# touch Points

**SCHOOL OF NURSING NEWS | SPRING/SUMMER 2018** 







# **DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

This issue is once again so packed with news, we're letting images speak volumes in sharing what has been happening since January! In this *Touchpoints* you'll see our Student Synthesis projects, the History Symposium, the Edge Film Festival, the GSNA Symposium, our annual Gala, the 60th reunion of the class of '58, the graduation of the class of '18, and an innovative knowledge translation project by one of our recent interdisciplinary doctoral students.

So much has happened, there is limited room to share the good news recently announced by the Honourable Adrian Dix, Health Minister, on behalf of the BC government. So here let me express how pleased we are that the BC government has committed to shifting to a team-based primary health care system province-wide. It is an approach we, and nurses in many parts of the world, have supported for years, and it will be a benefit to all British Columbians.

On May 24<sup>th</sup> we hosted the announcement here at UBC, where Minister Dix announced, as part of government's team-based primary care plan, 200 new nurse practitioner (NP) positions funded in primary health care across the province, and a 66% increase in NP education seats spread over three nursing schools. The School of Nursing at UBC has been asked to double our NP admissions, increasing the program by 15 more seats. With more room in our stellar NP program, and 200 new places for employment after graduation, our graduating NPs will be well-positioned to provide leadership in the health care teams that will deliver effective patient-centred primary care to British Columbians, particularly those in remote areas.

I encourage you to learn more about our nurse practitioner program and our newly approved MHLP-Clinical Education program by visiting our website: <a href="mailto:nursing.ubc.ca/graduate-programs">nursing.ubc.ca/graduate-programs</a>. In the meantime, enjoy our newest *Touchpoints*!

Elizabeth Saewyc, PhD, RN, FSAHM, FCAHS, FAAN

Director and Professor



Photo: Lou Corpus-Bossha

## **ON THE COVER**

"I'd just want to be treated like a normal person. I don't feel much different from anybody else." The art featured on our cover was created by a participant in the Trans Youth In Translation project as part of the the Youth Creative Arts Knowledge Translation Project. It is used with the permission of the artist. More on page 12.



IN SEARCH OF NURSING'S HISTORY

## **TOUCHPOINTS**

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### **EDITOR**

Elizabeth Saewyc

# **WRITING, DESIGN & PRODUCTION**

**Heather Swallow** 

### **MAILING ADDRESS**

T201-2211 Wesbrook Mall Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 2B5 T: 604.822.7417 F: 604.822.7466

### **UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS**

Email: alumni@apsc.ubc.ca Phone: 604.822.9454

Online: alumni.ubc.ca/connect

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For readers of the hard copy, please visit: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/touchpointsx">bit.ly/touchpointsx</a> for a list of extras and active hyperlinks. A digital copy of *Touchpoints* can be found at <a href="mailto:nursing.ubc.ca/newsletters">nursing.ubc.ca/newsletters</a>



The 2018 symposium, *In Search of Nursing's History*, was held on March 8<sup>th</sup> in the Woodward Library's Sherrington Room with panel presentations on emerging research techniques that are currently available to users of the UBC Library system. Each presentation reflected on the ways in which nursing history has been and is preserved, made accessible, and used in research.

Geertje Boschma, who, with Catherine Haney, has consistently been the contact and host for the Nursing History Symposium, opened the event and introduced both Katherine Miller, Nursing Librarian at UBC Woodward Library, and Aleteia Greenwood, Head of the UBC Woodward Library and Biomedical Branch. They provided a brief overview of their roles, a history of the Woodward Library, details on how it fits into the UBC library system, and what to find there. Woodward is home to the largest biomedical collection in Western Canada, evolving from various

sources.

Photo: UBC Open Library Digitization Centre

With its roots in UBC's Medical Reading Room, which opened in 1950, the Woodward Library began operation in 1964 and has been expanding ever since. Information repositories from St Paul's, BC Children's and Women's, and a number of UBC units combined over the years to make the library what it is

today. The library now hosts collections from seven faculties and specializes in engineering, forestry, health and medicine, land and food systems, and science.

As if to underscore the importance of digital knowledge translation, one of the panel presenters spoke via webcam from Saskatchewan. Dr Helen Vandenberg gave the users' perspective, weighing in on the benefits of being able to access a wealth of information from important sources as varied as hospitals, schools, and churches, without the time and expense of travel. Vandenberg also noted that the massive collection of data from multiple locations can be managed easily with today's search engines, making it simple to focus on only the documents that are most relevant to one's research.

