School of Nursing

New Jersey Performing Arts Center
Newark

May 16, 2018
10 A.M.
RUTGERS BIOMEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES (RBHS)

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Brian L. Strom, M.D., M.P.H.
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Steven K. Libutti, M.D., FACS
Director, Cancer Institute of New Jersey
Vice Chancellor for Cancer Programs

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Kathleen W. Scotto, Ph.D.
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Vice Dean, School of Graduate Studies

Gary Aston-Jones, Ph.D.
Director of the Brain Health Institute

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RBHS Provost - Newark

Jeffrey L. Carson, M.D.
RBHS Provost - New Brunswick

William Green
Vice President Development - RU Foundation

Steven K. Andreassen, J.D.
Chief of Staff

DEANS OF SCHOOLS

Joseph A. Barone, Pharm.D.
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Perry Halkitis, Ph.D., M.S., M.P.H.
Dean, School of Public Health

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Dean, School of Dental Medicine

Sherine E. Gabriel, M.D., MSc
Dean, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

William L. Holzemer, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Dean, School of Nursing

Deborah Carr, Ph.D.
Interim Director, Institute for Health, Health Care Policy & Aging Research

DEANS OF SCHOOLS

Robert L. Johnson, M.D., FAAP
Dean, New Jersey Medical School

Frank A. Ghinassi, Ph.D., ABPP
President & CEO, University Behavioral Health Care

Jerome I. Kukor, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Graduate Studies

Gwendolyn M. Mahon, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Health Professions

Kenneth R. Reuhl, Ph.D., DABT
Interim Director, Environmental & Occupational Health & Sciences Institute

Ann M. Stock, Ph.D.
Interim Director, Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine

SCHOOL OF NURSING ADMINISTRATION

William L. Holzemer, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Dean and Distinguished Professor

Susan Salmond, Ed.D., RN, ANEF, FAAN
Executive Vice Dean and Professor

Kyle D. Warren, MA Ed.
Vice Dean for Administration and Student Services

Wendy Budin, Ph.D., RN-BC, FAAN
Associate Dean for Entry to Baccalaureate Practice

Karen D’Alonzo, Ph.D., RN
Associate Dean for Nursing Science

Susan VonNessen-Scanlin, MSN, CPNP, MBA
Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

Aretha Watson, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Student Services Operations and Planning

Suzanne Willard, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Associate Dean for Global Health

Sharon Anderson, DNP, NNP-BC, APNG
Interim Assistant Dean for Advanced Nursing Practice

Mary Jo Bugel, Ph.D., RN, CNL, CNE, NJ-CSN
Assistant Dean, Entry to Baccalaureate Nursing Practice Division - Newark campus

Barbara Cannella, Ph.D., RN, APN-c
Assistant Dean, Entry to Baccalaureate Nursing Practice Division - New Brunswick campus

Mehtap Ferrazzano, MSW
Assistant Dean for Student Engagement

Ann Marie Mauro, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Assistant Dean, Center for Educational Research and Innovation & Professor

Valerie Smith-Stephens, Ed.D., LCSW
Assistant Dean for Academic Support Services/Dir. of EOF
MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

It is my honor and delight to welcome you to the Rutgers School of Nursing Convocation. The graduates before us today have worked tirelessly to achieve the academic distinction that we proudly bestow today. Over the course of their academic journey, each graduate has grown and matured into a future Nursing influencer and leader.

As a “Distinguished Rutgers Nurse,” please know there are countless individuals and communities that need your energy, intelligence, and commitment to quality patient-centered care. Provide that care confidently knowing that your Rutgers School of Nursing education has prepared you to bring a new ray of hope and light to the industry.

I speak on behalf of the faculty and staff from the School of Nursing when I say we are honored to have been a part of your journey towards the goal you have achieved today. Thank you again for entrusting the School of Nursing with the task of teaching, training, molding, and mentoring you in preparation for your future success.

We also salute the family members and friends who have supported our students throughout their academic and personal journeys. Your love, encouragement, and support will forever be appreciated.

Again, join me in congratulating the class of 2018!

William L. Holzemer, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Dean and Distinguished Professor
Dr. Malone’s tenure at the NLN has been marked by a retooling of the League’s mission to reflect the core values of caring, diversity, integrity, and excellence and an ongoing focus on advancing the health of the nation and the global community.

She was ranked amongst the 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare by Modern Healthcare magazine in 2010, 2015, 2016 and 2017. In 2016, Dr. Malone moved up the ladder to claim 39th place in the field of leading policy-makers, activists, health care professionals and corporate figures in the health care, insurance and pharmaceutical industries. Additional recognition in 2016 includes the Florence Nightingale Award and induction into the Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) Hall of Fame; an honorary doctorate from Georgetown University; and, induction into the Nursing Hall of Fame from Tuskegee University in Alabama. In 2017, she received the Fellowship Ad Eundem of the Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery from the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland. Recently, she has been recognized as one of the top 25 women in Healthcare for 2017.

In 2018, Dr. Malone was presented with a citation from the American Psychological Association for her outstanding leadership in advancing excellence in health care for the nation and global community.

