Professors Seible and Shipp to retire in 2015

Few people can claim a relationship with an educational institution for nearly half a century. Nor can many trace their ties back 45 full years. But Darlene Shipp and Barb Seible, two of Allen College’s esteemed assistant professors, remember the school in the 1960s and 1970s.

Shipp graduated from Allen Memorial Hospital Lutheran School of Nursing in 1965. Seible followed in 1970. Each of them has spent the years since continuing their educations, working with patients and sharing their skills and knowledge with subsequent generations of nursing students. Both have been named to the list of 100 Great Iowa Nurses. And both will retire at the end of this school year.

Barb Seible

Seible’s nursing education continued long after she earned her Registered Nurse (RN) diploma at Allen. In 1984, Seible received a bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree, and later earned a master of science in nursing (MSN) degree in 1991, both from the University of Dubuque. A specialist in medical-surgical and operating room nursing, Seible currently teaches Transition to Baccalaureate Nursing, an online course in the RN-BSN curriculum, and Peri-Operative Nursing in the BSN program.

This course is an elective for students to explore becoming a nurse in the operating room," Seible said. According to Dr. Nancy Kramer, Allen College’s vice chancellor for academic affairs, Seible has a long history of passion and commitment to preparing nurses to work in the operating room. “Her commitment is shown by unlimited time spent teaching and role modeling to students in this setting,” Kramer said.

Seible is also the advisor for RNs who are returning to school to earn their BSN degree.

Continued on page 2.

Allen College thanks Seible & Shipp for decades of service
Message from the Chancellor
Scholarship Donors Impact Students’ Lives

Every year Allen College hosts a reception in the fall semester that brings together scholarship donors and the student recipients of their scholarships. This event provides an opportunity for the donors to meet the students who are benefiting from their generous support as well as an opportunity for students to thank their donors for the scholarships they have received. This face-to-face meeting provides a way for donors to learn more about their scholarship recipients and to better understand the impact their gift is having on these students’ lives.

Many Allen College students are first generation college students and come from families of modest means. Most hold full or part-time jobs while attending classes on a full or part-time basis. Still others have family responsibilities that require their time and energy. Most borrow money in order to achieve their dream of earning an Allen College degree and joining the healthcare workforce. For some of our students, a scholarship can mean the difference between buying a textbook or eating a healthy meal.

I have personal experience and can relate. As a first generation freshman at the College of the Ozarks, one of our nation’s so called “work colleges,” I did not have to pay tuition but worked 15 hours a week in a campus job. But even that work did not pay for the costs of my freshman year, so a generous couple from New York City who had never met me but believed in the philosophy of the college, provided a scholarship that made up the difference. When I transferred in my sophomore year to a public university, I received a PTA scholarship of $300 each year. While $300 is not a large amount today, my tuition, including books, was only $80 per semester, so this scholarship support and a part-time job allowed me to complete a bachelor’s degree.

I have never forgotten the impact these scholarships have had on my life. Without the faith donors placed in me as an undergraduate, I would not be at Allen College today. As a small token of that appreciation, my wife and I established an endowed scholarship at Allen College shortly after I was appointed chancellor. Many friends of Allen College, including graduates, have made the same commitment to provide a scholarship gift. I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every donor who has given a scholarship. Your support has made a difference in a student’s life and the lives of those they will serve. I have faith that your generosity will be repaid many times over future decades through the good deeds, generosity and caring of our graduates.

Professors Seible and Shipp to retire in 2015 (continued)

"I feel this is a very important program that Allen College offers," Seible said. "I believe that transitioning from one level of education to the next needs to be as seamless as possible. I commuted to Dubuque to get my BSN and would have appreciated a program available here in Waterloo when I was getting my education."

Seible’s commitment to this program has been significant as well, Kramer said.

"Barb has been steadfast in guiding many registered nurses in returning to college to pursue a baccalaureate degree. Many of these nurses would not have continued their BSN studies without Barb’s compassion and leadership," Kramer said.

Darlene Shipp

When Shipp attended Bible College in Omaha, Nebraska, she had never considered a career in nursing. In 1962, she earned a bachelor of science degree in music and Christian education – but her job as a nurse aide in the county hospital introduced her to a different career path.

