Community

Merriam Webster (“Community” n.d.) defines a community as “a unified body of individuals” “with common interests” in a particular area. Additionally, our colleagues in biology define community as “a group of interacting living organism sharing a populated environment” (“Environment” n.d.). Winona State University is a “community of learners improving our world” (“Mission” n.d.). At Winona State University in the Graduate Programs in Nursing, we proclaim that we are part of a BIG community or living organisms sharing our world and that we have a common interest in supporting the health of all whom we serve. Fulfilling the commitments that this proclamation requires is no small task.

BUT, we are meeting those commitments thanks to the partnerships we forge on a daily basis between students, faculty, staff, and community members. I want to especially thank Drs. Jenson and Valen and the graduate students involved in the NURS 613 Advanced Health Promotion for Families Clinical course who have participated in the Let’s Talk project in 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. When this project was envisioned in 2011, we had no idea where we would be in 2013. The insights gained by students and community members have been nothing short of awesome. It is easy to say the words service-learning and write them into a grant proposal without fully understanding the dividends that such community experiences can bring. I am thankful for your dedication to the health of families in our communities, whether in Rochester or Winona, or beyond. The Community Connection event on April 17 was a testament to the trusting relationships you have formed and nurtured between WSU and its community. What a full day of learning and growing together. What a spring, what a year, what meaningful learning. I know that you are making all of WSU proud in your dedication to our community. WSU is known for its good works and contributions because of you.

Best wishes for a good final two weeks of classes and finals! Please know that this BIG community is wishing only the best for all of your semester outcomes; short-term, long-term, big, or small. Treat yourself to a walk in the sunshine to reward yourself for a spring semester well done!

Sincerely,
Sonja J. Meiers, PhD, RN
Director and Professor
Graduate Programs in Nursing
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References


Mission (n.d.). In Winona State University Mission http://www.winona.edu/wsumission.asp
“Twinning Partnership” to improve the quality of nursing care and education in Tanzania

How are nurses in the United States and Tanzania alike? Nurses in both countries share the same commitment to quality care for patients. Meeting each other for the first time we realize we share the values of compassion, integrity and competence; speak the same language of holism; and embrace the same goal of helping people of all ages and conditions to be as healthy as possible. Nurses in both countries struggle to find ways to provide care for the underserved. Both countries face the challenge of addressing a growing number of patients with chronic illnesses. Although we live half a world apart, we have a shared understanding of the critical role that nursing plays in the health of individuals, communities, and nations.

How are nurses in the United States and Tanzania different? Nurses in Tanzania have fewer resources and less support in their jobs. They often work in isolation and in difficult settings. They may be the only health provider in a particular geographic area with limited options for referral. (Think transportation of a hemorrhaging patient with non-progressive labor to a health facility forty miles away by motorcycle on bad roads.) In the hospital setting, simple tools like stethoscopes and gloves are in limited supply or absent. An RN in a hospital unit may be responsible for 50+ acutely ill patients. The public does not necessarily respect nurses’ knowledge or skills. These similarities and differences have led to new relationships with nurses in Tanzania.

The WSU Department of Nursing has developed two exciting partnerships in Tanzania. The goal of these partnerships is not to impose our models of education and practice in Tanzania but to learn from each other and find innovative ways to share resources and address unmet health care needs in both countries.

The first partnership is with St. John’s University of Tanzania which is located in Dodoma, the capital of Tanzania. The goal of this partnership development of travel study courses as well as opportunities for students and faculty from both institutions to share resources and participate in joint learning activities. Although the partnership is just beginning, we anticipate that in addition to Nursing, other WSU majors including Social Work, Counselor Education, and Recreation and Tourism will be involved.

The second partnership is through a grant from the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) which is a broad coalition of US government (Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resource and Service Administration and Center for Disease Control) and other organizations concerned with global health including the World Health Organization. AIHA uses a twinning model in which a US partner is “twinned” with a partner in a developing or transitional country. The “twins” identify key issues related to health and work together to develop solutions that are practical, sustainable, and economically viable while avoiding creation of additional burdens.

In this project, the US partners include the WSU Department of Nursing and World Services of La Crosse an organization focused on improving municipal services, economic development, health, social welfare, and quality of life in targeted communities that coordinates the activities of volunteers who share their knowledge and professional expertise with colleagues around the world. WSU provides the technical knowledge while World Services provides administrative support. The Tanzanian partners include Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) School of Nursing and the Tanzanian Nursing Initiative which includes Schools of Nursing (all levels), the Chief Nursing Officer and the Nurse Training Unit at the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Tanzania Nursing and Midwifery Council (similar to our National Council of State Boards of Nursing), and Tanzania National Nurses Association (similar to our ANA).

