are learning how to adopt a healthier lifestyle in addition to receiving primary medical care at the school's new Teen Wellness Clinic, a partnership between Jackson Public Schools, the University of Mississippi Medical Center and the University of Mississippi School of Nursing.

An open house and dedication for the nurse practitioner-managed clinic was celebrated in October at the school in the city's Georgetown community. ...continued on page 8

Editor's Notes

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

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www.umc.edu/son/news/

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

Alumni Greetings

On behalf of the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Nursing alumni chapter, I would like to thank each of you for your involvement and support of our school. Our students and alumni exemplify the school's mission to develop nurse leaders and improve health within and beyond the state of Mississippi, and I am honored to serve as your President.

There has been a great deal of "behind the scenes" work to make our upcoming Nursing Alumni Day a memorable and educational experience. It will take place on April 7, 2016 in the Norman C. Nelson Student Union, and I want to encourage you to join us. We will honor and celebrate the classes of 1966, 1976, 1986, 1996 and 2006! Our first Dr. Barbara Rogers Endowed Lectureship and Oglevee Papers Keynote Speaker will be Dr. Elisa Torres, Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing at University of Wisconsin-Madison. Other speakers include Dr. John Showalter, Assistant Professor and Chief Health Information Officer at UMMC and Dr. Janet Harris, Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Practice and Community Engagement in the School of Nursing at UMMC. The Alumni reception will take place that evening at Char Restaurant giving everyone the opportunity to network, catch up, and build new relationships. For full event details and to register, please visit: umc.edu/alumni

We had a very productive Spring board meeting with great attendance. We are excited to develop some additional structure and sub-committees to support our mission, and that work is coming together very nicely. The updates we received surrounding the growth and innovation taking place in the School of Nursing are amazing!

Heather Pierce, President-Elect, and I are elated about the changes taking place as we move forward, and we are excited to work alongside each of you.

Sincerely,

Amber Arnold, DNP, RN
Nursing Alumni President, 2015-17
Class of 1999 (BSN), Class of 2009 (MSN), Class of 2013 (DNP)
(601) 815-9256 • aarnold@umc.edu

***Welcome to the 2016 Nursing Alumni Day
Honoring Classes of 1966, 1976, 1986, 1996, 2006***

***Mississippi Nurses Association Convention
October 18-21, 2016
Biloxi, Mississippi***



*Dr. Amber Arnold,
Nursing Alumni
President*

Upcoming Events

N428 Poster Presentations
Thursday, April 21

Family Day
Thursday, April 21

DNP Leadership Institute
Tuesday, April 26

Honors Day
Thursday, May 5

Classes End
Saturday, May 14

RN-BSN Orientation
Tuesday, May 17

Traditional BSN, RN-MSN, MSN, Post-MSN Orientation
Wednesday, May 18

Traditional BSN Orientation
Thursday, May 19

Pinning
Thursday, May 26

Commencement
Friday, May 27

Memorial Day holiday
Monday, May 30

Classes Begin
Tuesday, May 31

Independence Day Holiday
Monday, July 4

Oxford Pinning
Friday, July 15

Classes End
Friday, August 5

News You Can Use

Spring 2016

DNP student receives National Quality Award from NPSF



Cissy Lee

DNP student and UMMC nurse manager **Cissy (Bailey) Lee** received the National Quality Forum Management Award from the National Patient Safety Foundation (NPSF) for her implementation of a falls prevention program she initiated on her nursing unit. The NPSF advances patient and health-care workforce safety by disseminating strategies to prevent harm. One award recipient who is making extraordinary efforts towards this goal is chosen each year. Lee's program stemmed from her DNP capstone project, "An Interactive Evaluation of a Falls Prevention Program in an Academic Health Science Center."

