

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing

Annual Report 2016-2017



A Tradition of Excellence in Nursing Education



Our Mission

Serving the community by providing competent entry level and advanced care practitioners responsive to the changing health needs of society and the health care system.

A Letter from the President



As I write this message, we are winding down 2017. This year, the College celebrated 112 years of nursing education, first the School of Nursing and now the College of Nursing. We have also started another academic year. As I reflect back on the 2016-2017 year, I recognize that the year passed quickly as the College once again focused on our strategic initiatives of quality education, growth, service excellence and student experience, community of caregivers, and affordability and sustainability. This annual report highlights accomplishments of the College related to these initiatives.

The College's primary mission continues to be to provide well educated men and women for the practice of professional and advanced practice nursing who will deliver quality patient care in a variety of health care settings. The vision of the College reflects our distinctive Mission and Values enriched by the heritage of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis, who have a mission of caring and commitment to quality health care. With this Mission and Vision in mind, the College has worked closely with the OSF System Nursing group to align the College with the strategic initiatives of this group. The College continues to strive towards educating the nurses of the future to provide competent, caring nursing care to patients in all our OSF HealthCare facilities.

As a component of quality nursing education, the College worked this year towards initial accreditation with the nursing program accreditor, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The College hosted its CCNE accreditation visit for four visitors in September 2016. In May 2017, the College received notification that we were granted initial accreditation with CCNE through 2022. Our next visit will be in fall 2021.

As the President of the College, I would like to say thank you for your support for the College. The generosity of the College's alumni and donors in contributing to the scholarship funds for students allows us to help those students with financial need. Both are essential as the College continues its growth and responds to the challenges facing nursing, nursing education and health care today. This year the College's Annual Appeal focused on increasing scholarship dollars to assist students. Approximately 89 percent of the BSN students receive some type of financial assistance in the form of scholarships, grants or loans (see related story on scholarships). On behalf of all the faculty and staff, I express appreciation for interest and participation with the College.

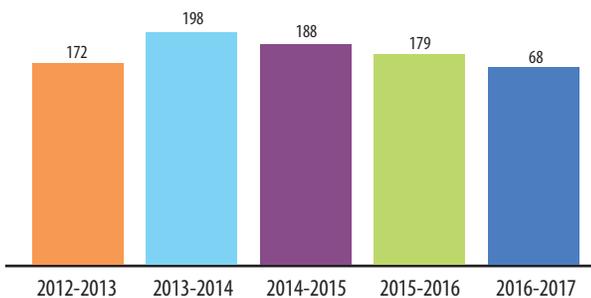
Patricia A. Stockert, RN, PhD

Patricia A. Stockert, RN, PhD
President of the College

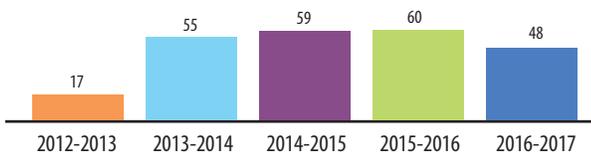
Quality Education

The Strategic Initiative of Quality Education and Quality Improvement focused the College of Nursing on developing and providing state-of-the-art, innovative professional nursing education and clinical experiences of the highest quality in a professional learning environment.

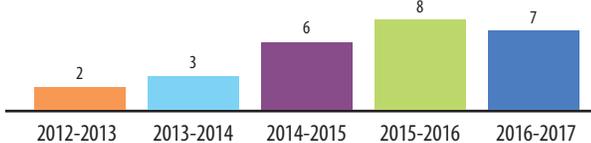
Undergraduate Program Graduates



Master's Program Graduates



Doctorate Program Graduates

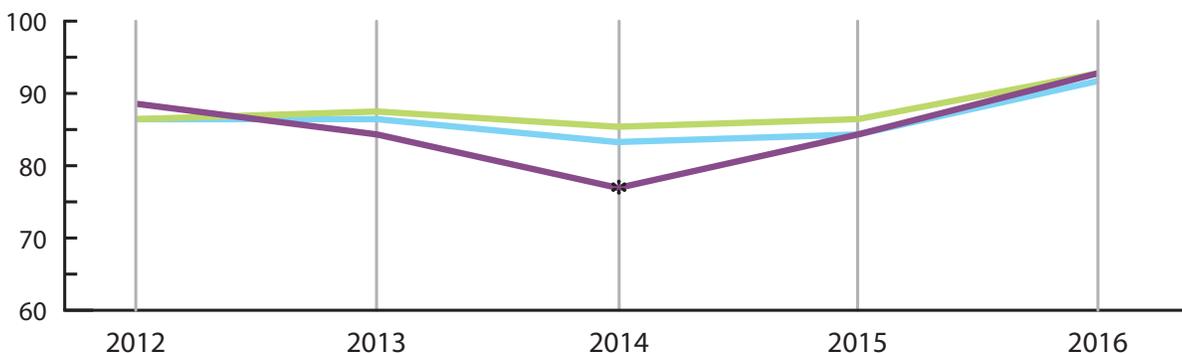


AACN/Skyfactor Benchworks Nursing Education Exit Assessment

The AACN/Skyfactor Benchworks survey is a tool that the College uses to assess students' perceptions and satisfaction on a variety of areas that impact performance of the College of Nursing. The survey contains questions that ask students for their opinion on the quality of instruction and the overall program in addition to their satisfaction with many different aspects of the college. The survey utilizes a Likert scale that ranges from 1 (very dissatisfied/not at all) to 7 (very satisfied/extremely), and provides the opportunity to select Not Applicable. Benchmarked data is analyzed and compared amongst three categories: six specific institutions selected by the College of Nursing, colleges within our same Carnegie class, and all participating institutions. The data is shared with the College of Nursing board and committees. For the survey, the College of Nursing utilizes benchmarking data to compare results with other nursing schools in the United States. The level of achievement target score for each factor and question is 5.5 or above. The Gap Committee at the College of Nursing reviews all survey factors and individual items to forward the information to the appropriate College of Nursing standing committees who develop plans to improve lower scoring items.

