

Advancing

THE BETTY IRENE MOORE SCHOOL OF NURSING AT UC DAVIS / February 2018

DONOR PROFILE

Empowering health policy

SUSAN ADAMS never saw herself in political office. A nurse since 1978 and a certified women's health nurse practitioner and maternity clinical specialist since 1984, she happily taught at Dominican University in San Rafael, California. But that changed upon her closer inspection of the policy process.

"I was not happy with how we were represented," recalls Adams, now an assistant clinical professor at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis.

"I turned my dissatisfaction into my platform to bring health and environmental knowledge to the policy-making table."

Adams ultimately served three terms as an elected county supervisor in Marin County. Those 12 years proved to be a crash course on how government works and how to foster common ground among those with different political views.

"Now I encourage my students to be the next generation of health advocates at the policy table," Adams says.



"I want to be a positive change in light of the negativity in the current public discourse."

—SUSAN L. ADAMS
ASSISTANT CLINICAL PROFESSOR

Adams established the Susan L. Adams Leadership in Health Policy Award, an endowed scholarship to support students who have experience in policy work or advocacy, a commitment to interprofessional collaboration and an active membership

in a health care or an advocacy-related professional organization. A staunch proponent of professionals learning and working together, Adams determined the award would alternate yearly between students from the School of Nursing and the UC Davis School of Medicine.

"It's important for me to put my money where my mouth is and truly invest in these future health policy leaders," Adams says. "I want to be a positive change in light of the negativity in the current public discourse." ♦



FINE-TUNING OUR FOCUS

Founding Dean Heather M. Young

WE AT THE BETTY IRENE MOORE SCHOOL OF NURSING at UC Davis celebrated many milestones in 2017. As we move beyond start-up, we hone our strengths for 2018 and beyond.

The School of Nursing team consists of talented and passionate people who work every day to make a difference in how you and your family experience health. The Family Caregiving Institute at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing enables us to leverage the work of our existing faculty and grow our ranks with additional experts who we will welcome in the coming months. Our collaboration with colleagues in the UC Davis School of Medicine to establish the Healthy Aging in a Digital World Institute continues to build momentum and spark new possibilities

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UCDAVIS

BETTY IRENE MOORE SCHOOL OF NURSING



INVESTING BEYOND MILESTONES

Sallie-Grace Tate, Assistant Dean for Advancement

“THE KEY IS NOT TO PRIORITIZE what’s on your schedule, but to schedule your priorities.” That advice from author Stephen Covey sets the tone for our advancement efforts in the early part of 2018 for the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis.

Student scholarships continue to be among the greatest needs. The cost of graduate education discourages many qualified students from applying. In our quest to grow a diverse pool of health care leaders, we must ease the financial burden and make attaining an advanced degree a reality.

Research, caregiving, aging, health information technology and diverse populations, including rural and underserved, serve as strategic drivers and inform areas in need of philanthropic support. I look forward to sharing more on short-term successes through the Family Caregiving Institute and long-term goals of the Healthy Aging in a Digital World Institute.

Ultimately, our successes depend upon our people and donors who elevate our impact to the next level. In the words of poet Criss Jami: “Power. Prioritize your passion. It keeps you sane.” May it also empower us to fulfill our vision of better health for all. ♦

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT PROFILE: YEHYMISELL GONZALEZ

From translator to advocate

AS A CHILD, Yehymisell Gonzalez served as a translator between her parents and health care providers. Today, as a master’s-degree nursing student at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis, she cites those early experiences as sparking her passion for nursing.

“Having to communicate for my parents increased my anxiety and stress growing up and decreased their direct communications with providers. That made their visits of lesser quality,” says Gonzalez, who is in her first year of study. “I want to become a nurse in order to help others who face barriers to quality health care.”

As a nurse, Gonzalez hopes to become an advocate for members of the Latino community who for various reasons, such as lack of education, lack of health literacy, language barriers, immigration status or lack of



“This scholarship is a reminder that others believe in me... to make a difference...”

—YEHYMISELL GONZALEZ
MASTER’S-DEGREE
NURSING STUDENT

resources, are unable to advocate for themselves.

“Once I complete my studies at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing this December, I will have the leadership skills to advocate for health care policies in hopes of ameliorating current health care issues that affect underserved community members’ ability to access care and resources,” she says.

Thanks to generous donors to the La Rue Frederick Scholarship for Nursing, an endowed scholarship that Gonzalez received upon admission to the school last summer, she is

making her dream a reality.

“This scholarship is a reminder that others believe in me and that although they have not met me they were able to see within me the potential to make a difference in our health care system,” she explains. “This further motivates me to believe in myself and my ability to accomplish my goal of becoming a nurse that will impact the lives of my patients and community members.” ♦

FINE-TUNING OUR FOCUS

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in tapping technology to improve health across the lifespan. We continue to look for partners to invest in these initiatives.

