

MISSOURI ALUMNUS

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NURSING SECTION

Alumni Attend Spring Convocation

Nearly 50 students, faculty and alumni of the School of Nursing attended the sixth annual Nursing Honors Convocation held May 12 on the Columbia campus. A Nursing Alumni Association meeting and presentation of the Citation of Merit and student awards highlighted the day's activities.

According to Nursing Alumni Association President Mrs. Richard Ballard (Margo Turley) BSN '69, this is the first year an alumni meeting has been held in conjunction with the Honors Convocation. Tentative plans are to hold future alumni meetings at the date of the spring convocation, instead of meeting during fall homecoming festivities.

Featured speaker for the program at the Honors Convocation luncheon was Miss Frances Gilbert, recipient of the 1971 Citation of Merit Award (see News About People). Her speech was entitled "On Being Prepared." Mrs. Donald Thompson (Thelma Jean



STUDENTS VISIT WITH MARGO BALLARD, LEFT, DR. RUBY POTTER AND MISS FRANCES GILBERT.

Warner), BSN '63, vice president of the organization, presented Alumni Association awards to nursing students. Also recognized were six nursing students elected to the 1970-71 Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

Some 20 persons, ranging from 1930's graduates to students who will be graduated in 1975, were present for the alumni meeting preceding the luncheon. The main topic of discussion concerned the possibility of holding alumni teas in the Kansas City, St. Louis and Columbia areas.

The funds are awarded by qualifying for a nursing school federal program throughout the country. The program is supported by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare's Bureau of Health Professions Education and Manpower Training.

The loans, designed to remove the financial barrier for students who would like to go into nursing, are payable after graduation from nursing school, but up to 50 percent can be cancelled by working as a nurse in a nonprofit health agency or hospital over a period of five years.

The total amount of

Dates considered for such an event include September 18, October 2 and 23. The following alumni agreed to look into the idea in their areas: St. Louis, Mrs. Karl R. Bear (Carol Dickson) BSN '56 and Miss Gilbert; Kansas City, Mrs. Paul J. Clark (Mary Ann Hornecker) BSN '58 and Mrs. Cordelia Cochran Esry, BSN '55, MED '57; and Columbia, Mrs. William H. Connor (Marsha Kelly) BSN '63 and Mrs. Thompson. Information concerning the teas will be made available to alumni at a later date.

scholarship and loan funds varies each year. Schools participating in this federal program must reapply each year, as funds are distributed for one academic year at a time. This is the third year that the School of Nursing has been funded from the program. This year, some 90 loans and nearly 70 scholarships were awarded to students in the School.

Capping Ceremony

By Nursing students Linda Sue Luczkowski and Christina Baker

On February 28, a Convocation and Capping

Ceremony was held for the class of June 1973. Nurses from different aspects of the profession participated. Mrs. Jean Thompson, Director of Nursing at Ellis-Fischel, was the guest speaker. The president of nursing student council, Judy Marra, welcomed the guests and introduced the speakers and students. Dr. Ruby M. Potter, dean of the School of Nursing, gave a brief history of the cap and presented the caps to the twenty-seven students.

This is the first time in several years that a capping ceremony has been held. The students were pleased that they received this welcome into the nursing profession and enjoyed having people representing different phases of Nursing participate in the ceremony.

Alumni Receive Student Thanks

In addition to federal funds (see article this issue), assistance for School of Nursing scholarships and loans also comes from alumni gifts. The following letter from a student, who wishes to remain anonymous, expresses thanks to alumni for enabling her to continue her education:

"I was recently the grateful recipient of a Nursing Scholarship from the School of Nursing Development Fund that was made possible through contributions from alumni members. This scholarship was especially appreciated since I am one of six children in a family that lives on a farm in western Missouri. I am now a junior in the School of Nursing and am enrolled in Maternal-Child Nursing this semester. My other campus activities include Student Nurses' Association,

Scholarship, Loan Funds Get Grant

Additional funds amounting to \$3305 have been granted to the Health Profession Nursing Scholarship and Loan Program on the Columbia campus.

The money was distributed on the basis of need as loans for the conclusion of the 1970-71 academic year. The grant supplements this year's original sum of \$23,695 made in September to the loan fund. Scholarship funds totaling \$17,038 were received in September, with an additional \$15,962 granted in February.

Marching Mizzou, exercising the diabetic children on Sunday afternoons and church activities at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints and Liahona Fellowship.

"To date I have been on the work-study program and have worked at the Medical Center during the summer and weekends. I have appreciated the opportunities presented in the Medical Center teaching institution that are always available. Because of the cutting of the budget, part time employment is no longer available at the Medical Center.

