



advancing health

YOUR LEADERSHIP IN ACTION SPRING 2019

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Thanks to your support,

Satish combines his doctoral education with a background in engineering to improve care at a VA hospital

Every trip to a clinician starts with speaking to a medical assistant who asks basic personal questions and enters the data into an Electronic Health Record (EHR). But what if that information could be analyzed to predict and prevent deadly diseases, saving patients and health care providers millions of dollars in the process?

As an engineer, mathematician and doctoral-prepared nurse, Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis alumnus Satish Mahajan works daily at the Palo Alto VA to bring us one step closer to this reality. He combines 25-plus years of his unique expertise to examine risk and predictive factors, mine data, apply mathematical models and, ultimately, target interventions for patients' wellness.

"I use my statistics and engineering knowledge to manipulate large data sets, but I still see myself as a nurse," says Satish, a registered nurse and 2015 doctoral graduate. "You can't take your foot off the pedal of any of these three areas."

Satish credits the School of Nursing's support needed to advance his work. And he contributed to an endowed scholarship with his cohort of six other doctoral alumni to inspire others.

"I hope in the next 10 to 20 years, we actually have the systems in place that help and guide clinicians to intervene optimally while in front of the patient in real time," Satish says.

DEAN'S LETTER

Your gifts lead to incredible futures



May opens the door to celebrations of the academic year for our students at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis. And it also brings the celebration of nursing contributions with the annual National Nurses Week! Yet, our faculty,

students, alumni, staff and community partners celebrate more than nursing alone.

We applaud the contributions of nurses, family nurse practitioners and physician assistants, and the scientists, researchers and educators from multiple disciplines who are part of our team. All of them contribute to the larger UC Davis Health and Sacramento communities 365 days a year.

In this issue, we highlight an innovative project that unites students from different professions to deliver team-based care. The idea is to demonstrate the value of interprofessional perspectives before learners enter the real world of practice. We also highlight a doctoral alumnus who works away from the bedside to extract trends from millions of data points to improve health outcomes for individuals.

The incredible futures ahead for our graduates and the undeniable impact being made by our alumni—this is all because of you. Thank you for being together with us as we all strive to advance health.

Debbie Ward

Debbie Ward, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.A.N.
Dignity Health Dean's Chair for Nursing Leadership, Interim Dean and Clinical Professor

Advancing is Advancing Health

Our donor and alumni newsletter is completely redesigned with you in mind. Through this newsletter, we hope you see what your gifts and leadership make possible here and in our communities. If you have suggestions for what you would like to see featured, please let us know by emailing Sallie-Grace Tate, assistant dean for advancement, at sgtate@ucdavis.edu.



FACTS ABOUT NURSING

Nurses in the workforce

There are nearly as many nurses in the U.S. as there are people in Los Angeles: There are nearly 4 million professionally active nurses in the U.S. Additionally, there are more than 270,000 nurse practitioners.



Nurses aren't just in hospitals: About 62 percent of employed registered nurses work in hospitals. Nurses also work in clinics, public health, home health, government agencies, research labs, military bases and war zones, health information technology and many other areas.

Nursing is the most trusted profession: More than four in five Americans rate the honesty and ethical standards of nurses as "very high" or "high."



Nursing is one of the top-ranked occupations: *U.S. News & World Report's* 100 Best Jobs are ranked on their ability to offer a mix of positive qualities.

Nursing has one of the fastest job growth rates: The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 16 percent growth rate for registered nurses from 2014 to 2024—much higher than for other professions.



Alumna says improving health begins with how health professionals learn as students

In health care, the focus often lies on treating illness, but vaccines are a form of preventive medicine aimed at stopping a disease from ever taking hold. For master's-degree leadership alumna Jennifer Edwards, her current work at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing serves in a similar capacity.

"In the SPLICE (System-transforming, Patient-centered Longitudinal Interprofessional Community-based Education) Initiative, we focus on educating students in interprofessional practice and team-based care before they enter the workforce," says Jennifer, a Class of 2018 graduate. "We work preventively, as opposed to trying to change patterns that are already engrained once graduates start practice."

Jennifer attended nursing school in Canada, practiced bedside nursing in Southern California and directed clinical operations for a rural Federally Qualified Health Center. Her desire to serve better and learn more propelled her forward to earn a master's degree at the School of Nursing.

"I recognized there was so much more I could contribute if I only understood the systems and health disparities at play," Jennifer says. "What used to be a blurry picture out of the corner of my eye came into focus because of this school. Now, I bring a greater awareness of the bigger picture of health and empathy for people in working with them to achieve better health."

That perspective she now shares with the 200 other alumni from the master's-degree leadership program who, collectively, are moving the needle toward big change.

"What we contribute to health care transcends the school," Jennifer says. "Not everyone can be or will be vaccinated. But if we get enough people to focus on health disparities and value the roles and responsibilities of other health care professions, we will reduce the old ways of doing things to enact real change."



