The University of Alabama at Birmingham
School of Nursing

Leaders
With a Vision

60 years
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM
SCHOOL OF NURSING
As the UAB School of Nursing marks its 60th anniversary, we are celebrating the School's distinguished alumni and history as we also prepare for our progressive future. UAB's nursing legacy is found in more than 11,000 alumni who live and work around the world. Our graduates impact health care as expert clinicians, deans and directors of nursing programs, executives and presidents of universities and companies, scientists, advanced-practice registered nurses, and other professional leaders. In the same pioneering spirit, the School is educating today's nurses for tomorrow's health care needs with innovative programs set in one of America's premier academic health-science centers.

In celebration of the School's 60 years of nursing excellence, we are honoring 60 of our alumni as “Visionary Leaders” for their distinctive leadership, innovation, and service in the fields of nursing and health care. This prestigious award recognizes their visionary leadership and the contributions they have made and continue to make to improve quality care across the nation and the world. Enclosed is a listing of the Visionary Leader Award recipients and a brief leadership profile for each. I encourage you to read these professional profiles to understand how each of them has made our world a better place.

The UAB School of Nursing was honored to have 200 outstanding alumni nominations for the Visionary Leader Award. A distinguished panel of external reviewers selected the Visionary Leaders based on nomination criteria. While we could only name 60 “Visionary Leaders,” all of the nominees are leaders and should be acknowledged as such. It is my pleasure to name these outstanding alumni as UAB School of Nursing “Recognized Leaders” for their impact and contributions to the field of nursing.

For decades to come, the UAB School of Nursing will continue to be a national leader in nursing education to meet the demands of the 21st century with innovative bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs. Among these are the state's only Ph.D. in nursing and first joint doctor of nursing practice (DNP) degrees. The School’s graduate programs are ranked in the top ten percent of nursing schools nationwide, as ranked by U.S. News and World Report. The School is home to the only nursing-specific research center in the state with federally funded studies in the areas of oncology, pediatrics, minority health, aging, clinical research coordination, HIV/AIDS, international and occupational health, and nursing workforce. The School is also the only Pan American World Health Organization (PAHO)/World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for International Nursing in the state and one of only 12 in the nation and 45 in the world.

As dean, I am so proud of the School's rich history and the contributions all of our award winners, alumni, faculty, and students are providing to health care and the nursing profession. Congratulations and thank you for being a part of the success and future development of the School! Through its sustained leadership, the UAB School of Nursing will continue to make an impact throughout the world.

Sincerely,

Doreen C. Harper
Dean and Professor
UAB School of Nursing
Kathleen G. Andreoli, DSN, RN, FAAN
DSN ’79

Dr. Kathleen G. Andreoli is the Kellogg Emeritus Dean of Rush College of Nursing and former vice president for nursing academic affairs at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois.

During her leadership for the American Association of Physician’s Assistant Programs, the first physician assistant program and coronary care unit in America were developed and implemented at Duke University Medical Center. While serving as faculty at UAB, she collaborated with others to develop and define one of the first national family Nurse Practitioner programs. She has authored a coronary care textbook through seven editions and has published countless articles on nursing education.

Dr. Andreoli is a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Nursing, and Sigma Theta Tau. She has served on national committees for the American Medical Association, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the National Board of Medical Examiners, Voluntary Hospitals of America, and the American Hospital Association. She was named as an outstanding dean by Sigma Theta Tau International and received the GE Healthcare American Association of Critical Care Nurses Pioneering Spirit Award and distinguished alumni awards from the Vanderbilt and UAB schools of nursing.

Lazelle E. Benefield, PhD, RN, FAAN
MSN ’78

Dr. Lazelle E. Benefield is dean of the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing. She holds appointments as professor and Parry Chair in Gerontological Nursing, and adjunct professor in the Department of Geriatric Medicine and is the director of the Donald W. Reynolds Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence.

As principal investigator, Dr. Benefield’s current research and community outreach efforts, funded by grants from the Alzheimer’s Association and the National Academies Keck Futures Initiative, bring together distance family caregivers, communication technologists, and nurse scientists to promote independence and improve quality of life, especially for older adults living at home with dementia. Additionally Dr. Benefield received a $2.6 million grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to establish the Reynolds Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence at Oklahoma University College of Nursing and has recently completed research with a focus on the geriatric population, funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Nursing.

Dr. Benefield is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, where she serves on the Expert Panel on Aging; is co-founder of the Postdoctoral Geriatric Interdisciplinary Transience Research Institute at the University of Oklahoma; and collaborates with the Oklahoma Geriatric Education Center.

Judy L. Bezanson, DSN, CNS-MS, RN, FAHA
DSN ’00

Dr. Judy L. Bezanson is senior science and medicine advisor at the National Center of the American Heart Association in Dallas, Texas. She is responsible for direction and guidance of the Cardiovascular Science Division, which staffs key committees, councils and science subcommittees. She also is actively involved with the American Heart Association’s (AHA) Go Red for Women Initiative.

She is engaged in the AHA science news production in digital and print formats and collaborates with national and international leaders in the field of cardiovascular science. Prior to joining the AHA, Dr. Bezanson was actively engaged in cardiovascular nursing as an educator, entrepreneur, and clinical specialist. Her research focused on understanding patient characteristics contributing to prolonged mechanical ventilation after cardiac surgery. Her work has been published in the American Journal of Critical Care, Nursing Research and the Journal of Nursing Measurement, and she has presented her findings both nationally and internationally.

Dr. Bezanson has been recognized by AHA for her science news reporting and received the coveted AHA staff Time, Feeling and Focus award presented by the Chief Executive Officer. Dr. Bezanson has been invited for Fellowship into the AHA in recognition for her contribution to the Council of Cardiovascular Nursing.
Deidre M. Blank, DSN, RN, FAAN
DSN ’82

Dr. Deidre M. Blank has served as chief of the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Branch at the National Center for Nursing Research (NCNR) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH); nurse consultant with the Division of Nursing at Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA); and nurse consultant to the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses, Canada. In these roles, Dr. Blank developed policies and guided research in the field of nursing.

Dr. Blank’s research interests include the mother-infant tenderness process; diet and taste interactions; sensory attributes of foods; and endogenous opioids and hypogonadism as related to human obesity. Dr. Blank volunteered with the Office of the Surgeon General’s Command Center during hurricane Katrina and has travelled to Lesotho, Africa, to provide research leadership. Additionally she has served on the review boards of several professional journals, including American Journal of Public Health and Issues in Mental Health Nursing.

A Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, she has received numerous awards, including the Director’s Award from the NCNR, NIH; the Assistant Secretary for Health Award for exceptional achievement; the Thomas Jefferson University Alumni Special Achievement Award; and a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Ellen B. Buckner, DSN, RN
DSN ’87, MSN ’83, BSN ’75

Dr. Ellen B. Buckner is a professor at the College of Nursing, University of South Alabama (USA). Prior to her work at USA she taught undergraduate nursing students for 34 years at UAB, where she established and initiated the UAB School of Nursing Honors Program. During the nine years she served as coordinator for the program, it became one of the largest departmental honors programs at UAB, with over 120 students graduating with honors in nursing. During her tenure as program coordinator and through her guidance, students published 18 papers in peer-reviewed national nursing journals. Additionally, through her mentoring of these students, more than 75 presented to NCUR: The National Conference on Undergraduate Research and won numerous national and international awards. The program was particularly effective in encouraging students to pursue graduate education, with one-third of the honors graduates entering graduate study, including six who entered the B.S.N.-to-Ph.D. program at UAB.

Dr. Buckner has received the UAB National Alumni Society Ingalls Award for Lifetime Achievement in Teaching and was named a Fellow in the Roy Adaptation Association for distinguished undergraduate mentoring. She is the former president of the Alabama Academy of Science and the current chair of the Gorgas Scholarship Competition for outstanding high school seniors.

Leanne C. Busby, DSN, RN, FAANP
DSN ’99

Dr. Leanne C. Busby is the director of Nursing and Allied Health at the Tennessee Board of Regents and a former dean of the Jeanette Rudy School of Nursing at Cumberland University in Lebanon, Tennessee.

Dr. Busby received funding in the late 80s and early 90s from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services to develop primary care clinics and school-based nursing clinics for disadvantaged populations. Dr. Busby has worked closely with the Tennessee Board of Nursing to modify legislation that limited nurse practitioners’ prescriptive authority. As a volunteer for the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, she served as a co-project director to develop national curriculum guidelines and regulatory criteria for family nurse practitioners seeking prescriptive authority.

Dr. Busby is one of the founding Fellows of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP). Dr. Busby was named Tennessee Nurse of the Year in 2004 by the Nashville Tennessean and one of the 100 Top Leaders in the 100 Year History of Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. Additionally, she received the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching at Cumberland University in 2001.
Joyce C. Clifford, PhD, RN, FAAN  
MSN ’69

Dr. Joyce C. Clifford served as senior vice president and nurse-in-chief at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston for more than 25 years before establishing the Institute for Nursing Healthcare Leadership, Inc. (INHL), where she now serves as president and chief executive officer.

Dr. Clifford is described as the architect of nursing’s professional practice model—a model that has been recognized nationally and internationally in hospital and outpatient/community settings. This practice model has been studied and emulated by nurses and health administrators around the world, including Australia, Israel, England, Germany, Kenya, Thailand, China, and Saudi Arabia.

She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) and a former president of the American Organization of Nurse Executives and was a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Hospital Association. Her awards and honors include the Sigma Theta Tau’s Founder’s Award for Promoting High Professional Standards, the Award of Honor of the American Hospital Association, the Lifetime Achievement Award of the American Organization of Nurse Executives, the Marguerite Rodgers Kinney Award for a Distinguished Career from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, a Living Legend Award from the AAN, and the Living Legend in Massachusetts Nursing Award.

