A nursing shortage. Under-represented populations in healthcare professions. Both are concerns Allen College addresses in a variety of ways—but one grant is giving it a new way to do so. Five new ways, actually.

Thanks to a $50,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Allen College was able to offer five student scholarships to the accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funds grants for projects across the U.S. to improve the health and healthcare of all Americans. The foundation’s New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program was designed to address the nursing shortage by funding scholarships in accelerated bachelor’s degree programs at nursing schools—especially those that increase the number of students in these programs and increase enrollment of disadvantaged or minority students.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant Provides $50,000 in New Scholarships

Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT) Program

Nuclear medicine technologists prepare and administer radioactive compounds, execute patient imaging procedures, perform lab tests, interact with patients and more. Most NMTs work in hospitals; however, there are some private offices that provide nuclear medicine services.

Allen College started the NMT program in 2009, based on job outlooks and future need. “We felt the future need for nuclear medical technologists would be great,” said Jared Seliger, Nuclear Medicine program director.

“The Nuclear Medicine Technology program adds diversity to Allen College’s education,” said Seliger. “It is an addition to all the nursing programs, which gives students more opportunities.”

Shaun Cavanaugh was a member of the first class of Allen College NMT graduates and received his Nuclear Medicine Technology ....continued on page 2

Adult Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (APMHNP) Program

Iowa ranks among the lowest in the nation in the number of available psychiatric mental health care providers, according to the Iowa Department of Public Health.

Allen College started the Adult Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program to fight the shortage of mental health care professionals in Iowa. “The program was started to fulfill a critical need,” said Nancy Kramer, EdD, CPNP, ARNP, vice chancellor of academic affairs and Allen College professor. Eight students enrolled in the first class of the two-year APMHNP program. Sixteen students have been admitted to the second APMHNP class.

“APMHNP graduates can work with psychiatric patients in a variety of settings, including ambulatory care clinics, psychiatric outpatient clinics, inpatient units and private group practices,” said Kramer.

The Allen College APMHNP program is one of only two programs in Iowa preparing psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners. Graduates of the program receive their MSN degree (or post-MSN certificate) and can take the national certification exam to become advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNPs).

Kramer said, “Students in this program get the private college atmosphere, caring and experienced faculty, and access to a growing cadre of preceptors around the state for practicum experiences.”

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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant Provides $50,000 in New Scholarships

First Students Graduate from two Allen College Programs

The first graduates from two Allen College programs received diplomas at the May 2010 Allen College commencement ceremony. The first class of Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT) and Adult Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (APMHNP) students received diplomas on May 7, at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Dr. Michael D. Ward, PhD, spoke at the commencement ceremony. Ward is associate dean for student programs and a professor at Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College in St. Louis. He also served as a consultant to Allen College in the design of its health science programs.

First Students Graduate from two Allen College Programs

Michael D. Ward, PhD

Dr. Nancy Kramer

NMT graduates

APMHNP graduates

continued on page 2

continued on page 3
Chancellor’s Message

College Reaches Milestone

Allen College has achieved a significant milestone in its development. Starting next fall, we will offer the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree, the culmination of two years of planning led by Dr. Nancy Kramer, our chief academic officer, a committee comprised of faculty and students, and an external consultant, Dr. Felessa Kashyap of Rutgers University. More details about this exciting new program can be found on page 11 of this publication.

Not everyone agrees that advanced practice nurses need to be doctorally prepared. For example, some nurse leaders, among others, have argued that requiring nurses to obtain a doctorate in order to become ARNPs will delay their entry into advanced practice and increase costs for their educational preparation. While the American Association of Colleges of Nursing has led the effort to adopt the DNP as the required educational credential for ARNP preparation, however, several other healthcare disciplines have embraced doctoral preparation for practitioners (e.g., pharmacy, physical therapy, occupational therapy), and there is every reason to believe that nursing will go down this pathway as well.

Advanced practice nurses, who are poised to play a more central role in delivering primary care in the wake of primary care physician shortages, need doctoral preparation to gain the highest level of scientific knowledge and practice expertise to assure quality patient outcomes. The rapid expansion of knowledge underlying practice; increased complexity of patient care; national concerns about the quality of care and patient safety; and projected shortages of nursing, all demand a higher level of preparation for nurse clinicians and leaders who can design and assess care. Doctorally-prepared nurses can also help to alleviate current and growing shortages of nursing faculty with doctorates in Iowa and across the nation.

