



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN DR. DEBBIE SHEPPARD-LEMOINE



We have renewed our partnerships in our collaborative program, allowing students continued flexibility in how they pursue their degrees. We have successfully hired several talented Faculty members to support our students and their educational journey.

It has been my pleasure to meet so many alumni at events last semester, and I'm looking forward to more of these visits in 2024. We are also helping to facilitate two upcoming reunions, for our very distinguished alumni in the anniversary Classes of 1974 and 1979.

I am excited to turn my attention towards the broadening of our support and would like to express gratitude to our generous donors. Together, we have the power to enhance the academic experience and opportunities for our students.

Grow with us. We can accomplish great things.

Happy reading!

Welcome to your winter 2024 edition of **Connecting With Care**.

We have started the year off with a flurry of activity. We have begun work on our new Faculty Strategic Plan, for the years ahead. There are exciting developments happening in our faculty, facilities, programs, and research. At the centre of these efforts are incredible people. Every day, I am impressed by our students and those who tirelessly dedicate themselves to serving them and our community.

ABOUT THE DEAN

Dr. Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine, PhD, RN, became the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Windsor in September 2020.

With over 30 years of experience in Canadian and international education, she has led numerous global initiatives in nursing, family, and public health across North America and the Middle East.

Driven by a commitment to collaboration, she recognizes the importance of international work in expanding nursing perspectives. She has contributed to global research teams, presenting at international conferences, and publishing in peer-reviewed journals.

Her focus is on understanding the impact of personal and socio-economic challenges, such as poverty, addiction, and mental health, on women and children. Dr. Sheppard-LeMoine's dedication to interprofessional practice reflects her lifelong passion for enhancing the quality of life for families and communities.

Debbie can be reached at Debbie.
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SUPPORT THE FACULTY OF NURSING

Your support of the Faculty of Nursing means the world to us. We are happy to explore all current and potential giving opportunities with you. Whether you're considering supporting our student mentorship programs, establishing a scholarship or annual award, helping us purchase state-of-the-art equipment for our simulation and clinical learning labs or even to leave a legacy gift, we are here to help.

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TOUR REVEALS REALITIES AND HOPE FOR THE NURSING PROFESSION

Canada's Chief Nursing Officer, **Leigh Chapman**, and International Council of Nurses Chief Nurse, **Michelle Acorn**, recently spoke at the University of Windsor's "Dean's Intentional Conversations" series. The two-day tour covered local health-care organizations on both sides of the border.

Dr. Chapman, who assumed her role in 2022, focuses on stabilizing the nursing workforce, contributing to Canada's health policy, advising from a nursing perspective, convening on key issues, and representing the federal government. Her address emphasized harmonizing recruitment and integration of internationally educated nurses across Canada, streamlining processes, and engaging stakeholders for nursing retention.

"We must take advantage of the opportunity before us by harnessing the skills inherent in our profession," says Chapman. "We need to build a strong and supported nursing workforce that provides people in Canada with high quality, effective and safe health services when they need them."

In May 2021, Dr. Acorn became Chief Nurse with the International Council of Nurses, a non-governmental organization and federation of over 130 national nurses associations representing over 28 million nurses worldwide. The council is a non-state actor with the World Health Organization. Acorn provides strategic and operational executive leadership expertise to advance and strengthen nursing and health policy, ensuring quality nursing care and a competent, satisfied nursing workforce.

Acorn emphasized education's significance, meeting quality standards, and aligning with population health needs. She acknowledged the demand for nursing recruitment and retention programs, advocating for safe service delivery environments and encouraging women in the global health workforce to assume more prominent roles.



Chief Nursing Officer for Canada Leigh Chapman, chief nurse of the International Council of Nurses Michelle Acorn, and UWindsor Dean of Nursing Debbie Sheppard-LeMoine.

Acorn discussed universal health coverage and primary health care models in which all individuals would receive essential healthcare services without being exposed to financial hardship.

"We need affordable and accessible health services," says Acorn. "We must optimize nursing professional workforces, ensuring nurses are utilized as clinicians and leaders, fostering efficient and effective health systems."

Visits to health-care organizations, including Windsor Hospice, Windsor Essex Community Health Centre, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit, and Henry Ford Hospital, involved discussions on program models, unique needs, recruitment, and retention, culminating in informative facility tours.

Explore the executive summary of the **Nursing Retention Toolkit: Improving the Working Lives of Nurses in Canada.** ■

LEAVE A LEGACY AND PLAN A GIFT TODAY!



Thousands of alumni, parents and friends support the University of Windsor each year. These gifts, of all sizes, provide the funding necessary to support student scholarships; purchase cutting-edge equipment for research and hands-on student learning; and support student groups and programming, resulting in a vibrant campus and memorable student experience.

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- Make a gift honouring or memorializing a colleague
- Consider a planned gift and leave your legacy
- Establish a scholarship or endowment to support our Nursing students
- Give Securities
- Donate Gifts-In-Kind of equipment and supplies to enhance our clinical and experiential learning. ■

CHAMPIONING NURSING EXCELLENCE

THE TRANSFORMATIVE INFLUENCE OF YOUR SUPPORT

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

Within the new University of Windsor Strategic Plan, *Aspire*, we are looking to generate local and global impact through partnership and community engagement.

