



The Nursing Digest



Message from the Chair



This spring, we continue to see our programs, students, and alumni excelling and we are happy to once again be able to share a spring newsletter with you. In the fall, the faculty of the Wehrheim School of Nursing decided to pursue accreditation through the Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA). Throughout the fall and spring semesters, the faculty have been diligently working on our self-study process in anticipation of a spring 2023 site visit. As the chair of the program, I am so proud of the work each and every faculty member is contributing to this vital and very time-consuming project. As we move through this process, we are thrilled to see the focus CNEA places on student and faculty success. To this end, we are in the midst of revising our methods of surveying students and alumni for program satisfaction. We value the feedback our students and alumni provide to us – we know you are our best recruiters!

Later in March, Heather Shuker, DNP student and Justin McFail, MSN student will be presenting their graduate projects at the prestigious Eastern Nursing Research Society Annual Scientific Sessions! One of my personal goals for our program is to increase opportunities for students to present their amazing work at outside conferences. This is a great step toward this goal. I'm so happy to have these excellent students representing the Wehrheim School of Nursing at the national level!

We have so much to look forward to this spring and beyond. On April 8, we will host the Positive Energy Conference for Eco-Centric Healthcare and on April 29, we will host our annual Scholarship Symposium. Both of these events have in-person and virtual options for attending. Following the Scholarship Symposium, there will be a reception to celebrate the naming of the Wehrheim School of Nursing and to celebrate the amazing gift of Ms. Liselotte Wehrheim. There will be some great Wehrheim School of Nursing swag at both events. More information about these events can be found later in the newsletter.

I'm also thrilled to announce that award-winning author Sam Quinones will be coming to campus (virtual options also available) on March 21 and 22, 2022 to discuss his new book, *The Least of Us: True Stories of America and Hope in the Time of Fentanyl and Meth*. I will be hosting a virtual book club with Quinones on March 17. Registration details accompany this newsletter.

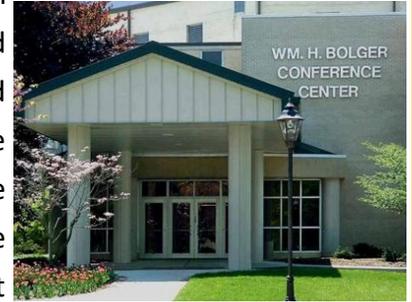
Finally, remember, we love to hear from our alumni! Take a minute and let us know what you are doing! Have you gone on to graduate school? Do you have an amazing job you want to tell us about? Do you just want to share your good news? Please, send me an email Kelly.kuhns@millersville.edu

Our mission: To provide high-quality education to prepare professional nurse learners to advance our profession and improve the health outcomes of our communities.

Our philosophy: We want to engage our learners in the highest level of practice in order to elevate the profession of nursing – locally and globally! We are committed to creating the nurse leaders of tomorrow.

The Positive Energy Convention for Eco-Centric Healthcare

April is Earth month, and now more than ever we need “all hands on deck” to make change for the better in terms of sustainability and environmental stewardship. Join the Wehrheim School of Nursing and celebrate Earth Month on April 8, 2022, by attending the 1st annual Positive Energy Convention for Eco-Centric Healthcare from 9:00 am to 2:45 pm at the Bolger Conference Center on the campus of Millersville University. The healthcare industry generates an enormous amount of pollution and yet maintaining healthy communities contributes significantly to public health.



Network with others while learning more about the environmental impact from our healthcare industries, the implications of climate change for vulnerable populations, and the role of healthcare personnel in navigating the journey toward a sustainable industry. Among the many expert panelists participating Marilyn Howarth, MD, FACOEM, from the University of Pennsylvania will present “Health Effects of Air Pollution in Pennsylvania”.

We also have Ruth McDermott-Levy, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, from Villanova University scheduled to present “Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units: Addressing the Unique Environmental Vulnerabilities of Children”. In addition, Flora Cardoni, of PennEnvironment will present “Advocacy for Healthcare Professionals: How to Move Forward as a Voice for our Climate, Environment, and Health”.



Our existential connection with Earth requires us to consider planetary health and how we can care for patients in ways that contribute less to global pollution and promotes healthy communities. The goal of the convention is to increase participants’ knowledge about environmental issues with a focus on health and the healthcare industry, promote collaboration among community members, and to serve the community through outreach initiatives.



THE POSITIVE ENERGY FUND
Millersville University

Participants can earn 4.25 continuing education hours if they participate in the entire event. While this conference is an in-person, on-campus event, attendees do have the option of participating virtually through Zoom at no cost. For those attending the event in person, there is a \$20 fee, and a catered lunch is provided. Registration opened on March 8th. A complete agenda will be coming soon so please check the nursing website or our various social media outlets.

