

MIZZOU NURSING

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI SINCLAIR SCHOOL OF NURSING

FALL 2015



Humbled by Excellence

Two nursing students find themselves in elite territory. | 08

Entrepreneurs in Nursing

Sinclair School of Nursing graduates talk about how their careers were shaped by their education. | 17

Nursing in Their Blood

Nursing students follow in their parent's footsteps and continue the family tradition of becoming a nurse. | 13

From the Dean



The accomplishments of our students and alumni continue to be amazing. In this issue we reveal the work of three alumni entrepreneurs: Dr. Sandra Shelley, Linda Klein and Greg Lind. Both Sandra and Linda completed their bachelor's degrees at the Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON) and Greg Lind completed the early master's program in 1977 to be prepared as an Advanced Practice Nurse (APRN). Each of these leaders has gone on to develop businesses that have had an impact on health care and demonstrate the prowess of our alumni. As you read about their business ventures, also note that they give back to the SSON through endowments they have established such as the Ben and Gloria Gambaro Faculty Endowment in Entrepreneurial Nursing set up by Sandra Shelley to honor her parents. In addition, Greg Lind established two endowments: a scholarship fund for family nurse practitioner students and a faculty development fund for APRN faculty. In addition to this, all three entrepreneur alums have made a substantive difference through annual giving in providing matching funds from the Dean's Fund for Excellence for grants to support students. Linda Klein and Greg Lind are co-chairs of our SSON Capital Campaign Committee. Sandra Shelley served on MU's National Campaign Cabinet. The public kickoff of our MU Capital Campaign will take place on October 8, 2015.

To be chosen as a Mizzou '39 is an incredible honor. This award recognizes 39 seniors who have had outstanding academic, leadership and community achievements. The SSON had not just one, but two Mizzou '39 recipients: Marina Steinhauer and Emily Blocker. These are but two of our students/alumni who manifest our mantra, "Not just a Nurse: A Mizzou Nurse." Watch for all Mizzou Nurses as we advance health care in this nation.

The SSON is experiencing many changes. Dr. Roxanne McDaniel, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, will reduce her work to 70% in fall 2015 and will retire after 26 years at the SSON after the new Associate Dean, Dr. Janice Hoffman, is on board November 1, 2015. A detailed description of Dr. Hoffman will be forthcoming. Lanelle Baskett, Executive Assistant for Dr. McDaniel has retired after 34 years at the SSON. Her replacement, Gabrielle Larson, has assumed her new role here. Four new faculty have been hired for fall 2015: Drs. Mary Beck, Nancy Birtley, LeeAnne Sherwin and Shelby Thomas.

Be sure to watch us as we grow and impact health care. We continue to need your support.

Judith Fitzgerald Miller

Dean, Sinclair School of Nursing

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Mizzou Nursing is published twice a year for the alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and friends of the University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing.

FEEDBACK WELCOME

Please let us know what you think about this issue or if you have any suggestions for articles in *Mizzou Nursing*. You can write to us at mizzounursing@missouri.edu, or mail to the address below.

Mizzou Nursing

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 **Sinclair School of Nursing**
University of Missouri

Grant Productivity

Faculty

Between November and June, Sinclair School of Nursing faculty and students received \$311,099 in funding for research, public service, and scholarship support. The school's grant money almost totals \$23 million.

\$30,000

Jane Armer & Caroline Mohrmann

Doctoral Scholarship
Cancer Nursing: Childhood Survivorship

\$2,500

Jane Armer & Pam Ostby

The Effectiveness of an Interactive Theatre Intervention on Improving Adherence to Self-Management Regimens for Breast Cancer-Related Lymphedema

\$30,000

Jane Armer & Ginny Schulz

Decision-making in Pursuing Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation

\$4,000

Jo-Ana Chase

Richard Wallace Faculty Incentive

\$10,000

Jo-Ana Chase

Effects of Resistance-Training Physical Activity Interventions on Physical Function Among Older Adults

\$3,775

Laurel Despina

Richard Wallace Faculty Incentive

\$10,000

Urmeka Jefferson

Infant Feeding of African American Women

\$70,824

Judith Fitzgerald Miller

Nurse Faculty Loan Program

\$150,000

Judith Fitzgerald Miller

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Future of Nursing Scholars



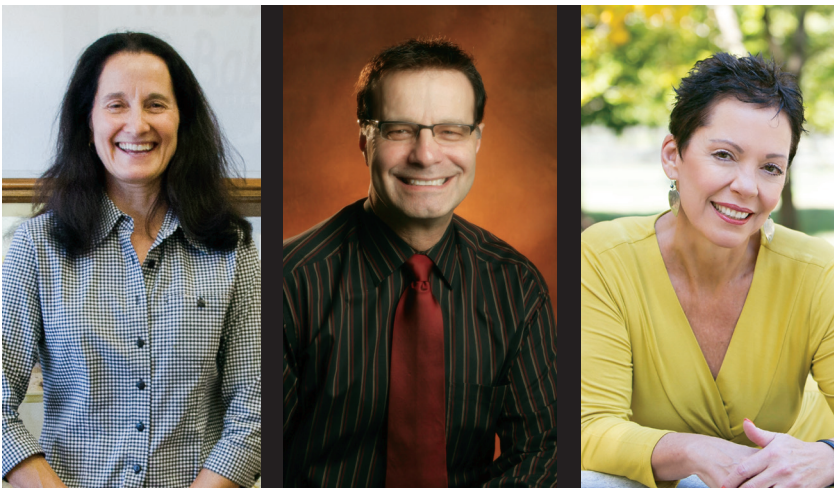
On the Cover: Patty Taylor, BSN '87, and her daughter Erin Taylor, BSN '15 are both Mizzou nursing graduates.



Nursing in Their Blood

Sinclair School of Nursing students are following the family tradition of becoming nurses. What they find is they have the same passion for the field as their family members.

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17

Entrepreneurs in Nursing

Graduates from the Sinclair School of Nursing explain how their education was the foundation that helped get them to the top.

08 | Humbled by Excellence

The 39 most elite seniors on campus are chosen each year for the Mizzou '39 award. Two of the students chosen for this year's award were nursing students. They were surprised and honored to receive the award.



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Nursing alumni are doing great things around the world. Meet two individuals with stellar careers.

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Employers answer questions about what makes a Mizzou nurse better than the rest.

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Nursing alumni from the past 60 years came back to see changes to the nursing school and catch-up with classmates.

20 Class Notes

Have you wondered what has been going on at the Sinclair School of Nursing? Review the accomplishments of alumni, faculty, staff and students from this past semester.

22 Letters

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2015 May Graduation

190 students became alumni of one of the best nursing schools in the country on May 15, 2015 in Jesse Auditorium. There were 53 traditional BSN, 47 Accelerated BSN, 38 RN-BSN, 28 MS, 23 DNP, and 1 PhD. Of the undergraduates, 26 graduated with honors: 7 cum laude, 8 magna cum laude, 8 summa cum laude and 3 honor's certificates. The school knows the students have a bright future.