After the question period, participants engaged with the displays, including archival treasures from the BC Nursing History Society, a brief timeline of the history of the school, a poster on "Collections and Research Services," and UBC Press table of recent School of Nursing publications.

In the Charles Woodward Memorial room, participants discovered a collection of nursing history artifacts from infant feeders, some of which are ancient, to nursing medals. All of this testifies to the assertion made during the presentations: that a library system preserves so much more than the printed word.

Not everything is available online due to copyright laws, sensitive material, and other constraints; however, the librarians and archivists themselves are a wealth of anecdotal information that you won't have access to unless you engage with them personally. This, of course, we highly recommend and encourage.

[Unknown]. (300AD). [Infant feeding pot from around 300 B.C.] [P]. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.14288/1.0228078

Panelist	Presentation Title	Takeaway
<b>Amber Saundry</b> , Digital Repository Librarian, UBC Digital Initiatives	Preserving Nursing and Health History in a Time of Digitization and Open Collections	For distance learning and research, check out UBC's Open library to find images of documents from Florence Nightingale's letters to fellow-panelsit Helen Vandenberg's dissertation, as well as artifacts like medals and medical instruments.
<b>Kristina Laszlo</b> , Archivist, UBC Library Rare Books and Special Collections	Archival Records and Nursing History	For various reasons such as confidentiality and copyright, some artifacts cannot be added to UBC's Open Library digitization program. Visit Rare Books and Special Collections in person to gain access to a more comprehensive list and the possibility of a tactile experience of materials.
Claire Williams, MAS/ MLIS Candidate, UBC	Archiving Networks of Support	Personal stories came alive in Claire's hands when she was entrusted with the task of archiving sensitive materials relating to real people going through very difficult times. Seeing these documents in person may do the same for you.
<b>Erwin Wodarczak,</b> Archivist, Acting Head of UBC Archives	Records and Collections on Nursing History in UBC Archives	Erwin provided an extensive list of resources for researching the history of nursing and the history of the UBC School of Nursing. We have placed this list on our website at <a href="https://bit.ly/touchpointsx">bit.ly/touchpointsx</a>
Helen Vandenberg, Assistant Professor, University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing	Digital Collections from a User Perspective	In researching her dissertation on Japanese hospitals in BC, Dr Vandenberg found that the pieces of her research puzzle were spread over several different archives across the country. In today's digital age, she did not have to visit each library personally in order to access the materials, and was assisted in her long-distance research when digitization of a particular collection was specifically fast-tracked at her request.



Geertje Boschma introduces panel members Amber Saundry, Kristina Laszlo, Claire Williams, and Erwin Wodarczak at the table, Helen Vandenberg joining virtually from Saskatchewan.



Aleteia Greenwood recounts the (possibly true) story of how UBC came into possession of Florence Nightingale's original documents.

Visit <a href="bit.ly/SoNHistory5">bit.ly/SoNHistory5</a> for a video of the symposium.

To view the artifacts, visit UBC Library's Open Collections open.library.ubc.ca or attend in person.



A brief timeline of the School of Nursing served as a point of interest at the 2018 Alumni and Partnership Gala held on May 3 at the Robert H Lee Alumni Centre at the Point Grey campus.

Through an unusual set of circumstances, this year all five awards were given to alumni of the school at the annual gala held at the Robert H Lee Alumni Centre.

The 2018 Community Partnership Award, which is normally not limited to alumni, was delivered into the hands of alumna Candy Garossino (MSN '91). She has been a long-term visionary nursing leader in Providence Health Care who strongly advocates for our students researching there. Candy has been and continues to be a wonderful champion of our programs, encouraging nurses at St Paul's Hospital to continue on to complete their master's and PhDs.

Our Young Alumni Award for 2018 went to Marissa Bird (BSN '14) who graduated with top marks and is already becoming a positive influence at McMaster Children's Hospital. There, combining evidence-based practice, clinical experience, and a passion for improving care, Marissa designed an early warning sign system for pediatrics that leads to a safer hospital experience for children. She has recently returned to McMaster University to acquire her PhD in the first full-time direct-entry doctoral position to be offered by the school.