Recently the prestigious Institute of Medicine and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation released a visionary report—The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health—which includes among its recommendations removing regulatory barriers to nursing practice; raising the education level of the nursing workforce; enhancing nursing’s leadership role in healthcare redesign; and strengthening data collection efforts. The report calls for policymakers, educators and leaders across the profession to take collective action to reform education, strengthen nursing roles and amplify nursing’s voice in transforming the healthcare system. Achieving the recommendations in this report will require a workforce of highly educated leaders who can design a blueprint for action, not the least of which is providing high quality, cost-effective care. I have every confidence that Allen College’s doctorally prepared graduates will have the knowledge and skills to provide leadership for this transformational effort.

Lab Results Positive for a Student Scholarship

Currently, there are fewer than 5,000 medical lab professionals graduating each year in the U.S. However, 13,800 are needed to fill vacancies each year through 2012. Employees in Allen College’s lab teams up to combat this shortage.

Allen Laboratory, United Medical Park and Prairie Medical Park employees used their innovation and dedication to fundraise for a scholarship specifically for students in Allen College’s Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) program.

“We hope to encourage two-year medical lab technicians to return to school to pursue further education,” said Julie Westin, MT(ASCP), medical technologist, Allen Laboratory. “We also hope it will serve as an incentive for new techs entering the program.”

The scholarship, officially known as the Allen Laboratory Endowed Scholarship, will be awarded annually in amounts of no less than $500. The number of students who receive the scholarship, as well as the amounts awarded, can increase based on incoming gifts and investment income.

“The funds will be given based on financial need,” said Westin. “Preference will be given to students with ties to northeast Iowa and employees or interns at Allen Hospital labs.”

The scholarship was started as part of Allen’s Promises to Keep campaign, which raised $1.5 million for the College endowment to assist more students with scholarships each year, starting in 2010. Currently, donor support funds about 100 scholarships annually.

The first recipient of the Allen Lab Endowed Scholarship for the 2010-2011 school year was Megan Watson, a first-year MLS student.

“This scholarship shows working hard and doing the best you can pays off,” Watson said. “School is expensive, so every little bit helps. I’m very appreciative of the lab employees for the scholarship.”

Medical Laboratory Scientists practice diagnostic medicine, performing tests and analyzing data to provide accurate laboratory results to confirm a diagnosis or monitor a treatment plan.

“Lab tests are used as 75 percent of medical decisions,” said Wendy Bienemann MT(ASCP), Allen Laboratory. “So it’s important to recruit young people and provide a good education program, which will produce qualified laboratory staff.”

Students who complete the application online for Allen institutional scholarships are considered for the Allen Lab Endowed Scholarship. For more information about the scholarship or to donate, contact Brenda Barnes, director of the Medical Laboratory Science Program at Allen College.

NMT continued from page 1

certificate. “My favorite part about the program was the time I got to spend in the hospital with patients and the technologists,” he said. “And the small class size was great, faculty took the time to make sure I understood everything.

It’s been an honor to be part of the NMT class,” Cavanaugh said. “I enjoyed learning the profession and am grateful to the faculty at Allen College.”

Seeing the first NMT class graduate was understood everything.

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Seeing the first NMT class graduate was

“The first recipient of the Allen Lab Endowed Scholarship was the first minority student in the College’s 60-year history to receive this award,” said Williams-Perez.

“The College is finding opportunities from this grant that reach beyond enrollment goals. “Not only did this grant allow for increasing the number of students in Allen College’s Accelerated BSN Program, it has also allowed the opportunity to carefully examine our mentoring and leadership development activities for our BSN students,” Williams-Perez says. “Exciting new opportunities for mentoring and leadership development are being created for all our accelerated BSN students. These initiatives have the potential to serve as a foundation for novice nurses as they move into practice.”

To Burger, receiving the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholarship is about more than just money, and the present. “In the future, I will include it as one of my personal accomplishments and be motivated to continue my education, because I know that I have lots of support while pursuing a nursing career.”

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholarship recipients

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RNFL grants continued from page 1

Dr. Jerry Durham, Chancellor

Dr. Jerry Durham, chancellor of Allen College, Cathy Simmons from the Allen Foundation and Dr. Kendra Williams-Perez, assistant dean of undergraduate nursing, submitted the grant application in winter of 2009. Five students enrolled in the accelerated BSN program, and each received a $1,000 scholarship.

“Allen College had previously established a goal of admitting 24 students to the accelerated program,” says Williams-Perez. “After receiving the grant, we increased this goal to 32 students. This demonstrates an increase of 33 percent.”