Finally, at the heart of our school are our students and innovative ways to educate them for the future

of health care. This year, we focus on integrating technology into the delivery of course content where it improves learning and expanding our impact beyond the West Coast.

We remain forever grateful for your support in our mission. Here’s to a bright 2018...together! ♦

STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

INAUGURAL NURSING STUDENTS RECEIVE PINS

Leaders and faculty from the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis hosted a pinning ceremony for students in the inaugural class of the Master’s Entry Program in Nursing. The traditional event is a symbolic welcoming of newly graduated nurses into the nursing profession. Approximately 400 family, friends, faculty and staff gathered in Betty Irene Moore Hall on the UC Davis Sacramento campus Dec. 8 to honor the 24 students and mark this milestone in their nursing careers.

“This is the beginning of your opportunity to be a change agent and make the difference so desperately needed in health care,” said Founding Dean Heather M. Young.

The Master’s Entry Program in Nursing is an 18-month, accelerated-degree program that offers the quickest route to registered nursing licensure for adults who already completed an undergraduate degree in another discipline as well as prerequisite courses.

“Many things have changed in the 150-plus years since the pinning tradition began. We’ve prepared you to deliver sophisticated care in a fast-

paced environment, with a range of technologies and diverse colleagues, and equipped you with time-honored skill of listening,” said Jenna Shaw-Battista, program director.

“By receiving our education from the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing, we have become nurses who are equipped and ready to promote bold system change,” added nursing student Angelica Gales, who was elected class speaker for the event. “We learned the importance of being leaders who are culturally competent and have the capacity for advocacy and action at all levels.”

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDENT PRESENTS AT MENTAL HEALTH GALA

Patrick Ma, a first-year physician assistant student at the School of Nursing, spoke at the 2017 California Champions of Mental Health Awards Dinner in Sacramento in November. Ma is a motivational speaker with Sacramento Stop Stigma Speakers Bureau, which is dedicated to promoting positive attitudes about living with mental illness. He and other speakers honored several individuals at the event for their achievements in the mental health field.

HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATOR GRADUATE ACADEMIC CERTIFICATE

With the nation facing an ongoing nursing shortage along with a lack of nursing faculty, the need to prepare the next generation of health educators steadily grows. The Health Professions Educator Graduate Academic Certificate Program at the School of Nursing prepares students to serve as educators in the health professions, particularly in nursing. Graduates are eligible to apply for the Certification for Nurse Educators through the National League of Nursing.

“Graduate programs often focus only on discipline-specific practice,” said Debbie Ward, a nursing professor who led design of the program. “But in all our science and humanities fields, we have students who want preparation as educators. We want to meet that need.”

Master’s leadership and doctoral students may apply for the certificate program after they complete at least one quarter of their studies.

“Most of us in the group have worked in the nursing profession, but not as educators,” explained Krista Greaves, a 2017 alumna of the Master of Science — Leadership program. “But after completing this program, we realized these skills transfer to many roles beyond education.”



Across 18 months, nursing students expanded their clinical reasoning, matured in how they view health care and evolved in their leadership abilities.

L A T E S T N E W S

Leading among Hispanics

School of Nursing Professor Mary Lou de Leon Siantz was honored as a leader and mentor by the National Hispanic Health Foundation, which recognized her work to advance health care to underserved communities. "This is recognition that nursing leadership is critical to an interdisciplinary vision to eliminate the health disparities Hispanics experience, inspire the next generation to collaborate and lead research for public policies to advocate for underrepresented minorities" De Leon Siantz said.



National physician assistant distinction

Assistant Clinical Professor Felix Emond was named a distinguished fellow of the American Academy of Physician Assistants for his outstanding contributions to patient care and the profession during his 30-plus years as a physician assistant. Emond said the acknowledgement "enables me to better influence future providers to provide awesome care to patients." Physician Assistant Program Director Gerald Kayingo applauded Emond for his dedication to improving the quality of students' clinical education experiences.



Honoring service and leadership

The UC Davis Academic Federation honored nursing Professor Deborah Ward with The Meyer award. Given annually and named after the late Chancellor James H. Meyer, it recognizes federation members for achievement in their careers and for service to the university. The committee stated that Ward has played a vital role in mentoring new faculty and graduate students, and has demonstrated consistently high teaching excellence and displayed outstanding academic leadership.



To learn more about these advancements at the School of Nursing, contact Sallie-Grace Tate at sgtate@ucdavis.edu or 916-734-2783.

Visit nursing.ucdavis.edu/giving
 Prefer to receive email updates? Drop a line to hs-BettyIreneMooreSON@ucdavis.edu.

Together, we build a strong foundation and bright futures.

Engage with us.

- 302 current students
- 271 alumni
- 5 graduate-degree programs
- 41 scholarships
- Ranked among best nursing graduate schools by U.S. News & World Report
- 90+ community partners and collaborators
- 250+ clinical sites for student rotations

BY THE NUMBERS