Janice (Jan) Radford (BSN '79, MSN '89) received the Alumni Recognition Award. As a teacher at Douglas College and adjunct professor at UBC, Jan has always been a stellar educator and mentor, but she truly found her niche as a leader. Jan assumed many leadership roles over her career, including nurse manager, clinical nurse specialist, and Director of Maternal Child Services in the Fraser Health Authority. Most recently, Jan has been providing nursing support on the Sue Bujold Floor: a program

provided by Atira for women in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside who are at the end of their lives and struggling with substance use, homelessness, and mental wellness. In all of her roles, Jan has been a powerful champion for the rights of women and children who are burdened with health equity challenges.

Dr Susanna Cunningham (BSN '66) received the Alumni Award of Distinction. Her extensive and lauded career as a teacher at the University of Washington began in 1969, where she held dual appointments in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics and in the Department of Biobehavioral Nursing and Health Informatics. Susanna's strong interdisciplinary background gave her the ability to build stronger connections between nursing and the basic sciences. Under her leadership, a team of researchers from multiple disciplines has translated the latest knowledge about neuroscience into useful, understandable information for students, educators, and the public. The project has for more than two decades enabled teachers everywhere to be better, more effective educators.

As anyone who knows them will tell you, the BSN Class of 1958 are thoughtful and efficient. For their 50th reunion they thoughtfully initiated a fund to assist nursing students through difficult financial times. Ten years later, they efficiently combined part of their 60th class reunion with the School of Nursing's Alumni and Partnership Awards Gala, where they were presented with the Donor Partnership Award for 2018.

We heartily congratulate our 2018 award recipients for their continuing contributions to nursing in word, deed, and donations.

For more images from the evening, visit: bit.ly/2018SoNGala.

6 Gala TOUCHPOINTS















Jan Radford



Marissa Bird

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Dean James Olson and Director Elizabeth Saewyc (centre) are flanked by members of the Class of 1958 holding their new composite class photo. Award winners Candy Garissino and Dr Susanna Cunningham stand behind at the far left and right respectively. Jan Radford and Marissa Bird, who were unable to attend, sent pre-recorded messages to the event.

Spring/Summer 2018 Gala

# **EDGE**

# Film Festival

A full house at the Chan Centre's Royal Bank Cinema enthusiastically engaged with Elder Roberta Price of the Snuneymuxw and Cowichan First Nations as she opened the second annual Edge Film Festival with her story and her blessings. The films selected for the evening not only reveal work in which the School of Nursing has partnered, but also exhibit striking and dynamic ways of bringing research to life for the diverse audience of academics, artists, and fans.

The first film, *New Frames*, is based on a research study by doctoral trainee Carla Hilario. Shot in stark black and white close-up, the film brings the audience into the lived experience of young immigrant and refugee men as they open up to the

camera and reveal their stories. Using participatory video methods, excerpts from the interviews of the 33 young men who participated in the study are reenacted through the remarkable talents of six local actors. Though not the actual

participants in the study, by embodying their words, the actors effectively translate the study results from the page.

"They're Not Scary": An Intergenerational Dance Project is an uplifting tale from a study conducted at the University of the Fraser Valley's Centre for Education and Research On Ageing by researchers Shelley Canning, Dr Michael Gaetz, and Lee Kwidzinski. The film takes place over the six-month duration of the "Imagine Dance" project, in which elderly residents of a care facility in Chilliwack, BC interact weekly with a ballet class from the same neighbourhood. Director Darren Blakeborough captures the interactions on film, as delightful relationships develop. Not all the outcomes of the study have been









8 TOUCHPOINTS

measurable scientifically, but the filmmakers beautifully capture visible evidence of the benefits of intergenerational integration.

Because of unjust socio-economic inequities that are tied to the historic and ongoing legacies of colonialism, Aboriginal people are overrepresented at each stage of the Canadian criminal justice system and face persistent barriers to healing and rehabilitation. Work 2 Give—a prison employment initiative founded in partnership between the Correctional Service of Canada, the Tsilhqot'in First Nation, and Punky Lake Wilderness Camp Society—seeks to support healing for both Aboriginal inmates and communities through the fostering of connection and relationship through meaningful prison work. A trailer for the third film of the evening was shown at last year's Edge Film Festival and Healing Beyond the Prison Gate: Incarcerated Men Work 2 Give to Indigenous Communities in BC was eagerly anticipated by film-goers. This film shares findings from a collaborative and community-based research study on the impacts and potential of the Work 2 Give initiative, findings shared most powerfully through the voices and stories of the inmates and communities who participate in and benefit from the initiative.

