In 2000, Allen College enrollment was at 271, and a second building, Barrett Forum, opened on campus. Now, after two years of planning and fundraising, ground will be broken for Allen College’s third building this May.

Designed by Waterloo architecture firm InVision with input from a variety of the building’s future users, the new building will be 19,500 square feet and will be located between the College’s two current buildings.

“It will connect those buildings, so students will be able to move among all three buildings without ever going outside,” said Allen College Chancellor Dr. Jerry Durham.

With a record enrollment of 509 students for the spring 2011 semester, Allen College has outgrown its present facilities. “This is the first time in history we’ve had more than 500 students,” Durham said. “We’re completely out of space for more faculty and staff, so we really can’t grow any further until we have a new facility.”

Designed to accommodate an expected enrollment of 600 students, the new building will house two large and two medium-sized classrooms, along with 17 new faculty and staff offices. The large classrooms on the first floor will each accommodate 75 students. When a wall between the two is collapsed, will become a space large enough for 150-200 conference participants. A warming kitchen nearby will allow community groups that require catering to use the rooms for events.

Upstairs, the smaller classrooms will hold 35 students each. In addition to the faculty/staff offices, there will also be meeting spaces, a faculty lounge and secretarial and storage areas.

Architects spent several months meeting with faculty, staff and students who will use the building every day to design a building that will meet their needs. The new building will have wireless Internet, like the rest of campus, and will feature a large entryway with casual spaces where students can gather and study.

The College has raised $3 million of the $5.5 million required to fund the building, but will proceed with the building project while it actively seeks the remaining funds.

“We intend to continue raising funds from donors, foundations and corporations inside and outside the Cedar Valley,” Durham said. “Allen College graduates service the entire state, and they come to us from all over the state, so we will be aggressively seeking additional gifts to meet our goal.”

With significant funds raised through the Promises to Keep campaign, the building project got its biggest boost from the estate of Carlton and Thelma Winter, who left $2 million to Allen College. “That was our largest gift in history, and we’ve dedicated $1.5 million of the gift to the new building,” Durham said.

The College needed $3 million in hand before beginning building. With the project plans approved by Iowa Health System and the Allen Hospital board of directors, the next step is the bid process which began in March.

“The main challenge in this economic environment has been to move the fundraising campaign forward,” Durham said. “We’ve achieved the initial goal of raising $3 million, and now we’re moving forward to seek the rest.”

If you’d like to donate to the Allen College building fund, contact the Allen Foundation at 319-235-3960 or e-mail rolingmd@ihs.org. Or donate online at www.allenhospital.org/foundation.
ACE-SAP PURCHASES CAMERA TO PREVENT BLINDNESS IN DIABETIC PATIENTS

The Allen College Engagement and Salvation Army Partnership (ACE-SAP) free medical clinic has purchased a digital retinal camera to offer free eye exams to diabetic patients to help prevent retinopathy in diabetic patients with little or no insurance coverage.

“Diabetic retinopathy is one of the most common causes of blindness (6 percent to 30 percent will develop sight-threatening retinopathy) and is one of the most preventable, with early screening and intervention,” said Allen College’s Ruselle DeBonis, assistant professor and Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) clinical coordinator.

With the help of the United Way, Guernsey Foundation and Free Clinics of Iowa, Allen College was able to purchase the $10,500 camera. Dr. David Neill has volunteered to use the camera to interpret 50 patients’ retinal pictures per year free of charge.

In Black Hawk County, there are approximately 2,422 diabetic adults who have not been screened for retinopathy. This is an issue because treatment of retinopathy is much more effective when noticed early on. Since there are few symptoms, many diabetic patients don’t realize they have the disease before prevention or recovery is possible.

Not only does the eye camera aid diabetic patients, it also gives Allen College students an edge on studying retinopathy. Instead of reading about retinopathy screenings in a book, Allen College students get hands-on experience. The students not only gain experience with the camera, they also get the opportunity to see images of a normal eye compared to an eye with abnormalities that need to be treated.

Since opening two years ago, ACE-SAP has helped patients unable to afford healthcare to access appropriate care and monitoring for their disease,” said DeBonis.
FEATURED DONOR – DIANNE PHELPS

Artful Giving

Dianne Phelps’ home and life are full of art—and loving memories of her late husband, Dr. Dale Phelps, who passed away in 2009 after a long battle with cancer. Whether she’s telling the story of a piece she and Dale picked up along the Yangtze River in China, or pottery made by art students at the University of Northern Iowa, Phelps’ passion for art seems only equalled by her generosity and passion for helping causes important to her and to Dale during his lifetime. This is why her recent gifts to fund the College’s new building have been significant.

“All means a lot to me, and did to Dale as well,” Dianne said. As an orthopedic surgeon at Allen Hospital for almost 30 years, Dale was as respected and admired in the medical arena as he was in the arts community. Dianne received her nursing diploma from Allen School of Nursing in 1968, and worked at Surgical and Orthopedic Associates in Waterloo for 30 years.