Register now and ensure a spot! Please email Meredith Johnson at: mejohno@millersville.edu to register or if you have any additional questions concerning this eco-centric healthcare oriented event.



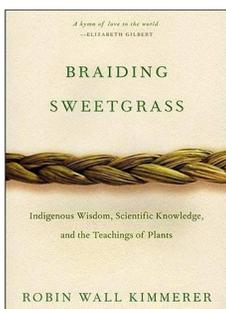
Distinguished Lecture Event

Later this month, the Wehrheim School of Nursing and the Xi Chi Chapter of Sigma are pleased to offer another of our Annual Nursing Distinguished Lecture events with 1.5 continuing education hours for participants. Join us on Wednesday March 30 at 7PM via Zoom as we welcome Dr. Laura Anderko, PhD, RN, of the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing at Villanova University, with her presentation *Healing the earth, healing ourselves: Climate change, health, and nursing*.



Among her many roles, Dr. Anderko is also the Co-Director of the federally funded Region 3 Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit at Villanova University College of Nursing, the Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment serving Pennsylvania, as well as Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington DC. As a nurse, Dr. Anderko is also an educator and scholar focusing on issues around environmental health, receiving numerous awards for her work including a 2013 Champion of Change recognition by the Obama administration for her advocacy efforts in climate change and public Health.

Register NOW for this free event at <https://millersville.zoom.us/j/9123456789>. In keeping with the organizational goals of Xi Chi, along with the needs of the most vulnerable across our Marauder community, we are once again appealing for donations to address food insecurity among our students in need. Donations can be made via check (mail to Xi Chi/WSN at PO Box 1002 Millersville, PA 17551 or Venmo (@MU-XiChi).



For all those who contribute before the event begins, you will be entered into a drawing to receive copy of one of Dr. Anderko's favorite books *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teaching of Plants*. As we do each year, the WSON and Xi Chi plan assorted continuing education opportunities including book clubs. This spring we plan to include a book club around *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teaching of Plants*. Information about the event will be posted online via our nursing website and various other social media outlets.

25th Annual Scholarship Symposium

Join us on Friday April 29th, 2022 as the Millersville University Wehrheim School of Nursing holds their 25th annual scholarship symposium from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. This year the event will be held in-person at the Student Memorial Center in the multi-purpose room on the MU campus. We will also offer a remote option via Zoom livestream.

The symposium enables our DNP and graduating MSN students to profile their academic achievements with a presentation of their final scholarly projects. Like years past, this event has both a morning and afternoon program before concluding, however this year following the symposium we will host a reception to celebrate the dedication of our new name to honor Ms. Wehrheim's generous endowment.



Scholarship Symposium

(continued from page 3)



WEHRHEIM
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The activities of the morning will consist of both cohorts of our graduating doctoral students presenting their final projects, along with our MSN students presenting their capstone projects. During the afternoon, we will have breakout sessions where the MSN students and non-graduating DNP students will present their projects. We also invite our MSN nurse educator students to participate in judging the panel and poster presentations.

This is a free event and continuing education contact hours will be offered! For those joining us in-person, a breakfast and lunch are provided. The in-person option is open to all Millersville faculty, staff, preceptors, and guests. The Zoom option is open to everyone, including all current Millersville students. We hope you can join us to celebrate scholarship and the WSON at Millersville University. Register for this event by 4/18/2022 at: <https://www.millersville.edu/nursing/symposium.php>



Faculty Receives Regional Recognition



Each year, the Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners (PASNAP) recognizes excellence within the profession among six regions of the Commonwealth. At their annual conference, PASNAP honors Certified School Nurses that have outperformed and exceeded expectations in their role as a school nurse. Especially in these challenging times, these vital health care professionals are charged with protecting our children and serve as an inspiration to others within their community as well as fellow school nurses across Pennsylvania. Winners of those Regional School Nurse Excellence Awards then become finalists for the following year's Pennsylvania School Nurse of the Year.

The Wehrheim School of Nursing is proud to share that Dr. Dawn Lambert was nominated and selected by a group of her peers in the PASNAP Professional Group within the Southcentral Region. When asked about this recognition, Dr. Lambert responded, *"It is absolutely humbling to receive this recognition as so many of my peers have worked tirelessly to ensure safe school environments during the COVID-19 pandemic and have had a tremendous amount of additional administrative responsibilities placed upon them. It is truly an honor to be recognized this way particularly since 2022 is also the year of the Nurse Educator."* Thank you Dr. Lambert for all your service.



Improving Education Through Leadership

Dr. Susan Moyer and Dr. Dawn Lambert, assistant professors in the Wehrheim School of Nursing, recently had an opportunity to represent Millersville University as speakers at Lancaster Learns. This one-day conference held in February aims to promote quality teaching and learning practices across institutions of higher education within Lancaster county.