Within the last several years, Dr. Malone was elected to the Institute of Medicine and tapped to join the board of the Kaiser Family Foundation. Dr. Malone serves on the Advisory Committee on Minority Health, a federal panel established to advise the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Her distinguished career has mixed policy, education, administration, and clinical practice. Dr. Malone has worked as a surgical staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, director of nursing, and assistant administrator of nursing. During the 1990s, she was Dean of the School of Nursing at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. In 1996, she was elected to two terms as president of the American Nurses Association (ANA), representing 180,000 nurses in the USA. In 2000, she became Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, following four years of service on President Bill Clinton’s Advisory Commission on Consumer Protection and Quality in the Healthcare Industry.

Just prior to joining the NLN, Dr. Malone was General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN), the United Kingdom’s largest professional union of nurses, from June 2001 to January 2007. She also served between 2002 and 2006 as a member of the UK delegation to the World Health Assembly; the Commonwealth Nurses Federation (CNF); and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE). During that time, Dr. Malone was also Vice Chair of the Brussels-based European Federation of Nurses Association (EFN).
Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science

School of Nursing

Christina F. Abban
Audrey P. Abreu
Nelson Acevedo
Stephen Kyle B. Aguilar
Adebusola O. Aladegbami
Mary Joyce Lydel Barret Alejandrino
Kylie Ann Allmers
Sarah L. Amick
Van-Ess Anane
Emily J. Antoshkiw
Cassandra Archer
Jason N. Argento
Carla M. Arismendi
Helene A. Aronson
Asma L. Ashraf
Noussky R. Ator
Olufunke J. Ayetigbo
Danielle Baginski
Taylor Bagley
Kelsey Lynn Baines
Sarah Bakht
Michael A. Battista
Alexandra Paige Belz
Karissa N. Benson
Carissa Rebecca Best, RN
Angela Nicole Bishop
Allyson N. Black
Austin James Block
Marie-Eline Blondin
Gabriella Bonventre
Cydney C. Bradley
Wendy Karina Bravo RN
Nathalie Breining
Roshanda Delana Bridgaj
Amanda Lyn Bright
Nicole J. Brown
Sherefa Brown
Simone G. Brukard
Samantha R. Butter
Hannah J. Cail
Vincenzo Nicodemo Calla
Caitlin Jane Campbell
Hillary Cao
Elaina Cardona
Ma Isabela Carpio, RN
Alexis Carrington
Marina L. Castro, RN
Corianne Cha
Amandeep Chahal, RN
Philip Chau
Pak Wa Chau
Simon Chen
Tiffany M. Chen
Jody Cheng
Joseph Chiaramida
HiSung Choy
Chiaojin Chung
Caterin Cisneros
Rochelle Marie Clark
Kelly Ann Clark
Imani M. Clark
Susan K. Clary, RN
Michelle L. Cohen
Lauren Cohn
Cynthia Colmenares
Kathleen Anne Connelly
Victoria Marie Conway
Adriana L. Cordero
Christie L. Costanza
Jessica Crawford
Ana C. Cruz
Shanakey M. Cupidon
Debra A. DaFick, RN
Cecil A. Dalit
Danielle M. Davis
Sean Evan Davison
Anthony Dellafave
Aimee Grace De Los Santos
Stephanie Lynn DeMaio
Hunter Dempsey
Janae Marie DeSante
Kristi L. DeVita
Christopher Diaz
Nancy Estapheny Diaz
Kathryn Dietzel
Jenna Nicole DiGiacinto
Sarah A. Doherty, RN
Abbaculyn Dokie
Raymond Dougherty
Chana R. Drasin
Angelica Joy Ampig Dysico
Sara S. Elsadry
Monica Eskander
Amarilie Estrella
Megan R. Eustice
Evans D. Federici
Amy Fernandez
Yudy Fernandez-Pau, RN
Nicole Joy Ferrer
Matthew Joseph Finnerty, RN
Dylan Flood
Trudi M. Folkes

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science

School of Nursing

Erica Francisquini
Luis Franco, RN
Qiana C. Freeman
Nava D. Friedman
Adwoa A. Frimpong
Julieanna Maria Gagliardi
Bemma Garibian
Kristin D. Garone
Victoria L. Giordano
Molly E. Glass
Catherine Y. Glinski
Yenafer Gonzalez
Jessica Gonzalez, RN
Aiyia Genae Griffin
Melissa A. Grillo, RN
Evans J. Gross
Rong Guo, RN
Pamela J. Gutierrez, RN
Kelsey Guttormsen
Essence S. Guzman
Alison B. Haegler
Mackenzie Haggerty
Kristin Hall
Jessica Marie Heil
Jessica Ann Hernandez
Hilary Frances Herskowitz
Matthew Francis Himelfarb
Marissa Hornacek
Nicole R. House
Jordan A. Hua
Knykole Arrie Humphrey
Cynthia N. Hunczak
Daniel Hwang
Peter R. Hyra
Aliah Mikah Iby
Jessica James
Youn Joung Jang
Alina T. Jarvis
David Jatta
Jenny L. Jeng
Brandy M. Jimdar
MiaZara M. Jose, RN
Jennilyn Q. Juan
Hoonjin Jung
Yukari Kai, RN
Ilia Karafiloski
Ganiyat T. Kareem
Leanna Karlicki
Navedep Kaur
Kristine Theresa Kerney
Mara K. Kettle