Susan M. Cohen, DSN, APRN, FAAN  
DSN ’83

Dr. Susan M. Cohen is an associate professor and a family nurse practitioner at the University of Pittsburgh. Previously, she directed the Adult, Family, and Women’s Health primary care nurse practitioner programs at Yale University School of Nursing. Known as an internationally recognized expert in women’s health and complementary therapies, she also mentors graduate students and faculty.

Through funding from the National Institutes for Health (NIH), Dr. Cohen, as principal investigator, was the first researcher to conduct a clinical trial for cancer survivors who use acupuncture to reduce hot flashes. Additionally, she was co-principal investigator on the first NIH acupuncture study to reduce urinary incontinence. Other grants awarded by the NIH have allowed her to explore meditation for menopausal symptom reduction and acupuncture for insomnia.

Dr. Cohen served as a board member for the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties and has been a central part of the support for the development of doctor of nursing practice competencies at the national level. Dr. Cohen is an expert on emerging roles of nursing education, she has presented to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing on the role of the clinical nurse leader as well as to the American Colleges of Nursing on the doctor of nursing practice degree. Through her leadership, USA has excelled in competing for external funding to support innovative nursing programs and projects through numerous grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Recently elected to the Board of Commissioners for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), Dr. Davis is an active member of CCNE serving as a program evaluator and as a member of the Accreditation Review Committee. Dr. Davis was appointed by the governor of Alabama to serve two terms on the Alabama Board of Nursing.

Debra C. Davis, DSN, RN  
DSN ’84, MSN ’78, BSN ’75

Dr. Debra C. Davis is dean and professor of the College of Nursing at the University of South Alabama (USA). She has extensive experience in baccalaureate and higher degree nursing education and serves as a consultant for other nursing programs in the areas of program development and accreditation.

Dr. Davis’s areas of research and scholarship are numerous and include nursing education, nursing practice, women’s health, and gerontology. Considered an expert on emerging roles of nursing education, she has presented at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing on the role of the clinical nurse leader as well as to the American Colleges of Nursing on the doctor of nursing practice degree. Through her leadership, USA has excelled in competing for external funding to support innovative nursing programs and projects through numerous grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Recently elected to the Board of Commissioners for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), Dr. Davis is an active member of CCNE serving as a program evaluator and as a member of the Accreditation Review Committee. Dr. Davis was appointed by the governor of Alabama to serve two terms on the Alabama Board of Nursing.
Sharon A. Denham, DSN, RN
DSN ’97

Dr. Sharon A. Denham is a professor at Ohio University’s School of Nursing in Athens, Ohio, where she has taught since 1991. Dr. Denham’s research focuses on family health and Appalachian health disparities, as evidenced by her work with the National Diabetes Education Program to develop Diabetes: A Family Matter. This culturally sensitive program and toolkit focuses on health promotion and type 2 diabetes prevention in the Appalachian region. Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dr. Denham is beginning the second year of a dissemination and evaluation project working with 16 Appalachian counties in three states. Through her leadership, a newly awarded, CDC-funded project called Strengthening Communities to Prevent Diabetes in Rural Appalachia promises to bring almost $2.5 million over the next five years for prevention work in 11 counties in five states.

She has held leadership roles in the Appalachian Studies Association and the National Council on Family Relations; served on the Board of Directors for the National League for Nursing’s Accreditation Commission; and is currently president-elect for the International Family Nursing Association.

Her book, Family Health: A Framework for Nursing—a conceptual framework—suggests an ecological lens to understand the health needs of contextually embedded family households.

Joanne M. Disch, PhD, RN, FAAN
MSN ’76

Dr. Joanne M. Disch is a clinical professor and the director of the Katharine J. Densford International Center for Nursing Leadership and holds the Katherine R. and C. Walton Lillehei Chair in Nursing Leadership at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing. She has extensive experience as an educator, chief nurse executive, researcher, leader, policy maker, and spokesperson.

Dr. Disch has held numerous national leadership positions, including chair of the Board for AARP, president of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN), chair of the University Healthcare Consortium’s Chief Nurse Executive Council, and chair of the American Nurses Association’s Committee on Nursing Practice Standards and Guidelines. Currently she is a member of the boards of directors for the Aurora Health System and the National Center for Healthcare Leadership. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and serves as president-elect.

Dr. Disch has received numerous awards, including two Founders Awards from Sigma Theta Tau International for Excellence in Fostering Professional Standards and Excellence in Leadership, Distinguished Alumna Awards from the UAB School of Nursing and the University of Wisconsin School of Nursing, the GE Pioneering Spirit Award from the AACN, and the President’s Award from the American Academy of Nursing.

Sandra B. Dunbar, DSN, RN, FAAN, FAHA
DSN ’82

Dr. Sandra B. Dunbar is the associate dean of academic advancement and holds the Charles Howard Candler Professorship of Cardiovascular Nursing at Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University. She is a cardiovascular nurse researcher and educator.

Through funded studies by the National Institute of Health, Dr. Dunbar’s current work focuses on testing integrated self-care approaches for persons with heart failure (HF) and diabetes and the testing of an intervention to improve outcomes for caregivers of patients with HF. She recently completed a study testing a family focused intervention to improve self-care by patients with chronic heart failure and conducted a clinical trial to test a psychoeducational intervention to improve outcomes (depression and anxiety) of high-risk arrhythmia patients treated with an implantable cardioverter defibrillator.

Dr. Dunbar is an active volunteer for the American Heart Association’s Council of Cardiovascular Nursing. She is a former president of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses and a member of the editorial board of several major nursing journals, including Heart and Lung and Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nurses and the American Heart Association.
Lisa Eichelberger, DSN, RN  
DSN ’86, MSN ’79, BSN ’75

Dr. Lisa Eichelberger is dean and professor of the College of Health at Clayton State University (CSU) in Morrow, Georgia. At the age of 35, Dr. Eichelberger became the dean of the School of Nursing at Mississippi College (MC), making her one of the youngest nursing deans in the country. She served as dean at MC for eight years prior to coming to Clayton State in 1996 to help establish a bachelor of science degree in nursing. As dean of the School of Nursing at CSU, she led the efforts to establish a Master of Science Degree for nursing in 2006 which is now fully accredited.

Through research grants from Kaiser Permanente, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Advanced Nursing Education Project, Dr. Eichelberger has improved and expanded nursing education opportunities for students at her school.

She co-authored a textbook on Nursing Theory; currently in the second edition using an artistic approach to help beginning students understand the complex subject. Dr. Eichelberger is one of the pioneers of nursing theory on the World Wide Web creating a theory website in 1996 that has received over 1 million hits since its inception.

Melissa Spezia Faulkner, DSN, RN, FAAN  
DSN ’91

Dr. Melissa Spezia Faulkner is currently the Gladys E. Sorensen Endowed Professor in Diabetes Research and Education at the University of Arizona, College of Nursing. Since 1984, Dr. Faulkner has held academic appointments at Southeast Missouri State University, the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Arizona State University. She has extensive experience in child health, particularly pediatric diabetes. She has taught undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral students, as well as interdisciplinary courses.

Dr. Faulkner has an established program of research focusing on adolescents and the psychosocial and physiological alterations they may encounter, particularly the cardiovascular risks that are associated with either type 1 or type 2 diabetes. Dr. Faulkner’s current research is aimed at the development and testing of a community-based, personalized exercise intervention for teens diagnosed with type 1 or type 2 diabetes.

Dr. Faulkner is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She presently serves as the only nurse representative on the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Medical and Scientific Oversight Committee and is a member of the Phoenix ADA Community Leadership Board.

Ellen Fineout-Overholt, PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN  
MSN ’85

Dr. Ellen Fineout-Overholt is a clinical professor and the director of the Center for the Advancement of Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) at Arizona State University, where she assists health-care providers in delivering sustainable, evidence-based care for patients.

Dr. Fineout-Overholt is best known for promoting EBP with clinicians across the U.S. and worldwide, both in the hospital and in the community. With colleague Dr. Bernadette Melnyk, Dr. Fineout-Overholt created and developed the role of the EBP mentor, which is essential to sustained best practice, and their Advancing Research & Clinical Practice through Close Collaboration (ARCC) model. Evidence-based practice mentors educated in programs created by Dr. Fineout-Overholt are making a difference in patient and system outcomes all over the world. In addition, Dr. Fineout-Overholt’s innovative work to revise the foundation upon which nurses are educated to integrate EBP principles has been well received by faculty world-wide.

Dr. Fineout-Overholt’s publications and research focus on helping clinicians, health-care faculty, and administrators improve practice through implementation and sustainability of EBP. She is co-editor of the widely used book Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing & Healthcare: A Guide to Best Practice.
Carol Z. Garrison, PhD  
MSN ’76

Dr. Carol Z. Garrison is president of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in Birmingham, Alabama, and an alumna of the UAB School of Nursing. Previously, Dr. Garrison served as provost and interim president at the University of Louisville, Kentucky, and was a faculty member, department chair, dean, and provost at the University of South Carolina.

As president of UAB, she chairs the board of the UAB Health System, which includes UAB Hospital, The Kirklin Clinic, and other of UAB’s nationally-ranked patient care facilities. During Dr. Garrison’s tenure, the institution has enjoyed remarkable growth. Recent years have seen the opening of state-of-the-art facilities such as the North Pavilion of UAB Hospital and the Shelby Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Building, the burgeoning Campus Green along University Boulevard, and the UAB Women & Infants Center and Hazlerig-Salter Radiation-Oncology Facility.

The growth of the physical campus and academic programs has been guided by UAB’s Strategic Plan. Developed with campus-wide participation, the Strategic Plan has led to the recruitment of internationally known faculty and physicians and the creation of innovative new curricula and honors programs for undergraduates. The Princeton Review ranks UAB among the top quarter of all U.S. universities and, for three consecutive years, among the top 10 for student diversity.