After earning her diploma at Allen in 1965, she worked as a staff nurse and nurse manager for more than a decade. Shipp then earned her BSN degree from the University of Dubuque in 1985 and an MSN degree from Drake University in 1993.

Shipp specializes in OB/GYN and maternal-child health. She taught courses in these areas from 1975 to 2011. Now, she teaches classes in service-learning, nursing internships and a BSN transition class as well.

"I’ve remained committed to nursing education because I truly enjoy working with students and observing their personal and professional growth," Shipp said. "I enjoy the students, my colleagues and the administration at Allen College."

Shipp’s dedication has helped shape many careers.

"Darlene has been a role model and mentor, not only to nursing students over her long career, but also to many practicing nurses and faculty," Kramer said. "Her compassion, passion and love for nursing have shown in the guidance she has provided to students, colleagues and patients who have come into contact with her throughout her career. Darlene will be greatly missed at Allen College."

Nursing Tomorrow

As both Seible and Shipp reflect on the changes they’ve seen in their field, they agree that nursing has come a long a way since the days of Allen Memorial Hospital Lutheran School of Nursing.

More independence for nurses, considerably shorter hospital stays for patients, advanced technology and a larger variety of specialties and settings for nursing careers are among the most significant changes they’ve observed. Keeping up with constant changes in the field will be increasingly important to the next generation of nurses.

"Stay current in practice and continue your education," Shipp advised students. "Attend workshops, read journals. If you have the opportunity, pursue your doctorate degree."

Seible echoed the sentiment.

"Keep involved in your field," she said. "It’s hard to take time off and then get back into your career."

Allen College thanks both Seible and Shipp for decades of service to the College and to the profession. Hundreds of nurses working today are there, in part, thanks to both of them. They might retire from teaching, but their lessons will endure.
Loraine Atkins has spent years dedicating herself to helping others. Since 1992, she has been using her savings to help students of Allen College. So far, Loraine has helped 69 students further their education and take one step closer to becoming nurses. She does this through a scholarship named after her sister-in-law, Betty Atkins. Betty was an aiding nurse in World War II. She then became a nurse at Allen Hospital for 38 years. Betty established an Allen College scholarship in 1991 to help students with the rising costs of a college education. After Betty passed, Loraine continued the Betty J. Atkins Memorial Scholarship in her memory.

Nursing is a tradition in the Atkins family. Not only were her sisters-in-law nurses, but Loraine’s nieces and granddaughter are as well. In addition to the family ties, Loraine has volunteered over 15,000 hours at Iowa’s Veterans Health Administration hospitals and clinics. This has led Loraine to have a strong appreciation for nursing. While she isn’t a nurse herself, she understands the importance of and need for nurses.

“We always need good nurses,” she says. “There are not enough of them, wherever you go.”

Loraine has attended almost every scholarship reception Allen College has hosted. She enjoys meeting the recipients of the awards and hearing about what they’re doing. She also likes discussing their plans for the future.

“They’re always great and study hard. They’re going to be great nurses,” Loraine says. “Some work right at the hospital while going to school. They’re really smart.”

Loraine believes a career in nursing can appeal to a wide variety of people.

“I enjoy meeting the young ladies. But nursing is not just for the young ones. I like meeting the older students too,” she says. “I would like to see more males.”

Making sure students are able to receive an education is a priority for Loraine.

“If you don’t support education, people can’t afford it. And there will always be a big need for nurses. Funding the scholarship helps Allen College nursing students get a little extra money to help buy books. Every little bit helps.”

Loraine has personal experience with the hospital. Allen Hospital has been her healthcare provider since 1949. She believes in what the College is doing to help educate nurses and prepare them for their careers once they graduate.

“I just feel Allen is good. They have a great College and they’re getting so many new things there,” says Loraine. “I just feel comfortable with them.”

Nursing is a career that has new challenges every day. It is Loraine’s belief that Allen College is taking the steps necessary to meet those needs.

“Things keep changing all the time,” she says. By meeting these needs, the college is giving its students the tools necessary to succeed in the field.

Allen Chorus Concert

Mark your calendar for the annual spring Allen College chorus concert.

Rhythm of Life
 Thursday, April 30, 2015
 7:00 p.m.
 (doors open at 6:30)
 McBride Auditorium in Gerard Hall
 Allen College Campus
 Concert free of charge.
 Light refreshments served following the performance.