Dr. Moyer and Dr. Lambert were selected for a virtual Coffee Talk session and presented on the topic: *Techniques to Engage Students in Online Learning*.

Their presentation was guided by the book, *Small Teaching Online* by Flower Darby and James Lang and focused on the importance of using suitable technology and media, providing meaningful feedback, and building effective relationships in online learning. Thank you for sharing your expertise with other educators working to improve academia across the county and throughout our Commonwealth.

Cultivating Academic Resilience

The coronavirus pandemic brought about a transformation in higher education from face-to-face teaching to online learning. These instructional and learning changes have overwhelmed some faculty and many students especially those from marginalized communities. Even more distressing is that the impact has hit underrepresented populations disproportionately often resulting in those students giving up academically and often withdrawing socially.

Cultivating and nurturing academic resilience is beneficial to achieving one's educational goals. In an effort to strengthen academic resilience across the campus, Millersville University implemented the Academic Resilience Speaker Series, a cross-disciplinary initiative to provide a forum to share perspectives and strategies on building resilience and encouraging student success.

As part of an upcoming forum, former and current students from the Millersville University Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program were asked to share their resilience strategies as invited panelists in one session. Those WSON participants include DNP alumni Dr. Laurette Flannery (DNP '21) and Dr. Bryan Weinberg-Wonsidler (DNP '21) and current DNP students Heather Shuker and Kelly Fetterhoff.



Dr. Laurette Flannery



Dr. Bryan Weinber-Wonsidler



Heather Shuker



Kelly Fetterhoff



Dr. Susan Moyer, assistant professor at the WSON, will moderate the panel discussion entitled *Building Better Habits to Achieve Academic Success*. Guided by the book *Atomic Habits* by James Clear, presenters will discuss four ways students can transform behaviors and build better habits in pursuit of their educational goals. The session is planned as a virtual webinar on March 17, will be recorded, uploaded, and available for viewing from the MU Academic Resilience webpage at:

<https://www.millersville.edu/advisement/academic-resilience-initiative/academic-resilience-series.php>

New Accreditation for School of Nursing

Accreditation is a complex review process to ensure that programs are meeting specific and defined standards, that routinely needs renewed to guarantee the program is maintaining the same level of excellence. In short, it's a means of quality control that requires an on-site review by an external team of industry and academic experts. In nursing there are three main accrediting bodies, the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), the Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA), and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

Since the inception of the nursing program at MU, we have maintained national accreditation. As we began to prepare for our CCNE re-accreditation due in Spring 2023, we reviewed all accreditation options and decided that returning the accrediting arm of the National League for Nursing (now CNEA) best aligned with our own mission, vision, and philosophy. The core values of CNEA are caring, diversity, integrity, and excellence. These align well with the core values of the Wehrheim School of Nursing -- exploration, professionalism, advocacy and action, diversity, and leadership.

Having already submitted our pre-accreditation candidacy application and anticipating an onsite review next year, the faculty have embraced this rigorous process that requires an honest, and maybe challenging at times, look at our strengths and areas where we can improve. It involves aligning goals of the WSON with those of the University and those of the NLN, ensuring that student learning outcomes are aligned with course objectives and program goals, all within the framework of standards outlined by CNEA. In February 2022, the CNEA Board of Commissioners met to review and vote on our November 2021 submission. We are elated to announce that we recently received notification that our BSN, MSN, DNP, and Post-Master's Certificate programs were all granted pre-accreditation status. We are thrilled to embark on this new journey and are working diligently to prepare for our site visit in February 2023.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

March 17, 2022 — 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm: Opioid Workforce Expansion Program Book Club
The Least of Us: True Tales of America and Hope in a Time of Fentanyl and Meth

March 21, 2022 — 6:00 pm: Sam Quinones, *The Least of Us: True Tales of America and Hope in a Time of Fentanyl and Meth*, Presentation and Q&A

March 22, 2022 — 9:00 am: Sam Quinones, *The Least of Us: True Tales of America and Hope in a Time of Fentanyl and Meth*, Interview and Book Signing

March 23, 2022 — 7:00 pm: The Dynamic Note-Worthy Partnership Book Club
The Antidote to Suffering: How Compassionate Connected Care Can Improve Safety, Quality, and Experience

March 30, 2022 — 7:00 pm: Distinguished Lecture with Dr. Laura Anderko, PhD, RN, of the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing at Villanova University

April 8, 2022 — 9:00 am to 2:45 pm: Positive Energy Convention for Eco-Centric Healthcare

April 29, 2022— 9:00 am to 3:30 pm: 25th Annual Nursing Scholarship Symposium



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