Summer 2012

TouchPOINTS

Putting Scholarship Into Practice

NURSING UBC

est. 1919

Celebrating Success

Alumni, Partners Honoured at Special Ceremony

On Thursday, May 3, 2012, the School of Nursing hosted a memorable celebration honoring its past, present and future. The spectacular Great Hall at the Museum of Anthropology provided a beautiful backdrop to this evening that featured entertainment, awards, and a chance for colleagues to connect and reflect on the significance of their collective achievements of the past 90 years.

Hosted by Director Pro Tem Dr. Colleen Varcoe, the evening began with a stirring performance by the Dancers of Demelahamid, one of the finest northwest coastal dance groups in British Columbia that combines dramatic dance, captivating narrative, intricately carved masks and elaborate regalia.

In her remarks, Colleen Varcoe observed that, "Everyone in the room contributed to building one of the most amazing resources for nursing education and research in Canada." The School can be proud of its undergraduate and graduate programs and the new program of Nurse Practitioners, "which stands to greatly improve access to health care across BC and through so doing improve the health outcomes of our communities."

Colleen also highlighted the School's strong commitment to research that aims to improve overall health, but with a specific focus on vulnerable populations. Research conducted within the School of Nursing is "advancing nursing practice and addressing some of our community's most pressing health needs such as poverty, chronic illness, sexual health, mental health, geriatrics and pediatrics."

Over the course of the evening, the School of Nursing was able to recognize significant alumni and important partners whose contributions are making a positive impact on our communities and on the school. Among the many who contributed to the evening's success is Dr. Joy Johnson, Professor in the School and Chair of the Alumni Engagement Committee. "It is inspiring to learn about the tremendous contributions that our alumni and community partners are making to nursing and the broader community," she said.

Nursing faculty Cathy Ebbehoj (left) and Joy Johnson (right) present Tim Gauthier, B.S.N. '09, the Young Alumni Award

Dancers of Demelahamid

INSIDE

Celebrating Success 1
Awards 2
Director's Message 3
Above and Beyond 4
Undergraduate Profile 6
Graduate Profile 7
Research Excellence 8
With Honour 12
Amazing Alumni 13
Partnerships 14
Final Touches 15

Awards

Alumni Recognition Awards

Presented by faculty members Dr. Joy Johnson and Cathy Ebbehoj

Dr. Colleen Stainton, 1961 BSC Nursing: Award of Distinction - *Has made a significant contribution through the advancement of nursing, bringing honour to the nursing profession at a provincial, national and/or international level.* Dr. Stainton helped to develop the four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program and the Master's and Doctorate programs at the University of Calgary. A pioneer in nursing research, she established the international maternity nursing research conference. She has received numerous awards in recognition of her contributions and provided expert consultation to her colleagues on nursing research and practice.

Dr. Colleen Stainton

Genelle Liefso 1997 BSN, 2005 MSN: Alumni Recognition Award - *Has made a sustained and meaningful contribution to nurses and/or nursing at a local or regional level, inspiring other nurses to reach their goals.* Genelle Liefso works as a nurse at VGH, nursing teacher at BCIT, and as a community worker and volunteer working both locally with the BC History of Nursing Society and internationally with the Canadian Network for International Surgery. Genelle recently returned from Ethiopia where she taught a "Safe Surgery Saves Lives" nursing course and developed a companion teaching manual to be used internationally.

Tim Gauthier 2009 BSN: Young Alumni Award - *Within a relatively short period after graduation (maximum 10 years), has demonstrated exceptional engagement in professional, civic or community activities.* As a member of the Cree Tribe, Tim Gauthier has dedicated his career to helping those who are marginalized and underserved. As a student, Tim worked at Insite, the supervised injection site on the downtown eastside. Today, he is the Clinical Coordinator for three centres providing direct services to those who struggle with drug addiction and other health issues. He is a tireless advocate for improving the health of the residents in the Downtown Eastside.

Partner Awards

Presented by Dr. Eric Hall, Dean of Applied Science

David Byres, Vice President, Acute Clinical Programs & Chief Professional Practice and Nursing for Providence Health Care: Practice Partnership AWARD - *given to recognize a partner from practice for leadership in collaboration.* David Byres is recognized for having a clear vision for professional nursing at Providence and how the UBC School of Nursing can contribute to that vision. He worked with the School on the development of a practice-academic collaborative teaching unity in HIV/AIDS care, mental health and addictions, and the quest to fund a research chair in nursing.

Mrs. Roberta Price, a Coast Salish elder who has worked extensively in partnership with the SON for over a decade: Community Partnership Award - *to recognize dedication and commitment to collaboration between the school and the wider community.* Roberta Price has worked tirelessly to build relationships between the School and local First Nations Groups. She played a leadership role on numerous Aboriginal Community Advisory Committees that are central to the research that many in the School have been conducting in the Lower Mainland. She serves as a spokesperson for health issues locally, provincially and nationally.

