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Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

2018-2019 Annual Report

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MISSION

In the Spirit of Christ and example of Saint Francis of Assisi, the mission of OSF College of Health Sciences is to offer health science education programs in an environment that encourages and supports open inquiry and advances in scholarship, while preparing exceptional and compassionate caregivers and health care professionals to practice in diverse and ever changing health care environments.

VISION

Embracing our Catholic heritage and teachings, the OSF College of Health Sciences will be a leader in health science education and the academic institution of choice.



JUSTICE

Respect the personal worth and dignity of every student and person served regardless of race, ethnicity, age, gender or religion.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Reflecting on the academic year of 2018–2019 reveals that St. Francis Medical Center College Nursing had a year of change, as it continues to be a growing and dynamic entity with a focus on evolving health care needs and the competence levels required of our graduates.

The year ended with the retirement of Dr. Patricia Stockert and my arrival as College president. Several experienced and valued faculty also retired, and new faculty appointments were on-boarded. Many thanks are due those who have been so valued within the College.

The College accomplished the Higher Learning Commission accreditation visit in the 2018–2019 academic year, achieved 10-year continuing affirmation and subsequently moved into a new pathway for accreditation. Several members within the College have stepped forward to lead our accreditation activities. These leaders were oriented to the Open Pathway during the March 2019 commission meeting. In June, these leaders provide an orientation to all faculty and staff. The College is poised to be fully engaged in pathway activities during the 2019–2020 academic year.

Significant accomplishments were achieved by faculty, staff and graduates. The College remains at the highest level of OSF HealthCare Mission Partner (employee) satisfaction. Baccalaureate graduates experience success with the NCLEX-RN (professional nursing licensure) examination, and graduate programs graduates also are successful on certification examinations.

Programs within the College report positive achievements. The graduate program focused energy on program expansion. The undergraduate program curriculum fully unfolded and is experiencing some refinement based on faculty and student feedback.

The College enjoys a strong relationship with the Alumni Association, as alumni engage in several activities with current students. This ongoing bond is a joy to so many.

As I close this reflection, I hope you share my belief that Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing is alive and well. We are sustaining our legacy of preparing strong nurses who provide health care with the greatest care and love.

Regards,

Sandie Soldwisch, PhD, APRN, ANP-BC

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Graduate Program has had another successful year. Our total enrollment is 188 students, and 162 of those are in the MSN tracks, 20 are in the doctoral tracks and five are earning post graduate certificates.

The graduate program added four new options in fall 2018. Students now can enroll in BSN-DNP options for Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Neonatal Nurse Practitioner. Additionally, two new options began in summer 2019. These new options are post graduate certificates for Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

Shelly Cusack, a certified Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, was hired as the lead faculty for that option. She is experienced in this role and looks forward to creating a great learning environment for the students. She is diligently working to prepare the theory and practicum courses for fall 2020. This new option has been well received.

Since the beginning of the program, the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner students all have passed the certification exam on the first attempt – a remarkable statistic. Professor Becky Weaver, lead faculty, has done an excellent job educating these students. The College is proud of professor Weaver and the students.

Jo Garrison and Susie Smith, along with Jen Hopwood, accepted the prestigious Magnet Prize. Only 500 medical centers have earned Magnet status, and only one Magnet Prize is given each year. Both Jo and Susie will graduate from the College with DNP and MSN degrees, respectively. Dr. Garrison's DNP project focused on creating a community garden to feed the population in the poorest ZIP codes in Peoria. The community garden project was a significant aspect of the multi-focused initiative for care of the poor that won the award. Both nurses are devoted to health of the community, and the College is proud of their accomplishment.

The Graduate Program continues to look for ways to enhance learning for our students and to make the MSN and doctoral programs even better. We look forward to a successful 2019–2020 academic year.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Mitchell, PhD, RN, CNE



COMPASSION

Provide a response encompassing the greatest care and love to the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of students and the communities and populations we serve.



INTEGRITY

Uphold Catholic ethical principles, Catholic social teachings, and professional codes and ethical standards in education and practice.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing baccalaureate program has had a wonderful year. I have noted much academic promise in our baccalaureate students. The College provides many learning opportunities – such as access to outstanding clinical sites, student volunteer opportunities, education abroad and student governance opportunities – that allow students to grow and succeed. In addition, the College employs exceptional faculty and outstanding staff members who are devoted to promoting the students' academic and personal growth.

The College NCLEX-RN pass rate has improved significantly over the past year. Multiple strategies were implemented to prepare students for the NCLEX-RN licensure exam post-graduation. An NCLEX-RN review course has been embedded into the last semester of the baccalaureate curriculum. The review course ensures that all students participate and are well prepared to take the licensure exam. In addition, all levels of the baccalaureate curriculum implemented a test policy, which requires students to achieve a test score average of at least 77% to pass the core courses. This ensures that students have sufficient subject matter knowledge and test-taking skills to advance from one level of the curriculum to the next and to successfully complete the NCLEX-RN licensure exam. Also, the number of alternative format test questions in each level of the curriculum was increased. These questions help the students prepare for the type of questions and critical thinking necessary to pass the NCLEX-RN exam. As always, the faculty and staff work diligently to promote student success by emphasizing prioritization, delegation and critical thinking skills.

