

University of
Southern Indiana

FALL 2011

Synapse

College of Nursing and Health Professions

Dr. Nadine Coudret

24 years of servant leadership



Letter from the Dean

Through the years...

The excitement that accompanies the beginning of every new school year was heightened by the grant announcements of support for the expansion of the nursing doctoral program, the initiation of the family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program and the clinical nurse specialist program, and the establishment of a nurse-managed healthcare center. But this year's startup had a personal significance for me as I recalled, as though it were yesterday, the anticipation and excitement that I felt when assuming the dean role at USI in 1988.

The long hours and joyful efforts shared with Cindy Goodwin, Dr. Cindy Sublett, and Dr. Melissa Vandevveer (inaugural nursing faculty) to establish a new nursing program are fond memories. Integrating the dental, radiology, and respiratory therapy programs with nursing to create a Learning Caring Community and a college where education excellence would flourish were primary goals of my first few years at USI. Committed faculty, the visionary leadership of President David Rice and Dr. Robert Reid, vice president of Academic Affairs, and the support of community healthcare professionals were key to the success of those efforts.

In the mid-'90s, additional college programs were established and the new Health Professions Center was opened followed by the development of the Clinical Simulation Center. Significant increase in students, faculty, and staff followed those beginning years. An emphasis on the quality and innovative delivery of instruction accompanied the growth in numbers. Students learned and understood that caring for another individual in their time of need is a privilege that requires knowledge, skills, and caring. This understanding and the practice excellence of our graduates are reflected by USI nursing and health professions graduates being the number-one choice of area hospitals and community healthcare employers.

The college has been blessed with financial support by a number of community friends. This support has provided student scholarships, instructional technology, and faculty-development funding. The gifts of time and expertise provided by preceptors also have been a major contribution to the success of our graduates.

It has been a pleasure to work with outstanding faculty and staff who are committed to student learning. They are wonderful colleagues and my friends. They have shared my vision of excellence and the accomplishments that have occurred in our college have been due to their efforts.

A thank you seems inadequate to express my appreciation for the support and friendships that I have enjoyed during my time here at USI. President Bennett, Provost Rochon, my dean colleagues, college friends, graduates, students, faculty, and staff – I thank each of you and promise that my interest and support for the College of Nursing and Health Professions and our University will continue.

Nadine A. Coudret

Dr. Nadine Coudret
Dean, College of Nursing
and Health Professions



Trustee Bruce Baker reviews Health Professions Center building plans with Dean Coudret.



In 2003, Dean Coudret learned about the challenges facing military nurses during the U.S. Army ROTC National Advanced Leadership Camp at Fort Lewis, Washington.



At the 2007 dedication of a lecture hall and classroom are President H. Ray Hoops, left, Dean Coudret, and John M. Lawrence '73, a college friend and benefactor.

Synapse

College of Nursing and Health Professions

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On the cover

Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, will retire in 2012.

See page 2.



Dr. Nadine Coudret

As she prepares to retire, the dean reflects on the progress of the college and her role as a servant leader focusing on the students, faculty, community, and goals of the University's administrative team.



Working with faculty and students and seeing them grow beyond their own expectations has been one of the top achievements for Dr. Nadine Coudret as dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

When Coudret joined the University as dean in 1988, her immediate charge was to develop a nursing program and to nurture the established programs in dental hygiene, dental assisting, respiratory therapy, and radiologic technology. Now, as she plans for retirement, the college offers the nursing program through the doctoral level. Occupational therapy and health administration are available at the master's level. Six programs are offered at the baccalaureate level and three at the associate-degree level. This extraordinary program development provides students new career options, presents employers with highly skilled health professionals, and leads to an improved level of healthcare for patients in the Tri-state and throughout Indiana.

Coudret will retire July 1 following a sabbatical. Her vision always has been to reach higher and to help others do so.

Prior to becoming president of USI in 2009, Dr. Linda L. M. Bennett worked closely with Coudret as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. Coudret served a one-year term as interim provost when Bennett moved up to the presidency.

"Dedicated to leadership, teaching, and service, Nadine Coudret has earned the respect and gratitude of the University of Southern Indiana community," Bennett said. "Dean Coudret's commitment to USI is evident in her significant contribution to the development of the University, especially the growth of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, and in her successful leadership in many areas of campus life."

"A primary reason for my acceptance of the dean role at USI was the opportunity to develop a new nursing program," Coudret said. "I valued the community partnerships that I had developed and believed that by listening and having community support, we would be able to prepare graduates who would be caring, critical-thinking, clinically skilled health care professionals and health-care leaders."

Coudret came to USI from the University of Evansville, where she served as dean. A native of Vincennes, Indiana, she earned a diploma in nursing at St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing in Evansville and completed B.S., M.A., and M.S.N. degrees at the University of Evansville and a doctorate in higher education administration at Indiana University. Her clinical experience has included operating room, medical-surgical, nursing home, and home health.

As she evolved from clinical nurse, to faculty member, to dean, and to interim provost, her goal always was to have a greater impact on those she served. "I was a good nurse, but my

impact was limited to the individual patients for whom I cared," Coudret said. "When I was invited to teach at the University of Evansville, I accepted the position thinking that teaching would give me the opportunity to extend my impact by preparing excellent caring nurses. When I moved into administrative roles, I saw it as an opportunity to support and develop faculty who would be excellent teachers who would prepare nurses and health professionals to be the caregiver that every patient deserves. When you have the right faculty, motivated bright students, and community support, you can reach the high level that our graduates have—whether you measure that by success on licensure exams or by patient testimonials."

Continuous growth

More than 6,500 students have graduated from programs offered by the College of Nursing and Health Professions since Coudret became dean. The college enrolls 2,925 students and has 87 full-time faculty and staff and 45 adjunct faculty members.

Growing endowments within the USI Foundation have helped the college meet needs. In 1988, the programs in health professions had a scholarship endowment valued at \$11,500. Thanks to generous friends who have wanted to be a part of improving healthcare education, endowments supporting the college now total more than \$3.4 million (approximately \$2.9 million for scholarships and another half million dollars for other needs).

During Coudret's time as dean, the college has attracted approximately \$10 million in external funding. That includes \$3.4 million in grants announced in August from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Federal funding supported the startup of the master's level programs in nursing in the '90s. The recently received federal grants will expand the graduate nursing program even further and support a community clinic. A grant writer has been added to the staff to identify more opportunities to grow the college.

Dr. David L. Rice, USI president emeritus, and Dr. Robert L. Reid, provost/vice president emeritus of Academic Affairs, and professor emeritus of history, engaged Coudret to establish the nursing program and new health-professions programs. They trusted her to know how to go about it. The resulting programs always have focused on highly qualified faculty and preceptors helping students develop critical thinking and clinical expertise.

"Because of the clinical requirements in our programs, leaders at our hospitals tell us our graduates need very little orientation when they graduate and go on the job," Coudret said.

Identifying needs

In addition to the development of the nursing program, Coudret recognized other opportunities to serve the interests of students and the needs of the community. High demand for dental hygienists led to expansion in that program. The college became the first in the state to offer a baccalaureate degree in dental hygiene. The level of education also has increased in the dental assisting program with most students now earning an associate degree rather than stopping at the certificate level. Coudret identified occupational therapy as an unmet need and initiated that program. With few additional resources, the program for occupational therapy assistant was begun, giving students and the community two options for occupational therapy study. Another unmet need (page 11) led to the addition of the diagnostic sonography program. The health services major has become a popular area of study. More than 400 students are enrolled as majors. Growth of both the undergraduate program in health services and the master's-level program in health administration led this fall to naming separate program directors for each. The addition of the food and nutrition program, which graduated its first students in the dietetics track in May, was a response to student interest and community needs.