When she graduated, the College had a perfect record of students passing their board exams, Dianne said. The school’s reputation continues today. “I’m proud of Allen College’s programs and how far they’ve progressed,” she said. “I’m proud to be part of such a well-thought-of program.”

Both the hospital and the College are progressive and team-centered—which are important in the medical field, Dianne said. She still sees many of the same staff members at the hospital who worked there a decade ago, and some of her former classmates teach at Allen College. “That says a lot about Allen,” she said.

Allen College’s growth—and need for increased space—is worthy of the entire community’s support, Dianne said.

“We need nurses to stay in the state. I think all the hospitals in the community should be thankful for the educational opportunities that are here thanks to Allen College, because they staff their hospitals as well,” she said. “I think Allen College is huge for the community. It’s a gift to the state.”

As a member of the Allen Foundation Board of Directors, Dianne takes pride in the organization’s work.

“I’m proud of the way the hospital supports its community, with the Kaleidoscope Series, support of the Youth Pavilion in the past and the fact that they received an award for philanthropy,” Dianne says. “They were also there supporting their employees through the disasters that we’ve endured in the recent past.”

Allen College and Allen Hospital gave Dianne a career and Dale a place to care for patients and support his family and his community, Dianne said. Now she’s able to give something to future healthcare professionals in return. “It’s important to give back when you’re given so much,” she said.

2010–2011 Outside Scholarship Recipients

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations that offered scholarship assistance to Allen College students during the 2010-2011 academic year. Congratulations to the recipients. Allen College institutional scholarship recipients and donors were acknowledged in the fall newsletter.

Alona Community School Foundation–Dollars for Scholars Scholarship
Chandra Foertsch
Ann Green
Claire Weidmore Scholarship
Kaitlin Crile
Community Foundation of the Great River Bend–Don E. and Charlotte Williams Scholarship
Heather Evans
Community Memorial Hospital Foundation (Summer)–Elmer Schwartz Scholarship
Heather Evans
Mercy Medical Center, Mason City–Dr. George I. & Eunice A. Tice Fund Scholarship
Kelli Olson
Fort Dodge Community Foundation Scholarship
Sarah Scott
Fred Schlichting Scholarship
April Jeffrey
The General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program
Kayla Joens
Hampton-Dumont Dollars for Scholars Scholarship
Kelly Wilkinson
Illinois Scottish Rite Scholarship Fund
Caitlin Geilenfeld
International Chapter PEO Scholarship
Michelle Green
Iowa Farm Bureau Federation Scholarship
Brittany Keppler
Lindsey Lehmann
Iowa Grocers Education Foundation Scholarship
Jennifer Lobse
Iowa Hospital Education & Research Foundation (IHERF) Scholarship
Peggy Black
Brandy Keppler
Kelly Lillie
Connie Meissner
Iowa Lutheran Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship
Jana Roberts
Iowa Methodist Medical Center (IMMC) Barton Scholarship
Anne Gibson
Iowa Methodist Medical Center (IMMC) Kilgore Endowment
Peggy Black
Amy Dugstad
Shelley (Burtkhart) Fortune
Iowa Methodist Medical Center (IMMC) Mandelbaum Endowment
Anne Killpack
Iowa Methodist School of Nursing Alumni Association Scholarship
Eric Bean
Kenneth G. Meyerhoff Trust Scholarship
Morgan Peters
Jessica Thompson
Lauterbach Scholarship
Jill Blanahan
Mercy Hospital Foundation (Iowa City) Scholarship
Stephanie Sparks
Nicole Thien
Mercy Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarship
Lacey McGrath
Mercy Medical Center (Cedar Rapids) Scholarship
Jaclyn Smith
Mid American Baptist Women’s Ministries Scholarship
Heidi Lehle
New Hampton Dollars for Scholars Scholarship
Kristen Winter
Northeast Iowa EMS Inc. Scholarship
Lacey McGrath
Postville District Dollars for Scholars Scholarship
Megan Brincks
Orphan Foundation of America Anonymous Recipient
Sartori Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship
Morgan Peters
Sister Rose Mary Pint Scholarship Program–Wheaton Francisan Services Inc.
April Jeffrey
South Tama County Scholarship Foundation–Dollars for Scholars Scholarship
Anonymous Recipient
St. Luke’s Health Care Foundation Scholarship, Cedar Rapids
Barb Conway
Ann Overton
St. Luke’s Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship
Ann Overton
Tripoli Dollars for Scholars Scholarship
Morgan Peters
Viking Pump Scholarship
Heidi Lehle
Waverly Health Center Auxiliary–Health Career Scholarship
Ashley Figanbaum
Waverly Health Center Auxiliary Scholarship
Stacy Hack
Nicole Moon
Western Home Communities Scholarship
Hannah Waldh

Brenda Barnes, assistant professor, presented “Using Learning Contracts Within the Laboratory Science Curriculum,” at the Curricula for the 21st Century conference in January 2011. In addition, her dissertation prospectus, “Attitudes of Laboratory Professionals Toward Technology,” was accepted by Walden University and her dissertation committee was assigned.