Hee Jin Kim
Patricia Anne King-Jacoby
Russell Henry Klisher
Meaghan Kohler
Bonjoo Koo
Catherine Krom
Svetlana Kukhar
Jennifer Jose Kwok, RN
Nicholas J. LaCorte
Kelley Lynn LaHart
Alana H. Lai
Norma R. Lamo
Victoria L. Lavigne
Gabrielle M. Lazara
Xanadu M. Lee
Susie S. Lee
Jillian A. Lerner
Kylie R. Levy
Giuliana E. Llanos, RN
Itohan Cindy Locklear
Vanessa Londono
Gloria Lopez
Kayla A. Louis
Ashley M. Lowe
Ariel Lubow
Cori L. Ludwig
Sabrina Luisi
Jessica J. Maldonado
Jennifer Malone
Heather Marie Manderski
Joanna Manis
Rona Faith Mann
Cheng-Ping Mao
Amber Lyn Mariano
Monica F. Marrone
Rose I. Martins
Alyssa C. Marzarella
Gina Massoni
Gabriella Mastandino
Jessica Mastandino
Ruth Mathew, RN
Raquel A. Mayer-Delgado, RN
Kaitlyn McCammon
Kevin T. McCullough
Joann McDonald
Summer Lee McElven
Evelyn J. McKinney
Ann Farrell McLaughlin
Kirstie Lauren McNamara, RN
Stephanie Marie Meringer, RN
Sarah E. Miller
Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science

School of Nursing

Jordan Miraglia
Ranjit M. Miyazawa
Tahmina Mojumder
Barbara E. Moloney, RN
Elena Molotchkov, RN
Caroline Mohs
Victoria Leigh Moore
Manuela Morales-Rodriguez
Lynne S. Moronski
Rebecca R. Morris
Natali Rachel Moyal
Molly Danielle Naft
Yashmin Precious Naguija, RN
Rosa Jeongnae Namgong
Cala M. Nanda
Catherine A. Nasee, RN
Joseph Nebbia
Brandon George Newell
Diana Ngo
Johnny Minh Nguyen
Ngo Ducung Nguyen
Ita Nissel
Danielle T. Nolan
Daria M. Nowosielecki
Jennifer A. Ochal
Michaela Palma
Elizabeth Parato
Hoyounge Paredes
Danielle P. Parker
Stephanie M. Pastuna
Arjun Patel
Jaymini S. Patel
Meera Patel
Parthiv Patel
Sajni M. Patel
Snehal D. Patel
Veelie M. Patel
Jenna N. Patiør
Tanya Pereira
Leslie Ann Perez
Kelsie Eleanor Pete
Annabel F. Pires, RN
Lisa E. Piros
Jaclyn Platt
Amber Pleis
Simona L. Ponoran
Christina Proxenos
Mark A. Ramdial
Tara Rappleyea
Alexis Britana Rebozo
Nathalia Rendón
Kimberly L. Reyes
Kathryn Ann Riman
Alexi Diamond Rivera
Sue-Ann M. Rodney, RN
Stephanie Rogers
Mollie Rosenkrantz
Elise Roughan
Luis Ruiz
Uzma Ruiz, RN
Julie Ann Rutkowski
Malika Saba
Mona Lisa N. Sadek
Kristina N. Sample
Abel Matthew Samuel
Simone S. Samuels
Alaine M. San Rafael
Esther Sassoon
Grace N. Sauter
Marissa Saville
Krishna Savalia
Kaitlin R. Schadt
Nicholas Allan Schaeffer
Joshua Schreck
Misha Sharma
Terry Ann M. Shaw-Thompson
Zubia T. Sheikh, RN
Nicole Lynn Shelton
Andrew Douglas Shendock
Amani A. Shihadeh
Mary E. Shipley, RN
Kelly Siberine
Samantha A. Sierra
Yourneong Sim
Ahnie Simonian
Darren L. Siu
Alexandra C. Smith-Brown
Sue Yuen Son
Yoomi Song
Brenda Sorgi
Magdalena M. Spiezowski
Emilija Stamboliski
Patricia M. Stanek
Erica I. Steele
Talia Stern
Tracey Stranhah
Monika Suarez, RN
Jennifer Marie Suter
Taylor Alexis Sutton
Esra Tan
Sydney Tang

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science

School of Nursing

Meredith M. Teles
Richard L. Thai
Natasha S. Thaker, RN
Cristina Thieu
Luiza Marie Tinapay
Jason Michael Tirro
Suzanna Toczykowski
Allison Tracy
Dalia Tran
Kelly Trautwein
Nicholas William Troy
Bethany Tsai
Gideon D. Tsedze
Henry Uzor
Sheila Velezillos
Amanda Vankirk
Ariana L. Vizhnay