Other innovation for the college includes the development of a telemedicine program with Evansville's Hadi Shrine, the creation of the Center for Healthy Aging and Wellness and the Mid-America Institute on Aging, and the hosting of the Southwest Indiana Area Health Education Center in the Health Professions Center. A Clinical Simulation Center with computerized patient simulators provides opportunities for students to practice clinical skills in a safe setting.

The college was a pioneer and leader in online learning, giving students and working professionals more flexibility in advancing their education. In addition, continuing education programs provide Internet-delivered instruction on 18 topics. Offered in 1998, the first program, Anticoagulation Therapy Management, is now recognized nationally as the authoritative online certificate program on that therapy.

"We started these certificate programs in partnership with a pharmaceutical company that recognized the need for continuing education for nurses, pharmacists, and physicians. At that time, no one was providing this type of interactive online programs," Coudret said. "Our certificate programs have been national and, in some instances, international pacesetters in the delivery of continuing education for healthcare professionals. Some students who enroll in our master's and doctoral programs have taken these online continuing education programs and appreciated the quality of the USI program offerings and made the decision to do their graduate work at USI."

International programs have been important in building cultural awareness and exposing students and faculty to alternate systems of healthcare in other countries. Coudret recalls experiencing the wonder of Stonehenge with students during study abroad in England and swimming in Jamaica with students after a 10-hour day assisting in a clinic. "Graduates will tell you that these programs changed their lives," Coudret said. She has traveled to the Netherlands, Germany, and India to identify new partnerships for exchange.

Learning Caring Community

Within the college, Coudret has established a "Learning Caring Community" where co-workers are on a first-name basis and get to know and appreciate each other. When faculty members publish a paper or make a presentation at a professional meeting, a framed congratulatory statement goes on



99 percent pass rate for BSN graduates

The 2011 Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) graduates had a 99 percent pass rate on first attempt for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

USI students completed the test within six months of graduation. The class included 78 graduates.

Developed by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, the NCLEX exam measures the competencies needed to practice safely and effectively as a newly licensed entry-level nurse. Students are eligible to take the exam upon graduation from an approved nursing program. A passing score is required for licensure as a registered nurse.

"The outstanding exam results reflect the hard work of students as well as the dedication of our faculty and staff in the nursing program," said Dr. Ann White, associate dean and professor of nursing. "Our program combines classroom learning, innovative technology, service learning, and hands-on patient experience to prepare graduates to provide the best in nursing care."

their door and in the Health Professions Center hallway. "This 'Celebration of Scholarship' reminds us to congratulate each other," Coudret said. "Students see and appreciate the importance of faculty scholarly activities." Other activities supportive of the Learning Caring Community have included secret pals, shared healthy-eating and exercise programs, investment and journal clubs, and birthday and end-of-year celebrations.

The dean has three children and four grandchildren. Her husband, Duke Coudret, died in 2007. In retirement, she looks forward to more time with family, community service, and enjoying her personal interests—including art, travel, golf, and tennis. "It has been difficult while working to find time for my non-working interests," she said. "I've been blessed with good health and look forward to having time to do some of the non-work related activities that I enjoy."

HRSA awards \$3.4 million for community health, expansion of graduate nursing programs

The College of Nursing and Health Professions will provide new and expanded programs and services with five grants totaling \$3.4 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Nurse practitioner Malea Wolfe M'10 will provide care for patients at the community clinic.



Students in the food and nutrition program offered information about eating wisely at the open house for the USI-Glenwood Community Health Center.

Healthcare center established at Glenwood Leadership Academy

The College of Nursing and Health Professions has received a \$1.2 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to provide primary healthcare for the children and staff at Glenwood Leadership Academy in Evansville. The center also will provide healthcare services to area residents.

The college has established the center at the school in partnership with the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC), St. Mary's Medical Center, and Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare Inc. The Glenwood neighborhood is among the most medically underserved and culturally diverse communities in Evansville. The grant will fund the center for five years.

Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, is the primary investigator for the grant. Dr. Mayola Rowser serves as project director.

"The USI-Glenwood Community Health Center will strengthen and expand access to primary healthcare and wellness for Glenwood area residents across the lifespan," Coudret said. "The center will provide these services to underserved and vulnerable populations without regard to income or insurance status."

Clinical training site

The center will become a valuable clinical training site for USI nursing and

health professions students. Graduate-level nursing, occupational therapy, social work, and health administration students along with undergraduate students in nursing, occupational therapy, respiratory therapy, dental hygiene, food and nutrition, and health services will participate in the delivery of inter-professional healthcare services.

The center will establish an electronic health records process to support effective patient care and workforce data collection systems. The center is targeted to become the hub for expanding healthcare to two nearby sites, the John M. Culver Early Childhood Center and the Juan Diego Hispanic Center in years two and three.

“When people leave our community health center, we want them to feel there are health professionals here who genuinely care about them.”

— Karen Cross



Deanna Tacderas M.S.N. '11, draws blood from a patient during the men's health fair at Potters Wheel Ministries. Tacderas completed the family nurse practitioner track of the master's level program in nursing. Federal grants provide support for two new specialty tracks.

Community school

The former Glenwood Middle School underwent a \$9 million renovation and re-opened in fall 2010 as the K-8 Glenwood Leadership Academy, a component of the EVSC strategic efforts to realign programs and better serve its students and community. The building includes the new center with an outside entrance. EVSC has been integrating healthcare into schools since 2008.

Cathlin Gray '85 is EVSC associate superintendent for family, school, and community partnerships. "This center will provide a much-needed service to children and families in the Glenwood community," she said. "We value our community partners and their commitment to supporting the needs of our children and families."

When Gray was a teacher and principal at EVSC's Cedar Hall Elementary School, she led it to become Evansville's first full-service community school, partnering with agencies to provide medical, social, and recreational services as well as educational opportunities.

Karen Cross, community and family outreach coordinator for Glenwood Leadership Academy, emphasized the center's accessibility to the community.

"It's advantageous because it's right here at the school," she said. "When parents drop off or pick up their children, they can come in for care."

The availability of both healthcare and wellness services also is a plus.

"It's important for individuals and families

continued on next page

Nursing program adds two master's specialties, expands enrollment in Doctor of Nursing Practice

Financial assistance available through traineeship grants

The College of Nursing and Health Professions is expanding the graduate nursing program offerings and student financial assistance with federal grants totaling \$2.2 million recently received from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

A new family psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner program and a new clinical nurse specialist program (CNS) will be offered. A master's degree program and a post master's certification will be available in both new programs. Each grant is for three years.

"The HRSA grants provide the opportunity for our college to expand our graduate nursing programs," said Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the college. "We used similar funding to start the family nurse practitioner program and the acute care nurse practitioner program, and we are excited to be able to have these new programs at USI."

In addition, grants support increased enrollment in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program and provide financial assistance to graduate students.

Family psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner program

A grant of \$720,850 funds the family psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner program. Family psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioners (FPMHNP) are able to provide children and adults with primary mental healthcare. Coudret said graduates of this program will provide urgently needed services to patients in the community.