To determine a preventative solution, Lee's research focused on gathering information about when patients fall the most and why. Her data indicated that a high percentage of patient falls happen between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., with a peak time of 4 a.m., when patients' sleep times may be interrupted for routine care. Patients wake up groggy and think they can get up without assistance, which can result in a fall. Lee worked with her 5 North staff to increase the rounding to patient rooms and also reassigned one person from that shift who will be dedicated to immediately responding to patients' calls for assistance. This immediate response time helps prevent a patient from falling as a result of trying to get up without assistance. Lee noticed results right away after implementing this program. She found that patients are now more likely to wait for the rounder than try to get up independently, knowing how frequently the rounders visit and how quickly they respond.

When asked what this award means to her, Lee said, "It was a great honor to be considered for the National Quality Forum Management Award. When I was notified that this project had been chosen, I was elated. It has meant a great deal to me knowing that the initiative has made such a positive impact on my nursing unit. I am very proud of the award and must give the credit for the success of the program to the 5 North Team."

PhD student presents poster at international conference



Katherine Rigdon

Nursing scholars from around the world attended the annual International Association of Human Caring (IAHC) Conference in New Orleans. The IAHC promotes the identification of major philosophical, epistemological and professional dimensions of care and caring in nursing. The core philosophy of the association is based on the belief that caring is the essence and the unique, unifying focus of nursing. The IAHC annual conference provides an international, scholarly forum for individuals to share ideas, research and theories of care and caring within the profession of nursing.

Katherine Rigdon, a PhD in Nursing student, submitted an abstract for a poster presentation for the IAHC conference. Instead of an acceptance letter for the poster presentation, she received an invitation from the conference planning committee requesting that she speak at the conference and present her research on "Compassion: Relationship Between Self-Care and Caring for Others." Dr. Savina Schoenhofer, a caring theorist, provided mentorship for the abstract submission. "It was an honor to have my research acknowledged by such an esteemed, prestigious organization," Rigdon said. "The opportunity to present my research to an international audience of caring science scholars and theorists was an impactful experience for me personally and professionally."

Rigdon emphasizes that even though research is an individual endeavor, her progress thus far would not have been possible without the patience, guidance and wisdom of her dissertation advisor, Dr. Karen Winters. According to Rigdon, she chose well when she decided to pursue her dream of a PhD in Nursing at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. "All of the PhD faculty at UMMC are dedicated to academic excellence and the professional development of their students."

PhD student chosen as first Jonas Scholar for UMMC



Karen Arrant

Last spring, PhD student **Karen Arrant** was chosen as the first Jonas Scholar from UMMC. The Jonas Nurse Scholar Program supports doctoral nursing students pursuing PhD or DNP degrees. The goal of the program is to increase the number of doctorally-prepared faculty available to teach in nursing schools nationwide, as well as the number of advanced practice nurses providing direct patient care. The program provides financial assistance, leadership development and networking support to expand the pipeline of future nurse faculty and advanced practice nurses.

A leadership project is a large portion of the requirements for receiving this award. Arrant, a resident of Louisiana, was granted permission to complete her project in her home state. The Louisiana Action Coalition (LAC) was initiated in 2012 with the goal to transform health care throughout the state by addressing each of the pillars of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) report. These pillars include advancing education transformation, leveraging nursing leadership, removing barriers to practice and care, fostering interprofessional collaboration, promoting diversity in nursing and bolstering workforce data.

This was an enormous task, so the LAC divided the state into eight regions and presented forums in five of the regions in 2013-14. The purpose of the forums was to try to get a Regional Action Coalition (RAC) started in each region and bring interested parties on board to work towards an RAC.

Arrant lives in Region 8, which was not included in the forums. She therefore chose to take this on as her leadership project. She initiated conversations with the LAC leaders, which led to many contacts in Region 8 searching for people interested in improving the health of their community. The idea was to get nurses and community leaders in a room together, discuss the IOM report and their community needs, choose one or more of the pillars, and gather data from the community and health-care facilities that demonstrate how the RAC is working to meet the chosen pillar. Her RAC forum last April was a huge success. Examples of the work include an interprofessional collaboration project at the University of Louisiana Monroe (ULM), working with the local chapter of the Louisiana State Nurse Association in removing barriers to practice for Region 8 nurse practitioners on the legislative level in Baton Rouge, and actively recruiting more diverse students in the ULM BSN and Delta Community College ADN Programs.

