Notes from the Director ~

What a full and rich year we have all had together as faculty and students! Some of you will be leaving us after graduation for new adventures in the next step of your professional journey and we wish you all the best. Some of you have already embarked on the journey to summer acute care nurse practitioner courses or will soon begin NURS 617 Advanced Clinical Pharmacology or STAT 601 Statistical Methods. Some of you will be taking a summer break from coursework and continuing your thesis or evidence-based practice work independently or with faculty guidance. Some of you will be taking a break from coursework and thesis/EBP work. We all take different paths, engage at different paces, seek different avenues for rest and relaxation, and spend different amounts and types of time engaging with our social support systems.

We, as faculty and students in the first year of a revised curriculum and some in a new program, have all “weathered” the implementation well, with all of the accompanying bumps and adjustment. From my perspective, your level of knowledge as first year graduate nursing students is second to none. We have done this with grace, respectful communication and shared problem solving. I hope that you all have a deep sense of accomplishment as a result.

After such a full and rich year of learning and teaching, I wish you the time this summer for some rest and relaxation. I wish you time to focus on all of the things that most matter to you while engaging in the activities that bring you joy and connection time that is significant.

Take good care,
Dr. Meiers
Director and Professor
Graduate Programs in Nursing
507-536-5671
smeiers@winona.edu
Good News:
DNP Program Reviewed Favorably

Two pieces of good news that we would like to share with you are:

1) our Higher Learning Commission (HLC) visit went VERY well and we anticipate a favorable full report some time later this summer; this is good news in that it means continuing university accreditation for 10 years, and

2) our proposed Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program was favorably reviewed by HLC; this is good news in that we can begin planning for admission to the DNP program as early as Fall 2012 (watch our website for details). Again, the HLC will give their final approval at their Institutional Actions Council meeting this summer. For now, we will say this, “The Winona State University Doctor of Nursing Practice program has been favorably reviewed by the Higher Learning Commission, a commission member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Applicants will be accepted pending final approval by the Institution Action Council.”

Our plan is to initially invite applications from our currently enrolled master’s students. Those of you who began your master’s program as enrolled students in August for the first time have virtually completed the first year of the DNP curriculum so you are well on your way. Graduate faculty are developing the DNP admission process for currently enrolled students which will include a goal statement, professional resume, application form, interview and writing sample...stay tuned to the website for further information after May 16. However, we will also continue the master’s programs that you are all enrolled in so that you can graduate with your master’s degree as planned when you were admitted. We will keep you informed of transition plans as we go as is your practice.

Thank You to Student Governance Leaders!

We want to thank Thia Walkowiak for her leadership this year as the Graduate Student Representative to the Graduate Committee. She faithfully met with the Committee on alternating Mondays as a liaison for graduate students regarding curriculum, governance and student support needs. She also participated in the HLC site evaluation visit as a voice for students.

We also want to thank Cassie Narr and Kristi Penza, the Graduate Committee, Graduate Student Representatives in 2010-2012, for their ongoing willingness to serve as leaders in 2011-2012 planning celebrations, visiting with HLC evaluators, being a sounding board for new ideas, and altogether investing themselves and their time for the good of the success of our programs. Finally, we thank Taylor Peck for agreeing to serve on the University-wide Graduate Student Experience Committee; this is a new committee that focuses solely on the needs of Graduate Students at WSU. It truly “takes a village” to support quality; we are glad to have you all on board!
~ Publication Announcements ~


Graduate Faculty Scholarship are available for review in East Hall 129-136

Scholarship News

Viterbo University
Sigma Theta Tau Scholarship

Amy Barna
was selected as the recipient of the Pi Phi Chapter's Lamplighter Scholarship from the Viterbo University’s chapter.

Congratulations Amy!

Goddard
Library and
Library
Technology
Summer
Hours
507-285-7233

May 11—May 28, 2012
Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Saturday—Sunday Closed
Memorial Day Closed (Mon. May 28, 2012)

Summer Semester:
May 29—August 10, 2012
Monday –Thursday 8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Sunday Closed

Closed: Wed., July 4th (Independence Day Holiday)
Gratitude to All Graduate Nursing Faculty and Staff in 2011-2012

I want to express my deep professional appreciation for the countless hours of commitment that your Graduate Faculty and Staff share of themselves to create a successful learning environment. Here are but a few examples:

**Dr. Forsyth** — For her focused dedication to her role as the leader of our Graduate Nursing Curriculum Committee…For mentoring of new faculty as well as willingness to step in to assist in teaching NURS 604 this spring as well as her ongoing research with her Mayo Clinic team