Student enrollment numbers are monitored closely each semester. OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center is the Level 1 trauma center in the region and includes OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois. Our students benefit from a diverse patient population and expert clinical faculty, and these factors continue to drive our students' preference for choosing Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing.

We have been blessed this year with the addition of new faculty members. Jordan Herring, MSN, RN; Linda Doling, MSN, RN; Dana McVicker, MSN, RN; Janine Roche, MSN, RN; Angie Timm, MSN, RN, and Jill Thomas, MSN, RN, joined the faculty as full-time employees. This highly qualified group will foster learning and growth in our BSN students in the classroom and clinical arenas.

In summary, this has been a great year, filled with growth and opportunities. I am blessed to serve Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing, the faculty and staff, and students.

Respectfully submitted,



Suzanne Brown PhD, DNP, RN

FAREWELL TO A LEADER

By Margaret Swanson, PhD (chair of the College Board), Kimberly Mitchell, PhD, APRN (dean of the Graduate Program), and Suzanne Brown, PhD, DNP (dean of the Undergraduate Program)

Patricia Stockert, PhD, APRN, retired after 43 years of service to OSF HealthCare. She graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University with her BSN and started her career at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center. Her first staff job was as a surgical nurse, and she became an instructor at St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing the following year. She continued her education and earned an MSN from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a PhD in nursing from Saint Louis University.

At the College of Nursing, she served as faculty and was promoted through the academic ranks, culminating as a professor. In 2005, she became the associate dean of the undergraduate program, and in 2008, her title was changed to dean. In 2011, she became president when Dr. Lois Hamilton retired.

Dr. Stockert has received numerous honors, including Distinguished Alumni from Illinois Wesleyan University School of Nursing and the Robah Kellogg Alumni Award from the University of Illinois. She was the recipient of the Central Illinois 25 Women in Leadership Award. She also earned the Heritage Hall of Fame Legend Award and the Sister Aeterna OSF Mission Integration Award from OSF Saint Francis. She was nominated for OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Leader of the Year.

“I was blessed to be able to grow personally and professionally during my career at OSF,” Dr. Stockert said. “I was provided pathways to leadership development that I didn’t imagine when I first came to Peoria.”

She was a member of numerous professional organizations, including the American Nurses Association, the Illinois Nurses Association, Midwest Nursing Research Society and the Illinois League for Nursing. In addition, Dr. Stockert has over 25 publications, including a widely used book titled “Fundamentals of Nursing” by Potter, Perry, Stockert and Hall. She also is an accomplished speaker, with over 14 invited presentations. She served in a professional role with the Higher Learning Commission as an Academic Quality Improvement Program peer reviewer

and on the Faculty Advisory Council for the Illinois Board of Higher Education. She has served on the Peoria Community Institutional Review Board for 15 years.

Under her leadership, the College expanded its master’s programs, the BSN to DNP program was launched and the endowment funds for student scholarships have grown immensely. She has brought so much to the College of Nursing – her love of students and teaching and learning, her servant leadership and a strong sense of direction. Thanks to her direction, the nursing care needs of OSF Saint Francis and the community at-large have been met.

“I always had such pride as I looked around meetings at OSF and saw so many of the College’s graduates holding leadership positions in nursing and other areas,” Dr. Stockert said. “It is a tribute to the strong foundation of nursing education provided by the College. I am so proud of how many of our graduates now hold advanced degrees in nursing.”

Dr. Stockert is a beloved leader, mentor and educator. She has the rare ability to be a respected leader and yet friend to all. Her literal open-door policy and her willingness to do any job as needed, no matter how mundane, has endeared her to all.

“I was blessed to work for the Sisters and OSF for 43 years,” Dr. Stockert said. “God led me to Peoria to Saint Francis, and there I stayed.”

Dr. Stockert looks forward to spending more time with her husband, Drake; her daughters, Sarah and Kelsey, and the apple of her eye, her grandson Bennett. Faculty and staff find it hard to imagine the College of Nursing without Dr. Stockert, but they wish her much happiness in retirement and have vowed to carry on her legacy by educating and serving the students with the greatest care and love.



“I always had such pride as I looked around meetings at OSF and saw so many of the College’s graduates holding leadership positions in nursing and other areas. It is a tribute to the strong foundation of nursing education provided by the College. I am also so proud of how many of our graduates now hold advanced degrees in nursing.”

– Patricia Stockert, PhD, APRN

TEAMWORK

Collaborate with each other, with members of the healthcare team, and with those served to deliver comprehensive, integrated and quality health care education.

CULTURAL IMMERSION

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing offers an undergraduate Cultural Immersion course each summer, giving students the opportunity to study global health issues and travel abroad to provide direct patient care. The immersion experience allows students to gain cultural awareness of global health needs and allows the opportunity for lived experiences in another culture.

In the summer of 2019, the Cultural Immersion course took place in Huancayo, Peru. Huancayo is located in the Mantaro Valley, in the Junin region at an elevation of 10,000 feet. Kate Bailey, RN, MSN, and Jessica Verplaetse, RN, MSN, accompanied 10 nursing students.

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing partnered with the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC) to provide public health services and education. Services included health campaigns in local markets, maternal and child wellness exams, a support group for mothers of infants and home visits. Students spent time in the hospital taking vital signs and observing surgeries, and they visited an orphanage and home for teenage mothers. The students also provided health education to local Peruvians on topics including vital signs, newborn skin conditions and dental hygiene.