Dr. Katherine Riedford, associate professor of nursing, will direct the program development. Riedford holds a Ph.D. in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing from Indiana University and is a board-certified family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner.

"There is a need for psychiatric and mental health services, both in our local community and nationwide," Riedford said. "Inadequate access to mental health care is a barrier to multiple preventive health services, which ultimately results in delayed treatment and higher healthcare costs. Early intervention for psychiatric problems will ultimately decrease overall healthcare expenditures. It is hoped this specialty will be a positive influence in assisting those who are in need of such services."

continued on next page

Glenwood continued from page 5

to take care of themselves," Cross said. "People can come to the center to receive wellness services and not just because they are sick. This is important because a health screening or wellness information could lead to prevention of a long-term illness that might otherwise occur."

Cross stressed that the goal is to provide services in a caring atmosphere. "When people leave our community health center," she said, "we want them to feel there are health professionals here who genuinely care about them."

Glenwood Leadership Academy has a number of community partners—such as Habitat for Humanity, YMCA, YWCA—that provide educational and recreational services to the community.

"This has a huge bearing on the lives of people in our community from a holistic perspective," Cross said. "The community health center adds to that."



Dr. Mayola Rowser, left, associate professor of nursing, Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions, Janet Raisor, executive director of Case Management, Community Outreach and Rehabilitation, Diana Butler, supervisor of health with the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, and Dr. John K. Browning, president/CEO of Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare Inc., gather in the lobby of the USI-Glenwood Community Health Center during the October open house.

Nursing continued from page 5

Riedford said Southwestern Indiana Behavioral Health System, Deaconess Health System, St. Mary's Medical Center, and other providers of psychiatric services in the local community and outlying areas have demonstrated support for the FPMHNP program. A psychopharmacology course and the first clinical course in the program are being offered during fall semester. Recruitment is nationwide. Current enrollment includes a student from the state of Washington.

The funding provides for the enrollment of at least 40 students during the three years of the grant. Twenty-eight students are expected to complete the program during that time.

Clinical nurse specialist program

A \$705,980 grant will provide for the development of the clinical nurse specialty program. Clinical nurse specialists are expert nurse clinicians who focus their clinical skills or knowledge on a specific patient population or practice area, such as geriatrics, oncology, critical care, and emergency room care. Their practice setting is typically in a hospital or extended care facility. Research has demonstrated the importance of nursing to patient care outcomes. The clinical nurse specialist is prepared to provide care, lead, educate, and consult with the nursing staff to advance the level of nursing care in hospitals. Dr. Judi Kuric is the project director of the clinical nurse specialty. She earned a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Rush University.

"We have been excited by the initial response from the community and hope to continue to expand our enrollment," Kuric said. "Hospitals have been very interested in CNS graduates because their expertise is beneficial to gaining Magnet® status through the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

The Magnet Recognition Program recognizes healthcare organizations for quality patient care, nursing excellence, and innovations in professional nursing practice.

Kuric said the CNS program will be of interest to students and graduates of the bachelor's and master's programs in nursing. Individuals who have completed certificate programs through the college's continuing education offerings also may want to take advantage of this new opportunity. Recruitment is nationwide. Course delivery in the graduate nursing program is online.

The clinical nurse specialty program will enroll at least 40 students over the three-year life of the grant. Twenty-one students are expected to graduate during those years.

Expansion of DNP program

A grant of \$748,805 provides funding to expand the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program which began in 2008. The first class of 15 DNP students graduated this spring. All students in the DNP program complete an evidence-based capstone project that demonstrates identification and resolution of a practice problem.

"The influence and leadership of DNP graduates in addressing major health problems is evidenced," said Coudret, "in the numerous publications and presentations that describe the graduate projects carried out in schools, hospitals, long-term care facilities and in the community."

Dr. Ann White, associate dean of the college, is director of the DNP program and serves as project director for the expansion. The entering 2011 DNP class includes 25 students, an increase of 10 over previous years. The program requires three years for completion. Total enrollment is 55 students.

Nursing traineeships

A fourth grant of \$770,499 will be used to fund nursing traineeships during one academic year. This funding is available for full-time students and for students in their last year of graduate study. Dr. Mayola Rowser, director of the graduate nursing programs, is the project director.

The amount of the stipend is based upon the number of eligible students who apply. Rowser said the funds are divided evenly over fall, spring, and summer semesters and further divided among the eligible students.

Summary of graduate programs

The two new nursing specialties join four others – acute care nurse practitioner, family nurse practitioner, nursing education, and nursing management and leadership—offered by the college at the master's level in addition to the doctoral degree in nursing practice. The college also offers master's degrees in health administration and occupational therapy. Total enrollment for the College of Nursing and Health Professions is 2,440 undergraduates and 485 graduate students.

University awards first D.N.P. degrees

The first doctoral graduates for the College of Nursing and Health Professions and for the University were awarded degrees at Commencement in May. Fifteen students completed requirements for the Doctor of Nursing Practice program, which prepares advanced practice nurses to be clinical scholars recognized for outstanding innovative evidence-based patient care and leadership in nursing practice and health-care organizations. Course delivery is online. In addition, students attend intensive on-campus sessions twice a year. The program is expanding with funds available from a federal grant. See page 5.



Two Welborn Foundation initiatives

Studying neighborhood access to produce



Food and nutrition major Alyssa Brown '11 assesses the availability of fresh produce at Buehler's IGA grocery on North Main Street in Evansville. Students from a class on community nutrition examined the quality, price, and availability of fruits and vegetables and measured the square footage allotted to canned, frozen, and fresh fruits and vegetables at markets in selected areas of Evansville. The study was supported by the Welborn Foundation in connection with its program, "Blueprint: A Community's Movement Toward Healthy Lifestyles."

Lifestyle changes: Ready or not?

Two graduate students in health administration have completed 17 interviews with people in the Evansville community regarding initiatives in the Welborn Foundation's "Blueprint: A Community's Movement Toward Healthy Lifestyles." The study is aimed at assessing community readiness to change.

Dr. Ethel Elkins, assistant professor of health services, said the interviews were of the "snowball" variety. The person being interviewed was asked to suggest other individuals who would have information on the topic. Students gathered data about the Complete Streets initiative, a Glenwood farmer's market, and Safe Routes to School.

Ten undergraduate students in health services also conducted observational studies and interviewed people using area parks. A follow-up study will take place in the spring. Elkins said one of the most revealing aspects of the study was the realization that some parks are under used. The downtown riverfront was busy as well as the grounds at Evansville State Hospital. Other parks, such as Akin Park and Diamond Valley Park, were under utilized although well equipped and maintained.

Students benefited from the opportunity to participate in research funded by the Centers for Disease Control. Welborn received a grant from the Indiana Department of Health to help advance the CDC's Communities Putting Prevention to Work program.

New perspectives on healthcare

Programs in Germany further cultural understanding

Lauren Seidl took advantage of not one, but two travel/study opportunities available during the summer through the College of Nursing and Health Professions at universities in Germany.

First, she studied Healthcare through the Life Circle at the University of Osnabrueck with a team of international faculty.

"We had a different teacher for almost every lecture," Seidl said. They included a professor from Nelson Mandela University in South Africa as well as Dr. Ann White, associate dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

Second, Seidl studied public health at the International Summer University offered by the University of Applied Sciences, also in Osnabrueck. The international faculty for that course included Dr. Brandon Eggleston, USI assistant professor of health services, who taught in the program for the second straight year. Each program lasted three weeks.

