

University of  
Southern Indiana

FALL 2013

# Synapse

College of Nursing and Health Professions



Aging in  
America

## Letter from the Dean



**W**ith the increased complexity of the healthcare system, we are challenged to think in new and innovative ways. Our programs must anticipate a future in which our graduates will effectively contribute to their professions and recognize the impact all systems of care have on individuals, families, and communities.

This fall 2013 issue of *Synapse* highlights just some of these initiatives. Dr. Mary Catherine (Katie) Ehlman, director of the Center for Healthy Aging and Wellness, has led the way for faculty and students to become involved in innovative projects working with the elder population. Her focus on interprofessional experiences for students culminates in student learning to effectively function as part of a healthcare team.

Other programs are highlighted in which faculty are integrating new and exciting approaches to providing care, including the use of health informatics. The future of healthcare is closely tied to the efficient use of data provided to healthcare professionals through various methods such as the electronic health record. The College of Nursing and Health Professions graduates must embrace and respect the power of data, and how this information will influence the future of healthcare.

It's an exciting time for the College. The continued support of the healthcare community, donors, alumni, faculty, staff, and students provides us with the resources to achieve these learning outcomes. It's a pleasure to share some of our successful efforts with you in this issue.

Dr. Ann White  
Dean, College of Nursing and Health Professions

# Synapse

College of Nursing and Health Professions

Synapse magazine is published by the University of Southern Indiana College of Nursing and Health Professions.

**Dean**

Ann H. White

**Assistant Dean**

Deborah Carl Wolf

**Assistant Dean**

Mayola Rowser

**Vice President for  
Government and  
University Relations**

Cindy Brinker

**Assistant Vice President for  
Marketing and Communications  
University Relations**

Kindra L. Strupp

**Director of News and  
Information Services**

John Farless '98

**Director of Alumni and  
Volunteer Services**

Janet Johnson M'05

**Director of Development**

David A. Bower

**Senior Editor**

Connie L. Stambush

**Art Director**

Michael D. Harbison

**Writers**

Sarah Harlan '10

Angie O'Nan '12

Mary T. Scheller

Connie Stambush

**Photography**

Elizabeth Courtney

Barbara Goodwin

LaVerne Jones '05

**Address**

University of Southern Indiana  
8600 University Boulevard  
Evansville, IN 47712

[www.usi.edu](http://www.usi.edu)

[health.usi.edu](http://health.usi.edu)

## FEATURES

Aging in America College prepares students for tidal wave of Baby Boomers	2
Extra Credit Leads to Transformed Life	6
Advising Center Freshmen find friendly faces	7
Foundation	9
Around the College	12
Donated Ventilator Breathes new life into program	13
Alumni News	20



**On the cover**

*The path of aging Americans.*

*See page 2*





# TIDAL WAVE of Baby Boomers

## College readies students for healthcare needs of nation

**D**r. Katie Ehlman is fully aware that for more than two years now, the oldest members of the Baby Boom Generation have officially reached retirement age: 65. She's aware of the dramatic impact their coming of age will have on our nation's marketplace and society. She's aware their sheer number—over 76 million born between 1946 and 1964—combined with their longer life expectancies will impact our national healthcare system. She and many faculty members in the College of Nursing and Health Professions are so aware of the looming shift in society that for years they've been making strides to do something about it.

"The increasing number of older persons and the fact that we are generally living longer point to a need to prepare students professionally to meet the unique needs of an aging population," said Ehlman, director of the Center for Healthy Aging and Wellness in the College.

The College created the Center in 2008, shortly after Ehlman joined the faculty. It was initially established under the leadership of the previous College dean, Dr. Nadine Coudret, to serve as co-sponsor and host of the annual Mid-America Institute on Aging [see page 8]. As the surge of Boomers rushed toward maturation, however, the Center evolved into an "institution of interdisciplinary education,

research, and engaged partnerships that advocates for older adults and promotes careers in gerontology and geriatrics," Ehlman said, noting, "The timing of it was perfect."

A tidal wave of Boomers is already washing over the United States, increasing from 12 percent of the population in 2005 to almost 20 percent by 2030, according to the 2010 U.S. Census. In the 22 counties surrounding Evansville, Indiana, (including Southwestern Indiana, Southeastern Illinois, and Western Kentucky), however, the number of people over 65 is expected to be higher; 2010 data reports ranges from 13.3 percent in Warrick

Boomers will increase from 12% of the population in 2005 to almost 20% by 2030.



During a gerontology class simulation activity, Brittany May and Haley Fisher use a pill cutter while wearing goggles to simulate different types of vision loss.

County, Indiana, to 21 percent in White County, Illinois. While some might view the swell as alarming, Ehlman said there is no need for fear to paralyze the healthcare industry.

"These Baby Boomers are vibrant, hard-working, technology-savvy, healthy, and active leaders in our communities," she said. "These adults have shaped our nation and are valuable assets to our communities—role models for future generations."

The problem is not that Boomers are in poor physical health, but that education and training of the entire healthcare workforce with respect to the range of needs of older adults is "woefully inadequate," according to an Institute of Medicine report titled "Retooling for an Aging America," produced by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies. Recruitment and retention of all types of health-care workers is a significant problem, especially in long-term care settings.

Unless action is taken immediately, the healthcare workforce will "lack the capacity (in both size and ability) to meet the needs of older patients in the future," according to the report.

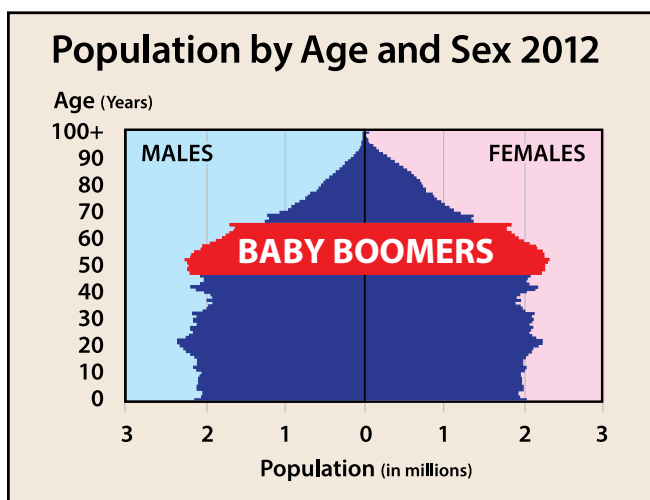
Ehlman, whose research and scholarly interest center on nursing home quality and aging attitudes, recognized the ensuing gulf back in 2008. "The Center has responded to this growth

by replacing the health services gerontology concentration with two specializations: gerontology and long-term care administration," she said.

Having programs in place to meet national needs is just half the story; students' attitudes toward aging must change, as it's the prime reason few choose gerontology and geriatric careers. "Research shows that undergraduate student attitudes about aging and older adults changes with exposure to the field of gerontology through academic coursework," said Ehlman. "Our Center and the gerontology academic programs at USI expose students of various disciplines to the field of gerontology, change some student attitudes about aging and older adults, and create marketable professionals in various fields committed to healthy aging."

The interdisciplinary gerontology minor, designed by USI faculty from eight academic programs in three of the University's colleges, will begin in the fall of 2014. It's designed to prepare students of various majors for professional positions in the diverse field of gerontology. The new minor works for students majoring in social work, psychology, pre-profes-

*continued on next page*







Dr. Katie Ehlman discusses the benefits of adaptive silverware with Chelsea Emmert and Domnesha Scott during a simulation activity in her class, "Healthcare Aspects of Gerontology."