Students reflected on their experiences daily by posting on the group's video blog, which allowed friends and family back home the opportunity to keep up with what the group was doing in Peru. Students felt that the experience was life-changing and had an impact on how they view caring for persons of diverse cultures.

Student Alexis Goodin stated that her favorite part of the trip was traveling to rural communities to provide care for underserved



people. She felt humbled by the appreciation that the community showed for the services offered. The Peru experience will help shape her nursing career, she said.

"I really feel that I found my self-identity as a nurse during our time in Peru," Goodin said. "I learned so much about myself and my ability to unconditionally show compassion to others – even in a time when I myself was being pushed completely out of my comfort zone. It was truly the most rewarding experience of my life!"

Student Alyssa Rossman added: "I learned so much about another culture, but also about myself. I learned about my abilities being a nurse as well. Even though we spoke different languages and had different beliefs, the care I was giving was the same."

CAMP HOPE

Nursing students have the opportunity to attend Camp HOPE, a five-day overnight camp for local children with cancer or blood disorders. Camp HOPE is presented by the DAX Foundation to create an environment rich in fun, education, positive coping and life skills, to cultivate relationships with others enduring the chronic illness journey.

The students are accompanied by faculty member Alissa Watkins, MSN, RN, to work alongside various other oncology and hematology medical staff to participate in the camp experience. The camp is held at the Timber Pointe Outdoor Center in Hudson, Illinois. The children that attend camp range from 6 to 16 years of age and have a current or previous diagnosis of cancer or blood disorder. Their siblings also are invited to attend.

Throughout the week, the nursing students collaborate with other health care professionals, such as physicians, medical students, advanced practice nurses, nurses, students and peers, to provide a safe experience for the campers. They work alongside a camp counselor and are assigned a cabin and a group of children. The students collaborate with the cabin team and are responsible for the well-being and daily cares of the campers 24 hours a day. Under supervision, the student is responsible for ensuring that each camper receives their scheduled medications and medical therapies while at camp. Students accompany the campers to "The Zoo", which is a medical area supervised by physicians, advanced practice nurses and camp nurses, to receive daily medications and other medical needs. Students rotate through "The Zoo" to assist with medication administration, daily cares and assessments of campers.



While at Camp HOPE, the student provides an intentional experience for each camper. Students accompany the campers to the various activities throughout the day and ensure their safety. The student provides education on cancer and blood disorders while providing a fun experience. The student is encouraged to participate in the daily camp activities of swimming, fishing, zip-lining, canoeing, rock wall climbing, crafts and horseback riding to engage the camper in the camp experience. Students are exposed to many great learning experiences while at Camp HOPE and develop positive relationships with the campers and cabin teams. The students feel that Camp HOPE is a life-changing experience that provides a new outlook on life.

CAMP GRANADA

Each summer, nursing students have the opportunity to attend Camp GranADA, a weeklong camp experience for Type I diabetic children. The students are accompanied by faculty member Megan Frye, MSN, RN. The camp is held at the University of Illinois 4-H camp in Monticello, Illinois. The children that attend the camp range from 8 to 16 years of age.

Throughout the week, the nursing students collaborate with other health care professionals, such as doctors, medical students, nurses, dietitians, dietetic interns and peers. The students work closely with their cabin team, which often includes past campers, to provide a safe and fun week for the participants. A responsibility of the nursing students is to ensure that their individual cabin is stocked with daily supplies.

Under supervision, students also are responsible for the administration of the campers' needed medications. Students assist in the numerous Accuchecks, insulin administration and pump site changes that are needed during the week. Campers often experience a hypoglycemic event due to increased activity, and students are readily available with glucose tablets. Each day, the students ensure that each Accucheck meter is calibrated and ready for use.

While at Camp GranADA, the nursing team collaborates with the cabin team to ensure that all campers have an Accucheck done prior to each meal, at bedtime and as needed. During the night, Accuchecks are completed for campers at risk of hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia. Before meals, the campers discuss their meal choices with the dietetic intern. The student nurses assist in the administration of the correct insulin dosage and are cognizant of changes in the meal choices.

The students provide teaching to the campers throughout the week while ensuring a fun camp experience. Education is provided on how to recognize high or low blood sugar, making good food choices and exercise. Campers are encouraged to give themselves their insulin injections and manage their pump site changes while under the supervision of the nursing student. The students accompany the campers in the cabin to their daily scheduled activities of rock wall climbing, archery, arts and crafts, hayrack rides and swimming. The students are encouraged to participate in the activities with the campers throughout the week. Students develop great relationships with the campers and cabin team. At the end of the week, the students are exhausted, but blessed with the wonderful experience.

TRUST

Communicate openly and honestly to foster trusting relationships among ourselves, our students and with those served.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Jo Garrison, DNP, NEA-BC (Class of 2019)

DOCTORAL PROJECT CONTRIBUTES TO WINNING 2019 ANCC MAGNET PRIZE



Nursing has been a part of Jo Garrison's life ever since she was born, and its role in her life just keeps getting bigger.

