

## College of Nursing *Highlights*

- Save the Date: The 14th annual "[Keep Memories Alive](#)" [Walk-in-the-Mall](#) is scheduled for Nov. 3, 2019.
- Save the Date: An FAU College of Nursing [40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Pregame Tailgate](#) will be held Oct. 12, beginning at 1:30 p.m.
- Congratulations to the more than 150 nursing graduates who crossed the stage at FAU's Summer Commencement.
- FAU College of Nursing's online master's program was ranked in Top 25 by [Best Master's Programs](#).
- Katie Abel and Christina Phillips, BSN Honors students, were awarded FAU OURI Research Grants.
- PhD candidate Armiel Suriaga was selected as a recipient of the Edna Hicks Scholarship, provided by the Florida Nurses Foundation.
- Dr. Deborah D'Avolio and co-investigators Sareen Gropper, Andra Opalinski, and David Newman received an Institute of Coaching grant from McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School Affiliate.
- Interested in a free driving evaluation, or contributing to research on driving and dementia? [Contact us](#) for more information.



## Dr. Lisa Wiese Receives NIH Grant to Propel Research and Career Development

There is currently no effective methodology for early detection and treatment of Alzheimer's disease (AD) in rural, minority, older adults, despite their increased risks. Building upon a pilot study funded by the Fla Dept of Health, [Dr. Lisa Wiese](#) was awarded a three-year career development grant through the National Institute on Aging at the National Institutes of Health for her research project, titled "Detecting Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias in Rural Underserved Communities through Community Based Participatory Research." Her primary mentor is [Dr. James Galvin](#), a dementia expert from FAU.

The research adapts [Dr. Nancy Schoenberg's](#) proven model of faith-based interventions of education, screening, and referral for rural Appalachian residents to a different population and disease. The findings from this study will inform the discovery of best practices for detection, diagnosis, and early intervention for rural and minority older populations, two groups vastly underrepresented in AD research.

The grant will also propel the development of Dr. Lisa Wiese as an independent researcher in community based participatory research, epidemiology, and biostatistics. This grant will support her development of leadership skills for executing multicenter studies and mentoring junior researchers, and in achieving her goal of empowering underserved older residents to age-in-place and delay costly institutionalization.

"My interest in this is personal; my mother lived her entire life in Appalachia until succumbing to Alzheimer's disease," said Dr. Wiese, assistant professor. "I am thankful for this funding, and deeply appreciate the expert guidance and support I received from Associate Dean of Research Pat Liehr and her team, as well as co-mentors Drs. Jennifer Lingler, University of Pittsburgh, and Ishan Williams, University of Virginia."



## Students Provide Health Assessments and Education to Cherokee Tribes

[Associate Dean Karethy Edwards](#) and Dr. Melessa Kelley accompanied 25 RN to BSN students to Oklahoma for an immersion experience with the Keetoowah and Tahlequah Indians. Over a two week period, students provided health education on disease prevention and health screenings for diabetes, blood pressure and more to the community. Students also provided health assessments to 120 school children.

"Over the past 10 years and with the assistance of Dr. John Lowe, the College has developed a unique and caring relationship with the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians and the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma," said Dr. Edwards. "Our students get an opportunity to obtain a meaningful learning and cultural experience as part of this nursing practice immersion plan."

*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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**Faculty Spotlight:** [Dr. Christine Williams](#) is an internationally-known researcher in gerontology. Following a 40-year academic career as a researcher and educator, and after 12 years of dedicated teaching and research at FAU, she retired from the College on August 9. She was a Professor and served as the Director of the PhD in Nursing program. Dr. Williams designed and tested a groundbreaking research program to help older married couples affected by Alzheimer's disease overcome communication barriers common in dementia. Her future plans include serving as a consultant in nursing education and research, as well as part-time clinical practice as a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, and research and writing.



The Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing hosted its annual **Convocation** on Aug. 23. Convocation provides an opportunity for faculty, staff and students to welcome and celebrate the beginning of a new academic year. Dean Safiya George welcomed attendees, and special speakers included Dr. Cheryl Krause-Parello, Raddock Distinguished Professor; Kelly Jackson, PhD student; Dr. Valarie Grumme, alumna; and Dr. Peggy Chinn, professor emerita and editor.



FAU nursing faculty were selected to receive the **2019 Florida Nurses Association Icon Award** for their significant achievements in the nursing field. Recipients include [Dr. Cheryl Krause-Parello](#) for nursing research; [Dr. Nancy Harris](#) for nursing education, and Dr. Kathi Harvey for community health. We congratulate them on their awards.



This summer, [Dr. Rhonda Goodman](#) traveled with nine RNs and two nurse practitioners to **Guatemala**, where they provided health screenings for children and foot care clinics at a home for older adults who have been abandoned. They donated and installed 15 woodstoves. Also, they attended a grand opening ceremony for a junior high school Dr. Goodman raised funds for and visited a school where she built a playground. CEUs were earned by each participant.



[FAU Student Nurses Association](#) leaders met for their 4th annual leadership retreat and planning session. They bonded and built their team on FAU's challenge course. Then, they held a productive planning session to determine the year's goals and activities. Looking forward to another exciting year!



The [College of Nursing's student organizations](#) - Student Nurses Association, Student Council, Nurses Christian Fellowship, Nurses Advocating for Peace and Safety, Nurses Association for Legislative Advocacy, and Sigma International Honor Society - greeted our newest nursing owls at New Student Orientation. The incoming students met the organizations' leaders and members, learning about the vision of each group. Welcome, Owls!

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