The Success of our Students

Promote Undergraduate Student Learning and Success

- IUSON is the first school in the history of the National League for Nursing to carry two Center of Excellence in Nursing Education designations: Creating Environments that Promote the Pedagogical Expertise of Faculty (designated since 2006); and Creating Environments that Advance the Science of Nursing Education.

- NCLEX pass rates rose to 92.6% for the calendar year 2014. Our NCLEX pass rates have increased each year since 2013, and remain above the national pass rates.

- IUSON hosted a Student Professional Development Day (SPDD) conference for more than 1000 Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) students of the Core Campus.

- Our BSN Honors Program students completed research project and were accepted to present posters at multiple local and national conferences, including the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS), the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) and the Oncology Nursing Society (ONE).

- IUSON focused on developing Interprofessional Education (IPE), by hosting several IPE student learning events and working with other IU Schools to develop IPE Ethics reader’s theatre case, creating pathways for BSN students to pursue an informatics certificate or coursework concurrently within their plan of study.

- Partnered with IU Health in our Leadership and Management courses to address real world problems. Nursing leaders from one service line at IU Health presented clinical issues to students with real unit-based data. Students worked in teams to develop innovative and evidence-based solutions, which were presented back to the units for consideration.

- IUSON incorporated graduate credits into our Accelerated Second Degree track of the BSN Program plan of study to facilitate student transition to graduate school.

- IUSON pursued successful innovations in clinical learning, including:
  - A Clinical Learning Partnership (CLU) model of clinical education in January, 2015. Students learned from both a faculty member who was present on the unit and from staff nurses who served as clinical learning partners.
  - Interprofessional learning opportunities for senior students included high fidelity simulations at the Fairbanks Center for Simulation and engagement in the IU Student Outreach Clinic.
  - Interprofessional education in which Junior nursing students and fourth-year medical students worked together as dyads during an assessment and planning activity with patients in an acute care setting with faculty post debriefing sessions by IUSON that focused on interprofessional communication and collaboration.
  - Students completed service learning at the Indiana University Student Outreach Clinic, which is now incorporated into key BSN courses to sustainability.
The Office of Diversity and Enrichment (ODE) secured funding ($50,000 - Fall, 2014) from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to support students in the school's Accelerated BSN program who are traditionally underrepresented in the field of nursing and are pursuing second careers. Five IUSON students were awarded a $10,000 New Careers in Nursing (NCIN) scholarship. In addition to a $10,000 scholarship, NCIN scholars receive supplemental funding of $10,500 to help them meet the demands of an accelerated degree program.

Increase Capacity for Graduate and Graduate Professional education
- Twenty-four Psych-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Students in enrolled in the MSN program received tuition and stipends from the Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship (AENT) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Grant to facilitate successful and earlier completion of graduate education as they prepare for a career as primary care nurse practitioners.

- The IU School of Nursing Doctor of Nursing Practice Program has led the development of the Healthcare Revolution Team Challenge, a campus-wide interprofessional educational opportunity that includes the IU School of Nursing, the IU Center for Interprofessional Health Education and Practice, the Herron School of Art & Design, the IU School of Informatics and Computer Science, the Purdue University School of Engineering and Technology, and the IUPUI School of Liberia Arts, Department of Speech Communication. The program uses complex real-world case studies from clinical and business partners to support student learning. We partnered with HIPAA, a clinical innovation technology company based in Cincinnati, Ohio, during the Spring, 2015 term. In the Fall, 2015, we will partner with the Veterans Administration Hospital to on implementation of a new clinical protocol.

Transform Online Education
- Our online RN BSN State-Wide Consortium option launched in 2010 has helped to boost RN-BSN student enrollment from 54 to 528 students. This option is ranked 7th out of the top 50 online Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) programs in the U.S. The 2015 rankings were compiled by College Choice at http://www.collegechoice.net/rankings/best-online-nursing-programs/, an independent college search and rankings website.

- RN BSN student Capstone experiences have resulted in excellent learning outcomes and adoption of the interdisciplinary evidence-based practice (EBP) projects in to improve nurse-sensitive patient outcomes in clinical settings (i.e., preventing patient falls, medication errors, and hospital acquired infections).

Optimize our Enrollment Management
- We continue to utilize a cohort model in our BSN Program. This model is highly efficient and enables more accurate tracking of student progression and retention, as well as facilitates clinical placement.

- Our BSN retention rates remain high, and average 95.04% for the past nine cohorts of admitted students.