Visits to healthcare facilities opened Seidl's eyes to the differences in healthcare in the United States and Germany. She was surprised at the acceptance of midwifery in Germany

and at the lack of private hospital rooms. "Hospital rooms had at least four persons," she said. "There were no privacy curtains, and the bathroom was down the hall."

Both summer programs were relevant to Seidl's major, the nutrition and wellness track of the food and nutrition program, and allowed her to earn credit hours keeping her on the path to graduate in spring 2012.

"Nutrition is such a big part of being healthy," she said. "In the course about the life cycle, nutrition was brought up in infancy, childhood, and adulthood."

Seidl also was interested in the cultural experience. Being in a setting with students from all over the world influenced her perspectives. A student from South Africa told about his initiation into manhood. Students from Pakistan and other countries discussed their lifestyles. "One of the South Koreans said people there don't have parties except on



USI students Lauren Seidl, left, and Emilie Miller visited Berlin's Charité Hospital, the largest and oldest hospital in Germany. The institution celebrated its 300th anniversary in 2010.

their birthdays," Seidl said, "and even then, it is a small party."

A highlight of the cultural experiences was a mudflat hiking tour. Participants took a bus to the North Sea. While the tide was out, they hiked across the mudflat to an island. After two hours of island exploration, they met at the ferry for the ride back.

"The land where we had just hiked was covered with water," Seidl said.

The program at the University of Applied Sciences included a weekend trip to Berlin and optional weekend excursions to Paris and London. Seidl participated in all three. In London, she and friends took a hop-on-hop-off bus tour to see the sights. In Paris, they saw breathtaking views from the top of the Eiffel Tower and visited attractions such as Notre Dame Cathedral and the Arc de Triomphe.

"We went shopping in a flea market, had a crepe (of course) in a cafe, and took hundreds of photos," she said.

Seidl received a USI Study Abroad Ambassador Scholarship to support the summer study. Seven students from the college participated in the program at the University of Osnabrueck. Nine USI students (eight from the College of Nursing and Health Professions and one from the College of Business) attended the program at the University of Applied Sciences.

Opportunities for USI students and faculty in Osnabrueck have resulted from visits by Dr. Nadine Coudret and Dr. Ann White to universities in Germany and subsequent visits by faculty from Germany to USI.



Students from USI, University of Mississippi, and universities in Germany visited a castle in Bückeberg as part of their cultural experiences while studying at the University of Osnabrueck.

Adult day care of interest during study in England

Nursing major Cassie Turpin had a look at healthcare facilities in England during a summer study program sponsored by the College of Nursing and Health Professions, but her favorite visit was to an adult day care facility in the countryside.

Turpin said the day care, supported with donations from people in its area, was provided free to clients. There was no age requirement. Most of the residents had a terminal illness. Volunteers helped staff the facility.

"The program provided lunch, speakers, and games for the residents while they were there," Turpin said. "It helped give the caregivers a break during the day. It was nice seeing people doing things not just for money, but in the kindness of their heart. It was just a real eye opener and an awesome experience."

Turpin is a junior from Evansville. She recommends the British travel/study program to all healthcare students. "England's healthcare system is very different from our own, so it definitely broadened my horizon," she said.

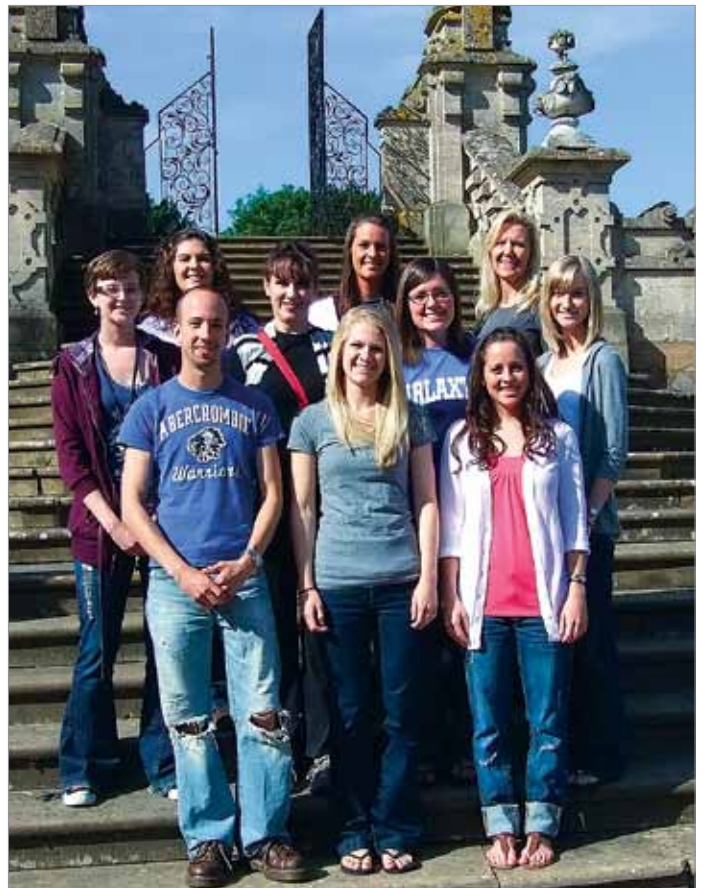
Kristen Bartlett, a senior nursing major from Mount Vernon, Indiana, agreed that the close-up look at England's healthcare, provided primarily by the National Health Service, was beneficial. "It was neat to be able to compare the differences in the two countries after having clinical time here," she said.

Students from the College of Nursing and Health Professions have had the opportunity for summer study in England since 1999. This year nine students completed the two-week comparative study of the healthcare systems in the United Kingdom and the United States. The group visits various healthcare facilities, meets nurses and other members of the healthcare team, explores the historical roots of healthcare, and learns about the higher education system in Great Britain. A four-day weekend for independent travel provides additional exposure to other cultures.

"I especially enjoyed the free weekend we had to travel," said Bartlett. "I went to Ireland. A group of us took a Paddywagon tour and were able to see most of the country in two days. It was definitely a memorable experience."

Another unforgettable experience was staying at Harlaxton College, the center of operations for USI students during the course.

"I felt like I was staying in a castle," she said. "A few of the employees referred to it as Hogwarts, because there are secret passes and hidden doors, just like in the movie Harry Potter."



Posing on steps near Harlaxton's Manor House are USI students (front row, from left, Travis Farhar, Lauren Balbach, and Katie Voyles; (second row, from left) Mary Tyler, Helen Lindall, Katie Blythe, and Melanie Nordhoff; and (back row, from left) Kristen Bartlett, Cassie Turpin, and Dr. Barbara Williams, faculty leader.

Students, alumni, and college friends

Sign up now for 2012 summer travel/study programs

Travel-study opportunities are available for students, alumni, and college friends this summer. Academic credit and continuing education credits are available for each program. Family and friends can participate as guests.

- Healthcare through the Life Circle, dates to be announced, University of Osnabrueck, Germany
- International Summer University – Public Health, dates to be announced, University of Applied Sciences, Osnabrueck, Germany
- Eastern Medicine – Study and observe the traditional medicine practice in China, dates to be announced, China universities

Contact Heidi Gregori-Gahan, director of International Programs and Services, 812/465-1248, gahan@usi.edu or health.usi.edu.





