

JOHNS HOPKINS NURSING

White House Calls

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NEXT LEVEL

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SAYS IT'S TIME TO
CHANGE NURSING



TANZANIA GUEST

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FROM THE DEAN

THE NEXT NEW PATH

In the life of a school, there are years of planning, years of building, and some years where you hope it all comes to fruition. This year, thanks to the amazing work of our school, was a year of fruition. Even though COVID-19 presented challenges, difficulties, and tremendous loss, we continued to work together to make 2021 filled with successes, like the grand opening of our new building, the installation of four endowed chairs, and students, faculty, and staff receiving numerous awards.

As new dean, I know these achievements are a result of our community and the successful leadership of my predecessors, who set their sights high and far into what the future of our school would be. I am overwhelmed with pride and enthusiasm that I have the opportunity to follow in their footsteps and forge the next new path in our successful and mission-driven school.

In my vision, some of which is shared in this issue, I will not only be building on the school’s already strong foundation, but also listening and learning from you—our students, staff, faculty, alumni, friends, and supporters—to use your expertise and partnership to raise the health of the nation and create nursing leaders who are committed to social justice and health equity and see people where they are in their context.

As I introduce our Fall/Winter 2021 issue of *Johns Hopkins Nursing*, I want to thank you for reading our magazine and being invested in our school. This publication showcases who we are and what we stand for. It is a beacon of thought leadership and connection to colleagues and friends around the world.

I hope you are inspired by the stories of resilience, compassion, determination, and leadership that fill the pages. They make me proud and ever eager for what’s yet to come in our bright future.

Sarah Szanton
PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing
Patricia M. Davidson Professor for Health Equity & Social Justice





20 Images from the White Coat Ceremony

Johns Hopkins Nursing
501 N. Wolfe Street, Suite 022
Baltimore, MD

son-editor@jhu.edu
MAGAZINE.NURSING.JHU.EDU

EDITOR
Steve St. Angelo
sstange2@jhu.edu

MANAGING EDITOR
Tammy Berwanger
tberwanger@jhu.edu

VIGILANDO EDITOR
Katie Damaroda
kdamaro1@jhu.edu

ART DIRECTION
Orange Element

SOCIAL MEDIA
Sydnee Logan
slogan4@jhu.edu

CONTRIBUTING WRITER
Danielle Kress
dkress@jhu.edu

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President's Council pick; new faculty FAANs; Bloomberg Distinguished Professor debuts; White Coat Ceremony; We Are All East Baltimore; and more.



Fall 2021 finds the beloved frog back on his perch in the Pinkard Building's Courtyard oasis—and joining the fun of the White Coat Ceremony (Page 20).

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL



Bloomberg Professor Picked for President's Council

Bloomberg Distinguished Professor Lisa Cooper, MD, MPH, a pioneering public health disparities researcher, general internist, and professor at the Schools of Nursing, Public Health, and Medicine, has been appointed to the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST).

One of the most prominent White House advisory panels, PCAST counsels the president on developments related to science, innovation, and technology, including health and medicine. In his executive order, President Biden highlighted the group's role in providing pivotal scientific and technological data-driven expertise to inform his administration's evidence-based decision making.

"At a moment when the COVID pandemic has once again exposed the devastating impact of health care disparities, Dr. Cooper brings to her new role decades of pioneering contributions to the field of health care equity and an enduring commitment to uniting research with effective policy and impactful community-based initiatives to ensure equal dignity, opportunity, and flourishing for all," says JHU President Ron Daniels.

Cooper, the James F. Fries Professor of Medicine at the JHU School of Medicine, is the founder and director of the Johns

Hopkins Center for Health Equity, a transdisciplinary research center with a goal of ending health disparities at the local, national, and international levels, and directs the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute, which aims to strengthen health and health equity in the Baltimore community. She joined the Johns Hopkins University faculty in 1994.

"Inequities in access to education, health care, and economic opportunities are among the most serious problems we face in the U.S. and around the world," says Cooper, a member of the National Academy of Medicine. "I hope to use this opportunity to translate my own and other scientists' research findings to help ensure that Americans of all racial and socioeconomic backgrounds are engaged in and benefit from the creation and the rewards of science and technology."

Born in Liberia, Cooper credits her early experiences witnessing social inequality with fueling her passion for health equity, and she has dedicated her career to leading health disparities research. She is a 2007 recipient of a MacArthur Foundation "Genius" Award for exploring disparities in the quality of patient care and interventions to promote effective patient-physician communication and has served as a mentor to dozens of current and aspiring medical, public health, and nursing professionals.

Cooper's book *Why Are Health Disparities Everyone's Problem?* addresses how health disparities permeate our society and explores the actions we can take to create a healthier, more equitable world. ■



DEBORAH BAKER



LAURA SAMUEL

Faculty Members Join FAAN Ranks

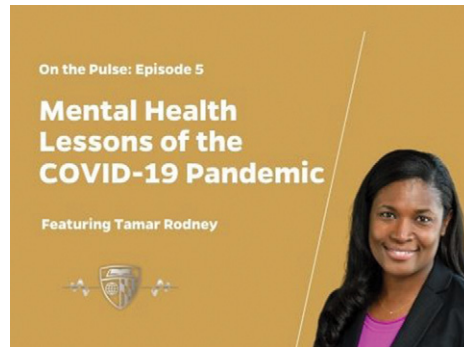
Deborah J. Baker, DNP, ACNP, NEA-BC, associate dean for health systems partnership and innovation, and Laura Samuel, PhD, MSN, RN, assistant professor, have been inducted as fellows of the American Academy of Nursing. The honor celebrates their accomplishments within the nursing profession and their leadership in education, practice, and research.

In addition to her faculty and administrative roles at JHSON, Baker is senior vice president of nursing for the Johns Hopkins Health System and vice president of nursing and patient care services at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She works with chief nursing officers across the Johns Hopkins hospitals to ensure integration of services and alignment with the health system's strategic goals and objectives. This includes the provision of quality services, enhancing patient-centered clinical practice environments, and ensuring nursing practice at the highest scope of licensure. Baker is a three-time JHSON alumna and serves on the school's Nursing Advisory Board.

As a researcher and policy advocate, Samuel examines the pathways that link low income and financial strain to physiologic aging. Her research has revealed that financial strain predicts health outcomes independent of income, suggesting that income adequacy is more important for health than income amount. Her research has also shown that household and neighborhood conditions partly account for socioeconomic disparities in functional outcomes among older adults. Samuel has examined how the use of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is associated with health care utilization and improved cardiometabolic health. ■

ON THE PULSE

PODCAST



Mental Health Lessons of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Psychiatric nurse practitioner Tamar Rodney, PHD, MSN, RN, PMHNP-BC, CNE, joins the show to uncover how mental health has been impacted by COVID-19.



Understanding Cystic Fibrosis

Cystic fibrosis used to be considered a terminal childhood disease, but with research and improved treatments, the future continues to get brighter.

Take a deep dive into the experiences of frontline providers and researchers; explore insights into health care; hear what nursing is all about.

magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/podcasts

Kenneth Dion Eyes Momentum for Sigma

This year, Kenneth Dion, PhD, MSN, MBA, RN, FAAN, assistant dean for business innovation and strategic relationships at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, takes the reins as president of Sigma, the International Honor Society of Nursing. He will serve through 2023.

Following #NursingNow2020, The Year of the Nurse and the Midwife, and the 2020 celebration of Florence Nightingale's 200th birthday, all eyes are on nurses. Dion is working to "keep the momentum going through Sigma's 100th anniversary in 2022 and beyond."

"I'm excited to keep our traditions and values alive while participating in charting a course for our future—in a world that changes very quickly. We must think outside the box, be nimble, and execute. Furthermore, Sigma's mission, 'To develop nurse leaders anywhere to improve health care everywhere,' aligns with our own at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing." ■

Read a Q&A with Kenneth Dion at magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/dion.



Expert on Brain Trauma Appointed Bloomberg Distinguished Professor

Jessica Gill, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been named Bloomberg Distinguished Professor of Trauma Recovery Biomarkers, holding primary appointments in the Johns Hopkins Schools of Nursing and Medicine (Department of Neurology).

A 2007 PhD alumna of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, Gill is a national leader in research on the biological mechanisms of traumatic brain injuries (TBI). She has spent decades investigating TBI responses in military personnel, athletes, and others—why some recover better and others are left with long-term neurological and psychological symptoms.

Specifically, she looks for ways to use biomarkers to identify which patients with TBIs are at high risk for long-term effects including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and post-concussive syndrome, and to develop treatments. Her groundbreaking work uses sweat patches to

collect biomarkers, meaning patients can collect samples themselves in both home and work settings, providing researchers with unprecedented information and monitoring capabilities.

Dr. Gill earned her bachelor's in nursing from Linfield College and a master's in psychiatric nursing from Oregon Health and Sciences University. After her PhD at JHSON, she went to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to complete a postdoctoral fellowship focused on the biological mechanisms of PTSD and depression. She would go on to serve as a senior investigator and acting deputy scientific director of the National Institute of Nursing Research and deputy director of the Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine. Dr. Gill was the first nurse to receive the Lasker Clinical Research Scholar Award, considered the most prestigious research grant given by the NIH. ■

Warmest Wishes

Onna Lee embraces challenges, knowing the school is on her side

BY STEVE ST. ANGELO

Fresh from a mid-semester exam, MSN (Entry into Nursing) student Onna Lee was only too happy to clear her head for a few moments, remembering back to when her Johns Hopkins School of Nursing experience actually began. It was with online prerequisites, naturally. But as much as that, and its No. 1 *U.S. News & World Report* ranking and global reputation, what had turned Lee toward Johns Hopkins and Baltimore was a kindness and sincerity she felt all the way to San Francisco.