NCLEX-RN Pass Rate Percentages

College State National



**With this low pass rate, the College of Nursing developed an active plan for improvement of the NCLEX-RN pass rate. The College of Nursing continues to implement the strategies to improve student success.*

Undergraduate

For 2016-2017, 157 students participated in the survey. The questions are organized into overall satisfaction, overall program effectiveness and 12 other factors. The overall satisfaction score is 5.39, which is below the target of 5.5. It is equivalent to the scores for the three comparison groups. The College of Nursing is above target in the factor overall program effectiveness with a score of 5.61. The overall program effectiveness factor contained six questions which asked students how likely they were to recommend the program, how well the program fulfilled their expectations in addition to rating the value of investment of the nursing program.

Figure 1 shows the College of Nursing results for the five questions in this factor. Three of the questions were above the level of achievement and three questions were below the target.

Figure 2 shows the College of Nursing scores on all 14 factors. This year, the College of Nursing was below target of 5.5 in six of the 14 factors. Plans for improvement are developed for the areas that are below the target.

Figure 1 – Undergraduate BSN Overall Program Effectiveness Results 2016-2017

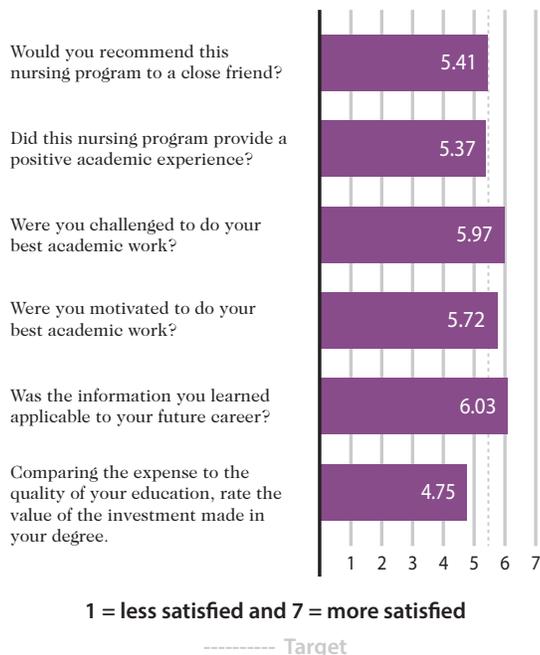
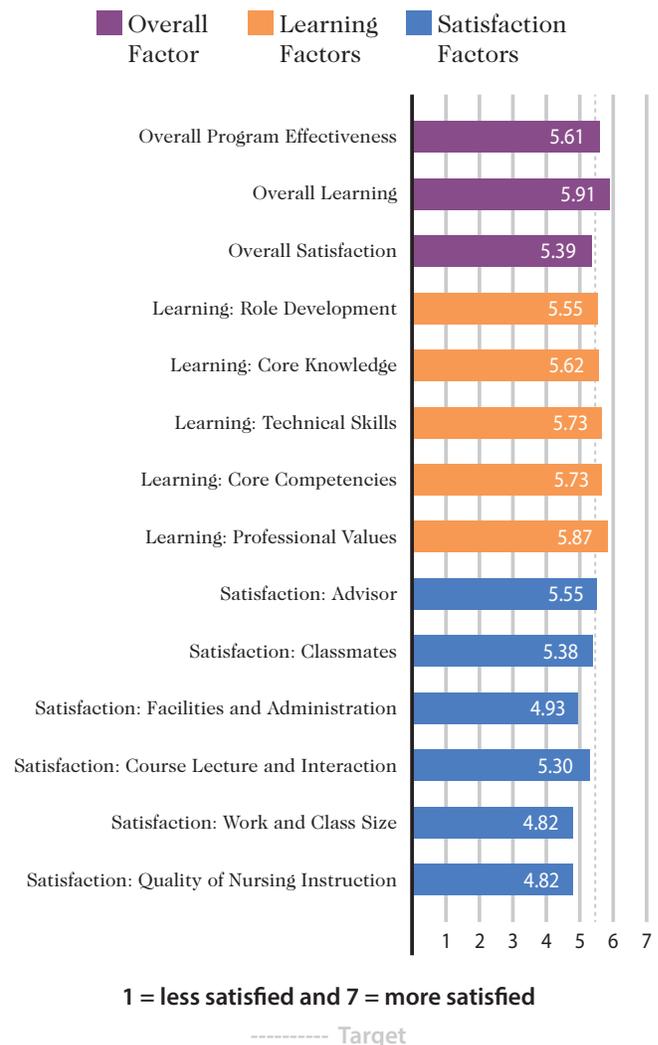


Figure 2 – Undergraduate BSN Factor Results 2016-2017



Graduate

MSN

The 2016-2017 year marked the third year the College of Nursing administered the graduate version of the survey to the graduating MSN students. A total of 32 students responded to the survey. The questions are organized into the factors of overall satisfaction, overall program effectiveness and 22 other factors. For the survey, the College of Nursing utilizes benchmarking data to compare results with other nursing schools in the United States. The target score for each factor is a 5.5 or above on a 7-point scale. The overall satisfaction score was 6.08 which was above the target score of 5.5.