Candidates for the Post-Masters Certificate

School of Nursing

Jennifer M. Travis
CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Martha De Crisce
Addressing Pregnancy Loss Among Jewish Women
Adviser: Molly Bradshaw

Stephanie S. DeJesus
Practice for Adults with Acute and Chronic Diabetes in a Primary Care Setting
Adviser: Helen Miley

Vaishali Desai
Focused Journal Clubs
Adviser: Helen Miley

Amy DeLeonardis
Registered Nurse Anesthetists
Adviser: Michael McLaughlin

Mfon Ekpo
Improving Glycemic Control with Telephone Intervention in Haitians with Type 2 Diabetes in a Primary Care Setting
Adviser: Mary Kameiksni

Patricia Eliacin
Critically Examining Haitian Mental Health Patients’ Cultural and Spiritual Experiences Through the Use of Cultural Brokers
Adviser: Sabrina Marie Chase

Sandra M. Esteves
Early Childhood and Adolescent Obesity and the 5-2-1-0 Healthy Habits Message: A Retrospective Chart Review
Adviser: Patricia K. Hindin

Madeleine R. Eugene
Using Psychosocial Interventions to Address Diabetes Distress in a Faith-Based Setting
Adviser: Mona Williams-Gregory

Marissa A. Falzarano
Capnography Monitoring
Adviser: Mary Kameiksni

Morgan Feuss
Use of Whiteboards in the Emergency Department to Improve Communication
Adviser: Mary Kameiksni

Denise J. Force
The Effectiveness of a Carbohydrate Counting Educational Program to Increase Patient Knowledge and Decrease HbA1c Levels in Patients with Prediabetes
Adviser: Kathy Gunkel

Randa M. Francis
Cervical Cancer Navigation Pilot (C-NavP): A Protocol Designed to Increase Follow-up Adherence to Recommended Diagnostic Colposcopy Following an Abnormal Cervical Cancer Screen in Low Income Ethnic Minority and Latina Women
Adviser: Patricia K. Hindin

Arlene Fredericks
Development of a Quality Improvement Initiative to Screen for Postpartum Depression
Adviser: Sallie Porter

Josephine P. Frimpong
A Quality Improvement Initiative to Improve the Knowledge of Nurses, Reduce Stigmatization, and Improve Nurses' Attitudes Towards Patients with Sickle Cell Disease
Adviser: Sallie Porter

Michael S. Gimeno
The Use of Social Media to Enhance Professional Knowledge and Improve Connectivity Amongst CRNAs and SRNAs in New Jersey State
Adviser: Maureen McCartney Anderson

Amanda N. Gonzalez
Implementation of an Opt-Out HIV Screening Tool in the Primary Care Setting
Adviser: Thomas J. Loveless

Damaris M. Grossmann
Guided Imagery for Reducing Anxiety in Graduate Nursing Students
Adviser: Molly Bradshaw

Edjona Groysman
Perioperative Management of Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA): An Educational Intervention
Adviser: Maureen McCartney Anderson

Dawn Muriel A. Guzman
Teamwork in the Emergency Department
Adviser: Rubab Qureshi

Georgia Harrison
The Relationship Between Critical Care Nurses’ Perceptions of A Healthy Work Environment and Intent to Transfer Following Health System Mergers
Adviser: Ann Marie P. Mauro

Gabrielle R. Horvath
Contraception Toolkit: A Mobile Application for Healthcare Providers
Adviser: Ginette Lange

Susan A. Ike
Interventions to Reduce Acute Care Transfers and Skilled Nursing Facility Readmission Rates
Adviser: Edna Cadmus

Rita P. Itondo
Characteristics and Prevalence Rate of Asthma-COPD Overlap Syndrome (ACOS) in Adult Asthma Patients Admitted to Hoboken University Medical Center
Adviser: Jeanette Manchester

Caitlin J. Karcich
Rutgers University Student-Driven Mentorship Training Program for Student Registered Nurse Anesthetists
Adviser: Michael McLaughlin

Anastasia A. Krosnick
Yoga Adjunctive Therapy for Reduction of Negative Symptoms of Schizophrenia
Adviser: Edwina Wendy Skiba-King

Sheron J. Kurian
Integrating Palliative Care into the Intensive Care Unit: A Quality Improvement Project
Adviser: Helen Miley

Meredith S. Larobis
Estimating Endotracheal Tube Cuff Pressures: Bringing Awareness to Anesthesia Providers
Adviser: Michael McLaughlin

Christina M. Lawrence
The Use of Social Media to Enhance Professional Knowledge and Improve Connectivity Amongst CRNAs and SRNAs in New Jersey State
Adviser: Maureen McCartney Anderson

Christine M. Leithead
Challenges in Caring for Patients with Multiple Sclerosis
Adviser: Molly Bradshaw

Susan Maiocco
Experiences of Stigma Among Family Members of Persons Living with Schizophrenia: A Systematic Review
Adviser: Susan Salmond

Joleen L. Mandel
Palliative Care Education for Nurses in the ICU to Improve Knowledge and Eliminate Barriers for Referrals
Adviser: Helen Miley
Candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Nursing Practice