On her smartphone, Lee, a registered dietitian, keeps images of the annual holiday cards sent by the school long before she was a student, and she clearly remains moved just by the sight of them. These were among the small, genuine gestures of caring that meant so much to an immigrant from Hong Kong considering a solo move across the country, to a profession she felt might give her the opportunity to make a more profound impact on health care.

The best part, she insists, is that three semesters into the Master's Entry program, she has seen and felt the support of people at the school in person. "I know I made the right decision. I don't regret any of it."

"I followed my heart and my passion," Lee says of the journey to Johns Hopkins, one that had originally led her to the United States for schooling. "There are not many programs or support on nutrition education in Hong Kong. To become a registered dietitian, you need to go overseas for

education." She found it in the Bay Area, and worked at the University of California San Francisco and St. Mary's Medical Center, a community hospital. She quickly learned that "there is only so much you can do" as a registered dietitian, like assessments and education, Lee explains. "I was interested in more direct care of the person."

"The more I worked, the more opportunity I had to interact with nurses, so I could see what they do on a daily basis." Watching nurses operate at the center of their health care teams made "a very big decision" to leave a sure thing in California much easier, if still scary. And the chance to explore another part of America was irresistible.

"Working in the health care field makes you realize that life is really short," Lee explains. "Either do it, or you give up a great opportunity. I want to make each moment full."

Currently, that means making the most of the master's program and then starting as an acute care nurse as she continues toward her goal of becoming a nurse practitioner with a primary focus on oncology and palliative care. Lee returns to Hong Kong every few years. She misses the family, friends, and food there, if not the hustle and bustle. But she has made a home in the U.S. and plans to continue her nursing career here.

And as another holiday season approaches, she feels confident in her studies, in her choice of schools, in the strides JHSON is making toward diversity—"It makes me comfortable to be here," she says—and in the idea that the school doesn't simply expect her to succeed. It is making sure that she does, and openly rooting for her. That's a warm feeling. ■

"I KNOW I MADE THE RIGHT DECISION. I DON'T REGRET ANY OF IT."

Read more profiles from the We Are All East Baltimore series at magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/meetus.

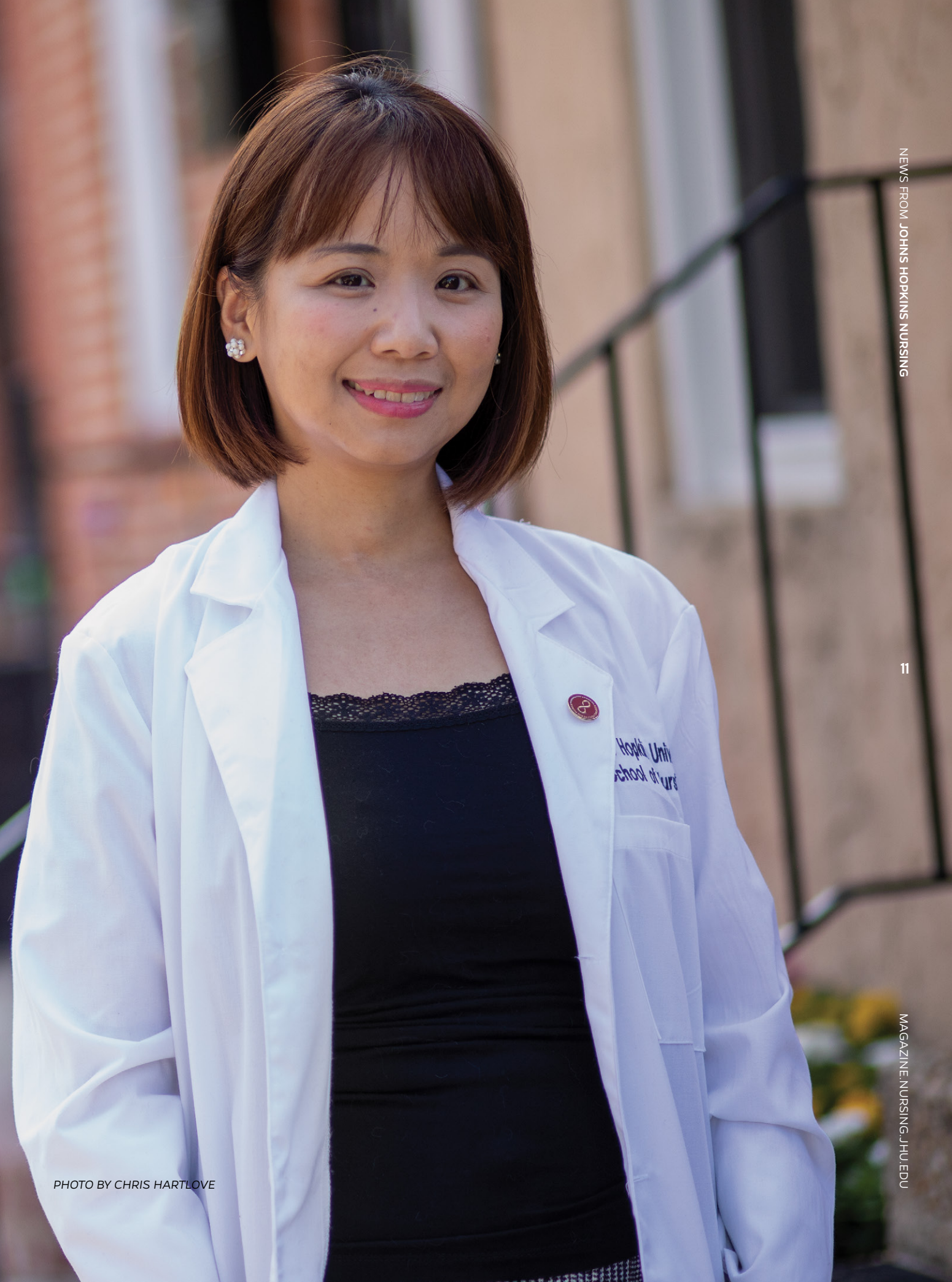


PHOTO BY CHRIS HARTLOVE



PHOTO BY CHRIS HARTLOVE

Comfort in Sharing

Donor David M. Schwaber knows the good fortune of crossing paths with Johns Hopkins Nurses. He's out to make their journey a bit smoother

BY STEVE ST. ANGELO

David M. Schwaber, a PhD in polymer science, knows plastics, resins, and rubbers; how to put elements together to build something stronger and longer-lasting; how to design and manufacture an athletic shoe component that can help its wearer win the Boston Marathon (twice). He knows what good fortune looks like, having sold (with a business partner) a successful Baltimore company and retired to a life he and wife Alena, also a polymer scientist, have filled with world travel and a bold, eclectic collection of paintings, prints, and sculptures.

And Dr. Schwaber can rattle off the names of the Johns Hopkins physicians who have twice saved his life in medical emergencies.

The nurses' names? Unfortunately, no. But he remembers the care and impact they had on his experience. He is hardly alone, of course, as part of a patient-caregiver dynamic that is only very slowly changing as nurses take a greater role in not just laying on hands but researching, establishing, and leading health care across medical systems. But the idea that nurses could be so easily overlooked bugs him. (Dr. Schwaber is quick to report that, after a chance encounter, he can name a nurse who cared for his father in his final days as a cancer patient at Johns Hopkins, a knowledge Dr. Schwaber treasures.)

Dr. Schwaber had also been looking to make a difference in his Baltimore hometown, as a way to honor the hard work of his employees and all those who had influenced

or supported him along the way to success. "If you are able to accumulate wealth, you should do something good with it," he says, "not just grow it."

A mentor in a similarly fortunate position spoke of his own "adoption" of the nursing program at a local community college. Then COVID struck, with legions of mostly anonymous nurses hustling to the front lines, and the elements aligned. His subsequent gift-giving includes \$1.32 million to support nursing students from Baltimore City through scholarship aid.

Alena Schwaber, who grew up under a communist regime in Zlin—part of the Czech Republic in Eastern Europe—is in equal parts proud of her husband's generosity and amazed that such a thing is even possible. "I am admiring that someone like David could do something like this. I admire people who are supporting hospitals and schools after they achieve in their own lives."

David Schwaber is grateful to have found a good cause. ("Nursing is a noble field," he says.) And he likes the idea that his gift today will continue to pay off well into the future by helping the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing keep expanding the limits of what nurses can do and can mean to their communities.

Nursing isn't a sprint, after all ... it's a marathon. And Dr. Schwaber is determined to help those future nurses go the extra mile. ■

"IF YOU ARE ABLE TO ACCUMULATE WEALTH, YOU SHOULD DO SOMETHING GOOD WITH IT."

The Sky Is No Longer the Limit

It took a few extra trips around the sun, but Dorothy Coker has found her space

BY STEVE ST. ANGELO

Among a galaxy of reasons to choose among the five-star programs at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, Dorothy Coker saw one tiny black hole: No program designed for students interested in space nursing—preparing to handle the health and safety issues that will undoubtedly arise or increase with wildly accelerating near- and deep-space travel. 5-4-3-2-1 ...