*Aging continued from page 3*

sional health programs, sociology, English, nursing, occupational therapy, political science, and business administration, among others.

"Paired with a major course of study, students completing a minor in gerontology will enhance their employability," said Ehlman. "The minor curriculum gives students an understanding of the interdisciplinary concepts related to gerontology in order to complement and enhance their major course of study."

One of Ehlman's former students is Josh Bowman '09, who graduated from USI with a health services degree with concentrations in healthcare administration and gerontology. He currently is administrator at Bethel Manor, a long-term care facility in Evansville.

"I can see that there is a shortage of qualified nursing staff, especially registered nurses, who are pursuing a career in the field of long-term care and aging," he said. "With the number of older adults increasing and

**"I can see that there is a shortage of qualified nursing staff pursuing a career in the field of long-term care and aging."**

— Josh Bowman '09  
USI health services graduate  
Bethel Manor administrator  
Evansville, Indiana

longer lifespans, I don't see this problem getting any better in the future."

Bowman's path to long-term care administrator started at a personal level. "I always enjoyed working with elders. This passion started during frequent visits

to see my grandfather in a nursing facility," he said. "At that time, I hadn't thought about a career working with the geriatric population. During my sophomore year at USI, I took an introductory course in health services taught by Dr. Ehlman. I realized the many career options I could pursue in an area I already felt passionate about."

In addition to promoting careers in gerontology, the Center for Healthy Aging and Wellness also has been focused on research and community partnerships, securing approximately \$160,000 in internal and external funds during the last four years.

Elizabeth Harrison '08, a health services graduate, was a research assistant for Ehlman during a grant-funded bladder ultrasound project that examined the efficacy of bladder scanners in four local nursing homes.

"My involvement with the bladder study definitely helped me get my foot in the door with skilled nursing facilities," said Harrison. "I worked with the care-setting staff, tracking

“It was a wonderful opportunity to learn and appreciate the elderly population and how special they are.”

– Elizabeth Harrison '08  
USI health services graduate  
Director of Social Services  
River Pointe Health Campus  
Evansville, Indiana



USI occupational therapy assistant and gerontology health services student Whitney Eggemeyer works with a client to help her regain upper body motor control for use in functional tasks during an eight-week fieldwork experience at Hamilton Pointe, a long-term care facility in Evansville.

the pattern of falls, urinary tract infections, and use of catheters before and after the bladder ultrasound machine was utilized. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn and appreciate the elderly population and how special they are.”

Harrison, who now works as director of social services at River Pointe Health Campus in Evansville, described her relatively new career in gerontology. “People tell me all the time that they would never want my job, as I deal with people in difficult, sometimes heart-breaking, situations. But, that’s what I love about my job. No day is the same as the day before,” she said. “It takes a positive attitude, knowledge of human behavior, insight, compassion, patience, and a sense of humor to be in social services. I also am passionate about advocating for the elderly, and consider it an honor to care for them at the end of their life’s journey. Not only is my work fulfilling, I feel like I’m making a difference.”

**The Center for Healthy Aging and Wellness  
has partnered with SWIRCA & More to  
develop an online resource guide for elders**



The creation of the resource guide was funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Community Transformation Grant to the Welborn Baptist Foundation. The online senior guide is designed to be a resource for healthcare professionals, caregivers, and elders in Southwest Indiana—helping older adults live independently, connecting them to community programs, promoting healthy lifestyles, and managing chronic disease. The creation of the resource guide, currently under development, involves 13 USI students, providing them the opportunity to gain experience in data collection, marketing, resource description, data base assimilation, and website development, skills that will translate into any field the student enters after graduation.



## Interest in extra credit transformed student's life

What started as extra credit evolved into two life-changing study-abroad experiences for a 29-year-old Mt. Vernon, Indiana, native. The first broadened Erika Schmitt's view of world healthcare; the second decided her future as a nurse.

In 2012, she attended an informational meeting about a cultural immersion course in Ghana, offered by USI's International Programs and Services. She was captivated by what she heard, and signed up. Schmitt and 19 other USI students spent nine days learning about Ghana's culture and history by visiting museums and botanical gardens, taking bumpy cab rides, and sampling spicy cuisine. But it was the group's one day of service learning—which Schmitt spent helping vaccinate babies at a clinic—that cemented her desire to return to the African country.

"To see how thankful they were and the lengths they would go to get that service," Schmitt said, shaking her head. "They walked four miles in the morning to arrive at the clinic by 7 a.m. so they could be seen by medical personnel at 10 a.m."

The people's appreciation for bare-minimum healthcare made Schmitt want to return and "do more." So this past spring, she went back to Ghana for three and a half weeks working as a student nurse in a clinic at Mt. Sinai, a small hospital in Kumasi, Ashanti, Ghana. She spent six days a week—often putting in 12-hour shifts—accompanying doctors on their rounds, attending to patients (most of whom were suffering from malaria), starting IVs, and dispensing medicine.

She remembers one man in particular. He suffered from malaria and liver problems and needed a blood transfusion. Schmitt and the man's blood type matched, and she donated her blood. "To see him transformed two days later—to see him eating, talking with his family, and having his normal color back," said Schmitt, "was phenomenal."

Phenomenal describes her overall experience no matter what the circumstances. While working at the hospital, Schmitt stayed at Esaase Christian School and Orphanage in a room that had a toilet, mosquito net, and a tub for taking "bucket baths." It wasn't the luxury of a hotel she'd enjoyed on her first trip

to Ghana, but for Schmitt it was "absolutely everything I wanted."

As a non-traditional student, she hasn't always had a clear idea of what she's wanted. She first attended college after high school and admits to having "no clear direction or goals" for her education. The first year was tough, so she decided to step back and reassess. She took six years off, working minimum wage jobs and struggling to make ends meet, all the while a persistent voice inside her saying she was capable of more. In the summer of 2010 she returned to USI, this time maintaining a 3.9 grade point average, and earning a spot in the Nursing Program.

"Now that I have some life experience and a better grasp of who I am and who I want to become, I know nursing is exactly what I'm supposed to be doing," Schmitt said.

Even though she has one year of nursing school to complete, Schmitt's trips to Ghana have her thinking about the next adventure. "Traveling abroad through USI has helped me grow so much personally and as a global citizen," she said. "Seeing that life as I know it isn't the only way—or at times even the right way—has given me a greater appreciation for what truly matters in life. Education is the most powerful weapon we have to change the world. I hope to use mine to do just that."



*"It's funny, her name is Ama Nkrumah and my Ghanaian name is Aba Nkuma," said Schmitt of the newborn she is holding.*



*Erika Schmitt cleans and dresses children's wounds in the Efutu Mampon village in Ghana.*



# Freshmen find a friend in the Advising Center

Taryn Hagan felt overwhelmed at times. Life was simple before college, now she had to figure out course requirements, learn to balance her study load, and adjust to the general swell of college life. She needed someone to talk to, someone to help her select the right courses and mentor her as she transitioned from a small high school in North Spencer County into a new academic world. She found that someone in her advisor at the College of Nursing and Health Professions' Advising Center.

"My advisor put things into perspective and calmed me down when it got to be too much," Hagan said.

Freshmen face an array of new experiences their first year on campus, from registering for classes to improving study skills to dealing with homesickness to roommate issues to finding occupations that fit their life goals. The four advisors and a director at the center, which opened last fall, assist about 1,200 students in the College annually.