The final film, *Our Voices, Our Stories*, was produced and directed by Barb Cranmer (of the 'Namgis First Nation) and documents not only the demolishing of the St Michael's Indian Residential School in Alert Bay, but also the real and symbolic importance of that act to those who survived the school, their families, and the wider community.

The message of support and survival was brought home in the panel discussion that followed the screenings. In collaboration with partners and agencies, the research presented by the School of Nursing in film shows no sign of slowing down. We invite you all to attend the events that will take place in our centenary year to keep up with nursing research presented in entertaining and moving ways. Visit <a href="mailto:nursing.ubc.ca/events">nursing.ubc.ca/events</a> to keep up to date on this and other upcoming events.







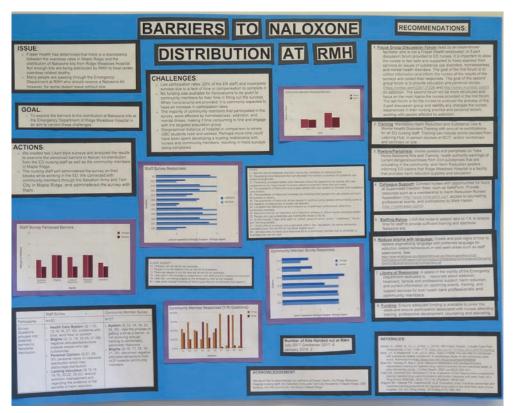




Spring/Summer 2018



The School of Nursing's Synthesis Project is a course requirement that brings student research out of the theoretical and into the real world. Within an imposed time frame, students design, develop, and sometimes implement (in partnership with health care programs and partners), projects that address challenges of nursing practice and lived experience of patients and families. Each year the students are given an opportunity to display and discuss their projects with one another and with guests. This year's Synthesis Forum took place in the School of Nursing classrooms on February 8<sup>th</sup>. On these pages you will find a few samples of the 43 projects that were undertaken in 2017/2018.





*Identifying barriers experienced by nurses in engaging in the take home naloxone program* – Ridge Meadows Hospital Emergency Department with Taylor Hetherington, Yael Schoijett, and Margaret Trocha

10 Student Research TOUCHPOINTS

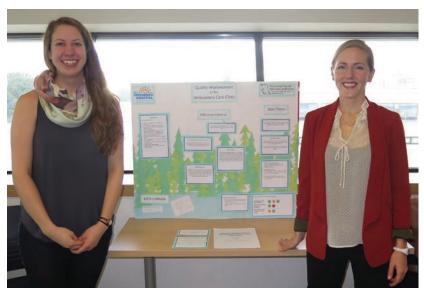






Above: Evaluation of Geriatric Psychiatry Outreach Team and Development of Patient Satisfaction Survey – Mount Saint Joseph and St Paul's Hospitals with Lindsay Hoetzel, Magdalene Woodward, and Nicole Sacco.

Left: Examining the relationship between Clinical Informatics and researcher skill development utilizing the Researcher Pathway and the draft Clinical Informatics Journey – PHSA Corporate Office with Kenneth Janzen, JiaYi Ni, Ileen Park, and Melody Chavarria.



Capturing and Presenting Patient and Family Experience in Ambulatory Care Setting – BC Children's Hospital with Camille Brockmann, Sarah Elbert, Shalini Sabaratnam, Chelsea Wand



Creating/revising reference care plans to guide nursing practice and assist in documentation of client care needs – BC Children's Hospital and SunnyHill Health Centre with Lyndsey Merry, Mercedes Ouellet and Hanna Turner

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Spring/Summer 2018 Student Research



















This year, each recipient of the Outstanding Completion Project Award receives the J Kirstine Griffith Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Nursing to recognize their outstanding contribution to nursing research and scholarship.

The award has been made available through an endowment established by the Estate of Braham Griffith in memory of his wife, Jean Kirstine Griffith.

Dr Braham Griffith (1901-1998) taught at UBC for over three decades in the Faculty of Forestry, from 1936 to 1967.

Jean Kirstine Griffith (1922-2014) graduated from UBC in 1945 with her BASc in nursing. She returned to UBC for her MA in education in 1969. Mrs Griffith was appointed a senior instructor at Vancouver General Hospital in 1969 and worked there for 26 years.