Coker arrived for the MSN (Entry into Nursing) program on a mission. “I immediately went looking for faculty to partner with on building a new program,” she says. “I initially met Dr. [Vinciya] Pandian interviewing for the Research Honors Program, and she has been so receptive and supportive of the idea. I was also really lucky to find support and mentorship in Dr. [Mark] Shelhamer, who runs the Human Spaceflight Lab over at the School of Medicine.” And liftoff! A student-interest group Coker leads is now up and running, with ideas today potentially forming the curricula of tomorrow.

Pandian, PHD, MBA, MSN, FAAN, assistant dean for immersive learning and digital innovation, calls Coker a star in the making. Coker’s amazed to have found such a willing partner, but she’s not really surprised.

“I wouldn’t have gotten anywhere without Dr. Pandian and others who do this incredible stuff at Johns Hopkins. Nothing is too big here,” Coker explains. “It’s still amazing to me going through these classes and seeing, your professor is the one who actually wrote the textbook.”

Coker has a ton of experience as well, but in a very different field—real estate. “I really took the long way around to get to

nursing,” she explains. Specifically, Coker grew up in Portsmouth, NH, where her mom and her godfather ran a brokerage and a straightforward career path in real estate sat there, waiting for the right offer. Coker wasn’t buying. “My mom loves to tell a story: I’m walking out the door and I’m in the driveway, leaving for college, and said, ‘I will never do real estate.’ Anything but that.”

Health care had always been at the back of her mind. Nursing had not. So even as she volunteered for the Red Cross or helped at a children’s hospital, “I didn’t understand all the different ways you can be a nurse.” Instead, Coker set off for Kenyon College in Ohio (pre-med ... not for her), switching to art (Kenyon’s printmaking program), then international law (for a firm in Shanghai). Next, a decade in Boston real estate—famous last words. It was rewarding, and she misses it (all but having to market herself—“I was horrible at that part!”).

Instead, Johns Hopkins helped sell her on what she could accomplish. Coker wanted a master’s program that let her chart her own nursing course rather than follow a pre-set path. She wanted to research, to do community-public health, “to be clinically involved.” (Check, check, check.)

She knows it might sound odd to focus on interstellar science when our planet has so many problems of its own. And she’s not personally interested in any real estate beyond Earth’s orbit, thank you. But she wouldn’t mind hitchhiking along (remotely) as humans learn to deal with health issues that increased space travel will bring—then applying that research to fix things at home. She’s down-to-earth, and then some.

“I’m literally a speck here,” Coker says of her own place in the cosmos. “And it brings me peace to think about that. I know for a lot of people I say that and they say, ‘Really? Because that makes me feel insignificant.’ But for me, it’s a calming thing.” ■

“I DIDN’T UNDERSTAND ALL THE DIFFERENT WAYS YOU CAN BE A NURSE.”

PHOTO BY CHRIS HARTLOVE



Stars of 2021



An Evening with the Stars is a highlight of each calendar year at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly limited the in-person part of An Evening With the Stars once again in 2021 but has dimmed none of the significance or appreciation for the efforts of our winners:

Elsie Payton Jarvis Star Nurse Award, established in 2017 to recognize nurses who demonstrate clinical excellence in their area of nursing to improve the quality of patient care and have made a significant difference to the nursing profession.

Tim Brown, Howard County General Hospital
Jennifer Carpenter, Suburban Hospital
Michelle Cook, All Children's Hospital
Jessica Peters, Bayview Medical Center
Allison Schiefer, Johns Hopkins Hospital
Alison Stephan, Sibley Memorial Hospital

Eunice Searles King Student Award, established in 2018 to recognize a current JHSON student who exemplifies leadership within the classroom or in student organizations, participates in community outreach efforts, and exhibits outstanding patient care in clinical rotations. Students must also demonstrate excellence in scholarship and perform significant, meritorious, compassionate service to Hopkins patients, patient families, or the Hopkins community.

Alainna Crotty, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

Cynthia and Peter Rosenwald Nursing Innovator Award, established in 2016 to recognize nurses for developing implementable and innovative initiatives that improve the quality of patient care and benefit the hospitals across the Johns Hopkins Health System.

Jade Flinn, Johns Hopkins Hospital

Rosenwald ICU Nurse Award, recognizing nurses at all Johns Hopkins Hospitals who go above and beyond the call of duty in providing caring, compassionate, and competent nursing.

Katherine Rogers, All Children's Hospital

Suzanne Concato Preceptor Award, recognizing preceptors committed to mentoring students on a 1:1 basis—providing nursing students the opportunity to assess patients and promoting critical thinking and clinical decision making.

Courtney Garry, Johns Hopkins Hospital

Linda Davies Versic Faculty Award, given to a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in patient care, looks for innovative ways to engage students and peers in local and global community health care programs, and connects with students.

Jennifer Milesky, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

School of Nursing Diversity Award, recognizing staff, faculty, and students for contributions related to the development and celebration of diversity and inclusion locally and/or globally.

Janiece Taylor, assistant professor

Staff Excellence Award

Julia Wilson, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

Alumni Association Heritage Award

Jane Ball, UC '69, BSN '74, MPH '79, DrPH '80
Gail Ochs, UC '65

Dean's Award

Deborah Baker, Johns Hopkins Health System
JoAnn Ioannou, GBMC Health Care
Leslie Mancuso, Jhpiego
Laura J. Wood, Boston Children's Hospital ■

See more at nursing.jhu.edu/stars

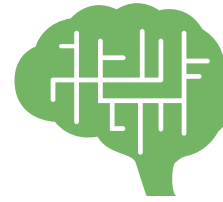


You Are Here

Thinking about joining us at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing? Follow along with our Admissions team on virtual tours of neighborhoods in Baltimore.

Society to Cells

Highlights in published research
from experts at the Johns Hopkins
School of Nursing



The Way Back to 'Normal'

Those with a traumatic brain injury (TBI) often face a realization that the old “normal” is gone, a life purpose replaced with limits. Yet the yearning to find meaning remains.

In “Traumatic Brain Injury and the Theory of Meaning” (*Journal of Loss & Trauma*), Assistant Professor Tamar Rodney, Master’s (Entry into Nursing) student Jemima Nkansah, and a colleague describe their work testing the Theory of Meaning (TOM) with TBI sufferers. Participants were asked: “How would you describe your injury?”; “What has been the greatest change related to your injury?”; “How would you define your life’s purpose?”

“The TOM was developed by Viktor Frankl and based on the premise that the ‘primary

human motivation was to seek meaning and purpose in life.’ ... The TOM suggests that individuals find meaning in every situation,” even the worst, the authors write, adding suggestions for caregivers:

Recognize the individual as a whole and not just an injury or symptoms. Consider the impact of intervention on the mind, body, and spirit. Suffering should be considered “whatever the experiencing person says it is.”

They hope their findings increase awareness among caregivers of the possibilities as well as the challenges for TBI victims. “We can transform a tragedy into a triumph.” ■



Called Out for Calling Out

The greatest ability is availability. It is a cliché that has stuck because it has become so ingrained in many professions, nursing being no exception. Your skills don’t matter if you’re not there, goes the thinking. Sick time is a cherished work benefit, until you’re the one left working extra shifts to cover for an ill colleague in a health system that can be overburdened in the best of times. A workforce already stretched to the limit by a pandemic can be further fractured by what is said or unsaid.

In “Working While Ill During COVID-19: Ethics, Guilt, and Moral Community” (*AACN Advanced Critical Care*), PhD Candidate Katie Nelson and Professor Cynda Rushton look at the costs—to nurses, teamwork, patient care, and productivity—of making that call to go to work or to stay home.

“Nurses, particularly in critical care, may experience pervasive feelings of guilt and shame when they perceive that they are unable to fulfill their job responsibilities,” the authors write, suggesting they might refuse to “abandon my patients and my colleagues”

or reason that protective equipment will keep others safe from a potentially infected nurse.

And when the call is to stay home? “The narrative in the break room may be one of judgment and resentment, as colleagues question whether illness is being used as a ‘cop out.’ No one wants to be the topic of break room conversation or carry the stigma of being viewed as a ‘slacker.’ ”

The authors acknowledge the financial constraints of health care systems but argue that “now is not the time to balance the budget on the backs of those who have sacrificed so much.” Better answers: Clear and consistent policies regarding expectations of nurses to work when they are ill; a clear process for determining what threshold warrants coming to work when symptoms are present.

“Outlining the degrees of freedom in personal decision-making regarding the severity of illness and being clear on processes are necessary steps to reduce guilt and shame.” ■



The Confidence to Fend Off Frailty

Approximately 15 percent of U.S. older adults living outside nursing homes are physically frail, with increased prevalence in women, racial and ethnic minority communities, older individuals, and those with lower socioeconomic status, write Assistant Professor Melissa Hladek, Dean Sarah Szanton, and colleagues in “Self-efficacy Proxy Predicts Frailty Incidence Over Time in Non-institutionalized Older Adults” (*Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*).

This can lead to increased disability, depression, and morbidity and decreased quality of life.

You can’t prevent aging, of course. But, the authors write, you may be able predict which individuals are prone to develop frailty over time. It turns out that self-efficacy is more than a feeling; it translates into better health outcomes. Improving self-efficacy helps at-risk individuals adopt healthful behaviors, like exercise or better nutrition, that increase strength, flexibility, and balance, lessen

the body’s stress responses, and influence feelings of wellness.

This study adds to the existing literature that feeling more confident in one’s abilities could make individuals more resilient as life challenges arise and may ultimately influence their progression to physical frailty.