Figure 3 shows the College of Nursing scores for the MSN graduates on the questions that make up the factor overall program effectiveness. The overall program effectiveness and all six questions that comprise the factor were above the target of 5.5.

Figure 3 – Graduate MSN Overall Program Effectiveness Results 2016-2017

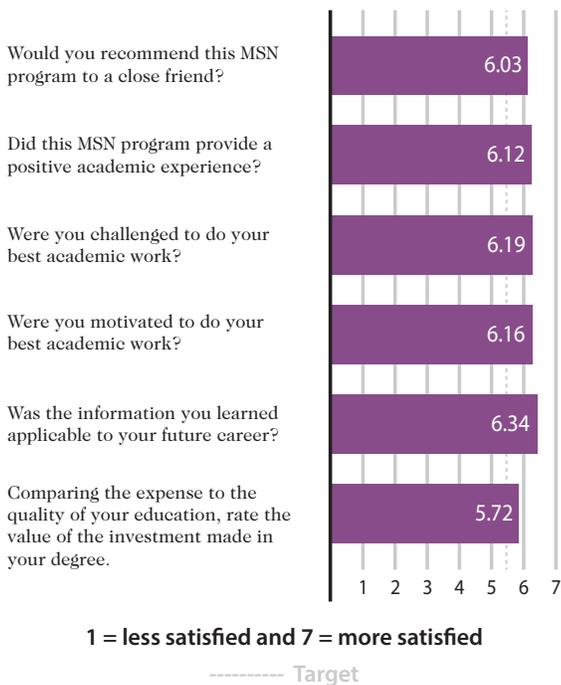
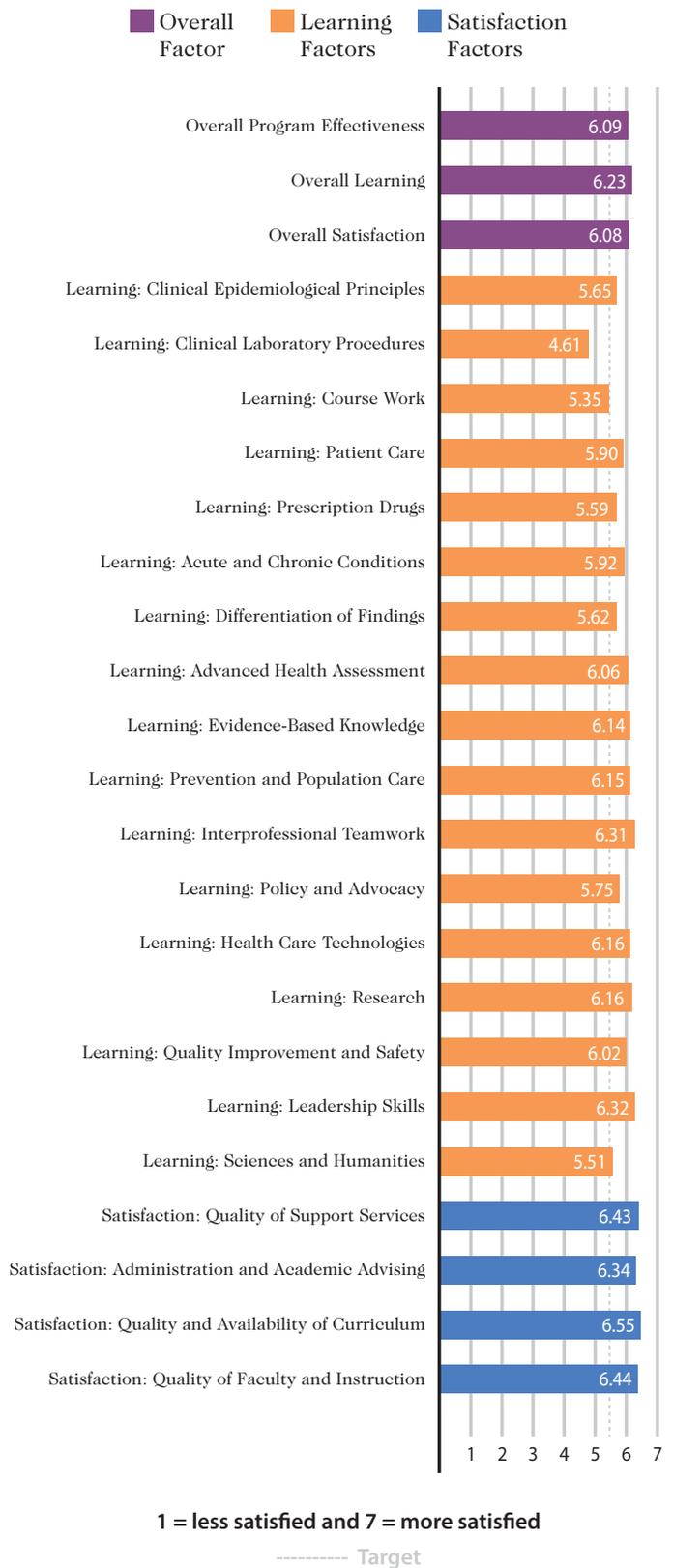


Figure 4 shows the scores for all 24 factors on the MSN survey. The College of Nursing scored above the target score of 5.5 in 22 of the 24 factors. In addition, the College of Nursing scored significantly higher in many questions when compared to Carnegie class and all institutions on items in the two factors of quality of faculty and instruction and quality and availability of curriculum.

Figure 4 – Graduate MSN Factor Results 2016-2017



DNP

For the second year, the College of Nursing administered the survey to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) students. A total of six students completed the survey. The questions are organized into the factors of overall satisfaction, overall program effectiveness and 26 other factors. For the survey, the College of Nursing utilizes benchmarking data to compare results with other nursing schools in the United States and the same level of achievement of 5.5 or above on a 7-point scale. Overall satisfaction was scored at 6.92, which is above the established benchmark and significantly higher than the other institutions in the Carnegie class.