Director's Message

Dr. Colleen Varcoe

- COLLEEN VARCOE, Director

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the UBC School of Nursing,

I am delighted to be able to bring you greetings in this edition of TouchPoints! Over the past year and a half in the role of pro tem Director of the School, I have had the pleasure of meeting, and getting to know better, a wide range of supporters and contributors to the School. I feel very fortunate to have learned so much about the history of the School, the School's champions and the people who care about its success. I have learned that we are blessed with a wide circle of support that extends beyond the School, and includes retired nurse leaders and faculty, alumni, and many presently in a great variety of leadership roles. I have learned that what our supporters want most is to know about our successes and current efforts. People are most interested in knowing how their efforts, past and present, are making a difference to nursing practice, education and research, to nursing as a profession, and to those we serve. Building on the tradition of Dr. Sally Thorne's initiative, the School is pleased to once again present TouchPoints as a way of conveying our work and our achievements.

I am particularly pleased to have the opportunity to introduce Dr. Suzanne H. Campbell, Ph.D., WHNP-BC, as our new Director. Dr. Campbell was named director effective July 9, 2012– June 30, 2017. She comes to UBC from Fairfield University School of Nursing, in Fairfield, Connecticut, U.S., where she recently served terms as Associate Dean for Academic Programs and as Interim Dean. Dr. Campbell holds a BS and MS in Nursing from the University of Connecticut, and a Ph.D. in Nursing from the University of Rhode Island. She is a certified Women's Health Nurse Practitioner and certified International Board Certified Lactation Consultant. In addition to her expertise in women's health, Dr. Campbell has particular interest in curriculum and educational technology, particularly clinical simulation. Her expertise and interest in teaching scholarship and educational technology are an ideal complement to our existing faculty. Her experience in and enthusiasm for educational leadership positions her perfectly to implement our newly developed strategic plan. The UBC School of Nursing welcomes Dr. Campbell. We are confident that she will lead the school to have an even greater impact on nursing, health care and health, locally, nationally and internationally.

I would like to thank all of you for your support of the school. So many people contribute in such diverse ways, building on our history of excellence, and propelling us toward even more meaningful contributions.

Dr. Suzanne Campbell

Above and Beyond

Reading Week 2012 - Volunteer Nursing Students Go Back to Grade School

For some, it's a chance to catch up on homework, and for others, it's an escape to sunnier climes. But for a group of nursing students, Reading Week 2012 was a chance to inspire young people. Through UBC's Community Learning Initiative (CLI), the Reading Week Projects program gives hundreds of students from every faculty a chance to mentor elementary students around the Lower Mainland with hands-on learning. This past February, UBC School of Nursing supported nine nursing students along with several from other disciplines as they visited Lord Selkirk Annex Elementary on Vancouver's east side.

Now in its 11th year, the Reading Week program gained huge popularity in 2010. With an extra week of time-off coinciding with the Winter Olympics, more than 450 students signed up to mentor 2,500 elementary students at 16 schools and inspired them with Olympic-themed learning activities.

UBC School of Nursing alumni Yenlinh Chung (2011) took part in CLI's Reading Week Projects throughout her years as an undergraduate student in the Faculty of Science and then in her two years as a student in the School of Nursing. Believing her experience in this program was a crucial aspect of her university education, she urged the School to support a team for the first time. Yenlinh returned to the School of Nursing to serve as a Reading Week Project Leader. The School provided both financial and faculty support for this first contingent. "Yenlinh felt it was a fantastic experience," explains Dr. Gladys McPherson, Assistant Professor and Co-Project Leader to the project. "She is really passionate about working with children and has lots of ideas."

Far from just a week-long undertaking, Reading Week Projects take a great deal of planning, training and preparation. Two student leaders, Marissa Mantle from the School of Nursing and Randip Gill from the Faculty of Science assisted Project Leaders Yenlinh and Gladys with the planning and implementation of the project, giving them an opportunity

LEFT: Teaching students to build bacteria with pipe cleaners. Melina Mirzaei, School of Kinesiology (left); Darlene Tam, School of Nursing student (right).
TOP: Project leader: Yenlinh Chung (School of Nursing alumni) (left); Student leader: Randiip Gill (Faculty of Science) (right).
BOTTOM: UBC School of Nursing student Lisa Szegedi teaching students about genetics.

Above and Beyond

to learn and lead, while bringing their knowledge of the student community into focus for the Project Leaders.