In Remembrance

Carol McLaughlin
Allen Memorial Hospital School of Nursing Class of 1961
October 6, 2014

Sylva Feuerhelm
Allen College Donor
January 9, 2015

Roger P. Olesen
Honorary Doctorate Recipient & Donor
January 11, 2015

Della M. Wilke Thiele
Allen Memorial Hospital School of Nursing Class of 1951
March 3, 2015
Thank you to the following individuals and organizations that offered scholarship assistance to Allen College students during the 2014-2015 academic year. Congratulations to the recipients.

Allen College institutional scholarship recipients and donors were acknowledged in the fall newsletter.

**Outside Scholarships**

- **Americal Division Veterans Association Scholarship Fund**
  - Leighna Reuter

- **Amond Scholarship**
  - Anonymous Recipient

- **Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community Endowed Nursing Scholarship**
  - Karla Albers & Dana Shappell

- **Benton Scholarship Foundation**
  - Kadie Woltemath

- **Boone County Hospital Volunteer Auxiliary**
  - Mary Papin

- **Buchanan County Health Center Auxiliary**
  - MaKenna Barth

- **Buena Vista Regional Healthcare Foundation**
  - Caitlyn Heiton

- **Cecile Kopecky Scholarship**
  - Melanie Nielsen

- **CF Business Professional Women Scholarship**
  - Michaela Titus, Kristen Sperfslage & Angela Williams-Gustafson

- **Community Memorial Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship**
  - Hannah Gienau & Bobbi Moeller

- **Community Memorial Hospital Foundation - Elmer Schwartz Scholarship**
  - Hannah Gienau

- **Dr. George I. and Eunice A Tice Fund Scholarship**
  - Tina Reid

- **Edward Arthur Mellinger Education Foundation, Inc. Scholarship**
  - Mia Carnes

- **Farmers & Merchants State Bank Employee Scholarship Fund**
  - Meghan Cain

- **Grundy County Memorial Hospital Foundation Health Care Career Scholarships**
  -Jennifer Appel & Faith Nolte

- **Helen Sides Undergraduate Nursing Scholarship**
  - Anonymous Recipient

- **Horatio Alger Scholarship from Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, Inc.**
  - Holly Heims

- **IAA Foundation Scholarship**
  - Jessica Brehm

- **Iowa Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship**
  - Jessica Brehm

- **Iowa Hospital Education Research Foundation**
  - Holly Heims & Michaela Titus

- **Jackie Spellman Scholarship Foundation**
  - Anonymous Recipient

- **John & Eva Amond Scholarship**
  - Jeanette Hoover & Anonymous Recipient

- **Kwik Trip, Inc.**
  - Macy McCallum

- **M. Jane Sylvester Scholarship**
  - Brittany Redmond

- **Maple Heights Scholarship**
  - Sara Kelly

- **Mary Greeley Medical Center Foundation**
  - Michaela Titus

- **Mercy Hospital Foundation**
  - Megan Adam, Jessie Koch & Anonymous Recipient

- **National Student Nurses' Association ENA Scholarship**
  - Shelby Heetland

- **Northeast Iowa Charitable Foundation**
  - Brandi Clark

- **OABCGIG Dollars for Scholars**
  - Emily Fineran

- **Ottumwa Regional Legacy Foundation, Inc.**
  - Jenna Weidman

- **P.E.O. Chapter LO of Waterloo 2015 Program for Continuing Education Grant**
  - Katherine Lehman

- **Pepsico Foundation Excel Awards Program**
  - Allison Pike

- **Reed Scholarship**
  - Anonymous Recipient

- **St. Luke’s Hospital Auxiliary**
  - Katie Maybanks

- **St. Luke’s Hospital Auxiliary**
  - Katie Maybanks

- **The Tyson Family Foundation**
  - Leighna Reuter

- **UnityPoint Health - Finley Hospital Scholarship**
  - Zach Runde

- **Waverly Health Center Auxiliary Scholarship**
  - Casey Huber, Anne Jones & Kelsey Miller

- **Webster City Community Schools Scholarship Fund**
  - Kylee King & Rachel Powers

- **Western Home Communities Scholarship**
  - Holly Heims
Allen College welcomes new faculty and staff

Kelly Bristow, environmental services, worked in the operating room housekeeping at Allen Hospital prior to coming to Allen College. Kelly was looking forward to “no call” but after being at Allen College over a month, what she enjoys the most is being a part of the close knit Allen College family. She feels very appreciated and thanks everyone at the College.