Dr. Ruselle DeBonis, assistant professor, was promoted to associate professor at Allen College beginning with the 2011-2012 academic year.

Dr. Jerry Durham, chancellor, will serve on the Core Planning Committee for the Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center at the University of Northern Iowa. He also served on a panel discussing higher education challenges at a Leadership Iowa conference December 10, 2010, at Wartburg College.

Shawn Froelich, adjunct faculty and Allen College graduate, was accepted into the Master’s of Clinical Laboratory Science program at the University of North Dakota.

Adisa Kudumovic, assistant professor, was promoted to associate professor at Allen College beginning with the 2011-2012 academic year.

Denise Pralle, assistant professor, was promoted to associate professor at Allen College beginning with the 2011-2012 academic year.

Dr. Julie Ritland, associate professor, earned a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree from the University of Iowa College of Nursing.

Dr. Anna Weepie, associate professor, presented a breakout session, “Development of the Center for Engagement, Learning and Leadership,” at the 2010 National DNP Conference in San Diego, CA, in September 2010.

Dr. Ruth Yan, librarian and international student advisor, earned a Master of Arts degree in school library studies from the University of Northern Iowa.

Dr. Diane Young, professor, passed the certification exam to become a gerontological nurse practitioner.

**Faculty/Staff Recognition**

**Student Snippets**

**Name:** Kelly Schug  
**Program:** Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS)  
**Graduation Date:** May 2012  
**Hometown:** Jesup, IA

**About Kelly:**
Ever since Kelly worked in the X-ray department at Covenant Medical Center, she has wanted to study sonography. “I did a week rotation in ultrasound, and I became instantly interested,” she said.

After 11 years of working full time in Hiawatha, IA, Kelly enrolled in Allen College’s DMS program.

“The fun part about Allen College is the challenge. It’s a lot harder than I thought it would be,” said Kelly.

Kelly chose Allen College because of the school’s reputation and because her cousin, a former student, had positive things to say about her experience.

After graduation in May 2012, Kelly would like to stay in the area and work for a highly respected ultrasound department.

**Name:** Michael Johnson  
**Program:** Adult Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (APMHNPN) track of Master of Science in Nursing Program  
**Graduation Date:** May 2012  
**Hometown:** Dubuque, IA

**About Michael:**
In the early 1980s, Michael’s dream was to play professional football. Michael played football for four years at the University of Northern Iowa and was then drafted by the Chicago Bears in 1983. After a career-ending injury in his first year, Michael’s dream was over, and he needed an income.

A friend told Michael about a position available at Mercy Medical Center in Dubuque, IA, watching over individuals with mental health problems. “I instantly fell in love with it,” said Michael. Shortly thereafter, Michael furthered his education in mental health at Northeast Iowa Community College and Clark College.

After spending 24 years working with mental health patients, Michael is taking his education to the next step. “Allen has an outstanding APMHNPN program,” he said.

Michael’s current goal is to get his APMHNPN so he can work independently and prescribe medication. Michael also looks forward to working in the area for at least another 20 years as a nurse practitioner. “Football was an enjoyable time in my life, but what’s more rewarding is what I do now,” he said.
Dr. Addington Brings More to Allen College than a Great Resume

Ever since viewing an image of the inside of a human body in sixth grade, Dr. Andrea Addington has wanted to work in healthcare. Little did she know her career in healthcare would lead her to unforgettable experiences and provide her with many opportunities to satisfy her passions for nursing, research and caring for others in diverse underserved countries. “I have never been afraid to pursue my dreams; perseverance has always been something I’ve taken seriously,” said Addington.

Addington’s first job in healthcare came after earning her bachelor’s degree at Creighton University in Omaha. She became a nurse in the Army and was deployed to Germany. During her two years in Germany, she became a head nurse in obstetrics. After returning from Germany, she continued working in obstetrics for several years before going back to school.

In 1994, Addington received her master’s degree in nursing from the University of Iowa, specializing in community health and administration. While at the University of Iowa, she was working full time teaching at the Methodist School of Nursing, and during her final year she worked as a research assistant in the College of Nursing at the University of Iowa.

Shortly after earning her master’s degree, Addington found a job in Minneapolis teaching community health and psychiatric nursing. After a few years, she came back to Iowa to continue working in community health and psychiatric nursing. She also worked one year as a research assistant in epidemiology at the University of Iowa.

In 2004 she began working as an assistant professor in nursing at Mercy College in Des Moines. She taught six years at the bachelor’s level until she once again wanted to further her education. “I really wanted to work in a master’s program,” said Addington.