115 BSN graduates tipped their cap to the Chancellor on May 31, 2018. Also crossing the stage were two MPH/MSN grads, ten MHLP graduates, 15 MSN graduates, 16 MN-NP Graduates, and three PhD Nursing graduates. Celebrations continued at the Robert H Lee Alumni Centre.





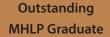












**Janet Macdonald** Sarah Chui

**Julie Oltmann Plesner** & Ajantheni **Tharmaratnam** 

**Rush Prize** 

J. Kirstine Griffith **Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Nursing** (PhD Dissertation)

**AWARDS Jennifer Stephens** 

**Pauline Capelle Memorial Prize in Nursing** 

Amal Alharbi & **Manpreet Thandi** 

Helen L. Balfour Prize

**Shannon Martin** 

Dell & Del Johnson **Memorial Prize in Nursing** 

**Emma Bodnar** 

Undergraduate **Nursing Society Leadership Award** 

Sarah Elbert, **Camille Brockmann** & Kathleen Lamb

> J. Kirstine Griffith **Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Nursing** (MSN Thesis)

**Manpreet Thandi** 

**Meg Hickling Prize in Sexual Health Education & Development** 

Katherine Wanamaker-Briggs & Jaskiran Kaur

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Spring/Summer 2018 **Student Feature** 

# TRANS YOUTH IN TRANSLATION

A Youth Creative Arts Knowledge Translation Project

"It's been really stressful for me, and I think it was really avoidable in a lot of ways."

"We suffer a lot and it's really, really difficult."

"It absolutely sucks. I don't know how to put it...it kind of eats away at you."

This is how trans youth describe their experiences when facing barriers to accessing needed hormone therapy in BC. The *Trans Youth Hormone Therapy Decision Making Study* explores how trans youth and their parents make decisions about initiating hormone therapy and how health care providers navigate ethical challenges arising in practice with trans youth and their families. In addition to presenting findings at academic conferences and publishing in peer-reviewed journals, a goal of this project since its inception has been to disseminate results through a youth-driven, creative arts-based knowledge translation project. This spring, that project became a reality.

Through the Trans Youth in Translation project, trans youth from across BC participated in creative arts workshops with adult trans artist mentors. Drawing inspiration from quotes of youth research participants, these young artists brought research findings to light in creative ways. Their own experiences making



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Above: A youth who attempted to access hormone therapy without parent support for this intervention described the experience this way: "Once I got [to the health care provider], I was like, 'Ah, ah, I don't know what to do,' because my mom was still not on board, so I was just kind of like, this is just like swimming through poisonous water."

decisions about hormone therapy and accessing health care informed their interpretations of these findings.

- Creative writing and poetry offer insight into lived experiences of trans youth.
- Paintings depict challenges youth encountered when trying to access gender health care.
- Songs tell stories of challenges, necessary catalysts for change and outcomes youth hope for.
- Dramatic scenes depict positive health care interactions, to help health care providers understand how youth would like to see health care delivered.
- A board game simulates barriers and facilitators to gender health care experienced by trans youth, designed to convey how much of their journeys were left to chance and how systems of care need to be improved to better meet the needs of trans communities.

14 Faculty Research TOUCHPOINTS



Left: One youth describes their experience of gender and understanding of sex: "I would describe my gender identity as being a non-binary trans woman, which basically means to me that I am a woman, but gender's not real and I just exist...Sex isn't just male and female. It's beautiful and varied and determined by many different things."

Used with permission of the artist. All rights reserved.

This research was conducted by Beth Clark (Interdisciplinary Studies Graduate Program PhD Candidate), who is supervised by Dr Elizabeth Saewyc in the School of Nursing. Beth worked with Trans Care BC, the Trans Health Information Program, and the Catherine White Holman Wellness Centre for several years, and is now serving as a clinical ethicist at the Provincial Health Services Authority. Beth also brings a background in the creative arts, having practiced for several years as a music therapist and clinical counsellor with youth and families.

For updates on this project, visit SARAVYC.ubc.ca



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When asked how they would like to be treated by health care providers, a youth participant responded: "I'd just want to be treated like a normal person. I don't feel much different from anybody else." The cover image and above are interpretations of this quote by two different youth artists.