Scholarship recipients include Gary Spettel, Saja Pathiyottil, Michael Brown, Jene’ Beck and Nathan Burger.

Even though he knew he wanted to pursue nursing, Nathan Burger may never have been able to study without this scholarship. He received a bachelor’s in Spanish and a minor in business from Luther College in 2009.

“My previous education at Luther College has left me with a fair amount of debt,” Burger says. “This scholarship is an extraordinary gift for which I am very grateful. In addition, it’s a form of support and encouragement that I welcome.”

Laboratory Science (MLS) program.

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When it comes to reaching target populations, Allen College’s location makes it uniquely situated to do so. Thanks to efforts from Allen College’s Office of Diversity Services, the number of diverse students has increased significantly.

“In 2008, Allen College had nine minority students and 20 male students,” says Williams-Perez. “In 2009, we had 19 minority students and 27 male students. These numbers don’t reflect the scholarship recipients, who entered

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The following awards have been made for the 2010-2011 academic year.

$188,000 was awarded in Allen College institutional scholarship assistance for the 2010-2011 academic year. This is up from $170,000 the prior year.

Heather Evans
Allen College

Kelly Wilkinson

Jennifer Lohse

Brittney Anderson

Ann Swisher

Hannah Nielsen

Jennifer Castle

Alexandria Bunger

Stephanie Bormann

Kayln Boge-Kleiss

Association Scholarship

Lindsey Vinson

Megan Schriver

Katie Reth

Gladys Oyaide

Brianne Hildebrandt

Megan Green

Jaclyn Flynn

Taylor Bunn

Taffy Benson

Auxiliary Scholarship

Lisa Jurgensen

Cynthia Bohm

Memorial Scholarship

Patricia Boeck

**Keith M. & Dorothea Schwickerath Scholarship**

Robert Morrison, MD

Robert Bailey, MD and Emily Morris

Scholarship Fund

Wayne Lichty

Dr. Rolf F. Kruse

Durham, Allen College chancellor. “Our Office of Diversity Operations has been set to increase the diversity of the healthcare workforce, and our Diversity Advisory Council is also in place to help us reach out to all under-represented groups.”

The College’s program offerings are also growing. Allen College recently obtained approval to start two new programs in 2011, a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program.

Applications are being accepted for all Allen College programs. To apply, visit allencollege.edu or call 319-226-2000.

Allen College has received five federal grants—totaling $450,000—from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The funds will support disadvantaged student; finance graduate students preparing for careers as nurse educators; and assist the College in extending the acute care and psychiatric nursing tracks of the MSN program to student learners.

Some of the grants were funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The funds for disadvantaged students will give scholarships to students from disadvantaged backgrounds with financial need, many of whom are under-represented minorities. The Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) will provide low-interest loans to graduate students who want to teach nursing, as an incentive for nurses to select careers as nurse educators. Graduates who receive NFLP funds can have 85 percent of their loan forgiven, if they teach full-time in a nursing program following graduation.

Additional grants include:

- **$10,000** from the Cedar Valley Unified Way to fund the Allen Community Engagement-Salvation Army Partnership (ACE-SAP) Free Medical Clinic.

- **$1,500** from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to support the Leadership Development Program for the five RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholars. This grant is in addition to the previous $50,000 grant from RWJF (see page 1). These additional funds will be used to support leadership and mentoring activities required by the grant.

- **$12,800** from the Max & Helen Guernsey Charitable Foundation to fund the ACE-SAP Free Medical Clinic.


career, and is one of only two programs of its kind in Iowa.

Full enrollment in the College’s entire MSN program is in a record 151 students, with an increase from 135 students a year ago. This is the sixth consecutive year of record enrollment for the MSN program. Full enrollment in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program is 277 students, an increase from 273 students a year ago.

Record minority enrollment is also reported, an increase from 46 percent in fall 2008 to 46.1 percent this fall.

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program in adult psychiatric mental health (APMh), offered through the School of Nursing, has doubled enrollment to 161 students. It was first offered in the fall of 2008 and is one of only two programs of its kind in Iowa.