"We want students to know that we're their one-stop, home away from home, the place they can always come to and someone will help them," said Dr. Sarah Stevens, director of the Advising Center.

For advisors to serve students well they must establish a relationship built on honesty and big-picture goals. Advisors meet with their advisees at least once per semester prior to registration, but the staff is available to meet with them more frequently. "We treat all students as individuals and are here for students with high or low needs. Whatever support they desire, that's us," Stevens said.

Hagan, now a sophomore in the nursing program, met with her advisor four or five times her freshman year. "She really knows what she's talking about because she's been in our shoes," she said.

The staff is equipped to assist first-year and pre-major students in the College with most of their needs, unless it's outside their realm, in which case they refer them to the proper campus resources. Once accepted into a program, faculty take over advising. Prior to the Advising Center, all of the College's students sought



Advisor Connie Walker discusses course options with a College of Nursing and Health Professions student.

assistance from assigned faculty members, who not only carried full teaching loads but also were responsible for research and other duties at the University. There was an obvious need to provide concentrated help for new students, and the College created an expanded advising center with additional staff and a clear mission. The new Advising Center moved into its current space last year and has become a welcome haven for new students.

Advisors know college is about discovery, and twists and turns are expected. "Freshmen sometimes think life is a straight shot. You start out here and end up there," Stevens said. But that's not always the case, and students change majors for a variety of reasons. Sometimes it's because of limited space available in a program and other times it's because a career course wasn't right for the student. In any case, the advisors encourage students to "stay open to possibilities.

Not because they can't make it," she said, "but because they might find something they love more."

Finding the right career is something advisors know about and want for their advisees, said Stevens, adding "it's the reason each of us is a good advisor. None of us followed a traditional path to get to where we are."

Stevens and her staff are dedicated to students' futures, no matter what their initial quests. As Stevens says, "We want all students to find careers that are fulfilling, and match their skill sets. And we want them to have a great experience at USI."

**Advising Center**  
Monday through Friday  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
By appointment  
or walk in  
812/228-5042  
cnhp.advisor@usi.edu

# Mid-America INSTITUTE MAIA on Aging

Two hundred and ninety-one lay persons, nurses, social workers, occupational therapists, physical therapists, dental professionals, and case managers attended USI's sixth annual Mid-America Institute on Aging (MAIA). The University co-sponsored the on-campus event with SWIRCA & More this past August to provide practical tools and ground-breaking information related to successful aging and gerontology. See back cover for more information on the 2014 MAIA.





## Legacy lives on through College, scholarships

**T**rying to capture the essence of Dr. Gordon Kelley, former associate dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions,



Kelley

is a difficult task. He was a teacher, researcher, author, soldier, horticulturist, collector, husband, father, grandfather, and a leader at the University of Southern Indiana.

Someone Deborah Carl Wolf, assistant dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, described as “a gentle, quiet force who sowed the seeds that grew the College.”

USI recruited Kelley in 1971 from Indiana University School of Dentistry—where he was a crucial collaborator in research demonstrating the importance of fluoride—to help develop the College of Nursing and Health Professions’ programs. At the time, USI was a single-building campus, but its physical size didn’t deter him. He grew the College’s health professions programs by developing the dental assisting, dental hygiene, radiology, respiratory therapy, and dental laboratory technology programs.

Developing programs was just a part of his legacy. Kelley also taught students in all health professions disciplines, contributing to the professional lives of many healthcare practitioners. Additionally, Kelley provided computer technology leadership long before it was the norm, a venture that positioned the College to lead the way in the use of technologic modalities for education purposes.

“Those who worked with Dr. Kelley appreciated his leadership at USI,” said Wolf, a former student and eventual colleague of Kelley’s. “While he was always willing to help, he let us learn from

our own mistakes. He never made anyone feel inadequate—it was all a learning process.”

Kelley retired in 1996, and died 10 years later, but his legacy lives on through the success of the College of Nursing and Health Professions and the Gordon and Gail Kelley Health Professions Scholarship he and his wife established in 1993. “Gordon and I understood the importance of these scholarships,” Gail said. “We both received scholarships as students.”

Since its inception, the scholarship has benefited more than 20 students within the College of Nursing and Health Professions. “He would be happy to know he’s enabling students to continue their education,” Wolf said. “Scholarships like this one sometimes make all the difference as to whether a student can participate in our program.”

As a graduate student working on an advanced degree from IU ‘64 in the field of preventive dentistry, Kelley had to find ways to support his family [see sidebar for related story]. Gail recalls how he worked his way through dental school brushing rats’ teeth for purposes of research. “He earned \$200 a month, and we learned how to budget that,” she said.

When he wasn’t advancing the knowledge of USI students or developing new programs for the College, Kelley devoted time to his many hobbies. He grew orchids in his personal greenhouse, collected old radio premiums, wrote a book on Sherlock Holmes, and was a veteran radio host, airing a weekend nostalgia show on USI’s WSWI during the station’s tenure in a house along the Lloyd Expressway West. Kelley donated those early radio program recordings dating from 1932 to 2000 to the David L. Rice Library Archives.

“Dr. Kelley had a passion for so many things,” Wolf said. “You can’t help but admire that.”



### Changing cultural perception one person at a time

**Z**aيدا Franco is on a mission to change the perception of dental hygiene in the minds of Hispanic people, starting with her own family—who’ve never visited a dentist. “They’re waiting for me to graduate and get a job so they can go to the dentist,” she said.

The 2012–2013 recipient of the Gordon and Gail Kelley Health Professions Scholarship, Franco said dental hygiene isn’t a priority among Hispanic people; however, she wants “to educate Hispanic people about the importance of oral hygiene, and hopefully make them more comfortable visiting the dentist.”

The scholarship she received will go a long way in helping make her dream come true. “I was just accepted into the dental hygiene program, and for someone to believe in me enough to award me a scholarship is inspiring.”

Franco, a junior majoring in dental hygiene, is a first-generation college student at the University of Southern Indiana. Her mother completed high school; her father did not. She moved to Logansport, Indiana, from Mexico with her family when she was eight years old, and has progressed toward earning her college degree.

Franco works at the dental clinic during the school year, and holds full- and part-time jobs during the summer to supplement her family’s income and help pay for college. “Financially, this scholarship will help tremendously, and it has given me the confidence to believe I can excel in this program,” she said.

To support scholarships at USI, visit online at  
[usi.edu/giving/scholarships](http://usi.edu/giving/scholarships)



# Haaff has healthcare in mind for hometown students

As the first person in his extended family to graduate from college, Randall Haaff '84, knows how important scholarships are to University of Southern Indiana students.



Haaff

That's why he established a scholarship benefiting incoming health services students from the community where he grew up. "I want to give someone the opportunity to get started in college—just as I was given that opportunity," said Haaff, a financial advisor in Evansville with a degree in finance from USI. "I feel fortunate that I'm in a position to do that."

Haaff set up a health services scholarship for two reasons: he has family and friends in

health professions fields, and employment opportunities in health professions provide bright futures. He's not new, however, to supporting the University. In 2012 he established the Randall L. Haaff '84 College of Business Scholarship Endowment.

The Randall L. Haaff College of Nursing and Health Professions Scholarship will be awarded annually to a student from South Spencer High School in Rockport, Indiana, who is enrolled full-time and has a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. The scholarship is automatically renewed for one year as long as the recipient remains in good academic standing.