So she enrolled in a doctoral program at the College of Saint Mary in Omaha. In the last year of her doctoral studies, she took a mission trip to El Salvador. In only one week she and the team helped more than 1,100 patients. She is now beginning a research study to describe health ailments the team saw in El Salvador.

After receiving her doctorate in health professions education, Addington came to Allen College in August of 2010. “I only heard really good things about Allen College. It is progressive and a leader in educating nurses,” said Addington. She is currently teaching online didactic and clinical courses in the BSN and MSN programs.

The education and professional experiences Addington has acquired have given her the credentials to teach at the master’s level, but that’s not what makes her a great professor. She is a great professor because she continually strives to become better, listen to her students, continue to learn and teach her students to be critical thinkers. Her ability to lead by example and care for others is what makes Addington such an important new member of Allen College.

“I have never been afraid to pursue my dreams; perseverance has always been something I’ve taken seriously.”

There’s one thing Addington would like each of her students to know when they complete her courses: “Don’t be afraid to pursue your dream. There is a gift of satisfaction from what you are doing every day.”

Allen College Welcomes New Staff

KATIE DULIN joined the Allen College staff in December 2010, as the new Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) secretary. One of her main roles is to make sure that students preparing for clinicals are connected with the right preceptors (physicians who give practical experience), and then sending out agreement forms to the preceptors for students. Without Katie connecting students to preceptors, clinicals could become stressful to students before they even begin.

In 2008, Katie graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a bachelor’s degree in family services. Before working at Allen College, she worked at Allen Hospital as a distribution tech and at United Medical Park as an admitting tech. “I have a passion for working, interacting with people and helping others to better themselves, no matter the setting I’m in,” said Katie.

TIFFANIE GARCIA joined the Allen College staff last fall as a library assistant. Before coming to Allen College, Tiffany worked at the Grainger call center while finishing her bachelor’s degree at the University of Northern Iowa. “My goal when returning to college was to work in a library. When I received an e-mail that the Allen College library was hiring, I was excited to have the opportunity to reach a goal,” said Tiffany.

“I have enjoyed everything at Allen. I would say filling the interlibrary loan requests and helping students find needed material are the best parts of my daily duties,” said Tiffany.
In 2007 Allen College implemented the Center for Engagement Learning and Leadership (CELL) to give students, faculty and staff the opportunity to give back to the Cedar Valley. Since the CELL was created, Allen College students have jumped on numerous opportunities to volunteer in their community.

In 2009-2010 alone the CELL volunteered more than 11,000 community service and service-learning hours in the Cedar Valley. These hours came from the CELL teaming up with local organizations and creating many of their own programs to help the community. By volunteering their time, the students, faculty and staff are fulfilling the mission the CELL set out to accomplish.

The CELL’s mission is to connect faculty, staff and students to community needs through mutually beneficial partnerships that develop civic responsibility and sustain community commitment. Allen College’s CELL also gives students the opportunity to serve their community through service-learning.

“The CELL is the infrastructure for all the service and service-learning activities that go on at the College,” said associate professor of nursing Mary Brown. Service-learning gives students the hands-on experience they need and the Cedar Valley free services it deserves.

The CELL has volunteered with numerous programs and events, many which set out to serve individuals with little or no insurance coverage. An example of this was when the CELL teamed up with the Salvation Army to give biweekly blood pressure screenings and provide a foot-care clinic. Faculty and students volunteered 278 hours, valued at $6,000.

The CELL also helped with health screenings at 11 school sites in Waterloo. The Allen College Engagement-Salvation Army Partnership (ACE-SAP) free clinic offers head-to-toe exams, cholesterol and glucose screenings, education and more. The ACE-SAP volunteered more than 1,800 hours, valued at $43,000, and helped 235 clients in 2009.

Not all of the volunteer work done by the CELL involves free healthcare. Students and faculty teamed up with organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Johnson and Johnson, Adopt-a-Highway, nursing homes and many more.

Since the CELL was created the number of hours volunteered by students and faculty has risen sharply. In 2007, nearly 5,000 hours were volunteered; that number jumped to more than 11,000 hours of service in 2009. In 2007 the total value of volunteered hours was about $147,000 (based on average faculty and student wages). That number skyrocketed to more than $300,000 in 2009-2010.
Allen College Attracts Students from Across the Globe

Unlike many students who study nursing at Allen College, Rumbidzai Teramayi and Nsia Kileo didn’t grow up in Iowa. They didn’t grow up anywhere near Iowa. Teramayi (who goes by “Rumbi”) hails from Zimbabwe, and Kileo is from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Both students arrived in Waterloo by way of Waverly, where they attended Wartburg College. Teramayi is completing the 3+1 program—she’ll receive a biology degree from Wartburg in May and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) from Allen College this August. A seasoned traveler, she attended high school for two years in Wales, where she met a Wartburg recruiter. The dual-degree accelerated BSN option was “just too good to pass up,” she said.