School of Nursing

Kaitlyn E. Matthews ✹
Utilization of YouTube as an Adjunct to Nurse Anesthesia Education
Adviser: Maureen McCartney

Amanda U. Meltzer ✹
Minimizing Interruptions During Medication Administration to Prevent Errors and Promote Patient Safety
Adviser: Helen Miley

Maureen R. Mendoza ✹
Hypertension in Older Adults: An Algorithmic Pharmacologic Treatment Protocol
Adviser: Amita Avadhani

Katherine W. Minuto ✹
Education of Oral Health Care Professionals Relative to Childhood Obesity Screening and Counseling in the Dental Office by Pediatric Nurse Practitioners: An Interprofessional Pilot Project
Adviser: Margaret Quinn

Oliver Moore ✹
Mental Health First Aid for Ancillary and Non-Ancillary Hospital Staff
Adviser: Peijia Zha

AnnaMarie Nass ✹
Early Childhood and Adolescent Obesity and the 5-2-1-0 Healthy Habits Message: A Retrospective Chart Review
Adviser: Patricia K. Hindin

Arnold C. Navarro ✹
Transversus Abdominis Plane Block and Quadratus Lumbarum Block: Bridging Research into Practice
Adviser: Michael McLaughlin

Marie Nelson ✹
Evidence-Based Practice Strategies to Reduce Hospital Readmission Rates for Heart Failure Patients: A Quality Improvement Project
Adviser: Rosario Estrada

Andrea Norberg ✹
Experiences of HIV-Infected Adults and Health Care Providers with Health Care Delivery Practices Influencing Engagement in Primary Health Care Settings: A Qualitative Systematic Review and Meta-Synthesis
Adviser: Susan Salmond

Vincent Obode ✹
The Experiences of Adults Caring for Children Orphaned by HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Qualitative Systematic Review
Adviser: Cheryl Holly

Jessica A. O’Brien ✹
Education of Oral Health Care Professionals Relative to Childhood Obesity Screening and Counseling in the Dental Office by Pediatric Nurse Practitioners: An Interprofessional Pilot Project
Adviser: Margaret Quinn

Danielle R. O’Reggio-Christopher ✹
Improving Advanced Practice Nurses’ Knowledge of Oral Health Through the Development and Implementation of an e-Course that Focuses on Identification of Oral Manifestations as a Screening Mechanism for Systemic Diseases and Psychosocial Disorders
Adviser: Suzanne Willard

Ikenna M. Ozims ✹
Empowering Community Health Center Patients to be Ready for Their Health Care Visit Using Pre-Visit Practice Change Interventions
Adviser: Mary Kamienski

Maria D. Pallares ✹
Evaluation of an Evidence-Based Asthma Education Program in Urban Portuguese-Speaking Parents
Adviser: Felicia Bowen

Puja R. Patel ✹
Estimating Endotracheal-Tube Cuff Pressures: Bringing Awareness to Anesthesia Providers
Adviser: Michael McLaughlin

Vaidhe S. Patel ✹
Improving Knowledge, Skills, and Attitudes About Breastfeeding
Adviser: Asunta A. Beardsley

Madelyn M. Pearson ✹
Piloting a Professional Development Program for Nurse Directors to Improve Leadership Skills in Performance Improvement
Adviser: Edna Cadmus

Marie Y. Pierre ✹
Implementing Project RED to Reduce 30-day Readmissions in Patients With Serious Mental Illness
Adviser: Kathleen L. Patusky

Pamela Pol ✹
Improving Collaborating Between CRNAs and Anesthesiologists Through the Implementation of a Teamwork-Focused Seminar
Adviser: Thomas Pallaria

Jennifer Puzziferro ✹
Shared Governance Structure: Facilitating Participation
Adviser: Edna Cadmus

Jessica M. Ramos ✹
New Graduate Mentorship in the Emergency Department After Orientation
Adviser: Mary Kamienski

Matthew J. Rathbun ✹
In Student Nurse Anesthetists, Does Utilization of a Web-Based Software Application Augment Access to Evidence-Based Recommendations for Anesthetic Management of Patients With Cardiac Comorbidities?
Adviser: Thomas Pallaria

Michael F. Reens ✹
Improving Operating Room Efficiency Using Remote Video Monitoring: A Retrospective Cost Benefit Analysis
Adviser: Thomas Pallaria

Angelica Rodriguez ✹
Increasing Acceptance of Adult Vaccines in STD Clinic Patients
Adviser: Ann D. Bagchi

Rosanna Ryskasen ✹
An End of Life Clinical Pathway to Alleviate Provider Distress When Caring For a Dying Child
Adviser: Mercedes Echevarria

Rachel S. Salem ✹
Development of a CRNA Focused Controlled Dangerous Substance Course
Adviser: Thomas Pallaria

Erin Salmond ✹
Experiences of Compassion Fatigue in Direct Care Nurses: A Qualitative Systematic Review
Adviser: Mary Kamienski

Michelle A. Santoro ✹
Standardizing Smoking Cessation Intervention for Patients in an Acute Care Setting
Adviser: Irina Benenson

Kelly A. Schoch ✹
HIV Clinicians Perspectives on High-Risk HPV Self-sampling for Cervical Cancer Screening
Adviser: Suzanne Willard