“In other words, increasing self-efficacy in one area (e.g., exercise self-efficacy) has the potential to influence self-efficacy in other domains (e.g., general self-efficacy). ... Self-efficacy is malleable, meaning that it can improve.” And perhaps the cycle of frailty may be broken or slowed.

“This makes improvements in self-efficacy a potential target for physical frailty multi-modal interventional design and measurement,” Hladek, Szanton, and their colleagues conclude. ■

**‘CELLS TO SOCIETY’
IS NOW ‘SOCIETY
TO CELLS’**

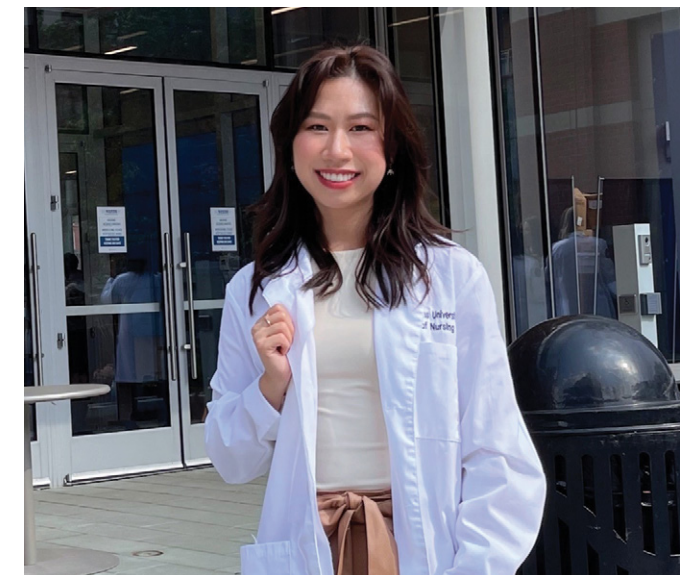
We’ve renamed this research roundup to reflect that everything in society impacts human cells, not vice versa.



THE WHITE COAT

On these pages, MSN (Entry into Nursing) Program students show off the white coats presented by Johns Hopkins School of Nursing donors to celebrate the start of their nursing journeys.

See more white coat images and many more snapshots from the life of the school at [FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/HOPKINSNURSING/ALBUMS](https://www.flickr.com/photos/hopkinsnursing/albums)



“LOOK AT THE WORK IN FRONT OF YOU AS AN OPPORTUNITY. BE BRAVE. MUCH WILL BE NEW AND INTIMIDATING. DO IT ANYWAY.”

— Robert Carter, senior director of Johns Hopkins Hospital’s Office of Emergency Management and keynote speaker at the fall White Coat Ceremony



HOPKINS AT HOME

YOUR DOORWAY TO LECTURES, LIVESTREAMS, AND MORE.

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Brought to you by the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association and open to everyone, Hopkins at Home provides access to recorded lectures, presentations, and performances as well as the opportunity to connect with faculty for live sessions and mini-courses.



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Diversity Awards

The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing has received its fourth consecutive **INSIGHT Into Diversity Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award** and the American Association for Men in Nursing designation as a **Best School for Men in Nursing** for the third year in a row. Thirty-five percent of students and 31 percent of faculty are from racial or ethnic minorities, and the school recently saw a 37 percent increase in men enrolled in its master's programs.

“These recognitions speak to the fact that diversity, equity, and inclusion are not simply phrases we talk about at our school, but an intentional way of being,” says Dean Sarah L. Szanton, PhD, RN, FAAN. “We know there is more work to do, but I am proud that our community embraces diversity and recognizes that influencing the world in this sphere starts right here at home in our school.”



To ensure an inclusive environment, JHSON's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) provides strategic vision and leadership and serves as a resource for faculty, staff, and students to address areas of success and issues of concern. An educational committee addresses biases, examines teaching and learning practices (including a review of textbooks), and creates resources specific to DEI.

“There is much to be gained when we stand together as a community to embrace these values,” says Gloria Ramsey, JD, RN, FNAP, FAAN, associate dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. ■

ON THE PULSE: A JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF NURSING PODCAST

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ON THE PULSE



Johns Hopkins
School of Nursing



PHOTO BY CHRIS HARTLOVE

CAPABLE HANDS

*Sarah Szanton takes reins as fifth dean
of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing*

Sarah L. Szanton, PhD, RN, FAAN, was the perfect choice as the fifth dean of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing.

Szanton is, after all, a nationally renowned and well-funded researcher, leader, and health equity advocate, co-developer of the game-changing CAPABLE program, and Patricia M. Davidson Professor for Health Equity and Social Justice. She had directed the school's PhD program, chaired the Doctor of Philosophy Board, and directed three academic centers concurrently, managing multimillion-dollar budgets and programming. Szanton also has a joint faculty appointment in the Department of Health Policy and Management in the Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Still, even as she introduced herself in August as their dean to wild applause and waving of “Sarah Fans” designed for the occasion, some in the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing community remained a bit stunned—in a pleasant way—that Szanton would make the choice to lead them.

What *she* saw, however, was a moment of potential nursing impact too important to miss.

Nursing is changing. Four in 10 nurses do not work in hospitals; they work in schools, outpatient clinics, long-term care facilities, health departments, and elsewhere. After surgery, a person will increasingly recover at home. There is a move afoot to address a nursing shortage in communities through prevention. Meanwhile, gaps in equity in health care and health policy have been further laid bare by COVID.

So nursing education, policy, and research must change as well, comfort zones be darned.

Szanton is determined that the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing (JHSON) will remain out front. Thus, becoming dean offers an increased opportunity to mentor, to encourage, to motivate, to reassure, to embolden, and if necessary to shove forward on an agenda to match the future.

“It’s time to leverage our leadership and step up to change all of nursing, not just our school,” she

insists, and for nurses to provide care for people where and how they live.

“At the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, we’ll focus more on what graduates are able to do rather on the content that is taught,” Szanton says. “This provides the opportunity to advance our curriculum to what matters most in people’s lives. Health is lived every day, not just in the ICU and the ER.”

“Last winter, we charged the School of Nursing Dean Search Committee to undertake a comprehensive international search for a leader who would continue to build on the school’s preeminence in education, research, and practice among the nation’s top schools of nursing,” says a message from JHU President Ron Daniels and Provost Sunil Kumar announcing Szanton’s appointment. “Ultimately, that search led us to one of our own.”

From a young age, Szanton’s Quaker faith grounded her—eyes opened to everyday inequities built into laws, policies, and norms; heart and mind determined to challenge them.

As a Harvard-educated Capitol Hill lobbyist for reproductive health, Szanton was moved by frequent encounters with nurse practitioners advocating for their populations and inspired by the deep understanding these nurses had of the communities with which they worked. She decided to join them, adding a JHSON bachelor’s to her

degree in African-American studies from Harvard, earning her RN license, and caring for migrant workers, people experiencing homelessness, and other under-resourced communities. She eventually added a master’s in nursing from the University of Maryland and returned to JHSON for her PhD, joining its faculty in 2007 as an assistant professor. Szanton was promoted to full professor in 2017 and now succeeds Patricia M. Davidson, PhD, MEd, RN, FAAN, who returned to her native Australia to become vice-chancellor at the University of Wollongong, her alma mater. (Longtime Executive Dean Marie Nolan served as the interim.)

Szanton co-developed the visionary CAPABLE program after years spent providing house calls predominately to low-income, African-American

older adults in West Baltimore. The program combines “handyman” services with nursing and occupational therapy to improve mobility, reduce disability and depression, and decrease health care costs among seniors hoping to age safely in their own homes. CAPABLE has been researched and scaled from Baltimore City to 45 places in 23 states and continues to expand.

“I am thrilled to work with all communities of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing to drive population health and well-being,” Szanton says. “This is a boundless time to be a nurse, and I am lucky to have the opportunity to succeed Trish Davidson in being dean of the best nursing school in the country.” ■

Szanton, Gill Join National Academy of Medicine

Dean Sarah L. Szanton and Professor Jessica Gill have been elected as members of the National Academy of Medicine (NAM).

Szanton and Gill (newly appointed Bloomberg Distinguished Professor) become part of a mission to spark innovative approaches to advance knowledge and progress in science, medicine, policy, and health equity. NAM operates under the congressional charter of the National Academy of Sciences, established in 1863 and signed into law by President Lincoln, to advise the nation on science and technology. Members are elected by their peers for outstanding contributions to research.

“It is especially meaningful to have been elected to serve beside such stellar colleagues and experts in science, technology, and health,” says Szanton. “The NAM impacts our nation’s most pressing health priorities, and bringing another nursing voice to this interdisciplinary organization is important.”

Szanton, the Patricia M. Davidson Professor for Health Equity and Social Justice, has a joint faculty appointment in the Department of Health Policy and Management in the School of Public Health.

Gill investigates the biological mechanisms of traumatic brain injuries, using biomarkers to identify patients at high risk for poor recovery and long-term

effects including post-traumatic stress disorder and depression, and to develop treatments.

“I am excited to be part of the NAM and to join in its cross-disciplinary efforts to advise national and global responses to advancing science and health equity,” Gill says. “It’s another opportunity to share my work and improve health around the world.” ■

A social media tribute to Sarah Szanton is on Page 53.



“IT’S TIME TO LEVERAGE OUR LEADERSHIP AND STEP UP TO CHANGE ALL OF NURSING, NOT JUST OUR SCHOOL.”