“Working in healthcare has been an aspiration of mine since I was a kid,” Teramayi said. “I picked nursing to fulfill what I’m looking for, which is to have one-on-one contact with the patient and not be somewhat removed from them.”

Kileo also studied biology at Wartburg, and knew she wanted to transfer to a nursing program as far back as 2006, before the College began its international student program. Instead of leaving town, she waited until 2008 and applied as soon as Allen College began accepting international students. “I just didn’t want to move to other nursing schools far from the Cedar Valley, since I’m very familiar with this area,” she said.

Like Teramayi, Kileo has wanted to enter the healthcare profession since childhood. “I love working with people and seeing people get better, physically, emotionally and socially,” she said.

Both students see their education at Allen College as just the beginning. After some on-the-job training, Teramayi plans to pursue a master’s degree, and beyond. “I plan to pursue every other option until I just can’t do it anymore,” she said. “I plan to go as high up as it can take me.”

Kileo also hopes for a year of hands-on experience, then sees herself in graduate school. “I would like to pursue a master’s degree in nursing or public health, and later work on global health initiatives in African countries,” she said.

Meanwhile, neither Kileo nor Teramayi would trade their experiences at Allen College. “The program itself is very rigorous and time consuming, but it’s welcoming. It’s a rich experience,” Teramayi said.

“My experiences at Allen have been priceless,” Kileo said. “I have been exposed to many education resources that have opened my eyes to a world of opportunities beyond my imagination.”

Just What Nursing Needs: TESTOSTERONE

The shortage of males in nursing is a problem Allen College deals with every year. On Nov. 11, 2010, Allen College’s Office of Diversity Services (ODS) hosted an event dedicated to male nurses. The event’s main purpose was to encourage and motivate current male nursing students and brainstorm ideas on how to encourage more young men to consider a career in the nursing profession. The College also wanted to celebrate men in nursing and share how important they are to the profession. The event featured two guest speakers and male registered nurses (RNs) from Allen Hospital.

Patrick Colwell spoke about life after nursing school. Colwell reassured current nurses and students why they are in their profession: to help people. Colwell motivated the crowd by assuring them that the knowledge and experience they gain while in school enhances their ability to provide top-quality patient care.

Current RNs then took the stage to enlighten current students with their “Tips for Success.” Dr. Jerry Durham, chancellor of Allen College, provided an overview of the historical significance of “Men in Nursing.” His speech included ways to enhance the experience of men on campus, the benefits of being a male nurse and ways to support men in nursing.

Before concluding the program, each attendant was asked to share words of encouragement to create a more inclusive environment for men on Allen College’s campus. “We wanted the students to share their unique thoughts to help us better serve their needs,” said ODS coordinator Doreen Mingo. The male students were asked how Allen College could enhance their experience, and how Allen College can encourage more men to become nurses. Several students echoed that events like this, which support men in nursing, provide opportunities for networking with male nurses and allow practicing male nurses to share their experiences and tips for success, really make a difference.

On April 14, the ODS is sponsoring another event dedicated to male nurses. The event will celebrate men in nursing.
Many colleges have trouble keeping students in school, and then graduating those students. This is a problem Allen College doesn’t really have to deal with.

“At traditional colleges, students must use their first year to adjust to life away from home, and they take on a wealth of new responsibility,” said director of student services Joanna Ramsden-Meier. All of Allen College’s bachelor’s of nursing (BSN) students have taken at least three semesters of classes at another college before starting their program at Allen. This is an important reason Allen College has the retention and graduation rates it has.

Allen College has been able to retain 83 percent of its students in two-year programs, and 84 percent in four-year programs. Compared to the national average of 54 percent for two-year programs and 72 percent for four-year programs, Allen College numbers are impressive.

Keeping students in college is important, but what’s more important is graduating those students. “Since our college admits students directly into their major (instead of admitting them first into the College, then into a major), we do not see students who are undecided in their career,” said Ramsden-Meier. The maturity of the students is a part of why Allen College graduates a higher percentage of students than the national average in every category, including two-year, four-year and master’s programs.

“If students do not show up for a class, it is not uncommon for the faculty member to call them to find out what they can do. The atmosphere here is full of compassionate people, and we produce excellent graduates.”

– Joanna Ramsden-Meier
Director of student services

Maturity is not the only reason students are staying and graduating, Ramsden-Meier said.

“Allen College is a small, private institution. Students can expect that faculty and staff know them by name, and truly care about their success. We offer tutoring and retention services for all students. If students do not show up for a class, it is not uncommon for the faculty member to call them to find out what they can do. The atmosphere here is full of compassionate people, and we produce excellent graduates,” said Ramsden-Meier.

On Sept. 27 and 28, 2010, the NAACLS visited Allen College. They reviewed the MLS program’s preliminary and self-review reports to determine if the reports accurately represented what the College is actually doing. The NAACLS met in February and will release the results in March.