Allen College overall enrollment figures 2001 – 2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>263</td>
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<td>2002</td>
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<td>306</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>272</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>266</td>
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* First year of upper division BSN program
**Faculty /Staff Recognition Banquet**

Congratulations to the faculty and staff who were recognized for their accomplishments at Allen College’s 7th Annual Scholarly Recognition on February 11, 2010. The Allen College Scholarship, Awards and Research Committee recognized faculty and staff who met established criteria for the 2009 year. The honorees included the following Allen College faculty and staff:

- **Dr. DeAnn Ambroson**, professor, School of Nursing
- Brenda Barros, assistant professor, School of Nursing
- **Dr. Lisa Brodeur**, professor, School of Nursing
- Mary Brown, associate professor, School of Nursing
- Pat Buls, assistant professor, School of Nursing
- **Dr. Ed Dammann**, instructional designer
- Janessa DeLong, assistant professor, School of Nursing
- **Dr. Jerry Durham**, chancellor and professor of nursing
- **Dr. Peggy Forstl**, dean and professor, School of Health Sciences
- **Kay Freisner**, associate professor, School of Nursing
- **Teresa Isaacson**, assistant professor, School of Nursing
- **Dr. Nancy Kramer**, vice chancellor of academic affairs and professor, School of Nursing
- **JoEllen Kubik**, associate professor, School of Nursing
- **Adisa Kushmovic**, assistant professor, School of Nursing
- **Terra Lague**, instructor, School of Health Sciences
- Maria Mercalf, associate professor, School of Nursing
- Jackie Meyer, interim associate dean of graduate nursing and associate professor, School of Nursing
- Doreen Mingo, assistant professor, School of Nursing
- **Denise Pralle**, assistant professor, School of Nursing
- **Dr. Zoë Schaefer**, associate professor, School of Nursing
- Jund Salit, director, Roselle DeBonis, associate professor and director of the Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT) program, School of Health Sciences
- **Mavo TeSlaa**, assistant professor, School of Nursing
- Kathy Walters, financial aid coordinator
- **Dr. Anna Weepse**, associate professor, School of Nursing
- **Dr. Kendra Williams-Perez**, dean and professor, School of Nursing
- **Dr. Ruth Yan**, librarian and international student advisor
- **Dr. Diane Young**, professor, School of Nursing

**Faculty Recognition**

Brenda Barnes, director of the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) program and assistant professor of health sciences—Received the Mentor of the Year award from ASCLS IA.

Suzanne Bellingner, assistant professor—Promoted from instructor to assistant professor at Allen College beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year. She graduated in May 2007 with a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree from Iowa Wesleyan University.

Pat Buls, assistant professor of nursing—Had an article published: “Non adherence versus goal mismatch: Which one is it?” Home Healthcare Nurse, 25(10), 630-636.

Keith Clark, administrative assistant to academic affairs, is also an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and serves as a PRN chaplain for Iowa Hospice. In May, he completed the CARES Online Dementia Care Training Program. This 10-hour course offered by Healthcare Interactive as continuing education for his PRN chaplain work is Iowa Hospice. The CARES approach calls for C-communicating with the dementia patient; A- assessing behavior for its meaning to the patient; R- responding with an approach that a patient finds comforting; and S- sharing the positive response from the patient, and S-sharing with team members the patient’s family members and other caregivers. Caring for the patients and their families, he noted, is one of the most rewarding experiences he has had.

JoEllen Kubik, associate professor—Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor at Allen College beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year. She graduated in May 2007 with a Master of Science in Nursing degree from the Mercy College adult psychiatric nurse practitioner track.

Terra Lague, instructor—Graduated from the University of Iowa with her Bachelor of Science in Radiation Sciences degree.

Maria Metcalf, associate professor—Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor at Allen College beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year. Maria also passed the adult nurse practitioner (NP) certification exam.

Doreen Mingo and Mavo TeSlaa, assistant professors—Presented their poster, “To Fall or Not to Fall,” at the Midwest Ergonomics Academy, May 24-26, 2010, in Grand Forks, N.D. Their abstract was published in the syllabus.

Zoe Schaefer, associate professor—Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor at Allen College beginning with the 2010-2011 academic year. She also graduated in May 2007 from Allen College with a post-master’s graduate nursing certificate as a family nurse practitioner. She will be the PK-Kappa Chapter of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society President from 2010-2012.

**Pat Buls – Leaving Nursing in Capable, Caring Hands**

At age 12, Pat Buls was hospitalized with appendicitis and was greatly impressed with the excellent nursing care she received. These nurses inspired Buls’ 43-year nursing career and were among the first of a long line of professionals who taught her that nursing is both an art and a science.

“The art of nursing is really innate and intuitive, and it starts in your heart,” says Buls. “It’s a philosophy of caring and wanting to better someone else’s life.”

