I am honoured to have the opportunity to be included in the first ever issue of the University of British Columbia’s Nursing Student Journal – UBC-NSJ! First, I would like to congratulate our student leaders who have initiated and developed this important innovation. When I ask nurse leaders in our community what the UBC School of Nursing is “about”, they always reply that it is research and scholarship that define our school. When I ask what we could do better, they always want more engagement. The UBC-NSJ exemplifies both, our extant research and scholarship and our increasing engagement in practice. The NSJ originated from the Synthesis Project – a final project in which groups of students are paired with leading nurses in practice and a faculty member to engage in a project of importance to practice that requires scholarly focus. Students conduct the project, which often includes literature synthesis, learning about the particular setting, and meeting with key stakeholders. The students generally create a report or plan or some other product meaningful to the practice setting, and present in a final poster presentation to the practice and academic community. In taking this extra step of turning these projects into papers published in this new NSJ, the students exemplify all that UBC Nursing graduates should be – scholarly, collaborative and innovative!

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