Jo's mother and sister are alumni of the School of Nursing, and she now has a daughter-in-law and two nieces who are nurses. Jo launched her own career in 1983, starting in the

medical-surgical unit and progressing to other hospital roles for 16 years, until she was drawn into community nursing.

"When I became involved in the outpatient setting, I first took the role as the wellness educator," Jo said. "We offered worksite wellness to a variety of different businesses and to our own OSF HealthCare employees. That's when I truly found the need for prevention and wellness education to keep people out of the hospital."

She found herself in management and worked her way up to her current position, as director of ambulatory patient care at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. There, she recognized the need to develop a program that could reach out to underserved areas of the community, and Jo enrolled in the DNP Nursing Administration Program at the College of Nursing.

"I wasn't quite sure what to expect and was concerned at going back to school 30 years into my career," Jo said. "What I found was a wealth of information. While I thought I was pretty educated and had a lot of experience, I was amazed at how much I learned and how it applied to my current role."

Her chosen DNP project elevated the community nursing work she and her colleagues already were doing to another level. The title of her project: "Development of a Community Garden and Awareness of Food Insecurity in the Peoria Tri-County Area."

The project was instrumental in OSF Saint Francis winning the 2019 American Nurses Credentialing Center Magnet Prize Sponsored by Cerner.

Working through mobile free clinics, called Care-A-Vans, OSF Faith Community Nurses surveyed 165 residents of the 61603 and 61605 ZIP codes, which encompass the most impoverished neighborhoods in Peoria. Their survey revealed that, despite receiving government food assistance, 85% had experienced a time in the previous 12 months when they ran out of food and were unable to buy more. Particularly acute was the lack of access to fresh fruits and vegetables.



STEWARDSHIP

Manage responsibly the fiscal, physical, technologic, and human resources of the College.

SISTER M. LUDGERA AWARD

Katy Northcutt, MSN, FNP



Master program graduates of the College are eligible for the Sister M. Ludgera Award. Candidates are judged based on leadership as demonstrated by outstanding nursing practice rooted in clinical judgments, caring patient interactions and problem solving abilities; or outstanding teaching abilities as evidenced by the ability to meet teaching objectives, providing excellent classroom organization, use of a variety of teaching methods and incorporating active learning.

The winner this year is Katy Northcutt, who earned her MSN as a Family Nurse Practitioner from the College in December 2017.

Katy worked as a nurse at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center for nearly two decades. While pursuing her master's degree, she earned a reputation for asking questions and also for being a leader among her fellow students. Katy would speak up for classmates if she didn't feel they understood the concept being taught. She formed study groups and helped them obtain preceptors at some of her former clinical sites. A high achiever, Katy always performed well on exams and submitted high-quality patient documentation and other clinical paperwork.

A resident of Bloomington, Katy now works at a clinic in Decatur, where she is focused on women's health. She has a 9-year-old son and 7-year-old daughter.



The concept of a community garden was born. OSF Saint Francis hired a gardener, built public and private partnerships and founded the St. Ann's Garden of Hope on the South Side of Peoria. It has expanded to 2.2 acres, and an additional garden has been started at the OSF Center for Health on Route 91. As a result, more than 11,000 pounds of fresh produce have been distributed directly to residents and local community agencies.

The program also includes an educational component, in which neighborhood children are taught gardening skills, health and wellness. Future plans include a greenhouse, so that produce can be grown year-round.

Notably, the project has reduced non-emergent visits to the OSF Saint Francis emergency department by 1,900 from the two affected ZIP codes.

"Demonstrating care and compassion and being associated with the OSF Mission is very near and dear to my heart," Jo said. "For my DNP project, I wanted to select a topic which involved the work we were already doing in the community. By utilizing the DNP essentials, I was able to enhance and expand our current program and be able to see a true difference we were making in the community."



SISTER M. LUDGERA

The award is named in honor of Sister Mary Ludgera, RN, PhD, who led the transformation of the School of Nursing to the College of Nursing. Born in Germany in 1927, she came to the United States and earned her diploma from the Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing in 1956. Over the next 20 years, she worked in a number of nursing roles at different hospitals and also got involved in nursing education.

In 1976, she was named director of the School of Nursing. From 1983-86, Sister Ludgera and her faculty initiated the transition from a general nursing program to one that offered a BSN. The first class of baccalaureate students graduated in 1988. Graduate programs would follow, and the College grew in stature. Sister Ludgera led the College for 27 years, before her death during a trip to Germany in 2004.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Laura Youngman, DNP, APRN, ACNS (DNP Class of 2019, MSN Class of 2011 and BSN Class of 2005)



Laura Youngman is on a mission to educate people about her passion, which is providing compassionate, supportive care to people who are in palliative and hospice care.

“It’s a true honor and blessing to work with people who are making difficult medical decisions, whether about the trajectory of care or end of life care,” Laura said. “It’s

a privilege to participate in those tough conversations and help patients determine their wishes.”

Too many times, Laura has seen patients whose voices are either never heard or ignored. As a result, individuals who did not want to be hospitalized were sent home, only to be readmitted against their wishes. That’s one reason Laura decided to focus

her DNP project on educating nurses at skilled nursing facilities about advanced care planning. Unfortunately, her research showed that education alone did not result in a reduction of hospital readmissions.