One of her most heart-tugging experiences was caring for a home-health patient through the stages of terminal cancer. “When you care for someone in their home, you really become connected to the patient and family,” says Buls. “Even now, 20 years later, when I see her husband—he always hugs me and says to others, ‘Pat was our nurse and she helped my wife have such a peaceful death.’ It’s such a wonderful feeling to know that I made a difference in their lives.”

Since 1973, Buls has been making a difference in the lives of Allen Hospital patients and students. She worked in numerous hospital departments for 15 years, and as an assistant professor of nursing at the college for the last 18 years. She’s proud of the fact that 100 percent of her students have passed the NCLEX-RN exam and are now working in healthcare. “The art of nursing is really innate and intuitive, and it starts in your heart,” says Buls. Over the years, she has seen nurses gain an expanded role and voice in the decision-making process, as well as conducting and publishing nursing research. Buls has published a number of articles on home care and breast cancer.

And with 32 million more people insured through the new healthcare plan, and the shortage of doctors, nurses will play an even larger role in healthcare delivery. “There are only 100 cents in every dollar for healthcare, and that’s not going to increase,” says Buls. “As nurses, we need to advocate for our patients and help them gain access to healthcare, keep costs down and still deliver quality care—a tall order for sure. Nursing in the future will indeed be challenging, but I see the energy and talent of our graduating students—I know the future of nursing is in capable and caring hands.”
Allen College is dedicated to serving the community through hands-on community service efforts. Below is a list of organizations Allen College works with in the Cedar Valley:

- Young Leaders of Character - Learning and Serving
- George Washington Carver Academy - Learning and Serving
- Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa - Learning and Serving
- Allen Women's Health Center - Honors Program
- ACE-SAP Clinic - Clinical Lab Management and Education, Honors Program
- Beyond Pink Team - Inter-Clinical Nuclear Medicine
- Northeast Iowa Food Bank - Nursing Care of the Community as Client, Honors Program
- American Red Cross - Nursing Care of the Community as Client
- Cedar Valley Community Support Services - Nursing Care of the Mental Health Client
- Cedar Valley Hospice - Loss, Grief and End of Life Issues
- Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging - Nursing Care of the Aging Adult
- Salvation Army - Nursing Care of the Community as Client, Honors Program
- Salvation Army Program - Free Clinic, and the Salvation Army Blood Pressure and Foot Screening Clinic
- School Screening Project, the ACE-SAP (Allen Community Engagement-Salvation Army Program) Free Clinic

Mary Brown, associate professor. “It’s our responsibility to give back as healthcare professionals in the community, and we ensure every student knows that.”

Currently, the community service efforts of Allen College faculty, staff and students were recognized at the national level. Allen College was named to the 2009 President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

The Honor Roll award is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and is the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

The Honor Roll includes six colleges and universities that are recognized as Presidential Awardees, with an additional 115 named to the Distinction List and 621 named to the Honor Roll. Honorees are chosen based on a series of selection factors including the scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

“Every student at Allen College gets community service experience—faculty and staff have made sure of it. Students graduate from Allen College knowing the importance of community service and having several hands-on community service experiences under their belts.”

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“We are so proud of the service our generous and caring students have provided to the Cedar Valley,” said Allen College Chancellor Dr. Jerry Durham. “Most of our undergraduate nursing students and many of our health science students at Allen College have volunteered their time, energy and expertise to better our community.”

During the 2008-2009 school year, 175 of the 416 enrolled students were engaged in community service activities for a total of 2,213 hours. Allen College submitted three community service projects for award consideration including the Parochial School Screening Project, the ACE-SAP (Allen Community Engagement-Salvation Army Program) Free Clinic, and the Salvation Army Blood Pressure and Foot Screening Clinic.

“Our faculty and students do such high-quality work in the community,” said Brown. “The goal is to move up to receive the distinction award, which is a definite possibility in the next few years.”
Office of Diversity Services Reaches Out to Minorities

Minorities and men are under-represented in healthcare professions. According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), minorities make up only 16.8 percent of the nation’s registered nurse (RN) workforce. Men make up only 6.6 percent.

Allen College’s Office of Diversity Services, started in the spring of 2009, has developed several initiatives to reach out to diverse students of all ages. It strives to provide them with hands-on experiences with healthcare professions so they can begin to develop insight into the daily duties of professionals in the industry.