25th Annual Nursing Banquet and Awards Ceremony



Wanona Fritz (left), Jan Beckett (middle) and Cheryl Bausler (right) are three of the 2015 Nursing Alumni Organization award winners.

About 250 people came to support the accomplishments of the Sinclair School of Nursing students, faculty, staff and alumni at the 25th Annual Nursing Banquet and Awards Ceremony. The room was filled with standing ovations, tears and laughter throughout the event.

However, the message of the night came from MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin.

"I have gotten a chance to know people who are part of the organization, who are products of the organization, who are currently in the organization and students," Loftin said. "The quality of people you have and have had at the Sinclair School of Nursing, is really an extraordinary collection of people."

That was never more apparent than the outstanding individuals who won awards. Each demonstrated high academic standards, outstanding clinical skills and caring qualities as well as strong leadership. Each winner has proven they are the epitome of who walks through the halls at the school on a daily basis. The school looks forward to developing more outstanding individuals to make changes in and become the future of healthcare.

Tigers in the Field

Karen Cox



As the director of quality improvement for University of Missouri Health, Karen Cox, PhD '01, handles hundreds of pieces of data every week. What she looks for is what is and what is not working in the health care delivery system. It is a detail-oriented job that demands accuracy and ideas for how to fix problems so that employees can provide the best evidence-based care to their patients as possible.

The details of Cox's job are built on years of practice. It was in the Sinclair School of Nursing where her skills were first put to the test.

"Up until my time in the PhD program, I thought science had all the answers. It was through that process of the courses that you learn there is very little known and so many things to understand that no one does," Cox said. "It really set me up for being successful [in my career]."

Cox's PhD research dissertation focused on the self-care deficit nursing theory and how it relates to preschool children with asthma. What she ultimately learned was that not all problems were related to the

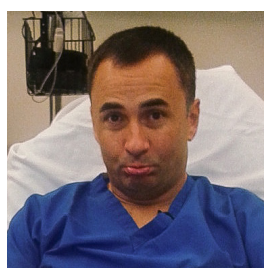
parents and children, but could also result from the health care system itself. This was just one project, but it is essentially what she does every day. She tries to find where problems occur and offers solutions to fix them.

Cox relies on data and measurement to figure out what needs to happen. She has to be meticulous with everything she does because people's lives and experiences are on the line.

"I was taught to slow down, examine and be precise which helped formulate my writing skills," Cox said. "The act of writing is a very tough process and time consuming mostly because you are trying to be efficient with your words."

Cox is the epitome of a critical thinker and a leader. She uses her data and measurements to develop possible solutions. Cox says when she brings those pieces of information to the table, actions are discussed to make sure procedures and policies are the best they can be.

Marcos Figueroa



Working in an Emergency Department at the Naval Hospital in Naples, Italy, Lieutenant Marcos Figueroa, BSN '10, needs to be on his toes at all times. He must be ready to jump into action anytime there is an emergency on the base. Other nurses look to him for his knowledge and leadership, learned during his time at the Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON). His biggest asset is being able to do almost any procedure in the blink of an eye.

"Being in the military, we have no one dynamic area where we are expected to stay. The SSON did an excellent job preparing me for a multifaceted approach to nursing. The wide array of clinical experiences allowed me to be comfortable going into about any department," Figueroa said.

The lieutenant is also the leader of the Medical Enlisted Commissioning Program (MECP) that selects enlisted members seeking a commission into the Navy Nurse Corps. He is always complimentary of the SSON, telling prospective students to find a

school that will prepare them for all aspects of nursing just as the SSON did for him. However, it is not always all about the academics. For Figueroa, the biggest difference was the family-like atmosphere at the SSON. Faculty and staff were always available to talk and it was clear they always wanted the best for him.

"They created an environment in which you felt welcomed and encouraged to learn and grow," Figueroa said. "Just about any school can take students' money and be a nursing factory, but when you walk in the SSON, you can tell from everyone, especially [Thom Bowling and Laura Anderson] in the front office, they are happy you came in."

The lieutenant is the only college graduate in his family and knows the importance of a degree. He wants to pass his knowledge to others and make sure they have a similar experience. Figueroa wants others to graduate from great nursing schools and have all the opportunities that he does.



“THEY SIMPLY ARE BETTER PREPARED AND BETTER EDUCATED” — PETER CALLAN

Not Just a Nurse:

A MIZZOU NURSE

Health care institutions want employees who can do anything necessary to meet the needs of their patients and families. They want the best of the best.

Every year, health care employers identify their needs and what they are going to do to meet those needs. Typically, nurses are at the top of the list.

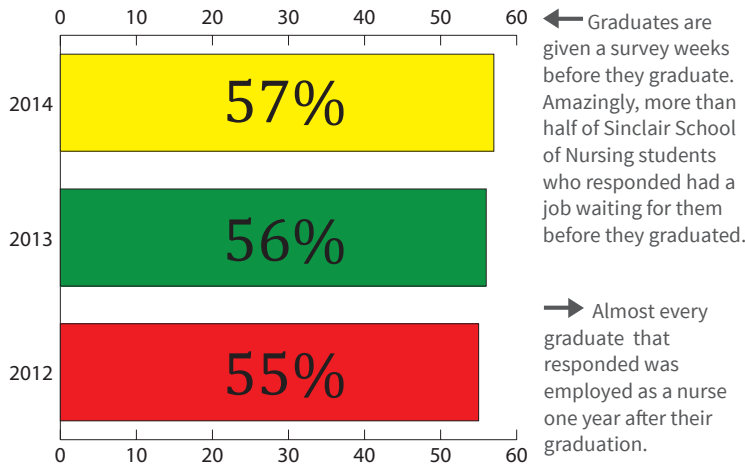
Peter Callan, Director of Talent Acquisition at University of Missouri Health Care (MUHC), is in charge of finding the best nurses to work in their system. What Callan wants are

nurses who can perform the complex nursing skills needed in an academic environment that provides care in every specialty. He knows he can and will find nurses who will consistently raise their standards by focusing on hiring Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON) graduates.

“When I speak to our hiring managers or nurse recruiters, people universally recognize SSON graduates as a cut above,” Callan said. “They simply are better prepared and better educated.”

Callan is not exactly sure why SSON nurses are better than the rest, but he believes it has a lot to do with the high standards demanded during their education. Because being accepted into the school is extremely competitive, only the best of the best students get into the program.

“When you combine that with being taught by first-class faculty members, it creates a group of students who are some of the best in the country and will succeed in anything they do. Coming from the SSON with a BSN or MS(N), they are also the type



of nurses who likely will want to advance their career either at the bedside or in a leadership role,” Callan said.

MUHC is not the only health care system to take note of a Mizzou nurse. SSON graduates are held in high regard throughout the state and country.

Kathy Howell is the Senior Vice President and Chief Nurse Executive with Saint Luke’s Health System in Kansas City, Missouri. She says they always want the best nurse candidates. Many times a SSON graduate is at the top of their list. Howell wants a nurse who is a critical thinker and will be able to manage almost any situation.