“But the project was successful in other ways,” she said. “We were able to provide a lot of education to a lot of wonderful people, many of whom completed their own advanced directives. Every health care provider – physicians, medical students, residents, APPs – should be required to complete their own advanced directives, so they understand the importance of encouraging their patients to complete them, as well as the importance of honoring the patient’s wishes.”

Laura began her nursing career in the acute nephrology unit at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center. She later started working in home health and then became the hospice clinical coordinator while completing her MSN. Armed with her master’s degree, Laura piloted OSF HealthCare’s first outpatient palliative care program. After a 4½-year break from end-of-life care she returned in 2016 to her “first love” and spent 3½ years as inpatient advanced practice provider supervisor of the inpatient palliative care team at OSF Saint Francis.

In January 2020, Laura moved to Nashville, Tennessee, providing inpatient palliative care services for Alive Hospice while working in the Tri-Star Medical System.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Melinda Cooling, DNP, MBA, APRN, NEA-BC (Class of 1998)



Melinda currently serves as vice president of advanced practice and chief clinician executive for OSF Saint Gabriel Digital Health at OSF HealthCare, for which she has worked her entire career. She started as an RN in the OSF Medical Group offices in Washington and then Roanoke. She then became director of advanced practice at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center and OSF Medical Group, where she provided mentoring and supervision to APRN/PAs in practice.

Melinda was instrumental in starting the Center for Advanced Practice and the advanced practice provider fellowship program. She also shares her knowledge and expertise as an FNP through teaching and conducting research. She has been a graduate faculty member at the College and Maryville University, as well as adjunct faculty at Bradley University.

After graduating from the College in 1998, Melinda earned her MSN and DNP, as well as a post master’s teaching certificate, from the University of Illinois College of Nursing in Peoria. She also earned an MBA in health care administration from Baker College.

Melinda has served as a co-investigator for three research studies that focused on advanced practice providers, examining job-related attitudes and characteristics, use of a preceptor evaluation tool and perception of role transition. She also has published as author or co-author in journals such as Arthritis & Rheumatism, Nursing Outlook and Pediatric Nursing. She is active in professional organizations that promote leadership and improve nursing and advanced practice nursing, such as the Illinois Society for Advanced Practice Nursing, Advanced Practice Provider Executives, Sigma Theta Tau International, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and American Organization of Nurse Executives. She is a true role model and advocate for advancing nursing to its highest level.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jenna Ford, MSN, APRN, CPN, PCNS-BC (Class of 2013)

Jenna Ford, MSN, APRN, CPN, PCNS-BC, class of 2013 graduate from Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing, was named to iBi’s 2018 class of 40 Leaders Under Forty. Jenna is an advanced practice nurse in pediatric neurosurgery for OSF HealthCare Illinois Neurological Institute, where she leads the concussion clinic. Prior to her current role, Jenna served as assistant manager of acute care pediatrics at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center and OSF HealthCare Children’s Hospital of Illinois.



LEADERSHIP

Provide leadership in health care education and in the communities served.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Christina Garcia, RN, PhD, Professor, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing



Christina Garcia always knew she would be a nurse, but spending her career as a nurse educator was not part of the plan. That bend in her lifetime road came when she presented her master's thesis to Sigma Theta Tau Epsilon – Epsilon Chapter and it caught the attention of Kelly Cone, PhD, a professor at the College of Nursing.

“Kelly found out I had an orthopedics background, and they were looking for a clinical instructor,” Christina said. “She recruited me to come work at the College, so I interviewed with Sister Ludgera. I was hired in December 2003 and I've been here ever since. You couldn't ask for a better place to work.”

Christina, who earned her PhD from Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University, has taught in virtually every graduate and undergraduate program offered by the College. She also is involved in research projects and process improvement projects, both with colleagues and graduate students.

Her work with Peggy Jacques, RN, an OSF HealthCare nurse in palliative care, and Corey Campbell, MA, BA, LCSW, from the Methodist College faculty, was recognized by OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center during the 2018 Nursing Excellence Ceremony. The three collaborated to study volunteers at Sophia's Kitchen, a soup kitchen that supports people in need. Volunteers had indicated they did not feel equipped to recognize or handle patrons with mental health issues.

“If you're not sure how to recognize if a person is manic or has anxiety disorder, you probably won't feel comfortable communicating with them, so you might make them feel ignored,” Christina said.

So, classes were conducted to give volunteers the skills they needed to interact with the patrons who visit Sophia's Kitchen. The volunteers' comfort levels in dealing with the patrons, before and after the training, were studied. The data showed volunteers' interaction with patrons increased after training. Resources, including training books, are now available for volunteers.

Christina also was faculty advisor for Jo Garrison's DNP project, which played a big role in OSF Saint Francis winning the 2019 American Nurses Credentialing Center Magnet Prize Sponsored by Cerner. That project addressed food insecurity in Peoria's most impoverished neighborhoods through a number of initiatives, including the St. Ann's Garden of Hope, which has produced more than 10,000 pounds of fresh produce for neighborhood residents.

Another student's project discovered that the process for discharging patients from the hospital was contributing a shortage of beds for incoming patients. That led to creating a hospitality center, where stable patients could be discharged and wait for transportation, rather than remain in their rooms.

“I love project work,” Christina said. “I challenge the students to look in the practice setting to see what's not working and then ask, ‘What can you as a DNP-prepared leader change?’ I like it when they have an idea and I can help them work through the steps. I'm there as a facilitator, and I let them drive the car.”