Faculty members have not typically been involved in the UBC Reading Week Program projects, but Gladys found the experience rewarding, and encourages her colleagues to get involved. "It's a fair investment of time for faculty to do this," says Gladys, "but I found myself in a place where I'm working with students who have all volunteered. That creates a different opportunity to be with students in a setting where they aren't being graded. When we are all learning and working together, the teacher-student relationship is different."

The students divided into cross-disciplinary pairs and planned workshops for the Selkirk students, who ranged in age from 5 to 10 years old. UBC students from nursing, pharmacology, human kinetics and sciences teamed-up to plan workshops focused on six themes chosen in collaboration with Selkirk's teachers: microbiology, nutrition, safety, human movement, anatomy and genetics. "It was a big step for them to trust us," says Gladys, "but I think it's good for children to be exposed to university students and see the diversity of subjects and the excitement created."

The results were inspiring. "I was very impressed by our UBC students' creativity," says Gladys. "They were able to teach the principles of genetics using coloured macaroni!" Some of the students had a lot of experience working with kids, but for others, it was a steep learning curve. Many who thought they were going to school to be the teachers realized they learned a great deal themselves. The week culminated in a big health fair at the end featuring skits and dances about the topics covered during the three days. Gladys is proud of the students that took part, giving up a week of rest and relaxation or a chance to catch up on their studies. "Some students from nursing I know just take up every learning opportunity they can find."

LEFT: Nicole Lau, Faculty of Arts student (left); Annes Song, School of Nursing student (right).

RIGHT: Jennifer Funo, UBC School of Nursing student (left); Elaine Au (right)

Undergraduate Profile

A Local Advocate with a Global Perspective

- SARA EFTEKHAR

Nursing is truly a global profession, but few have discovered this so early in life like Sara Eftekhar. Now in her fourth year of nursing, the 22-year-old has already worked and studied everywhere from remote communities in BC to South East Asia, South America and Africa. "I wanted to do nursing because it's a career you can do internationally," she says. Her global experience has also inspired volunteer work and activism.

This spring, Sara was presented with North Vancouver's Civic Youth award for her work bringing attention to the shortage of health care services in BC's remote communities. Sara was nominated for the award by the Society for Children & Youth of BC for voicing public service announcements that were aired on radio on World Health Day in April. "We are the ones working with patients one-on-one, and we know their stories," she explains. "The PSAs talked about inequities and how health care is a right."

At 17, as a first-year student at UBC, Sara travelled to Ecuador with several other students who had raised $30,000 to put toward health initiatives. When they arrived, they decided instead to direct the funds toward basic needs like housing. "This was the first time I realized that there are many layers to health and well being, and housing is an essential part of survival."

In the course of her studies, Sara took a semester off to join United Nations University's Ship the World program. Together with students from several other countries, she sailed from Japan to India, Sri Lanka and Singapore, expanding her global perspective and earning a diploma in international relations along the way. "Because I'm a first generation immigrant from Iran, I think I've always had a global vision," says Sara. "International development and politics are just so relevant to my life."

Sara went on to win the 2009-2010 Faiths Act Fellowship, which is a year-long, paid fellowship through the Tony Blair Faith Foundation and Interfaith Youth Core, and was one of eight Canadians chosen, out of a total of thirty young people from Canada, the UK and the US. As part of this Fellowship based in Ottawa, Sara first went to London, England to train then on to Africa where she studied malaria at the Tanzanian Training Center for International Health.

Sara is grateful that she was given the flexibility to pursue travel while studying and hopes that more UBC students have the chance to learn about, and take advantage of, the many opportunities to go abroad and gain a global perspective. She plans to travel with UBC's Global Health Initiative program next summer. In September, she'll be working on a global health project right here in Vancouver. Along with researchers from the U.S., Africa, Asia and Britain, she'll be part of the The *PRE-eclampsia-Eclampsia Monitoring, Prevention and Treatment* **(PRE-EMPT) Project**, a project by UBC funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Sara Eftekhar making Public Service Announcements

"International development and politics are just so relevant to my life."

North Vancouver Mayor Darrell Mussatto (right), Sara Eftekhar, and Councillor Guy Heywood (left).

Graduate Profile

Award-Winning Research Helps Patients Make Informed Decisions

- TRACY TRUANT

The role of a nurse often centres around understanding and advocating for exactly what patients need. Since she graduated from Nursing at UBC in 1988, Tracy Truant, MSN, RN, has been dedicated to finding ways to identify these needs and improve care for patients. For her Masters degree, Tracy studied the complementary medicine decision-making processes of women with breast cancer. As she continues on with Doctoral work, she is broadening her focus, this time with a special interest in wellness and health promotion in the cancer survivorship population. Her work has found her collaborating on national and international teams and has been recognized with the highest honours.

