



UNIVERSITY OF  
**LOUISVILLE**<sup>®</sup>

SCHOOL OF NURSING

2020 Winter Newsletter



## DEAN'S CORNER

The World Health Organization designated 2020 as the Year of the Nurse to commemorate Florence Nightingale's 200th birthday. Therefore, I thought I would share two quotes from Florence Nightingale,--"Let us never consider ourselves finished nurses---we must be learning all of our lives." UofL School of Nursing instills lifelong learning in all the students, and this can be seen time and time again as our graduates continue the pursuit of higher degrees. Many of our students have the opportunity to continue their education through the DNP or PhD program. They will soon have even more choices with the addition of the Acute Care Pediatric NP Program and a Nurse Anesthetist Program starting in 2021.

During these times when our events and activities are taking on new looks, it's important to pause and once again acknowledge the tremendous work our faculty and students have put into coursework and clinical care. Operating during a pandemic is no small task, and our school has responded with grace and grit. Faculty have worked tirelessly to continue course work in web-based formats. I have been fortunate to witness nurse leaders respond in extraordinary and exceptional ways in the face of extremely uncommon circumstances.

Since March 2020, the COVID-19 Pandemic has resulted in many people being hospitalized and nurses doing their best to provide care during severe shortages. Since March 2020, traveling registered nurses are offered \$6000, \$8,000, and as high as \$13,000 a week to go to states that are inundated with COVID-19 patients. Many nurses understand that it is inevitable that they will need to care for a COVID-19 patient at some point during the pandemic as well as care for each other. Due to limited visitation, nurses are stepping up to take on the caregiver role usually deemed the responsibility of family and visitors. Many nurses are suffering from the psychological trauma due to so many deaths. When a patient dies, the emotional toll is great. Nurses put their heart and soul into resuscitating patients during a cardiac or respiratory arrest. Nightingale also said, "very little can be done under the spirit of fear." Cardinal Nurses on the front lines clearly have shown no fear. They step up to lead and care for others.

This newsletter has many of the key events and successes over the past year for the School of Nursing, for which I am extremely grateful. I hope that you will pause and think about all of the gratitudes in your life.

Go Cards! Dean - Sonya R. Hardin PhD RN NP-C FAAN



**PROGRAM NEWS**

2020 marked the “Year of the Nurse.” More than ever, nurses have shown the influence they have in their communities as one of the backbones of healthcare. As part of the initiative, the School of Nursing hosted a two-evening virtual engagement event. It was a chance to hear from Cardinal nurses who have committed to providing healthcare that promotes fullness of life, while risking their own, especially during COVID-19. The event covered topics such as mental health during COVID-19, community nursing practice and student perspectives. Part one and Part two are available for viewing on our YouTube channel. [View video here](#) | [Learn more about the speakers](#).



**Bill Hayden, RN, BSN**



**Dr. Ashley Miller  
Anderson, PhD, WHNP**



**Dr. Ruth R. (Topsy) Staten,  
PhD, APRN**



**Richard Riedel**



**Brittney Corniel, BSN**



**Dr. Dedra Hayden, DNP,  
APRN-BC**



**Dr. Vicki Hines-Martin,  
PhD, FAAN**



**Dr. Sara Schirmer,  
DNP, PMHNP**



**Blake Booker**

## OUR RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The School of Nursing has been committed to doing our part to help flatten the curve. We've taken every safety measure suggested by Gov. Andy Beshear to ensure we provided a safe and #HealthyatWork environment. Questionnaires and temperature checks were required daily before you were permitted to enter the building. We also followed the [University of Louisville COVID-19 pivot to fall planning documents](#).

The Clinical Simulation Center in Louisville and our Owensboro extension met several challenges during the Covid response. The biggest challenge we have faced was the need to reduce the number of students in a lab space to promote social distancing. This was accomplished with the assistance of the faculty by splitting each foundation's lab class into two smaller groups, thus increasing the number of group rotations for Health Assessment. Additionally for all simulations using the high fidelity rooms we implemented having observers located in the debriefing room, this was accomplished by live streaming the simulation into a classroom and only having two participants in the room with the patient. In addition to the PPE requirement for the SON the Clinical Simulation Lab was implemented additional cleaning protocols to ensure all equipment and manikins were cleaned between students. The Clinical Simulation Center has supported the on campus clinical experiences that have been developed to ensure students had clinical experiences during the weeks they are not in an off- site clinical rotation due to restricted student numbers. We transported supplies and manikins to classrooms for use by the students and on-site clinical instructors to have a hands on experience while on campus.