Dietetics graduate selected for internship at Vanderbilt

The college's first dietetics graduates are eligible to apply for supervised practice programs. Lindsey VanDoornik's preparation inside and outside the classroom helped her land a spot in well-established program.

One of the first graduates of the dietetics track in the food and nutrition program offered by the College of Nursing and Health Professions has been selected for one of the most recognized dietetics internships in the nation. Lindsey VanDoornik, a 2011 *summa cum laude* graduate, is completing a supervised practice program at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

VanDoornik was among six University of Southern Indiana students in the spring who were the first to complete the college's dietetics concentration.

The Dietetic Internship Program at Vanderbilt was established in 1929. The 2011-12 class of 16 interns from throughout the country began the 10-month program in mid-August. VanDoornik and a Purdue University graduate are the only participants selected from the state of Indiana.

The interns are working alongside hospital dietitians and providing nutrition programming in community-based settings, such as school systems. During the program, VanDoornik will complete more than 1,200 hours of clinical experience, making her eligible to take the national registration exam for dietitians. The dietetics track (one of three tracks in USI's food and nutrition program) was accorded Candidacy for Accreditation last year by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education. Candidacy for Accreditation is a status that allows students who meet graduation requirements to apply for supervised practice programs.

Healthy lifestyles

Long captivated by science, VanDoornik developed an interest in running and healthy lifestyles that propelled her to pursue a major in food and nutrition.

"I started running, and then I thought I would eat healthier," she said. "I began learning on my own about healthy ways of eating and healthy lifestyles. That made me think maybe this was something I could do as a career."

VanDoornik ran the Evansville Half Marathon in October 2010 and the Southern Indiana Classic Half Marathon in April 2011. She said several interns in the Vanderbilt program already are planning to run the Country Music Marathon and Half Marathon together in April 2012.

Outside the classroom

During her USI career, VanDoornik took advantage of a number of opportunities outside the classroom setting to learn about careers in food and nutrition.

Beginning in October 2009, she worked at Mead Johnson Nutrition as a laboratory technician in the Global Research and Development Department. Her supervisor was Bolivar Cevallos, principal product development scientist. He teaches the food science course in the food and nutrition program as an adjunct instructor.

"Working with nutritional products and seeing everything that goes into baby formulas and supplemental formulas for children is fascinating," she said. "I have learned more about the nutritional needs of babies and children. The work also has improved my understanding of the organization of data and the research process."

VanDoornik shadowed dietitians at St. Mary's Medical Center and Select Specialty Hospital in Evansville. The shadowing opportunity included learning about the work of a dietitian who cares for bariatric patients.

"I've always been drawn to the weight-loss area," she said, "but I could go into my internship and find that I'm just as interested in another area."

VanDoornik worked one summer as a counselor at Wellspring Camps, a weight-loss program for girls in the Adirondack Mountains of New York. Her duties included serving as a nutrition instructor.

"I started with 'what is a carbohydrate,'" she said, "and moved on to topics such as choosing food from a menu."

In spring 2008, VanDoornik studied in the United Kingdom. She traveled to Spain, Ireland, France, and Italy during her semester abroad.

Campus activities

VanDoornik is from Evansville. She was president in 2010-11 of the Food and Nutrition Student Organization. Members completed a number of service projects including volunteering at Seton Harvest, a community-supported agricultural program sponsored by the Daughters of Charity. Her campus involvement also included membership in the Honors Program, Student Ambassadors, Gamma Phi Beta sorority, and Model United Nations.

She was the recipient of the John Lee and Lupheba F. Newman Presidential Scholarship. She was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.



Lindsey VanDoornik and other members of the USI Food and Nutrition Student Organization volunteered to weed the strawberry patch at Seton Harvest, a community-supported agricultural program on New Harmony Road in Evansville.

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Dr. Cary Hanni

Advocate for sonography program

Dr. Cary Hanni, a vascular surgeon with Evansville Surgical Associates, has been a friend of the diagnostic medical sonography program since its outset.

The general track of the program was accredited in 2009. Recently, the specialty tracks in vascular and cardiac sonography received accreditation. USI is one of only nine baccalaureate programs in the nation to have accreditation in all three concentrations. (See page 18.)

"You would recognize the schools on that list as having programs that are cutting edge medically," Hanni said. "USI can be very proud to be in that company. The College of Nursing and Health Professions is doing a great service to the community."

Several years ago Hanni brought the idea for a sonography program to the attention of Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean, and Claudine Fairchild and Amy Wilson, assistant professors of radiologic and imaging sciences. He has served as the program's medical director since implementation.



Hanni

"Part of my responsibility as a surgeon is to stay educated in my field. I attended a conference in Chicago where I learned about a degree program in diagnostic vascular ultrasound. I thought this would be a way to guarantee high-quality ultrasounds for the people in our area," Hanni said. "I approached Nadine, Claudine, and Amy with the idea. Before I knew it, we had a curriculum and a degree program that was going full steam."

The first classes were offered in 2005, and the first students graduated in 2007. The program now has 47 graduates practicing



Students in diagnostic medical sonography practice an upper extremity arterial Doppler examination in the campus sonography lab.

throughout the Tri-state region as well as in Indianapolis, Chicago, and Louisville. Fairchild is the program director.

Prior to the degree program, Hanni said the Evansville area had excellent sonographers, but most had learned on the job. They had no teacher. The degree program formalizes the study of diagnostic medical sonography and enhances the ability of the sonographer to do high-quality exams.

"This raises the level of medical care in the community," Hanni said. "In our field, the level of care we provide is dependent on having high-quality ultrasounds."

Over the years, Evansville Surgical Associates has provided the college with Doppler ultrasound equipment for students to use in the lab in the Health Professions Center. Evansville Surgical Associates serves as a clinical site. Hanni supervises the clinical experiences of two students in the vascular track each semester.

"He has taken our students to surgery with him and given them a lot of one-on-one clinical education," Wilson said.

"Taking students into surgery increases their enthusiasm," Hanni said. "When students can see how their academic work applies clinically, it enhances their education experience. They're more eager to learn."

As a first step toward retirement, Hanni no longer performs surgery. He continues to see patients in the clinic.

In addition to supporting the program in diagnostic medical sonography, Hanni and his wife, Vicki, support the Gordon and Gail Kelley Health Professions Scholarship for deserving full-time health professions students active in volunteer service.

Parker receives teaching award



Fourth-year nursing students selected Dr. Karen Parker, assistant professor of nursing, as the 2011 recipient of the Melissa Faye Lawrence and John M. Lawrence Excellence in Teaching Award for her commitment to undergraduate nursing education. Dr. Nadine Coudret, left, presented the award to Parker in the spring. Parker joined the USI nursing program in 1999 and coordinates the third year medical/surgical and pediatric nursing courses. John M. Lawrence '73, of Evansville established the award to demonstrate his respect and admiration for nursing educators. The honor also bears the name of his late wife, who was a nursing student when she died in 1973.

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Clip form and mail in envelope



Meet newcomers to the faculty and staff

Jody Delp, a registered respiratory therapist with 14 years of experience, has been named coordinator of the Clinical Simulation Center. Prior to joining the College of Nursing and Health Professions, she was a respiratory therapist with Deaconess Hospital in Evansville. Delp completed a bachelor's degree in general science in 1995 and an associate degree in respiratory therapy in 1997. She earned both degrees at the University of Southern Indiana. She has taught advanced cardiac heart support, pediatric advanced life support, and basic life support through the American Heart Association.