The original goal of the AIHA nursing program was to improve the quality of HIV/AIDS services provided by nurses in Tanzania. The program has now been expanded to improve the quality health care by strengthening the nursing profession with the ultimate goal of producing a more competent work force that yields improved
health outcomes for population. The project will focus on:
1. Nursing Education (curriculum development, faculty development, school support)
2. Nursing Regulation (improving the safety of nursing service delivery and public protection through licensure, examinations)
3. Professional Association (advocacy, nursing image)
4. Nursing Services (policy, nursing leadership)

National Tanzanian health initiatives in which nursing will play a major role include
- Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV
- Gender Based Violence and Violence Against Children

Exchange visits between partners is a key part of AIHA’s approach and provides opportunities for the partners to understand professional issues in each country and to identify assets and challenges in each setting. In November, WSU Professors Lisa Schneppe and Gayle Olsen spent time in Tanzania learning about nursing practice and education as well as the strengths and challenges of nursing in Tanzania.

Recently, three nursing leaders from Tanzania, Professors Thecla Kohi and Lillian Mselle, nursing faculty at Muhimbili University and Ndementria Vermond, Assistant Director of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare; Nurse Training Unit, visited WSU, La Crosse and Minneapolis to learn more about nursing in the United States including models of care, education and resources that might be helpful in Tanzania. In addition to meeting with WSU faculty, the visitors: toured MN State College SE Technical nursing program, toured skills labs at MN State College SE Tech., WSU Winona and Rochester campuses, met with health care providers at Children’s Hospital of Minnesota to learn about their HIV/AIDS program, and met with the MN Board of Nursing to learn about the licensure process here. While at WSU they were able to meet with Victor Vieth from the National Child Protection Training Center and faculty for the Child Advocacy program. They also met with personnel from WSU Technical Support Center. The visitors were able to shadow WSU nursing faculty as they worked with students during clinical experiences at Gunderson Lutheran Hospital. The visitors were very impressed with our model of clinical education for students. Since Easter fell during their visit, nursing faculty, Shirley Newberry, entertained the visitors during the Easter weekend.

The next exchange visit is planned for this summer when WSU faculty will travel to Tanzania for 6-8 weeks. Twenty-five nursing skills labs were donated to Tanzania and have been dispersed to nursing schools around the country. However, many nursing faculty are unsure how to utilize these new resources most effectively. WSU and MUHAS faculty will help train nurse educators on how to use these new resources and will also help develop skills lab manuals as resources for faculty and students. Other priorities include the revision and implementation of a new curriculum for registered nurses to advance their education (similar to our RN Completion Program) and program evaluation of existing programs. These specific priorities are contained within the overarching goal of enhancing nursing education and practice to enable Tanzanian nurses to improve the health of the population of the country.

The goals of this endeavor are broad and comprehensive, the challenges are significant and complex, but the project is a very exciting in its potential for both the US and Tanzanian partners. Nurses constitute the largest health care provider workforce in Tanzania and the world. They are the front-line providers and often the only providers, available to patients in Tanzania. By improving nursing education and practice, this project has the potential to improve the health of a nation.

Submitted by:
Gayle Olsen, MS, RN, PNP, Professor Emerita
Lisa Schneppe, PhD, RN, CNP, Professor
Gentle Reminders . . .

♦ **Graduate Students** accepted into the program, have a **three-week window to register for classes**, *(before classes may open to Graduate Special Students)*. This is to allow accepted Graduate Students the opportunity to register for classes they need to stay on track in their plans of study.

♦ Is your clinical information up-to-date? Please remember to update your clinical information, such as; Nursing License renewal, CPR re-certification, Mantoux Test results, etc. You may drop off, fax, or mail updated clinical information to the Graduate Programs in Nursing office. Graduate Programs in Nursing fax number is 507-292-5127.