Recently, Tracy was awarded the prestigious Killam Doctoral Scholorship, which are provided annually from the Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Fund for Advanced Studies. These are the most prestigious graduate awards available at UBC, and are awarded to the top doctoral candidates in the annual Tri-Agency / Affiliated Fellowships competition. Tracy is also the recipient of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Doctoral Research Award (2012-2015) and the Psychosocial Oncology Research Training national fellowship - a CIHR-funded Strategic Training Initiative in Health Research (2012-2013).

Throughout her career as an oncology nurse, Tracy has been seeking ways to improve the lives of people living with cancer. She realized that one of the best was through research. "It was serendipitous – at a time when I was open to more formally developing my research skills, Dr. Sally Thorne encouraged and supported me in becoming a PhD student," she explains. "UBC has been fantastic - there is a lovely synergy here with lots of potential and tremendous support. I'm taking the next big step and taking a big look around."

Tracy's work with people living with and beyond cancer also led her to a collaborative practice-research partnership with School of Nursing Associate Professor Dr. Lynda Balneaves, ultimately resulting in the establishment of the CAMEO (Complementary Medicine Education and Outcomes) Program. The group found that up to 80% of Canadian cancer patients use complementary medicine (CM), yet most do not receive adequate information and decision support to assist them in safely integrating CM into their cancer treatment and care. This desire to use CM and engage in other lifestyle interventions such as diet and exercise to improve one's quality of life and prevent cancer recurrence is an important under-addressed need of cancer patients, including survivors. "The good news is that about 62% of Canadians will be cured of their cancer," she says. "But there is a huge gap in our model of care to support survivors after finishing cancer treatment and returning to their 'new normal'. Survivors are telling us they really need help with bridging this gap, particularly as it relates to support for practicing health promotion activities."

Tracy's doctoral research, building upon her work with the CAMEO Program, will inform the development of resources and models of care that offer survivors support for practice of life prolonging and enhancing health promotion strategies. There is emerging research showing significant value of many health promotion behaviors, such as exercise, diet, and complementary medicine in reducing cancer recurrence risk, managing symptoms, and promoting wellbeing. Ultimately, safe, informed and supported practice of health promotion strategies

Tracy Truant

may improve survivors' morbidity outcomes and quality of life, and reduce unnecessary health care costs. "You can't shift culture overnight, but I hope that all point-of-care professionals will include this in their practice."

Tracy is glad to be back at the School of Nursing. "It's home to world-class nurse researchers and scholars, particularly in areas relevant to my research, such as qualitative methodology, cancer, complementary medicine, communication, and health behaviours. I do not believe there is another doctoral training program across Canada providing the same high level of fit with my proposed research while offering support to conduct and achieve exceptional quality of health research and scholarly development."

Of her awards, Tracy feels both grateful and humbled. "I feel a sense of pride to be acknowledged for my research to date and future potential, as well as a sense of responsibility to continue to do good work and contribute to improving the health of Canadians through research."

Research Excellence

Three School of Nursing Projects Attract Millions in Funding

In the past two years, the UBC School of Nursing has secured the largest annual research funding in its history. This is a remarkable accomplishment in light of the state of the global economy, which has led to increased competition for diminishing funds. This significant success is a reflection of the level of research excellence in the School of Nursing community, and places it among the top three in Canada. The funding positions the School well as it embarks on a new strategic plan to further strengthen its research and teaching scholarship capacity.

The bulk of the funding was awarded from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) with more than $5 million distributed across 18 grants, many of them involving long-term studies. Large CIHR grants held over five-year periods help to stabilize the research resources of the School of Nursing and develop answers to a wide range of research questions. **Three such grants were awarded this past year:**

Reducing Stigma, Promoting Resilience: Population Health Interventions for LGBTQ Youth

Homophobic bullying in schools is at the forefront of public consciousness. The social pressures teens face today are more complicated than ever, compounded by social media, with sometimes tragic consequences for the most vulnerable youth. It is a complex issue without an easy solution. While schools are supposed to provide a supportive environment for young people, research shows that for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning teens (LGBTQ), the opposite is often the case. Research has also identified the health-related consequences to bullying, which include emotional distress, suicide attempts, substance abuse, eating disorders, sexually transmitted infections, and even teen pregnancy.

A multidisciplinary, North American team of researchers led by Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc, UBC School of Nursing Professor, has embarked on a $2 million, five-year study to take the next, very important step. The team, which includes researchers from universities, provincial governments, and community organizations from seven Canadian provinces and three regions of the U.S., will assess the effectiveness of programs intended to reduce homophobic bullying and improve school connectedness for LGBTQ and straight youth. While many anti-bullying strategies are in place in schools across North America, "Most have depended on ideology rather than evidence," says Elizabeth.