If the NAACLS accepts accreditation, the MLS program will be recognized for meeting educational standards. “Accreditation promotes a better understanding of the goals of professional education; it provides reasonable assurance that practitioners meet minimum educational standards upon entry into the profession,” said Barnes. Accreditation would also allow students the chance to take the national certification exam.
Allen College ASR Students Compete
The October meeting of the Northeast District of the Iowa Society of Radiologic Technologists was held at Covenant Medical Center in Waterloo, IA, on October 19, 2010. The Allen College Associate of Science in Radiography (ASR) Level 2 students entered their scientific posters into competition with those of students from Covenant. Allen College students Marva McCarville and Brandy Zenner received first place for their poster entitled “The Breakdown on Child Abuse,” and Britney Anderson received second place for her poster, “Osteosarcoma.” Congratulations!

DMS Program Purchases Special Equipment
The Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) program has purchased special ultrasound training phantoms needed to teach imaging for breast ultrasound and specialty areas. The Fetal Ultrasound Biometric phantom is used for 2-D and 3-D evaluation of anatomic and estimation of gestational age. Additional teaching aids include a thyroid and two breast ultrasound phantoms.

The DMS program has also purchased a transvaginal ultrasound training phantom to enhance positioning skills and develop image acquisition and interpretation abilities. Also, an endocavity transducer for the Medison XQ ultrasound machine has been purchased for instruction of OB/GYN procedures.

Allen College Offers Pathway for Dual Certification for BHS
In today’s competitive healthcare environment, graduates need to differentiate themselves from their peers when seeking employment. Employers increasingly seek to hire workers with multiple degrees or certifications. For example, one study found that more than 30 percent of actively employed nuclear medicine technologists have previous experience in diagnostic radiology, and that number continues to rise. Another study found that dual-certified workers in nuclear medicine technology and radiography earn more than those with just a single certification. The same study found that graduates with a bachelor’s degree earn more than graduates with an associate’s degree or certificate only.

Allen College has developed a plan of study that will provide students an opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Health Sciences (BHS) degree with dual certifications in radiography and nuclear medicine technology, or radiography and diagnostic medical sonography. Students may view sample curriculum plans on the Allen College website. These plans identify essential courses for students planning to pursue two imaging science certifications and a BHS degree. For details about this certification/degree option, please contact the Allen College Recruiting Office at allencollegeadmissions@ihs.org.

New LPN-BSN Evening and Weekend Program
Allen College is constantly trying to find new ways for students to earn a degree more conveniently. Many licensed practical nurses (LPNs) who work during the day and wish to further their education have few choices. Allen College is taking a step forward to make it easier for these individuals to further their education with the new LPN-BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) evening and weekend program.

The LPN-BSN evening and weekend program will have similar requirements as those of the daytime program. The program consists of 15 classes that take seven semesters to complete. The 15 classes satisfy 47 of the 67 hours that are needed to graduate. The other 20 hours come from validation credit.

“The LPN-BSN program has been designed with two unique courses offered early in the program which will provide the LPN students with a smooth transition to baccalaureate nursing education,” said Kendra Williams-Perez, dean of the school of nursing. These two courses are the LPN-BSN Bridge and Health Assessment for the LPN. Completion of these courses gives students the 20 hours of validation credit needed to graduate.

With the addition of this evening and weekend program, Allen College hopes to make education for current students more convenient, and hopefully attract new students.

The program officially begins fall of 2011. An optional course is available during the summer of 2011.

CCNE Visits to Renew Accreditation
Since April 8, 2006, the Allen College baccalaureate nursing degree program has been accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

The CCNE came to Allen College Oct. 13-15, 2010, to give the nursing program a chance at accreditation renewal before the initial five-year accreditation expires on June 30, 2011.

“During this intense visit, CCNE site visitors reviewed the organization and governance, curriculum and college processes, in addition to meeting with Allen College administration, faculty, staff, students, alumni, preceptors and communities of interest,” said Kendra Williams-Perez, dean of the school of nursing. The CCNE’s intense visit leaves no doubt that an institution deserves accreditation.

Being accredited by the CCNE is a completely voluntary action for educational institutions. Accreditation shows that the nursing program meets the standards of exceptional nursing programs.

Accreditation gives the nursing program a lot to brag about. It ensures the mission statements, goals and outcomes are appropriate to prepare individuals to fulfill their expected roles. Accreditation also proves that the nursing program is continuing to improve, which improves the quality of nurses that graduate from of Allen College.

It will take the CCNE approximately five months to determine if the nursing program passes the renewal process. The CCNE will announce their final decision in April. “All indications are that the accreditation process was a success,” said Williams-Perez.

ASR Graduates Achieve 100–Percent Pass Rate
All 15 ASR graduates from the class of 2010 successfully passed The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) certification exam on their first attempt. The average first-attempt pass rate for the past five years continues to be 100 percent.