CHANGING OF THE GUARDIANS



Two inaugural endowed chairs added, two open chairs filled, legendary leadership continues

When Professor Jason Farley PhD, MPH, ANP-BC, FAAN, FAANP, became the inaugural Endowed Chair for Leadership and Innovation in October, it made him the fourth new chair holder in what has long been a legendary brain trust at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing.

Funded anonymously, the Endowed Chair for Leadership and Innovation will support the school's Diversity Signature Initiative to recognize exemplary nurse scholars from racial, ethnic, and gender minority groups, bolster a diverse workforce, and improve health outcomes among underrepresented communities and populations.

As a trained epidemiologist and nurse practitioner in the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Division of Infectious Disease, Farley has made a world-renowned career providing care for persons at risk of or living with HIV and other infectious diseases including tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections. Globally, and through his adjunct faculty positions at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa, and the University of Sydney in Sydney, Australia, Farley spent much of his early career investigating strains of antimicrobial resistant MRSA and developing both behavioral and technology-based interventions against multi-drug resistant TB and HIV coinfection.

He joins Professor Hae-Ra Han, PhD, MSN, RN, FAAN (Elsie M. Lawler Endowed Chair, replacing Phyllis Sharps), Marie Nolan, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN (M. Adelaide Nutting Endowed Chair, replacing Jerilyn Allen), and Craig Pollack, MD, MHS (inaugural Katey Ayers Endowed Associate Professor) as part of a continued wave of leaders put in position to have maximum impact in their areas of research, practice, and education. Sharps, PhD, MSN, FAAN, and Allen, ScD, MS, RN, FAAN, retired from the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing faculty this year.

As a researcher, Han, associate dean for community programs and initiatives, has developed innovative interventions to improve care and outcomes for traditionally underserved ethnic minority populations. Her transformational work has

reduced health disparities by helping patients use knowledge and skills to engage in self-care through health screening. She has developed and tested health literacy interventions delivered by community health workers, which have led to reducing health disparities in chronic care. Through her work, Han has helped improve cervical cancer screening among African immigrant women and women living with HIV, and promoted resilience among patients and families living with multiple chronic conditions.

Internationally known for her research on patient and family decision making in the face of critical illness and at the end of life, Nolan, executive vice dean, has shown that most seriously ill patients prefer shared decision making with their family and physician rather than the autonomous model that guides U.S. health policy. Her work has led to the development of instruments and theory that guide palliative care research internationally.

Pollack is a practicing primary care, internal medicine physician whose research focuses on social determinants of health, with an emphasis on housing policies. In work funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the National Institutes of Health, Pollack is examining the health



effects of housing mobility programs that enable families to move from areas of concentrated poverty.

Other Endowed Professors include Deborah Gross, DNSc, RN, FAAN, Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Professorship in Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing; Jacquelyn Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN, Anna D. Wolf Professorship; Cynda Rushton, PhD, RN, FAAN, Anne and George L. Bunting Professorship in Clinical Ethics; Nancy Glass, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, Independence Foundation Chair in Nursing Education; Cheryl Dennison Himmelfarb, PhD, RN, ANP, FAAN, Sarah E. Allison Professorship for Research and Self-Care; and Dean Sarah Szanton, PhD, RN, FAAN, Patricia M. Davidson Professorship for Health Equity and Social Justice. ■

PHOTOS BY SYDNEE LOGAN AND DANIEL MARTINEZ



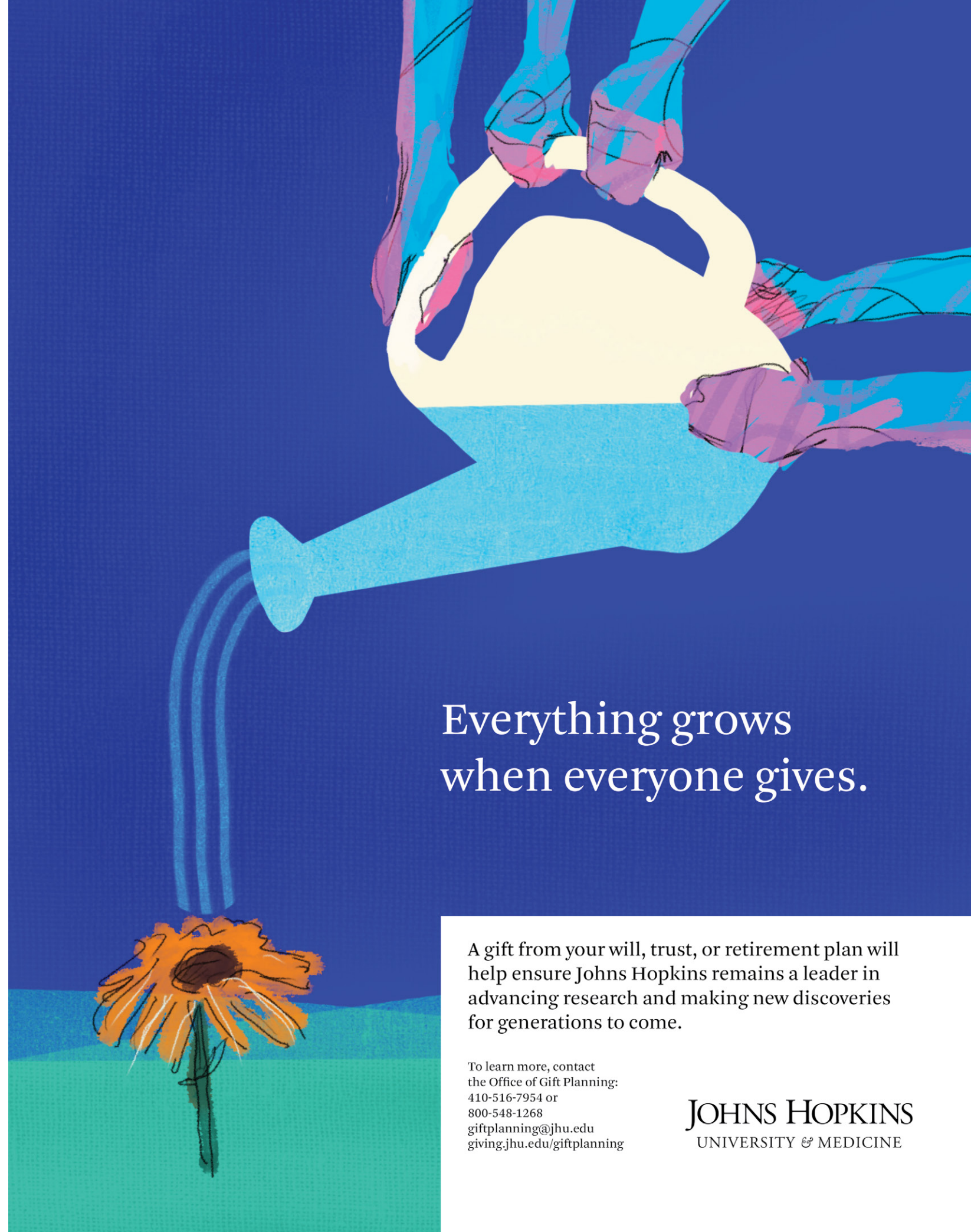
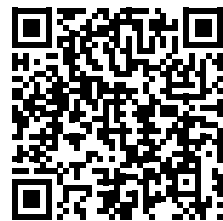


PHOTO BY DANIEL MARTINEZ

Great Effort, Great Reward

ABC Greater Baltimore and AIA Baltimore have awarded Gilbane Building Company and architects Hord Coplan Macht 2021 Excellence Awards for the Pinkard Building addition and renovation. ■

Watch a video welcome to the new Pinkard via the QR code at right.



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JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY & MEDICINE

New DNP Track in Psychiatric Mental Health

The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing will launch a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner track as part of its top-ranked Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program with first students starting in the Fall 2022 semester. Students will gain skills to become psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners and learn how to evaluate and treat mental health across the lifespan and in a wide variety of settings.

The three-year program offers online instruction with opportunities for onsite simulation, networking, and mentorship from faculty and peers. The curriculum and clinical opportunities enhance students' skills in physical and psychosocial assessment, clinical decision making, health promotion, and disease prevention. Graduates will be prepared to provide integrated care to those with mental health, substance use, and co-morbid mental and physical conditions. They will be prepared to write prescriptions, order diagnostic tests, and provide brief- and long-term treatment, prevention, and recovery services.

"Mental health is a foundational component of one's collective health and must be considered even when we're treating our physical conditions," says Tamar Rodney, PhD, MSN, RN, PMHNP-BC, CNE, director of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner track. "Those who serve as mental health nurse practitioners will make a difference to people's mental, physical, and emotional health. They will impact many levels of care and be a much needed asset within any organization."

Graduates of the program will have the knowledge and skill to lead quality improvement projects and informed care in settings ranging from inpatient hospital to primary care and specialty behavioral health centers. They will also be able to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Psychiatric Mental Health Certification. ■

Applications are now open:
nursing.jhu.edu/dnp-psych.



Grants to Expand Research and Care in Hypertension, Mental Health

The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing (JHSON) has received two grants totaling \$4.5 million to expand school researchers' work in hypertension and mental health.

A \$2.6 million grant from the American Heart Association will help JHSON researchers implement and evaluate a home blood pressure telemonitoring program. A \$1.9 million grant from the American Rescue Plan Act will help the school increase its educational offerings in mental health care and the number of mental health care providers.