“Their ability to manage complexity is a differentiator,” Howell said. “We do not get enough Mizzou nurses, probably because of geographical reasons, but when I talk to our chief nurses who are really focusing on a nurse’s success, I hear a real consistent message about SSON graduates.”

Chief nurses at St. Luke’s Health System often tell Howell that MU nurses are great critical thinkers and fit well into their vision of patient care leaders. Howell says

when they think of a SSON graduate, they know what they are going to get. They will get a smart and confident nurse who brings value to the bedside.

“We have a huge need for leadership and will continue to,” Howell said. “That need puts Mizzou as a program we view with high regard.”

That confidence in a SSON graduate is shared by Callan. He believes what separates a good nurse from an outstanding nurse is their approach to patients and colleagues. He knows an emphasis is placed on that at the SSON.

There is also something else that Callan has been told. It is something that cannot necessarily be seen on paper.

“There is a trust level that our managers have when they know they have a SSON graduate. They feel confident that person is going to learn fast and pick things up faster,” Callan said.

SSON graduates are highly sought after not only in the state of Missouri, but all across the country. ■



HUMBLLED BY EXCELLENCE

It was a random February day and seventh semester nursing student, Marina Steinhauer, and eighth semester nursing student, Emily Blocker, logged on to their email accounts to some of the best news they have ever received.

The first line of their emails read “Congratulations!” They were both selected to be part of an elite group of students; they are now part of the Mizzou ’39.

The Mizzou ’39 award is one of the highest honors a student can receive at the University of Missouri. Each year, the award honors 39 of the more than 4,000 seniors. The award is presented at 6:39 pm, or 18:39 in military time, in honor of the year the university was founded. Students are chosen based for their academic achievements, leadership and service to the university and community. The honorees always come from a vast array of majors and participate in many organizations and activities.

Steinhauer and Blocker may be receiving the

same award, but the paths that led them to it were quite different.

Steinhauer grew up in Columbia and around MU. She knew what the award meant and always strived to be as good as those who received it before her. In the back of her mind, Steinhauer knew she had done a lot during her time at MU, but still did not believe she had done enough to win.

“When I was doing the application itself, I was like there is absolutely no way I am going to get it,” Steinhauer said. “I am a year younger than most seniors and I have not even had as much time to do all of the amazing things they have done.”

As part of the application process, they were

↑ Pictured: Emily Blocker (left), Dean Judith Fitzgerald Miller (middle) and Marina Steinhauer (right)



required to list their community service and write two essays. The first essay was about the biggest impact they have had on MU. The second essay was about how their mentor affected them. Steinhauer wrote about her experiences with the MU Student Nurses Association. She says starting out as the community chair really helped her get more involved with not only the nursing school, but also the university. Every step of the way she was encouraged by nursing school instructors and her mentor, Donna Otto.

A few weeks after Steinhauer submitted her application, a selection committee interviewed her. Most of the interview surrounded a hand-washing program she created and implemented in a preschool in Columbia. The program taught children with developmental needs the importance of washing their hands. That same program also won a national award from the National Student Nurses Association.

A couple of weeks after Steinhauer's interview, she got the email she had been waiting for.

"I was in my room after a long day of clinical work going through the emails and it popped up," Steinhauer said. "I stared at it, I was really shocked and I said to myself 'oh my gosh, did I read this correctly?'"

In fact, she did read it correctly. She was selected to be part of the Mizzou '39. Steinhauer jumped up and immediately told her parents. They were so excited for her they began running around the room too.

Steinhauer knows there are things she does that will stick with her forever. Being part of the exclusive club of the most elite 39 students is one she will talk about not only until she graduates in December 2015, but also for the rest of her life.

"How many seniors are there," Steinhauer asked. "Just so many. 39," she paused and reflected. "39 of us

and it is just a really humbling experience."

For Blocker, her path to the award was quite different. She grew up about an hour west of St. Louis in the town of Washington. She heard about Mizzou '39 when she first came to MU, but did not think much of it.

"I thought that it is for people who do a lot of amazing stuff and how could I be that caliber of a person," Blocker said.

As Blocker progressed through her education, she began to take another look into the award. She looked at the resumes of previous winners and realized hers looked very similar. However, it was not until one of her Alpha Delta Pi sorority sisters was selected in 2014 that she knew she had to apply.

When Blocker's opportunity came, she took her time with the application. She said the essays were the biggest part of the process for her. She wanted it to truly represent who she is and what she stands for.

In her essays she wrote about her journey at MU and how close she was to not being where she is today. After her first year on campus, she contemplated not returning because she was so homesick. Over the course of that summer she decided she was not only going to come back, but she was going to get involved with organizations and activities. Those actions caused her to fall in love with MU. She quickly began to develop a sense of ownership of the university. Blocker said she developed a good professional relationship with her mentor, role-model and nursing school instructor, Pam Evans-Smith.

When Blocker submitted her application, she felt like she did all she could to represent herself. Just like Steinhauer, Blocker shined during her interview and waited for an email to come.

"I saw an email and the first line said congratu-

Top Left: Several of Marina Steinhauer's family and friends attended the ceremony to support her.

Top Right: Nursing instructor, Donna Otto (left), congratulated Emily Blocker (right) for earning this prestigious award.

↓ Emily Blocker (left) and Marina Steinhauer (right) were congratulated by MU Chancellor R. Bowen Loftin for their award.



“I FELT LIKE WINNING THAT AWARD CULMINATED MY FOUR YEARS AT MU.”

— EMILY BLOCKER

“IT HAS INSPIRED ME TO DO MORE.”

— MARINA STEINHAUER

lations,” Blocker said. “I knew what it was talking about and I screamed and even dropped my phone.”

Blocker said she was honored and excited by the selection, but it means more to her than just an award.

“I felt like winning that award culminated my four years at MU,” Blocker said. “It was like a public recognition for all of the little things I have done over a long period of time.”

For Steinhauer and Blocker, the award is extra special because it represents who they are, their work ethic and dedication to making the world a better place.

“It means so much because it is coming from the Mizzou Alumni Association and those people thought they saw something in me,” Steinhauer said.

For both women, this is not the end, but only the beginning. They both agree there is a deeper appreciation for MU now than they ever thought there could be.



“Mizzou made me into the person I am and allowed me to grow and have all of these opportunities,” Blocker said. “Opportunities like having my dream career, staying close to my family and making those friends that will last a lifetime are what it is all about.”

“Just because I am graduating in December does not mean I am going to quit everything,” Steinhauer said. “It has inspired me to do more.”