"Scholarships for College of Nursing and Health Professions students are critically important," says Dr. Ann White, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions. "Providing financial support to our students

allows them to concentrate on their education instead of working multiple jobs to earn money for school. Students have less stress when their financial needs are partially or fully met."

"My intention is to continue giving," Haaff said. "I began giving immediately after I graduated from USI because I knew how much the University helped me. USI served as a springboard to get me where I am today."

Haaff supports many endeavors of USI. He gives to Toast to the Arts, sponsors students who wish to travel abroad, is a member of the USI Foundation Board, Accounting Circle, Varsity Club, Alumni Association, and the Finance Department's advisory committee. He was the College of Business Alumni in Residence in 1995. He also is a trustee with the Spencer County Community Foundation, and a member of Spencer County Regional Chamber of Commerce.

## HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

### 2012-13 DONORS

Advanced Preferred Imaging PSC  
Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield  
Auxiliary to the First District Dental Society  
Randall and Rita K. '78 Bartelt  
Mary C. Beckman '84  
Ida Marie Block '82  
Brent E. M'06 and Kera R. Bridges  
Steven J. '89 M'95 and Rosemary O. Bridges  
Carol P. Bryant M'08 D'13  
Shari W. Bryant '01 M'08  
Deborah A. Clickner D'12  
Johnny R. and Joy A. '03 M'09 Cook  
Nadine A. Coudret  
Deaconess Hospital Medical Staff  
Eric G. and Guyneth P. '92 Dunville  
Brandon Eggleston  
Jennifer L. Embree D'11  
Gary W. and Cynthia L. '81 Ferguson  
First District Dental Society

Food and Nutrition Student Organization  
Edward F. and June Frederking  
Brent R. and Nancy Grafe  
Robert E. and Judith A. Griffin  
Betty J. Griffis  
Randall L. Haaff '84  
Cary L. and Vicki L. Hanni  
Jonathan A. and Deborah G. '94 Harris  
Sheila L. Hauck D'11  
David M. and Roberta E. Hoebeke  
Charles E. and Gale '93 Hoehn  
Robert W. '96 M'03 and Sharon J. Hooper  
William C. and Kathleen S. Houser  
Jerome A. and June M. T. Hubert  
Indiana Center for Nursing Inc.  
Interstate Imaging Division  
Gail R. Kelley  
Daniel L. and Tracy J. M'05 D'11 Kinner  
Kiwanis Club of North Side Evansville Foundation Inc.  
Kiwanis Club-West Side  
Donald B. and Jean Ogle Korb

Duane H. and Linda L. M'02 Kuhlenschmidt  
John M. Lawrence '73  
Ingrid E. Lindy '90  
M Bowling Inc.  
Charles H. '76 and Elizabeth A. Marshall  
James and Lynn G. '92 Maserejian  
Steven M. and Julie L. McCullough  
Ruth E. Metzger '96  
Hy Nguyen and Hang Le  
Ohio Valley Dental Hygienists Association  
Michael A. and Lanet M. '96 Owen  
Nancy A. Pigott '82  
Anthony and Rachel T. '01 Polazzi  
Edwin T. and Elizabeth Ann Walker Ramos  
Richard and Julie Sautter  
Barry W. and Gina L. D'11 Schaar  
Barbara I. Schmidt and Sarah B. Rubin  
Stephan G. and Kathy G. '83 Seib  
Theodore F. and Rebecca A. '98 Shelton  
Jeffrey M. '94 M'00 and Kimberly R. Sickman

Sigma Phi Alpha-Beta Beta Xi Phi Chapter  
Solarbron Pointe Inc.  
Southern Indiana Imaging Consultants PC  
Rori A. Spray '04 M'07  
Denise M. Stoll M'12  
Serah W. Theuri  
George O. '88 and S. Beth M'07 Thompson  
Craig J. and Jennifer L. '00 M'10 D'13 Titzer  
Robert J. and Sharon L. Tornatta  
Kristil S. Travis  
Jeffrey R. and Trisha A. '91 Troyer  
USI Health Services Organization  
USI Radiology Class of 2012  
Kevin J. Valadares and Mary Catherine Ehlman  
David J. and Ann H. White  
Timothy W. and Beth A. Young  
*In Memory of Genevieve Bootz:*  
David L. and Betty F. Rice  
*In Honor of Christmas 2012:*  
JoAnn Huff

*In Memory of Hilda G. Higgs:*  
 Robert W. and Sharon E. Adams  
 Harold L. and Imogene Barnhart  
 Brenda Beeler  
 Mary Alice Bertram  
 John W. and Carol A. Brown  
 Jean A. Creek and Doris J. Shoultz-Creek  
 W. Murl and Katzie Crowley  
 Joseph and Gail G. Degenhart  
 Patricia S. Erb  
 Donita M. Farr  
 Billy G. and Sue A. Farrow  
 Sam W. and Patricia M. Freeman  
 Jerrad J. M'06 and Melissa M. '01 Gleim  
 James G. and Linda A. Grunow  
 Edmund L. and Sharon D. Hafer  
 Edmund S. Higgs  
 Daniel D. and Susan E. Hostetler  
 William D. and Lucille E. Hunt  
 Sidney A. '84 and Rita H. '84 Joest  
 Doris Kallofen  
 Bonnie Langford  
 David A. and Lisa S. Lutz  
 Walter J. and Selma Bubenzer Lewis  
 Steven and Mary E. McCormick  
 Randall K. '86 and Karen Melton Miles  
 Adam E. Naab Foundation  
 Darla J. Olberding  
 Nancy L. Oskins

Larry and Carol J. Peckenpaugh  
 Ronald D. '73 and Connie S. '74 Romain  
 Chester A. and Darlene Rycroft  
 James A. Sanders  
 Joseph A. '75 and Betty J. '74 Schmitt  
 Joyce Stevens  
 Linda L. Sutliff  
 Laurel Vaughn  
 John and Diane Wessel  
 Jean Graham Whipple  
 James L. and Mary F. White  
 Herbert O. and Marie K. Wilhite  
 W. Earl and Amaryllis Williams  
 Adam T. and Jenny Z. Worniak  
 David and Meredith Worniak  
 Thomas J. and Paula M. Worniak  
 William E. and Evelyn M. Wright  
 Jacqueline M. Yokel  
 James A. and Betty A. Young  
 Jeffrey A. Young and Debra L. Lovsin

*In Memory of Rylan Knies:*  
 John E. and Marsha E. Tweedy

*In Memory of John McAfee:*  
 John E. and Marsha E. Tweedy

*In Memory of Betty J. Risley:*  
 Solarbron Pointe Inc.

*In Honor of Patricia A. Schmidt's birthday:*  
 Barbara I. Schmidt and Sarah B. Rubin

*Gift-in-kind:*  
 Robert A. and Mary T. Scheller

*Grants:*  
 Health Resources and Services  
 Administration

Indiana Society of Radiologic Technologists  
 Indiana University  
 Youth Service America

## LIFETIME DONORS

### \$500,000 and up

Mary Weiss Barnhart\*  
 Edward F. Harrison\*  
 Health Resources and Services  
 Administration  
 Indiana University  
 U. S. Department of Health  
 and Human Services

### \$100,000-\$499,999

Lilybell M. Day\*  
 Foundation for Community Health  
 Edward F. and June Frederking  
 Indiana Department of Workforce  
 Development  
 John M. Lawrence '73  
 William H.\* and Trudy E. Mitchell  
 Ethel Mae Jenney Payne\*  
 Welborn Baptist Foundation Inc.