♦ **Graduate Programs in Nursing** students need to complete the “**Application for Admission to Candidacy for a Master’s of Science (MS) Degree in Nursing**”. Please complete this form in consultation with an advisor, and prior to completing 16 credits. This form can be found on the Graduate Nursing website at [http://www.winona.edu/graduatenuisible/Application for Candidacy - Semesters (BS to DNP) (FORM UPDATED 8-24-11).pdf](http://www.winona.edu/graduatenuisible/Application for Candidacy - Semesters (BS to DNP) (FORM UPDATED 8-24-11).pdf)

♦ **Graduate Certificate (GC) Nursing** students need to complete the “**Certificate Program Plan**” in consultation with an advisor. This form can be found on the Graduate Nursing website at [http://www.winona.edu/graduatenuisible/Certificate Program Plan (Nursing).pdf](http://www.winona.edu/graduatenuisible/Certificate Program Plan (Nursing).pdf)

Faculty Publications ~


Notice of DNP Capstone Project Presentations

This is an exciting time of year for our WSU graduate program. The last class of the MnSCU Consortium DNP Program will be graduating this spring. To celebrate their hard work and scholarly achievement, they will each have a DNP Capstone Defense. You are invited to attend the “public” portion of the DNP Capstone Defense of the following students. The presentation of their work will be at the beginning of each of the times listed below. Please join us in hearing about their exciting evidence-based practice projects.

Stacey L. Rosenberg, MS, RN, CNE
(change in date/time notice)

| TITLE: An Educational Intervention Addressing Nurses’ Cultural Competence |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| PLACE: MCHS Austin Administration Conference Room Adobe Connect - https://umconnect.umn.edu/n770/ |
| DATE: April 26, 2013 TIME: 3:00 pm—5:00 pm |

| TITLE: Documentation of Comprehensive Pain Assessment in Outpatient Medical Oncology—Best Practice |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| PLACE: Mayo Clinic—Rochester Gonda Building, Room 15-103 Adobe Connect - https://umconnect.umn.edu/n770/ |
| DATE: April 29, 2013 TIME: 2:00 pm—4:00 pm |

“Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment.”
- Jim Rohn
Resources available to Graduate Nursing Students........

- A new resource has been created especially for Graduate Nursing Students! Log on to D2L, and using the Self-Registration link, register for the “Graduate Programs in Nursing Resources and Helpful Info” course.

- In this course, you will find PowerPoint® presentations and videoed demonstrations on how to do many things required of you in the Graduate Nursing Program. This includes formatting a Word document according to APA style, creating PowerPoint® presentations, and formatting your Thesis/EBP Project.

- More resources will continue to be added, so check back often! If you have suggestions for content, please contact Lydia Lazzara or Taylor Peck (Grad. Assistants) and we will work on adding the resource!

- New resources posted now are:

  PowerPoint® presentations and Tegrity demonstrations on

  **How to Format APA/Scholarly Papers in Microsoft® Word**

  and

  **Formatting Thesis/EBP Projects in Microsoft® Word**

**Steps on “How to Self Register for your Self-Enrolled Course”**

**STEP ONE:** Click on Self Registration once you long into D2L

**STEP TWO:** Next select the course you need to self-register for.

**STEP THREE:** You will see the course under “No Semester (ISRS)” once you log onto D2L.
Graduate Student Organization News

You are invited to attend the Resume’ and Marketing Support Session
Thursday, May 2, 2013
5:00 p.m.
Winona: Maxwell 158
UCR Rochester: GL 135
Dinner provided

The Resume’ and Marketing Support Session will focus on how to market yourself as an advanced professional.

Please bring a copy of your resume’ to discuss with career counselors.

For planning purposes, please RSVP to Kristine Paulson,
Grad. Asst., Counselor Ed.
kpaulson10@winona.edu
Graduate Student Organization News
(continued)

FINAL Graduate Student Organization Meeting for the semester will be held
Thursday, May 9, 2013
3:30 p.m.
Winona: Stark 105
UCR Rochester: AT 103

Graduate Student Organization Meeting
AGENDA

1. Welcome to new members
   A. Voting for new positions (see constitution)**

2. Careers Workshop
   A. How did this go?
   B. Suggestions for the future?

3. Workshops
   A. Graduate speaker series (APA, technology, LinkedIn, and E-folio)
   B. Mentorship of undergraduates
   C. Ideas for workshops

4. Technology Updates
   A. Printer access, Wiki Page, Graduate Commons (Tauseef)

5. Philanthropy
   A. Kids first
   B. Housing building

6. Involvement
   A. Diversity Council (Mary) invite someone to meeting
   B. Other ideas

7. New business?
   A. Graduate Student Orientation, August 22, 2013

** to view a copy of the WSU Graduate Student Organization, please contact Michael (Mick) Lynch at mlynch@winona.edu. Mr. Lynch is the Advisor for the WSU Graduate Student Organization and Counselor in Counseling Services located in the Integrated Wellness Complex.
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Please call 507-285-7473 for appointments.

We’re on the Web!
www.winona.edu/graduatенursing

WSU-R Mission:
“Winona State University – Rochester provides relevant and innovative life-long learning experiences to educate, enlighten and serve our citizenry to meet the needs of the community and region.”