Ruchika Sethi ✹
Admission Practices by Nurse Practitioners and Length of Stay
Adviser: Mary Kamienski

Ellen Shelley ✹
Experiences of Stigma Among Family Members of Persons Living with Schizophrenia: A Systematic Review
Adviser: Susan Salmond
CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Archana Shenoy
Improving Nursing Knowledge and Confidence in Teach Back Skills to Prevent Falls in Acute Care Oncology Patients
Adviser: Ying-Yu Chao

Bethany L. Sigley
Education of Oral Health Care Professionals Relative to Childhood Obesity Screening and Counseling in the Dental Office by Pediatric Nurse Practitioners: An Interprofessional Pilot Project
Adviser: Margaret Quinn

Jemilat O. Siju
The Implementation of a Nurse Manager Engagement Education Program to Improve Oncology Nurse Engagement in Cancer Centers
Adviser: Mary Johansen

Leticia T. Smith
Headache Tolerance Associated with Scalp Cooling in Women with Early Stage Breast Cancer During Chemotherapy
Adviser: Patricia K. Hindin

Scott Stewart
Process Improvement for First Responders Treating Ventricular Assist Device Patients
Adviser: Mary DiGiulio

Sylwia Surowiec
Perioperative Management of Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea: An Educational Intervention
Adviser: Maureen McCartney Anderson

Erica E. Szymaniek
Standardizing of Nurse-to-Nurse Handoff Communication Using ISBAR
Adviser: Ann Marie P. Mauro

Denis Tarrant
Expanding Medicare and Medicaid Home Health Certification to Include Nurse Practitioners
Adviser: Mary DiGiulio

Barbara F. Tofani
Clinical Practice Guidelines to Direct Breast and Colorectal Cancer Survivorship Care
Adviser: Mary Johansen

Alexis M. Totten
Nurse-Initiated Code Sepsis
Adviser: Irina Benenson

Steven C. Trisker
Vaso-occlusive Crisis in the Emergency Department
Adviser: Mary Kamienski

Kelly Van Wyck
An Educational Intervention to Promote a Universal Precautions Approach to Health Literacy Among Advanced Practice Nursing Students
Adviser: Ann Marie P. Mauro

Lauren A. Wadams
Utilization of a Tool to Structure Diabetes Education in the Acute Care Setting
Adviser: Kathy Gunkel

Sharon A. Wanga
Implementing a Self-Extubation Risk Assessment Tool in the Intensive Care Unit
Adviser: Helen Miley

Denise R. Warren
Evaluation of an Evidence-Based Asthma Education Program in Urban Portuguese-Speaking Parents
Adviser: Felicia Bowen

Sally S. Wilson
Recognizing and Addressing Diabetes Distress in the Primary Care Setting
Adviser: Mary DiGiulio

Victor B. Yabidi
Compliance with ED Observation Unit’s Admission Criteria to Reduce the Length of Stay
Adviser: Gerti Heider

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Nour Alayan
Heart Rate Variability Biofeedback for College Students Recovering from Substance Use Disorder: A Longitudinal Analysis of Craving
Adviser: Lucille Eller

Phoebe Del Boccio
Exploring Self-Motivation and Performance Impact from the Perspective of the Volunteer: A Study of recurring Short-Term Volunteer Medical Service Workers in the Philippines
Adviser: Sabrina Marie Chase

Lisa Garsman
The Role of Social Support on Acculturation Stress and Allostatic Load Among First and Second Generation Immigrant College Students
Adviser: Karen D’Alonzo

Tara Nicole Heagele
A Qualitative Study of Household Emergency Preparedness of the Elderly and the Medically Frail Living in Coastal Urban Environments
Adviser: Karen D’Alonzo

Beth Ellen Jameson
Exploring the factors that influence the role, burnout, and job satisfaction of the school nurse: A mixed methods study
Adviser: Teri Lindgren

Carlos Perez Jr.
Predictors of HIV Testing Among Men Who Have Sex with Men (MSM)
Adviser: Rula Btoush

List of graduates are correct as of April 17, 2018, and every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in compiling the lists.
NJHF EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARD

Rita Musanti, Ph.D., ANP-BC

Dr. Musanti is a respected expert in oncology nursing, with an extensive background in oncology research focused on enhancing care and quality of life for cancer survivors. She is an assistant professor and the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences Endowed Professor of Oncology. She joined the faculty in 2013.

A major focus of her research is developing programs and support systems that increase the likelihood the survivors will adopt a physically active lifestyle. A recent project is an international study launched in January 2018 in collaboration with colleagues in Colombia and Panama, in which an exercise intervention is delivered to the survivor and a chosen support person, with outcomes focused on physical fitness and coping.

In line with current research trends, Dr. Musanti’s research interests include genomics and precision medicine, illustrated by her ongoing investigation of the genetic link between cancer treatment and physical symptoms such as fatigue, which can be decreased with proper physical activity.