"My role began by starting the conversation, bringing in interested parties, hosting the RAC forum," said Arrant. "Now my role has evolved into funneling information about our programs, actions and numbers to the LAC so they can keep track of how Louisiana is working to meet the IOM report recommendations. I have grown tremendously as a nurse leader, I have made contacts throughout my state that will benefit my region, and I have learned how to connect people with similar interests and goals to the benefit of my RAC. None of this would have happened without the Jonas Nurse Scholar Program."

Arrant credits her mentor, Dr. Janet Harris, for guiding her through the leadership analysis and providing feedback for her along the way.

Fellow PhD students Kayla Carr and Angie Duck were named Jonas Scholars for 2016-2018. A \$20,000 grant from the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare was matched by the School of Nursing to fund the scholarships. Stay tuned for the next issue of the newsletter for more information about these two new Jonas Scholars.



Kayla Carr



Angie Duck

School of Nursing students become Community Health Advocates

UMMC is committed to addressing the state's severe health problems through education, care and research. UMMC leadership believes that establishing partnerships with those in the community who share the same concern is essential to improving Mississippi's poor health ranking compared to other states. There is agreement that the long-term solution for Mississippi's health crisis is improved health literacy, leading to healthy choices and lifestyle changes.

With this goal in mind, UMMC has established a program called Community Health Advocates (CHA) to train faith-based and community groups as health screeners in a health-advocacy program. The training includes instruction in the detection of obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes. Participants are taught how to locate resources for care of these problems and receive dietary information and weight control management training.

The program is staffed using volunteer trainers from UMMC and local health professionals. SON Assistant Professor **Dr. Josie Bidwell** is a member of the interprofessional core leadership team that is leading the charge for this initiative. One of her priorities was to implement this program in SON curriculum and have all currently enrolled Traditional BSN students trained as CHAs who can be of service to the community by spreading the message of healthier lifestyle choices. Students have had the opportunity to volunteer at more than a dozen CHA events serving the local community this fall semester.

Some faculty members on the Oxford and Jackson campuses have been trained in the program as well. Bidwell notes that since January, the core leadership team has certified more than 500 health-profession students on campus. She is looking forward to seeing the impact these CHAs will have on the surrounding community and the state of Mississippi as a whole.

DNP student awarded grant to attend national ELNEC meeting



Jacqueline Carrillo

DNP student **Jacqueline Carrillo** attended a national meeting for End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) training in St. Louis. She was awarded a grant to attend with funds supporting the consortium from City of Hope, the National Cancer Institute and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Along with letters of recommendation from Dr. Janet Harris, associate dean for practice and community engagement, and Dr. Marcia Rachel, associate dean for academic affairs, Carrillo had to provide evidence of clinical practice and leadership. As a board-certified family nurse practitioner, Carrillo co-developed the pediatric pain and palliative care program at Batson Children's Hospital in 2009 alongside Dr. Rick Boyte. Then in 2013, she started the adult palliative care program at the University of Mississippi Medical Center's University Hospital.

In 2000, Carrillo attended the first ELNEC program held in Washington, D.C. for the general nursing school educators train-the-trainer program. She continued to attend when she was a nursing instructor at Hinds Community College through 2007 and again went to the pediatric train-the-trainer program when she was working in the pediatric palliative care program.

The main focus of the ELNEC program is to educate nurses at various levels on palliative care and end-of-life care by providing various presentations relevant to APRN, DNP, nursing and pediatric provider populations. The consortium was initially created by funds from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). According to the ELNEC website, it is estimated that "ELNEC trainers have returned to their institutions and communities and have trained over 600,000 nurses and other health-care providers."

