

## College of Nursing *Highlights*

- Save the Date: Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on March 2, 2019, at 6 p.m.
- Save the Date: The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Keep Memories Alive Walk is Nov. 4 at the Town Center at Boca Raton.
- Save the Date: College of Nursing White Coat Ceremony will be held on Oct. 6, at 10 a.m. at the College of Nursing.
- Save the Date: Red Cross Disaster Training for Nursing Students on Sept. 17, at 6 p.m.
- Dr. Rhonda Goodman participated in the State of Florida's Hurricane Preparedness Roundtable. She was invited by Representative Emily Slosberg, from District 91 Florida's House of Representatives.
- Dr. Susan Bulfin received an additional \$165,000 from HRSA to support her ANEW-REEP grant.
- Drs. Lisa Wiese and James Galvin recently presented posters and papers at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference.
- You can now follow the FAU College of Nursing on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



## Nursing Students Learn to Respond to Public Health Issues

Over the last two years, students in the College of Nursing enrolled in NUR4638: Population Health Nursing have participated in four simulations focused on disaster preparedness.

Last month, students participated in a disaster response simulation that involved a fully-occupied bus overturned due to a tornado. Students learned to triage and care for victims with only the items available on a bus. In addition, students played the roles of victims who had experienced a range of physical and emotional traumas.

"These simulations emerged from reflecting on the best ways for students to learn how to respond to emergency situations in the community. I realized it was important to give students the experience of having to critically think and act in real time if they found themselves in a situation like a tornado or hurricane, common natural disasters in Florida," said Dr. Lisa Wiese, Assistant Professor.

Students enrolled in this Population Health course are also involved in community assessment projects each semester. Through this project they get a holistic picture of the health of a given community based on an analysis of epidemiological data, as well as interviews and spontaneous discussions with community leaders and members. Dr. Wiese and her class responded to calls for nursing from a previous community assessment by developing population-based interventions focused on gun violence and mental health. The students plan on sharing the materials that they developed with their peers and others impacted by these public health crises.



## Nursing Students Support Summer Camps

Both locally and afar, FAU nursing students are providing health support as part of summer camp activities. Locally, family nurse practitioner students and Dr. Andra Opalinski spent six weeks in an academic service learning experience at Christ Church Camp in Ft. Lauderdale. They provided health support to day campers and staff while using the opportunity to focus on pediatric growth and

development concepts in children three years old to college age. Camp activities, such as Human Hungry Hippo, allowed a creative way to assess gross motor skills, social skills, and problem solving.

In addition, PhD student Laurie Martinez and Dr. Opalinski started a Mindfulness Schools project at Christ Church Summer Camp, funded by the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church in partnership with Florida Blue. More than 90 children, ages preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, learned about mindful listening and breathing, and were educated on different types of mindfulness exercises over an eight week period.

Nursing students were also in Oklahoma at a clinical practicum with Dr. Kay Edwards, FNP, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Programs. They are providing health assessments and health education to the Keetowah band of the Cherokee tribe in Tahlequah.



*Caring is a Science, and we study it. Caring is an Art, and we practice it. Caring is a Way of Being, and we live it.*



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