### \$50,000-\$99,999

An Anonymous Friend  
 Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation  
 Ralph F.\* and Harriet J. Carlson  
 Helene Fuld Health Trust  
 Indiana Higher Education  
 Telecommunication System  
 Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation  
 St. Mary's Health Care Services

### \$25,000-\$49,999

Deaconess Hospital Inc.  
 Deaconess Hospital Medical Staff  
 The DuPont Merck Pharmaceutical Co  
 Evansville Radiology PC  
 John A. Hartford Foundation  
 Healthsouth Tri-State Rehab Hosp  
 Indiana State Department of Health ISDH  
 Gordon E.\* and Gail R. Kelley  
 W. K. Kellogg Foundation  
 Kiwanis Club of North Side Evansville  
 Foundation Inc.  
 Marjoria Springer Ogilvy\*  
 Suzanne E. Schnacke '75  
 Victoria L. Wertz\*

### \$10,000-\$24,999

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield  
 Mark D. and Jennifer M. Browning

Raymond J.\* and Nadine A. Coudret

Deaconess Clinic  
 Evansville Surgical Associates  
 Randall L. Haaff '84  
 Cary L. and Vicki L. Hanni  
 Charles F. Harrington II  
 Kelly J. Harrington  
 Robert J. and Susan R. Kerr  
 Kiwanis Club-West Side  
 Koch Foundation Inc.  
 Charles H. and Sheila K. Melander  
 Opti-Mrs. Club of Evansville IN  
 Patoka Valley Radiology PC  
 Robert R. and Kathryn S. Penkava  
 St. Mary's Health Care Services-Welborn  
 Campus  
 Ruth A. Schnacke\*  
 Augustin\* and Gloria Sierra  
 Sigma Alpha Sorority - Gamma Beta  
 Solarbron Pointe Inc.  
 Southern Indiana Imaging Consultants PC  
 Elise Moutoux Trautvetter\*  
 Donald A. Whipple\*  
 David J. and Ann H. White

### \$5,000-\$9,999

3Ci  
 Jay Craig '82 and Kathy L. Welborn-Craig '81  
 James E. Eash  
 First District Dental Society  
 Gibson General Hospital Inc.  
 Robert E. and Judith A. Griffin  
 Betty J. Griffin  
 Jerry R. and Judith A. Halstead  
 Indiana Campus Compact  
 Interstate Imaging Division  
 Steven P. and Judi L. Kuric  
 Thomas Lutz  
 Ohio Valley Dental Hygienists Association  
 Anthony and Rachel T. '01 Polazzi  
 William J. and Maureen A. Shafer  
 Donna R. Whipple  
 Michael W. '75 and Zadia E. '78 Whipple  
 Youth Service America

### \$1,000-\$4,999

ADHA Institute for Oral Health  
 Advanced Preferred Imaging PSC  
 Syed M. and Susan G. Ahmad  
 American Dental Hygienists Association  
 USI Chapter

American Lung Association  
 American Nurses Foundation  
 Robert Lee Blaffer Foundation  
 Bloomington Hospital  
 Steven J. '89 M'95 and  
 Rosemary O. Bridges  
 Dolores E. DeWitt Browning  
 Jack\* and Virginia Hartz\* Bryan  
 Canal Lodge 209 IOOF  
 Mike and Rebecca B. Carter  
 Robin G. and Constance G. Cooper  
 Ronald W. '94 and Tatiana A. Dunn  
 Eric G. and Guyneth P. '92 Dunville  
 Brandon Eggleston  
 Jim Elliott and Sandra B. Carpenter  
 Rossanna Enlow's  
 Evansville State Hospital  
 H. C. Bud Farmer  
 Edward E.\* and Virginia Lane\* Fritz  
 Doris A. Gibbs\*  
 Susan R. Henry  
 Edmund S. Higgs  
 Joette Hodgins  
 David M. and Roberta E. Hoebeke  
 Charles E. and Gale '93 Hoehn  
 Robert W. '96 M'03 and Sharon J. Hooper  
 Hu-Friedy  
 Jerome A. and June M. T. Hubert  
 Indiana State Nurses Association-  
 Southwest Region  
 Kuehn Foundation  
 Duane H. and Linda L. M'02 Kuhlenschmidt  
 Jeffrey O. Lewis and Paula Schmidt-Lewis  
 Ingrid E. Lindy '90  
 MDwise Inc.  
 Phyllis A. Maddox '75  
 March of Dimes  
 James and Lynn G. '92 Maserejian  
 G. Keith and Linda O. Matheson  
 Steven M. and Julie L. McCullough  
 O. E. Meyer Co.  
 Eileen E. Morrison  
 Nellcor Inc.  
 Newburgh Healthcare Center  
 Ohio Valley Prosthetic Study Club  
 Oral B Laboratories  
 Anne Pemberton  
 Robert L. and Victoria K. '95 M'01 Pigott  
 Edwin T. and Elizabeth Ann Walker Ramos

*continued on next page*

## FOUNDATION

### *Honor Roll of Donors continued from page 11*

Robert G. Risen  
David S. and Sheri J. Risner  
Steven F. and Michelle W. Rodgers  
Richard and Julie Sautter  
Robert T. Schisler and Brooke E. Terpening  
Barbara I. Schmidt and Sarah B. Rubin  
Sensational Kids LLC  
Jeffrey M. '94 M'00 and  
Kimberly R. Sickman  
Sigma Phi Alpha-Beta Beta Xi Phi Chapter  
Sigma Theta Tau International  
John R. and Nancy A. Hanks '94 Simmons  
Dr. Clarence J. and Shirley Smith  
Keith South and Aimee J. Luebben  
Southwind Dental Care  
Gina R. Topper '97  
Thomas E.\* and Gina R. '97 Topper  
Kristil S. Travis  
Tri-State Advanced Practice  
Nurses Association  
USI Health Services Organization  
Kevin J. Valadares and  
Mary Catherine Ehlman  
Michael D. and Melissa M. Vandever  
Wabash Valley Coal Miners

## Reflections

Bruce H. and Carol A. Baker  
Mary Weiss Barnhart\*  
Dolores E. DeWitt Browning  
Ralph F.\* and Harriet J. Carlson  
Nadine A. Coudret  
Edward F. and June Frederking  
Doris A. Gibbs\*  
Marjoria Springer Ogilvy\*  
Victor V. Schriefer Jr..  
Frederick T.\* and Elise Moutoux\* Troutvetter

\*Deceased

## AROUND THE COLLEGE

# Simulation Center enhances students' experiential learning



*Tori Meyer, a third-year nursing student from McCutchanville, Indiana, monitors vitals of a Sim patient.*

The Clinical Simulation Center in the College of Nursing and Health Professions has undergone a dramatic renovation during the summer months. The room has been subdivided into separate areas to more closely resemble a hospital setting, complete with sliding glass doors found in intensive care units, a patient assessment room, and a dedicated control room.

"Now the Simulation Center is a more realistic clinical learning environment," said Chris Thompson, coordinator of clinical simulations. "Our nursing and health professions students are exposed to a variety of scenarios and situations that add both skill and depth of knowledge to their educational experience."

There are three patient beds: two are inpatient-style rooms, and the third is a more open environment for larger simulation groups.