“Many minority students don’t have an in-depth understanding of the nursing profession, and we want to tell them about it and provide them with role models and mentors they can interact with to learn more about nursing,” said Doreen Mingo, MSN, RN, assistant professor at Allen College and coordinator of the Office of Diversity Services. “We also want to provide them with resources to begin planning for a healthcare career.”

“When we work with younger students, we focus on the nursing and healthcare professions as a whole,” said Mingo. “We do the same with the older students, but we also talk to them about everything Allen College, as well as a healthcare career, has to offer.”

The Office of Diversity Services has been holding career days with schools in the Waterloo area. At the career days, students learn about the programs at Allen College through hands-on activities.

“Students get to see and use some of the equipment, and they learn how to do tasks like performing ultrasounds, suctioning patients, positioning patients for x-rays and working with lab specimens,” said Mingo. “They also learn what getting a degree at Allen College means, what pre-requisites to take, potential career paths and the salaries associated with each of those careers.”

Since the establishment of the Office of Diversity Services, the percentage of diverse students enrolled at Allen College has doubled and the number of males enrolled has increased.

“In our world grows more diverse, we need to recruit members of minority groups and men into healthcare professions,” said Mingo. “We need to learn about each other so we can tailor our healthcare interventions and solutions.”

In August, Allen College received final approval from its regional accreditation agency, the Higher Learning Commission, to offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. The Iowa Board of Nursing and the Iowa Coordinating Council for Post-High School Education had both previously approved Allen College’s request to offer the new program. The DNP is Allen College’s first doctoral degree program. The University Of Iowa College of Nursing is the only other Iowa institution currently offering a DNP program.

Allen College will admit its first class of DNP students fall 2011. Enrollment will be limited to nurses who already hold a master’s degree in nursing and are certified as advanced registered nurse practitioners. Students will complete the 33-credit program in 24 months through part-time online study.

Students will also come to the Allen College campus for intensive, face-to-face interaction with faculty at least three times during the program. The program requires students to enroll in practice courses and complete a capstone project prior to graduation. The College plans to admit nurses with bachelor’s degrees to the program beginning in 2015.

According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), the DNP is a “practice-focused” doctoral degree that emphasizes nursing’s clinical aspects including leadership, advanced practice and application of clinical research.

A practice-focused doctoral program provides the advanced educational credentials nurses need to practice nursing at a higher level; enhances knowledge to improve nursing practice, and develops the advanced skills for clinical, faculty and leadership roles.

The AACN has recommended that the DNP serve as the standard educational credential for entry into advanced practice nursing by the year 2015. If this recommendation is implemented, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists and clinical nurse specialists would need the DNP to become certified in their areas of practice.

The AACN reported that DNP programs are now available in 36 states plus the District of Columbia, growing from 20 programs in 2006 to 120 in 2009, with 28 of those opening in 2009. Additionally, 161 programs are currently in the planning stages. Of the nursing schools currently preparing advanced registered nurse practitioners, almost 80 percent are either currently offering, or planning to offer, a DNP program. From 2008 to 2009, the number of students enrolled in DNP programs increased 51 percent, from 3,415 to 5,165.

Allen College to Offer Doctor of Nursing Degree

“Only about 3 percent of registered nurses in Iowa are from a community of color, and yet people of color are disproportionately affected by health problems and a result of healthcare reform,” said Jerry Durham, chancellor. “It’s our pride and joy,” Martin says. “I can’t say enough about the ability to teach these midlevel practitioners, because there are so many hospitals and doctors’ offices here that have 3-D and 4-D ultrasound capability. Growth of the program will depend on addition of clinical partner sites, which is always a work in progress,” Martin said. DMS students can earn either the Bachelor of Health Sciences degree or the DMS certificate. A laboratory classroom in Gerard Hall to accommodate the new program is being planned.

Allen College’s new Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) program began in fall 2010. It was added to the School of Health Sciences in response to student requests and is one of only three DMS programs in the state. The program will provide students the education they need to become highly sought-after diagnostic medical sonographers.

“Allen College was the first to offer a DNP program in the Cedar Valley since June 2009. Its purpose, according to the People’s Institute website, is to move beyond a focus on the symptoms of racism to an understanding of what it is, where it comes from, how it functions, why it persists and how it can be undone. The College makes efforts to reach out to communities of interest through its Office of Diversity Services and through grants such as the Robert Wood Johnson grant, featured on page 1. After the capital campaign is complete, Allen College will shift fundraising focus to build endowments for scholarships, including those focusing on diversity,” Durham said.

