In this issue of our newsletter, we are pleased to share some of the many accomplishments of faculty, alums and current students. We celebrate, too, the retirement of Dr. Ruth Rea—reminding her and us that as emeritus faculty, she will continue to be a part of our work with students and with UW Tacoma.

ALUMNI FOCUS

Congratulations to Yolanda Fong, our BSN and MN alum. Yolanda is a recipient of the population health scholarship, supported by Academy Health and sponsored by the

Aloha Dr. Ruth Rea!
On February 26th, we celebrated the retirement of our own Dr. Ruth Rea with a tropical themed reception. After 17 years with UW Tacoma,
Kathy Bressler, 2000 MN Graduate, the winner of ‘Alum of the Year’ in 2007 and current President at St. Clare Hospital, talks about St. Clare personnel winning the 2015 TrueNorth Award. Read article here

Alum Kristie Nolta, RN, BSN, publishes article: A School-Based Suicide Risk Assessment Strategy. While school nurses are often uniquely positioned to conduct suicide risk assessments, many school nurses may feel under-equipped to do so. This article outlines a plan to put a suicide risk assessment strategy in place. More...

Donna Biederman, 2004 MN Graduate, quoted in the Seattle Times!

Ruth is retiring from the University. Ruth joined the UW Tacoma Nursing program in March of 1998 as a Lecturer and was then hired as an Assistant Professor in September of the same year. Ruth will retire from the University as Associate Professor Emeritus!

During her tenure at UW Tacoma, Ruth was instrumental in creating the BA in Healthcare Leadership degree and contributed to the development and implementation of the new EdD in Education Leadership.

Ruth has long been considered an expert in the field of ER and trauma nursing and developed a course that created a consistent baseline approach to nursing care of the trauma patient. That course is now offered in every state, to nurses in the Armed Forces and at 20 locations world-wide. Over 50,000 nurses completed the Trauma Nursing Core Course in 2014.

Ruth has many travel plans but will also stay tied to the University by teaching part-time. Please join us in giving congratulations to Ruth and wishing her a big Aloha!

Professors David Reyes and Robin Evans-Agnew share their input on Public Health Funding with the News Tribune. Read article here.
Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation Funds Nursing Project

During winter quarter 2015, UWT MN students, Megan Arzola, Kathleen Daman and Yelana Watson, worked with Dr. Haerling on the research project, "Comparing experiential learning strategies: Virtual and human patient simulations." The project is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholars Program. The purposes of the research are to compare learning outcomes between groups of nursing students who participate in virtual, computer-based simulation activities (VPS) and students who participate in manikin-based simulation activities (HPS) and then to conduct a cost-effectiveness analysis describing the financial cost and learning outcomes (effects) associated with each type of simulation activity. The MN students played integral roles in the planning and implementation of research activities including designing and facilitating research-associated learning activities and collecting and in-putting data for analysis. The project is ongoing with additional data collection planned for Spring 2015 and the 2015-2016 academic year.
Dr. Christine Stevens, Associate Professor, honored in Provost report on teaching and learning: Innovators Among us: Using Technology to Enhance Student Learning. Read report here.

School Nurses Provide Vital Link in Health Care Chain

UWT Nursing and Healthcare Leadership MN alum and Tacoma School District nurse Joyce Ells handles the health needs of students from preschool to high school. Watch as she visits students at Birney Elementary. View video and article.

Healthcare Leadership Students Funded to Attend ACHE Congress in Chicago

In March, 2015, eight Healthcare Leadership students, and members of the UWT Partners in Action to Transform Healthcare (PATH) attended the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Congress on Healthcare Leadership. The Congress brings excellent opportunities in professional development, and networks with organizational executives and students from across the country to provide the latest information to enhance career opportunities in innovative ways.

During the conference, HCL students met Carson Dye, author of their textbook on Leadership for THLEAD 360. This was a wonderful opportunity to experience the energy of an event that draws the top healthcare leaders from across the world! Congratulations!

Frankie Nogales, Valeria Chagoya, Hussain Al-Dabashi, Oleg Grinchuk (seated left to right), and Eileen Papale, Lyndsey Corey, Rhianna McLauchin, and Kayla Reinbold (standing left to right).
Nursing Staff Highlight

Congratulations to Sheri Burden, Nursing and HCL program staff, on her 2015 UWT Chili Cook Off win!

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