The team originally met in 2010 and has added new members along the way. "We were energized by a unified vision for how to move forward," says Elizabeth, who feels that the School of Nursing is well suited to lead the effort. "We are ideally placed to lead this kind of research, as nurses are used to looking at the whole person, the health environment, and working in a multi-disciplinary capacity." To translate knowledge into action as quickly as possible, the team will collaborate in a series of projects across Canada and the U.S., and share results as they emerge, leading to creative youth- and community-engaged strategies to mobilize change in school settings. "This research puts the School of Nursing on the map as a central hub in North America for research on stigma and health for vulnerable adolescents."

Research Excellence

Equity-Oriented Primary health Care Interventions for Marginalized Populations: Addressing Structural Inequities and Structural Violence (the 'EQUIP' Study)

A new program of research out of the UBC School of Nursing is focused on changing the health circumstances for people experiencing the impact of social inequities. Researchers at the School have been studying inequities in our health care system for more than 15 years, including primary health care (PHC) for marginalized populations, interventions for women experiencing violence, health equity for Aboriginal people, health policy ethics, and research in knowledge translation in relation to gender and violence.

People who experience health and social inequities often include those that are living on very low incomes, elderly people, people living with major mental health issues, single women raising children, or people who have substance use problems. These populations often have greater health problems and are less likely to receive the kind of health care they need. "There are lots of reports that say that we need to do a better job at meeting people's needs," explains Dr. Annette Browne, UBC School of Nursing Professor, and one of the project's three Principal Investigators. "Yet there has been little articulation of how equity-oriented care can be provided in an everyday setting." This 5-year grant will allow the team to take significant steps toward improving the health care system's capacity to serve these populations.

The EQUIP Study, which launched in September 2011, connects three different but related studies. Combined, they will measure the effects of equity-oriented PHC on these populations, evaluate current policies and interventions, gain new knowledge around policies, funding, design and delivery of PHC, improve workforce capacity and increase the exchange of knowledge in PHC and population health.

A unique partnership with the University of Western Ontario, the University of Victoria, and the University of Northern BC, this project brings together an interdisciplinary team of researchers and knowledge users from nursing, medicine, population and public health, community health sciences, and information and media studies, and leaders in Aboriginal health, women's health, and the PHC sector. Key partnerships are with the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Aboriginal Health Program of the BC Provincial Health Services Authority, Aboriginal health organizations, Echo: Improving Women's Health in Ontario, and PHC agencies in BC and Ontario.

"This is an innovative, cutting-edge project," says Annette. "Through this research, we can study the process of providing care and its impact on people's lives." In the long term, this program of research will provide a strong foundation for future research directed at policy and system level interventions. "This is a really exciting opportunity to reach out and understand why people are having difficulty and how to provide PHC services so that people feel comfortable and valued."

Research Excellence

Addressing the Consequences of Violence and Trauma: A Health Intervention for Women in an Indigenous Context

Woven deeply throughout the history of Canada's Aboriginal women are threads of violence and victimization from society. The effects of colonization, the reserve system, racism and residential schooling have resulted in a population that is living under chronic stress, with limited educational and employment opportunities. Many of these women access health care in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

A new 5-year study funded by CIHR will allow researchers at the UBC School of Nursing to work toward creating a better future for Aboriginal women in the Downtown Eastside, starting with their health. The researchers found that health problems and possible "interventions" for Aboriginal people are often studied without taking socio-historical contexts into account. "In nursing, we have to be close to the patient, and to the patient's home," says Dr. Colleen Varcoe, UBC School of Nursing Professor and the project's Principal Investigator. "Because nurses who work in the community are confronted by the day-to-day conditions of people's lives, they cannot ignore the social determinants of health."

Despite extensive evidence of the connections among childhood trauma, violence and myriad health problems, including chronic pain and substance use, mainstream approaches to "treatment" rarely address the historical and social roots of such issues. Often, interventions are designed at an individual level, focus on single-issue problems, and do not account for social determinants of health. "Intervention makes a huge difference in women's lives. However, we found that after women no longer were experiencing violence, although mental health often improved, physical health did not," says Colleen. "The results of living under chronic stress last for a long time. "

In contrast, current thinking about public health issues emphasizes the need for complex interventions. "Aboriginal women are actively avoiding health care when they know they will be treated poorly," says Colleen. "Working in partnership with Aboriginal elders, we'll be addressing individual women's health issues and also why, as a group, they face victimization from society."

Encouraged by the success of pilot studies in reducing depression, trauma and pain for women, the team is developing an intervention that can be used widely and in partnerships with primary health care providers and a network of anti-violence initiatives. The result should contribute to a more positive next chapter in the history of Aboriginal women.

