"AS YOU ENTER THE WORLD OF THIS PRIVILEGED FEW, TAKE CARE TO UPHOLD THE TRADITIONS OF YOUR NURSING PROFESSION. IT IS NOT A BUSINESS, IT IS A LIFE OF CARING. I AM PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN A PART OF THIS LIFE AND A MEMBER OF THIS PRIVILEGED CLASS IN THE SPECIAL WORLD OF CARING FOR OTHERS. IT IS A VERY ENRICHING AND FULFILLING LIFE. NURSING FOR US IS AN AMAZING LOVE AFFAIR; OUR NATURES THRIVE ON THE MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION. I HAVE NOT NURSED IN YEARS BUT SOMEHOW I THINK IF I HAD TO, THERE IS A PART OF ME THAT COULD DO IT AGAIN. SOMETIMES I WONDER HOW OR WHY I STILL FEEL THAT WAY BUT IN MY HEART I KNOW I AM A NURSE."

DIARY QUOTE FROM JEUNE OREBAUGH, RN
1927-2015
MOTHER OF PAM JONES, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN, CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING
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Dear Vanderbilt Nurses,

After a particularly eventful year, it is a pleasure to come together to celebrate our outstanding nurses. On July 20, 2017, we received word from the American Nurses Credentialing Center that Vanderbilt University Medical Center had achieved its third Magnet designation. This accomplishment was the culmination of a four-year journey for our hospitals, clinics, and research areas. Magnet designation demonstrates our tremendous work serving patients and families as well as our organization’s culture of professional nursing practice.

Of course, Magnet was not the only major event that we experienced in the last year. On November 2, 2017, we transitioned to eStar clinical systems—an initiative that is likely one of the largest changes we have seen in our careers at Vanderbilt. This successful changeover could not have been accomplished without nurses in several roles coming together.

This year, we begin our fourth Magnet journey feeling more confident than ever that “we’ve got this.” As I have said before, we have a Magnet culture at Vanderbilt and our mission is to demonstrate it. Thank you for everything you do to make this possible.

Happy Nurses Week to each of you and your families.

May is a special month for nurses. Each year, we celebrate Nurses Week from May 6 through May 12 to honor Florence Nightingale’s birthday. Florence is considered the founder of modern nursing for her work as a nurse, author and statistician. She was also the first nurse researcher, making patient care decisions based on patient data. This year’s National Nurses Week theme is “Nurses: Inspire, Innovate, Influence,” which perfectly describes her legacy and our ongoing mission.

One of my favorite events each year is the annual Nursing Honors event in May. I am honored to celebrate with you and announce the award recipients. These nominations shine a spotlight on the meaningful work our nurses are doing throughout our health system. They inspire and remind us of the true meaning of nursing.

We realize that we are standing on the shoulders of the great nurses who came before us. We acknowledge Vanderbilt nursing pioneers Rosamond Gabrielson, Rebecca Clark Culpepper and Adrienne Ames with honors in their names. This year we’ve renamed the Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year award to honor the memory of Jerita Payne. We recognize our colleagues who have advanced through the Vanderbilt Professional Nursing Practice Program (VPNPP) and celebrate those who have retired and wish them great adventures beyond Vanderbilt. We also pause to remember our colleagues who have died and wish their families and friends peace.

Take some time to celebrate yourself and your colleagues. I honor each of you. Together we achieve the remarkable!

Sincerely,

Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC
Executive Chief Nursing Officer, Vanderbilt University Medical Center
DEFINITION OF A NURSE

TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY. THE FIRST TO WORK AND THE LAST TO LEAVE. THE HEART AND SOUL OF CARING. A UNIQUE SOUL WHO WILL PASS THROUGH YOUR LIFE FOR A MINUTE AND IMPACT IT FOR AN ETERNITY. AN EMPOWERED INDIVIDUAL WHOM YOU MEET FOR ONLY A 12-HOUR PERIOD, BUT WHO WILL PUT YOU AND YOURS ABOVE THEIR HEARTS.

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Born in 1820 to an upper-class English family, Florence Nightingale was named after the city of her birth: Florence, Italy. Despite the objections of her family, Nightingale rejected the usual path of a wealthy Victorian woman, which was to marry and have children, to pursue her interest in nursing. She believed she had a calling to become a nurse and later dedicated her life to establishing nursing as a profession.