Even before her graduation in May, Blocker accepted a position as a registered nurse at one of the nations best cardiovascular surgery and transplant intensive care units in the country at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Steinhauer and Blocker hope this award and their stories will inspire others the way they were inspired. These two women are the epitome of the caliber of students that walk the halls of the Sinclair School of Nursing everyday. ■

CONGRATULATIONS DEAN JUDITH FITZGERALD MILLER

Congratulations to University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing Dean, Judith Fitzgerald Miller PhD, RN, FAAN, for being ranked as one of the most influential nursing school deans in the country. She was ranked No. 17 on Mometrix Test Preparation's "The 30 Most Influential Deans of Nursing in the United States."

Judith Fitzgerald Miller, PhD, RN, FAAN, was appointed Dean of the Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON) August 1, 2008. She moved the school to great heights on the path set by Dean Emerita, Dr. Rosemary Porter. Initial work during Miller's tenure included facilitating the faculty to implement the Doctor of Nursing Practice program to prepare advanced practice nurses at the doctoral level. The program was launched in 2010. In order to maintain enrollments of PhD students, as well as extending the reach for recruiting students for the DNP program, both were made available as online offerings. Currently, all graduate programs are available online, as well as the RN-BSN program and are at an all-time enrollment high. In 2012, Nursing Leadership and Innovations in Health Care was added as a new DNP program option to prepare nurse executives. All programs have been fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Enrollments have increased in all programs.

Since Dr. Miller's arrival, she has written 26 grant applications and 24 have been funded. All are directed at supporting students and the SSON. These funding agencies include the federal government, Health Resources Services Administration, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence, State of Missouri Nurse Education Incentive Fund and the Missouri Community Health Foundation. A large grant from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing was brought with Dr. Miller when she was appointed. The Essig Clinical Simulation Learning Center has been expanded with a funded "Miller Safe Practices Room." State-of-the-art technological equipment has been purchased. Learning environment upgrades have occurred, including having all classrooms equipped for distance teaching. An executive e-learning room was developed. Comfortable student gathering places have been established.

Advancing the school by working to raise funds has been another major focus for Dean Miller. The Hearst Foundation has contributed \$300,000 in endowed scholarships and individual donors have established endowments in amounts up to \$100,000. The Dean's External Advisory Council and the Campaign Steering Committee were instituted. Varied social events to connect alumni and friends were held. The annual Dean's Dinner, funded by donors to host community leaders, provided an opportunity to showcase the SSON. The Retired Faculty Tea was also initiated. Membership in the SSON gift society, the Nightingale Society, increased with a special reception held each year to cherish members and donors.

The SSON was ranked No. 1 in the nation by College Atlas Encyclopedia of Higher Education, and currently has received nine other awards. Faculty research productivity continues with select inventions moving to commercialization. The research at TigerPlace, our residential facility for older adults, has been a site for interdisciplinary care and research for over 10 years. Drs. Marilyn Rantz and Marge Skubic developed sensor technology that is now being manufactured by Foresite Health Care and being placed in homes keeping older adults safe. Faculty have had funded postdoctoral experiences and have received awards. There are a total of 18 Fellows in the American Academy of Nursing from the school. The SSON is the only nursing school to house a Meta-analysis Research Center that is headed by Dr. Vicki Conn. New international experiences have been developed in Ghana, Costa Rica and South Africa, with more being planned.

Dr. Miller's commitment to enhancing diversity has been a priority. She established the Diversity Task Force, hired five diverse faculty, obtained funding from the MU Faculty Inclusion and Excellence Fund, expanded the admissions process to include holistic assessment for undergraduates, written proposals to support diversity initiatives, and developed targeted diversity promotional materials. Dr. Miller hired a Diversity Recruitment Retention academic advisor and diverse student numbers continue to increase. Faculty members have mentored Ridgel and McNair scholars.

There have been many other innovations implemented and a few are listed here. The "Friday Mailing" serves as a means of communicating with faculty, staff and external constituencies. Dr. Miller hosts "Donuts with the Dean" for each class in the clinical major each semester. A new process for faculty and staff evaluation was implemented. Proposals made to the Board of Curators in 2010 and 2014 for select school improvements were approved. New initiatives for promotion of the SSON have been completed including national mailings about select faculty/school accomplishments.

The SSON is becoming closely aligned with the MU Academic Health Center with reciprocal opportunities for students and faculty. Very specific support is received from MU Health Care for new program initiatives and creative strategic planning is continuing.

The SSON is in the process of selling the Sinclair Farms, 535.78 acres of prime real estate in southwest Columbia. The school is also planning for a new building to accommodate expanded numbers of undergraduates.

Each year since 2008, a theme has been set to have our community of teachers, scholars, staff and students rally together with renewed enthusiasm. Some committees have used the themes as a special motivator. The theme for 2015-2016 is "Number One for a Reason!"





DONORS HONORED DURING RECEPTION

Dozens Recognized at the Annual Nightingale Society Reception

† Judith Fitzgerald Miller (left) honors new Nightingale Society members Peggy and David Shorr with a pin, certificate and crystal keepsake.

Dozens of friends of the Sinclair School of Nursing were honored for their financial donations to the school during the annual Nightingale Society reception. Since 2004, the Nightingale Society has been the school's way of recognizing major donors for their gifts to the school.

"I really search for ways to cherish you, to let you know how much we appreciate you," Dean Judith Fitzgerald Miller said. "This reception is a token of that appreciation."

The Nightingale Society is divided into annual and sustaining members. There are also six categories within the sustaining membership to recognize the amount of donations given.

All new and elevating members are given a pin and a certificate. New and elevating sustaining members also receive a crystal keepsake.

"We appreciate all members of this society so we can recognize your commitment to our school and to our Nightingale Society," Associate Dean for Research Vicki Conn said. "Thank you for your contributions as these are foundational for us to achieve greatness."

Without the help from donors, many of the school's visions for the future cannot be met.

New Annual Members:

Mr. Donald & Mrs. Mary Baker
Mr. Michael J. & Mrs. Mildred Masure Brown
Dr. Sam & Mrs. Mary Eleanor Farrell
Ms. Anne Mckee Niles
Mr. Gary Pinkel
Mr. David & Mrs. Peggy Shorr
Mr. Jerome & Mrs. Delores Sinquefield
Mrs. Ann Toellner

Sustaining Members:

Dr. Victoria Gunn
Mr. David A. & Mrs. Linda K. Klein
Dr. Richard & Mrs. Barbara A. Gill MacArthur
Mr. Jack J. & Mrs. Donna Riley Smith

Distinguished Fellows:

Dr. Roxanne McDaniel
Ms. Barbara H. Warner

Diplomats:

Mr. Steven & Mrs. Gina Gerard Lanham ■



NURSING IN THEIR BLOOD

Top: Patty Taylor, BSN '87, (left) and her daughter Erin Taylor, BSN '15, (right) are both graduates from the University of Missouri Sinclair School of Nursing.

Bottom Left: Fifth semester nursing student, Da'Vonya Wilson (left), comes from a family of nurses. Her grandmother, Yvonne Wilson (right), is a RN and her mother Tanya Richardson (standing) is a LPN.

↓ Erin (left) and Patty Taylor (right) examine a patient in the simulation lab.