HIV Vulnerability and the Work Environment of the Off-Street Sex Industry

Dr. Vicky Bungay, UBC School of Nursing Assistant Professor and Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar, knows that the commercial sex industry is a very complex business. And she has invested much of her research career into understanding the vulnerabilities for health problems of the men and women in this industry. "There are so many factors that contribute to vulnerability," she explains. "It's not just individual behaviour that influences how safe a person is against infection or other health issues."

Her interest in the subject has resulted in ground-breaking research, including the most recent CIHR-funded 3-year study of the off-street sex industry. "The evidence shows that off-street is significantly underserved," says Vicky as she describes a myriad of venues, including escort agencies, micro-brothels, spas, exotic dance clubs and internet sites that employ both male and female sex workers. The team is counting on multiple benefits to the study. "By exploring the nature and diversity of the industry, we can understand where health services need to be targeted."

The study will examine the work environments, how these venues are managed and operated, and whether those practices affect the safety of the workers and their vulnerability for HIV infection. It will bring together a multi-disciplinary team from nursing, population and public health, medicine, sociology, and criminology. Advisory groups comprised of sex venue managers, sex workers, and sex buyers inform all stages of the project. "Our team has a strong record of respectful and meaningful interactions and partnerships with these communities," says Vicky. "That's how real change happens."

With Honour

A Special Ceremony Recognizes Two Nurses from the Class of 1942

The attack on Pearl Harbour in December, 1941 signalled the beginning of a particularly dark period in the Second World War for Canada. All persons of Japanese descent were uprooted and exiled from the B.C. coast, a violation of their basic citizenship rights. On May 30, 2012, a special ceremony coinciding with UBC's spring congregation recognized the 76 students who were forced to leave UBC, including two students from the School of Nursing.

For those in attendance, it was a moving tribute to those Japanese Canadian students whose university experience was disrupted 70 years ago. On this anniversary, the University acknowledged the injustice they endured and honored the students and their families, welcomed them as alumni, and celebrated their contributions as citizens of Canada.

In her address to the audience, UBC Chancellor, Sarah Morgan-Silvester remarked that, "Only in the perfect vision of hindsight did our nation's leaders rediscover the inescapable truth that there were no enemies in our midst. We owe this restoration of truth, rationality and justice to Mary and Tosh Kitigawa, who both worked tirelessly to identify each of the 76 former students."

Among those identified were Michiyo (Uyede) Naruse, who was "reconferred" with the degree of Bachelor of Applied Science (Nursing) she received in the spring of 1942, and Nana (Yamamoto) Tamaki, who was awarded a special honorary degree "Inter Silvas Academi Restituere Iustitia" in recognition of the program she was unable to complete at UBC. Both women have since died, but their stories continue to be researched by the Japanese Canadian community and the University.

Michiyo Uyede (sometimes spelled Uyeda), also called Alice and "Mikkie" by her nursing classmates, was born in Vancouver May 19, 1917. She enrolled in UBC's six-year Nursing program in about 1939, and completed the three-year clinical portion of the program at Vancouver General Hospital in 1941. She was active in the Nursing Undergraduate Society, serving as class representative while at VGH. She returned to UBC for the sixth and final year of theory, and after intervention by the School, was allowed to remain in Vancouver after the evacuation to complete her nursing studies.

According to *Return: A commemorative yearbook in honour of the Japanese students of 1942*, which was published for the ceremonies, she was one of the few who received permission to attend the 1942 graduation exercises. An article in the New Canadian newspaper of May 14, 1942 indicates that she was awarded a graduating prize – the "Provincial Board of Health Award for Public Health." After the war, she moved to Montreal and worked as a surgical teaching supervisor at Children's Memorial Hospital. In 1950, she married Henry Kanao Naruse and they moved to Trail, BC. In the 1970s, she took a nursing "refresher course" from BCIT so she could return to nursing at the Trail Regional Hospital. In 1981, she received her Master's in Health Care Planning degree from UBC. She died in Trail on March 1, 1998.

Nana Yamamoto Tamaki was a third-year student in 1942, having completed her second year courses at UBC and was at VGH for her clinical years. She was born in Vancouver July 1, 1920, graduated from King Edward High School and eventually married. Recent searches by School of Nursing historian, Glennis Zilm, have revealed that, after being interned in the Slocan Valley, she was accepted into nursing school in Alberta where she graduated and became a registered nurse.

Courtesy of the UBC AMS, 1942 Totem

Amazing Alumni

A Young Graduate Finds Her Calling

- TENNY BACHE, B.S.N. '12, NURSING

Among the School of Nursing's 2012 graduating class are many rising stars. Tenny Bache, BSN '12 stands out as one of the brightest. Tenny began her commitment to learning with a BA and MA in geography, which has informed and broadened her perspective as a nurse. As a geographer, she specialized in disease mapping, which involved many hours sitting at her computer. "My best days were the ones where I would get out of the office and work directly with people accessing mental health and addiction services," she says. "I saw the work that nurses were doing with these clients and was envious and inspired. I really wanted to work directly with people to make a difference in their everyday lives."