“They see an opportunity, and I help them work through the process of making a change and making something better. We're making a difference, so that's exciting and fulfilling for me.”

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships awarded by the Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing for 2018-19:

- \$25,575 to 13 graduate students
- \$138,680 to 70 undergraduate students

FINANCIALS

REVENUES

Total revenue (including federal support)	\$8,852,545
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EXPENSES

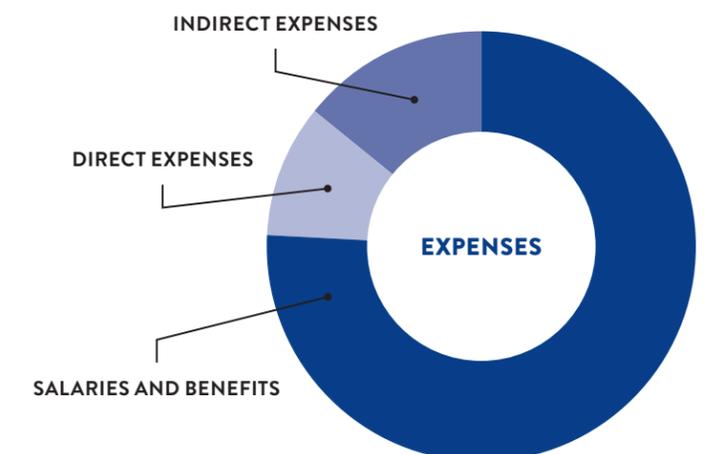
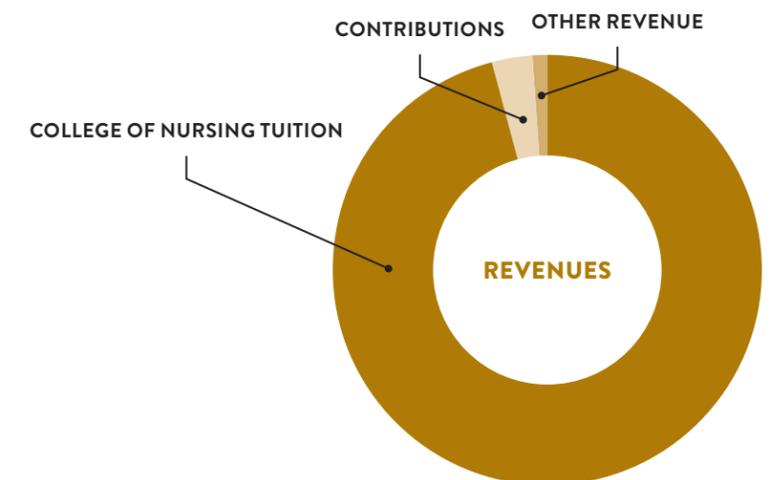
Salaries and benefits	\$6,729,878
Direct expenses (e.g. maintenance, marketing, equipment)	\$877,725
Indirect expenses (e.g., rent and utilities)	\$1,244,942
Total net income	\$0

RECOGNITIONS

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing received national recognition for the quality of its online graduate programs.

The College was ranked among the Top 100 Best Online Master's in Nursing Programs in the United States. U.S. News & World Report ranks programs that have “strong traditional academic foundations based on student-instructor access, graduation rates and instructor credentials. They also excel at educating distance learners while offering robust career and financial support.” The College was cited in particular for archiving the majority of its graduate-level online courses “so students can access lecture material at their convenience.”

The College also ranked among the Top 25 Online DNP Programs, coming in at No. 21 on a list compiled by NursingSchoolHub.com, which recognizes online, hybrid, low-residency programs designed for working nurse professionals. The rankings are based on cost, reputation (as determined by the current Niche score) and salary data.



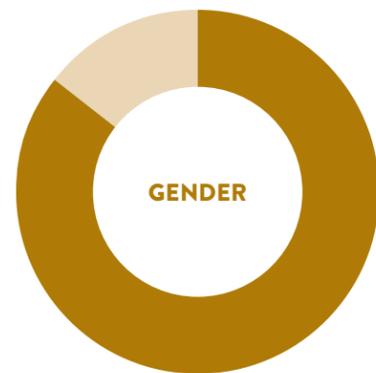
STUDENT AND MISSION PARTNER WELL-BEING

Demonstrate concern for the physical, spiritual, emotional and economic well-being of students and Mission Partners.

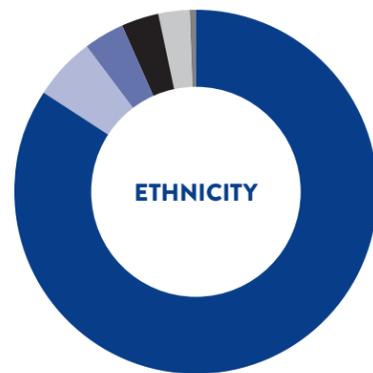
SUPPORTIVE LEARNING AND WORK ENVIRONMENT

Create and sustain high quality learning and work environments which focus on comprehensive, integrated and innovative opportunities for learning, growth, development and desired outcomes.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT DATA – SPRING 2019