There are some nursing students that are accepted into nursing school and have never had any previous experience in the health care field. Then there are others that have heard conversations about it every night. For Erin Taylor, BSN '15, and fifth semester student Da'Vonya Wilson, they were both born into nursing families.

Erin Taylor did not always want to be a nurse. She said she never wanted to do the same thing her mother, Patty Taylor, BSN '87, did. Erin did not want to go to the same college nor major in the same profession as Patty. But life did not turn out the way she originally thought; it turned out even better.

One day while still in high school, Erin sat in her home in Washington state and thought long and hard about where she wanted to attend college and what she wanted to do. Only one thing came to her mind and it was a school that was about 2,000 miles away from home; she also decided on majoring in nursing, completely opposite of her early thinking. Those were the same decisions her mother made about three decades earlier.

"I had decided on nursing," Erin said. "I had gotten in, got my scholarship and that was really the moment where my mother and I got to enjoy it together."

Erin's decisions were met with surprise and excitement on Patty's end, especially the choice to major in nursing.

"I did not want to steer her anywhere because her father and I both used to say she has to do what she loves because she is going to be doing it for the rest of her life," Patty said.

While Erin was progressing through her courses at the Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON), she frequently called her mother to check in and tell her how her classes were going.

"It brought back memories, especially clinical days and things like that," Patty said. "It is fun to hear her excitement and enthusiasm when she would talk about it."

Patty said those calls brought back even more memories for her because they were almost identical to the calls she made to her mother. She knows how hard the coursework can be and was always trying to encourage Erin in her work.

Erin said being able to talk with her mother and ask her about her experiences in her courses were invaluable. Being so far away from home was really a blessing in disguise.

"It has really brought us closer and I think it has cultivated more of a passion for me in this profession to have my mom as a role model and a resource," Erin said.

Erin is not the only student in the SSON that can look to their family for professional guidance. Fifth semester nursing student Da'Vonya Wilson comes from a family of health care providers. Not only is her mother a Licensed Practical Nurse, but one of her grandmothers is a Certified Nursing Assistant and the other is a Registered Nurse.

Dinner conversations were extremely different for Da'Vonya growing up than many children experienced. The conversations Da'Vonya frequently listened to surrounded nursing, procedures and health care issues. Even with nurses all around her, Da'Vonya's interest growing up was never in nursing.

"I swore for years I was not going to be a nurse and I actually came to Mizzou as a biological engineer major," Da'Vonya said.

Da'Vonya realized after her first semester that biological engineering was not for her. She was faced with the decision of changing her major. She knew she liked the health care field and knew how the nursing world operated. It was too good an oppor-

↓ Da'Vonya Wilson (left) and her grandmother, Yvonne Wilson (right) like to talk about nursing.

tunity to pass up. She officially changed her major to nursing. The next step was to break the news to her family.

"I was totally shocked because she wanted to be an engineer, she wanted to be a lawyer, she wanted to be many things, but never a nurse," Da'Vonya's grandmother Yvonne Wilson, R.N., said.

Da'Vonya said after telling her family of her decision she came to the conclusion they always knew there was a good chance she would end up in nursing. Da'Vonya knows this was the right move for her, but it means more to her than just a major. She feels that she is becoming more of what her grandmother envisioned for her. She and her family are proud of her decision.

"She just feels like I am her daughter and I am becoming more like her," Da'Vonya said about her grandmother. "It is really exciting for her and she talks about me at work all the time."

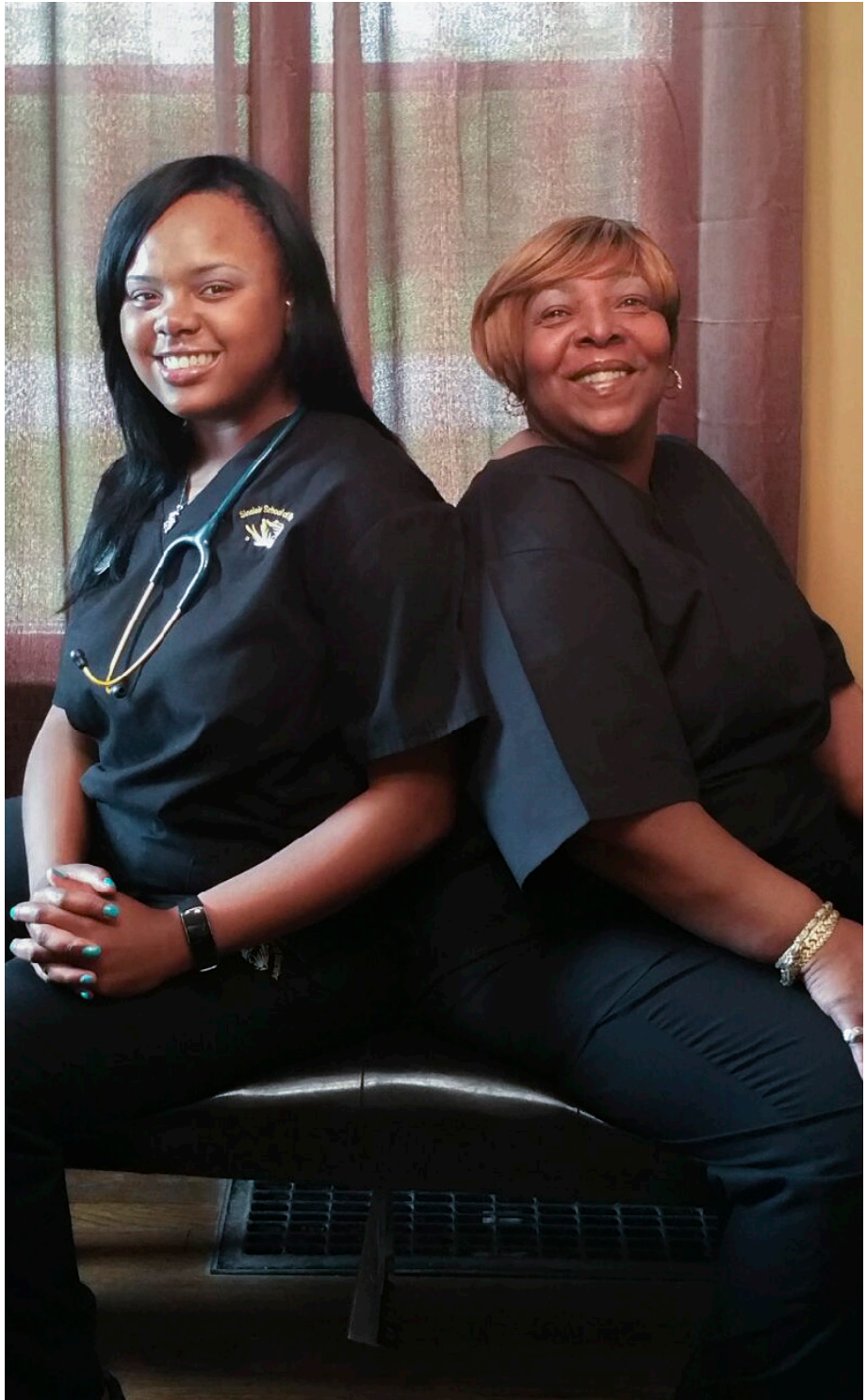
Since telling her family, Da'Vonya and her grandmother have talked a lot about nursing. Da'Vonya has tried to pick Yvonne's brain about what to expect throughout her career as a nurse. She has also gotten tips from her grandmother about what it is really like to work in a hospital.