Allen College Recruiting Office at allencollegeadmissions@ihs.org.

CCNE visits were a success,” said Williams-Perez. It will take the CCNE approximately five months to determine if the nursing program passes the renewal process. The CCNE will announce their final decision in April. “All indications are that the accreditation process was a success,” said Williams-Perez.

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Graduation Recap

Fall Commencement Ceremony

Allen College’s 2010 fall commencement ceremony was held on Friday, December 17, 2010, at 3 p.m. at the Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls. The College awarded the bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree to 41 students (including five RN to BSN students); and the master of science in nursing (MSN) degree to nine students.

Dr. Jane Hasek, distinguished professor emerita of Allen College and the founding chancellor of Allen College, served as commencement speaker. Congratulations to the following fall graduates!

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Jennifer Mae Armstrong
Bethany Erin Bastron
Eric Bean, RN
Sara Lynn Berding
Crystal Jean Boley
Melissa Rae Brackey#
Megan Marie Brandt
Alexandria Nicole Bunger
Chelsey Courtnage
Crystal Ann Dailey
Sadie Dunlay
Dawn Ericson, RN**
Will Evans
Rebecca Flesburg
Chandra Nicole Foertsch#
Evgeniya Freiberg
Megan Rae Fritcher
Kyle Frost
Kerri Gustin, RN
Sara Hoffman
Morgan Marie Holthaus
Megan Elizabeth Imoehl
Pamela L. Kelly, RN
Kelsie Anna Kunke*
Natalie Lensing
Elizabeth Massa
Megan Milbrandt
Emily Morris
Kimberly Neuhaus
Lauren Noelting
Amy Elizabeth Nordstrom
Elizabeth Neunsinger, RN
Andrea Ohrt
Sadie Jane Oulman
Rae Ann Perrott
Shannon Peverill
Shannon Reynolds
Leah Schmitz**
Hailey Ann Tiix#
Hannah Cathryn Walsh
Lisa Marie Wichman

Master of Science in Nursing
Peggy Jean Black
Amy Dagestad
Shelllee Fortune Burkhart
Anne Gibson
Kim Killpack
Amy Kathleen Leister
Debra K. Lodge
Karen Lutter
Ashley Christina Trumm

ACADEMIC HONORS
*Summa Cum Laude (3.9 GPA or above)
**Magna Cum Laude (3.71-3.89 GPA)
#Cum Laude (3.5-3.7 GPA)

First Class Graduates from Service Honors Program

Perspective. It’s not always something that can be taught in a classroom, but it’s an important concept for everyone in healthcare to understand. And it’s one of the biggest things Rebecca Flesburg got out of her participation in Allen College’s service honors program.

Flesburg is one of the first five graduates of the new program, which began in fall 2009 and graduated its first class in December 2010. Each student of the first class completed three one-credit-hour classes and partnered with a community agency for a service project. Flesburg worked with the Boys and Girls Club of Waterloo to implement a healthy lifestyles program to combat childhood obesity.

“This project benefited me because it helped me gain perspective of the opportunities that I have had in my life,” Flesburg said. Since she’s interested in cardiac nursing care, Flesburg hopes her work with the Boys and Girls Club children will not only improve their lives, but also help her in the future.

“This experience will benefit my career as I will be able to proactively help the childhood obesity epidemic within the clinical setting,” she said.

Other service honors students worked with the Northeast Iowa Food Bank, Allen Women’s Health and the Salvation Army, said associate professor Anna Weepie, who leads the program. Each student graduated with a better awareness of community needs and gained other valuable skills, she said.

“They’ve learned a lot of leadership skills,” Weepie said. “How to resolve conflict, work with others, collaborate and how to solve problems.”

Chelsey Courtnage, Rebecca Flesburg, Kyle Frost, Lauren Noelting and Leah Schmitz

The service honors program is evolving as it grows, Weepie said. Since it’s only a one-credit class, managing the scope of individual projects was a challenge for the first group of graduates. And since projects lasted for three semesters, staff turnover at partner agencies was also challenging.

Now classes are working on semester-long service projects as a group. “The groups will meet together and have that camaraderie, and I think that will allow our senior students to be better role models and leaders,” Weepie said. “They’ll have more student leadership roles and develop some of that mentoring.”
Nurse Scholar Devotes Career to Education

In more than 39 years as a nurse educator and researcher, what strikes Dr. Kay Engelhardt most is what has remained the same: as healthcare becomes more complex, so does the nurse’s role in it.

“With the increasing complexity of healthcare, the knowledge required of the individual nurse has increased along with the responsibility of the nurse in addressing healthcare at the bedside,” Engelhardt said. “The knowledge base required today as a nurse is major compared to what I was provided as a nursing student in the late ’50s and early ’60s.”