Submitted by Beth Clark

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Spring/Summer 2018 Faculty Research





**Dr Colleen Varcoe** | Selected as a recipient of the UBC Killam Research Prize in recognition of her outstanding research and scholarly contributions, Dr Varcoe is a renowned researcher in violence against women and equitable health care. She has made substantial inroads in our understanding of the health consequences of violence, including policy and trauma-informed care. She has also informed the measurement of discrimination and advancement of cultural safety in Canadian health care. Dr Varcoe received her prize at an annual awards reception hosted by the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation, on April 17<sup>th</sup>, in the Glass Lobby of the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts.



**Dr David Byres** | Adjunct professor and alumnus Dr Byres was honoured with the Dean's Medal of Distinction at the UBC Applied Science Celebration on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Through his work in a variety of senior executive positions in health care in BC over the past ten years, he has inspired many health professionals throughout the region and has had a profound influence on nursing practice. In his role at BC's Ministry of Health as Chief Nurse Executive (Clinical Integration, Regulation & Education Division) Dr Byres has been a force for optimizing the role of nursing in BC.



**Dr Sally Thorne** | Since 1971, the Canadian Nurses Association has honoured a nurse or nurses at its biennial convention with the Jeanne Mance Award—the highest award for a Canadian nurse. As one of Canada's most inspirational nurses, Mance was the first lay nurse in North America, she founded the Hôtel-Dieu Hospital and co-founded the surrounding settlement of Ville Marie, which later became Montreal. This year's award winner is Dr Thorne, who has been the inspiration for new generations of nurse leaders, educators, researchers, and nurses in practice across Canada.

Look for further details about these awards in our News pages: <a href="mailto:nursing.ubc.ca/news-events/news/">nursing.ubc.ca/news-events/news/</a>

# **JUST RETIRED**

Joanne Ricci Catherine Ebbehoj Judith Lynam

The Director's full announcements are online: bit.ly/touchpointsx

Catherine (Cathy) Ebbehoj is one of our marvellous alumni; having completed both her BSN (1975) and MSN (1999) in our UBC School of Nursing, she brought her longstanding expertise in maternity nursing and education to our school as a clinical instructor in 1990, and has been a popular and inspirational educator for 27 years. She officially retired on December 31st, 2017, but continues to be active on the Alumni Engagement Committee.



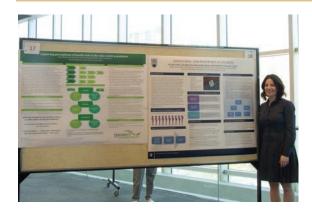
Joanne Ricci retired from the UBC School of Nursing after more than 40 years as a faculty member. Joanne likely holds the school record as the longest serving tenured faculty member in our nearly 100 years as a School, and such dedication is worth acknowledging — especially as she continued to work for the School nearly full-time for another five months after retiring on December 31st, 2017!

Dr Judy Lynam retired on December 31st, 2017, after 35 years on faculty in the School of Nursing. Judy has been a stellar contributor to the success of the school through her excellent teaching, research on the health of marginalized children and families, and in her leadership in curriculum and strategic initiatives. Judy will continue to be active within the school as a professor emeritus.

16 Faculty Page TOUCHPOINTS

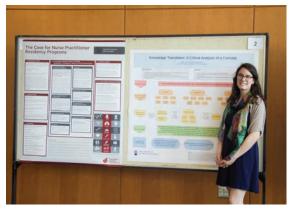
# **GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH**

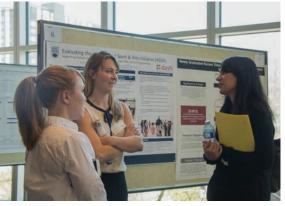
The 6th Annual Symposium













On May 2nd, 2018, the Graduate Student Association Nurses hosted their sixth symposium, Nurses as Emerging Leaders in Research, Education, and Practice. The symposium provides an opportunity for graduate students to practice their presentation skills by sharing innovative projects, scholarship, and research in a dynamic, interactive, and supportive setting. No project is too big or too small. Students in graduate and undergraduate programs in nursing and other health-related fields presented their posters and oral presentations in the Golden Jubilee Room at the I K Barber Learning Centre.

Photos: Graduate Student Nurses Association

# SIXTY YEARS OF FABULOUSNESS

# The Class of '58 Meets the Current Cohort



at 2018 Reunion

Elizabeth Robertson as a student nurse in 1958.