Delp



Euler



Hand



Wilson

Dr. Sam J. Euler, assistant professor of dental hygiene, is a past president of the Vanderburgh County Dental Society. He served part-time on the faculty last year after 35 years as a practicing dentist in Evansville. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Evansville in 1969 and graduated from the Indiana University School of Dentistry in 1975. Euler is a member of the Indiana Dental Association and its First District Dental Society. He holds lifetime membership in the American Dental Association.

Dr. Mikel W. Hand, assistant professor of nursing, was most recently assistant professor of nursing at MacMurray College in Jacksonville, Illinois. He also has served as a faculty member and program coordinator for the master's program in nursing at California State University, San Bernardino, and as an administrative supervisor, nurse manager, or educator with a number of other organizations in California, including the University of Phoenix, Southern California campus, and the University of California at Los Angeles Medical Center. He has worked as a staff nurse for healthcare organizations in California, Florida, and Indiana.

Hand earned a doctorate in education with a specialization in organizational leadership from Pepperdine University; a master's degree in nursing with a specialization in nursing administration from UCLA; a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Phoenix in Four-

tain Valley, California; and an associate degree in nursing at Wabash Valley College. Hand is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International and Phi Delta Kappa Educational Honor Society.

Dr. Gabriela Mustata Wilson, assistant professor of health services/administration, was most recently co-director of the Chemical Diversity Center at the University of Pittsburgh. The center is one of 12 participating centers in the National Cancer Institute's Chemical Biology Consortium, a network of government, industry, and academic researchers who work to discover and develop new cancer treatments. She served as director of the center's Informatics and Computational Chemistry Core. Her scholarly areas of interest are health informatics and chemoinformatics/pharmacoinformatics. Wilson completed the chemical engineering program at Polytechnic University in Iasi, Romania. She earned a master's degree at Free University of Brussels in Belgium and a doctorate at University of Houston. In 2010, she was an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University. She has served as a pharmacoinformatics specialist at University of Pittsburgh, computational biologist at Carnegie Mellon, and computational scientist at Emisphere Technologies, Inc., in Tarrytown, New York. She is a reviewer for a number of professional journals and was guest editor in 2011 for a special issue of *Current Topics in Medicinal Chemistry* on protein-protein interactions.

Professional society recognizes article by Amy Wilson



Wilson

The article "Critical Thinking for Sonographic Breast Imaging," co-authored by Amy Wilson, has been selected by the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS) as one of three winners of the 2010 Kenneth R. Gottesfeld Award for Excellence.

SDMS recognizes the publishing of outstanding research and review articles with these awards. Wilson is assistant professor of radiologic and imaging sciences. Co-authors are

Michelle Wilson of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Vallejo, California, and Rachel Remlinger of Boomerang Medical Image Consulting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Michelle Wilson is an adjunct faculty member for the USI program in radiologic and imaging sciences. The three co-authors have served together since 2007 on the SDMS Government Relations Committee. Their article appeared in the September/October 2010 issue of the *Journal of Diagnostic Medical Sonography*.

The award was presented in Atlanta, Georgia, in September during the 2011 SDMS Annual Conference.

Six nursing faculty complete DNP program

Six faculty members in the USI nursing program were among the first graduates in the spring of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program offered by the College of Nursing and Health Professions. Earning the degree were Dr. Renee Dugger, Dr. Tracy J. Kinner, Dr. Marilyn J. Ostendorf, Dr. Gina L. Schaar, Dr. Constance F. Swenty, and Dr. Colleen R. Walsh. They are assistant professors of nursing.

Melton directs health services program

Dr. Jeanne Melton, assistant professor of health services, has been named program director for the baccalaureate program in health services. She joined the college in 2006 as an instructor.



Melton

"I am honored to have been tapped for the position, especially at this time," she said. "Many challenges and opportunities were created by the current reforms of the American healthcare system and more will be generated by future reforms. It is more important than ever that our students be prepared to participate fully in the system and facilitate the inevitable changes, while embracing the increasing global interdependence of all healthcare systems."

Melton's experience includes service as executive director of the Aids Resource Group of Evansville from 1998 until 2006. She was previously program director for East-side Community Investments and director of patient services for Little Red Door Cancer Agency, both in Indianapolis. She holds a master's degree in health administration from USI. In August, she completed a doctorate in health administration from Central Michigan University.

Dr. Kevin Valadares continues to serve as program director for the master's degree program in health administration. Growth in both the baccalaureate and graduate programs led to the need for a program director to focus on each.

Co-authors tell impact of service learning

Mara Beth Womack and Emily Holt, assistant professor of dental hygiene and dental assisting, are the co-authors of "Oral Cancer Screening for Women Recovering from Addictions: The Multifaceted Impact of Service Learning," published in November 2010 in *Access*, a dental hygiene journal.

Metzger named grant coordinator

Ruth E. Metzger has been named grant writer and coordinator of interprofessional education for the College of Nursing and Health Professions. She joined USI in 2010 as instructor in health services. In her new position, she will assist faculty with grant



Metzger

writing and management and develop new opportunities for interprofessional education.

Metzger has previous experience as program officer and research specialist for the Welborn Foundation of Evansville; senior consultant for Ernst & Young, LLP Health Care Consulting in Indianapolis; and senior systems analyst for St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville. She earned a bachelor's degree in German language and literature and a master's degree in business administration from Indiana University. She completed a bachelor's degree in nursing from USI in 1996.

Maria Shirey named ABNS president elect

Dr. Maria R. Shirey, associate professor of nursing, has been named president elect for 2011-12 of the board of directors for the American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS).



Shirey

She represents the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Certification Corporation. Shirey is immediate past chair of that group.

ABNS is a nonprofit organization focused on improving patient outcomes and consumer protection by promoting specialty nursing certification. ABNS member organizations represent more than a half million certified registered nurses worldwide.

Thank you, volunteers!



More than 300 professionals in healthcare volunteered 75,000 hours last year to assist the college with student education. Dr. Ann White, center, associate dean, thanks Kelli Simmons, left, nursing program preceptor, and Melinda Brown, clinical instructor and a member of the Radiologic Technology Advisory Committee. They attended the recognition dinner sponsored by Volunteer USI.

Sheila Hauck named USI Distinguished Nursing Alumna

Dr. Sheila Hauck, the nursing administrator who led the initiative at St. Mary's Hospital in Evansville to achieve Magnet® recognition, is the 2011 recipient of the Distinguished Nursing Alumna Award.

Hauck is executive director of professional practice, oncology, and palliative care at St. Mary's, which was recognized in January 2011 with Magnet status by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. The designation recognizes excellence in nursing. Only 6 percent of hospitals nationwide have achieved this status.



Hauck

"I have known Sheila for more than 20 years," said Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean, "and have been impressed with her excellence as a student, as a clinician, and as a nurse leader. She epitomizes the excellence of nurses who graduate from the USI nursing program."

In 1997, Hauck was in USI's first graduating class in the master's-level nursing program. This year she was among the first graduates of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

During the process that led to Magnet recognition, Hauck directed a team at St. Mary's to implement a care-delivery model called Relationship-Based Care, which has resulted in patient satisfaction scores in the 99th percentile since 2007. In the model, the acronym CARING stands for Connect with the patient, Ask the patient, Respect the patient, Interact with the patient, Nurture the patient, and Go the extra mile.