Anna Gawlinski, DNSc, RN, FAAN  
MSN ’78

Dr. Anna Gawlinski is the director of research and evidence-based practice at the Ronald Reagan University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) Medical Center and adjunct professor at the UCLA School of Nursing. Dr. Gawlinski has developed and implemented an infrastructure that supports research and evidence-based practice initiatives in the Department of Nursing.

Her clinical expertise, coupled with knowledge of research methodology, has provided Dr. Gawlinski with the unique ability to energize clinicians at all levels about their professional commitment to research and evidence-based care. This includes her research on accurate measurement of hemodynamic and oxygenation variables, as well as testing interventions to improve nursing care and outcomes of advanced heart failure patients. Working collaboratively with UCLA’s quality improvement teams, she has facilitated research-based practice in the care of cardiovascular patients.

Her awards and honors include being named a Fellow in the American Academy of Nurses and the American Heart Association Fellow of the Council on Cardiovascular Nursing. Additionally, the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses honored her with their Excellence in Research Award and their Distinguished Research Lecture Award. She is a reviewer for many publications, including Critical Care Nursing and the American Journal of Critical Care.

Susan Gennaro DSN, RN, FAAN  
DSN ’83

Dr. Susan Gennaro is dean and professor of the Connell School of Nursing at Boston College. Prior appointments include the Florence and William Downs Chair in Nursing Research at New York University and professor at the University of Pennsylvania, where she was director of the doctoral program and co-director of the Center for Health Disparities.

Dr. Gennaro’s research focuses on the improvement of perinatal nursing in the U.S., Malawi, and Uganda. Funded by the National Institute of Medicine for over 20 years, she seeks to improve nursing education through innovative programs to increase the number of nurse scientists from a minority background trained to work with vulnerable populations. Funded by the National Institute for Nursing Research, Dr. Gennaro is currently studying mechanisms underlying preterm birth in minority women. As the founder of the evidence-based practice program at the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nursing, her goal is to translate research into clinical practice internationally.

Dr. Gennaro is the editor of Sigma Theta Tau’s Journal of Nursing Scholarship, a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, a McClure Scholar at New York University Medical Center, a lecturer at Harvard University’s Medical School, and a Distinguished Alumna at the UAB School of Nursing.
Sarah H. Gueldner, DSN, FAAN
DSN ’83
Dr. Sarah H. Gueldner is currently the Arline H. and Curtis F. Garvin Professor at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University located in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Gueldner is committed to improving health and well-being for individuals and families who are vulnerable because of their life circumstances such as limited education or diminished socioeconomic status related to poverty, gender, age, or ethnicity.
Dr. Gueldner’s seminal contributions to global health are many, but perhaps her most important work is the development of the simple Well-Being Picture Scale designed to measure sense of well-being. The scale was most recently used to examine sense of well-being in community-dwelling individuals who were seeking health care at community-based clinics in Botswana, Africa.
Dr. Gueldner is a renowned scholar and writer. She has been named a Fellow in many organizations, including the American Academy of Nursing, the National Academies of Practice, and the Gerontological Society of America. She also is a recipient of Sigma Theta Tau International’s Edith Moore Copeland Founders Award for Excellence in Creativity. Dr. Gueldner is author or co-author of more than 100 publications, including seven edited books and monographs. In addition, she has presented reports of her research at nursing and interdisciplinary conferences in 20 countries.

Delois H. Skipwith Guy, DSN
DSN ’80
Dr. Delois H. Skipwith Guy was the first African-American faculty member at UAB School of Nursing in 1969. Her tenure at UAB SON as a leader has spanned over four decades of teaching psychiatric mental-health nursing, nursing theory, research, community health, and gerontological nursing. She now holds the title of UAB Professor Emeritus of Nursing.
Dr. Guy served as the co-principal investigator for a study entitled Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer’s Caregiver Health (REACH). REACH, funded by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institute of Nursing Research, was a multi-site, multi-disciplinary, and multi-ethnic (African-American, Cuban-American, Hispanic, and white) project designed to examine the effectiveness of social, behavioral, and technological interventions to strengthen family member capacities to care for persons with Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders.
Dr. Guy’s awards include being named an Alabama Delegate for the White House Conference on Aging, the Minority Women in Mental Health Fellowship Award from the Kellogg Leadership Program, and the Ethnic/Racial Minority Clinical Fellowship Award presented by the American Nurses’ Association. Additionally, she has functioned as an advocate for elders and community liaison to African-American churches and health organizations and presented at many national conferences on the topics of aging, caregiving, and post-doctoral opportunities.

James L. Harris, DSN, RN, FAAN
DSN ’89, MSN ’82
Dr. James L. Harris is the deputy chief nursing officer for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Nursing Services in Washington, D.C., where he is responsible for formulating national policies and activities that impact the largest employer of nursing personnel in the United States, totaling more than 70,000. Dr. Harris also holds an academic appointment as clinical professor of nursing at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.
Dr. Harris has countless experiences as an administrator, educator, consultant, and researcher. As coordinator for the National Clinical Nurse Leader Project he promoted the development of this emerging role for nurses. He is a recognized expert and consultant on the Clinical Nurse Leader initiative and is a published author on this topic, with a 2010 publication, Initiating and Sustaining the Clinical Nurse Leader Role: A Practical Guide.
He is a member of countless national task forces and work groups for advancing nursing. A Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, Dr. Harris has been recognized for his leadership by the Department of Veterans Affairs; the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Sigma Theta Tau International, Epsilon Nu Chapter; the Alabama State Nurses’ Association; and Who’s Who in American Nursing.
Constance Smith Hendricks, PhD, RN, FAAN
MSN ’81, BSN ’74

Dr. Constance Smith Hendricks is the Charles W. Barkley Endowed Professor at the School of Nursing and has a joint appointment as a professor at the College of Education/Kinesiology at Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama. Previously she was a professor of nursing at Tuskegee University and Southern University, in addition to serving as dean and professor of the School of Nursing at Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia.

Having served as the principal investigator and project director for many funded grants, Dr. Hendricks has focused her recent research primarily on rural health and the adolescent lifestyle. She has published her findings in many peer reviewed journals, including the Journal of National Black Nurses Association, the Online Journal of Health Ethics, and the Journal of Multicultural Nursing and Health. Additionally, she has presented her findings at conferences at the local, state, regional, national, and international level.

Dr. Hendricks has been recognized for her outstanding work in nursing by numerous groups and organizations and was featured on the cover of Black Ph.D./Ed.D. in the 2008/2009 edition. She was named an Outstanding Alumna by Concordia College-Selma, Alabama; a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing; and a Distinguished Alumna by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

Alice S. Hill, PhD, RN, FAAN
MSN ’75

Dr. Alice S. Hill holds the John P. McGovern Distinguished Professorship in the Healing Practices of Nursing and is director of the nursing Ph.D. program at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. As program director, she received federal funding for student stipends and tuition, which served as a catalyst for a dramatic increase of student applications.

Her research focuses on feeding efficiency and growth of extremely low birth weight infants. She has received funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Institute of Nursing Research as well as numerous foundations to support her work. Her findings have been reported in peer-reviewed journals and at professional meetings.

Dr. Hill serves as a leader for many organizations, including the Association of Black Nursing Faculty (ABNF) as a board member and current chair of the Research Committee, and she is an active member of the National Association for Neonatal Nurses and the Academy of Neonatal Nurses. She has served on editorial review boards for the NIH and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. Additionally, she was honored by Sigma Theta Tau International, Alpha Delta Chapter, with the Excellence in Mentoring Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award for Research from ABNF.

Sister Linda Hill, BSN, RN, RM
BSN ’88

Sister Linda Hill, a Consolata Missionary Sister, is the principal tutor (director) of the Registered Community Nurse Training School at Wamba Catholic Hospital, Kenya. Her duties include serving as an educator, mentor, counselor, and administrator.

Following her graduation from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing, Sister Linda began her nursing career in Kenya. Her first assignment was to teach at Wamba Nursing School, expanding the role of nursing. In 1993, she spent 10 months in Baragoi, Kenya, where she led a small Mission Dispensary, caring for patients with malaria, pneumonia, typhoid, and other tropical diseases common to Kenya. Later, she was stationed near the Chalbi Desert—where the temperature averages above 100 degrees Fahrenheit every day—treating many tropical diseases and illnesses, delivering breach twins, suturing knife wounds, and treating snake bites and scorpion stings.

In 2006, she returned to where it all started: Wamba, Kenya. There she assisted students at the Diploma Registered Community Nursing Program to finish their certificate with honors. Later she helped to upgrade the program to a three-and-a-half-year course that prepares high-school graduates to obtain their diploma as registered nurses.
Mary H. Hill, DSN, RN  
DSN ’99

Dr. Mary H. Hill, Associate Dean and Professor, Division of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, Howard University, Washington, DC was formerly Dean and Professor, School of Nursing, Alcorn State University, Natchez, MS. Throughout academe Dr. Hill has demonstrated a commitment to diversity by helping to enhance success of disadvantaged students. In July 2010, she was awarded a $1.5 million dollar grant from Health Resources and Services Administration for scholarships for disadvantaged students in nursing and allied health. Dr. Hill’s publications have focused primarily on diversity in health care. She recently authored a book chapter, “Closing the Gap on Racial/Ethnic Diversity in Nursing Education,” in African American Voices: Reflecting, Reforming, Reframing.

Dr. Hill has served on several national boards, committees and task forces. She served as a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Patient Safety Task Force that developed Hallmark of Quality and Patient Safety: Recommended Baccalaureate Competencies and Curricular Guidelines to Assure High Quality and Safe Patient Care. She also served as a program evaluator and an Evaluation Review Panel member for the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission. Currently, Dr. Hill is an on-site evaluator for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

Marcia M. Holstad, DSN, RN, FNP-BC  
DSN ’96

Dr. Marcia M. Holstad is an assistant professor at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University and is board-certified as a family nurse practitioner providing primary care to HIV-positive women.