An historic event took place at the UBC School of Nursing in May 2018 when the students in the current cohort met with graduates of the class of 1958. As part of their 60th reunion celebration

(planned to coincide with the 2018 UBC Nursing Celebration Gala), the alumni asked for an opportunity to connect with the current class of students to share their experiences of being a nursing student in the 1950s and to hear about the student experiences of 2018. Without hesitation, 25 students signed up, one of which remarked that this was a once in a lifetime

opportunity that they didn't want to miss.

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During the planning for the session the organizers recognized the importance of capturing for posterity, the rich historical and comparative information that might emerge, so each graduate of the class of '58 ("graduate") was paired with two students and the sessions were audiotaped. A few of the participants entered the session with some trepidation; they were concerned that they might not ask the right questions or have enough stories to fill the 40 minutes allotted for the sharing session. From the gentle reminders to finish up their interviews, to the engagement and level of noise at the celebration lunch afterwards, it was apparent that a lack of material for discussion proved not to be an issue.

The graduates brought many photos and other memorabilia to share with each other and the students. The students were amazed at the graduates' engagement not only with their studies, but also in ensuring time for fun. One graduate smiled, and remarked that as she perused the pictures with the students, she needed to explain things such as the enema can and autoclave. Another graduate told the students about the "Three H's" of the enema. The graduates also shared tips on how to enjoy life in such a caring/demanding profession and noted that student days will get better as you learn more and feel more confident.

The graduates shared the configuration of their 1950s program (sometimes referred to as the "sandwich program"): one year at UBC, three years at VGH with rotations out into Essondale and the VON resulting in their RN, and the final year at UBC to receive their BSN. The UBC nursing program separated from VGH in 1958, putting an end to a teaching partnership that had been in place since 1919 and causing some friction at the administrative levels; but students were mostly unaware of this. A number of graduates compared education at the university where creative thinking was encouraged, to the much more structured setting in the hospital where you did things exactly as you were taught.

Alumni **TOUCHPOINTS** 







Michaela Krauss

Above: Alice Baumgart with Katie Hilton and Zach Daly, 2017 grad

Left: Rita Carke with Brenna Astle and Erica tobias

These opposing teaching methods made some students feel as if they had experienced less support from some of the nurses and head nurses during their clinical rotations.

This reunion project was a definite success. Feedback from the students was consistent in recognizing how amazing the 1958 graduates are. Erin Steen commented, "I loved this event and found it invaluable! It was such a wonderful reminder why I chose the profession of nursing and how diverse the field can be."

Jordynn D'Angelo was fascinated by the differences in nursing then and now, especially relating to the gender roles in the workplace.

Hana Mildenberger shared her preconceived idea that there would be many aspects of nursing and nursing school that were just "different" due to the passage of 60 years. However, she discovered many similarities while chatting about the experiences and challenges of school. For example, this meeting was a reminder of the important role classmates will play not only during student days but throughout a nursing career. "Support from people who understand what you are going through is crucial and many valuable bonds can be established

with those in your cohort," Hana said. She had also assumed that the graduates were mostly going to be career bedside nurses but she discovered that, while some did have a full career within hospital walls, others had worked in education, academia, community health, and other facets of nursing.

Some of the graduates remarked that this event was one of the highlights of their reunion and were pleased by how articulate and mature today's students seemed. The students agreed that is was a positive experience that they would never forget and recommended that this type of event be repeated.

The School of Nursing Alumni Engagement Committee is currently working on a mentorship program to connect current students with alumni. Information about this will be posted on our alumni website page <a href="mailto:nursing.ubc.ca/alumni">nursing.ubc.ca/alumni</a>

For their 50th reunion, the graduates created the Class of 1958 Emergency Award. <a href="https://bit.ly/TPFW2016">bit.ly/TPFW2016</a>

To donate to this or other awards in the School of Nursing, or to create your own, please contact use Stephanie McKnight <a href="mailto:stephanie.mcknight@ubc.ca">stephanie.mcknight@ubc.ca</a>. To plan your reunion, please contact APSC Alumni Relations at <a href="mailto:alumni@apsc.ubc.ca">alumni@apsc.ubc.ca</a>.

Submitted by Cathy Ebbehoj

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T201 – 2211 Wesbrook Mall Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 2B5