Nightingale was 31 years old when she was given permission by her father to study nursing at Germany’s Kaiserworth School. In 1854, after a year as an unpaid superintendent of a London “establishment for gentlewomen during illness,” she and 38 nurses were recruited by the Secretary of War to tend to Britain’s wounded military in Turkey during the Crimean War. It was during this time that Nightingale made her most famous contributions to nursing.

Nightingale earned the moniker “Lady with the Lamp” for her nighttime rounds on patients. While tending to the thousands at the military hospital, she began collecting data about the staggering mortality rates of British soldiers. In February 1855, the mortality rate at the hospital was 42.7 percent. After improving hygiene and sanitation for the soldiers, the mortality rate dropped significantly.

Because of her impeccable notes and record-keeping practices, Nightingale was able to use statistical data to change the way military and eventually city hospitals were run. She is lauded as a pioneer of nursing and as the catalyst for hospital sanitation reform. Nightingale invented the coxcomb or polar area chart, known today as the pie chart (a hallmark in epidemiology.) She was also a leading statistician in her day – elected as the first female member of the Royal Statistical Society.
"As a nurse, we have the opportunity to heal the heart, mind, soul and body of our patients, their families, and ourselves. They may forget our names, but they will never forget how you made them feel." – Maya Angelou

On any given day on the 5th floor of Children’s Hospital, you will see “PICU Team” emblazoned on the back of T-shirts. It is in these halls and from these people that I have learned what it means to be a nurse. It means wearing a tutu and riding a wooden horse while blowing bubbles in a celebration parade for the transfer of a patient who has been with us for six months. It means checking, then double checking, an order to ensure the patient gets the right amount of medication. It means being a helping hand to a neighbor with a busy assignment. It means helping a young boy into his T-rex costume for a last trip around the unit before brain surgery. Nursing requires competence in a lot of skills and knowledge, but more than that, it requires a caring ability. I see a lot of frustration and heartbreak as families are living through their worst days. It is the nurse who is by their side providing a listening ear, a normal conversation, and an honest voice to give them strength in times that they cannot be strong. My PICU team is filled with outstanding, caring men and women who choose to place another’s child as their priority for 12 hours at a time. We often don’t let patients and families see our tears of joy, sadness or frustration, but we feel everything with them.

People always ask how I can work with the sickest kids. I am proud to wear “PICU Team” on my back because I believe in and have witnessed my team’s ability to provide excellent care to every child and family that comes through our doors. To my amazing, caring PICU team members (and nurses all over the hospital), thank you for teaching me what it means to be a nurse and for always being willing to take on the hard, the scary, the joyful and the hopeful situations. I would not be the nurse I am today without each and every one of you.
Becky Culpepper was a member of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center community from 1977 to 1995. In her 18 years at Vanderbilt she served as an assistant clinical professor of nursing administration, an assistant hospital director, the director of staff development for the Department of Patient Care Services, and the director of the Center for Nursing Continuing Education. Prior to coming to Vanderbilt, her career path was also aimed at elevating the profession of nursing. Becky served as an instructor in colleges of nursing in Tennessee and Mississippi, as executive director of the Tennessee Nurses Association and as an assistant head nurse in Texas.

Becky brought staff development to the nursing administrative team when Rosamond Gabrielson was director of nursing. Becky’s vision was to bring education to all levels of nursing. In an April 2005 VUMC Reporter article, Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Executive Chief Nursing Officer, is quoted, “[Becky’s] leadership was instrumental in helping to build a strong foundation for nursing practice, education and leadership.” In the same article, Colleen Conway-Welch, PhD, RN, CNM, dean emeritus of the School of Nursing, remarked, “She was a very able and knowledgeable leader, very intuitive about patients’ needs and colleagues’ professional and personal needs, and very caring of people. She was an acknowledged leader in the area of nursing administration and an unfailing source of wise counsel for us at the School of Nursing.”

The award named in Becky Culpepper’s honor recognizes a nurse or faculty member who embodies the promotion of nurse education and professional development.

The Rebecca Clark Culpepper Education and Mentorship Award is given jointly by Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) and Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) Nursing to honor Becky’s many contributions to both areas. The recipient can be a nurse at VUMC or a faculty member at VUSN.

The recipient of this award exhibits mentorship of fellow nursing staff, faculty or students and actively promotes the nursing profession. There is a commitment to professional development at all levels.