Joanna Ramsden Meier, Allen College director of student services, participated in the workshop in September 2009. She said the subject matter is more about raising awareness than anything else.

“It’s about consciousness — consciously thinking about it,” she said. “It provides you with information, and you come across with the perspective on your own. It’s the ‘sink-in’ factor.”

In addition to the Philips Sonos 5500 ultrasound machine donated to the program last spring by Trinity Regional Medical Center-Fort Dodge, the College purchased two new ultrasound machines to expand and enhance students’ educational opportunities.

The Siemens ACUSON Sequoia 512 is a shared-service ultrasound that is capable of general, vascular, cardiac and vascular sonography capabilities. While the DMS program presently only focuses on general sonography, the new machine will allow the program to grow to include cardiac and vascular studies as well, Martin said.

The third machine, the Medison Accuvix XQ Ultrasound System, does general, vascular, 3-D and 4-D imaging.

The Siemens ACUSON Sequoia 512 is a shared-service ultrasound that is capable of general, vascular, cardiac and vascular sonography capabilities. While the DMS program presently only focuses on general sonography, the new machine will allow the program to grow to include cardiac and vascular studies as well, Martin said.

State-of-the-art ultrasound machines prepare students for real-world work.
Congratulations Spring Graduates!

Jane Chipman
Kimberly Calkins**
Melissa Schmidt
Shawn Froehlich**
Gayle Culbertson, head of laboratory services for Iowa Health System Des Moines, was the keynote speaker at the August commencement for Allen College.

Congratulations Spring Graduates!

Spring Commencement

Congratulations Spring Graduates!

Graduation Recap

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES

Summer Commencement

College on August 13 at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Culbertson, who serves as the 2009-2010 president of the Iowa Chapter of the Clinical Laboratory Management Association, is a graduate of Wartburg College and received her master’s degree in general studies from Drake University.

Student Snippets

Student Recognition

On April 14, Shawn Froelich received the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) Keys to the Future award and the Student of the Year award (2009-2010), and was recognized for outstanding service. She graduated from the MLS program in August 2010. These awards were from the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science – Iowa (ASCLS-IA).

On April 14, Katie Tiske received an ASCLS-IA Scholarship. This scholarship originated in 1958 for the purpose of promoting and supporting the education of laboratory professionals at all levels. She is a member of the 2010-2011 class in the MLS program.

Peggy Black, MSN student in the leadership track, received a $3,000 scholarship from the Iowa Hospital Association (BHA). The BHA awards scholarships to nurses pursuing MSN and/or doctoral degrees in nursing. Recipients are chosen on the basis of their current work in hospitals and clinics, as well as their work in the community. Recipients must agree to work at an Iowa healthcare facility for two years after completion of their degree. Recipients are chosen from the various IHA districts throughout the state. Recipients were recognized at a fundraiser on July 15. Peggy works at Iowa Health Des Moines. This is the second year that she has received this scholarship.

Alumni News

Allen College alumni and friends, join us at the Civic Center of Greater Des Moines for Mary Poppins!

Saturday, December 4, 2010

2 p.m. matinee performance

Reception immediately following across the street from the Civic Center in the Heritage Art Gallery, 111 Cott Avenue.

Ticket price: $50 (face value), must be paid in full to hold ticket/seat. Includes bus ride for Waterloo residents (first come, first served).

Price includes a catered reception for all Alumni and Friends joining our group.

Please contact Dina in Student Services to purchase tickets, 319-226-2000, downdek@alis.org

Limited number of bus seats available.
**Alumni College Travel to London**

Twenty-three Allen College associates, alumni and friends traveled to London for a once-in-a-lifetime trip. On May 8-16, 2010, they visited the home and celebrated the life of Florence Nightingale, who died in 1910. The group stayed in London, saw many of the city sights, and took day trips out of the city. The tour included stops at Nightingale’s homes and her museum at St. Thomas Hospital, as well as trips to Oxford and Salisbury. One of the highlights was a special celebration in honor of the 100th anniversary of her death, held at Westminster Abbey. It included a speech by Bishop Desmond Tutu. Plans are already underway for an Allen College Alumni & Friends Trip for the spring of 2012. Destinations being considered include Turkey, Italy and Greece.

**Alumni Reunion Weekend**

A special 50-year class reception was held on Friday, April 23, at 5 p.m. in the Barrett Forum/Student Center. The College was open for an all-class Alumni Reunion Weekend on Saturday, April 24, and an all-class Alumni Dinner was held at 6 p.m. at Park Place Event Centre in Cedar Falls. Thanks to all who joined us to share memories, catch up with old friends and make new ones.