**Dr. Jenson** — For her leadership in the Let’s Talk Community Connection Day, the WSU Graduate Student Poster Exchange, and Kappa Mu Induction all while establishing a new community-based clinical settings

**Dr. Olson** — For her leadership in coordinating the MNRS graduate student experience, the Research on the Green conference and Graduate Student Hooding as well as development of new EBP opportunities at Winona Health

**Dr. Ponto** — For her willingness to serve on professional national task forces that bring us up-to-date information on credentialing and program trends and her willingness to step in to assist in teaching NURS 604 this spring while continuing her research on behalf of families dealing with ovarian cancer

**Dr. Scherb** — For her leadership in revising the Thesis and EBP guidelines, her able editing of documents to help us all “look good” and her adventuresome spirit in designing well constructed new courses as well as her ongoing commitment to research with the Iowa team

**Dr. Schnepper** — For her dedication to learning new avenues for educating students and caring for African citizens in her sabbatical travels to Tanzania; we look forward to learning of her dreams for our future in this regard

**Dr. Valen** — For being a fearless leader of a new program, mentoring of new faculty and a new group of students, and shepherding the FNP program in Dr. Schnepper’s absence all while taking on new adventures with EBP within her practice settings

**Drs. Mangan-Dankwart and Ornes** — For their willingness to “pitch in” and support graduate education in this year of a new curriculum

**Professor Rachel Herman** — For her courage in the face of the adversity that clinical site placement has become; her kind nature and ability to engage with our clinical partners in such a respectful manner is exemplary
Professor Usha Asirvatham — For her endless dedication to developing the content and focus for our advanced pathophysiology courses while simultaneously learning new distance learning technologies

Professor Gayle Olsen — For her legacy of rigor, quality and dedication to the learning needs of students in advanced pathophysiology and child health…we are certainly not done learning from her even though she is officially retired

Professors Sulla and Niesen — For their dedication to the nursing leaders of tomorrow and willingness to share their quality and management expertise so freely with students and faculty

Professors Danika Nelson and Andrea Johnson — For their willingness to join us in this new adventure of the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program and jumping in with both feet to make the curriculum the best that it can be

Dr. Stejskal — For her ongoing support of graduate education as part of the Department of Nursing; she makes things happen on our behalf

Dr. McBreen — For his undaunted and supportive leadership in the face of overload assignments, accreditation visits, leadership changes and budget shortages

Sara Bass — For her positive nature and “can do” attitude as well as professional approach in service to students, faculty and the public

Carolyn Ryno — For her multiple talents and positive disposition while maintaining a data base that is a gold mine for the purposes of ongoing accreditation, last minute data requests and grant writing

Who knows what next year will bring!:

Dr. Sonja Meiers
Several WSU Graduate Programs in Nursing faculty and graduate nursing students attended and presented Papers and/or Posters in the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS), 36th Annual Research Conference held April 12-15, 2012, in Dearborn, MI.

Congratulations Wendy Worden, Leanne England (Graduate Programs in Nursing students, WSU), and Dr. Sonja J. Meiers (Director and Professor, Graduate Programs in Nursing, WSU-R) for receiving Honorable Mention for their Poster Presentation, “Family Uncertainty, Struggling and Connecting: Managing Chronic Illness”.

(Poster presentation information is listed below.)

Below are Faculty Paper Presentations: (Title, Authors, and Location of Authors)

“Testing the Family Reintegration in Chronic Illness Model: Providing Direction for Nursing Practice with Families Managing a Chronic Illness”
Sandra K. Eggenberger¹, Sonja J. Meiers², Norma Krumwiede¹;
¹Minnesota State University, Mankato, ²Winona State University

“Development and Testing of the Family Illness Experience Visual Analogue Scale (FIEVAS) to Measure Family Member Experiences with Chronic Illness: Initial Validity and Reliability”
Sonja J. Meiers¹, Sandra K. Eggenberger², Norma K. Krumwiede²;
¹Winona State University, ²Minnesota State University, Mankato

“A Demonstration Project to Expand Informatics Competencies in Practicing Nurses”
Cindy A. Scherb¹, Marcelline R. Harris², Catherine E. Vanderboom³;
¹Winona State University, ²University of Michigan, ³Mayo Clinic
Below is the Poster Presentation by Faculty: (Title, Authors, and Location of Authors)

“Interdisciplinary Psychiatric Partnering for Transition from Inpatient to Outpatient ECT”
**Diane M. Forsyth**¹, Theresa Hegard², Emily Jazdzewski², Linda K. Smith², Maria Lapid², Roberta Sheldon², Chris Sola², Simon Kung²;
¹Winona State University – Rochester Center, ²Mayo Clinic – Rochester