"A lot of things that you are taught in the book you might never see your whole nursing career and I tell her this is how it is going to be in the real world when they said you might get one or two patients and you end up with four to seven patients," Yvonne said.

Da'Vonya's family is also impressed that she is excelling at one of the best nursing schools in the nation. They know with the education Da'Vonya is receiving, she is setting herself up to continue the family tradition and become another great nurse.

"Da'Vonya cares," Yvonne said. "She has it in her heart because it still falls back to if you do not have it in your heart and you are only doing it for the money, it is not going to work because you have to have that caring and empathy instilled in you to want to go into this field."

That proud attitude is also extremely visible with Patty. She knows Erin is going to have a great nursing career. Even before Erin graduated, she had a job in the Medical Intensive Care Unit at University Hospital in Columbia, Missouri. Patty knows that is going to be an area where Erin is going to thrive.



More than that, Patty is happy her daughter is doing what she loves.

"She knows how to make herself happy and does not rely on other people to get her there," Patty said. "She will do whatever she is told or what has to be done to achieve what she wants as her ultimate goal."

Both Erin and Da'Vonya are good ambassadors for the SSON because they expect to make contributions to the health care industry and to positively affect patient outcomes. ■



ALUMNI FIND THEIR WAY BACK

Alumni catch up with friends and take a look at changes to the school

↑ Alumni from six decades of graduating classes came back and learned about the history of the school. They were able to catch up with old classmates while they listened to presentations about how students learn on technologically advanced equipment.

Alumni graduating from classes from 1955, 1965, 1975, 1985, 1995, 2005 were all honored at this year's Alumni Reunion day. The graduates were greeted early in the morning in the University Hospital lobby where they started their busy day with a tour of the hospital. Alumni were able to see how the hospital has changed and expanded since they were students.

Alumni were led to the Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON) where the next phase of their day began. They were taken through the halls to see the pictures on the walls and classrooms where students learn. They also heard presentations from Nursing Alumni Organization (NAO) Director of Alumni Relations, Donna Otto, NAO Board President, Mary Margaret Bayer and Dean Judith Fitzgerald Miller.

Attendees toured one of the most important

areas in the school, the simulation center. Nursing students and SSON staff were on hand to explain how lessons are taught in the center. Alumni were able to experience for themselves how students are taught on some of the most advanced equipment. Many enjoyed the presentation on Sim Man, which is the school's fully functioning high fidelity mannequin that has a heart beat, breathes and talks.

The final event of the day was a presentation about the history of the campus. Alumni learned about all of the changes made since they were students. Several were amazed at how much the campus has changed over the years, but all agree the University of Missouri is one of the best schools in the country. ■

PAVING THE PATHS TO ENTREPRENEURIAL SUCCESS

Three distinguished Sinclair School of Nursing graduates show how they were able to take the skills they learned in classrooms and clinics and turned them into a career of entrepreneurship.



Top left: Greg Lind examines a pregnant woman at his clinic in Seattle, Washington.

Top right: Sandra Shelley (middle) acknowledges her parents, Ben and Gloria Gambaro, for her success and even has an endowment in their name to honor them.

Bottom: Linda Klein (left) believes the skills she learned at the Sinclair School of Nursing helped make her a successful businesswoman.



↓ More than four decades after graduating, Sandra Shelley often finds herself using skills she learned in the Sinclair School of Nursing.



Entrepreneurs have been around for centuries. However, it has not been until recently that the term has extended itself to the nursing industry. Now, nurses all around the country combine their education backgrounds with business and use their individual creativity and resourcefulness to start and run their own companies.

With more than 800 accredited BSN nursing schools and about 3.1 million registered nurses in the country, three great examples of nurse entrepreneurs graduated from the Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON). Sandra Shelley, BSN '74, PhD, Linda (Kovachevich) Klein, BSN '74, MSN, and Greg Lind, BSN, MS(N) '80 are three individuals who demonstrate how nursing education and principles can be expanded and applied to various business enterprises. Although their stories are different, each agrees that their education at the SSON provided them with the foundation for their businesses.

Dr. Shelley never thought her career would lead to her current leadership position. She originally wanted to practice as a traditional nurse providing direct care, but soon discovered she had skill as a change agent and thus wanted to apply her knowledge and expertise to the health care system. After getting her MSN and PhD, she founded a health care consulting business, Sandra Shelley & Associates, Inc., which is based in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Shelley now travels the country and consults with hospitals and healthcare organizations to create high performance nursing environments and integrated care delivery systems. Her team helps hospitals and health systems identify and implement the best methods to deliver care that is safer, efficient and more satisfactory.

“We don’t get invited into environments that are stable or sta-

tus quo maintenance environments, we get invited into environments that are dynamic and in flux,” Shelley said.

Shelley’s path to building a successful business is filled with twists and turns, similar to the situation her clients confront on a daily basis. She says there were many risks, but always had support from family, friends and nursing colleagues.

Shelley’s mental fortitude to handle diverse situations that are inherent in her work was inspired and cultivated during her education at MU. It started early in her academic career. She was not initially accepted into the nursing school. However, just like she now runs her business, she knew tenacity and hard work could produce a different outcome. She knew what had to be done, went out and excelled in her coursework, demonstrating she possessed the requisite capabilities to be a successful graduate of the SSON. Her efforts paid off when she was accepted on her second attempt.

As Shelley went through the program, she learned several skills that served as a foundation to everything she does in her business. She said having the ability to embrace risk, think critically and act assertively has made the biggest impact on her.

“The ability to think on your feet gives you a certain confidence level so that you can address most situations that come your way. When I graduated from the school, I had confidence I could take on anything in my career as a nurse.” Shelley said.

Shelley’s career path has provided numerous opportunities for her to create innovative solutions to providing quality patient care. She has made it a priority to give back to the SSON. She did so and also honored her parents, Gloria and Ben Gambaro, by establishing a large endowment the “Ben and Gloria Gambaro Fund for Nursing Entrepreneurship.”

Critical thinking is also the most important skill Klein learned, but learning problem-solving and leadership skills are where her success as a businesswoman began.

Klein’s first experience in entrepreneurial nursing started in 1976 when she was awarded a grant to study at the Cleveland Clinic as a Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurse. She became one of two home health nurses in the country with this specialty. That experience provided many opportunities for problem-solving, leadership, clinical independence and the ability to teach both patients and staff in multiple health care settings.

