



May 2014 e-Newsletter

School of Nursing Secures Scholarship Funds from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



The School of Nursing is pleased to announce that it has received funding from the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's](#) *New Careers in Nursing* program. The School is one of 52 institutions selected for this competitive funding and the grant of \$50,000 will be used to support scholarships for enrolled students in the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program over the 2014-15 academic year. This degree program enables students or recent graduates from non-nursing degree programs to earn the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree within three consecutive terms.

The New Careers in Nursing Scholarship program is designed to help alleviate the nursing shortage and increase the diversity of nursing professionals. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation advocates that accelerated baccalaureate and master's nursing programs are particularly efficient and effective in addressing this shortage as they put more nurses into practice quickly and into clinical teaching positions more expeditiously. Successful applicants had to incorporate recruitment and retention strategies to support accepted students from underrepresented groups in nursing in order to reinforce the workforce's ability to provide culturally competent patient care.

The School of Nursing is pleased to have been selected for funding by the *New Careers in Nursing* program, which is an initiative of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Michael Beach, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the 2nd Degree Accelerated BSN program, will serve as project director for this grant. For more information about the School's Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program, please visit this [site](#).

Have You Registered for the Nursing Now Conference?



If not, do so today so you don't miss the opportunity to attend this national conference, to be held right in Pitt's backyard! This year's conference explores "Influencing Our Profession, Driving Health Care Change." Some of the presentations explore

- Nurses Transforming Health Care: Models, Challenges, Strategies

- Influencing Our Profession: How will YOU drive Change?
- Quality: Influencing Change and Improving Outcomes
- A Journey Into Leadership
- Diversity: What Lies Beneath? The Importance of Inclusivity and Diversity for the Nursing Profession

In addition to lectures by nationally-recognized speakers, break-out sessions, and poster sessions, attendees also benefit from earning CE contact hours (a maximum of 11 contact hours for those who attend all sessions and complete the evaluations). There will be events discussing care delivery, leadership, engagement, negotiation, IT collaboration, and the economics of hospital nursing – something for everyone! All sessions will be held at the University Club on Pitt’s campus, and hotel rooms are available merely blocks away! Learn more about the Nursing Now Conference, to be held June 16 & 17, 2014.

Nursing Alumna Featured at 2014 Graduation and Pinning Ceremony

On April 25th, the School hosted its Spring Graduation and Pinning Ceremony, more than 380 graduates to the School’s alumni community! Parents, children, friends and family joined in the celebratory event which featured Andrea Mazzoccoli (PhD ’06), RN, FAAN, as the keynote speaker.

Dr. Mazzoccoli currently serves as Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer for Bon Secours Health System consisting of 19 acute-care hospitals, one psychiatric hospital, five nursing care facilities, four assisted living facilities, and 14 home care and hospice services. There, she facilitates the system’s strategic nursing agenda through the Nursing Leadership Collaborative and leads patient care services through the system-wide Center of Clinical Excellence. Dr. Mazzoccoli is also a Fellow in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Executive Nurse Fellow Program. Prior to joining Bon Secours, she served as Vice President, Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer at UPMC.



Her graduation keynote address referenced the 75th anniversary of the founding of the school, noting that the 2014 graduates are following in the tradition of 75 years of excellence in nursing science and practice at Pitt Nursing. She noted that the modern healthcare field needs the best trained nurses, who will be prepared to take advantage of the opportunities that graduates will have in the future of healthcare delivery -- nurses will be called upon to further bridge the gap between access and care, as well as to serve as navigators for patients and their families as they traverse a complicated healthcare system. Dr. Mazzoccoli called upon students to use what they learned at the School of Nursing to connect the 12 inches between the head and the heart...the mind that they used to learn and the heart which they followed into nursing. She advised them to love the substance of nursing science and policy, but to not underestimate the power of the calling to be a nurse.

The School of Nursing thanks Dr. Mazzoccoli for being a part of the 2014 Graduation and Pinning Ceremony, as well as for her continuing support.

Buy Your Pitt Nursing T-shirt and Sleep Shirt Today!



Show off your Pitt Nursing Pride with our 75th Anniversary Commemorative T-shirts and Sleep Shirts

The sleep shirts are navy cotton with gray 75th anniversary artwork in the center of the chest. The sleep shirts are one-size-fits-most. T-shirts are gray cotton with blue 75th anniversary artwork in the center of the chest.

T-shirts are \$20 and they are available in small, medium, large, XL, 2XL, and 3XL. Sleep shirts are one-size-fits-most and are priced at \$25. Shipping is free! You can place your order using this form.

Plan to Attend Nurses Weekend with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

Join your fellow nurses for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's Nurses Weekend to be held Thursday, June 19 through Sunday, June 22 at historic Heinz Hall. These performances are themed "Luck be a Lady: Megan Hilty Sings Sinatra and More," featuring Broadway and television star Megan Hilty (Wicked, 9 to 5, Smash). Ms. Hilty, with conductor Steven Reineke, will pay tribute to the tunes of Ol' Blue Eyes as well as Broadway classics such as "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" and favorites by Cole Porter and Harold Arlen.

The Saturday (June 21) performance at 6:00 pm will include a Continuing Education session featuring Dr. Bruce S. Rabin, and Pitt Nursing's Dr. Irene Kane discussing "Stress and Nurses...taking care of our needs." This continuing education event and a light dessert reception are sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. To register for the continuing education event, please click here. To purchase tickets to the concert, please visit the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's [Web site](#). Registration is required for the continuing education event.