**REBECCA CLARK CULPEPPER**
**EDUCATION AND MENTORSHIP AWARD**

**NOMINEES**

TOM CHRISTENBERRY | REBECCA HIXON | PAM JONES | DAN MAJORS
2018 RECIPIENT

PAM JONES, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN OF CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING

“Pam is the epitome of a humble, servant leader. In addition to encouraging, facilitating and supporting the professional development of peers, she assures that she continues to grow and expand her knowledge and insight in multiple domains – administration, education and research.” – from the nomination

As Senior Associate Dean for Clinical and Community Partnerships, Pam openly promotes working relationships between the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) and community entities. She serves as an expert and liaison to Vanderbilt University Medical Center for the development, mentorship and succession planning process for nurse leaders.

Besides developing nurse leaders at VUMC and VUSN, her academic responsibilities include course coordination, advising DNP students, chairing and serving on scholarly project committees and the DNP Curriculum Committee. She also serves as a subject matter expert and adviser to the MSN Healthcare Leadership program. Her teaching responsibilities have included health systems management, leadership, strategic planning and program development.

Pam is a strong advocate for many subject areas, but particularly for Advance Practice. During her prior tenure as chief nursing officer for Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital, she led an initiative in partnership with physician leaders to maximize the use of advanced practice professionals within the inpatient environment with an emphasis on the critical care units. She continues to advocate for Advance Practice by supporting and continuing the development of community-based clinics for nurse-managed primary care and midwifery clinics targeting an underserved population. She exemplifies advocacy on the national level as a member of the National Thought Leaders Council, Center for Advancing Provider Practice.
ADRIENNE AMES
TRANSFORMATIONAL NURSING LEADER AWARD

The Leader Development Committee of “Be the Best, Keep the Best” defines transformational leadership as follows: “The transformational leader creates a compelling picture of the future that inspires and catalyzes people and multidisciplinary teams to realize their full potential. Through trust and engagement, the transformational leader fosters a passion for excellence, continuous improvement, achievement of shared goals, and the pursuit of innovative breakthroughs.”

Visionary. Mentor. Nurse. These are the words most frequently used to describe Adrienne Ames, who shaped the culture of nursing at Vanderbilt University Medical Center for more than 35 years. Adrienne retired in October 2013. Her accomplishments are many, and what perhaps makes her most remarkable is her leadership style and the number of individuals and teams she influenced over the years.

After working in public health nursing, Adrienne came to Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN) in 1974 to earn her master’s degree and became a family nurse practitioner. Adrienne returned to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in 1977 to lead Patient Care Services in the clinic. She also held a joint appointment with Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. In her tenure as a nursing leader, Adrienne was administratively responsible for a variety of services and departments including the clinics, home care, subacute care, nursing, social work, rehabilitation services, the emergency services department, and behavioral health. Following the retirement of Rosamond Gabrielson, Adrienne served as interim chief nursing officer.

Adrienne’s leadership contributed to launching key programs including LifeFlight, the Breast Clinic, Home Care, Vanderbilt Institute for Treatment of Addictions, the Cooperative Care Center, the Dayani Center, and Health Plus. Adrienne was one of the founders of Shared Governance and the first set of nursing bylaws for Vanderbilt.

The Adrienne Ames Transformational Nursing Leader award is given to honor Adrienne’s many contributions. The recipient of this award is a nurse in a designated leadership role who paves the way for others to be successful. This leader is visible and accessible, is an advocate for nurses and patients, and positively reflects the image of nursing at Vanderbilt and in the community.

NOMINEES

MISTY ASHBY | LEIGHANN CHADWELL | MARLEE CRANKSHAW | JANICE GABBARD | JENNIFER GLENN |
GWEN HOLDER | KARLA KEETON
“Gwen sets high standards and holds staff accountable for performing coaching and support activities to support high-quality, safe patient care. She has a track record of leading successful efforts to improve patient safety and quality. When a change is being presented, she asks about the impact for patients and staff to ensure those impacts are addressed in the plan.” – from the nomination

Gwen is a valued leader in nursing informatics who regularly went above and beyond during the e-Star transition. She excels in leading diverse teams and helping team members identify strengths and weaknesses. She leverages strengths and mentors team members to improve, identifying opportunities to help staff grow. She understands that power dynamics can impact diverse teams and uses strategies to ensure all voices are heard.

Gwen’s department provides services to the Children’s, Adult, and Behavioral Health enterprises while appreciating the differences in the patient populations of each entity. She also respects the diverse population of the employees by ensuring all e-Star trainings are accessible to people with disabilities.