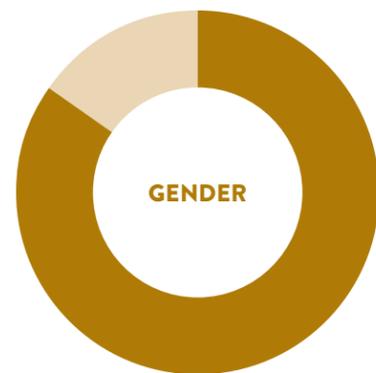


GENDER
 Female (85.7%)
 Male (14.3%)

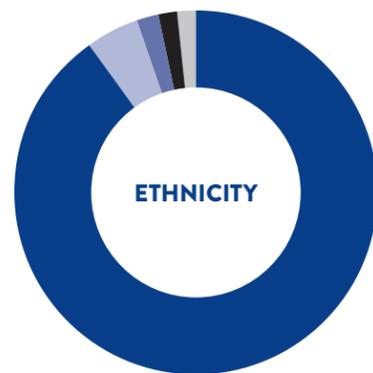


ETHNICITY
 White (84.2%)
 African American (5.7%)
 Hispanic (3.6%)
 Two or more races (3.3%)
 Asian (3.0%)
 Non-resident alien (0.2%)

GRADUATE PROGRAM ENROLLMENT DATA – SPRING 2019



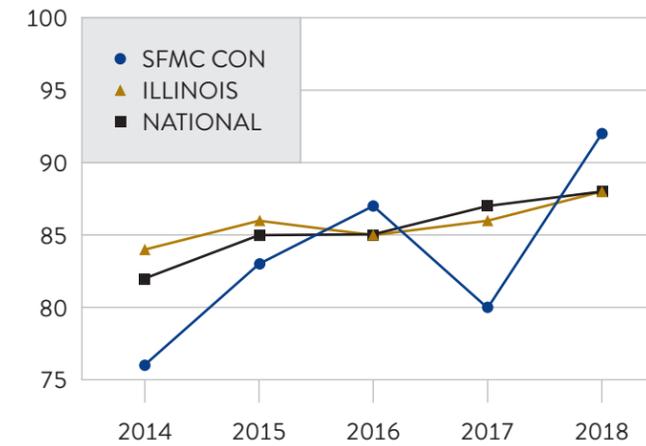
GENDER
 Female (84.8%)
 Male (15.2%)



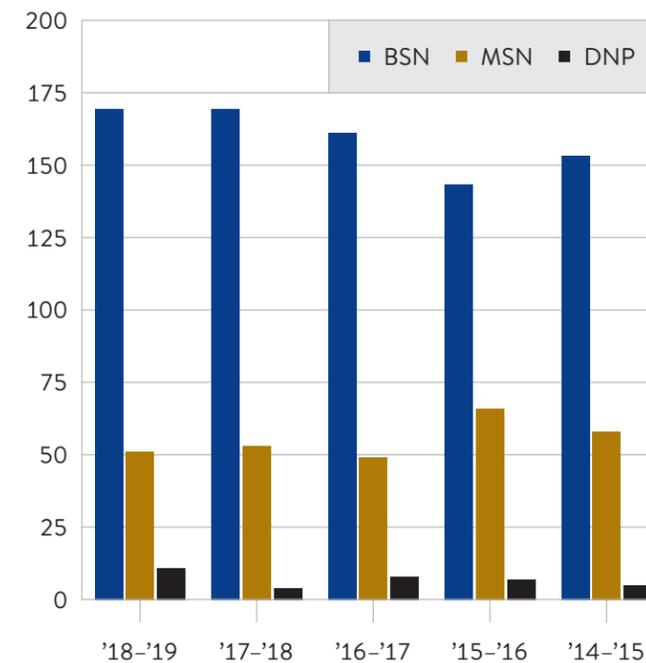
ETHNICITY
 White (90.0%)
 African American (4.7%)
 Asian (2.1%)
 Hispanic (1.6%)
 Two or more races (1.6%)

