Spring 2018 saw our students graduate and bring new knowledge and skills to their roles. As noted below, our alums are engaged in continuing their professional growth, faculty contribute worldwide, and faculty are sharing results of their scholarship of discovery and research. Enjoy!

**Alumni Focus**

**Paula Nagy, MN (2010), PhD**

Congratulations to Paula, who successfully defended her dissertation and has earned a PhD from Oregon Health & Science University.

**Amy Engel, BSN (2014), ARNP**

Amy completed the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP) degree at Duke University School of Nursing and received her ARNP license.

**Yelena Watson, MN (2015)**

Yelena was accepted into the DNP, Family Nurse Practitioner program at the University of Washington Seattle School of Nursing. She begins her studies in Autumn 2018.

**Mohsin Alagi, BA (2012)**

Healthcare Leadership alum, Mohsin is director of clinical research at Universal Research Group, LLC and was recently quoted in a TNT story regarding a clinical trial of a potential treatment for Alzheimers. To read more click here.

**Ryan Mahan, BA (2018)**

Congratulations to Ryan, Healthcare Leadership Alum as he was recently hired at MultiCare/Mary Bridge as a Primary Care Clinic Supervisor!

**Trevor Lanz, MN (2016)**

Trevor will see aspects of his MN scholarly inquiry project become a reality in partnership with Valley Medical Center. Monthly, a group of healthcare providers will join the Salvation Army community dinner. As needed by the 40-70 attendees, basic healthcare will be provided supported by Renton Rotocare onsite.

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**WIN Conference 2018**

The UW Tacoma Nursing & HCL Faculty who attended and presented at the 2018 WIN (Western Institute of Nursing) conference included Uba Backonja, Weichao Yuwen, Susan Johnson, Katie Haerling and David Reyes.

Not pictured, but also in attendance were Denise Drevdahl & Sharon Gavin Fought.

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**Kinza Mohammad, HCL Student, Receives Scholarship from New Campus Partner**

Congratulations to Kinza Mohammad, current HCL student, one of eight students who received a scholarship from a new organization on the UWT campus, the Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI).

Kinza was born in Las Vegas, NV to parents who immigrated to the U.S. from Pakistan. As a first generation college student, her family pushed her to keep moving forward, and encouraged her to find her true potential. Kinza stated that as a Muslim woman, it can often be challenging to fit in and to overcome others’ perceptions of what she can or can’t do. Being stubborn and strong, she accomplished many goals in her life: playing sports, participating in science fairs, volunteering and working as a peer navigator in the Office of Diversity at Green River College. To read more click here.
Faculty Focus

Sunny Cheng, PhD, Assistant Professor
Sunny’s proposal, “Psychosis Risk Syndrome Experience of Caregivers of Patients with Schizophrenia: A Mixed Methods Study”, received the 2017 Sigma Theta Tau International Small Grants award.

Sharon Laing, PhD, Assistant Professor, presented her study on the use of Mobile Health Technology in Low-income Communities at the Society for Prevention Research conference in Washington DC. This work is a collaboration with faculty at UW Seattle and Trinity Washington University in DC. To read more: click here

Christine Stevens, PhD, Associate Professor, is currently involved in a study evaluating whether housing vouchers for Tacoma Community College students can or will improve their educational and social outcomes. To read more click here. Christine is also a co-leader of a tri-campus survey that aims to identify student struggles with housing and food costs. As part of the Urban@UW initiative, they are trying to learn more about situations students face. To read more: click here

Uba Backonja, PhD, Assistant Professor, received a one year seed grant through the University of British Columbia. As co-PI, Uba will work through the Cascadia Urban Analytics Cooperative that includes UW, UBC and Microsoft.

Sharon Hansen, MN, Lecturer, has been working with staff and families to prevent, diagnose and care for those with sepsis. The Sepsis Alliance has recognized Sharon’s exceptional work. She is one of 5 “Sepsis Heroes”! To read more click here.

Patsy Maloney, EdD, Senior Lecturer, is president elect of the Association for Nursing Professional Development.