Now that she has achieved her goal of becoming a practicing nurse, she sees the value of her degree on multiple levels. "The training to be a nurse is very practical, and I constantly use the knowledge I have gained in my personal life as well as professionally."

With her studies behind her, Tenny is keeping busy working two separate jobs, both very challenging and rewarding. Her first position as an RN is with the Sexual Assault Service at BC Women's Hospital, where she works out of the Emergency Department at Vancouver General Hospital and provides specialized nursing care alongside a physician or nurse examiner to women and men who have been recently assaulted. "I am honoured to be working with a team of very committed professionals to provide empowering and respectful nursing care to survivors of sexual assault."

Tenny was also hired at Vancouver Native Health Society, where she completed her final nursing preceptorship (internship). She works in the Positive Outlook Program, which provides care, treatment and support services to more than 1,500 people living with HIV/AIDS in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, with a strong focus directed to the urban Aboriginal population.

With so much accomplished already, it's no surprise that Tenny has big goals for the future. She hopes to apply her research skills and eventually take on a leadership role to effect change. "In the long term, I see myself continuing to work with clients as a front-line nurse. However, my overarching goal is to advance social justice by providing equitable health care. My vision is equal access to health care regardless of social position, health condition, mental health status, gender or race."

Tenny Bache

"I am honoured to be working with a team of very committed professionals to provide empowering and respectful nursing care to survivors of sexual assault."

Partnerships

Point-of-Care Nurses and Researchers Team Up in Search of Answers

Closing the gaps between knowledge and practice is the collective goal of everyone working in health care. However, translating evidence gained from academic research into practice can be challenging. The UBC School of Nursing is helping to turn this concept on its head to achieve positive changes in nursing practice and better outcomes for patients. Instead of starting with the research, a new program is inviting point-of-care nurses to ask their own clinical questions and empowering them with the tools to get them answered.

As the nursing research facilitator for Providence Health Care (PHC), Aggie Black, a UBC School of Nursing adjunct professor, saw that while point-of-care nurses were asking relevant clinical questions, they had neither the time, money or skills needed to undertake a proper research study to get them answered. Before she could get front line nurses and other health professionals involved in doing their own research, she would have to find a way to remove those barriers.

With funding from the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research's BC Nursing Research Initiative, PHC launched The Practiced-based Research Challenge for Point-of-Care Nursing & Allied Health Staff. This unique competition is designed to support point-of-care staff who do not have research experience. It matches teams of nurses and allied health professionals with academic mentors who are well versed in research and can ensure proper methods are undertaken.

Teams submit a letter of intent and then attend a workshop where they are taught research methods at a level suitable for both beginners and experts. In 2011, its inaugural year, 14 teams were awarded grants of up to $4,000 to conduct small-scale projects. This June, 13 teams made up of nurses, nurse practitioners, dieticians, pharmacists, respiratory therapists, occupational therapists, and health professional students presented on topics ranging from the prevention of bleeding in people with hemophilia to cognitive training for people with mild cognitive impairment or dementia.

One of the 2011 project teams developed and validated a tool for depression screening within cardiac patient populations. "It's exciting that a small project has resulted in a significant change in practice," says Dr. Lynda Balneaves, Associate Professor in the School of Nursing. She and Dr. Pam Ratner, Professor in the School of Nursing were invited to join the Research Challenge to support and advise on the program. "The point-of-care people are very excited," says Pam. "One team remarked that between two of the members they have 40 years of experience, and this is the first time they've ever done research."

Engaging point-of-care staff this way not only has benefits for patients, but for the staff themselves, contributing to heightened engagement and better staff retention. And the mentors feel a sense of reward as well. "Research doesn't have to be done by someone with a PhD," says Lynda. "An important part of our service as a university is to reach out to people doing clinical practice. It's definitely a win-win."

The program is seeking mentors for its next round of applicants. "This is a fabulous opportunity for UBC faculty to reach out and create new partnerships and collaborations," says Pam. For more information on getting involved with the PCH Practice-based Research Challenge, contact Aggie Black (604) 682-2344, local 66124.

Aggie Black, Nursing Research Facilitator with PHC, speaks with a team of nurses and their mentor, Maura MacPhee, Associate Professor, UBC, at the Research Challenge presentations.

Final Touches

Notable Appointments

SHERRY LIPP
Manager of Finance & Operations

A typical day for Sherry Lipp, the new Manager of Finance & Operations for the School of Nursing might seem like three days for many of us. Since December, 2011, she has been taking care of all aspects of business, operations and human resources.