OUR MISSION

At the Faculty of Nursing, Our Mission is to advance the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities, and populations through innovative nursing education, evidence-informed professional practice, and collaborative research and scholarship.

OUR VISION

Our Vision is to be recognized globally for our exceptional, socially responsible nursing professionals and transformative research that inspires change and advances equitable health care.

OUR 2024 GOALS SUPPORT OUR MISSION!

Help us provide impactful and meaningful resources for our students and our community.

Simulation Lab Upgrades: Equipment, Clinical & High-Fidelity Mannequins

Mannequins are utilized in each year of study - from basic vital signs to complex simulated scenarios. Our students learn as if these are real patients, and train to provide excellent care as future nurses.

DID YOU KNOW?

A \$10 000 gift can be pledged over 5 years by giving \$2,000 a year.

Awards and Scholarships for Faculty of Nursing Students

You can honour a loved one or leave your own legacy. Terms can be tailored to specific areas of study or research. Students feel supported when these awards ease their costs of tuition, books and living expenses.

DID YOU KNOW?

A \$1,500 annual scholarship can be established for \$125 a month.

Faculty of Nursing Trust : Where Need is Greatest

This fund supports various student initiatives and conferences, guest speakers and emergency student support.

DID YOU KNOW?

A \$520 donation can be pledged bi-weekly in 26 \$20 gifts.

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NEW ASSOCIATE DEAN OF NURSING PRIORITIZING COLLABORATIVE CARE



Associate professor **Kathryn Pfaff** (BScN 1988, MScN 2008) began a five-year appointment effective July 1 as associate dean, graduate programs and research, in

the Faculty of Nursing.

Dr. Pfaff's nursing career spans over 35 years in acute care, community care, and academics. Born in Edmonton, Pfaff

moved with her family to Windsor in the early 1970s. After earning undergraduate and master's degrees in nursing at the University of Windsor, she completed a doctorate at McMaster University.

Pfaff's work has prioritized the implementation of interprofessional and compassionate models of healthcare delivery. As a champion of "Compassionate Communities" (CC), Pfaff co-developed Ontario's CC framework and is a founding member of Ontario's CC Research Leadership team.

She believes that as society members, it is everyone's responsibility to advocate for, support, and empower others to provide physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and practical support for people navigating precarious health and life situations.

As a collaborative leader, I recognize that no one person has all the solutions," says Pfaff. "It is my role to empower our team's collective wisdom in redefining and carrying out the vision of the Faculty of Nursing's graduate programs and research especially in such a rapidly evolving world. ■

AWARDS, ACCOLADES, AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



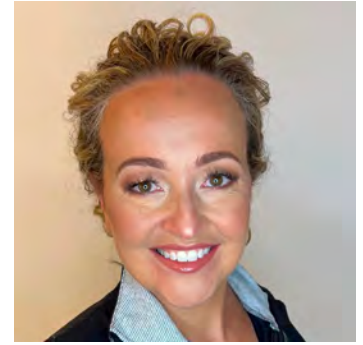
Former UWindsor Dean of Nursing and current professor, **Dr. Linda Patrick** (shown left), was honoured by the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) for her tireless work in serving 11 years on CASN's board as Ontario Director and President.



Graduate nursing student **Sylwia Borawski** received University of Windsor's Outstanding Undergraduate Student Research Award—the highest form of internal recognition for excellence in scholarship, research, and creative activity.



BScN student **Andrew Hebert** has been honoured with the Board of Governor In-Course Medal, recognizing the individual with the highest cumulative average among students in their field of study at the end of the preceding regular academic session.



Nurse Practitioner and PhD student **Emily Bohdal** was showcased on the Ontario Ministry of Health's social media during Nurse Practitioner Week, focusing on her journey to Primary Healthcare NP certification and the significance of quality nursing education in her path.

RECENT EVENTS

CAREER FAIR HIGHLIGHTS NURSING OPPORTUNITIES



Over 180 students and 25 healthcare organizations participated in the fall debut of the Nursing Career Fair at the CAW Student Centre's Alumni Auditorium on November 30, 2023. The event was jointly hosted by the Faculty of Nursing and the Office of Career Development and Experiential Learning.

NURSING MOURNS PASSING OF SESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR



Ruel Buen Hufano passed away unexpectedly this past November. Ruel was a respected and dedicated member of the Faculty of Nursing since July 2009. He was beloved by students that Ruel had instructed and mentored. A memorial service was held at Faculty of Nursing on December 6. Ruel will be deeply missed.

GROUP EFFORT AT VACCINATION CLINIC



Nursing students and faculty teamed up with Windsor-Essex County Health Unit at Toldo Lancer Centre to help provide free vaccinations for the public to guard against COVID-19 and influenza on Nov. 29.

STAY CONNECTED!

If you would like to share a story, message, or promote an upcoming event, email us at: connectingnursing@uwindsor.ca

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