Engelhardt knows a thing or two about nursing education. A 1960 graduate of the Allen Memorial Hospital School of Nursing, her education continued for more than 30 years, including a bachelor’s in nursing from University of Iowa; a master’s in maternal-child nursing from University of Colorado, Boulder; a PhD in educational psychology from University of Wisconsin, Madison; and a women’s health nurse practitioner (WHNP) certificate from University of Tennessee, Memphis.

Along the way, she’s held academic positions at most of her alma maters, as well as at Florida State University. Engelhardt spent 20 years as an undergraduate and graduate faculty member at University of Wisconsin, Madison, where her positions included nursing chief at the Waisman Center University Affiliated Program for Human Development and as director of the School of Nursing’s BSN program.

From 1987-2005, she was a professor at University of Tennessee Medical Health Science Center in Memphis, where she served as chair of maternal-child nursing, became a certified women’s health nurse practitioner, and developed Web-based units for master’s and doctoral students in women’s health, research methodology and evidence-based practice. Engelhardt retired January 1, 2005, as emeritus professor.

Her long career is highlighted by numerous recognitions, but one of her most coveted awards was her first.

“My first achievement and unexpected award was receiving the Florence Nightingale Lamp award from Allen nursing faculty at the senior/alumni dinner,” she said. “I still have it and remember being overwhelmed with the honor.”

Engelhardt went on to receive recognition as a Fellow for contributions to nursing education and mental retardation from the American Academy of Nursing and the American Association of Mental Deficiency. She also received research grants from both the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Nursing and the American Nurses Foundation. She has served on councils and boards for the American Association of Mental Deficiency and the American Association of University Affiliated Programs.

While she cites several individuals who mentored her and influenced her nursing career, one stands out most in Engelhardt’s memory from her time at Allen College.

“Mae Fleming made a major influence on my life both when I was a student and later as a faculty member at Allen,” she said. “She reflected in many ways what Allen reflects on my life. Mae loved her students and supported their strengths in the clinical setting.”

The nursing profession will continue to evolve into one of greater and greater importance in healthcare, Engelhardt says. “Get the best education you can,” she advises today’s nursing students. “Identify your long-term goals. Recognize, with help, where nursing is going, and structure your goals to achieve compatible goals. Find good mentors with positive attitudes.”

Engelhardt now lives in Madison, AL, just outside of Huntsville, and enjoys dog training, antiquing, reading, gardening and baking. She’s active in her community homeowners association and the Huntsville Newcomers Association. She travels back north to see family and friends and last year attended her 50-year Allen College class reunion. Of her original graduating class of 37, 24 people attended, Engelhardt said.

“I think I speak for my peers when I say we had a marvelous reunion. Of course, we never stopped talking long enough to confirm that, so who can tell?”

Alumni Trip to Mary Poppins
Seventy-five Allen College alumni and friends attended the December 4, 2010, matinee performance of Mary Poppins at the Des Moines Civic Center. Following the show, the group enjoyed a reception at the nearby Heritage Art Gallery.

The 2011 Allen College Alumni Dinner and Time Capsule Event, Friday, April 1, 2011
Join former classmates and help create an alumni time capsule for the new building on the Allen College campus.

Time Capsule Dedication and Reception
3 p.m. McKinstry Student Center
Barrett Forum, Allen College Campus

Allen College Alumni Dinner
Park Place Event Centre
1521 Technology Parkway, Cedar Falls, IA 50613
5 p.m. Social Hour and Registration, 6 p.m. Dinner

The 50–year honor class is 1961!
Please join us and fellow honor classes celebrating 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 years…continuing to the 60 year class of 1951 and prior!

Learning for Life
The Allen Alumni Association hosted a dinner and live and silent auctions on February 25, 2011, in the McKinstry Student Center on the Allen College campus. It was followed by a musical performance from ensembles from Wartburg College in McBride Auditorium. Gary Kroeger served as auctioneer for the live auction. Harpist Noelle Tripolino from Wartburg College performed during the social. Proceeds went toward scholarships for Allen College students. More than $3,000 was raised.
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, or donate online at www.allenhospital.org/foundation.

Dr. Jerry D. Durham  Matt Rolinger
Chancellor   Senior Director
Allen College  Allen Foundation
319-226-2015  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.

Visit us online at www.allencollege.edu.

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2011 Calendar of Events
Friday, April 1  Annual Allen College Alumni Dinner & Time Capsule Event
Tuesday, April 12  Iowa Board of Nursing Site Visit at Allen College
Thursday, April 14  Celebrating Men in Nursing Dinner Hosted by the Allen College Office of Diversity Services. (Contact Doreen Mingo at 319-226-2049 for more information.)
Friday, May 6  Spring Commencement at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls
May (Date TBD)  Groundbreaking for new building on Allen College campus
Friday, Aug. 12  Summer Commencement at Nazareth Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls
Friday, Sept. 30  Allen College Scholarship Donor/Recipient Banquet