Gwen has been an advocate for the Nursing Informatics Community for years and has helped create a local chapter of the American Nursing Informatics Association where she is now the chapter’s second president. She has been an adjunct faculty member of VUSN and is well known as a co-presenter for Nursing Informatics Boot Camps that prepare nurses for certification.

Evidence- and data-driven decision making are a hallmark of Gwen’s leadership. She is known for her effective use of implementation science and has a long track record of leading successful change.
Jerita Payne began her career in 1986 as a transplant nurse at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Over the years, she cared for many patients who required transplant surgery care services, working alongside the best and brightest of physicians, nurses and care coordinators, she eventually took on the role of clinical manager. Jerita’s contributions and leadership were critical to the design and development of evolving the program to where it is today – one of the foremost transplant programs in the country. Jerita also pursued education advancement while working for transplant. Not only did she complete her masters in nursing, she also completed a masters in management in health care, and was one of the first graduates in the country for her specialty to successfully complete a masters in nursing and business.

Jerita embodied nursing as a case manager, clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, and ultimately, the director of Clinical Transplant Services and Transplant Advanced Practice Nursing. She mentored, coached and guided a multitude of nurses and nurse practitioners, not only within the Transplant Center but in many other areas across the entire Medical Center. Her constant smile, charisma, quick wit, approachability, and engaging leadership style drew many to her for advice, direction and growth in their own careers. Physicians respected her tremendously and most of all, her patients loved her. Jerita never forgot a single patient, person or colleague and was always there to render unconditional support.

In 2009 Jerita was named Advanced Practice Nurse of the Year at Vanderbilt and in 1995 was named Nurse Researcher of the Year at Vanderbilt. Jerita, who passed away in March 2017, represented every quality that an advanced practice nurse strives for.

JERITA PAYNE
ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Jeneth Aquino | Christy Cherkesky | Kelly Davis | Heather Frankfield | Amy Hull | Kim Iseberg | Tonna Lynn McCutcheon | Lauren Presley | Anna Prestwich | Bethany Sanders | Madeline Torrez | Lindsay Trantum
“Kelly is an extraordinary leader. She has a natural servant leadership style. For example, Kelly helped address an issue in one of the APP teams’ Epic Rounding reports during Epic Go-Live. The impact greatly affected the team’s ability to efficiently provide patient care. Kelly took the responsibility for correcting though she wasn’t involved in the build.” – from the nomination

Kelly plays an instrumental role in the day-to-day efforts to deliver high-quality care to patients in the cardiac ICU. From her exemplary care at the bedside working with fellow APRNs to ensuring a smooth transition during Epic Go Live, she regularly exceeds the expectation of her peers.

Ensuring patient safety is the top priority for Kelly. She serves on the PCICU Safety Team – a multidisciplinary group of physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, pharmacists and respiratory therapists. She regularly offers positive suggestions during weekly meetings and recently went to great lengths to ensure that a patient received the correct dosing of a rarely-prescribed medication.

She participates in collaborative research endeavors and spends a great deal of time with new nursing staff. She assists with coordination of the PCCU APP orientation process by reaching out to new hires and quickly establishing a relationship. She creates a safe space for asking questions which supports safe patient care and confident bedside nurses.

Her work extends beyond Vanderbilt to medical missions in Mexico and South America where she delivers a wide variety of medical services from pediatric cardiac care to postoperative ENT management.
“Jenny is an excellent representation of each of the pillar goals that guide the care we provide at Vanderbilt. Jenny has a positive attitude and a willing spirit that make her well-received by others. She is a valued team member and an asset to VUMC.”” – from the nomination

As a nursing education specialist, Jenny has spent countless hours mentoring nurse educators from across VUMC. She works closely with the team to determine what has worked well and what needs to be changed. Jenny set up a competency process that allows clinical staff to use the Donna Wright model for validation and more than 6,000 staff are utilizing the system.

She works closely within the NICU to help identify trends, research best evidence and educate staff about best practices. She updates her classes based on evidence-based practice, keeping the staff current on clinical trials taking place in the NICU.

Jenny offers excellent computer support and her colleagues refer to her as her group’s “IT person.” She has employed RedCap and other technologies to assist in tracking individual records on the unit. She meets with management and CSLs weekly to discuss needs, concerns and areas for possible improvement.