However, Klein changed to the pharmaceutical industry in the mid-1980s. She flourished in this environment. She started in clinical research, progressed to international marketing and ultimately was head of all professional education in the US. While in the international position, she was responsible for the commercial business plans for a new drug. By the time she left, the drug was launched in three countries.

Klein knew she had much more to offer. She left the pharmaceutical industry in 2000 and created a multi-million dollar company, Klein and Company, which provides education and training materials for the biopharmaceutical and medical device industries.

“We educate the educators by developing content and training material that provides education to physicians, pharmacists and nurses on new drugs and devices,” Klein said. “We also place edu-

↓ Linda Klein learned to not be afraid to take chances and never say no to a job opportunity.



↓ Greg Lind gives seminars to nurses and nursing students on how to set up and start a nursing business.



cational programs around the country, working with professional societies and local chapters to facilitate the learning opportunity.”

From Fortune 500 to startup companies, Klein is there to problem solve with her customers in providing quality education to improve patient care. Klein says without her SSON education, she would not have the skills that made her the successful businesswoman she is today.

“We were taught to be leaders and leadership was drilled into us, but along with that was critical thinking,” Klein said. “I cannot emphasize that enough because that is the foundation of my whole life and career.”

Klein believes it is important to give back to the SSON. She, along with Greg Lind, do so by co-chairing the SSON Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

Similar to Klein’s keen eye to see a potential career opportunity, Lind also took a different career path. He started his entrepreneurship while attending MU. Lind was one of the pioneers of the newly formed Nurse Practitioner program at the SSON in 1977. He may not have been getting paid at the time, but he paved the path for many to follow.

After Lind graduated, he practiced at a rural clinic, Callaway Family Clinic, in Fulton, Missouri. Little did he know that what he learned and experienced there would set the tone for his future.

“That is what really sort of positioned me into private practice,” Lind said. “You have to find your own niche and develop your own ways.”

By 1980, Lind moved to the Seattle, Washington area to teach. He learned his passion was not in academics, rather, it was in the clinical setting. He opened up his own independent nurse practitioner clinic, Lake Serene Clinic and hired an APRN staff. Lind found his niche. It was not only the regions first walk-in clinic open every day with extended hours, but was one of a few in the

country.

“Patients flock to you because they are getting something that they are not getting anywhere else,” Lind said. “I label that being an entrepreneur. Identifying and seeing the need, getting it recognized and then getting it supported.”

The clinic was wildly successful. It has expanded such that patients can now make appointments for wellness checks and chronic illness management. Lind still felt he needed to do more. Being an entrepreneur, he looked into areas that were not being served and again found a new opportunity. In 2006, he opened a new clinic where firefighters can get wellness and cardiovascular risk evaluations. It is the only one of its kind in the state of Washington. The pioneering and independent vision instilled in Lind during his time at MU led him to having two clinics in four cities and a fire district across Washington state.

Lind believes in helping nursing students achieve their dreams. He has established two endowments at the SSON. One is a scholarship for APRN students and the other is a fund to support continuing education for APRN faculty.

Shelley, Klein and Lind take great pride in sharing their ideas and business models with others. It is because they know they can continue to make an impact on health care and its delivery through education of others.

“People of business have been entrepreneurs forever and people in medicine and nursing have not. They have always said here are the rules, follow them,” Lind said.

All three know SSON students are getting high quality education in the same vein they received decades earlier. They hope one day to hear of more SSON graduates pursuing their entrepreneurial dreams for uniquely bringing great clinical nursing, leadership and change to health care. ■

Alumni

2010

Gretchen Carlisle, PhD '12, is listed as no. 7 of "A Year of Discovery: 14 findings Tigers made in 2014" for her work in the Research Center for Human-Animal Interaction.

2000

Elizabeth (Placek) Blumin BSN '06, married David Blumin on May 31, 2014 at the Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium.



1990

Karen Tullberg Mahany, BSN '92, received her Masters of Nurse Anesthesia and works at St. Anthony Hospital in Lakewood, Colorado.

1980

Tammie Keith, BSN '81, received the Great Catch Award for recognizing a significant discrepancy between a blood tag and the information on a unit of blood.

1970

Dyana "Dee" Hartley Troester, BSN '65, MS(N) '76, celebrated her 45th wedding anniversary and lives in Florida. She is currently a surveyor for The Joint Commission for Hospital and Behavioral Health Care.

1940

Eileen Hacker, BSN '43, celebrated her 72nd wedding anniversary on March 10.

Faculty

Nancy Birtley was hired as an assistant

teaching professor.

Mary Beck was hired as an assistant teaching professor

Tina Bloom, associate professor, was named the May Sinclair Scientist

Jo-Ana Chase, assistant professor, has been selected by the University of Pennsylvania for a post-doctoral fellowship focused on physical function among older adults.

Vicki Conn, associate dean, has been re-elected to the board of the Midwest Nursing Research Society.

Carolyn Crumley, adjunct instructor, serves on the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (NACNS) Alarm Fatigue Task Force.

Laurel Despins, assistant professor, was named the April Sinclair Scientist.

Gretchen Gregory, nursing instructor, participated in a training workshop at the University of Washington to introduce faculty to new and innovative teaching methods and implementation strategies.

Laura Kuensting, adjunct professor, was appointed as the national Director of the Emergency Nurses Association's fourth Institute, the Institute of Emergency Nursing Advanced Practice (IENAP).

Roxanne McDaniel, associate dean for academic affairs, retired after 26 years of service from the Sinclair School of Nursing and is returning at 70 percent until November.

Lorraine Phillips, associate professor, has been appointed to the ANA Nursing Quality Form, Home and Community-based Services Quality Steering Committee.

Lori Popejoy, associate professor, and **Todd Rupp**, assistant professor, were honored at the MU Top Faculty Achievers reception on March 3.

Lori Popejoy, associate professor, has been selected to serve on the Finance Committee for the Midwest Nursing Research Society.

Marilyn Rantz, curators' professor, retired after 23 years of service at the Sinclair

School of Nursing and is returning at 70 percent.

Lee Anne Sherwin was hired as an assistant professor.

Patti Schnitzer, associate professor, retired after 18 years of service.

Shelby Thomas, was hired as an assistant teaching professor.

Sherri Ulbrich, assistant teaching professor, was appointed as the Director of the Undergraduate Program.

Amber Vroman, nursing instructor, had a baby girl, Adalynn Kay, on March 24.



Staff

Laura Anderson won the December 2014 Advising Shout Out Award presented by Advisors Forum.

Lanelle Baskett retired after 34 years of service at the Sinclair School of Nursing.

Chelsea (Taylor) Carleton married Brian Carleton on June 6 in Columbia, MO.



Laura Foley joined the Sinclair School of Nursing staff as an instructional design specialist.

Ieshia Griffith joined the Sinclair School of Nursing as the grants/contracts supervisor.

Brad Johnson and his wife had a baby boy, Bowen Alan Johnson, on February 24.



Gabrielle Larson joined the Sinclair School of Nursing staff as Executive Assistant to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

for the MLN Outstanding Nursing Student Award.