These new grants "will be significant in the school's continued efforts in cardiovascular research and in preparing the next generation of nursing leaders, especially those prepared to take on mental health care," says Cheryl Dennison Himmelfarb, vice dean for research and Sarah E. Allison Professor for Research and Self-Care.

The grant from the American Heart Association was given as part of the organization's aim to prevent hypertension in underserved populations. With the funding, a team of researchers led by JHSON Assistant Professor Yvonne Commodore-Mensah will implement the LINKED-BP Program, which seeks to help hypertension patients who are receiving care at community health centers. Some participants will receive a home blood pressure monitor, access to a mobile health app, and the knowledge and expertise of a community health worker. Others will receive only the blood pressure monitor. The intervention will evaluate whether blood pressure is lowered, while comparing the outcomes of the two groups.

The full research team includes Commodore-Mensah, Dennison Himmelfarb, Bloomberg



Assistant Professor Yvonne Commodore-Mensah, left, and Cheryl Dennison Himmelfarb, vice dean for research, key members of the team that will put \$4.5 million in grants to work on addressing hypertension and mental health.

Distinguished Professor Lisa Cooper, and Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Professor Deidra Crews, Assistant Professor Chidinma Ibe, and Associate Professor Seth Martin.

The funding received from the Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services American Rescue Plan Act will help establish and support JHSON's newly launched Doctor of Nursing Practice Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner track. The grant will facilitate JHSON in its commitment to provide education for advanced practice psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners, especially those who can practice in underserved areas, as well as offer training opportunities for advanced practice registered nurses to specialize in mental health care and increase the number of doctorally prepared nursing faculty. The grant will be led by Assistant Professor Tamar Rodney, who is the project's principal investigator.

"Our school is dedicated to research and studying interventions that will directly impact people and communities locally and around the world. This new funding speaks to the breadth and depth of our researchers' work in meeting the most eminent health care needs," says Dennison Himmelfarb. ■

"THIS NEW FUNDING SPEAKS TO THE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF OUR RESEARCHERS' WORK."

NURSES AS CHANGE AGENTS FOR HEALTH EQUITY

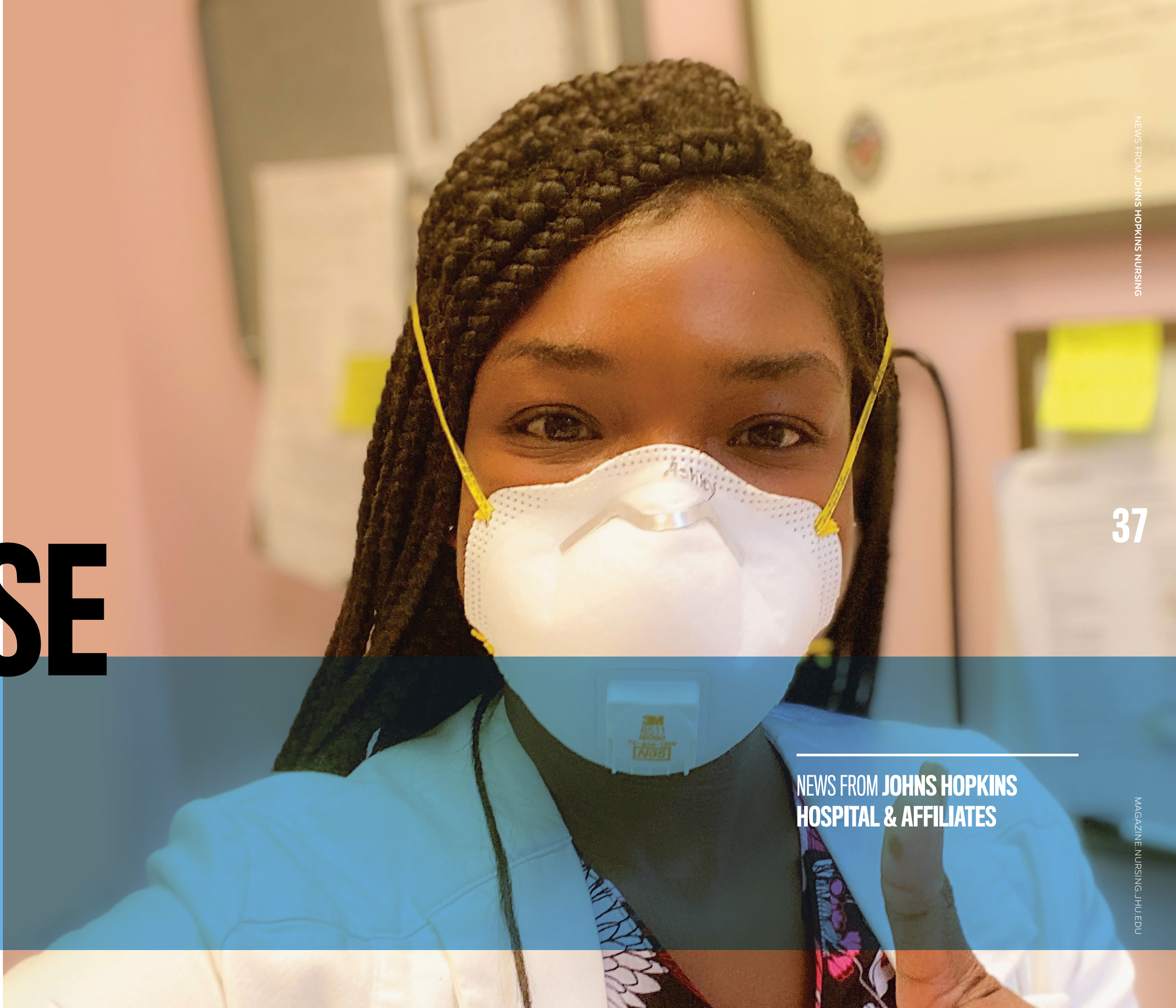
Systemic racism and prejudice, as social determinants of health, can be overcome only through systemic change: seeking (and owning) gaps in nursing science, education, and research that perpetuate inequity through what we teach and omit; how we care, when, where, and for whom. Join the journey at magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/changeagents. #WeGotThis

The joys of nursing are highlighted rather than dimmed by the challenges, says Deborah Baker (Page 38).

Nominate an outstanding Johns Hopkins Nurse by emailing DAISYAWARD@JHMI.EDU

JH NURSE

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NEWS FROM JOHNS HOPKINS HOSPITAL & AFFILIATES



A Letter from Deborah Baker:

Why We're Here

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Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, it has often felt like we are riding a never-ending roller coaster, with too many ups and downs to count—the waves of new cases that rush in and then seem to ebb like the tides, the joy when the vaccines were approved and we began putting shots into arms, the discouraging news of the more contagious delta variant spreading throughout our communities. While the number of patients being treated for COVID-19 at our hospitals recently began to decrease, the specter of this pandemic still looms large over much of what we do.

Over the past year and a half (plus), we have been through a lot as nurses—personally and professionally. Our patients, our colleagues, and the impact we make as nurses bring us back each day. But what fills our cups? I believe that, no matter what is thrown at us, when you look closely, magical moments are revealed—quiet, meaningful interactions with patients, families, and care teams, and the times when nurses must lean into their expertise and skill to solve a problem or deliver care. These are the moments that few see but that motivate you to return tomorrow to do it all again.

When I round at each of the JHM hospitals and I glimpse one of these magical moments, it reaffirms my dedication to this profession and to our incredible nursing staff. But more often, I hear about our nurses' extraordinary actions from patients, family members, and colleagues.

Recently, I heard the incredible story of multiple care teams at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center that came together to provide unmatched, compassionate care for a family that was in a car accident and lost their newborn baby. Working across divisions—the ED, OB, and OR—these nurses and care teams led with their hearts, understanding that care often extends beyond the clinical sense of the word and creating a special memory for this family during a tragic time.

**“OUR PATIENTS, OUR COLLEAGUES,
AND THE IMPACT WE MAKE
AS NURSES BRING US BACK
EACH DAY.”**

At Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, I heard about the amazing PICU staff that facilitated a wedding for a couple in their child's hospital room, showing incredible compassion and empathy during a very challenging time for this family. Similarly, our Suburban Hospital leadership team, during the first pandemic surge, led an effort to escort patients who passed from COVID-19 to the morgue truck outside, to spare our front-line staff from one more stressful event. Compassion and teamwork were demonstrated at every level of the organization.

Reading the stories of our DAISY Award winners provides another glimpse into some of these magical moments. Akila Benson, from Howard County General Hospital, received a DAISY Award for being a strong advocate for her patients by recognizing their unique needs and taking special care to make them feel comfortable and heard, and to ease their pain. The Johns Hopkins Hospital's winner in March, Donatta Opiew, was recognized by a colleague for the seemingly “little things” she consistently does for her patients—like brushing their hair and getting them up to walk—that bring them a sense of comfort and dignity while under her care.

And then there is Sibley Memorial Hospital's nursing professional development and education team, which was honored with the DAISY Team Award for educating nursing staff throughout the hospital during the pandemic—over days, nights, and even weekends—about caring for different patient populations, treating more acute patients, and staying safe by wearing the proper personal protective equipment.

These are just a few examples of what we know is happening across our hospitals each and every day. In the midst of this pandemic and our busy lives, it is important to remember stories such as these and realize that THIS is why we are here. When clinical excellence meets compassionate care, it has the power to bring light to even the darkest days. ■

Deborah J. Baker, DNP, APRN, NEA-BC, FAAN, senior vice president for nursing for the Johns Hopkins Health System. She also serves as vice president for nursing and patient care services at The Johns Hopkins Hospital.