Prior to completing their 2020 academic career, our nursing students showed their skills on the front line by administering flu shots at the university-sponsored drive-thru clinic.



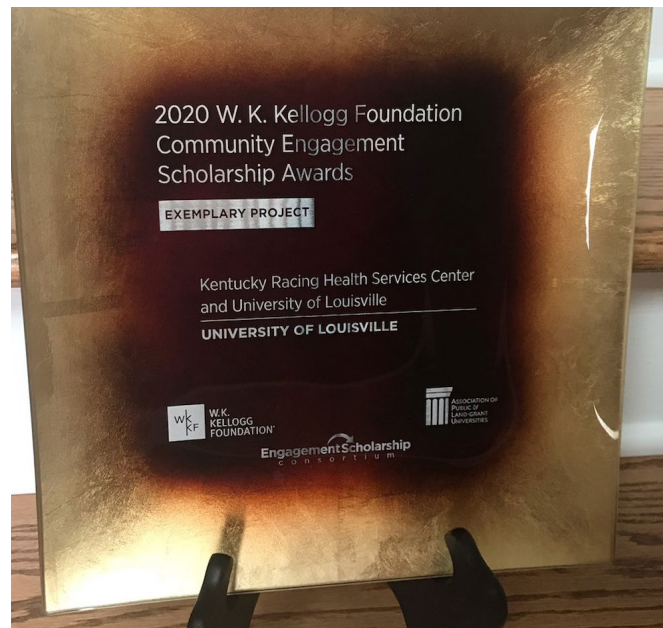


Congratulations to the graduating class of 2020! What these students learned and experienced during this period of unprecedented uncertainty will fuel their potential to build a better world, here and beyond. [View our virtual convocation and learn more about our newest members to the School of Nursing Alumni.](#)

### ***School of Nursing wins 2020 W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Engagement Scholarship Awards - Exemplary Project***

The year 2020 has presented its own challenges amid a global pandemic, which has shone a spotlight on the critical need for engaged scholarship. We continued to work in partnership with our respective communities to address quality-of-life issues throughout the collective world. The W. K. Kellogg Foundation Community Engagement Scholarship and C. Peter Magrath Community Engagement Scholarship awards, established in 2006 recognize four-year public universities that have made exemplary strides to become more closely and productively engaged with communities through their teaching/learning, discovery, and service activities.

UofL's Kentucky Racing Health Services Center, a nonprofit clinic run by the School of Nursing, under the direction of Dedra Hayden, DNP, APRN-BC, Director, was recently identified as an exemplary community engagement project by the national judges for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Engagement Scholarship Awards. The clinic was presented with a plaque this fall. [Learn more](#) about this clinic located a block from Churchill Downs and the services they provide to backside racetrack workers.

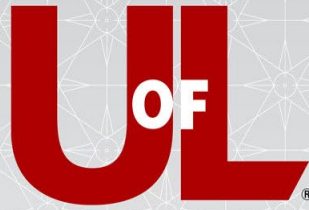


**NEW FACULTY**

Dr. Kate Adelstein



Dr. Mollie Aleshire



Dr. Patricia Davis



Dr. Shannon Shumaker

The School of Nursing welcomed several new faculty members in 2020 who bring a range of experience to the School of Nursing!

[>>>Read more about these individuals](#)

**RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT**

Although 2020 presented many challenges, our faculty persisted in accomplishing their research goals. Examples of successes include:

Dr. Imelda Wright received a \$10,000 grant from the CCI Research Foundation. CCI funds research that contributes to the advancement of perioperative nursing science and the enhancement of patient care. Dr. Wright will study, "Factors within the Perioperative Nurses' Work Environment that Predict their Work Engagement." The purpose of this study is to determine if dimensions of the perioperative work environment predict nurses' work engagement. In addition, potential differences in perioperative nurses' work engagement by Certified Nurse in the Operating Room (CNOR) status will be evaluated.