"My job is to go from strategy to action," says Sherry. Acting as a kind of general manager, she takes care of all aspects of business monitoring and reporting out, administration and operational efficiencies, including handling capital assets and space, and mobilizing and leading teams to reach the School's goals and support strategic objectives.

Last October, the School of Nursing identified five priority areas of focus for the next three years: Excellent education programs, exceptional work environment, expanded research capacity, heightened visibility, plus optimal physical space and organizational repositioning. Sherry is working to align all of the School of Nursing's policies and procedures with these goals to help ensure the School remains one of the top in Canada.

"I enjoy working at a prestigious university," says Sherry, herself a graduate of UBC's Certification in Project Management intensive. Sherry comes to the School from the BC Academic Health Council, which she helped launch. The Council creates a collaborative forum for linking healthcare and advanced education in preparing tomorrow's health care workforce. Despite her many hats, Sherry thrives on the challenge. "I love the generalist role and weaving through all the aspects of business."

Sherry is inspired by the administrative team, led by Dr. Colleen Varcoe. "I love working with the passionate members of the School of Nursing, which is turning out a workforce that will mean so much to Canada."

DR. WENDY HALL
Associate Dean for Faculty and Program Development, Faculty of Graduate Studies

August 2012 marks the one-year anniversary of the appointment of Dr. Wendy Hall to the position of Associate Dean for Faculty and Program Development in the Faculty of Graduate Studies at UBC. While the invitation to the position came as a complete surprise, Wendy realized it was an exciting opportunity. "It got me engaged on a completely different level," she says, "and this appointment benefits the School of Nursing by raising the profile of the School in the area of university leadership." Wendy's role is to support faculty members and graduate programs in achieving and maintaining excellence in graduate education, including the provision of supervisor and graduate advisor development opportunities. She also assists on a case-by-case basis when issues arise between individual students and supervisors or programs. "It has been a huge learning curve in many ways," she says.

A Professor within the UBC School of Nursing, Wendy received her Bachelor of Nursing degree from the University of Manitoba (1974), her Master of Science in Nursing from UBC (1986), and her PhD in 1999 from the University of Manchester. She has taught in the undergraduate and graduate programs at UBC for more than 20 years and served as the Coordinator for the PhD program for four years. "I still enjoy teaching and am an active researcher," she says, "which makes for a busy life." She feels her ongoing experience as a supervisor helps give her insights into her new role. "It's good when you are out there doing it yourself. Then you have a sense of what your colleagues are facing."

The position allowed her to participate in the Academic Leadership Development program through which she engaged with people who have moved into and are in leadership positions. One of her favourite aspects of the appointment is the opportunity she gets to attend graduation ceremonies. This year she witnessed more than 2000 students convocate. "It's wonderful to see all of the students and to acknowledge the graduate students crossing the stage."

Final Touches

DR. SALLY THORNE
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR FACULTY AFFAIRS, FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE

On April 1, 2012, Dr. Sally Thorne assumed the position of Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs with the Faculty of Applied Science. The appointment represents the first time someone from the School of Nursing has held an Associate Dean position within the Faculty. "I see this as a good way for me to be useful," she says. "Not only can I clear the path for the new Director for the School of Nursing, but I can also be facilitative to all of the Heads and Directors in the Faculty of Applied Science."

A longstanding member of the School of Nursing faculty, Sally is a Professor and served a nine-year term as the School Director. She is an academic nursing leader with an active program of research in the field of communication in cancer care. As an educator, she mentors students in qualitative methodology and the philosophy of science, and serves as Editor-in-Chief for *Nursing Inquiry*, a journal that aims to advance critical thinking in nursing. Her research and writing have focused attention on improving health care systems for the care of persons with chronic illness and cancer. A former Board Chair of the BC Cancer Agency, she recently completed a five-year term on the Board of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, a national initiative aimed at transforming cancer control policy in Canada.

In this new role, Sally is applying what she learned about university policies and processes from leading the School of Nursing to ensure that faculty members in Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning and Nursing are well supported in their career development. "As Director, I developed an awareness of university rules and the complexity around faculty affairs, and I welcome the opportunity to put that hard-earned knowledge to use."

TouchPOINTS

TouchPoints is published by the
School of Nursing, Faculty of Applied Science,
The University of British Columbia.

Editor: Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc
Writer: Christina Shorthouse
Production: Rivera Design Group Ltd.
Printing: Rhino Print Solutions

The UBC School of Nursing
T201-2211 Wesbrook Mall
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 2B5
Tel: 604.822.7417
Fax: 604.822.7466
www.nursing.ubc.ca

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 40681575
RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING
T210-2211 WESBROOK MALL
VANCOUVER, B.C. V6T 2B5