Hauck is co-author of the article "Implementing Relationship-Based Care" in the June 2011 issue of the *Journal of Nursing Administration*. For the capstone project in her DNP program, she implemented evidence-based nursing practice at St. Mary's.

"Nursing care is based in nursing research," Hauck said. "At St. Mary's, the care we provide is based on sound scientific knowledge."

Hauck's clinical nursing career has been in the field of oncology nursing. She has been a leader in providing programs and services for cancer patients and their families. In the early '80s, she assisted with founding Evansville's first hospice, Ohio Valley Hospice. She opened the region's first Cancer Resource Center at St. Mary's in 2000 and the hospital's palliative care program in 2005. In addition, she has established breast screening programs, presented educational programs on cancer topics, and founded a support group for cancer patients and families.

Hauck was inspired to become a nurse when she worked as a respiratory therapist one summer at a hospital in Indianapolis. She was "wowed" by the knowledge of the nurses and the way they provided care. She persisted with oncology nursing following her first permanent appointment as a registered nurse in a new oncology unit at Evansville's Welborn Baptist Hospital in the '70s. Dr. Jack Williams, now retired, was the chief medical oncologist. "His care focused on body, mind, and spirit," Hauck said, "He was extraordinarily competent as well as compassionate."

The Distinguished Nursing Alumna Award was presented in October at the annual dinner of the USI Nursing Alumni Society.

OTA program director Susan Ahmad to retire

When Susan Ahmad joined the college in 2001 as assistant professor and program director, the occupational therapy assistant (OTA) program had nine students. Now it enrolls 30 each year.

Under her leadership, interest has grown significantly. Currently, more than 100 students are declared as pre-OTA majors. Ahmad plans to retire in January 2012.

"I will miss the interaction with students," she said. "And, I have been an occupational therapist for 48 years. I will miss that role."

USI is one of only 11 institutions in the country having both the occupational therapy and OTA programs. "I'm proud of the interface between the occupational therapy and the occupational therapy assistant programs," Ahmad said. "It's a real advantage because we teach students how to work together."

In 2007, Ahmad received USI's Sydney and Sadelle Berger Faculty Community Service Award. Besides being personally involved in community service, Ahmad encourages students to provide service. OTA students teach life skills at the Vanderburgh County Correctional Facility and complete other community service of their choice. "It reaches out all over the community," she said.

Students have volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and for walks and runs sponsored by nonprofit organizations. They have coached team sports and provided service in schools and churches. They have presented programs about proper backpack fit and designed adaptive gardening tools which they have demonstrated at a campus beautification spot.

In retirement Ahmad looks forward to returning full-time to St. Louis where she and her husband have had a home for 26 years. She will spend more time with her three sons in St. Louis; her daughter in West Palm Beach,



Susan Ahmad and students in the occupational therapy assistant program beautify an "adopt-a-spot" location in front of the Health Professions Center.

Florida; and her five grandchildren ranging in age from three months to 11 years. Traveling and hobbies, including quilting, also are on her agenda.



Lisanne van Leeuwen watches the scenario on a monitor as she provides the voice of the Dutch-speaking patient. (Photo below) Tessa Hulshof, standing, interprets for nursing students playing roles as family members and caregivers in the Clinical Simulation Center.

Students develop cultural awareness in clinical scenario

Learning took on an international aspect in the Clinical Simulation Center recently when a Dutch-speaking nursing student was the voice of the patient and another played the role of interpreter. The simulation was designed to help nursing students with communication and delegation skills.

Lisanne van Leeuwen voiced the advanced patient simulator. Tessa Hulshof acted as the interpreter. The two students from HAN University of Applied Sciences in Nijmegen, Netherlands, studied from April through June in the USI nursing program.

Susan Seibert, instructor in nursing, and Dr. Mary Rock, assistant professor of nursing, conducted the clinical simulation session for students in a medical-surgical nursing course. Dr. Karen Parker, assistant professor of nursing, assisted in the control room.

"We learned in this simulation that you have a very important role as an interpreter because you are the connection between patient and doctor," the Dutch students said. "We now also know that, as a nurse, you should spend more time with a patient who doesn't speak the language because he feels alone and insecure very quickly."

The students in the simulation as well as another 20 watching via video from a nearby classroom learned the importance of having a translator available at the hospital. Rock said that as Evansville



becomes more multicultural, there will be increasing need to have multiple translators. In the debriefing, students discussed the importance of healthcare professionals speaking in layman's terms so the interpreter can relay explanations more easily.



Culture and Cooking

Spicing up the kitchen

Dr. Kevin Valadares led students and faculty to prepare a meal of basmati rice, chipati (a flatbread), lime pickles, and fish curry seasoned with his mother's special blend of spices when he presented a program on the food of Southwestern India for the Culture and Cooking Series. Valadares' ancestral home is Goa, a province on India's west coast. He mixed family photos and stories with the afternoon of casual cooking. "It was fun and the eating was excellent," he said.

The Culture and Cooking series is cosponsored by the Food and Nutrition Student Organization, Hispanic Student Union, and Spanish Club. Valadares is associate professor of health services/administration and program director for the health administration program. Dr. Norma Rosas Mayen, left, is assistant professor of Spanish.

Accreditation News

Dental programs reaccredited

The dental assisting and dental hygiene programs recently were awarded reaccreditation by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. The decision followed a site visit in February and an extensive self-study. All accredited programs receive a follow-up site review every seven years. The next site visit for the USI programs will be in 2018.



Dental hygiene student Amanda Schum teaches toothbrushing techniques using the puppet model Farley Flossisaurus.

Diagnostic medical sonography tracks earn accreditation

The diagnostic medical sonography program has been awarded initial accreditation for its concentrations in vascular and cardiac sonography.

Accreditation for diagnostic medical sonography programs is available in three concentrations: general, vascular, and cardiac. USI received initial accreditation for its general sonography concentration in March 2009. With the accreditation of the vascular and cardiac tracks, USI's program becomes one of only nine bachelor-of-science programs in the country to have accreditation in all three concentrations.

The accreditation decision was announced in July by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). A team from the Joint Review Commission on Education in Diagnostic Medical Sonography (JRC-DMS) conducted a site visit in fall 2010. JRC-DMS is a member of the accrediting organization. Initial accreditation is granted for five years.

Claudine Fairchild is program director for the baccalaureate program in diagnostic medical sonography and assistant professor of radiologic and imaging sciences in the USI College of Nursing and Health Professions.

Other universities with accreditation for bachelor-degree programs in all three concentrations are University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, George Washington University Medical Center, Washburn University, Grand Valley State University, Kettering College of Medical Arts, Thomas Jefferson University, Seattle University, and University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics.

Mid-America Institute on Aging Patch Adams extols benefits of laughter

Physician, clown, and social activist Patch Adams amused and inspired listeners with his message about the joy of caregiving, both for the patient and the caregiver.

Adams was a speaker at the fourth annual Mid-America Institute on Aging sponsored in August by the College of Nursing and Health Professions and the Southwestern Indiana Regional Council on Aging.

Each day of the two-day event attracted approximately 300 older adults, family members, caregivers, healthcare professionals, social workers, and others interested in healthy aging. Next year's conference will be held August 9-10.



Alumna in residence Lisa Gish

Onsite health clinics change lives

Healthcare clinics at job sites are tools that can contribute to healthcare reform. Lisa Gish B.S.N.'00 M.H.A. '04, director of clinic operations for Tri-State Community Clinics in Evansville, explained the benefits of onsite clinics during her presentation as alumna in residence for the College of Nursing and Health Professions.