Figure 5 shows the overall effectiveness factor and individual questions. The overall program effectiveness score for the factor was 6.83, which is above the benchmark. The College of Nursing scored significantly higher than other institutions in its Carnegie classification. All six questions were above 5.5.

Figure 6 shows all 27 factors. All of the 27 factors were above the benchmark of 5.5.

Figure 5 – Graduate DNP Overall Program Effectiveness Results 2016-2017

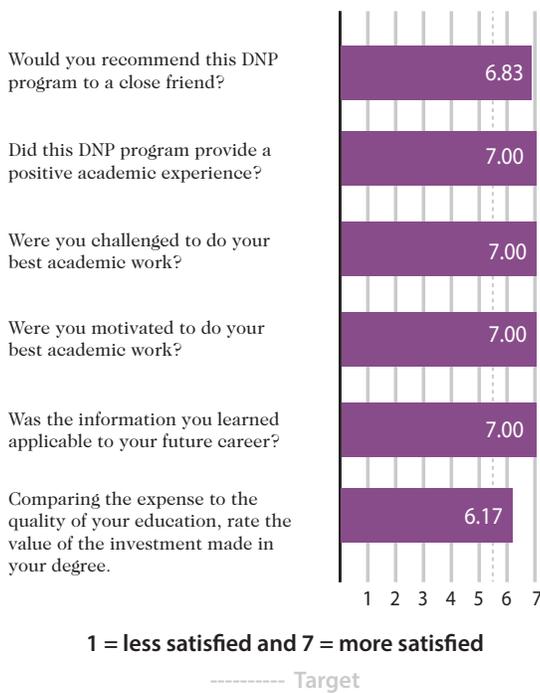
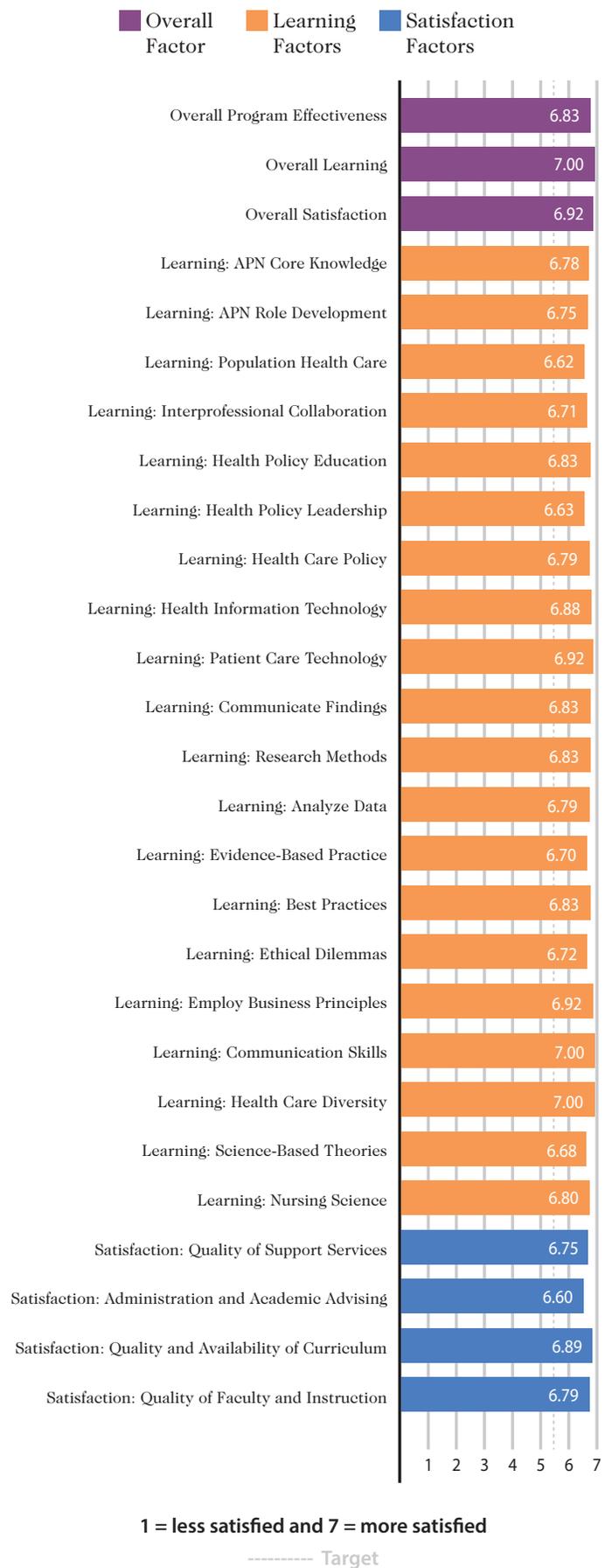


Figure 6 – Graduate DNP Factor Results 2016-2017



BSN Revised Curriculum

Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing began its implementation of a revised BSN concepts-based curriculum in fall 2014. The revised concepts-based curriculum focused on the use of active learning strategies. The revised curriculum placed an increased emphasis on the development of critical thinking through the use of concepts-based curriculum as opposed to the previous content-based curriculum. The faculty recognized that as the amount of content in nursing grew, they were not able to include all the information in our courses. The faculty, with administrative support, recognized that they needed to focus on concepts as a way of thinking rather than continuing with the current content-laden curriculum. By focusing more on the use of concepts to teach the art and science of nursing, students will be better able to think critically while caring for patients of all ages in various phases of the health-wellness continuum.