*The remodeled Simulation Center, built with a hospital-style design, provides USI Nursing and Health Professions students with an actual healthcare workplace environment in which to learn.*



# Donation breathes new life into students' learning opportunities

While updating medical equipment at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital, Mike Sisley, manager of the Hospital's Respiratory Care and member of the USI Respiratory Therapy Advisory Committee, realized there was a lot of life left in a mechanical ventilator being replaced. But rather than relegate it to a fate that would do little to help others, he recalled an email from USI's respiratory therapy program director Wesley Phy "seeking donations of any used or unwanted equipment," and arranged to have the hospital's ventilator donated to USI's College of Nursing and Health Professions to be used as a teaching aid.

"This donation is a major contribution to the College," Phy said. "It's the perfect addition to our lab as it's one our students will definitely use once they start working in their clinical settings."

The ventilator will save the College about \$6,000—the cost of a refurbished one—funds that can be allocated elsewhere.

The ventilators mechanically breathe for patients who are physically unable to breathe on their own or whose breathing capacity is insufficient. They are high-tech instruments that require specialized training. "Knowing how to set up, operate, and monitor a ventilator is a major component of respiratory therapy," Phy said.

Since he joined the faculty in 2011, Phy has worked to upgrade and add to the equipment, noting that 18 students were trained on just one unit prior to the recent acquisition. With the donation and the additional refurbished ventilators purchased by the College, students now have access to four units.



Steve Cotton and Gillian Wilson, first-year respiratory students, inspect a new ventilator.

**The College of Nursing and Health Professions** accepts donations of new or gently used medical equipment that can be used "as is" or easily upgraded to today's standards.

**For more information, call 812/465-1151.**

## Faculty and staff earn additional degrees



Fetscher

Mike Fetscher, coordinator of instructional broadcast for USI's College of Nursing and Health Professions, recently completed the Sloan Consortium Online Teaching Certificate program. The nine-week program prepares educators to teach and improve online courses.



Schmuck

Heather Schmuck, clinical assistant professor of radiologic and imaging sciences, received a master's degree in secondary education from USI in May. She has taught full-time at USI since 2010, and has been employed at Deaconess Radiology for 12 years.



Titzer

Dr. Jennifer Titzer, assistant professor of nursing, received a doctor of nursing practice degree from USI in May. She has been a member of the nursing faculty at USI since 2005, and has worked in the Cardiac Cath Lab at St. Mary's Medical Center for the past 20 years.

## AROUND THE COLLEGE

# Taste of poverty enlightens students

Mortgage collectors circled Carter Hall in the University Center, reminding players they would lose their homes if their payments were late. Bad news cards are passed out announcing further hardships, such as a stolen purse or car failure. These mock circumstances forced participants to cope with limited resources in a poverty simulation event intended to give participants a brief but powerful glimpse into what a life of poverty is like.

The simulation, held this past July, was a joint effort between the United Way and the College of Nursing and Health Professions' Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA) program at the University, said Jennifer Nunning, instructor and field coordinator for the OTA program.

"I was a social services case worker. People came to me already frustrated before they even sat down. They were referred to my agency for so many problems that I wasn't even

equipped to handle. I had to refer them out to other agencies," said Nunning, a former social service case worker. "I wanted students to walk away from this simulation with an understanding of the obstacles their future patients could potentially face. As therapy practitioners, it's important to know that our patients have so much more going on in their lives than just therapy."

To help students empathize with their clients, they each took on the persona of a person in poverty or a community employer dealing with employees' dire straits. Booths were set up representing everything from service agencies to pawn shops. A 30-day calendar cycle was broken into four 15-minute segments, each one representing a week. Participants were then assigned a different family structure—such as single father raising three children or a single elderly woman living



Poverty simulation participants role playing

on Social Security—and given limited resources to meet their basic needs and escape the threat of homelessness.

"The simulation showed me that I have to be open-minded about every single patient I am treating," said Ann Fisher, a senior majoring in OTA and health services/gerontology. "We really don't know where a person is coming from financially, socially, or mentally, and we need to stay open minded and respectful."

## Health Informatics Initiatives

### New certificate program

In an increasingly digital world, healthcare providers are taking advantage of new technological developments to help improve patient care and organize health information. From electronic patient health records to digital analytic devices, new tools are becoming available every day to make providing care easier and more efficient. These tools are developed by innovators in the field of health informatics.

Health informatics draws from the realms of information science, computer science, and healthcare. A demand for professionals who can understand and apply cutting-edge healthcare technologies and methods drove the creation of USI's new health informatics certificate program, a seven-week online program designed for practicing healthcare workers who have, or want to prepare for, responsibility in monitoring and managing informatics.

The program consists of several online modules—which address topics such as electronic medical records, regulatory and accreditation issues, clinical decision-making models, system implementation, telemedicine, and more—and a final comprehensive exam. Upon successful completion of the program, students are awarded 48 hours of continuing education credit.

The health informatics certificate program will be offered twice yearly. The next session begins in February, with a registration deadline of January 17. For more information visit [health.usi.edu/informatics](http://health.usi.edu/informatics), or call 877/874-4584 or 812/461-5217.

### Conference

Register now for



January 29,  
2014  
at USI

For more information  
contact Jennifer Hertel at  
812/461-5463

## Seven faculty members selected by peers to provide state and national leadership



Cook



Fairchild



Hand



Wilson



Theuri



Rowser



Schmuck

**Joy Cook**, clinical assistant professor and clinical coordinator of radiologic and imaging sciences, was appointed to the American Society of Radiologic Technologists magnetic resonance subcommittee to review current practice standards for the field. She will help revise current practice standards used nationally by technologists practicing in the magnetic resonance discipline. "Clinical practice in imaging sciences is constantly changing. This committee has an important task in reviewing and revising the practice standards of those performing magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) because it impacts the quality of patient care."

**Claudine Fairchild**, program director and clinical assistant professor for diagnostic medical sonography, was named faculty evaluator for the American Council on Education in the discipline of sonography. In this role, she will review course materials and recommend postsecondary educational credit for courses and exams taken outside traditional channels as part of the ACE College Credit Recommendation Service. "Evaluation and college credit recommendations from ACE can provide the non-traditional learner advanced degree opportunities with colleges and universities," Fairchild said.

**Dr. Mikel Hand**, assistant professor of nursing, has two new roles with the Midwestern Nursing Research Society. He is chair of the 2013 Qualitative Methods Research Section, which advocates the use of qualitative research and

mixed methods to study healthcare issues. He also was appointed to a two-year term on the Grants Review Committee, where he will review proposals submitted for MNRS research grants. "Grants Review Committee members are crucial in order to assure that a rigorous review takes place and that the best of the proposals submitted are selected," Hand said.

**Dr. Gabriela Mustata Wilson** and **Melissa Bullock M'13** have been elected to three-year terms to the board of directors of the Indiana Health Information Management Systems Society. Wilson is assistant professor of health informatics in the College of Nursing and Health Professions. Bullock earned her Master of Health Administration degree from USI in 2013 and is a solutions development analyst at St. Mary's Medical Center. "This is an exciting time for our college, since it is the first time to have one faculty member and one MHA alumna part of the leadership team of the Indiana Chapter of HIMSS; one of over 40 affiliated chapters of the largest healthcare information systems professional organizations in the nation," Wilson said.

**Dr. Serah Theuri**, assistant professor in food and nutrition, has been elected Division of International Nutrition Education chair for the Society of Nutrition Education and Behavior. The society represents the unique interests of nutrition educators in the United States and worldwide and is dedicated to promoting

effective nutrition education and healthy behavior through research, policy, and practice. "My division will focus on the strategic plan to strengthen the visibility of international members and global issues related to nutrition," Theuri said. "I feel honored to represent USI and humbled to serve the international division of SNEB."