Professional development is part of Jenny’s regular practice. She attends nursing conferences at least once a year and reads journals relating to patient care with particular interest in the NICU population. She frequently listens to podcasts, reads the latest evidence-based literature and readily shares the information she learns with the nursing education staff.
“You will never meet a more dedicated, responsible team player than Greg. He truly cares for his patients, his team and his profession. What a great asset for Vanderbilt.” – from the nomination

Greg has been a valuable member of Vanderbilt for more than 20 years and specializes in processing gastrointestinal scopes. It is his passion to maintain the safety of the scopes, taking it upon himself to gain certification in the field without being asked. He met regularly with the vendor of the scopes and cleaning system to completely understand it and know how to troubleshoot its issues. Using his own research, he has discovered better ways to highly disinfect the scopes that are safer to staff, the scopes and patients.

He always pulls the correct scopes that nurses and physicians need by researching patient size and procedure. He constantly teaches nurses, physicians, fellows and residents how to properly handle a scope by holding seminars twice per year on the subject. He also takes his students through the cleaning process and stresses the importance of preventing infections.

He doesn’t cut corners. Greg’s dedication and work ethic are well regarded. He has taken this critical job and has done more to maintain the safety of the scopes used on our pediatric population than was ever asked. There have been many occasions where he has stayed late to make sure nurses had what they need for patients being transported to the operating room. Greg continually strives to do the best job he possibly can.

Nominees

DARONDA BENTON | DENISE CHAPMAN | JONATHAN DOW | ZONDRA DRYSDALE | KATIE BOND HENDRICKS |
NICK HOPKINS | GREG JARRETT | NANCY LORENZI | CHANDLER MINIAT | CAROLYN SCHRIG | M. SCOTT THOMPSON |
JACOB WEEMS | CAROL WILSON | LAURIE YEE
“Cindy takes outstanding care of our diabetic research patients. She provides excellent education to them, not only related to their diabetes research, but living a better life overall. The value they feel when they leave our office because of Cindy’s personalized care is one of importance and belonging. She treats everyone like her closest family member.” – from the nomination

Cynthia

Colleagues describe Cindy as an integral part of the Diabetes Research Center team. She promotes a positive experience from the minute patients walk through the doors of the office. She is always looking for ways to improve workflow processes to maximize efficiency and improve the overall patient experience. Cindy continually takes on new tasks and is eager to learn new ways to improve patient care.

Cindy is the lead phlebotomist and ensures that patients are comfortable during this process. Her laughter echoes through the halls of the office and her pleasant attitude is apparent in every aspect of her work. She truly gets to know all study participants by helping them schedule appointments, process laboratory specimens and collect vital signs. She is willing to help anyone in need.

Cindy continues her education by taking classes that have increased her knowledge of nursing and the research process. She puts other people’s interests above her own and takes care of everybody – Cindy is a beloved member of our team.

NOMINEES

DANA FULTON | ANGELA JOHNSON | CINDY LOVELL | WARDEAN MASSEY | ERICA MOTEN | RHONDA NEBLETT | MICHELLE PULIAM | GWENDOLYN SMALLING
“Elizabeth has been instrumental in providing guidance to hundreds of evidence-based projects as they are used for clinical advancement. She lends great strength to advance the curious minds of nurses in asking questions that have not been asked. She is positive, resourceful and understands the barriers to seeing a research question through to discovery.” – from the nomination

Elizabeth has served as principal investigator, sub-investigator or research coordinator for more than 125 clinical research studies at Vanderbilt University Medical Center involving investigational drugs, devices, observational or survey studies. She serves as the National Chair for the American Society of Peri-Anesthesia Nurses (ASPN) Evidence-Based Practice Committee and is a Joanna Briggs Institute Reviewer. Elizabeth has also won a Joanna Briggs Educational Scholarship, an Education Grant from Middle Tennessee Advance Practice Nurses, and the Vivien Thomas Award for Excellence in Clinical Research.

In research, Elizabeth easily interacts in an interdisciplinary way to bring teams together around their research questions. This involves pediatric patients, surgical patients and psychiatric patients from various cultures, socioeconomic backgrounds, and those in all stages of life. As a Family Nurse Practitioner who serves in a rural community, she is practicing in experience and not theory alone.

Elizabeth pushes the envelope of what is understood and what staff nurses expect that they can do. She actively demonstrates a spirit of inquiry, positively reflects the image of nursing and mentors on a daily basis. She is a servant leader who puts others before herself, always working to get the person in front of her further along in their journey.