NJHF EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Irina Benenson, DNP, FNP-C, CEN

Dr. Irina Benenson, a certified family nurse practitioner and expert educator, teaches nurse practitioner students pursuing Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees. Currently serving as primary course instructor in subjects including advanced health assessment and adult gerontology primary care theory, Dr. Benenson joined the faculty in 2015.

Highly regarded by faculty peers and students alike, Dr. Benenson has grounded her pedagogy on the principle that active learning is essential for the development of critical thinking in future clinicians. This view led her to restructure the courses she leads to feature interactive case-based learning, with redesigned activities and new interactive learning tools, which have earned excellent feedback from her students.

Dr. Benenson received multiple student nominations for this year’s NJHF Excellence in Teaching Award. She is often cited as an outstanding teacher who is passionate about educating students to provide the highest quality care. As a model of compassion, empathy, and professionalism, she inspires her students to reach for excellence.

Academic Awards

ELLA V. STONSBY AWARD

This award is presented by the Alumni Association for highest academic achievement.

Grace N. Sautner

FRANCES MARCUS STEINDLER MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is given in recognition of excellence in clinical practice, including superior skills in critical thinking, in establishing therapeutic relationships, creating health promotion, and in collaborating with health team members.

Molly Danielle Naft

OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARD

This award is presented by the Alumni Association for high academic achievement and service.

Mara K. Kettle

THE DEAN’S AWARD

This award is given for exemplary leadership and service to the college.

Pak Wa Chau
Molly Danielle Naft

RUTGERS STUDENT NURSING ASSOCIATION AWARD

This award is given for professional commitment.

Luisa Marie Tinapay

EVELYN HART MEMORIAL AWARD

This award is given to registered nurse graduates with high academic achievement and professional promise.

Matthew J. Finnerty

HILDEGARD E. PEPLAU WRITING AWARD

This award is given for outstanding writing ability in the area of psychiatric mental health nursing.

Alice C. Agecha
**Academic Awards**

**STUDENT SERVICES AWARD**
This award is given in recognition of outstanding service to student government and leadership within the School of Nursing student body.

Pak Wa Chau  
Michelle L. Cohen  
Amber Lyn Mariano  
Rebecca R. Morris  
Molly Danielle Naft

**STANLEY S. BERGEN, JR., MD, MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE**
The Bergen Medal is awarded to a student who combines high levels of achievement in both academic and clinical studies and demonstrates the high ideals that are essential to the health professions. The recipient must demonstrate notable achievements in basic science and/or clinical research, leadership experience, academic excellence, and humanistic and professional behaviors.

Cheneen M. Austin

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND HIGHEST GPA**
This award is presented by the School of Nursing Educational Opportunity Fund Program to the graduating senior who has the highest cumulative grade point average among the Educational Opportunity Fund students in the graduating class.

Mara K. Kettle

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**
This award is presented by the School of Nursing Educational Opportunity Fund Program to the students who have achieved and maintained exceptional academic standards throughout their college careers.

Van-Ess Anane  
Mara K. Kettle

**Academic Awards**

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**
This award is presented by the School of Nursing Educational Opportunity Fund Program to the students who have accomplished and maintained notable academic standards throughout their college careers.

Imani M. Clark  
Cynthia Colmenares  
Tahmina Mojumder  
Yashmin Precious Naguija, RN  
Cory O. Wallace

**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND PERSEVERANCE AWARD**
This award is presented by the School of Nursing Educational Opportunity Fund Program to the student who has triumphed over personal and academic obstacles in order to successfully attain their graduation goal.

Mara K. Kettle

**DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Claire Y. Cyriax  
Kelly A. Schoch

**MASTER OF SCIENCE/MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD**
Jessica C. Holbeck  
Carla D. Schaefer
**THE ACADEMIC COSTUME**

The wearing of academic dress dates back to the early days of the oldest universities in the world. In the American Council on Education’s book entitled *American Universities and Colleges*, it is suggested that “Gowns may have been counted necessary for warmth in the unheated buildings frequented by medieval scholars. Hoods seem to have served to cover the tonsured head…”

American universities established a code of regulations which today is followed by almost all American institutions. The establishment of this code has made it possible to distinguish the bachelors, masters and doctors, and at the same time, to recognize the university awarding the degree.

The colors of the lining of the hoods for the nine original colonial colleges are: scarlet, Rutgers; crimson, Harvard; green-gold-silver, William and Mary; blue, Yale; red and blue, Pennsylvania; orange and black, Princeton; light blue and white, Columbia; brown, Brown; and green and white, Dartmouth.

The bachelor’s gown has pointed sleeves and is worn closed. The master’s gown has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist. The rear part of its oblong shape is square-cut, and the front part has an arc cut away. It is worn open or closed.

The hoods vary in size: 48 inches for the doctor’s degree, 42 inches for the master’s, and 36 inches for the bachelor’s. All hoods are lined in the academic color or colors of the institution conferring the degree. If the institution has more than one color, the colors are shown in divisions using chevrons. The binding or edge of the hood is usually made of velvet in the color designating the subject in which the degree was granted. Black mortarboards are worn for all degrees.