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DAISY AWARD

QUESTIONS?

For questions about the DAISY Award or to nominate a nurse, contact DAISYAWARD@JHMI.EDU

Spring 2021 | Donatta Opiew

“When I think of an exemplary nurse, I imagine Donatta’s face. Her character is truly a testimony to her love and devotion for these patients that need her,” reads the nomination letter for Donatta Opiew of the Nelson 6 unit, who earned her second DAISY Award. Opiew was nominated by a colleague for consistently going above and beyond for those patients, doing the seemingly “little things” to bring them comfort and dignity. “The amount of strength that Donatta has is unmatched. ... It’s not about getting the job done quickly or fast. She takes her time to ensure she gets the job done right.”

Images of other JHH DAISY Award winners are at [MAGAZINE.NURSING.JHU/DAISY](https://www.magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/DAISY)

April 2021

Latanya Johnson-Strong

Whatever the shift—day or night, weekend or weekday—extraordinary Johns Hopkins Hospital nurses are hard at work. Early one Saturday morning, colleagues gathered to surprise Latanya Johnson-Strong with the DAISY Award. Johnson-Strong, who was finishing an overnight shift in the hospital’s Meyer 6 unit, was celebrated for the compassionate, detailed care she consistently delivers. Her nomination came from a patient who wrote that her “maturity and soft presence has been an elixir” and “... she has always embodied a spirit of kindness and responsiveness to my needs, no matter the request.”

DAISY
AWARD WINNERS

Recognizing Johns Hopkins Hospital nurses for skilled, compassionate care that goes far beyond the call of duty.



May 2021 | Janet Barnes

Janet Barnes of the Meyer 4 psychiatric in-patient unit was nominated by one of her long-stay patients, who credits the success of her treatment to Barnes’s ability to connect with her so genuinely. In the nomination letter, the patient praises Barnes’s empathy, humor, and intelligence as well as the sincerity of her words and actions. “I felt most comfortable reaching out to Janet whenever I wanted to feel heard and often left with not only sound advice, but a smile on my face as well.”

June 2021 | Eric Renteria

Eric Renteria, a night shift nurse on the Weinberg 4CD surgical oncology unit, was nominated by a patient and his wife who were grateful to be in his care during their nights on the unit. Outlining the details of his exemplary actions, they described Renteria’s consideration to avoid interruptions when possible; how he educated the patient about new medications in a way he could understand; and the relief Renteria provided when the patient was suffering from severe pain. “Eric was outstanding. ... My wife and I knew we were in very capable hands and we both felt so relieved.” ■



2021 TOP NURSES

Baltimore magazine's Excellence in Nursing Award winners

This year, 10 outstanding Johns Hopkins Hospital-affiliated nurses (and a doctoral student at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing) have been named “top nurses” by *Baltimore* magazine, earning its 2021 Excellence in Nursing award.

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Carrie Bealefeld (Pediatrics)
Lead Clinical Nurse, Ambulatory Services—Johns Hopkins Hospital

Chad Bowman (Emergency Department)
Team Coordinator, Special Operations Response Team, Lifeline Critical Care Transport Team—Johns Hopkins Hospital

Robinah Campbell (Management/ Nurse Executives) Nurse Manager, Oncology—Johns Hopkins Hospital

Lora Clawson (Neurology/ Psychology/ Behavioral Health) Founder and Director of ALS Clinic—Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Jade Flinn (Educator) Nurse Educator, Biocontainment Unit—Johns Hopkins Hospital

Nichole Jantzi (Educator) Assistant Director, Nursing and Clinical Education—Johns Hopkins Community Physicians

Christina Kontogeorgos (Management/Nurse Executives) Assistant Patient Care Manager—Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

Ed Macsherry (Psychiatric) Community Psychiatry Program—Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

Marlene Meyer (Psychiatric) Lead Clinical Nurse, Psychiatry Nursing—Johns Hopkins Hospital

Beth Onners (Research) Immunology-Oncology Research Nurse—Johns Hopkins Hospital

Clifton Thornton (Two categories: Pediatrics; Oncology) Nurse Practitioner, Pediatric Oncology—Sinai Hospital of Baltimore; PhD candidate, School of Nursing

More JHSON alumni winners are on Page 49.



CERTIFIABLY AWESOME

Casey Green of the pediatric cardiology intensive care unit at the Johns Hopkins Hospital Children's Center could make quite an alphabet soup by simply tossing together the letters from her emergency nursing certifications into a pot. But she has something even more important cooking.

This summer, Green became just the 85th nurse in the United States ever to hold all five emergency nursing certifications from the Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing:

Certified Transport Registered Nurse (CTRN)

Certified Flight Registered Nurse (CFRN)

Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN)

Trauma Certified Registered Nurse (TCRN)

Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse (CPEN)

On top of these, Green also holds—at age 28—a critical care registered nurse certification (CCRN) from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. Put it all together, and meet Casey Green, RN, CCRN, CTRN, CFRN, CEN, TCRN, CPEN.

“[It] is still so surreal to me,” says Green of joining such an elite group of nurses.

Green started in 2010 at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD, earning an associate's degree there and then a BSN from the University of Maryland in 2017. Already an EMT, she went to work on a goal of achieving two emergency certifications. “But as I passed the first,” she recalls, “I went on and started scheduling others. I ended up taking six exams in four months!”

Of course, she's done it all while working at the hospital and serving as adjunct faculty at Howard Community College. “What helped me most was to think of my studies as a way to increase my knowledge as a nurse, not just as something I needed to know to pass an exam.”

And Green hopes to influence others who might have thought about certification but haven't followed up. For herself, “The next step is applying for CRNA school ... along with continuing to teach and inspire others to surpass me!” ■

Compiled from articles by Johns Hopkins Communications Specialist Laura Motel and Rob Senior of American Nurse magazine. Watch American Nurse's video at magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/casey.

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We applaud our

2021

Excellence in Nursing Award Winners

Congratulations to the Johns Hopkins winners of Baltimore magazine's 2021 Excellence in Nursing Award.

Johns Hopkins Nursing and the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing thank you for your courage, your compassion and your commitment to our patients and families, our communities and each other.

JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF NURSING | JOHNS HOPKINS NURSING

*“You get a sense that the whole class pulled together.”
— Diane Becker, '64, on the Class of 1964 Terrace*

Learn more about the Class of 1964's gift to the school on Page 48.



THE CLASS OF 1964 TERRACE

VIGILANDO

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NEWS FROM JOHNS HOPKINS
NURSES' ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



JOHNS HOPKINS
SCHOOL of NURSING



Marianne Fingerhood
DNP, ANP-BC

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ALUMNI UPDATE

JANE W. BALL, DRPH, MPH, RN



Dear Alumni,

Alumni Weekend 2021 was recently completed, once again in a virtual format. We were fortunate to have some excellent programs available to alumni, a unique social experience, and the annual meeting of the Johns Hopkins Nurses' Alumni Association. Of course, it would have been even better had we been able to welcome alumni to Baltimore and the newly opened School of Nursing building.

We had two special programs during Alumni Weekend. The first, a Virtual Grand Nursing Rounds, focused on housing insecurity in the age of COVID-19. Dr. Craig Pollack, the Katey Ayers Endowed Associate Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the School of Nursing, made the presentation and welcomed questions and discussion afterward. The second program was the fourth in the series of special JHNAA Alumni Conversations: Nurses as Change Agents for Health Equity with a focus on maternal and child health. This event drew on the expertise of Dr. Nicole Warren and Dr. Cecilia Tomori as they discussed the role of nursing in addressing health equity.

A special event, following the annual JHNAA meeting, was the introduction of new Dean Sarah Szanton to alumni. As you may recall, Dr. Szanton is a two-time JHSON alumnus, from the bachelor's and PhD programs.

Dean Szanton responded to some prepared questions, as well as questions asked by participants. It was delightful to hear about her interests and experiences, her vision for nursing education at JHSON, and what she hopes to accomplish as dean.

You can view recordings from these events here: <https://nursing.jhu.edu/alumni-giving/alumni/events/alumni-weekend.html>.

We know alumni, especially those celebrating their 50th anniversary of graduation, were disappointed to have their in-person reunion postponed. We look forward to an in-person celebration for reunion-year alumni next spring that will honor the classes of 1970, 1971, and 1972. **Please save the dates for this reunion weekend, Thursday, March 31 through Saturday, April 2, 2022.** I look forward to seeing you there.

Looking ahead to future years, the Johns Hopkins Nurses' Alumni Association plans to host milestone reunion celebrations in the spring. We plan to continue holding Alumni Weekend and our Annual Business Meeting in the fall, as required in our bylaws. Our hope is that Alumni Weekend becomes the event that brings together the entire alumni population and School of Nursing community. We also hope that Reunion Weekend will become the annual opportunity for our milestone reunion classes to reconnect. As always, we welcome your ideas and feedback as we continue to work on strengthening alumni engagement. ■

Get Our E-Newsletters

Stay in touch! Update your email address now to receive the quarterly Alumni E-newsletter and annual Dean's Update. Send a message to JHNAA@jhu.edu.

'A Sense of Unity Is What We Wanted'

With Class of 1964 Terrace gift, classmates pay tribute to the past and welcome the future

BY BETH MORGEN

A career epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins, Diane Becker knows a lot about searching for things, so when she volunteered to help garner support for a gift the School of Nursing's building addition, she applied her investigatory skills to finding people—lots of people.