Food Insecurity is a Growing Obstacle for College Students
Dr. Christine Stevens, Associate Professor along with students and UWT staff member Nedralani Mailo, were recently interviewed for radio station KNKX on the topics of student food insecurity and the UWT food pantry. To read more and hear the interview click here.

Regional Holistic conference features Jane Cornman as speaker
The American Holistic Nurses Association conference held a regional conference a Kiana Lodge, Poulsbo, WA. The theme was Holistic Self-Care: Your Secret Power for Enhancing Patient Care.

Jane Cornman, Senior Lecturer, spoke on Energy Healing for Self Care - Therapeutic Touch. The day long conference featured topics such as: Mindfulness in Movement, The Pleasure & Power of Using Essential Oils, and Mindfulness & Self-Compassion.

Contact Jane with any questions: magicj@uw.edu
Kathleen Shannon Dorcy at the Uganda Cancer Institute

Dr. Kathleen Shannon Dorcy, UW Tacoma Senior Lecturer and Director of Clinical Nursing Research, Education and Practice at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, described her trip to Uganda last January:

We left Seattle January 27 and, after 22 hours of flying, landed around midnight at Entebbe Airport Kampala for 10 days to learn about care of oncology patients in Uganda. Arlyce Coumar, a nurse in the infusion center at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) and a MN student at UW Bothell, travelled with me. As invited guests of the Uganda Cancer Institute (UCI), we met with the nurses and care teams to discuss building sustainable support specifically for the oncology nurses at UCI, Uganda's only comprehensive cancer center, which serves about 200 clinic patients a day and has 80 inpatient beds. The ratio of nurses to patients is 11 per 10,000 in Africa compared to 49 per 10,000 in the US according to WHO data. UCI Head Matron Sister Allen Namaala's request for 3 CEU sessions on ethics, infection control, and compassion fatigue, all provided during the visit.

We surveyed nurses about how many much overtime they worked, how many patients per shift they were assigned, and what areas of continuing education were needed. Arlyce, as a part of her graduate work in global health, analyzed the data and created a preliminary set of recommendations, including a possible Oncology Fellowship Program for nurses at UCI.

We spent considerable time on the pediatric unit. One young patient (see picture to the left) delighted in calling Arlyce and me "Buzungu" a term used to address someone of foreign descent, or literally one who wanders aimlessly from the Bantu language. Rose Nankinga (also pictured) is a UCI nurse and member of the pediatric oncology program. Arlyce and I are working with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Global Oncology Program to design a curriculum for UCI nurses' identified educational needs for research implementation, clinical trials, chemotherapy administration, neutropenia, oncology certification, end of life care, and therapeutic communication. We developing a strategic 5-year plan to achieve goals through UCI and SCCA nurse collaboration. We aim to create a "Uganda Cancer Nurse Fellowship Program." This SCCA, FHCRC, and UCI effort aims to create opportunity and transformation in clinical care at SCCA/UCI and improve global cancer outcomes.
2017-18 HIGHLIGHTS!

Congratulations to our 2017-18 graduating class!

BA Healthcare Leadership: 42 graduates
Bachelor of Science in Nursing: 97 graduates
Master of Nursing: 21 graduates

On May 22, 2018, 29 BSN and MN students were inducted into the Nursing Honor Society, Sigma, formerly known as Sigma Theta Tau. There was a short reception followed by a guest speaker, Cindy Sayre, PhD, RN. The induction ceremony, led by the Psi Chapter President Minerva Hilk and UW Tacoma chapter representative, Susan Johnson, followed.

2018 MN Outstanding Scholar Award:
Allison Miller, MN 2018

Each Spring, the UWT Nursing & HCL Program faculty nominate Master of Nursing (MN) graduates to receive the Master of Nursing (MN) Outstanding Scholar Award. The 2018 recipient is Allison Miller. She is described as a dedicated and scholarly thinker. She is a certified oncology nurse and works full-time at UW Medical Center. Her scholarly work focuses on referrals to palliative care for patients with liquid tumors, primarily leukemia. Her analysis of symptom patterns and how long patients could benefit from palliative care is likely to result in how and when we refer these patients. Allison’s future plans could include a PhD!