Gabrielle Holvick, assistant professor, is also currently working as a hospitalist, ARNP, at UnityPoint Health - Allen Hospital. Prior to that she worked in the emergency department at Allen Hospital and in cardiology in Mason City. Gabrielle absolutely loves teaching at Allen College. It gives her a sense that she is helping mold our future ARNP’s. The students and faculty at Allen College have been more than welcoming and she appreciates all of them.

Adriane McKernan, education secretary, worked at Allen Hospital for five years in Nutrition and Dining before transferring to Allen College. Adriane really enjoys everyone she works with at the College and her new hours.

Matthew Steffen, library assistant, has been teaching English language classes to adult international students with the Culture and Intensive English Program at the University of Northern Iowa. It has given Matt the opportunity to teach abroad in China in 2011 and also in Bulgaria in 2013. He also takes on occasional work as a freelance English tutor and editor. He is excited to work with a program that is currently growing and expanding. Healthcare and library work are new areas for him, with lots of opportunities to learn new things and meet new people.

Faculty/Staff Accomplishments

Dr. Andrea Addington, professor, was selected for the MEDICC-APHA (Medical Education Cooperation with Cuba – American Public Health Association) educational exchange, “Health and Health Equity in Cuba” that is scheduled for April 19-26, 2015.

Dr. Brenda Barnes, associate professor and director of the Medical Laboratory Science program, contributed a chapter on immunohematology to a recently published textbook titled Medical Laboratory Science Examination Review. This textbook is intended to help individuals prepare for laboratory science certification exams.

Dr. Lisa Brodersen, professor, was appointed to the Higher Learning Commission Peer Review Corp.

Dr. Peggy Fortsch, dean for the School of Health Sciences and professor, chaired a site visit team to review an Illinois college radiography program for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT).

Kay Froehner, associate professor, was named to the 100 Great Iowa Nurses for 2015. The award recognizes nurses who have made meaningful contributions to their patients, colleagues, and the nursing profession. Winners will be honored at a recognition ceremony in Des Moines in May.

Dr. Nancy Kramer, vice chancellor of academic affairs, received notification that her presentation, “Infusing Quality Matters Standards as a Quality Initiative Project,” was selected to be presented at the Higher Learning Commission 2015 Annual Conference in March. She also participated as a site evaluator on a Higher Learning Commission (HLC) site visit to a college in Kansas and as a site reviewer for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) to colleges in New Jersey and Vermont.

Dr. Jackie Meyer, professor and assistant dean of the graduate program, was selected as a reviewer for the Advancing the Science of Nursing Award (Nursing Education Section) for the Midwest Nursing Research Society in December 2014.

Molly Quinn, director of admissions, was granted a Master of Science in Education degree from Walden University in September 2014.
Allen College Named to President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction

For a fourth time in five years, Allen College has been named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction.

According to information provided by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), “The President’s Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition an institution of higher education can receive for its community service work. CNCS is a federal agency that engages more than 5 million Americans in service through AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, the Social Innovation Fund, and the Volunteer Generation Fund, and leads the President’s national call to service initiative, United We Serve.”

“We are honored to have the community service that our students, faculty and staff provide to the Greater Cedar Valley be recognized on the President’s Honor Roll,” said Allen College chancellor Dr. Jerry Durham. “Service is a core part of our mission. We want our students to lead lives of service not only while they are at Allen College but also after they complete their education and move to other communities. We consider service to others as going hand-in-hand with being a member of a democratic society in which people work together to solve problems in their communities.”

Chancellor Durham noted that six other Iowa colleges—Buena Vista University, Loras College, Central College, Simpson College, Saint Ambrose University, and Wartburg College—were also named to the Honor Roll with distinction.

Allen College was named to the 2014 honor roll with distinction based on the service hours and activities performed during the 2013-2014 academic school year. During that academic year, 493 of the 580 enrolled students were engaged in community service activities for a total of 7,442 hours. Allen College submitted three community service-learning projects for award consideration. They included the Allen College Engagement-Salvation Army Partnership (ACE-SAP) free clinic, the Reading Buddies Program with Highland and Walter Cunningham elementary schools, and teaching Junior Achievement curriculum at George Washington Carver Academy and many of the Waterloo elementary schools.