**Dr. Mayola Rowser**, assistant dean for the College of Nursing and Health Professions and director of the doctor of nursing practice program, was selected to participate in the Leadership for Academic Nursing Programs fellowship program. "This program is designed to enhance the executive leadership skills of new assistant deans like myself," she said. "It is a competitive selection process, and I feel honored to have been selected." Rowser also is serving a two-year term on the Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference Planning Committee.

**Joy Cook** and **Heather Schmuck**, both clinical assistant professors of radiologic and imaging sciences, chaired the annual conference for the Indiana Society of Radiologic Technologists, held October 3-4 in Evansville. They were installed as new officers: Cook as president and Schmuck as secretary. The society, an affiliate of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, has 1,000 members, representing medical professionals and students who work in radiography, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine, and related fields.



# AWARDS Awards Awards Awards Awards Awa



Fairchild

## Outstanding Advisor Award

**Claudine Fairchild**, program director for diagnostic medical sonography, was one of five winners of the 2013 USI Outstanding Academic Advisor Awards. Outstanding advisors are nominated by students or faculty and chosen by the Faculty Senate's Faculty Awards for Service, Teaching, and Research

Committee based on criteria centered on the level of help and positive attitudes they deliver to their advisees. The honor comes with a \$1,000 award, taken as a stipend or as professional development funds.



McCullough

## Excellence in Teaching Award

**Dr. Julie McCullough**, associate professor and program director for the food and nutrition program, is the first recipient of the College of Nursing and Health Professions' 2013 Excellence In Teaching Award. McCullough has been teaching at USI since 1999. The award was established to identify faculty members who

have contributed significantly to the quality of teaching in the College. The award recipient is chosen by the dean of the College and the Faculty Affairs Committee.



Wolf

## Dental Society Service Award

**Deborah Carl Wolf**, assistant dean for the College of Nursing and Health Professions, was presented the First District Dental Society Special Service Award by the Indiana Dental Association. This award is presented to a non-dentist who has made significant contributions to the dental profession. Wolf started teaching

at USI in 1974, and has been director of the dental hygiene program since 1978. Through her leadership the dental hygiene program has graduated over 600 students who care for the oral health needs of individuals in Southern Indiana and beyond.



Schaar

## Lawrence Excellence in Teaching Award

**Dr. Gina Schaar**, assistant professor of nursing, has been selected for the 2013 Melissa Faye and John M. Lawrence Baccalaureate Nursing Faculty Teaching Award. The award, which Schaar also received in 2009, is given to a member of the nursing faculty who demonstrates a commitment to undergraduate nursing

education. Recipients are selected by the senior class. John Lawrence is a USI alumnus and a generous benefactor of the College of Nursing and Health Professions and its nursing programs.

## Faculty Development Awards

For the first time, the College of Nursing and Health Professions made two monetary awards available to support innovative faculty projects. Three faculty members were chosen to receive Faculty Development Awards in 2013.

### Grey Does Matter: Assessing Health Administration Students



Ward

**Dr. Frank Ward**, assistant professor and director of health services, and **Dr. Ethel Elkins**, assistant professor of health services, were awarded a Faculty Development Award for their project titled "Grey Does Mater: Assessing Health Administration Students", an endeavor aimed at developing a standardized assessment tool for students graduating with bachelor's degrees in health administration.

"At the present time, faculty in the health services program work under the assumption that our health administration students are prepared for entry-level positions in healthcare," Ward said. "We are working on a formal assessment to determine what they have learned and whether or not program objectives have been met."



Elkins

Ward and Elkins believe their project has the potential to provide both qualitative and quantitative data to prepare for re-certification with the Association of University Programs in Health Administration. In addition, this information

will provide other universities and programs with information on health administration curricular assessment.

### Animal Assisted Therapy's (AAT) Role in Occupational Therapy (OT)



Mathis

**Dr. Sherri Mathis** received a 2013 Faculty Development Award to explore ways occupational therapy practitioners can use dogs and other furry creatures as part of a formalized occupational therapy program.

"I feel like there's been sort of a gap in the field of occupational therapy in terms of how practitioners use animal-assisted therapy," said Dr. Mathis. "Many local OT practitioners do not understand the many benefits of using animals in therapy and also how to use them. I am planning to help my students understand animals as a therapeutic media."

In June 2013, Mathis attended an intensive conference in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania, to receive Level 1 certification for providing animal-assisted therapy. During this school year, Mathis is working to incorporate aspects of animal-assisted therapy in the OT curriculum at USI.

Also in the works are projects to educate other OT practitioners about AAT and a program for USI students to work with children in our community who could benefit from this type of therapy, said Mathis.

*continued on next page*

## AROUND THE COLLEGE

*AWARDS* continued from page 17

### College of Nursing and Health Professions sophomores recognized for outstanding accomplishments

Eight College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP) students were recognized at the 2013 Freshman Convocation for their outstanding accomplishments. The ceremony is the official induction of new students to the USI community. Of the 23 students from the returning class of 2016 credited for their achievements, 35 percent were from CNHP.



*From left, front row:* Amanda Hutchinson (pre-respiratory and health services); Lindsey Grammas (respiratory therapy); Laura Campbell (pre-nursing); Katie Upton (pre-nursing)  
*From left, back row:* Tiffany Kong (pre-dental hygiene); Cassandra Black (pre-nursing)  
*Not pictured:* Yasmin Cruz Luis (pre-dental hygiene) and Cheyenne Madison (pre-dental hygiene)

### National Boards Announcement

## Congratulations!



#### Occupational Therapy Class of 2013

100% passed their national boards on the first attempt.

#### Dietetics Class of 2011

100% passed their national boards on the first attempt.

## New Hires



Coan

**Lorinda "Lorie" Coan**, assistant professor of dental hygiene, previously taught in the dental hygiene program at the Indiana University School of Dentistry, Indianapolis. She continues to practice as a dental hygienist in Greenfield, Indiana. Lorie has had many articles published in medical journals on tobacco cessation and other dental topics.



Connerton

**Charlotte Connerton**, instructor in nursing, has taught at Lakeview College of Nursing and Indiana State University. A registered nurse for 24 years, she is a Faith Community Nurse and Certified Lay Minister. She has also edited chapters in geriatrics textbooks and was a contributing author on grief, loss, and death for a licensed practical nurse textbook.



Hape

**Dr. Kristi Hape**, assistant professor of occupational therapy, previously taught at the University of Indianapolis. Her research is in the area of handwriting development in children, and she has an interest in helping children with severe disabilities.





Krieg

**Sue Krieg**, instructor in nursing, was a family nurse practitioner for Tri-State Community Clinics and Family Medicine Associates. She also has experience in post-anesthesia care, nursing management, cardiac cath lab, critical care, cardiac rehab clinician, and adjunct teaching.



Taylor

**Olivia Taylor**, instructor in nursing, earned her undergraduate nursing degrees in Richmond, Indiana, and her Master of Science in Nursing degree from USI. She has been a nurse for 14 years and most recently worked as a nurse clinician at Memorial Hospital in Jasper. She is a member of the American Nurses Association and Indiana State Nurses Association.



Reynolds

**Dr. Erin Reynolds**, assistant professor of health services and administration, was most recently a Peace Corps Response volunteer in Gambia, where she taught at the University of Gambia and Gambia College School of Public Health. She also has worked in Togo, Africa, and Tamil Nadu, India, on projects concerning social epidemiology and global health.