Some of the colors in the bindings of the hoods are: white, Arts and Letters; drab, Business Administration; violet, Criminal Justice; light blue, Education; purple, Law; apricot, Nursing; blue, Philosophy; peacock blue, Public Administration; gold, Science; and citron, Social Work.

**SIGMA THETA TAU HONORS**

Students and faculty wearing lavender and white honors cords represent the prestigious members of Sigma Theta Tau, Inc., the International Honor Society of Nursing. The Alpha Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau was established at Rutgers University in 1968. Students who have attained high scholastic standing, demonstrated leadership qualities, and show promise of continuing professional achievement are elected to membership by Sigma Theta Tau chapter members. This spring, a number of Rutgers students received recognition for their academic achievements by being inducted into this prestigious honor society.

**GRADUATION HONORS (HONORS GRADUATE)**

The Rutgers University School of Nursing honors three levels of baccalaureate distinction for graduating undergraduate students:

- **Summa Cum Laude**: Cumulative grade-point average of 3.85 or higher
- **Magna Cum Laude**: Cumulative grade-point average of 3.70 – 3.84
- **Cum Laude**: Cumulative grade-point average of 3.50 – 3.69

Candidates who earn honors graduation distinction are presented with gold honor cords to adorn their academic regalia.

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**THE ACADEMIC COSTUME**

**VETERAN RECOGNITION**

Students and faculty wearing red, white, and blue Veteran Cords represent the admirable and noble members of the Rutgers School of Nursing community who have served honorably in any branch of the United States Armed Forces or ROTC students commissioning upon graduation. The School of Nursing stands proud to thank you for your great service and sacrifice for our country.

**HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATE**

Undergraduate students with a cumulative grade-point average of 3.7 and higher or who are in the top 10 percent of their class are formally invited to participate in the School of Nursing Honors Program. The School of Nursing Honors Program is aimed at enhancing the exceptional student's opportunities in professional nursing, research, and the development of scholarship in nursing. The overall goal of the program is to enhance the development of the individual student's critical and analytical abilities in solving complex issues and use of scientific databases in the health-care field as it relates to nursing. Candidates graduating from the Honors Program are presented with a red stole to adorn their academic regalia.

**THE MEDALS OF LEADERSHIP**

Students wearing golden Medals of Leadership represent the elected officers of the Rutgers School of Nursing Student Senate. These students have worked tirelessly to serve as student leaders, liaisons, and representatives for the entire student body.

**THE STOLE OF GRATITUDE**

Students and platform guests wearing the white Stole of Gratitude represent community ambassadors and peer mentors who have provided extraordinary support to the Rutgers School of Nursing.

**THE PINNING STOLE**

The Second Degree Program nursing students graduating with a Bachelor of Science are presented with burgundy stoles during their pinning ceremony as a symbolic welcoming to the esteemed profession of a healthcare provider.

**RUTGERS STUDENT NURSING ASSOCIATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Students wearing blue and white cords represent membership in Rutgers Student Nurses' Association, a chapter of the National Student Nurses' Association. This organization mentors the professional development of future registered nurses and facilitates their entrance into the profession by providing educational resources, leadership opportunities, and career guidance. Students wearing blue stoles represent the elected officers of RSNA. These students proudly represent Rutgers School of Nursing undergraduate students at the school, state, and national levels.
The School of Nursing is one of 31 schools and colleges of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, a highly respected research university and the state’s premiere academic health sciences institution. The School of Nursing is ranked among the nation’s top 20 graduate nursing schools by U.S. News & World Report.

The mission of the School of Nursing is to educate students; advance the discipline of nursing through research, scholarship and practice; provide service responsive to the health care needs of diverse populations; and demonstrate local, national and international leadership.

More than 1,600 students attend the School of Nursing’s programs at four campus locations in Newark, New Brunswick, and Blackwood, as well as online, in pursuit of baccalaureate, master’s and doctoral degrees. The school established New Jersey’s first Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs and continues to implement innovative academic offerings to meet nursing workforce needs of today and tomorrow.

Faculty and students collaborate on funded research to advance nursing practice, shape health policy, eliminate health disparities, and improve health and well-being. The school operates Rutgers Community Health Center, a multi-site, federally qualified health center that unites faculty and students from across health professions in providing health care and related services in low-income, urban communities.

The School of Nursing is part of the Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHs) division, which includes eight schools and their attendant faculty practices, centers, institutes, and clinics; New Jersey’s largest behavioral health care network; and the state’s leading comprehensive cancer care center.

For more information on Rutgers School of Nursing, please visit nursing.rutgers.edu.

INTERNATIONAL PLEDGE FOR NURSES

In full knowledge of the obligations I am undertaking, I promise to care for the sick with all the skill and understanding I possess, without regard to race, creed, color, politics or social status, sparing no effort to conserve life, to alleviate suffering and to promote health.

I will respect at all times the dignity and religious beliefs of the patients under my care, holding in confidence all personal information entrusted to me, and refrain from any action which might endanger life or health.

I will endeavor to keep my professional knowledge and skill at the highest level and to give loyal support and cooperation to all members of the health team.

I will do my utmost to honor the international code of ethics applied to nursing and to uphold the integrity of the professional nurse.