Allen College has previously established 27 community partners that are the focus of service-learning and service projects developed by Allen College students.

Partners include:
- ACE-SAP Clinic
- Adopt-a-Highway
- ASPIRE Therapeutic Riding Program
- Alternatives Pregnancy Center
- Birthright
- Black Hawk Wildlife Rehabilitation/P.E.T.P.A.L.S.
- Boys & Girls Club
- Buchanan County Health Dept.
- Cedar Valley Community Support Services
- Cedar Valley Hospice-Eucalyptus Tree
- Champions of Autism and ADHD
- Community Health Free Clinic-RX Program
- EMA Head Start of Waterloo
- Friendship Village
- George Washington Carver Academy
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging
- Highland Elementary School
- House of Hope
- Jesup Community Schools
- Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa
- NEICA Community Action Family Planning
- Salvation Army
- Walter Cunningham School for Excellence
- Waterloo Community Schools
- Waterloo Schools Reading Buddies Program
- Westgate Public Library

Allen College Mission

Allen College is committed to preparing exceptional healthcare professionals through educational programs of excellence; to developing and sustaining a diverse community of learners, faculty, and staff; and to promoting community service, scholarship, and lifelong learning.
Service Project:

Allen College Service Day

Seventeen Allen College faculty, staff, and students spent the morning of Monday, March 2 serving the Waterloo community. The College sponsors a service day once each semester and has served many organizations over the years. The spring service day was spent at Carver Academy, St. Vincent-DePaul Warehouse, The Northeast Iowa Food Bank and The Salvation Army. Work ranged from sorting and tagging items for sale in the St. Vincent thrift store, hanging artwork and cleaning clothing closets at Carver, sorting and organizing food donations for the Food Bank, and giving the Salvation Army kitchen and dining area a good cleaning. Two first-semester nursing students, Hannah Hodgin and Morgan Kosar, were good sports and spent the morning organizing the Salvation Army cooler (it’s cold in there!). Bre Johnson and Tyler Jensen, second-semester nursing students, helped clean out a clothing closet at Carver and felt it was a “great morning spent at Carver.” Leah Gates, a first-semester nursing student, helped hang Carver students’ artwork throughout the school, something that normally takes the art teacher a long time to complete but was done quickly because of the volunteers from Allen College.

After the service day, Gates spoke of the opportunity to serve: “People are really appreciative for your help and it doesn’t take a huge commitment to be able to make a difference in people’s lives.” Kaitlyn Veldhuizen commented, “It was good to get out into the community and be able to help with one of the organizations that helps hundreds of people every day, as well as get to represent Allen College and what we are about.”

Those serving on March 2 included Allen College students Katrina Sindt, Kaitlyn Veldhuizen, Hannah Hodgin, Leah Gates, Morgan Kosar, Breanne Johnson and Tyler Jensen. Allen College faculty and staff that participated included Kathi Bower, Mary Brown, Molly Cordes, Dina Dowden, Mary Kay Frost, Jennifer Jass, Cindy Jenness, Cristina Ortiz, Denise Pralle and Sarah Steele.

ACE-SAP Free Clinic Update

Healthcare reform has definitely had an impact on Allen College’s ACE-SAP Free Clinic but its services remain vital to the community. The number of patients seen has dropped significantly but there were still 874 patient visits in 2014, including 98% of patients who fall below the poverty line. The number of patients who are uninsured has dropped from 65% to 57%. Many low income patients served by the clinic have been able to qualify for insurance; however, the working poor are still struggling to afford insurance. Responses to questions on intake forms reveal that 3% of patients do not want insurance, 19% don’t qualify, 3% don’t understand it, 5% report they are applying and 16% report it is too expensive and 47% did not respond. Many insured patients are unable to afford copays or out of pocket costs. Many of the clinic’s insured patients who are unable to afford the copays for their medications come to the clinic for assistance.

The clinic is also seeing a higher percentage of minority patients (42%, up from 37%). The clinic continues to provide care for undocumented patients and is fortunate to have a volunteer Spanish interpreter.