Advances in Health and Life Sciences
Leverage our Strength in Health and Life Sciences
- IUSON was ranked among the top 10 nursing schools at public universities in terms of NIH funding with over $2.8 million in funded research related to helping patients and families address the challenges of living with chronic health conditions (cancer, neuro- and cardiovascular diseases). IUSON research centers supporting this work include the endowed Center for Enhancing Quality of Life in Chronic Illness (CEQL), the Research in Palliative and End-of-Life Communication and Training (RESPECT) Signature Center, and the Walter Cancer Institute funded Center.
• The IU School of Nursing was awarded a $1.4 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to continue its tradition as the state’s leader in training nurse scientists. IUSON has the state’s only PhD program in nursing science, only NIH-funded training program for nurse scientists, and only NIH-funded training program for interdisciplinary behavioral oncology research. IUSON PhD students received nearly $200,000 in external funding in 2014-15 to support their training from NIH, American Cancer Society, Oncology Nursing Society.

Contributions to the Well-being of the Citizens of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana, and Beyond

Accelerate Innovation and Discovery through Research and Creative Activity
• The IU School of Nursing established the Social Network Research Lab after receiving a gift of de-identified data from ChaCha. The unique nature of the ChaCha data, composed entirely of questions submitted by users on a wide range of subjects from 2009 to 2012, provides researchers with unparalleled access to the public’s questions about health and wellness. The lab includes interdisciplinary researchers from medicine, informatics and computing, and liberal arts. Leveraging the advanced computing methods available at IU, the lab’s initial projects involve mining the ChaCha data set to understand how ChaCha users ask about health and wellness.

• IUSON is the state’s nursing leader in developing innovative public-private partnerships. Partnerships with Hollister (a manufacturer of ostomy supplies), Teladoc (a telehealth provider), and Telemon (a telehealth and telecommunications leader) have led to receipt of nearly $1 million in external research funding.

• IUSON faculty received a fifth KL2 scholar award. These highly competitive awards from the NIH-funded Indiana Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute support the career development of nurse scientists and recognize the unique contribution IU nursing faculty to translational research to Indiana and nationally.

• Sheri Robb, PhD, MT-BC and Joan Haase, PhD, RN, FAAN led a study funded by NIH testing the effect of music therapy on young cancer patients’ coping skills. The study found that adolescents and young adults undergoing cancer treatment gain coping skills and resilience-related outcomes when they participate in a therapeutic music process that includes writing song lyrics and producing videos. This study was published in the January issue of CANCER, a prestigious peer-reviewed journal of the American Cancer Society. http://www.musictherapy.org/landmark_multisite_study_reveals_positive_effects_of_music_therapy_protocol_among_youth_in_cancer_treatment/

• One of two research centers that received Signature Center designation from IUPUI is housed at the Indiana University School of Nursing thanks to Susan Hickman, PhD, and Joan Haase, PhD, RN, FAAN, co-directors of the Research in Palliative and End-of-Life Communication and Training Center (RESPECT), along with Greg Sachs, MD, from IU School of Medicine.

Deepen our Commitment to Community Engagement
• The IUSON early outreach program, Breaking the Myths of Nursing, provided underrepresented high school students in grades 9-12 with an insight into the realities of nursing. The 2-day program was combined with the Indiana University School of Dentistry in collaboration with Eta Chi Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., which is a national nursing organization, and is now Breaking the Myths of Nursing and Dentistry.

• Marsha Baker, Director of Diversity and Enrichment continues to collaborate with IUPUI University College, Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet High School (CAMMHS), and Indiana University School of Dentistry to offer a first-year seminar course to CAMMHS students who are taking prerequisite courses at IUPUI.
The IU School of Nursing has made community engagement a major strategic priority. In 2014, IUSON created the position of Assistant Dean for Operations & Community Partnerships to provide executive level leadership and strategic guidance to community engagement strategies.

In response to the high demand for nurse practitioners following the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, the IUSON has partnered with Eskenazi Health, Riggs Community Health Center and the Boone County Community Clinic to launch a dedicated clinical program for IUSON Family Nurse Practitioner students that will enable us to focus on preparing Nurse Practitioners to support vulnerable patients in urban and rural settings. The program includes jointly appointed faculty and an innovative clinical education model.

IU School of Nursing has established a new partnership with Damar Services, Inc. to provide professional continuing education opportunities focused on the care and treatment of persons with autism spectrum disorder, intellectual and developmental disabilities. The partnership will also provide service learning opportunities for IU School of Nursing Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Students.