The first cohort of students enrolled as juniors in the revised curriculum in fall 2014. The second semester for this cohort was implemented in spring 2015. The final two semesters were implemented fall 2015 and spring 2016. This first cohort graduated in May 2016. The retention rate for the first cohort was 90 percent. A second cohort was enrolled in the revised curriculum in spring 2015, and graduated in December 2016.

The course development was ongoing throughout the year for the third and fourth semester courses, which were implemented in fall and spring of 2015-2016. The final courses in the previous BSN curriculum were offered in fall 2015 with full implementation of the revised curriculum occurring in spring 2016. This year, 2016-2017, brought revisions to the curriculum based on student and faculty feedback.



Cultural Immersion Courses

The College of Nursing offers Cultural Immersion courses for students each summer. The Cultural Immersion course was designed to provide an in-depth study of public health issues specific to the identified local population as well as pertinent clinical experiences. This is accomplished during a cultural immersion experience in a specific locale. The immersion allows the student to gain an appreciation for cultural awareness and practices which has become increasingly relevant in today's health care world. Concepts and theories related to global health care are applied during the immersion. Interactions between the nurse, patient and community are emphasized. The role of community education is a focus and students provide community education during this course. Learning opportunities within the immersion course include travel to a new cultural community, home visits, clinical experiences and cultural experiences.

Guatemala

In the summer of 2017, the Cultural Immersion course returned to Guatemala. Patti O'Connor, MSN, RN, and Phillis Dewitt, DNP, APN, FNP, along with College of Nursing students traveled to Tactic, Guatemala, which is northwest of the capital city of Guatemala City. The course worked in conjunction with Impact Ministries, which provides Christian education in Tactic, as well as several outlying villages where they have built and staffed schools. They also have a health clinic that initially was started to see children at their Tactic school (the largest of the schools), but now sees adults from the community as well. The clinic has a small pharmacy and can treat minor illnesses and complete some basic lab work. They do have a full-time staff at the clinic.



While in Guatemala, the student groups provided health education to all of the local schools on topics such as: dental hygiene, handwashing and nutrition. All of the students and the faculty members also worked at a clinic at one of the outlying schools. The outlying school is more remote, with very little to no access to health care for the community members. Phillis Dewitt, APN, and the doctor saw patients, while the students worked in the role of triage, pharmacy or lab (those who were not out teaching). The group saw several hundred patients over the week, and were able to pray for each and every one of them Guatemala style (everyone praying out loud at the same time)!



Camp GranADA

Nursing students, accompanied by faculty member Megan Frye, MSN, RN, spent time at Camp GranADA, which is held at the University of Illinois 4-H camp in Monticello, Illinois. The Camp GranADA experience provides the College of Nursing students with a week full of fun taking care of children ages 8 to 16 with type I diabetes (also called insulin dependent). While at camp, the students have the opportunity for inter-professional collaboration with the doctors, dietitians and nurses/peers as they all focus on the health and safety of all the campers. The students worked with some older “past campers” who act as counselors, too. There are all kinds of activities for the campers but the student nurses are responsible for making sure the supplies – such as alcohol wipes, cotton balls, glucose strips and finger stick devices – are always refreshed. The students did approximately 20,000 Accuchecks, checking the campers’ blood sugars, during the week of camp. The campers often have hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) and the students need readily available glucose tabs that are used very quickly. The students are also responsible to calibrate/test each camper’s Accucheck meter daily.

The nursing team at Camp GranADA ensures all campers test their blood sugars prior to each meal and as needed and at bedtime. Students have to check each camper about every two hours through the night for hypoglycemia, too. The students and the health care provider help the camper determine the correct dose of insulin to be administered for meals. The goal is to help the camper calibrate their insulin needs and administer their own insulin.

While at camp, the students do lots of teaching to the campers about recognizing high and low blood sugar and how to respond accordingly. The students also spend time helping the camper put in their own insulin pump sites. While helping campers with their medical issues related to their diabetes, the students also help the campers with the everyday life of campers including personal issues, home sickness, getting along with other campers as well as safety during their activities of wall climbing, archery, swimming, nature activities, etc.



Strategic Growth

The College of Nursing is committed to educating highly qualified nurses, advanced practice nurses, and faculty to ensure we are able to meet the educational and professional nursing care needs of those served by the College of Nursing, OSF HealthCare and the community from local to global. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing in May 2017 reported that the nursing shortage is expected to intensify with the aging of baby boomers and the need for health care continues to grow. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Projections 2014-2024 provided evidence that the nursing profession is listed in the top occupations for job growth up through 2024. It is predicted that the number of nurses of 2.7 million in 2014 will grow to 3.2 million in 2024 – a 16 percent increase. Many factors are contributing to the shortage. The College of Nursing is addressing one of those factors by increasing the advanced practice nursing programs offered to meet the increasing demand for advanced practice nurses.

Enrollment Data

Fall 2016

- A total of 397 full- and part-time students were enrolled in the baccalaureate program. Of these, 351 were enrolled in the generic baccalaureate program.
- Forty-six of the 397 students were enrolled in the RN to BSN accelerated option.
- A total of 243 graduate students were enrolled. Of these students, 208 were in master's degree options.
- Twenty-five students were enrolled in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program and 10 students were enrolled in the Post Graduate Certificate option.
- Males represented 10.9 percent of the student population.
- Ten percent of the students represented multiple racial and ethnic groups.