Allen College students have continued to benefit from their service at the clinic. Nurse practitioner students obtained 1,266 clinical practice hours and BSN students 113 hours. Nurse practitioner students report a significant increase in their intent to work in settings where health professionals are underrepresented. They also showed a significant increase in their knowledge of poverty and the barriers it imposes to healthcare access.

New services have been added at the clinic. Medical laboratory science students began providing weekly service this fall and also received clinical experience drawing blood for tests. Allen’s new Occupational Therapy (OT) program plans to have students provide therapy services at the clinic. This is especially important because therapy services often have high co-pays. OT faculty member Margo Kreeger has been serving at the clinic to better understand the types of patient conditions her students may need to treat.

Patients also continue to benefit from the patient education provided at the clinic. Because it is a nurse run clinic, patient education is a priority, especially since persons in poverty may have limited access to reputable healthcare information. Eighty-seven percent report they understand their health much better after their visit and 35% plan to make healthy changes.
Allen College Students Participate in Mission Trips

Four Allen College BSN students traveled to Jamaica from February 7-14 as part of the Service Learning for Vulnerable Populations elective course. Students Paige Evans, Kathryn McElroy, Sammi Ohrt, and MacKenzie Todd, along with Dr. Jackie Meyer traveled to Manchester Parish as part of a medical mission trip coordinated by H2Jamaica. The mission statement for the group is “ministering in the name of Jesus Christ, we seek to bring hope and health to the people of Jamaica.” The group is a ministry of Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls, Iowa, but volunteers in the trip came from Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Colorado, and the country of Columbia.

The Allen College group was part of 59 total physicians, nurses, dentists, and general helpers who provided medical and dental care to people of all ages at clinic sites throughout the mountainous, primarily rural, and underserved area of Jamaica. Over 1,500 medical and over 200 dental clients were seen over the course of the two-week project, although Allen College students were part of the group that stayed for just one week.

During the project, students had the opportunity to practice nursing assessment skills, take health histories, provide medication education, and observe medical and dental procedures. More important, however, was the exposure students had to men, women, and children from a completely different culture. Each student commented on the amazing resilience demonstrated by the individuals served by the mission group. In spite of often severe chronic health conditions and little access to health care, the Jamaican clients maintained a positive spirit; the communities served literally met the mission team with outstretched arms and songs of welcome.

All participants reported that this experience was transformative. Dr. Meyer reported, “After seeing so many people make do with so few resources, it is impossible to look at our health care system from the same perspective. This trip provides a unique opportunity for students to experience a totally different health care system, and practice culturally responsive care to underserved populations.” The College is committed to offering similar experiences for students as trips to the Dominican Republic, Denver, Colorado, and Haiti are other elective nursing courses scheduled for the remainder of 2015.

Office of Diversity Services (ODS)

Allen College gears up for the fourth Summer Nurse Camp

Assistant Professor and ODS coordinator Doreen Mingo is gearing up for Allen College’s fourth Summer Nurse Camp (SNC).

The six-week long camp, offered to high school students and supported by a Telligen Community Initiative grant, will be held from June 8 to July 17 on the Allen College campus. Students will receive a stipend of $450 for their participation in the camp which exposes them to a variety of nursing roles, as well as other healthcare occupations.

Approximately 120 students have participated in SNCs over the past three years and almost all have completed the experience.

During the camp students hear from practicing nurses and other health care professionals, visit clinical sites, do literature reviews in the College’s library, hone their math and science knowledge and improve their study skills.

Applications are available at each Cedar Valley area high school and on the Allen College website under the Office of Diversity Services (located under Future Students) at www.allencollege.edu

Career Days

During the 2014-15 academic year the Allen College ODS has welcomed middle and high school students from local schools to six Career Days at Allen College. The Career Days program is used as a way to encourage students to consider a health care career following high school graduation. During the campus visits, students learn about careers in dental hygiene, medical laboratory sciences, nuclear medicine, occupational therapy, and nursing. Students also hear from a UnityPoint Health - Allen Hospital chaplain and volunteer services coordinator during these visits.
Office of Diversity Services (ODS)

Taste of the World
On Tuesday, February 17 Allen College was full of delicious scents. The Taste of the World event, coordinated by faculty member Cristina Ortiz, allows students, faculty, and staff to experience a variety of foods they might not otherwise have the opportunity to try. Faculty and staff bring food from their cultural and ethnic background to share with everyone. Some of the countries that have been represented include Argentina, China, England, Germany, Holland, Ireland, Italy, and North America. Although this is a “taste,” everyone leaves feeling quite full.