Bidwell receives funding for special project aimed at nutrition



Dr. Josie Bidwell

Assistant Professor **Dr. Josie Bidwell** received funding for a special project, “Cook Right, Live Well,” aimed at educating Mississippi residents not only on the importance of good nutrition, but also instructing them on healthy food choices and cooking techniques. Bidwell believes that inexpensive, highly processed food that is high in salt, sugar and “bad” fat is widely available and forms the core of the diets of many Mississippians, especially those with limited income. At the same time, the knowledge and skills needed to buy and cook healthy (non-processed) foods have been lost through successive generations, which is creating a major challenge to healthy eating.

Bidwell wants to create a nutrition-education and cooking-instruction program using several community teaching kitchens and linking to farmers’ markets and community gardens in central Mississippi. The program will target low-income families attending a midtown urban family practice clinic. Patients with recently diagnosed type 2 diabetes and/or hypertension (or midtown residents identified by screening at local health fairs) will be selected for participation. The program will comprise a series of 30 cooking instruction sessions (60 hours) during two years, taught by local registered dietitians and nutritionists.

Participants will also be taken to multiple sites where healthy foods can be purchased and given a full tour to have hands-on experience with reading labels, picking out produce and shopping on a budget. During the program they will be guided and instructed in shopping at these locations for fresh, affordable and culturally appropriate foods.

The goal of this project is to demonstrate that a program of education, instruction and practice in selecting and cooking inexpensive healthy (non-processed) food is feasible and acceptable and can lead to changes in knowledge, attitudes and behaviors related to healthy eating.

Bidwell has received funding for the project from the Bower Foundation—an organization that directs funds to support systemic improvements in the state’s health and education infrastructures. If the project is successful, she hopes to form strategic partnerships between UMMC and local business leaders in the food and restaurant industry to add a physical food hub to the downtown Jackson community incorporating lessons learned from this initiative.

Faculty members receive grant funding totaling more than \$2 million



Dr. Renée Williams

Dr. Renée Williams, professor of nursing, was awarded a \$100,000 grant by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation to support minority student scholarships, recruitment and retention.

The grant’s goal is to help strengthen inclusiveness to meet the needs of a diverse population. Concentration on recruitment is geared to a target audience of urban and rural schools within the city of Jackson and the greater Jackson area with a goal of increasing the current 50-percent retention rate by an additional 15-percent during the next three years.



Dr. Robin Christian

Dr. Robin Christian, associate professor of nursing, and **Dr. Janet Harris**, associate dean for practice and community engagement, were awarded a \$2.1 million grant from HRSA for their project, “Integrated Behavioral Health Program.”

This project will bring Telehealth and mental-health services to the SON’s faculty-run clinics and will integrate the educational development for these services within the SON curricula. These expanded services will offer unique opportunities for faculty and students while improving access to care for local communities.

Williams Endowed Scholarship (cont.)

“With the Dr. Ellen Williams Endowed Scholarship at NWCC, I hope that the selected student(s) will be better able to continue their nursing education through the early-entry and/or RN-MSN program,” said Williams. “For as long as NWCC exists and has the nursing program, the Dr. Ellen Williams [endowed] scholarship will be intact. I am thrilled beyond words to [be] recognized in such a way by my colleagues in nursing education at NWCC. There is no greater honor for me as an educator in nursing.”

A partnership between NWCC and the UMMC School of Nursing was established while Williams served as

dean at NWCC and still continues with the early-entry point into the RN-MSN program at UMMC. The entry option also partners with Hinds Community College and provides eligible first-year associate-degree nursing students with an opportunity to reserve a spot in the RN-MSN program during their first year of ADN coursework, rather than after graduation.

The endowed scholarship was created when NWCC nursing faculty voted to use some of the proceeds from the “Shoot for the Heart” event to establish an endowment that would recognize Williams’ efforts and initiatives during her tenure at NWCC.

Teen clinic (cont.)

UMMC is providing financial and staffing support to revitalize the former in-school clinic at Lanier, which houses about 800 students in grades 9-12. It brings to three the number of nurse-managed health clinics operated by UMMC and the School of Nursing in the Jackson school district. Johnson Elementary also has a clinic, and a joint clinic operates at Brown Elementary and Rowan Middle School.