Spring 2017

- A total of 375 full- and part-time students were enrolled in the baccalaureate program.
- Of the 375 students, 39 were enrolled in the RN to BSN accelerated option.
- There were 241 graduate students enrolled. Of the 241 students, 206 were enrolled in master's degree options.
- Twenty-four of the 241 students were enrolled in the DNP program and 11 were enrolled in the Post Graduate Certificate option.
- Males represented 11.6 percent of the student population.
- Fourteen percent of the students represented multiple racial and ethnic groups.

Summer 2017

- There was a total of 285 students enrolled.
- There were 197 BNS students. Of these, 11 were RN to BSN students.
- There were 88 graduate students enrolled, 84 MSN and 4 DNP.

Community of Caregivers



This Strategic Initiative focuses on ensuring the College of Nursing has adequate faculty and staff to maintain quality education and service. The College of Nursing works to sustain and promote our culture where accountability, leadership and service are aligned with core values; whereby students, faculty, staff and alumni are enabled to learn and to grow to their highest potential. This includes succession planning to identify and develop future leaders, increasing diversity of the faculty and staff, and creating an inclusive, welcoming environment at the College of Nursing. The nursing faculty shortage and the challenges faced with retirements, resignations, and then replacement with qualified nursing faculty is an ongoing concern for the College of Nursing.

Faculty Characteristics

- There were 36 full-time and 19 part-time faculty teaching in the undergraduate and graduate programs.
- 33 percent (n=39) of the full-time faculty and administration hold earned doctorate degrees and an additional 23 percent (n=9) of faculty are enrolled in doctoral programs.
- 38 percent of the full- and part-time faculty members hold certification either as nurse educators or in a nursing specialty.

Adequate Faculty and Staff

There are 72 employees in the College of Nursing. Of these, 36 are full-time and 19 are part-time faculty. Four full-time faculty positions were replaced for 2016-2017 academic year. These were due to the resignation or retirement of the four faculty in 2015-2016. Three of the faculty members took positions in other local and regional colleges of nursing. The fourth faculty member transitioned to OSF Ministry, accepting the position of Director of Behavioral Health. One full-time faculty transitioned to part-time. One additional faculty FTE neutral full-time position was added this year.

Employee Development

The Faculty Affairs Committee sponsored a Faculty Development Workshop for all full- and part-time faculty members in May 2016. The speaker was Attorney Kathryn Vander Broek with Hinshaw & Culbertson. The program focused on critical legal topics such American with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities, and Title IX Dating and Sexual Violence policy requirements. The program was open to all college personnel and graduate students in the educator track. This is a timely program to assist faculty and staff in best practices for working with students with disabilities.

Additional education was provided on Title IX issues of sexual violence and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Approved in the FY 2016 budget was \$500 per person education funds to use for development during the year. Employees used the funds to attend conferences and workshops, obtain certification in their area of expertise, or to purchase materials to be used in development. Faculty and staff continue to attend national meetings. Attendance at these meetings is an important networking opportunity for attendees. College of Nursing faculty and staff were represented at the following national meetings or conferences: NLN Education Summit, National Nursing Ethics Conference, AACN Doctoral Conference, Midwest Nursing Research Society, Illinois Association of Advanced Practice Nurses, Regional Health Conference and National Family Nurse Practitioner. The College of Nursing continues its institutional subscription to Nurse Tim, an online provider of education for nurses and nurse educators. The annual subscription allows all faculty and graduate students access to over 500 live and archived presentations on a variety of topics.

Increasing Diversity

Student diversity for the College of Nursing continues to remain steady. For fall 2016, 10.9 percent of the students were male and 10 percent were of a race/ethnicity diversity for all programs. Student diversity for spring 2017 was 11.6 percent male and 14 percent race/ethnicity diversity for all programs. The College of Nursing continues its recruitment efforts in an effort to increase diversity of the student population.

The College of Nursing has a comprehensive diversity plan titled, "Integrating Diversity across the Curricula and across Campus," that is updated annually. The plan's theme is "One community, many cultures: celebrating our diversity." The plan focuses on educating culturally competent nurses, recruiting and retaining a culturally diverse student and employee population, and creating a welcoming environment that celebrates diversity.



Service Excellence and Student Experience

This objective focuses on the College of Nursing's commitment to serving our students. The College of Nursing will excel in service to our students and others, which exemplifies the OSF Mission – to serve with the greatest care and love – and strive toward achieving our goal of every student every time.

Grant Funding Used for Improvement

The College of Nursing was a recipient of a \$1.3 million Independent Colleges Capital Program grant from the Illinois Board of Higher Education. With these funds, we have completed projects such as installation of a sprinkler system in the College of Nursing building, remodel of the student kitchen, recreation room and lobby, upgrade of the teaching technology in the classrooms, upgrade of the wireless network in the building, and installation of additional external lighting around the building to improve safety. We are now in the final years of spending for the grant. This year we purchased a new awning for the front of the College

of Nursing building, installed shades on the hallway windows on the dormitory floors, replaced chairs in two classrooms, and replaced the carpeting in the Student Finance Office. Projects in process include remodeling of the library, student study room and Writing Resource Center. Additional security cameras to enhance safety will also be installed.

Affordability and Sustainability

The focus of this strategic initiative is to demonstrate effective financial stewardship of resources to meet financial goals, to invest in educational technology, to grow graduates and programs which will align with the OSF HealthCare and College of Nursing Missions.

The College of Nursing continues to work with OSF HealthCare Foundation to increase the donation of funds. The College of Nursing worked with the Foundation to develop the annual giving campaign. The theme for the campaign this year was a focus on student scholarships. Donations to the College of Nursing from alumni and friends during the 2016-2017 (August through June) totaled \$156,843.