Below is a list of Winona State University Student Posters - MSN:
(which include Poster Title, Authors, Location of Authors, and Faculty Advisor)

“Intentions Toward Bone Health-Promoting Physical Activity in Overweight and Health Weight Women After Bone Density Testing”
**Sarah Bologna, Jennifer Hill, Amanda Meyer**
Winona State University
Advisor: Ann C. F. Olson, PhD, RN, CNP, FAANP, Professor

“Developing a Care Model for a Community Health Clinic Serving the Uninsured”
**Cassandra Narr, Kristine S. Penza, Thia Walkowiak**;
Winona State University
Advisor: Ann C. F. Olson, PhD, RN, CNP, FAANP, Professor

“Family Uncertainty, Struggling and Connecting: Managing Chronic Illness”
**Wendy Worden, Leanne England, Sonja Meiers**;
Winona State University – Rochester
Advisor: Ann C. F. Olson, PhD, RN, CNP, FAANP, Professor
This Poster received “Honorable Mention” during the Conference!
## Important Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 28, 2012</td>
<td>Office Closed (Memorial Day Holiday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29, 2012</td>
<td>Summer Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1, 2012</td>
<td><strong>Graduate Assistantship Applications</strong> due. Submit this form to the appropriate department chairperson if you wish to be a graduate assistant. You must be admitted into a Master’s or Specialist degree program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 22, 2012</td>
<td>Fall Semester begins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Gentle Reminders —

*Has your Thesis been bound?* Please remember to submit the [Thesis Bindery Form](http://www.winona.edu/nursing/files/Application_for_Candidacy_-_Semesters_(BS_to_DNP)_(FORM_UPDATED_8-24-11).pdf) to the Graduate Programs in Nursing office, WSU Rochester, EA 129-136.

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

“**Application for Admission to Candidacy for a Master’s Degree in Nursing**”. Graduate Programs in Nursing students will need to complete this form, in consultation with an advisor, and prior to completing 16 credits. This form can be located by visiting the Graduate Nursing website at: [http://www.winona.edu/nursing/files/Application_for_Candidacy_-_Semesters_(BS_to_DNP)_(FORM_UPDATED_8-24-11).pdf](http://www.winona.edu/nursing/files/Application_for_Candidacy_-_Semesters_(BS_to_DNP)_(FORM_UPDATED_8-24-11).pdf)

“**Application to Graduate**”. You are encouraged to complete and submit this form to the Graduate Studies Office by midterm of the previous term prior to graduation. This form can be located by visiting the Graduate Studies website at: [http://www.winona.edu/gradstudies/Media/Application_for_Graduation.pdf](http://www.winona.edu/gradstudies/Media/Application_for_Graduation.pdf)

**Graduate Study Lab card?** Please return your Graduate Study Lab Card to the Graduate Programs in Nursing if you are not currently registered for classes. Some exceptions do apply.

**Looking for graded classroom assignments from faculty?** Please stop by our office, we may have your graded paper waiting to be claimed. Graded papers left in our office will be shredded the following semester.

**Please keep your mailing and email addresses, and phone numbers current with the Graduate Programs in Nursing office and the Registrar’s office.**
Did You Know........

Searching for WSU-Rochester classes is user friendly using the on-line web schedule? Please choose “Rochester” as the Campus location. See example below.

![Find Courses at Winona State University](image)

WSU’s Academic Calendar is located at:
http://www.winona.edu/registrar/Media/Spring_2012_20110610.pdf

WSU’s Graduate Programs in Nursing Calendar is on the web at:

Donor’s wishing to contribute to the Gayle Olsen Graduate Nursing Scholarship, may do so by check, credit card, or monthly debit. Checks may be made out to WSU Foundation, please indicate Gayle Olsen Scholarship in the memo line. Gifts may also be given online at: www.alumni.winona.edu/netcommunity/onlinegift.

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**WSU-Rochester**

**Graduate Programs in Nursing Office**

**Summer Hours:**

Monday—Friday

7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

*Please call 507-285-7473 for appointments.*
WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate Programs in Nursing
859 30th Avenue SE
Rochester, MN  55904

Phone:  507-285-7473
Fax:      507-292-5127
E-mail:   nursing@winona.edu

We’re on the web!
www.winona.edu/nursing

Check out the WSU-Rochester line of clothing for sale in the RCTC Bookstore!

You will find:
♦ T-shirts ♦ Sweatshirts ♦ Fleeces and hats

Please welcome ~

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