“We’re here today because you and the University of Mississippi Medical Center came together to do something that’s right,” Dr. James Keeton, former UMMC vice chancellor for health affairs and part of the Medical Center leadership that over the last year worked to bring the clinic to fruition, said at the dedication.

“If you’re not healthy and you’re not educated, you can forget about jobs,” said Keeton, who now serves as distinguished professor and advisor to UMMC Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs Dr. LouAnn Woodward. “The University of Mississippi Medical Center is proud to be a part of Lanier.”

“This is a natural progression for us,” said Dr. Janet Harris, associate dean and director of practice and community engagement in the School of Nursing. “Across the board, we identify vision needs, dental needs and comprehensive general health-care needs, and we provide education about their health.”

“The Teen Wellness Clinic is innovative in that it

combines health outreach with clinical care in a new school-based health clinic run by an academic health science center,” said clinic director Dr. Kate Fouquier, a certified nurse midwife and associate professor in the School of Nursing.

The clinic’s services include treatment for acute and chronic illnesses as well as referrals to appropriate health care when an illness or treatment is out of the scope of practice for the nurse practitioner. Just as importantly, the clinic’s wellness emphasis includes a focus on good decision-making to avert risky behavior that can have a lifelong impact.

Its delivery of youth-centered health-care services “is grounded in the belief that all young people have the right to confidential health services, and that providing youth with medically accurate and age-appropriate health information will give them vital tools they need to safeguard their health,” Fouquier said.

Today’s teens face multiple barriers to care and preventive health services, among them ability to pay, lack of transportation and concerns that family or friends will learn personal details of their health needs, Fouquier said. The Teen Wellness Clinic “seeks to address underlying aspects of the social and cultural conditions that affect reproductive risk-taking behaviors with strategies designed to improve the underlying social conditions themselves,” she said.

...continued on next page

Teen clinic (cont.)



University of Mississippi Medical Center nurse practitioner CeNedra Lee puts finishing touches on installation of equipment at the new Lanier High School Teen Wellness Clinic.

The clinic is staffed by UMMC nurse practitioner CeNedra Lee, patient care technician Rosalind Basham, and Priscilla Sterling, an AmeriCorps community health worker.

“We will take care of episodic health-care needs. We’re not competing with their primary care health providers,” Harris said. “We are on the spot to take care of their needs, and if they need referrals to a specialist, we will do that in collaboration with their physician. We’re tracking the number of referrals from our clinics so that we can measure the impact.”

Said Jackson district Superintendent Dr. Cedrick Gray: “It’s no secret that when students feel better, they perform better in the classroom. The Lanier High School Teen Wellness Clinic will increase student attendance and achievement by providing medical services to students.

“I’m overwhelmed with excitement,” Gray said. “This is not something we take lightly. When you open up your pockets and resources like UMMC has, you’re serious about us doing a good job at Lanier.”

The clinic will continue the mission of beloved Mississippi physician Dr. Aaron Shirley, who more than three decades ago brought preventive health care to Lanier when he became the force behind its first health clinic operation.

“His love was making sure everyone had access to health care,” said Terrence Shirley, son of the late Dr.

Shirley and the administrator of UMMC’s Department of Radiation Oncology. “He was a graduate of Lanier, so it was his baby.”

Count on students using the clinic “all the time,” said Lauren Porter, 17, a Lanier senior and the granddaughter of Aaron Shirley. “We didn’t have one previously, and people didn’t have anywhere to go for sports physicals or when they come to school sick. They can come to the clinic and get what they need.”

Students appreciate the chance for a listening ear, Porter said. “The clinic representatives told us that everything will be confidential,” she said. “The reassurance is there for students to be able to talk about things that they may or may not want to talk about with their parents.”

And, students will listen to each other as part of the clinic’s peer counselor component that takes into account their ability to empathize and understand each other’s problems, perhaps better than adults would. “Peer interventions will capitalize on the potentially strong positive influence of peers in bringing about positive behavior changes,” Fouquier said.