The College of Nursing was blessed with four new scholarships this year. Three of the new scholarships were endowed scholarships, each for \$25,000 (see related article on growth of the College of Nursing scholarship). Each of these scholarships will significantly help students fund their nursing education in the future. These generous donations allow the College of Nursing to award approximately \$150,000 in institutional scholarships annually. We thank all of our scholarship donors for their ongoing financial support for the College of Nursing students.

Summary of Financial Highlights

Years	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Tuition & Fees	\$8,488,327	8,430,492	8,668,419
Miscellaneous	28,634	103,962	24,541
Contributions	29,422	31,500	30,000
State & Federal Appropriations	-313,112	-210,670	-236,486
Total Revenue	8,233,271	8,355,284	8,486,474
Salaries and Benefits	6,095,484	6,295,693	6,624,597
Other	745,484	803,998	820,774
Total Expenses	6,840,968	7,099,691	7,145,371

Strategic Direction and Objectives 2017-2018

Quality Education:

- Complete the established goals and timeline related to activities for incorporation of the College of Nursing into a 501 (c) (3) corporation within OSF HealthCare.
- Evaluate revised BSN curriculum to increase clinical experiences in ambulatory settings.
- Complete development of BSN to DNP program option.
- Evaluate effectiveness of strategies implemented to improve student success on NCLEX-RN licensure examination.
- Initiate investigation of revising RN-BSN curriculum to a competency-based model.
- Develop a post-graduate APRN Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner certificate option.

Strategic Growth:

- Explore options to increase enrollment in the RN to BSN option.
- Evaluate recruitment plans for all programs to increase numbers in programs with low enrollment and to maintain full BSN, MSN and DNP enrollment of potential highly qualified students.
- Work in collaboration with OSF, to develop plan for Nursing Resource Center laboratories relocation from the Allied Building.

Community of Caregivers:

- Provide leadership development opportunities for key individuals as a component of succession planning.
- Continue to provide resources for faculty and staff development including faculty development for key topics identified by faculty.
- Continue to work on increasing diversity of College of Nursing students, faculty, and staff through the implementation of the Diversity Plan.

Service Excellence and Student Experience:

- Implement new student information and learning management systems.
- Improve online services to students, i.e. online application, housing application.

Affordability and Sustainability:

- Continue to secure major gifts and grants from donors to increase scholarships for students.
- Continue to optimize operations by ensuring revenue is in excess of expenses.

College Board

2016-2017 College Board

Deborah Smith, RN, DNP, MBA, NEA-BC, FAEN

Chair, College Board
Vice President, Chief Nursing Officer
OSF HealthCare St. Joseph Medical Center

Sister Agnes Joseph Williams, O.S.F.

Director of Formation
The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis

Sarah Buller Fenton, MS, RN, BC

Director of Nursing, Retired
Tazewell County Health Department

Michael Cruz, MD

Chief Executive Officer
OSF HealthCare, Central Region

Rhonda J. Ferrero-Patten

Attorney at Law, Partner
Hinshaw & Culbertson, LLC

Linda Frary, RN, BSN

Nurse Auditor
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Jim Gibson, CPA

Partner
CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP

David Stenerson

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center

Andrea Hart

Lead Human Resources Manager
Global Supply Network Division
Caterpillar, Inc.

Kirsten Largent

Vice President, Financial Planning and Analysis
OSF HealthCare
Ministry Finance and Accounting

Curt LeRoy

Senior Major Gifts Officer
OSF HealthCare Foundation

Kristen Manning, CRNA, MSN

Staff CRNA
Associated Anesthesiologists

Margaret Swanson, PhD

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Retired
Illinois Central College

John Pompe, PsyD., SPHR

Manager, Integrated Health Programs
Caterpillar Human Services Division
Caterpillar, Inc.

Scholarship Reception



Scholarship Recipients for 2016-2017

Scholarship donors, recipients and guests joined us on October 12, 2016, for the annual College of Nursing Scholarship Reception. The reception is hosted by the College to honor the students receiving scholarships and the generous donors who help make students' dreams come true" by making the scholarship program possible.

The reception provides the venue for students to personally thank the donors who contributed to their education. The donors have the opportunity to see the impact they have on a student's career path. This year's event started off with a Donor Reception that gave the College personnel the opportunity to visit with the individual donors. The donor speaker for the event was Anne Fischbach Buttolph, who began her nursing career at the College of Nursing, graduating in 1992 with her BSN. Anne and the Fischbach family have generously donated two endowed scholarships – the Dr. Rita Endowed Scholarship and the College of Nursing Scholarship Endowment in Honor of Ensign Anne Fischbach. Kayla Cook, student recipient of a scholarship, spoke on the impact that scholarships had on her ability to earn her BSN.



The Dr. Rita Endowed Scholarship

At this year's reception, 130 students were awarded scholarships totaling \$187,209. Once again, our theme for the reception was "Ripple Effect" – when we help one student we help the world. We ask that you join the other donors in creating a ripple effect and help a student achieve success and their goal of a professional nursing career. Upon graduation, each student creates their own "ripple effect" by caring for patients and touching many lives. Thank you to all the donors who invested in the future of our nursing students by giving to the College scholarship fund. For more information on how you can give, please see our website at www.sfmcccon.edu.