She currently leads the Music Project, a National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded study that is testing the efficacy of an audio music program aimed at educating and motivating people living with HIV to adhere to their antiretroviral medications. She recently served as principal investigator on another NIH-funded behavioral trial, called Keeping Health and Active with Risk Reduction and Medication Adherence (the KHARMA Project), to test the effectiveness of a nurse-led motivational group intervention to promote adherence to antiretroviral therapy and risk-reduction behaviors in HIV-positive women. She also has conducted a pilot project of KHARMA in Lagos, Nigeria.

A Fellow of the American Academy for Nurse Practitioners (AANP), she also was honored as the Georgia State Award winner for Excellence in Nursing by AANP. She was honored by the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society, Alpha Epsilon Chapter, with the Jean Thomas Award for Creativity in Teaching Health, and she received the Health Care Heroes award from the Atlanta Business Chronicle.

Phyllis N. Horns, DSN, RN, FAAN  
DSN ’80

Dr. Phyllis N. Horns is vice chancellor for health sciences at East Carolina University (ECU) in Greenville, North Carolina. As vice chancellor, she is responsible for the Brody School of Medicine, College of Nursing, College of Allied Health Sciences, East Carolina Heart Institute, and William E. Laupus Health Sciences Library, as well as a new School of Dental Medicine to open in 2011. Previously, she served as dean of the East Carolina University College of Nursing and was assistant dean of undergraduate studies at University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Horns’s research focuses on nursing workforce challenges, including the nursing shortage, exercise and pregnancy, and policies of nursing doctoral programs. Her findings have been published in many venues, including Proceedings of the 9th Congress of Health Professions Educators, the Journal of Nursing Outlook, the Journal of Professional Nursing, and the Nursing Leadership Forum.

Dr. Horns has been named an ECU Woman of Distinction, one of the 100 ECU Incredible Women, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She has served as chair of the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, president of the SREB Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing, and president of the NC Council of Deans.
Larry G. Hornsby, CRNA  
BSN ’81

Larry G. Hornsby, CRNA, has owned and managed numerous health-related companies specializing in providing anesthesia services, recruitment/placement, billing, management, and education. He is currently the senior executive vice president for Amsol, as well as a nationally and internationally recognized speaker and a published author on anesthesia-related topics.

An active member of the Alabama Association of Nurse Anesthetists, he is a past president and former board member of the organization. At the national level he served on the board of directors and as the 2001 president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA), as well as chairman of the Finance and Political Action Committees. He currently serves as chairman of the AANA Commission on Anesthesia Economics and Reimbursement and as chairman of the Anesthesia Payment Advisory Panel to the AANA Board of Directors. He is a past member of the editorial advisory board of Anesthesia Coding Alert and served on the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations Ambulatory Professional Technical Advisory Council.

Mr. Hornsby was named one of the Fab 40 Alumni by the UAB School of Health Professions, where he serves on the Dean’s Advisory Board, and he is a member of the Advisory Committee for the Department of Nurse Anesthesia at Samford University.

Jean A. Kelley, EdD, RN, FAAN  
BSN ’56

Dr. Jean A. Kelley is Professor Emeritus at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing (UABSON), where she dedicated her entire academic career to the growth and development of nurse leaders.

During her tenure with the UABSON she served as assistant and then associate dean for the graduate program. Dr. Kelley pioneered the advancement of graduate nursing education throughout the South and the nation through her curricular innovations and ongoing consultation to support innovative programs at the master’s and doctoral level. She personally drove a large motor home van to deliver a cooperative outreach master’s education throughout Alabama and the Deep South to improve access to graduate nursing education. Dr. Kelley also helped found and establish the first doctoral nursing program at UAB and in the Southeast and one of 12 nationwide.

Dr. Kelley is an inductee into the Alabama Healthcare Hall of Fame as well as the Alabama Nursing Hall of Fame and is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. Because of her lifelong commitment to nursing education, the University of Alabama Board of Trustees established the Jean A. Kelley Endowed Lectureship at the UABSON in 1989. She has also received the Distinguished Faculty Award by UAB and the UABSON Distinguished Alumni Award.

Marguerite R. Kinney Handlin,  
DNSc, RN  
MSN ’67, BSN ’61

Dr. Marguerite R. Kinney Handlin is Professor Emeritus at the UAB School of Nursing and a nationally recognized expert in cardiovascular surgical nursing.

An award winning researcher, Dr. Kinney has studied risk factors for premenopausal African-American women and quality-of-life issues for cardiac patients as well as professional nursing care as perceived by critically ill patients. For more than 30 years, Dr. Kinney has been instrumental in establishing initiatives that showcase better patient outcomes through the demonstration of efficacy of health care when nursing and medicine work as colleagues.

Her awards and honors are numerous and include the UAB President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and Induction into the Alabama Nursing Hall of Fame. The American Heart Association honored her as one of four Pillars in the Field of Cardiovascular Nursing and presented her the Katharine A. Lembright Award for Excellence in Research. In honor of her service as president of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, the organization established an award that bears her name. A noted author, she served as editor of Focus on Critical Care for many years and editor-in-chief of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses’ publication, Clinical Reference for Critical-Care Nursing, and Andreoli’s Comprehensive Cardiac Care.
Wipada Kunaviktikul, DSN, RN  
DSN ’94

Dr. Wipada Kunaviktikul currently is one of only seven nursing professors in Thailand and holds the position of director of the Nursing Policy and Outcome Center at the Faculty of Nursing at Chiang Mai University (FON, CMU). She is a member of the World Health Organization steering committee for Nursing and Midwifery; serves on the board of directors for the Thailand Health Care Accreditation Institute; and is on the Advisory Board of the Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council.

From 2001 – 2008 she was the dean at FON, CMU, where she also held the position of the first director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Nursing and Midwifery Development and was the director of the Center of Excellence in Nursing Education. She was a research Fellow for the Takemi Program in International Health at the Harvard University School of Public Health, where she studied research on health policy development.

Dr. Kunaviktikul is considered an expert in the fields of health policy, health promotion, nursing education, nursing research, nursing partnerships, leadership, and administration, and she regularly is invited to speak at national and international conferences. She is a recognized scholar and author, with nearly fifty manuscripts accepted for publication by national and international journals.

Lora Lacey-Haun, PhD, RN  
MSN ’80, BSN ’77

Dr. Lora Lacey-Haun serves as dean and professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) School of Nursing (SON). In addition, she has been active in providing leadership opportunities for faculty and staff at the University of South Africa in Cape Town.

Dr. Lacey-Haun has conducted research addressing issues in family functioning and has worked exclusively in settings providing care to underserved populations. She also is committed to increasing diversity in the nursing workforce. At the UMKC SON, she has focused on increasing minority enrollment in the B.S.N. and Ph.D. programs and enhanced scholarship awards for minority students. She has been project director for funded workforce diversity grants, increasing both retention and graduation of underserved students. In addition, she has led the SON through a three-year faculty and staff development program to increase the skills and knowledge needed to provide an inclusive environment enhancing diversity. Through funding from Health Resources and Services Administration, she maximized the use of technology and expanded access to nursing education by developing distance education programs using a variety of learning technologies that offer quality graduate education across the state and nation.

Dr. Lacy-Haun is listed in Who’s Who in American Nursing for the Society of Nursing Professionals and received the Purdue Frederick Fellowship Award.

Kathleen Ann Ladner, PhD, MSN, RN  
MSN ’74

Dr. Kathleen A. Ladner’s nursing career spans over four decades. She is a visiting assistant professor of nursing at the UAB School of Nursing for the Clinical Nurse Leader and Nursing Health Service Administration program. Previously she served as vice president of nursing and chief nursing officer at four complex acute care facilities in the Southeast. Additionally, she is retired from the U.S. Navy, having served as a captain in the Navy Nurse Corps.

Dr. Ladner’s current research is funded by the Department of Human Resource Services Administration to study culturally competency of nurses who practice in the role of clinical nurse leader. Her previous research and clinical interests focused on academic partnerships, curriculum alignment, nurse professionalism, cultivation of evidence-based nursing, patient safety, streamlining nursing documentation and workflow, and nurse manager/CNO development.

Dr. Ladner is president-elect of the Alabama Hospital Association and has served on the Alabama Board of Nursing. She was named a Fellow by the Johnson and Johnson Nursing Leadership Program at the Wharton School on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania, and she received the Janet S. Awtrey Distinguished Nursing Leader Award from the University of Alabama Capstone College of Nursing. Dr. Ladner also is an inductee in the Alabama Nursing Hall of Fame.
Martha G. Lavender, DSN, RN  
DSN ’88, MSN ’74

Dr. Martha G. Lavender currently serves as assistant to the president at Gadsden State Community College and is a visiting professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing for the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. She is a former professor and dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Jacksonville State University, where she directed the development of a 33-member interdisciplinary research team, resulting in securing a $3.2 million cooperative agreement for the study of health effects of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) exposure on the citizens of Anniston, Alabama.

Dr. Lavender served as a leader in the emergency-response training program with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Center for Domestic Preparedness, with particular focus on curriculum development for health-care professionals, and was recently appointed by Governor Riley to serve on the Alabama Board of Nursing.

Dr. Lavender has served in a variety of professional elected positions, including national president and treasurer of the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nursing (AWHONN). She has received numerous awards for excellence in nursing education, including the AWHONN’s 2004 Distinguished Professional Service Award for contributions to the care of women and infants and to the nursing profession.

N. Genell Lee, MSN, RN, JD  
MSN ’79, BSN ’75

Genell Lee is the executive officer of the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN). Her previous professional experience includes practicing as an attorney in Alabama, serving as nursing director for emergency medicine at the University of California in Los Angeles Medical Center, and serving as director of emergency services at the University of Alabama at Birmingham Medical Center.