“We want the Teen Wellness Clinic to be about the opportunity for our Jackson students to pursue their dreams, in good health,” said Dr. Kim Hoover, professor and dean of the School of Nursing.

Harris said the School of Nursing has been active in the city’s Midtown community near Lanier since 1998, when UMMC’s UNACARE community family practice clinic opened. That led to the school-based clinics, “where the future of Mississippi’s health really lies,” Harris said.

The partnership between UMMC and the school district will be further strengthened by the clinic’s advisory committee composed of community leaders and Lanier alumni, in addition to strong support from teachers and staff, Harris and Fouquier said.

“Lanier is in the same community as the other clinics, and if we want to address student needs from elementary through high school, this is a logical next step for us,” Harris said. “This really opened the door for us.”

Fall semester events from the Oxford campus



Accelerated BSN and MSN students participated in the University of Mississippi Pre-Professions Health Fair as a service opportunity. The event took place at the University of Mississippi Student Union. Students performed blood pressure and body mass indexes (BMIs).



Accelerated BSN and MSN students are pictured here with Dr. Robin Wilkerson, right, professor of nursing, director of north Mississippi campus and RN-MSN program director, at the University of Mississippi Pre-Professions Health Fair.



During the flu drive, Accelerated BSN students worked alongside School of Pharmacy students during an interprofessional CHA event, providing flu vaccinations on the Oxford campus.



Accelerated BSN students join School of Pharmacy students at the IPE flu vaccinations conducted.



Oxford Accelerated BSN student Rachael Weathersby gives a flu shot to former Ole Miss pitcher Scott Weathersby, who also happens to be her husband.



Oxford Accelerated BSN students participate in a "wrapping party," packing more than 30 Operation Christmas Child boxes to be delivered to children this holiday season. Student Alison Jimenez coordinated this service opportunity. Special thanks to the little helpers that lent a hand!

Reflections of service from our community, our friends and our students

Faculty, staff and students have logged in more than **11,700 hours** valued at over **\$277,000** in a years time **since last spring**.



"We know that your time is valuable and do so appreciate all the time you spent preparing and presenting these classes to our residents. We strive to give them the tools to become self-sufficient. The HIV 101

classes contribute to this goal. I have never heard a single negative comment about any of the UMMC SON students. Their positive attitudes will have far-reaching effects for years to come for our residents, our community and our state."

~ Philip Grisham, Healthcare Education Coordinator for HIV 101 at Grace House, Inc.



To see what the School of Nursing is doing in the community, visit <https://givegab.com/universities/university-of-mississippi-medical-center-school-of-nursing>.



CAMP RAINBOW DIABETES WALK
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB MERCY
UMMC HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER DELTA
SUSAN G. KOMAN RACE FOR A CURE CAMP
ALZHEIMER'S WALK GRACE HOUSE KANDU
GRANT'S FERRY RELAY FOR LIFE
HEALTH FAIR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
MRA SCIENCE FAIR FITNESS FEST MARCH OF DIMES
CAMP BLUEBIRD BLOOD DRIVES MAKE A WISH
JOHNSON ELEMENTARY NIGHT OUT HEART
23,567 hours valued at
\$543,695
1 CAMPUS 1 COMMUNITY IHL HEALTH FAIR
ROSA SCOTT HEALTH FAIR BROWN ELEMENTARY
MAKING STRIDES FOR BREAST CANCER WALK SIDS WALK
DISCOVER NURSING DAY
ELIZA PILLIARS HEALTH FAIR
MS MASN 4 LEAF K
WALK

"My work at the Caring Hands Clinic has not only allowed me to give my nursing skills and knowledge to those in need, but it has given me the living experience of our Fundamental of Nursing as a Discipline, Caring. This free clinic provides these patients with continuity of care. A valuable medical service that they couldn't receive if it weren't for the many devoted volunteers. It is a wonderful experience to work with these medical professionals and see their desire to show up each month and take care of those that need their help."