Mary Ann C. Knell and Rose M. Crabill Endowed Memorial Scholarship



The William D. Martin Memorial Scholarship



Phillip L. Graves and Carol Kenny Graves Endowed Scholarship

Growth of College of Nursing Scholarships

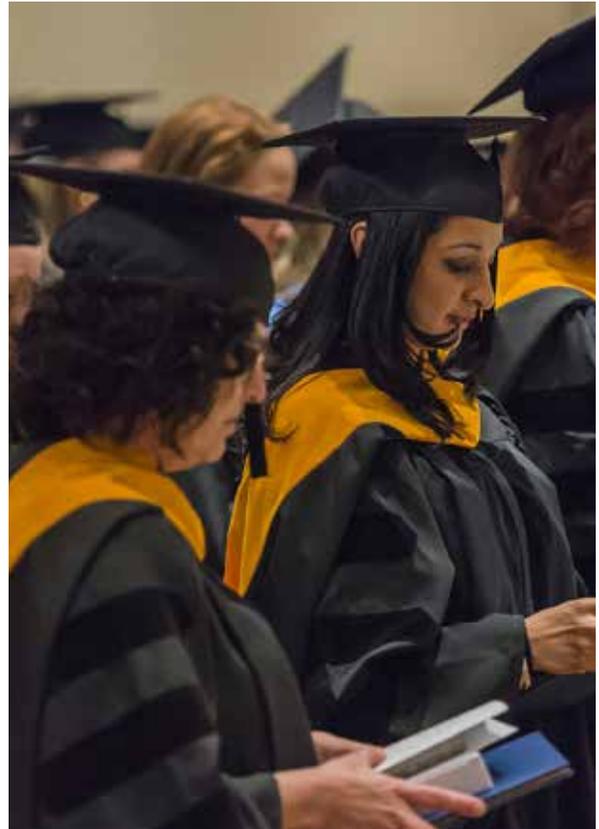
The College was blessed this past year with the creation of four new scholarships for students. Three of the scholarships are new endowed scholarships. The Kay Kaylor Foss Endowed Scholarship was started by an anonymous donor in memory of Kay Kaylor, a 1965 School of Nursing graduate. Kay was tragically killed shortly after her graduation and marriage.

The Barbara G. Tanner-Handley (Class of 1940) and Robbie L. Tanner-Haugens (Class of 1944) Endowed Scholarship was started by Barbara Adams, a member of the Class of 1975. This scholarship is in honor of her mother and aunt who were also alumni of the School of Nursing.

The Heart of Illinois United Way endowed the Heart of Illinois United Way Power of the Purse Scholarship. This scholarship is set up to assist low-income women within the Heart of Illinois United way region.

Mary Ann Perona generously donated funds for an ongoing scholarship in memory of her daughter. The scholarship will be named the Jamie Hansen Memorial Scholarship. Jamie's aunt, Elizabeth Klieber, is a 1976 graduate of the School of Nursing.

Each of these scholarships will significantly help students fund their nursing education in the future. We thank all of our scholarship donors for their ongoing financial support for the College of Nursing students. Their generous donations allow the College to award approximately \$150,000 in institutional scholarships annually.



U.S. News and World Report Best Online Graduate Nursing Program

Once again for 2017, *U.S. News and World Report* has named the College of Nursing Graduate Program as a "Best Online Graduate Nursing Program." We were tied for 61 with a score of 70 out of a possible 100. There were 1,200 graduate nursing programs surveyed. Ranking scores are calculated based on the survey data submitted by programs on the following:

- **Faculty credentials and training (25 percent):** Strong online programs employ instructors with academic credentials that mirror those of instructors for campus-based programs, and they have the resources to train these instructors on how to teach distance learners.
- **Student engagement (20 percent):** In a quality program, aspiring advanced practice nurses can readily collaborate with fellow students in their classes and clinical settings. In turn, instructors are not only accessible and responsive, but they are also tasked with helping to create an experience rewarding enough for students to stay enrolled and complete their degrees in a reasonable amount of time.
- **Admissions selectivity (20 percent):** Student bodies entering with proven aptitudes, ambitions and accomplishments can handle the demands of rigorous coursework. Furthermore, online degrees that schools award judiciously will have greater legitimacy in the job market.
- **Peer reputation (20 percent):** A survey of high-ranking academic officials in nursing helps account for intangible factors affecting program quality that are not captured by statistics. Also, degrees from programs that are well respected by academics may be held in higher regard among employers.
- **Student services and technology (15 percent):** Programs that incorporate diverse online learning technologies allow greater flexibility for students to take classes from a distance. Outside of classes, strong support structures provide learning assistance, career guidance and financial aid resources commensurate with quality campus-based programs.

Here is a link to the College information: <http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/saint-francis-medical-center-college-of-nursing-ONUR0319/nursing>. Here is a link for the full listing: <http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/nursing/rankings?int=a4f009>



Vision, Value and Attributes

Our Vision:

Embracing our Catholic heritage and standards of nursing excellence, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing will provide the highest quality nursing education programs that produce the most prepared nurses, leaders, and educators capable of administering the highest quality professional nursing care and nursing education.

Our Value to Students:

- Online and traditional classes at undergraduate and graduate levels
- Clinical and practicum experiences and externships at the largest comprehensive medical center in central Illinois
- Personal and professional satisfaction obtained from a career of making a difference in the lives of others
- Lifetime earning with potential for economic advancement
- Opportunities for participation in student organizations that promote leadership
- Career opportunities in multiple health care settings caring for patients across the lifespan
- Knowledge and experiences in the values of learning, caring, personal worth and dignity, integrity, responsibility, accountability and service

Our Attributes:

- 110+ years of nursing education offering baccalaureate, master's, and doctorate nursing degrees
- Affiliation with The Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis and OSF HealthCare
- OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center and a variety of community clinical sites provide current, relevant, and cutting edge patient care experiences
- The Nursing Resource Center that includes four state-of-the-art simulation learning laboratories
- Academic Development Center, Counselor, and Peer Teaching program to facilitate student success
- Well qualified and caring administrators, faculty and staff providing excellent education and service





A Tradition of Excellence
in Nursing Education

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