Department News

School of Nursing Seeks Preceptors
Allen College has worked hard to meet an increasing demand for nurse practitioners through development, implementation and growth of excellent educational programs, as evidenced by Allen College graduates’ continued high certification pass rates. With increasing enrollment in Allen College’s graduate programs, however, it is becoming more and more challenging for students to find adequate numbers of preceptors to meet their clinical learning needs. To address this challenge, in fall 2014 Allen College hired Ashley Ollendieck, a 2012 Allen College BSN graduate, to serve as clinical coordinator. In this role, one of Ashley’s responsibilities is assisting graduate students with clinical placement. Ashley recently reached out to Allen College alumni for help in expanding the College’s preceptor pool.

Allen College alumni are encouraged to take this opportunity to consider becoming a preceptor for current students. This is a perfect time to consider this opportunity for a couple of important reasons.

First, Allen College has a program in place that allows preceptors to accrue credit for hours spent precepting students that can result in a reduced tuition when the preceptor enrolls in the College’s DNP or EdD program. Second, precepting students may meet professional requirements for a preceptor’s recertification.

Allen College appreciates graduates’ consideration of this opportunity to help future graduates achieve their educational and career goals. This service is essential for quality student experiences and a consistent supply of excellent healthcare professionals.

Allen College graduates who would like more information about serving as a preceptor should contact Ashley Ollendieck at Ashley.Ollendieck@allencollege.edu or 319-226-2041.

School of Health Sciences

Physical Therapy Educator Consults College
Dr. Martha Hinman, a physical therapist with more than 30 years of experience as a clinician and educator, is working with Allen College leaders in 2015 to develop an implementation plan for a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. Dr. Hinman, who is professor of physical therapy at Hardin-Simmons University in Texas, conducted a feasibility study for Allen College in 2014. According to Dr. Nancy Kramer, the consultant’s plan will be reviewed by leaders of the College and Health Sciences faculty. If approved by faculty, the proposal will then be reviewed by the College’s Board of Trustees by the end of 2015.

Allen College chancellor Dr. Jerry Durham said that the DPT program, if approved, would complement the College’s new occupational therapy (OT) program, slated to admit students in August 2015. He cautioned, however, that new facilities, including labs, classrooms, and offices, would be needed if the DPT program is approved. He also noted that although the program would be the sixth DPT program in Iowa, high student demand and workforce need for graduates of DPT programs support a need for the program.

The consultant’s plan will assess the need for the program and provide a conceptual model for the curriculum that articulates the program’s mission, philosophy, goals/graduate outcomes, course titles/descriptions, and suggested course sequence; position descriptions for the program director, director of clinical education, and faculty; an assessment plan that addresses all program components needed for program accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE); and a timeline for program’s implementation.

Occupational Therapy Program Update
The Allen College Master of Science (MS) in Occupational Therapy Program submitted materials to the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) to complete the second step in the 3-step accreditation process. These materials will now be reviewed and the program expects to receive the results of the review sometime in late July. In the meantime, the program is currently accepting applications for review and arrange for interviews with perspective students. For additional information concerning the program please contact Dr. Cindy Hahn at 319-226-2522.

Dental Hygiene Program Update
The online dental hygiene bachelor’s in health science degree completion program offers dental hygienists the opportunity to further their education without the restrictions of work schedules and distance. The online program delivers all required dental hygiene courses in 16-week modules that can be completed on a part-time basis over a 24 month time frame or full-time on a 12 month time frame. All general education courses can be completed at any regionally accredited institution of the student’s choice. The faculty believes that students engage in self-directed learning activities, advance their knowledge through critical thinking, exhibit values for lifelong learning, synthesize evidence-based information and develop leadership skills. More information about the Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with a major in Dental Hygiene will be released in the fall of 2015.
Fall Graduation

Allen College awarded 53 degrees at its commencement ceremony on December 19. The college conferred two Bachelor of Health Sciences degrees, 48 Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees, and three Master of Science of Nursing degrees.