Through Ms. Lee’s leadership over the past decade, the ABN established a Center for Nursing Research, established an online format for offering continuing education (CE) courses, and developed online programs for licensed nurses to maintain their CE record through the Internet. Through her collaboration with the identified testing service for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX®), nursing graduates now can receive NCLEX® test results within 24 to 48 hours via electronic transmission.

Ms. Lee served as the legal editor for the American Journal of Nursing, on the editorial board of the International Journal of Trauma Nursing, and as a consulting editor for the Journal of Emergency Nursing. Her awards and honors include the Sigma Theta Tau International Nu Chapter’s Excellence in Nursing Practice Award, the Alabama Hospital Association’s Special Merit Award, and the Nursing Education Award from the national Emergency Nurses Association.

Judy W. Lott, DSN, NNP-BC, FAAN  
DSN ’92

Dr. Judy W. Lott is considered an expert in the nursing field of neonatology. She is the dean of the Baylor University Louise Herrington School of Nursing in Dallas, Texas, and was an international visiting professor at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, where she taught and coordinated the first neonatal nurse practitioner onsite clinical course.

With funding from the National Institute for Nursing Research and the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, Dr. Lott’s research focus is in the field of neonatology. Her findings have been published in many nursing journals, including the Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing and the Journal of Pediatric Nursing.

Additionally, she has presented her findings at the state, regional, national, and international level.

She serves as a consultant to numerous colleges and departments of nursing for the development and implementation of neonatal nurse practitioner programs. She was named as the Woman of Distinction by Baylor University Women’s Council, Dallas, Texas, and was invited to participate in the Academic Round Table on Women’s Issues at Oxford University, United Kingdom. She is a Fellow of the America Academy of Nursing and received the American Association of Colleges of Nursing’s Fulld Leadership Award for Academic Nursing Programs.
Alfred E. Lupien, PhD, CRNA, FAAN
MSN '89

Dr. Fred Lupien is director and professor of the Nurse Anesthesia Program at Mount Marty College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is a retired major in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, where he earned his certification in anesthesiology and served as an Army critical-care nurse and nurse anesthetist throughout the United States and Europe.

Dr. Lupien was the founding director of the only nurse anesthesia program in Georgia, located at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. With close to $2 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, he pioneered the integration of high-fidelity patient simulation into nursing education. He authored manuscripts describing the conceptual and technical bases for simulation and developed a simulation-intensive curriculum where nurse anesthesia students gained experience in customizable learning environments without jeopardizing patient comfort or safety. His interdisciplinary collaborations include development of the Combat Trauma Patient Simulator.

Dr. Lupien is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and a member of the Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation’s Scientific Evaluation Committee. He received the Outstanding Service to Veterans Award from the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, and the Meritorious Service Medal by Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe.

Nancy L. McCain, DSN, RN, FAAN
DSN '83

Dr. Nancy L. McCain holds the Nursing Alumni Endowed Professorship at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Nursing. Additionally she is the director of the Biobehavioral Science Core of the Center of Excellence in Biobehavioral Approaches to Symptom Management, funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research.

With $8.5 million received in grant funding from numerous sources including the National Institute of Nursing Research, the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Health, the National Cancer Institute, and private foundations, her research has focused on stress management in persons with HIV infection and women receiving chemotherapy for breast cancer. Through this work, Dr. McCain has significantly contributed to the advancement of knowledge related to biobehavioral mechanisms, measurement systems, and patient outcomes as well as biobehaviorally focused nursing interventions.

Dr. McCain is a sought-after presenter at the state, national, and international level, and her honors include being named the 2008 Distinguished Alumna of the Decade from the University of Mississippi and the 2004 Distinguished Alumna from the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing. Named as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, she also was honored as the Southern Nursing Research Society Distinguished Researcher in 2008.

Norma K. Mobley, EdD
MSN '58

Dr. Norma K. Mobley is dean and Professor Emerita at the Capstone College of Nursing at the University of Alabama located in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Her contributions have significantly impacted health-care policy, clinical practice, and academia. Her initiatives for nursing education focused specifically on expanding the capacity of nursing programs through faculty development, recruitment and retention, and the transformation of nursing curricula.

Prior to her work at Capstone College of Nursing, Dr. Mobley held a variety of positions at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing, including professor, chairman of the Department of Maternal-Infant Nursing, and assistant dean of the baccalaureate program. She led curriculum innovations that solidified the school’s national position among baccalaureate programs. This included a preceptorship to assist students in transition to practice and improve the quality of health care for rural Alabamians, and she encouraged graduates to seek employment in critical nurse shortage locations.

Dr. Mobley is a former president of the Alabama State Nurses Association and served on the Legislative Committee. She was a member of the board of directors for the Alabama League for Nursing and served on the Southeastern Regional Council on Nurse Midwifery. She is also a charter member of Sigma Theta Tau, Nu Chapter.
Dr. Marie L. O’Koren is professor and Dean Emeritus at UAB School of Nursing. Her nursing career has spanned over 40 years, during which time she changed the landscape of nursing education in the state of Alabama. She joined UAB’s nursing faculty in 1964 as assistant dean and chair of the graduate program. As dean of UAB School of Nursing, Dr. O’Koren found the resources to increase the number of master’s degree tracks and the development of the first doctoral program in nursing in the Southeast, raising the UAB School of Nursing’s national prominence as a top-20 nursing school in the country.

Dr. O’Koren is a charter member of the University of Alabama School of Nursing Alumni Association and was instrumental in its growth. The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama established the endowed Marie L. O’Koren School of Nursing Alumni Association Scholarship at UAB in 1996. Dr. O’Koren has received many honors, including induction into the Alabama Nursing Hall of Fame; the Leaders in Education Award; inclusion in Who’s Who in American Education, Who’s Who in Health Care, and Who’s Who of American Women; and UAB’s Distinguished Faculty Lecturer Award, Exemplary Service Award, Distinguished Alumni Award, and Outstanding Achievement Award.

Karen H. Morin, DSN, RN, ANEF
DSN ’87

Dr. Karen H. Morin is a professor of nursing and director of the Ph.D. program at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. Areas of expertise include maternal-infant nursing, nursing education, and leadership. She is the first Canadian to serve as president of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International.

She has had funding from the Health Services and Resources Administration, Division of Nursing, and from nursing organizations to conduct research. Her major contributions are organizational in nature. Dr. Morin has held leadership positions in numerous professional organizations including president of the Delaware Nurses Association, board member of the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN), and co-chair of the program committee for the AWHONN National Convention. She also has served as a grant reviewer for the American Nurses Foundation and Sigma Theta Tau International.

Dr. Morin’s awards and honors include being named a Fellow in the Academy of Nurse Educators; the National Excellence in Teaching Award from the National League for Nursing; and the National Excellence in Nursing Education Award from the AWHONN. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Omicron Delta Kappa, National Honor Society Recognizing Leadership, and eight chapters of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Society.

Linda D. Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN
DSN ’01

Dr. Linda D. Norman is professor and senior associate dean for academics at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in Nashville, Tennessee, and is best known for her contributions in the area of curriculum development in nursing and in interprofessional education.

Dr. Norman has been responsible for over $6 million of federal training grants funds. She is a co-investigator for a Josiah Macy Foundation grant to develop a longitudinal curriculum for a fellowship in interprofessional learning that involves nursing, medicine, pharmacy, and social work students. Dr. Norman was chosen as one of two nurses on the coordinating team for the first Institute for Healthcare Improvement Interdisciplinary Professional Education Collaborative, and she developed the curriculum and initiated a model partnership nursing program between the Vanderbilt University, Lipscomb University, and Fisk University schools of nursing, all located in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. Norman was awarded the Trailblazer Award from the National Black Nurses Association for the novel collaborative partnership with Fisk University, a historically black university. Currently she serves as a member of the nursing workforce research team, Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Johnson and Johnson Media Campaign, and is the project evaluation coordinator for the Robert Wood Johnson/Northwest Health Foundation Partners Investing in Nursing’s Future Initiative.
James C. Pace, DSN, RN, MDiv, ANP-BC, FAANP
DSN ’86

Dr. James C. Pace is professor and coordinator of the Adult Nurse Practitioner Program with a palliative-care focus at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Nashville, Tennessee. This program was awarded a four-year advanced-education nursing grant by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Health Resources and Services Administration. Dr. Pace is an Episcopal priest who serves the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee in various roles and capacities.

Dr. Pace’s research and scholarly activities lie in the areas of spirituality/religion and health, palliative/hospice care, and HIV/AIDS and spirituality. His faculty practice role includes a time commitment to the Ingram Cancer Center at Vanderbilt, where he serves as an adult nurse practitioner in the Outpatient Pain and Symptom Management Clinic.

A Fellow in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, Dr. Pace has been involved with many professional organizations including the American Nurses Association and the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, and he served as president of Sigma Theta Tau International, Alpha Epsilon chapter. He serves on the editorial boards for Geriatric Nursing, the Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, Palliative Practices: An Interdisciplinary Approach and the Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care.

Ann R. Peden, DSN, CNS, RN
DSN ’91

Dr. Ann R. Peden is professor and chair for the Department of Nursing at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. Previously she was a professor at the University of Kentucky College of Nursing in Lexington, Kentucky.

Her research funding includes grants from the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Nursing Research and focuses on decreasing negative thinking in individuals at risk for the development of depression. The intervention has been tested with college women, low-income single mothers, pregnant women who smoke, and individuals with heart failure. The intervention continues to be refined and used with a variety of clinical populations. She has presented her findings at the international, national, state and local level.

Dr. Peden received the Best of Journal of Nursing Scholarship Award for the Clinical Scholarship category from Sigma Theta Tau International at the 39th Biennial Convention. Additionally she received an Honorary Award from Her Royal Highness Princess Soamsawali of Thailand at the International Conference on Health and the Changing World in Bangkok, Thailand.