STATISTICS

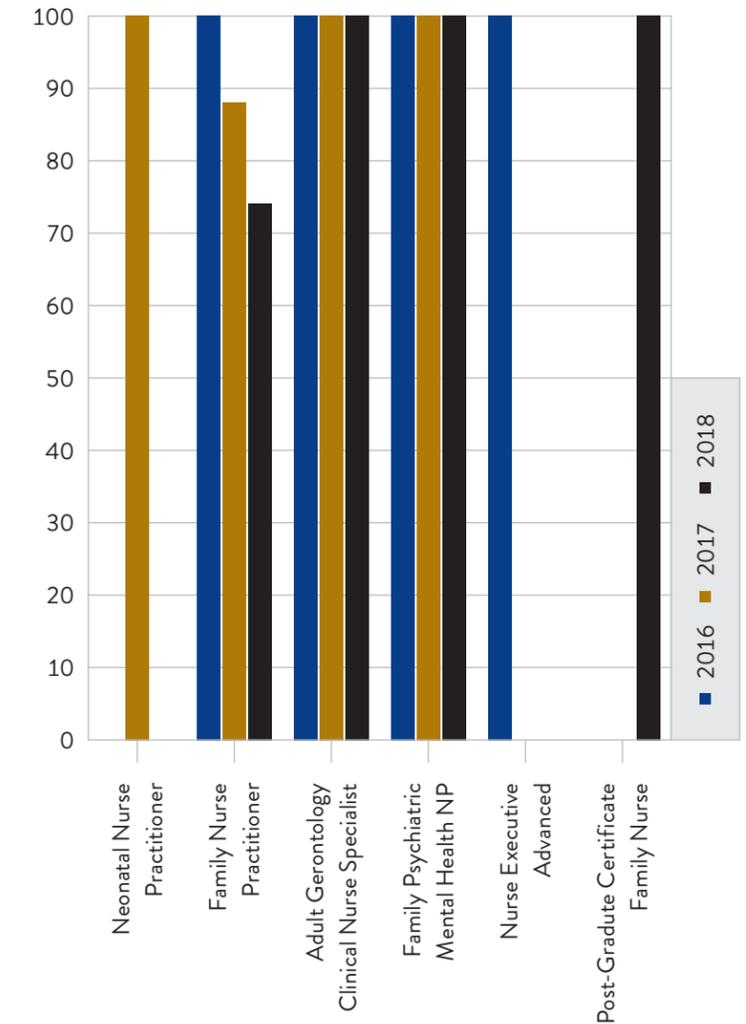
NCLEX PASS RATES



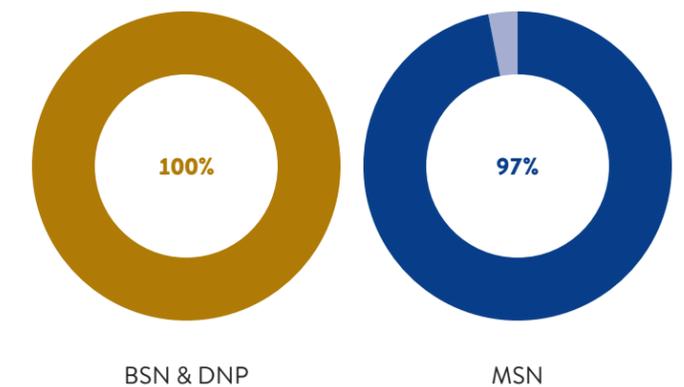
GRADUATION CLASS SIZE BY DEGREE



MSN GRADUATES CERTIFICATION PASS RATES



**JOB PLACEMENT WITHIN ONE YEAR
DECEMBER 2017 – MAY 2018**



COLLEGE BOARD MEMBERS

Robert Anderson, MS, MT, FACHE

President, OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

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Dean of Undergraduate Program,
Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

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Tazewell County Health Department (Retired)

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Nurse Auditor, OSF Saint Francis Medical Center

James Gibson, CPA

Partner, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Kirsten Largent, CPA

Director of Financial Planning and Controller, OSF HealthCare

Curt LeRoy, BA

Senior Major Gifts Officer, OSF HealthCare Foundation

Kristen Manning, MSN, RN, APRN, CRNA

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist,
Associated Anesthesiologists

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Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

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Manager, Integrated Health Programs, Caterpillar, Inc.

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Vice President and CNO,
OSF HealthCare Saint Joseph Medical Center

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Assistant Dean of Support Services,
Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

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Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Margaret Swanson, PhD

Chairperson
Vice President of Academic Affairs,
Illinois Central College (Retired)

Sister Agnes Joseph Williams, O.S.F.

Director of Formation, The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis

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EdD, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

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TEACHING / MENTORING

Provide a learning-centered educational environment that focuses on excellence and fosters development in mind, body and spirit to prepare learners of the College to grow personally and professionally in their chosen roles and become health care leaders in their communities.

FACULTY (cont.)

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SCHOLARSHIP / RESEARCH

Cultivate a spirit of inquiry that leads to the development and dissemination of new knowledge and a lifelong commitment to learning.

FACULTY (cont.)

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MSN, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing, Peoria, Illinois

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Annie Dude, MD, PhD

BA, Lawrence University, Appleton, Wisconsin
MA, University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom
PhD, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
MD, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

Rhonda Ferrero-Patten, JD

BS, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois
JD, Northern Illinois University College of Law, DeKalb, Illinois

SUPPORT STAFF

Paulette Archer, Coordinator, Academic Development Center

Kim Buffington, Assistant,
Student Accounts & Business Services

Caitlin Burgard,
Undergraduate Program Admissions Assistant

Vicki Craig, Graduate Program Admissions Assistant

Denise Crayton, Coordinator of Admissions

Alice Evans,
Coordinator of Student Accounts & Business Services

Janice Farquharson, Director of Admissions/Registrar

Lynne Jost, Assistant, Student Finance, Financial Assistance

Vicki Kamhi, Counselor

William Komanecki, Librarian

Luann Morelock, Administrative Assistant

Carlene Murali, College Support Representative

Nancy Perryman,
Coordinator of Student Finance, Financial Assistance

Danielle Randolph, Secretary

Elizabeth Reynolds,
Instructional Design/Technology Specialist

Rebecca Rundall, Library Technician

Laurel Stepping, Alumni Relations Representative

Carol Swank, Health Nurse

Ibbie Voltz, Professional Nurse Recruiter

Ryan Williams,
Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment Specialist

Elizabeth Zaluska, College Support Representative

SERVICE / PRACTICE

Apply knowledge, skills, and attributes of the chosen health science discipline in service to others utilizing evidence-based practices.