Jennifer Dine, PhD, was awarded the Center for Cancer Research Fellows & Young Investigators (CCR-FYI) Association outstanding trainee of the year award.

Penny Pitford, RN-BSN, is a staff nurse at University Hospital and received the DAISY award.

Marina Steinhauer, seventh semester, received the Mizzou '39 award and also received the Image of Nursing Award from the National Student Nurses' Association for her program *Sharing Health Hand by Hand*.

Da'Vonya Wilson, fifth semester, has been selected for the McNair Scholars Program.

and had three sons. JoAnn passed away on April 22 and is survived by her husband of 64 years as well as her two sons. She adored her eight grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Gina Lanham, BSN '86, passed away on May 8. She leaves behind her husband, Steven Lanham and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, other relatives and friends.

Beverly (Seabaugh) Piepenbrok, BSN '65, passed away on March 19 after losing a battle with progressive supranuclear palsy. She taught nursing in Kentucky, and Southeast Missouri State University and worked in the field of public health at the Missouri and Bollinger County Health Departments for 39 years until retiring in 2011. In addition to her husband, survivors include her son, daughter and four granddaughters.

Margaret Stoll, GN '42, was born July 30, 1919 in Marshall, Missouri. Margaret passed away on March 17 leaving behind husband Harold Stoll and two sons. She was a long time nurse in the Marshall, Mo. community until her retirement in January 1985. Margaret was an avid quilter and enjoyed collecting quilts.

Students

Emily Blocker, eighth semester, received the Mizzou '39 award.

Abbe Bredeman, MS(N), was selected by the Missouri League for Nursing (MLN)

In Memory

Harriet Cento, BSN '60, passed away on February 10 and is survived by her husband Donald Cento, M.D.

JoAnn Gibbs was born December 22, 1933 in St. Louis. She married Russell Gibbs

MU NURSING OUTREACH

CONFERENCES

September 17

18th Annual Office/Clinic Nursing Update

Keynote Speaker: Mitch Wasden, EdD, CEO, COO MU Health Care - Making the Patient the Center of Care

October 29

Perinatal Nursing: High Risk Pregnancies and Deliveries

Keynote Speaker: Nancy K. Lowe, PhD, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, Editor, JOGNN - Women at Risk During Pregnancy and Childbirth

November 6

23rd Annual Psychiatric-Mental Health Update

November 11-13

19th Annual Midwest Regional Nursing Educators Conference

- **November 11** - Pre-conference: Best Practices in Clinical Teaching and Learning

- **November 12-13** - Main conference: Keynote Speakers from Indiana University School of Nursing, Indianapolis

November 12 - Patricia Ebright, PhD, RN, FAAN - *Cognitive Stacking: The Invisible Work of Nursing and What's New in Patient Safety*

November 13 - Pamela Ironside, PhD, RN, FAAN, ANEF - *The Next Transformation: Advancing the Science of Nursing Education and Working Together to Develop a Program of Pedagogical Inquiry: Taking the First Step*

Call for Poster Abstracts Open

September 11: Deadline for Submission (nursingoutreach.missouri.edu)

December 3-4

26th Annual Gerontological Nursing Conference



-Events will be held at the Peachtree Banquet Center in Columbia, Missouri

From the Office of Advancement



Greetings to you from the Office of Advancement! This will be the first of many messages I will have the privilege of sharing with you as alumni and friends of the Sinclair School of Nursing (SSON). It is truly an honor to serve this great school and I'm excited to make an impact with you.

We are granted an opportunity to strengthen and advance the quality of education and experience for students. We became the No. 1 rated nursing school in the nation because of devoted supporters just like you and we want to stay there.

We all interact with nurses within many different arenas in health care. Nurses possess the most compassionate form of care throughout the entire health care landscape. SSON faculty and staff strive to implement the highest level of excellence into students to prepare them for the demanding workforce and environment.

I invite you to own this mission. Make it personal. Let's work together to give students and faculty an abundant amount of resources to become successful. Because let's face it, we can live without many things in life, but health care is not one of them.

Feel free to contact me before I contact you! I want to learn your story! I want to hear your love towards this great institution!

Thank you very much for your past, current and future support towards the No. 1 nursing school in the country.

I look forward to meeting you. Go Tigers!

My very best,

Matt Osterthun
Director of Advancement, Health Sciences

From the Alumni President



It is such an honor to serve as your Nursing Alumni Organization president for 2015-2017. I am a 2008 graduate of the traditional BSN program, completed my MBA with an emphasis on health care management in 2010 and am excited to be in my final year of the DNP program with an Adult CNS focus. I began my nursing career at Boone Hospital and am currently serving as the Manager of Nursing Services at TigerPlace.

We should all be proud to be part of an elite group of nurses who attended the No. 1 ranked nursing school in the country! In order to maintain our status, it is important to continue supporting our school. Throughout my term, I would like to focus on building stronger relationships with current students so they continue to invest time and energy as active alumni. I ask for you to join us at key events throughout the year or support our developing nurses by donating to the Nursing Alumni Organization so we can continue hosting events such as the fifth semester brunch where we provide attaché cases for all of our incoming students.

We would like you to join us and the Student Nurses Association on October 10, 2015 and march in the Homecoming parade. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet current students and cheer on our Tigers!

Katy Musterman, BSN '08
Sinclair School of Nursing Alumni President



KAREN EHLMANN

Enhancement Fund

Karen Ehlmann, BSN '74, spent the first 10 years of her nursing career teaching, training, counseling and consulting. Then she moved into the corporate world and spent the next 25 years at McDonnell Douglas/Boeing in various management and leadership positions. Retiring in 2011, Karen is now an active volunteer nurse and board member of a free clinic, Volunteers in Medicine – St. Charles County, Missouri.

Ehlmann has always been black and gold through and through. She reconnected with the Sinclair School of Nursing about 10 years ago when she was asked to serve on the school's steering committee for the Mizzou Capital Campaign. Ehlmann always wanted to give back to the school that prepared her for a lifetime of success. Before she retired, she wanted to give a portion of her estate to the school because it had the largest impact on her, so she established the Karen Ehlmann Faculty Enhancement Fund. Ehlmann's financial support will be used to help fund faculty salaries.

"Excellent faculty is at the heart of the school," Ehlmann said. "There is a tremendous shortage in nursing faculty due in part to salaries. This gift will provide a little supplement to those salaries."

Ehlmann says the school gave her an excellent educational foundation as well as problem-solving skills. It also provided her the groundwork to expand and be successful in other disciplines. She hopes her gift will help other students be successful in their career endeavors.

You, too, can establish an endowment that fits your financial needs and helps meet your philanthropic goals. For more information on giving within the MU Sinclair School of Nursing, visit nursing.missouri.edu/giving, or call 573-884-3775.

**University of Missouri | MU Sinclair School of Nursing
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A Peek at the Past
1960: Keeping it Clean

A nursing student prepares equipment to be sterilized.



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