Webster

**Liz Webster**, academic advisor, is a USI graduate currently working on her master's in communication. She most recently worked as a wilderness therapist for troubled youth in Utah and Colorado. She is trained as a Families First and Strengthening Families facilitator.



Schneider

**Amy J. Schneider**, instructor in dental hygiene/dental assisting, has been an adjunct faculty member at USI for 13 years and has worked in several different dental offices as a hygienist over the past 17 years. She is a member of the American Dental Association, Ohio Valley Dental Hygiene Association, and the American Dental Education Association.



Worman

**Dawn Worman**, instructor in nursing, has been a registered nurse at St. Mary's Medical Center since 1994. She started as a staff nurse in the cardiac service line, and for the past seven years, she has served as director of cardiopulmonary rehabilitation. She is certified in Cardiac Vascular Nursing and as a Nurse Executive by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

## Volunteer lauded for mentoring future nurses



**Kyle Ellis**, a nursing preceptor at St. Mary's Medical Center, Evansville, was named USI's 2012-2013 "Mentor of the Year." The award is given to a USI faculty, staff, alumni, or community member who has mentored a USI student in his or her overall academic field, and Ellis has been a dedicated USI nursing preceptor for the past 15 years.

"Each time she agrees to mentor a student means a commitment of 192 hours of teaching and coaching per student," said Dr. Ann White, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions. "When we created the nursing curriculum, we included a final clinical immersion experience for our senior students so that they could experience the true role of the nurse prior to graduation."

In addition to being a preceptor for the nursing internship course, Ellis also works with other students in the nursing program during their clinical experience at St. Mary's Medical Center.

"Kyle is an amazing role model for USI students by continually demonstrating nursing excellence," said Dr. Marilyn Ostendorf, assistant professor of nursing. "Kyle not only teaches our students skills and knowledge, but she builds their confidence and develops self-esteem at a time when many students are filled with doubt."

## From MHA to the Middle East: graduate goes far with degree

Most students earn a graduate degree hoping it will take them places in life. What some don't realize is just how far that might be. Literally. In Robert Feldbauer's case, that degree has taken him across the world.



Feldbauer

A 2006 graduate of USI's Master of Health Administration (MHA) Program, Feldbauer has since made a career of building medical infrastructure in the Middle East. Furthering his career goals through higher education is important to Feldbauer, and over the course of his life he's acquired a bachelor's degree in construction engineering and management and a master's degree in project management, both of which aided in his 22-year career with the U.S. Air Force. It was after he retired from the service as a Senior Master Sergeant that he entered the world of hospital management.

"My MHA made me competitive for senior leadership positions, including my current position as chief operating officer at

Al Ain Hospital in the United Arab Emirates," said Feldbauer. "I have the utmost respect for the program. I would personally recommend the program to anyone considering an MHA."

After completing his distance-learning degree, while working as a vice president at Mercy Hospital in Fairfield, Ohio, Feldbauer decided to work as a consultant for Joint Commission International, a corporation providing accreditation services for healthcare organizations globally, in the Middle East.

A year later, he returned to the United States as a healthcare facilities consultant and a director of facilities at a Cincinnati hospital. Then in 2010, he headed back to the Arabian Peninsula as project director overseeing the operational planning of Sidra Medical and Research Center in Doha, Qatar, a modern, world-class 400-bed facility.

"The hospital in Qatar was fortunate to have Bob's management skills during the planning phase," said Dr. Ethel Elkins, assistant professor of Health Services at USI. "Those of us in the program with Bob knew him as one of the brightest and best. We knew he'd go far. It wasn't surprising to learn he'd been selected to oversee construction of a hospital the size and stature of Sidra."

Sidra was just the beginning. At the completion of his contract there, he was recruited by Abu Dhabi Health Services Company as the chief operations officer of Al Ain Hospital, one of two major teaching hospitals in the eastern region of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. Al Ain Hospital, already a center for medical education, training, and research, plans to break ground soon on a new 720-bed hospital. Like the hospital in Qatar, the new Al Ain Hospital will have a unique design combining the latest medical technology with an aesthetically-pleasing environment.

"Living in the Arabian Peninsula has truly been an enlightening experience," said Feldbauer. "Day-to-day life is less hectic, which leaves personal time to develop other parts of my life, whether that's becoming healthier, more artistic, or more spiritual."

Today, Feldbauer is pursuing a doctorate degree in business administration from the University of Liverpool in the United Kingdom. With plans to complete his degree in 2014, he's looking forward to where a new degree will take him.



### The Master of Health Administration program prepares professionals for leadership roles in healthcare.

The two-year program is taught primarily online with onsite intensive meetings three times annually. Students apply classroom learning to the "real world" through service learning projects. The program recently added a Health Informatics Specialty, which focuses on the application of information management and technology for the improvement of communications and quality across the healthcare industry.

For more information visit  
[www.usi.edu/mha](http://www.usi.edu/mha)

**Calling all alumni**

Send news along with your degree and year of graduation, major, address, phone number, current position, and employer to [mtscheller@usi.edu](mailto:mtscheller@usi.edu).

# Get the Edge.



## You have big dreams.

## We can help you get there.



University of  
Southern Indiana

[USI.edu](http://USI.edu)





10001-01660

**College of Nursing  
and Health Professions**  
University of Southern Indiana  
8600 University Boulevard  
Evansville, Indiana 47712

## Nursing and Health Professions Continuing Education



*USI nursing student Kirstyn Broun helps high school students differentiate the sounds of the heart during USI's symposium on aging.*



*Two high school students examine the charts of fictitious patients at USI symposium on aging.*

### 2014 Workshops and Conferences

- Health Informatics Tri-State Summit (HITS), January 29
- Healing Touch, Level 1, March 8 & 9
- Heart of Cardiovascular Nursing, March 13
- 11th Annual Nursing Leadership Conference, April 9
- 18th Annual Research and Health Care Issues Conference, April 16
- 20th Annual Case Management Conference, May 8
- 16th Annual Advanced Practice Nursing Symposium, May 9
- 31st Annual Institute for Alcohol and Drug Studies (IADS), May 15 & 16
- 7th Annual Mid-America Institute on Aging, August 14 & 15

### 2014 Certificate Programs (online continuing education)

- Anticoagulation Therapy Management, six weeks, begins January 13, March 17, May 19, July 14, September 29
- Case Management, six weeks, begins March 31, August 18
- Clinical Simulation, four weeks, February 17, September 8
- Diabetes Management, eight weeks, begins February 10, August 11
- Health Informatics, seven weeks, begins February 3, August 11
- Health Promotion and Worksite Wellness, six weeks, begins January 20, September 15
- Heart Failure, five weeks, begins January 13, September 22
- Hypertension Management, five weeks, begins February 17, July 28
- Lipid Management, seven weeks, begins January 27, September 8
- Oncology Management, eight weeks, begins March 17, August 18
- Pain Management, six weeks, begins January 20, August 4
- Parish/Faith Community Nursing, four weeks, begins March 24, September 15
- Stroke Management, six weeks, begins January 27, September 15
- Wound Management, six weeks, begins February 3, September 22

### Customized programs

Let the College of Nursing and Health Professions tailor programs to meet the specific needs of your organization.

### Registration and program information:

Visit [health.usi.edu](http://health.usi.edu) or call:

- Workshops and Conferences - 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600
- Certificate Programs - 812/461-5217 or 877/874-4584