"I have always enjoyed working with people, especially young people, and have found that nursing gives me a greater opportunity to meet new people, learn about them and help them meet their needs. The emphasis in nursing in the future will be on community nursing and its preventive aspects. Therefore, I feel a BS degree is a necessary beginning for preparation in the nursing profession. My future plans include specializing in pediatrics and/or obstetrics-gynecology."

McHaney Reopens

McHaney Hall, a facility of the University Medical Center, reopened after receiving a \$408,500 emergency appropriation from the Missouri Legislature.

The facility for physical rehabilitation patients closed January 4 because of legislative cutbacks, and patients were moved into the main hospital. With the return of the patients, a spokesman said, about 20 nurses and technicians will be hired to expand the staff.

Three Tapped For Honorary

Three students in the School of Nursing were among the 29 women on the Columbia campus tapped for Mortar Board on April 14. Donna Brownsberger, Appleton City, Mo., and Catherine Ann Foy, and Linda C. Gerber, both of St. Louis, were selected for Mortar Board, national senior women's honorary, on the basis of scholarship,

leadership, activities, and service to the University.

The new members are announced at traditional Tap Day ceremonies held each spring near the Columns on Francis Quadrangle.

Enrollment To Remain Consistent

Enrollment for 1971-72 in the School of Nursing will not have to be curtailed due to a recent grant of \$70,459 in federal funds.

The Department of Health, Education and Welfare has awarded the school funds to maintain the quality of its present educational programs, supplement faculty salaries at competitive levels and add at least one new faculty member. Dean Ruby Potter, in charge of the School of Nursing, said without these additional funds it might have been necessary to cut back the number of students admitted in the fall because of lack of teachers.

It was estimated that the lack of funds in the University's budget might cause a cutback of from 10 to 15 students in the beginning class.

Officers Selected

Student Nurses Association officers on the Columbia campus have been named for the 1971-72 school year. They are Cathy Foy, St. Louis, president; Linda Sheerman, Holliday, Mo., first vice president; Dellilah Jackson, Bolckow, Mo., second vice president; Edie Rubison, Shelbyville, Mo., recording secretary; Sharon Brown, Lee's Summit, Mo., corresponding secretary; Mary Kay Backer, St. Louis, treasurer; and Marie Brandt, New Haven, Mo., nominations chairman.

School, State Face Nurse Shortage

Reprinted From The Columbia Missourian

Wanted: Nurses!

The cry goes out from hospitals, clinics and schools for competent, trained nurses. The shortage is serious as understaffed hospitals attempt to cope with emergencies and mothers volunteer time to administer first aid in schools.

While many are in training, many are waiting, turned away from collegiate nursing programs because of limited space and tight budgets. In Columbia situations illustrate the dilemma, especially to those directly involved.

For Cheryl Martel, a sophomore at the University, it is a real problem. Miss Martel, now enrolled in the College of Arts and Sciences, is on the waiting list for the School of Nursing. She has two more chances to reapply for nursing. Then, if she has not been accepted by next fall, she must drop out a semester and reapply or else declare a major in arts and sciences, giving up her struggle to become a nurse.

Miss Martel finds the situation even more discouraging because she worked for two years after high school to earn money to come to college and to decide definitely what she wanted to do. Having worked a year at the University Medical Center as a nursing technician, she is sure she wants to be a nurse and believes she is qualified:

"It's especially discouraging for me because I've worked at the Med Center for so long. I feel I've shown I'm really interested. But still, if I can't get into school here I may have to go somewhere else or if I'm discouraged enough I may just go ahead and go into social work, another field I've thought about. There's nothing I can do about it but keep my grades up and wait, semester to semester."

Miss Jane Brinton, assistant director of the University School of Nursing, is aware of the problem:

"Limitations of enrollment began in 1962. It was done first through the University

Office of Admissions. We found this unsatisfactory, so we gained permission to set up our own admission procedure in the School of Nursing. Each year we must turn down many qualified nursing students because of lack of space."

Although the number varies, Miss Brinton says admissions are limited now to 100 each year. Still classrooms are overcrowded. How does this affect the faculty and students? says Miss Brinton:

"We have trouble getting faculty because of our overcrowded conditions. It is difficult for a faculty member to have a conference with a student when two or three other faculty members have office space in the same room.

"We don't have a place to take students for conferences. A seminar room and anteroom where we sometimes used to go are used for offices now. Visitors are amazed we can still produce nurses under the circumstances."

The nursing staff is still hoping state funds can be appropriated to build the approved addition for the Medical Center--a combined School of Nursing and out-patient clinic.

"We haven't given it up but I don't know what we're going to do about the money."

Missouri is hurting for nurses more than most states, Miss Brinton says.

"Missouri is 39th in the number of nurses per 1,000,000 population and has fewer inactive nurses than many states."



CROWDED CONDITIONS FORCE STUDENTS TO THE STAIRWAYS FOR NURSING CONFERENCES.