NOMINEES

ELIZABETH CARD | MICHELLE CLARK | BRENDA WEEDMAN
TEAM AWARD

CENTER FOR WOMEN’S HEALTH CLINIC DRUG DEPENDENCY TEAM
CAROLYN BAILES, MSW, LCSW
LINDSEY BAKSH, MSN, WHNP-BC
MICHAEL CAUCCI, MD
CORRIE CECIL, MSW, LMSW
BARRY GRIMM, DO
AUDRA HILL, LPN
JANIS MCKINNEY, ADN, RN
ERIKA RODRIGUEZ, MSW, LMSW
REESHA SANGHANI, MD
CHELSEA SMITH, BSN, RN 2, OCN, CIFM AWHONN
LAURA STAFFORD, LPN
JESSICA YOUNG, MD, MPH

“The success of the Drug Dependent Clinic at the Center for Women’s Health at One Hundred Oaks was evident when the program was also initiated at our clinic at NorthCrest Medical Center in Springfield, Tennessee.” – from the nomination

A n interdisciplinary team of RNs, LPNs, physicians and social workers care for obstetric patients in the Drug Dependent Clinic at the Center for Women’s Health at One Hundred Oaks. The clinic formed as a result of Michael Caucci, MD, seeing an increasing number of patients with drug-dependency and psychiatric issues that exceeded his limited clinic time. Jessica Young, MD, also developed an interest in the population and realized they were an underserved and growing population in Tennessee.

Lindsey Baksh, MSN, RN developed an interest in the population as well and, together with Young, reviewed literature and research to develop the Drug Dependent Clinic. Audra Hill, LPN, Chelsea Smith, BSN, RN, and social workers joined the team. Contracts were developed for nurses to review with patients and social workers met with patients in group and individual sessions.

Research is minimal in this population. Data gathering is ongoing and Young and Reesha Sanghani, MD, have applied for a $5 million grant for further study of this fragile population.

NOMINEES

VPNPP | RADIOLOGY | MCJCHV PERIOPERATIVE SERVICES | VUH PATIENT FLOW TEAMS | TEAM IN CENTER FOR WOMEN’S HEALTH FOR DRUG DEPENDENT PATIENTS
Rosamond Gabrielson came to Vanderbilt University Medical Center as the director of Nursing after completing her tenure as president of the American Nurses Association, a position she held from 1972 to 1976. Her advocacy of the bedside nurse’s role did not start at Vanderbilt. One study she had conducted examined the role nurses had with physicians. “Gabe,” as she was known, studied nurses’ actions with regard to verbal orders for medications and found that 21 out of 22 nurses followed physicians’ orders to give a medication that didn’t exist. Nurses were blindly following orders without question. She urged nurses to instead strive for collaborative practice.

She brought this vision and passion for nursing practice and staff nurses to Vanderbilt. She had weekly meetings with associate directors and was always asking, “What do the staff nurses think?” She was constantly pushing the associate directors to think broadly. She wasn’t afraid of visionaries, or people wanting to try new ideas.

There were a number of nurse practitioners from the community who were coming to Vanderbilt to see their patients who had been admitted. At this time there was no credentialing of these nurse practitioners, but Gabe recognized the value of continuity of care for their patients. Gabe charged two associate directors, Adrienne Ames and Frances Carson, to gather a group to define a structure around the nursing process. Shared Governance and the nursing bylaws unfolded from this work.

Early during her tenure, the pharmacy wasn’t open 24 hours a day, so nurses filled prescriptions during the off hours. She recognized the issues with this practice, and pushed to get it changed. She recognized that nurses couldn’t competently float to other clinical care areas; she stood firm on this notion and from this came self-containment. Gabe also wanted to validate the role the nurse plays in a patient’s care. She brought in Marie Manthey, a pioneer of the primary nursing model of care, to consult. From this came a change in the model of nursing practice to primary nursing with an emphasis on the nurse being as important a member of the health care team as any other discipline.

The Recipients

The Staff Nurse of the Year award recognizes a nurse from each entity – Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital, Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital, and Vanderbilt Clinics – who embrace Rosamond Gabrielson’s vision of nursing practice. This award honors a staff nurse who through his/her practice of direct patient care elevates the profession of nursing.