~ From MSN recent graduate, Cissy McCarty, who said this of her service with Caring Hands Clinic



Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi

"Because of you, we have 38 families empowered and informed on how to care for their child or teen with diabetes! Because of you, we have 38 children and teens with diabetes who feel like kids again, who have friends who know what it's like to live with diabetes 24/7 - to have that support when they need it most! Thank you so much for volunteering at Spring Camp! You made a world of difference in the lives of these kids, their parents, siblings and grandparents. We hope that we can count on you to volunteer again and help these families learn that life with diabetes is truly a life without limits!"

With deepest gratitude from all of us at the DFM."

~ Irena McClain, MPH, associate director, Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

Submitted by Tammy Dempsey, former director of student affairs and service learning:

The commitment of the students, faculty and administration of the School of Nursing to community engagement and service learning is changing our world, our state and our community, and it is undoubtedly changing each of us in the process. The goal of service learning is to improve the health and lives of those in our community while also contributing, to the development of nurse leaders who advocate for justice and equity for the improvement of health for our states citizens; who understand and celebrate diversity; who practice skills with excellence and compassion; and who are committed to civic engagement that results in systems change.

This year, the School of Nursing was recognized for the tremendous contribution it has made to our state, when it was selected as recipient of the Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence by a health-care education program. Since implementing the GiveGab platform for promoting and tracking service learning in February 2013, the SON has logged more than 23,500 hours of service by faculty, staff and students, at a value of more than \$540K. As impressive as those numbers are, even more impressive is the impact this service is having on our community.

The School of Nursing is leading the way on service learning and community engagement. I look forward to watching the numbers climb, as well as the lives impacted, as service learning continues to grow at UMMC. These amazing accomplishments are only possible through the support of the students, faculty and administration of the School of Nursing. I am so very grateful to have been (and to continue to be) a part of this important work.

SON Service

Spring 2016

Pair Students with mentors (cont.)



Dr. Marilyn Harrington, left, poses with more than 30 of the students and mentors during this year's annual mentorship luncheon, along with keynote speaker Dr. Tonya Moore, right.

Currently, Moore serves as a mentor for three students — two Traditional BSN students and one Accelerated BSN student.

The SON mentorship program was initiated in 2010 by **Dr. Marilyn Harrington**, who serves as director of diversity and inclusion. Harrington touts benefits realized by the program include reduced overall attrition rates of minority students; improved overall confidence in reaching the goal of becoming a successful nursing professional; access to a support system during critical stages of academic and career development; a clearer understanding and enhancement of academic and career plans; and an improved self-esteem and image.

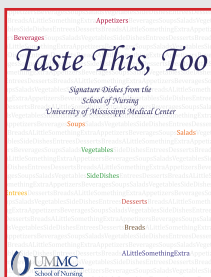
SON touts back-to-back Alumnus of the Year Awards, Looks for 3-peat



Dr. Lisa Haynie, left, receives the 2014 Alumnus of the Year Award from former nursing alumni chapter president Michelle Burns. Recognized for more than 16 years of service to the school, the professor of nursing is the director of the acute/primary pediatric and neonatal nurse practitioner tracks as well as the director of the Mercy Delta Express Project. She has served as president of the Mississippi Nurses Foundation and is an active member of the Mississippi Nurses Association.



Dr. Audwin Fletcher, right, receives the 2015 Alumnus of the Year Award from former nursing alumni chapter president Michelle Burns. Recognized for more than 25 years of service, the professor of nursing is the director of the acute care adult-gerontology and family nurse practitioner tracks. Fletcher is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and is also a member of the Norman C. Nelson Order at UMMC. He also serves as a FNP for the UNACARE Family Health Clinic.



Cookbooks for Sale - \$12!

The SON cookbook ***Taste This, Too*** is now on sale. It features more than 200 recipes submitted by faculty, staff, students and alumni and can be purchased in A304 or A106 for \$12 each. Cash or checks only. For more information or to order a copy, email mflowerday@umc.edu or ad robertson@umc.edu or call (601) 984-6220. During nursing alumni day, a table is setup right outside for your convenience. Come see us and buy a cookbook today!