Dr. Kimberly Hartson received a \$5,000 grant from Sigma Theta Tau International for her research, "Feasibility Study of a Web-based Physical Activity Program for University Students." The purpose of this study is to evaluate the feasibility of a web-based physical activity intervention based on the Multi-Process Action Control (M-PAC) framework among young adult university students.

Dr. Paul Clark was appointed as a Nurse Scientist with Baptist Health Louisville for 30% effort. In this capacity, he is assisting nurses and other healthcare providers to evaluate, design, conduct, and publish research and evidence-based practice projects. Dr. Clark also was inducted into fellowship in the Academy of Emergency Nursing.

Drs. Luz Huntington-Moskos and Vicki Hines-Martin are Co-investigators of the Center for Environmental Health Sciences, a 5-year grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health (#1P30ES030283 - 01A1; Christopher States, PI). The major goals of this project are to promote interdisciplinary collaborative research in current and new areas of environmental health research, translate basic research findings, to recruit new and established investigators to environmental health science research, and to promote community engagement and community-based research.

**FACULTY  
SPOTLIGHT****Dr. Paul Clark, PhD, RN, MA**

Dr. Clark was inducted as a fellow into the Academy of Emergency Nursing. Fellows are chosen based on their work to advance the profession and provide visionary leadership to the academy and association. Clark's research focus is on improving workplace health of emergency department nurses. >> [Read more](#)

**Dr. Sarah Schirmer, DNP,  
PMHNP**

Dr. Schirmer was appointed by Gov. Andy Beshear as a member of the Kentucky Eating Disorder Council. Schirmer has over 15 years of experience in mental health care, including her work at the Louisville Center for Eating Disorder since its inception in 2017. >> [Read more](#)

**Dr. Sara Robertson, DNP,  
APRN**

Dr. Robertson received UofL's 2020 Distinguished Faculty Award in Teaching.

**Kimberly Meyer, PhD, ACNP-  
BC, CNRN**

Dr. Meyer received UofL's 2020 Distinguished Faculty Award in Teaching.

**STAFF  
SPOTLIGHT****Megan Johnson**

Megan received UofL's 2020 Outstanding Performance Award

**STUDENT  
SPOTLIGHT****Tiffany Mills**

Tiffany Mills was named Student Nurse of the Year by the Kentucky Nurses Association. This award is meant to honor a nursing student who has made a significant contribution in Kentucky or to KNA. Mills was nominated by assistant professor Dr. Rebecca Gesler who said Mills is a leader and helps lead students in the goal of professional practice. >> [Read more](#)

**Cierra Battle**

With the help from staff at the Kentucky Institute for International Studies, Cierra Battle accepted an elective program at Muhimbili National Hospital in Tanzania. She will spend her time in the maternity ward, pediatrics and emergency medicine departments for six months. Her goal is to become a certified nurse midwife and open her own practice in Louisville and Tanzania. >> [Read more](#)

**ALUMNI  
SPOTLIGHT****Dr. Judy Kaye, PhD**

Dr. Judy Kaye received her Master of Science in Nursing in 1991 from the University of Louisville. Dr. Kaye is a member of the University of Louisville 2014 Nursing Top 40 Alumni. Dr. Kaye is a member of the University of Louisville 2014 Nursing Top 40 Alumni.

During her time in Louisville, Dr. Kaye worked as a critical care educator for several hospitals, in the Intensive Care Unit of St. Anthony Medical Center, as an oncology charge nurse in the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit and clinical instructor nurse manager in the Intensive Care Unit at Humana Hospital, and as associate professor at the University of Louisville.

She also established the Dr. Judy Kaye Endowed Scholarship at the School of Nursing. >> [Read more](#)

## DID YOU KNOW?

*In 1950, School of Nursing saw its largest graduating class to date with 61 students. That same year the School of Nursing applied for national accreditation.*



## OWENSBORO EXTENSION CELEBRATES LARGEST INCOMING CLASS



The School of Nursing Owensboro Extension welcomed its largest cohort to date at the Transition Ceremony on Friday, August 28, 2020.





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