Bonita A. Pilon, DSN, RN-BC, FAAN
DSN ’88

Dr. Bonnie A. Pilon is professor and senior associate dean for clinical practice and community partnerships at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, Nashville, Tennessee, and serves as chief operating officer for University Community Health Services, Inc., a nurse-managed Federally Qualified Health Center cluster that is a significant partner to the School of Nursing. She is program director for the Health Systems Management specialty and is board-certified in nursing administration, advanced.

With current funding in excess of $2.5 million from numerous sources including the American Cancer Society and the Bureaus of Primary Care and Health Professions at the Health Resources and Services Administration, her work focuses on access to care and improved clinical models of care delivery. As a consultant, Dr. Pilon has assisted institutions with development of clinical integration strategies and tools, redesign of organizational structure to optimize quality and efficiency, preparation for the Joint Commission, outcome measurements, and design/redesign of clinical pathway and case and disease management systems.

Dr. Pilon is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and received the 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. Service Award from Vanderbilt Medical Center for her work with disadvantaged populations in Middle Tennessee.
Sister Maurita Soukup, RSM, PhD, RN
MSN ’75

Dr. Maurita Soukup, a Sister of Mercy, serves as a health trustee for two medical centers in Iowa and nurse consultant/researcher in critical care and evidence-based practice for health systems and hospitals nationally.

Sister Maurita’s life ministry has focused on clinical excellence for critically ill patients, families, and multidisciplinary colleagues. Significant contributions and accomplishments include co-developing a cardiac surgical program in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and serving as founding director of the Center for Advanced Nursing Practice at BryanLGH Hospital in Lincoln, Nebraska. During Dr. Soukup’s vice-presidency of Mercy’s Iowa Heart Hospital at Des Moines, the hospital became nationally recognized for leading-edge initiatives, exceptional performance in clinical outcomes, reduced mortality, cost avoidance, and responsible stewardship. Dr. Soukup is an established author, having served as co-editor of the first Methods in Critical Care: The AACN Manual and as a guest editor of Nursing Clinics of North America.

Dr. Soukup is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including being named one of 100 Great Iowa Nurses and receiving the first Dr. Teresa Christy Award from the Iowa Nurses Association for her work to integrate nursing practice, education, and research.

James L. Raper, DSN, CRNP, JD, FAANP
DSN ’94

Dr. James L. Raper is an associate professor of medicine and nursing; the director of the HIV outpatient, research, and dental clinics; a scientist in the Center for AIDS Research; and a scholar in the Lister Hill Center for Health Policy at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Raper’s leadership in nursing and men’s health care spans two decades and is evidenced through his sustained contributions at the local, state, and national level. Dr. Raper translates his scholarly program of collaborative research and advanced clinical practice through his evidenced-based work with HIV clinical populations. His efforts have been recognized by public and private funding agencies that include the National Institutes of Health, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control as well as many private foundations.

Dr. Raper’s sustained leadership has resulted in improvements to the standards of care for HIV populations. He has been recognized within the fields of medicine and nursing through appointments to interprofessional health policy groups. He is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and a member of the Alabama Bar Association and serves as the co-chair of the steering committee of the Ryan White Medical Providers Coalition of the HIV Medical Association.

Nena F. Sanders, DSN, RN
DSN ’85, MSN ’79, BSN ’76

Dr. Nena F. Sanders serves as the Ralph W. Beeson Dean and professor of the Ida V. Moffett School of Nursing (IVMSON) at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. She has extensive experience in clinical, administrative, consultational, and organizational aspects of nursing and health-care delivery and is considered an expert for the development, implementation, and evaluation of nursing educational programs.

Through her leadership at the IVMSON and with support from the Department of Health and Human Services, the nurse anesthesia program was developed and established. Additionally, the doctor of nursing practice degree program has been established. Dr. Sanders was instrumental in securing a grant from the Veteran’s Administration to evaluate and expand the nursing administration master’s program at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing. Active in health-care policy development at the national level, she has served on the editorial boards of the Journal of Nursing Administration Research and the Journal of Critical Care Nursing.

Dr. Sanders has served on the committee for research for the American Organization of Nurse Executives. She reviewed grants for the National Center for Nursing Research and National Institutes of Health and is an on-site evaluator for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.
Karen J. Stanley, MSN, RN, AOCN, FAAN
BSN ’83

Karen J. Stanley is the program manager for the Pain and Palliative Care Service at Stamford Hospital in Connecticut. She is nationally and internationally known for her leadership in oncology and end-of-life issues. For over 27 years she has been a clinician in cancer and palliative care, serving in multiple clinical, administrative, educational, and organizational roles. She has testified at the state and federal level on behalf of oncology, pain management, and end-of-life care issues and led two oncology nursing delegations to China and South Africa.

Ms. Stanley has served on the board of the Southern California Cancer Pain Initiative and was honored for her outstanding contribution to the relief of cancer pain. A former president of the Oncology Nursing Society, she also has served on the board of the California Coalition for Compassionate Care. Additionally, Ms. Stanley co-founded a community coalition focused on end-of-life care in Claremont, California; served as consultant to the “Bill Moyers Dying In America” series; and was a panelist on the PBS Fred Friendly show Before I Die: Medical Care and Personal Choices. Her achievements have been recognized with many acknowledgments, including her selection as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Patricia L. Starck, DSN, RN, FAAN
DSN ’79

Dr. Patricia L. Starck is the John P. McGovern Endowed Professor and dean at the University of Texas Health Science Center School of Nursing at Houston. She was a member of a seven-dean delegation that started the first master’s program in China, and in her later work on pain and suffering, she was the first to declare that undertreatment of pain is a medical error.

With her strong foundation in clinical doctoral education, she created a unique model for faculty practice, first at Troy State University and later at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Today, the Houston practice generates $3,000,000 per year and contributes to health care in the larger community. Dr. Starck has provided leadership to initiate many new programs, including the first on-site graduate nursing program in the Rio Grande Valley.

Over the years, Dr. Starck has raised millions of dollars to support nursing, including funds for a $58 million building, scholarships, endowed professorships/chairs, and other needs. She has published 47 articles and seven book chapters and co-authored the book The Hidden Dimension of Illness: Human Suffering. Dr. Starck developed the Meaning in Suffering Test (MIST), used by students from various disciplines around the world.

Elizabeth Stullenbarger, DSN, RN
DSN ’84, MSN ’82

Dr. Elizabeth Stullenbarger is professor and associate dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She also serves as senior scientist in the Minority Health and Research Center at UAB.

Her research focuses on the expansion of understanding the meta-analysis process and integrative research review. She was a co-recipient of one of the first grants from the National Institutes of Health and National Institute of Nursing Research to systematically conduct a meta-analysis of oncology in an effort to guide the development of comprehensive nursing interventions.

As an educator, Dr. Stullenbarger served as a consultant in Thailand, China, Russia, Moldova, and St. Lucia to assist in refinement of their healthcare curricula. In America she created nurse-managed centers for students to expand their horizons and assist in the development of culturally competent care by taking nursing to underserved, low-income neighborhoods and leading the development of distance accessible learning environments. Dr. Stullenbarger has garnered in excess of $9 million to support, expand, and create culturally competent nursing programs that address the need to eliminate health disparities.

Dr. Stullenbarger is past president of the Alabama Board of Nursing and has co-authored respected monographs on nurse educator competencies and clinical resources essential for academic nursing programs.
Sue Ellen Turner, Brigadier General (Ret.), MSN, RN

MSN '81

Brigadier General (R) Sue Ellen Turner is a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force. Entering the Air Force as Second Lieutenant, General Turner rose to the top of her profession during a time in history when only two percent of the general officers were women. As Director of the Nurse Corps, she represented nearly 23,000 nurses who provided care on the ground and in the air during both times of peace and times of war. As Chair of the Federal Nursing Chiefs Council, she articulated the interests and concerns of nearly 100,000 nurses serving in the federal system to professional groups and the U.S. Congress.

The general founded a consulting firm after her retirement from the Air Force utilizing her more than 40 years of experience in the professional management of people, programs, and issues. She has consulted with hundreds of individuals and their organizations to create workplaces that attract and keep the very best people, compete favorably in today's competitive environments, and make a difference in their communities.

General Turner holds the Distinguished Service Medal and the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster. She has presented lectures, seminars, and conferences across the U.S. and 12 foreign countries.

Surpora S. Thomas, MBA, RN, FAAN

BSN '85

Surpora S. Thomas is Chief Nurse Executive Emerita at Children’s Health System in Birmingham, Alabama, having served in that position for 27 years out of her four-decade career. She has been a vanguard for exceptional pediatric nursing services and enhancing the health of underserved urban and rural communities, which led her to faith-based activities using a community nursing approach. She has moderated and produced a weekly radio program serving seven Appalachian counties and inner-city Birmingham.

Ms. Thomas’s innovations in patient acuity models have transformed nursing and health care in Alabama, nationally, and internationally. Results of this work framed the thrust for evidence-based practice in nursing. Because of her many innovations, the Children’s Hospital Board of Trustees and Executive Administration Staff named and dedicated the Surpora Thomas Pediatric Nursing Education Research Center in her honor. Other honors include establishment of the Surpora Thomas Pediatric Nursing Excellence Fund to support Nursing Research and the Surpora Thomas award to recognize nursing excellence.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the Alabama Pediatric Nursing Hall of Fame, the Alabama Nursing Hall of Fame, and the Alabama Healthcare Hall of Fame.

Patricia E. Thompson, EdD, RN, FAAN

MSN '71

Dr. Patricia E. Thompson is chief executive officer and past president of Sigma Theta Tau International in Indianapolis, Indiana. Previously she served as associate dean for academic programs at the College of Nursing, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), Little Rock, Arkansas.

Her research focusing on initiatives that improve student success received $3 million in funding from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Health Resources and Services Administration, as well as the Little Rock Workforce Investment Board as part of the U.S. Department of Labor. She has published her findings in numerous journals including MEDSURG Nursing and Nurse Educator and presented at the state, national, and international level.