Gish cited research that indicates most Americans believe healthcare reform is needed. In one study, most adults said they have difficulty in accessing health care, problems with coordination of care, struggles with cost, and administrative hassles with insurance. Another study indicated a shortage in the availability of primary care. The Affordable Care Act will offer some relief, but certain protections and benefits do not take effect until 2014.

"I know that in many ways that's not that far off," she said, "but it's a lifetime when you're talking about healthcare we need today."

Established in fall 2009, Tri-State Community Clinics operates onsite clinics at four locations and a fifth was scheduled to open in October 2011. Serving employees and their dependents, the clinics provide comprehensive primary care. Benefits to employers include cost efficiency, improved productivity, and reduced absenteeism. The availability of a clinic also can help attract and retain employees. Benefits to patients include convenience, shorter in-office wait times, and longer clinician-patient encounters. Clinics at the workplace can serve as a medical home to patients, providing primary care, coordination of care, a whole-person orientation, and enhanced access.

Tri-State Community Clinics staffs its facilities primarily with nurse practitioners. "They are tremendous caregivers," Gish said. "Many of the ones we employ came through this school."



Lisa Gish said workplace clinics change lives for the better and in a longlasting way.

Tri-State recently opened a clinic at a trucking company in Pike County, a medically underserved area. Prior to opening day, 51 appointments were scheduled. The clinic is open from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

"We primarily are serving truck drivers who didn't take time off to go to doctors," she said. "We are open when they are not driving. This clinic is changing lives."

Gish joined Tri-State Community Clinics in 2010. She was previously executive director of the Tri-State Business Group on Health. In 2007, she was selected as the recipient of the USI Distinguished Nursing Alumna Award. The alumni-in-residence program is an annual presentation featuring career insights from a successful graduate.

Students win Critical-Care Challenge

A team of nursing students from the University of Southern Indiana won the annual Critical-Care Challenge sponsored in the spring by the Greater Evansville chapter of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

The USI students answered 42 of 50 multiple-choice questions correctly to take home the traveling trophy in the student portion of the contest, which tests knowledge of caring for critically ill patients. Other student teams represented University of Evansville, Ivy Tech Community College, and Henderson Community College.

The USI team in the Critical-Care Challenge included (front row, from left), Natalie Mackay, Sarah Titzer, Kristin Jones, Ashley Guth, and Sloan Payne; (second row, from left) Andrea Paulnitz, Marilyn Ostendorf, and Jane Swartz; and (third row, from left) Allen Taylor, Joey Amos, Adam Grant, and Pete Sieg. Ostendorf and Swartz were faculty sponsors.



ALUMNI NEWS

Mike Beamer '92, psychology, '05, nursing, has taken the position of clinical application specialist at Draeger Medical in Telford, Pennsylvania.

Lori Phillips '99 M.S.N., '11, D.N.P, has joined Gibson General Hospital in Princeton, Indiana, as vice president and chief nursing officer. She completed the capstone project in her doctoral program at Gibson General. Phillips has extensive experience in nursing, in both hospital and physician practice environments, and in nursing education. Prior to accepting her present post, she was a faculty member in the associate degree nursing program at Wabash Valley College in Mt. Carmel, Illinois. Phillips earned a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Evansville. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the Honor Society of Nursing; the National League of Nursing; the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners; and the National Student Nurses Association.

Kara Dyhrkopp Brass '07, diagnostic medical sonography, is an adjunct faculty member in the diagnostic medical sonography program at USI. She is the chief cardiac sonographer at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville.

Jennifer Bement '08, occupational therapy assistant, will complete a bachelor's degree in health services at USI in December.

Karen Kellar '09, M.S.N, has been named vice president for pa-



Beamer



Phillips



Kellar

tient care services at Tillamook County General Hospital in Tillamook, Oregon. She completed the nursing management and leadership track in the MSN program. Kellar has been employed at hospitals in the Portland, Oregon, metropolitan area and was most recently a patient care executive resident for Adventist Health at White Memorial Medical Center in Los Angeles, California.

Courtney McCree '10, M.S.N., has joined Ivy Tech Community College as a nursing instructor in Evansville.

Lindsey Meyer '10, diagnostic medical sonography, is an adjunct faculty member in the diagnostic medical sonography program at USI. She is a diagnostic medical sonographer at Deaconess Hospital in Evansville.

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See the back cover of this issue for spring schedule, including new course – **Stroke Management** – starting in January. For more information and online registration visit health.usi.edu or call 812/465-1148.

Courses are accredited by American Nurses Credentialing Center. Selected courses also are accredited by the Indiana Pharmacists Alliance.

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Touch the past

Six new computer kiosks in public areas of the Health Professions Center make it easy to locate photos of past graduates of the College of Nursing and Health Professions. More than 3,500 individual portraits from composite photographs of graduating classes are archived in the computers. Kiosk users may search by graduation year/program or by name with a touchscreen pop-up keyboard on the display. The gallery of graduates goes back to 1975.

The kiosks also provide access to a faculty directory with photos, office locations, and brief background information.



Tyeisha Sumbry, a health services major and student worker in the Charles E. Day Learning Resource Center, looks up a photo of her aunt, Mayola Rowser '95 M.S.N. '99.



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Go to www.facebook.com and search for USI CNHP along with your program name (example: USI CNHP diagnostic medical sonography).



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Patch Adams, MAIA Conference

2012 Workshops and Conferences

- Heart of Cardiovascular Nursing Conference, March 8
- Healing Touch Workshop, March 10-11
- 9th Annual Nursing Leadership Conference, April 4
- 16th Annual Research and Healthcare Issues Conference, April 11
- Advanced Parish Nurse Spring Retreat, April 30
- 18th Annual Case Management Conference, May 10
- 14th Annual Advanced Practice Nursing Symposium, May 11
- 5th Annual Mid-America Institute on Aging, August 9-10

2012 Certificate Programs (Internet-delivered instruction)

- Alzheimer's Disease Management, six weeks, begins March 12, September 17
- Anticoagulation Patient Self Testing Educator, three weeks, independent study
- Anticoagulation Therapy Management, six weeks, begins January 16, March 19, May 21, July 16, October 1
- Case Management, six weeks, begins April 2, August 20
- Clinical Simulation, four weeks, begins February 20, September 10
- Coronal Polishing and Fluoride Application for the Dental Assistant, to be announced
- Diabetes Management, six weeks, begins February 13, August 13
- Health Promotion and Worksite Wellness Certificate Program, 10 weeks, to be announced
- Heart Failure, five weeks, begins January 16, September 24
- Hypertension Management, five weeks, begins February 20, July 30
- Lipid Management, six weeks, begins January 30, September 10
- Local Anesthesia for the Dental Hygienist, January 2-February 12 (lab, February 4, 11-12)
- Oncology Management, eight weeks, begins March 19, August 20
- Pain Management, six weeks, begins January 23, August 6
- Parish/Faith Community Nursing Education Program, six weeks, begins March 12, September 17
- New for 2012:** Stroke Management, six weeks, begins January 30, September 17
- Telehealth for Home Health, four weeks, begins February 6, September 10
- Wound Management, six weeks, begins April 16, September 24

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Peggy Graul – Conferences, continuing education

Karen Jones – Certificate programs