The speaker for Allen College’s fall commencement was Dr. Barbara Nichols. Dr. Nichols’ professional career spans four decades in leadership and policy making positions in professional associations and related health organizations. She is the former Chief Executive Officer of the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools whose expertise is in credential evaluation, scope of practice standards and licensure of nurses and health professionals globally.

Dr. Nichols has been a consultant on diversity to the Office of Minority Health and the U.S. Departments of Labor and Homeland Security. In 1970, she became the first African-American woman to serve as president of the Wisconsin Nurses Association. From 1978 to 1982 she was the first African American nurse to be President of the American Nurses Association. Retiring from the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools in 2011 after 12 years leading that organization, Dr. Nichols currently serves as the Leadership and Diversity Coordinator for the Wisconsin Center for Nursing. She is also a Visiting Associate Professor of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, College of Nursing and an expert consultant on global nursing execution, practice and leadership.

Dr. Nichols is the recipient of numerous awards and holds a baccalaureate degree in nursing from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, a Master of Science in Behavioral Disabilities, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and five honorary doctoral degrees for her sustained leadership contributions to the delivery of health care in urban and rural settings. Throughout her career she has been a solid champion for the need to value diversity in all of its forms and a leading advocate for ethnic minority inclusion in all aspects of the health professions.

2014 Fall Graduates’ Awards & Honors

The following graduates were recognized for their awards and honors during fall graduation activities.

Jane E. Hasek Excellence in Nursing Award

The nursing faculty of Allen College selects the graduate who best incorporates the values and beliefs of the mission and philosophy of Allen College in his/her professional and personal life. This award has been named in recognition of the first Chancellor of Allen College, Dr. Jane Hasek, for her visionary leadership in the establishment of the College. The recipient was Ally Kwikkel.

Allen College Service Award

Selection of the Allen College Service Award is made by the Allen College faculty. The Allen College faculty nominate a student who has provided outstanding service to the College and as an ambassador in the community, demonstrated a strong commitment to the core values espoused in the College philosophy. Recipient of the Allen College Service Award was Lindsey Gettman.
Highlights from the Annual Donate to Educate

The Allen College Alumni Association hosted its 5th Annual Donate to Educate Fundraising Benefit on February 26. Over a hundred guests were treated to a social hour, dinner and live entertainment.

The draw of the evening was a silent auction of 26 themed baskets that were donated from around the area. A 1.5 carat diamond pendant was raffled off, followed by a live auction package that included a complimentary hotel night stay at the new Waterloo Fairfield Inn & Suites, Montage restaurant gift card, and two tickets to a Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center performance.

The evening’s proceeds exceeded $14,000, all of which will benefit Allen College student scholarships.

Upcoming Alumni Events

2nd Annual Plant Sale Fundraiser
Thursday, May 7, 2015, 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
South Dining Room of Allen Hospital

For more information or questions please contact Allison Jensen at 319-226-2016 or Allison.Jensen@allencollege.edu

Annual Alumni Reunion

Friday, May 8, 2015

10:00 a.m. Brunch and Tours
South Dining Room of Allen Hospital

3:00 p.m. Allen College Commencement
Nazareth Lutheran Church

5:30 p.m. Reunion
Winter Hall on the Allen College Campus

Have you taken the Class Gift challenge?

Thanks to gifts from the estates of Milton Hall and Thelma and Carlton Winter, contributions from Allen College class members from 1959 through the present will be matched dollar for dollar up to $5,000 per class. This will fully endow the scholarship at $10,000, and Allen College students will then be awarded a scholarship from these classes.

Find current class gift totals online at www.allencollege.edu. Click on “Alumni” and then “Class Donations.”

Donations for your class gift may be sent to Allen Foundation, 1825 Logan Ave., Waterloo, IA 50703. The check may be made payable to Allen Foundation and reference the class gift and the year on your donation.

Alumni Information Updates

You can conveniently update your information on the Allen College website (www.allencollege.edu) on the Alumni page. Please tell us what has changed in your life recently—a new address, a job promotion, perhaps even the birth of a new child or a wedding. We’ll use the information you provide to keep you informed with all that’s happening at Allen College through publications such as The Communicator newsletter as well as other important Alumni mailings.
You can help

Shape the future of Allen College 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 Allen Foundation to find out how you can make a difference, or donate online at www.allencollege.edu and click on Donate.

Dr. Jerry D. Durham, Chancellor
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