Her awards and honors are numerous and include being named a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. Additionally, she was inducted into the Northwestern State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the Northwestern State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the NW State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the NW State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the NW State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the NW State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the NW State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the NW State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the NW State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

In 2007, she led Children’s Health System to attain the American Nurse Credentialing Center Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence. Additionally, she is an inductee into the NW State University Hall of Distinction as an Outstanding Alumna and was named a Honorary Alumna of UAMS College of Nursing. She was inducted into the Louisiana Hall of Fame at the Louisiana State Nurses Association and was named a Distinguished Alumna at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.
Anne Turner-Henson, DSN, RN
DSN ’92

Dr. Anne Turner-Henson is a professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing; an adjunct professor at the UAB School of Public Health, Maternal Child Health Division; and an associate professor at the UAB School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics.

Through the interplay of her interdisciplinary research, programmatic development, grassroots and community empowerment, and policymaking efforts, she has focused on the state and national level to improve the lives of children and families. She has conducted research to test innovative models of care for children with asthma through exposure reduction of secondhand smoke and household chemicals. Her work resulted in the adoption of programs in various Alabama communities, local school districts, child-care programs, and community-based organizations. Dr. Turner-Henson is project director of UAB School of Nursing’s Leadership Education in Child-Health Nursing program, funded by Maternal Child Health Bureau of the Department of Health and Human Services. This program seeks to prepare the next generation of nursing faculty leaders in child-health nursing education and biobehavioral research.

As an advocate for children’s health, Dr. Turner-Henson serves on the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Children’s Health Protection Advisory Committee. She is vice president of the Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS).

Claudette G. Varricchio, DSN, RN, FAAN
DSN ’83

Dr. Claudette G. Varricchio is an expert in the field of oncology nursing. She taught in the graduate program for nursing at Loyola University in Chicago and collaborated with colleagues to establish the doctoral program curriculum at that institution. As a program director at the National Cancer Institute and as associate director at the National Institute for Nursing Research, she developed and promoted the research programs in symptom management, quality of life, and survivorship.

She co-authored the seminal publication The Nurse and Radiotherapy: A Manual of Daily Care, published in 1979. She has authored numerous articles, book chapters, and other publications related to symptom management, quality of life, and research related to oncology nursing. She has co-edited issues of Seminars in Oncology Nursing, which focuses on quality of life, and the Oncology Nursing Society’s Study Guide for the Core Curriculum for Oncology Nurses.

Dr. Varricchio is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and served on the National Institutes for Health expert panel at the State of the Science Conference on Smoking Cessation. She has been an active volunteer with the American Cancer Society, having served as chair for the Nursing Professorship and Scholarships Committee.

Joan M. Vitello-Cicciu, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAHA, FAAN
MSN ’82

Dr. Joan M. Vitello-Cicciu is the executive director for perioperative nursing and clinical services at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. With over 30 years of experience in hospital settings, she previously served as vice president and chief nursing officer for Hallmark Health System.

Dr. Vitello-Cicciu has extensive experience as a clinical specialist and health-care executive. She has presented papers around the world on topics ranging from leadership, emotional intelligence, appreciative inquiry, and organizational change to cardiovascular, emergency, and professional issues in nursing. Her extensive accomplishments as an author are evident with published articles having appeared in Focus on Critical Care, the Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing, Critical Care Quarterly, Heart & Lung, Nursing Management, and the Journal of Nursing Administration. For ten years she has served as the co-editor of the Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing.

Dr. Vitello-Cicciu is a former president of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, the world’s largest nursing specialty organization. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and a Fellow of the American Heart Association Council on Cardiovascular Nursing and has traveled to Honduras to provide humanitarian care for women and children.
Connie White-Williams, PhD, RN, FAAN
PhD ’09, MSN ’91

Dr. Connie White-Williams is an expert in the field of heart transplantation. As an assistant professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing, she serves as the advanced nursing coordinator for the Center for Nursing Excellence, Evidence Based Practice and Nursing Research at UAB Hospital. As a consultant, Dr. White-Williams works with other medical centers to develop competent organ transplant programs, and she consults with nursing administrators at other institutions to achieve their quest for Magnet certification.

Through funding from the National Institutes of Health, the National Center for Nursing Research, and public and private organizations and foundations, Dr. White-Williams’s research generates new information from ongoing research. She is a dedicated clinician and continues to present and publish research results at the local, national, and international level about quality-of-life outcomes for cardiac patients and other nursing issues involving evidence-based practice, education, and health policy.

Dr. White-Williams is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and the American Heart Association’s Council on Cardiovascular Nursing. Additionally she was honored to receive the Clinical Excellence Award from the UAB Advanced Practice Council for Nursing and the International Heart and Lung Transplantation Society’s Nursing and Social Science Research Award.

Janet Stearns Wyatt, PhD, CRNP, FAANP
MSN ’74

Dr. Janet S. Wyatt serves as the chief executive officer of the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board, Inc. (PNCB). She has spent more than 39 years in nursing education, practice, and administration as an adult nurse practitioner, faculty member, and department head in graduate nursing programs. Her career also includes service as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps Reserves.

As the CEO of the PNCB, she led the expansion of certification and continuing-education programs for advanced and general practice pediatric nurses, quadrupling certification enrollment over 10 years. Dr. Wyatt also led the establishment of several organizational initiatives in support of quality health care. Through her leadership, the Institute of Pediatric Nursing (IPN) was established to unite the collective voices of pediatric nursing leaders in an effort to strengthen quality care to children and families. Dr. Wyatt also helped lead the establishment of the first Geriatric Evaluation and Management Unit (GEMU), a collaborative project of the University of Maryland and the Baltimore VA Medical Center providing rehabilitation services for functionally impaired elderly.

Dr. Wyatt is a volunteer member of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence and the Board of Directors of the Arthritis Foundation and is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

Sharon B. Wyatt, PhD, RN, CANP, FAAN
MSN ’71, BSN ’70

Dr. Sharon B. Wyatt is a professor in the schools of nursing and medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center located in Jackson, Mississippi, and is the Harriet Williamson Endowed Chair in Nephrology Nursing. Her clinical practice is in the Division of Hypertension, where she developed the first interdisciplinary practice and education model at UMMC for nurse practitioner, medical, and pharmacy students to care for persons with metabolic syndrome.

Dr. Wyatt is best known for her research related to cardiovascular health disparities and innovative community-driven solutions to reduce disparities. With funding from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, she served as the co-principal investigator for the landmark Jackson Heart Study, to identify risk factors for cardiovascular disease in African Americans. She currently serves as principal investigator for the National Children’s Study, Hinds County Study Center, with over $12 million in funding from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute for Children’s Health. Dr. Wyatt’s interdisciplinary approach to health equality resulted in her appointment as the co-chair of the Governor’s Task Force for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease, where she leads health policy development and implementation for Mississippi’s State Plan to reduce disparities.
Recognized Leaders

The School was honored to have nearly 200 alumni nominated for the Visionary Leader Award for their impact in nursing and health care. Although only 60 Visionary Leaders could be named, all of the nominees are leaders and should be recognized as such. So the UAB School of Nursing is pleased to honor the following alumni as Recognized Leaders.

Janet Alexander, EdD, RN
MSN ’83, BSN ’75

Lydia Andrews, MSN, CNM
MSN ’95, MSN ’86

Janet Awtrey, DSN, RN
DSN ’80, MSN ’68

Jean C. Bates, BSN, RN
MPPM
BSN ’80

Penny Bosarge, MSN, WHNP-BC, FAANP
MSN ’84

Sylvia E. Britt, DSN, RN
DSN ’81, MSN ’75

Jo Ann S. Broadus, MSN, RN
MSN ’80, BSN ’61

Kenneth Dale Brown, MSN, RN
MSN ’83, BSN ’78

Richard Brown, MSN, CRNP, JD, FAANP
MSN ’97, BSN ’94

Rosemary Brown, BSN, RN, CPN
BSN ’88

Joan B. Carlisle, DSN, CRNP, BC
DSN ’91, MSN ’79, BSN ’75

Elizabeth Van Beek Carlson, PhD, RN
MSN ’77

Carolyn Chalkley, MSN, RN

Patricia Cleveland, MSN
MSN ’75, BSN ’73

DeNene Cofield, BSN, RN
BSN ’82

Virginia Lee Cora, DSN
DSN ’85

Shelia P. Davis, PhD, RN, FAAN
MSN ’84

Martha Dawson, DNP, FACHE
MSN ’84, BSN ’76
Recognized Leaders

Joy P. Deupree, PhD(c), MSN, APRN-BC
MSN ’97, BSN ’94

Susan H. Draine, EdD, RN
MSN ’83

Gregory S. Eagerton, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
MSN ’91, BSN ’85