**Alumni Spotlight**

**David Harberts, RN, MSN**

Nursing Education Opens Varied Opportunities

David Harberts isn’t just a nurse. He’s an RN. And an MSN. But he’s also a COO.

As chief operating officer for Cedar Valley Community Healthcare, a local insurance provider in Waterloo, he uses the knowledge and skills he gained from his clinical education and career every day.

“Most COOs of health plans are probably MBAs, but it’s an advantage that I not only have a health insurance background, but also a nursing background,” Harberts said.

A native of Grundy Center, Iowa, Harberts graduated from Allen College’s BSN program in 1996. Then, upon referral from Chancellor Jane Hasek, he pursued his master’s in nursing administration at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill. His graduate school experience opened his eyes to the variety of opportunities available to nurses.

“I’ve always been interested in business as well as healthcare, and nursing administration was a good mixture of the clinical and the business side of healthcare,” he said. “Taking care of people is, of course, the primary focus of nursing. But I realized I didn’t have to spend my whole career working in a hospital to do that.”

Harberts landed a job with John Deere Health before he’d even finished graduate school, and that launched him into the health insurance field.

He spent eight years at Deere, working in medical management, legislative and regulatory affairs, Medicare, small-group underwriting and a variety of other departments.

“Those are some key opportunities for nurses in the health insurance field,” Harberts said. “A lot of positions require some good clinical experience before they’ll even look at hiring you.”

Cedar Valley Community Healthcare is a local health insurance provider that opened in June of 2008, and Harberts manages the day-to-day operations. “Our primary focus is local customer and provider service, which we feel has been lost with the consolidation of big health insurance companies,” he said.

He first learned about the importance of the personal touch at Allen College. It wasn’t just Hasek—who Harberts calls, “a visionary for nursing in general, and someone to look up to and model yourself after”—who influenced him. Put Buls, Kathryn Schweer and Diane Young are among those he considers great mentors.

But Jacque Leutzinger helped him lose weight.

“I’d put on more than the freshman 15—it was more like 30 or 40 pounds,” Harberts said. “And right before I left for the summer after my first year of nursing school, she sat me down and helped me set goals to lose 15 pounds that summer. I ended up losing almost 30, and I’ll never forget her face when I came back. She almost cried.”

But Jacque Leutzinger helped him lose weight.

“Jared Seliger, Health Sciences Faculty Rep.
You can help shape the future of Allen College and Allen Hospital by donating to Allen College. Your generous donations will help finance special projects to enhance the quality of our education and the realm of our services. Contact Allen College or the Allen Foundation to find out how you can make a difference.

Dr. Jerry D. Durham
Chancellor
Allen College
319-226-2015
durhamjd@ihs.org

Matt Rolinger
Senior Director
Allen Foundation
319-274-6712
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Transcripts

All transcript requests may be submitted in writing and mailed to:

Allen College
Attn: Transcripts
1825 Logan Ave.
Waterloo, IA 50703

Transcript fees:
Immediate Service - $8.00
48-Hour Business Service - $6.00
Faxing Service - $13.00
Student Copy - $6.00

Please include the year you graduated, your name at graduation, the address where the transcript should be mailed and the transcript fee, payable to Allen College.

For a copy of the transcript request form, please visit our website at www.AllenCollege.edu. Use the page search menu to find the form. Direct any questions to Enrollment Management by calling 319-226-2000 or by e-mailing allencollegeadmissions@ihs.org

Check us out online at www.allencollege.edu

Check out the News and Events (Events Calendar) on our website at allencollege.edu to keep current on events!

Calendar of Events

Saturday
December 4, 2010
Musical Matinee Production of Mary Poppins
Alumni, faculty, staff, family and friends of Allen College are invited to the musical matinee production of Mary Poppins in Des Moines. A reception will follow. Bus transportation will be available for the round-trip from Waterloo to Des Moines. For more information, please go to the Allen College website or call 319-226-2000.

Tuesday
December 7, 2010
Allen Chorus Concert
7 p.m. in McBride Auditorium on the Allen College campus. Open to the public and free.

Friday
April 1, 2011
Allen College alumni weekend is typically scheduled the fourth weekend of April. To avoid Easter weekend, the 2011 alumni reunion has been moved to April 1. A dinner is planned Friday evening with tours available on Saturday. Invitations and more information will be sent at a later date.