Her detective work paid off. Working with a committee of Class of 1964 Nursing graduates and leveraging a plethora of search tools, Becker reached some 100 classmates about funding a terrace in the building addition. The vast majority of the class contributed with current and planned gifts, raising more than \$500,000.

"You get a sense that the whole class pulled together," says Becker, who also holds master's and doctorate degrees from the Bloomberg School of Public Health. "A sense of unity is what we wanted to show and to have a legacy."

The Class of 1964 Terrace is part of a 45,000-square-foot expansion to the School of Nursing's Anne M. Pinkard Building that, while future-oriented, honors the school's mission of preparing nurse leaders—something especially meaningful to Class of 1964 graduates.

"I just feel good to be able to contribute in a positive and concrete way," says class member Lynne Wolfe, a nurse care manager for a behavioral health home program in Maine. "My hope is that the terrace will remind people of the history of the school—that it is built on the backs and life experiences of the classes that came before them."

The Class of 1964 Terrace is situated off of the building's fifth floor outside of the dean's suite. Martha Hill, the school's dean from 2001 to 2014, joined her 1964 classmates in raising funds for the terrace and contributed her own gift. To her, the space symbolizes the class's cohesiveness and commitment.

"We were a class that liked being together and enjoyed gatherings," she says. "Supporting the terrace as a space and a place where you could celebrate the value of relationships that are formed within the classes and among the classes greatly appealed to us." ■

CLASS NEWS

Congratulations to new alumni fellows of the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN): **Jemma Ayvazian**, DNP '13; **Deborah J. Baker**, BSN '92, MSN '97, DNP '11; **Irene Bean**, Post-Master's Certificate '18; **Peggy E. Daw**, DNP '15; **Pandora Hardtman**, BSN '96; **Brett T. Morgan**, BSN '02, DNP '09; **Rhoda Redulla**, DNP '11; **Laura Samuel**, PhD '13; **Amanda Stefancyk Oberlies**, MSN '05; **Laura J. Wood**, DNP '12. Congratulations to all.

2021 Top Nurses

Named as *Baltimore* magazine's top nurses of 2021: **Lora Clawson**, MSN '98; **Yaffa Elefant**, MSN '17; **Karen Lyons**, BSN '08; **Marlene Meyer**, BSN '13; **Beth Onners**, MSN '95; **Clifton Thornton**, BSN '13, MSN '14; **Vanessa Velez**, DNP '15. (More winners from Johns Hopkins Hospital and its affiliates on Page 42.)

2021 Alumni Awards

Alumni Association Awards: Outstanding Recent Graduate—

Timian M. Godfrey, DNP '19; Distinguished Alumnus—**Jason E. Farley**, MSN '03, PhD '08; Global Achievement—**Anna Bell Haizlip Illien**, UC '56; Community Hero—**Sarah L. Szanton**, BSN '93, PhD '07, and **Katherine "Katie" Phillips**, BSN '10, MSN/MPH '12; Heritage Award—**Jane W. Ball**, UC '69, BSN '74, MPH '79, DrPH '80, and **Gail Ochs**, UC '65.

Dean's Awards: Nurse Researcher—**Binu Koirala**, PhD '19; Nurse Clinician—**Tammy Slater**, DNP '11; Nurse Educator—**Dauryne L. Shaffer**, MSN '09; Nurse Educator—**Elizabeth "Betty" Jordan**, Certificate '98, DNSc '04; Nurse Leader—**Lisa M. Grubb**, DNP '18.

More News

Daniela Terrizzi, PhD, RN (Accelerated BSN '93), has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and will teach qualitative research methods to graduate nursing students at the University of Rome in 2022.



Remembrances

Joan Sleeper Bandeen, '51—nurse, homemaker, poodle enthusiast, and dedicated church member—died October 10 at age 92. Bandeen was born in Washington, DC on February 10, 1929. Early on she found a passion for nursing, ignited by service as a World War II Junior Army Navy Guild Organization (JANGO) health aide beginning at age 13. She started her nursing career at Garfield Hospital before moving on to the Walter Reed Medical Center (1951-1953) and then serving at the National Institutes of Health until 1960. Joan Sleeper married William Bandeen, a NASA scientist and reserve Army captain, in 1960. A homemaker thereafter, she raised two sons and a daughter largely in Brinklow, MD. She was an informal breeder and dog show enthusiast.

Rose Mary (Burroughs) Schulte, '51— whose career at Georgetown University Hospital included work in hospital, hospice, and nursing education settings—died October 2 at age 92. Rose Mary Burroughs was born June 26, 1929, in Baltimore. In 1953, she married Dr. Joseph E. Schulte and together they raised their children in Towson, MD. She displayed her artistic talents in multimedia painting and was a docent at the Baltimore Museum of Art. She served as a Eucharistic minister to the sick and led weekly prayer and discussion activities at Summit Retirement Community in Hockessin, DE, where she lived. ■

For inclusion, please send alumni obituary notices to son-editor@jhu.edu.

JOHNS HOPKINS IN MEMORIAM

Joan Sleeper Bandeen, '51
Birdella Michelson Bergeron, '48
Patricia Bladek Brown, '91
Patricia Wilson Dean, '58
Nancy Niesz Funk, '07 Accel.
Florine "Sue" Harowitz, '47 (Sinai)
Martha Toole Harvey, '56
Barbara Whaley Landers, '45
Maureen Claire Maguire, '98
Phyllis Anne Naumann, former faculty
Marian Price, '34 (Sinai)
Ruth Samet Rosenberg, '49
Melissa Evonne Rossi, '95
Rose Mary Burroughs Schulte, '51
Donna Honsowetz Simanton, '47
Bernadette Trujillo, '95

Rhoda Redulla, DNP '11, published her second book. *The Nurse Journal: A Guided Journal for Nurses to Spark Joy, Positivity & Fulfillment* "is organized into the special phases of your professional nursing career such as nursing school, first nursing job, your nursing career, you and your patients, and aspirations." ■





CHURCH NOTES

DEB CORTEGGIANO KENNEDY, '73

It was a pleasure to be able to participate in Reunion Weekend 2021 as a virtual participant.

Though we could not be together again this year to celebrate and enjoy the warmth and camaraderie of renewing old friendships and traditions, it is most important that we continue to put safety first and foremost. To that end, once again, a virtual celebration is still a celebration for our cherished alumni and 50-year anniversary honorees, but read on for more on that.

Annual Report

At this time last year, a decision was made to postpone honoring our 50-year honorees from the Class of 1970 until now. Being that 2021 and the continuing of the COVID pandemic have forced us to have another virtual format event, another decision has been made to postpone the honoring of the 50-year graduates from both 1970 and 1971.

These two classes and the honorees from 1972 will all be honored at the 2022 Spring event scheduled for March 31–April 2, 2022.

Please believe that “good things come to those who wait” or at least that “Patience is a Virtue”!

Distinguished Alumni

The Church Home & Hospital Distinguished Alumni Award will be presented in 2022 to very worthy individuals. Please continue to submit nominees.



Giving Back

The Freda Creutzburg Endowed Scholarship continues to grow and support the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. The market value of the scholarship as of June 30, 2021, was \$396,685.

The most recent recipients of the scholarship, Lauren Shifflett and Ethan Sterling, each received \$6,182.69 to assist in their nursing education at the No. 1 school in the country.

Both Lauren and Ethan graduated in August from the Master's (Entry into Nursing) program. Lauren recently started working on the neurology unit at Johns Hopkins Hospital and Ethan is looking forward to working in an emergency department or ICU unit.

Please support the Creutzburg Scholarship as much as you can when you consider where to spend your donation dollars.

I also want to thank all of the Church Home Alumni who supported the “White Coat Drive.” This is a great way to show support to incoming students and is very much appreciated. (See images of many of the students in their coats on Page 20.)

During this past year, the Church Home Nursing Honor Guard was initiated. This very special tradition was started in various Diploma Nursing Schools around the country over the last 50 years at funeral and burial services for deceased nurses. Prayers, the Florence Nightingale Pledge, songs, and a “Call to Duty” are included in an Honor Guard Ceremony.

A New Day

The Alumni bid a fond farewell to Dean Patricia Davidson as she returned to Australia. Dean Davidson's farewell was held on “Maryland Day” and a tote bag full of Maryland-theme treats was delivered to her. Trish's friendship and support will never be forgotten. New Dean Sarah Szanton was congratulated and welcomed by Church Home with a big box of Wockenfuss chocolates! We look forward to working with Dr. Szanton.

The new School of Nursing Building is truly breathtaking and Church Home Alumni offered support in the donation of a bench in the Courtyard and by purchasing two squares on the Dedication Quilt. Many thanks to Barbara Zelenka Spink, '69, for her talent and quilting expertise in crafting the two Church Home squares.

Our History

Baltimore Heritage discusses the history of **Church Home and Hospital**, whose nursing alumni became part of the JHNAA after the hospital's closure: <https://magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/heritage>.

CHURCH NOTES IN MEMORIAM

Faye Steinke Hagerman, '51
Deborah Byrnes File, '63
Dorothy Bennett Gardner, '51



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THE BACK PAGE

People's Choice: Sarah Szanton has been greeted warmly as the fifth dean of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. Szanton, long a national leader in research and education, is eager to leverage the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing's influence to meet the challenges of modern and future health care. She inherits a school in fine shape, with a brand-new building and solid financial standing despite COVID. But she won't rest on her laurels, or anybody else's.

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An article about Dean Sarah Szanton's nursing path and more pictures from her welcome are on Page 24.

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