Denise Elliott, DSN, RN
DSN ’01

Patti W. Ellis, BSN
BSN ’73

Karen Spence Faircloth, MSN, FNP
BSN ’84

Marquetta Flaugher, DSN, ARNP-BC
DSN ’02

Juanzetta S. Flowers, DSN, RN
DSN ’85, MSN ’83

Anne Foote, DSN, RN, AN-P
DSN ’85, MSN ’73

Maria Ford-Clark, BSN, RN
BSN ’91

Pamela N. Fordham, DSN, RN, CRNP, FAANP
DSN ’89, MSN ’76

Julie K. French, DNP, RN, CPHQ, CNAAC, BC
MSN ’88

June Stokes Goyne, EdD, RN
MSN ’79, BSN ’72

Tami Green, MSN, CRNP, CDE
MSN ’99

Sandra A. Greniewicki, EdD, RN
MSN ’74, BSN ’73

Elwynn (Chick) Hale, EdD, RN
MSN ’60, BSN ’59, DIPL ’47

Bernita K. Hamilton, PhD, RN
MSN ’79, BSN ’76

Madeline G. Harris, MSN, RN
MSN ’90, BSN ’75

Shirley W. Hester, MSN, CRNP
MSN ’83, BSN ’72

Lou Etta Morris Hicks, MSN, ARNP, GNP-BC
MSN ’81

Marcia Hobbs, DSN, RN
DSN ’91

Patricia Holden-Huchton, DSN, RN, CNE
DSN ’95

Jan Howell, BSN, RN, CNOR
BSN ’73

Nadine T. James, PhD, RN
PhD ’01
Cindy Jones, EdD, RN
MSN ‘81

Matthew W. Kervin, MN,
CRNA
BSN ’94

Debbie J. Laney, MSN,
CRNP
MSN ’93, BSN ’92

Sarah Latham, DSN, RN
DSN ’85, MSN ’75, BSN
’74

Sue Ellen Lucas, MSN
MSN ’80

Barrett B. MacKay, MSN,
FNP
MSN ’79

Sheila M. Marable, DSN,
RN
DSN ’04, MSN ’83

Jacqueline Y. Martinek,
MHSA, RN, CENP
BSN ’79

K. Alberta McCaleb, DSN,
RN
DSN ’91, MSN ’81, BSN ’77

Elizabeth McCulloch,
BSN, MPH
BSN ’78

Betty Sue McGarvey,
DSN, RN
DSN ’02

Sheila Melander, DSN,
RN, ACNP, FCCM, FAANP
DSN ’90

Rita Monsen, DSN, MPH,
RN, FAAN
DSN ’88

M. Esther Moring,
BSN, RN
BSN ’81

Penne Mott, MSN, CRNP
MSN ’88, BSN ’83

Ayda G. Nambayan, DSN,
RN
DSN ’85, MSN ’67, BSN ’64

Linda W. Olivet, DSN, RN
NE-BC
DSN ’95

Julia W. Powell, MA,
BSN, RN
BSN ’71

Carol J. Ratcliffe, DNP,
RN, CNOR, FACHE
MSN ’95

Dianne M. Richmond,
MSN, RN
MSN ’98, BSN ’77

Vanda Scott, EdD, RN,
FACHE
MSN ’83

Cynthia S. Selleck, DSN,
ARNP
DSN ’87

Judy K. Short, DSN, RN
DSN ’94
RECOGNIZED LEADERS

Larry Z. Slater, BSN, RN  
BSN ’08

Carol Marie Hall Smith,  
MSN, RN  
MSN ’76

Edwina Taylor, MSN, FNP  
MSN ’99, BSN ’70

Jeanette L. VanderMeer,  
DSN, RN  
DSN ’97

Diane M. Von Ah, PhD,  
RN  
PhD ’03

Deborah E. Wesley, MSN,  
RN  
MSN ’86

Sharon E. Yeldell, MSN,  
RN  
MSN ’80

Not pictured:

Kathleen G. Bond, EdD, RN  
BSN ’65

Amy Carr, MSN, RN  
MSN82, BSN ’76

Linda Forte’, DSN, RN, APRN, BC  
DSN’97

Audra U. Lalisan, MSN, CRNP, CRNA  
MSN ’94, BSN ’90

Margaret I. Millsap, EdD, MSN  
MSN’58, BSN’56

Donna Miranda, BSN, RN, BC  
BSN’86

Carol A. Smith, DSN, CRNP, FNAP  
DSN’89

Mary J. Wade, MS, MSN, CRNP  
MSN’96

Teresa Watkins, MSN, FNP  
BSN’78

Sarah G. White, MSN, RN  
BSN’94

Keeta P. Wilborn, PhD, RN  
MSN’83, BSN’75
Signature Sponsors
UAB Administration
UAB Health System

Gold Sponsors
Burr & Forman LLP
Robert and Lois Luckie Charitable Foundation

Silver Sponsors
Alacare Home Health & Hospice
HealthSouth Corporation
Sterne, Agee & Leach, Inc.
The Harry B. and Jane H. Brock Foundation

Bronze Sponsors
Altec Industries, Inc.
Barrett Brock McKay, MSN, FNP
Children’s Hospital
Clayton State University School of Nursing
CLP Corporation
Constance Smith Hendricks, Ph.D., RN, FAAN
Janet Stearns Wyatt, Ph.D., CRNP, FAANP
Marie O’Koren, Ed.D., MSN
McCallum Family
Melinda Helveston
O’Neal Steel, Inc.
Oasis Counseling for Women and Children
Samford University School of Nursing
ServisFirst Bank
Sigma Theta Tau, Nu Chapter
Starnes Davis Florie, LLP
Sue Ellen Lucas, MSN
Surpora S. Thomas, MBA, BSN, RN, FAAN
The Thompson Foundation
UAB School of Nursing Faculty
Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

As of October 1, 2010
60th Anniversary Celebration sponsors

UAB News
CURRENT FACULTY

Gail Acre, RN, MSN, CRNP
Anne Alexandrov, PhD, RN, FAAN
Susan J. Appel, PhD, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC, CCRN
Andres Azuero, PhD, MBA
Mary Beth Bodin, DNP, CRNP, NNP-BC
Penelope Bosarge, MSN, WHNP-BC, FAANP
Pamela Bowen, BBA, MSN, CRNP
Sylvia Britt, DSN, RN
Amy Brooks, MSN, CRNP
Kathleen Brown, PhD, RN
Richard Brown, MSN, CRNP, JD, FAANP
Pamela Bryant, RN, CRNP
Julie Cash, MSN, CRNP
June Cho, PhD, RN
Becky J. Christian, PhD, RN
Melanie Daniel, MSN, RN
Carol Dashiff, PhD, RN, LMFT
Kimberly Davey, MBA, MA
Martha Dawson, DNP, RN, FACHE
Sandra Davis, MSN, RN
Joy Deupree, PhD-c, MSN, APRN-BC
Jennifer DiCecco, MSN, CRNP
Patricia Dudley, MSN, CRNP
Yvonne Eaves, PhD, RN
Beth Elias, PhD, MS
Comfort Enah, PhD, RN
Susanne Fogger, DNP, RN, PMHNP-BC, ANP-BC
Pamela Fordham, DSN, RN, CRNP, NP-C, FAANP
C. Ann Gakumo, PhD, RN
Jody Gilchrist, MSN, CRNP
Joan Grant, DSN, RN, CS
Rebecca Greenwood, PhD, RN
Cindy Grimes-Robison, RN, MSN, MEd, FNP
Melanie Gibbons Hallman, MSN, CRNP, CEN
Stephanie Hammond, MSN, CRNP
Sharon Hamilton, MSN, RN
Youngshook Han, PhD, RN
Doreen C. Harper, PhD, RN, FAAN
Connie Hataway, RN, MSN, CNE
Karen Heaton, PhD, RN, CEN, FNP-BC
Gail Hill, PhD, RN
Ashley Hodges, PhD, WHNP-BC
Jacqui Hoffman, MS, ARNP, NNP-BC
Lygia Holcomb, DSN, CRNP
Judith Holcombe, DSN, RN
Brenda W. Iddins, MSN, FNP-BC
Jean Ivey, DSN, CRNP
Misty Johnson, DNP, FNP-BC
Carolyn Jones, RN, MSPH
Angela Jukkala, PhD, RN, CNL
Norman Keltner, EdD, RN
Miriam-Colette Kempf, PhD, MPH
Jennifer LaBorde, RN, MN
Summer Langston, DNP, ACNP-BC, CRNP
Loretta Lee, MSN, RN, FNP-BC
Dale Link, MSN, RN
Teena McGuinness, PhD, CRNP, FAAN
Rhonda McLain, DSN, RN
Patrick McNees, PhD, FAAN
Karen Meneses, PhD, RN, FAAN
Gary Milligan, RN, MSN, MSHA
Darnell Mompoint-Williams, DNP, CRNP, ANP
Linda Moneyham, DSN, RN, FAAN
Randy Moore, MSN, RN
Shannon Morrison, PhD, MSN, APRN-BC
Jacqueline Moss, PhD, RN
Lana Nealand, DNP, MSN, RN
Donna C. Newell, RN, CNS
Doug Oliver, MSN, RN
Kristen Osborn, MSN, CRNP
Na-Jin Park, PhD, RN
Mary Frances Pate, DSN, RN
Patricia A. Patriarca, RN, PhD, FAAN,
Colonel U.S. Army (Ret.), FAAN
Patricia Pearce, PhD, MPH, APRN, FNP-BC
Vanetta Peoples, MSN, RN
Jennifer Phillips, DSN, RN
Amy Ponder, MSN, RN
Dorothea Poole, MSN, RN
Erica Pryor, PhD, RN
Linda Reed, PhD, RN
Marti Rice, PhD, RN
Jill Ross, PhD, RN, MLS
Karen Saenz, PhD, MSN, MPH, CPNP
Cynthia S. Selleck, DSN, ARNP
Delaine Smith, RN, MSN, ARNP, BC
Glenda Smith, PhD, RNC, NNP, APRN, BC,
PNP, M.Div.
Myra A. Smith, PhD, RN
Nancy Smith, MSN, RN
D’Ann Somerall, MA, MSN, FNP-BC
Elizabeth Stullenbarger, DSN, RN
Xiaogang Su, PhD
Nancy A. Swan, MSN, RN, CCRN
Michele Talley, MSN, CRNP
Shaun Tolbert, MSN, CNL, RN
Anne Turner-Henson, DSN, RN
David Vance, PhD, MGS
Janice Vincent, DSN, RN
Theresa Wadas, MSN, CRNP
Deborah Walker, DNP, CRNP, AOCN
Penni Watts, MSN, RN
Anne Williams, PhD, RN
Lynda Wilson, PhD, RN, FAAN
Frank Wiser, MPA
Stephanie Woods, MSN, CRNP, NNP-BC
Mary Annette Wright, PhD, CRNP