In the Fall, 2014, the IU School of Nursing joined with the McKinney School of Law, the IU School of Public Health, the IU School of Medicine, the IU Center for Bioethics, Eskenazi Health, the Marion County Public Health Department and the Indiana State Department of Health to host a community discussion on the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak. The panel, “Ebola: Over There, now Over Here” was well attended and widely covered by local media.

In response to the HIV outbreak in Scott County Indiana, the IU School of Nursing led a webcast discussion panel with leaders and subject matter experts from IU School of Nursing, the Indiana State Department of Health, Covering Kids & Families, Inc., the IU School of Medicine, the Fairbanks School of Public Health and the IU School of Public Health in Bloomington. As a result of the symposium, several key connections were made leading to the provision of Navigator services to support health insurance enrollment for affected populations which will ensure long-term recovery efforts.

IUSON is partnering with the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) to provide an online educational program to prepare practicing CNS’ to serve as preceptors for clinical students. This national outreach will further IUSON’s national preeminence in Clinical Nurse Specialist education and practice.

Working under a grant provided by the Indiana Family & Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health & Addiction, IUSON launched an online educational program for mental health professionals designed to promote culturally competent care in mental health services in both urban and rural settings.

In the Spring, 2015, IU School of Nursing, the Indiana Area Health Education Center (AHEC), the IU Center for Interprofessional Health Education & Practice, the Herron School of Art & Design and the IU School of Medicine, Department of Emergency Medicine sponsored an executive-level community design session to re-envision primary care delivery models in Central Indiana. The design event was attended by hospital and health system CEOs, nursing leaders and a wide variety of healthcare executives from multiple sectors.

In memory of Kaye Woltman, the Woltman family established a three-part initiative to help education families and caregivers, and create a greater focus on end-of-life and palliative issues in IU School of Nursing’s graduate Nursing curriculum through a gift of $770,000 over three years. The Woltman Family Communication Program will provide training to healthcare providers to implement evidence-based practices that improve patient and family satisfaction in end-of-life care. The IU Health System, with over 80 locations and 18 hospitals, will serve as the clinical partner for the Woltman Communications Program.
Strengthen Internationalization Efforts

- For the academic year 2014-2015 $8,559 in scholarship funds were awarded to 5 students for international travel.

- Thirteen students from across campus participated with six students from IUSON. The six nursing students were credentialed to provide care by the Swaziland Board of Nursing and worked at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital. In addition, they provide health assessment clinics and saw over 322 children and adults. They visited three schools and four homesteads of grandmothers providing care to orphans.

- Three new agreements were finalized this year in working with Moi University (Kenya), National Defense Medical Center and Sun Yat-sen University (Guangzhou, China).

Promote an Inclusive Campus Climate

- Interprofessional Education - During the 2014 spring break, three Doctor of Nursing Practice students and eight Masters of Business Administration students from the Kelley School of Business at IUPUI collaborated in a joint program to engage in a strategic planning consultation at the request of the CEO of the John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Monrovia. The vice-president for strategic planning at Eskenazi served as a scholar-in-residence and accompanied the group to Monrovia. This Health and the Business of Health Program was approved by the Overseas Study Abroad Committee.

- The HRSA Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) brings together Schools of Nursing and Medicine, and IU Health along with primary care centers across the state of Indiana to facilitate Interprofessional practice in the state.

Develop Faculty and Staff

- The IU School of Nursing Staff held their annual Staff Retreat in July 2014. The staff participated in community service projects at various non-profit organizations in Indianapolis, which presented a strong cross departmental team-building opportunity.

- Interested Staff & Faculty (30+) were placed on teams for the University-wide Healthy IU Climbing Challenge. Staff and Faculty also scheduled a day to walk to the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on “World Heart Day” in September, 2014, to bring awareness to heart disease and prevention.

- Other health initiatives also took place throughout the year, including as group walks, cooking demonstrations and Zumba sessions to keep health and well-being in the forefront of everyone’s mind.

- We hosted several faculty learning and development events, including:
  - Health Coaching workshops
  - Test item writing workshops
  - As we implement the concept based teaching and learning methodology in the school of nursing, we recognize the important part that faculty development plays in successful implementation. Concept based teaching and learning workshops as well as a day-long Concept-Based Teaching & Learning faculty retreat with content expert Ginny Wangerin in January 2015. Additionally, we sponsored BSN faculty to attend the Concept-Based Curriculum Symposium 2015: Building a Foundation for Success.

- We sponsored School of Nursing faculty to attend the SIM institute.

- We hired .5 FTE faculty role for evaluation; part of this work will include planning for faculty development related to evaluation and assessment.