JENNIFER EDWARDS, master's-degree leadership Class of '18 alumna, credits her confidence to the donors who supported her, including Dean Emerita Heather M. Young, contributors to the Helen M. Thomson Award for Nursing Leadership and retired Adjunct Professor Jeri Bigbee, who founded the Jeanette M. Spaulding Rural Nursing Research Endowment. "Their support allowed me to really stretch and think bigger than I would have on my own."



Why do you give to the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis?

Every donor has a reason. Here's why FNP alumna Shirley Cherry supports the new school.



Shirley Cherry, right, enjoys a 2001 reunion with family nurse practitioner alumnae Vera Reynolds and Kaye Severson. For several years, Shirley, center, practiced as an FNP in Contra Costa County with several other UC Davis alumnae FNPs.

the need in the underserved areas in Contra Costa County and could see the future of family nurse practitioner roles in addressing it.”

Shirley achieved her dream of becoming a registered nurse and a nurse practitioner, just as the School of Nursing’s family nurse practitioner students pursue their hopes to make a difference in the future of health care. That shared passion is what prompts Shirley to give.

“When I learned how much debt students face these days, I felt it is outrageous. Supporting students has always been a goal of mine and now I’m in a position to do it,” Shirley says. “As long as people have a passion for improving health care, we need to support it. These students are the kinds of providers we want in our community taking care of our children. They’re our future and we need to help them pursue their goals.”

With a heart to serve the underserved and a spirit to embark upon a professional adventure, Shirley Cherry entered among the first classes of UC Davis family nurse practitioner students in 1974.

“We were pioneers in those days,” Shirley recalls. “We were determined to prove our skills and help more people.”



Four decades later, Shirley reconnected with her alma mater, learning that the family nurse practitioner program now resides in the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis. And though the location of the degree program is different, the

mission for students today remains the same.

“I’d wanted to be a nurse from the time I was 6-years-old. After 13 years, I’d done just about everything I could do in acute care and wanted to advance my scope,” Shirley says. “I witnessed

A L U M N I N E T W O R K

The Alumni Network enables physician assistant, nurse practitioner, nursing, nurse leadership and doctoral alumni to catch up and connect with one another.



The Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing and the UC Davis Health Advanced Practice Providers teamed up to celebrate nurse practitioners in February. Originally planned for Nov. 14 during National Nurse Practitioner Week, the event was postponed due to the campus closures for the unhealthy air quality caused by the Camp Fire. Above, Victoria Jackson, FNP Class of '18, who now works as a nurse practitioner at UC Davis Health, reconnects with Elizabeth Rice, associate dean for student and faculty success.

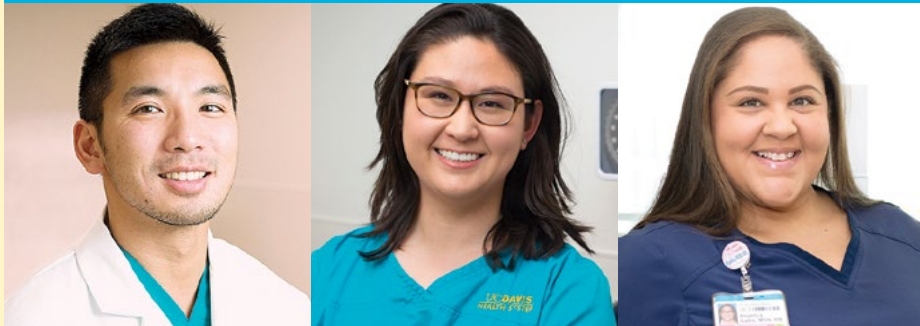


Thanks to a unique collaboration between Terri Wolf (above), a master's-degree leadership ('12) alumna and a program manager at the UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center, and Katherine Kim, doctoral ('14) alumna and assistant professor at the School of Nursing, entry-level master's-degree nursing students worked with former smokers to develop unique smoking cessation tools. Read more at health.ucdavis.edu/nursing/academics/Course_Distinctions/course_pages/quitsmoking.html.



Congratulations, master's-degree leadership alumna ('15) Cheryl McBeth! Cheryl was selected as a 2019 participant in the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) Nurse Manager Fellowship program. This first-of-its-kind program targets the unique leadership-development needs of nurse managers and prepares nurses to lead change in advancing health care.

MORE ALUMNI FEATURES ON NURSING.UCDAVIS.EDU



Read more about what's happening with Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing alumni by checking out the alumni features on the nursing.ucdavis.edu website. The latest alumni features include articles about P.A. alumnus ('18) Patrick Nguyen, FNP alumna ('18) Victoria Jackson and Master's Entry Program in Nursing alumna ('17) Angelica Gales.

LOOK AT THE IMPACT OF LEADERSHIP

BY THE NUMBERS

323 current students

406 alumni

5 Nursing Science and Health-care Graduate Degree Programs

48 scholarships

350+ community partners and collaborators

Ranked among the best nursing schools in the U.S.

(U.S. News & World Report)



Connect with other alumni, current students and faculty via Twitter @ucdavis_nursing and follow #IAdvanceHealth. To connect with someone to post a job, submit an alumni update or news, learn more about precepting opportunities or just to chat, email the Alumni Network at HS-SONalumni@ucdavis.edu.

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