The Staff Nurse of the Year demonstrates the ability to work collaboratively with other health care team members in the delivery of patient care, which results in positive outcomes for these patients. He/she exhibits leadership through the exemplary practice of nursing by conducting a practice that is evidence based and quality outcomes focused.

This nurse actively encourages and participates in a team approach when dealing with issues of cost, quality and patient/staff satisfaction. The recipient must be a registered nurse currently practicing as a staff nurse giving direct patient care.
“Casey is an exemplary RN. She is actively involved in unit board, was the Epic preceptor for the unit and has worked with the leadership team to create a quality and safety rounding tool. Casey worked with a multidisciplinary team to develop an end-of-life protocol specific to the neuro patient. She is an excellent nurse at the bedside and is also involved in multiple additional projects.” – from the nomination

Casey is a role model for the exemplary practice of nursing by consistently asking questions in an effort to improve patient care. She developed a fall prevention bundle so that all supplies would be in a kit and readily available to the nursing staff. When she noticed that quality metrics were slipping, she developed a quality/safety rounding tool for the unit and was involved in the development of a comfort care protocol specific to the neuro patient population.

Asking questions comes naturally to Casey particularly with regards to improving the care of her patients. She is a resource for other nurses in setting up interpreter services or Child Life specialists when needed and encourages families to participate in rounds with the critical care team to ensure they are aware of and agree with the plan of care. These quality rounds have helped to ensure the safety of patients.

Casey is an ACLS instructor. She served as the EpicLeap preceptor for the Neuro ICU providing education, guidance and support to the teams during the transition.

NOMINEES

MICHELLE BAYLON | SARA BROOKS | KRISTEN CLIFFORD | MICHELLE FAVULLI | REBECCA HALL | DAN MAJORS | CASEY MUELLER | TANNA WALKER
Kayln is an excellent and respected mentor on our unit. She graciously welcomes new hires to the unit and serves as an excellent preceptor to new hires and students. She educates in an encouraging, uplifting manner so that new hires can learn the unit but also feel comfortable in their inexperience and learning.” – from the nomination

Kayln shines as a powerful collaborator with multiple members of the health care team. As an RSL, she works closely with anesthesia and various surgical teams every day and has built a strong rapport by her hard work. She understands the importance of collaboration to improve patient care.

Over the last year, Kayln has worked extensively in the holding room and PACU to promote and improve infection control practices to yield positive patient outcomes. She has researched, discussed and shared best practices, shedding light on potential areas of improvement. She consistently seeks opportunities to improve patient care.

Kayln consistently rounds with the bedside nurses. She is incredibly sensitive to when there are changes in a patient’s condition and quick to discuss with nurses about how the patient is doing and how she can help.

Kayln represents the Nursing Staff Council on the Family Centered Care Committee and serves as a point person for her unit on the committee. As a result of her involvement, she has proposed a plan to improve the unit for toddlers and young children who are playing on the floors – a direct result of requests from families.

NOMINEES

MEGHAN CHAMBERS | PAUL CLOUTIER | EMILY DOUGLASS | KAYLN WOLFE
Leslie provides professional, non-judgmental care to all of her patients. She meets the patient exactly where they are and provides therapeutic care to them. Knowledge level, socioeconomic status and psychiatric diagnoses do not affect the exceptional care she provides.” – from the nomination

Leslie is a seasoned nurse on the Adult 1 unit – a resource to all staff on matters involving the psychotic disorders population. She regularly works with patients who are psychotic, paranoid and suffering from PTSD and other disorders, including some with a propensity for violence. She works closely with her team as well as physicians, managers and families while maintaining a calm, low-key manner even on the busiest and most testing of days. Her understanding of policy and procedure and the ability to encourage others in a positive way have earned her the respect of her colleagues and patients.

She is a champion for improving the quality of care that Vanderbilt provides for its patients. She studies quality indicator scores by looking for what needs improvement and ways to implement change. In addition to working as a staff nurse, she also fills in as a night supervisor on weekends when needed.

Leslie is a hands-on educator and supporter of nurse residents when they arrive on the units. She is also continuing her own education by working on her master’s degree while continuing to work as a full-time RN.

NOMINEES

EMILY BURTON | MADELINE HASKAMP | MEGAN ISBERG | LESLIE RAGGIO
“When Lesa enters a patient room, she explains her role and reason for being there and asks for permission to discuss with others in the room. She uses the skills of health coaching and motivational interviewing to elicit the patient’s reason for change and helps them find his or her motivation to change, which is essential when working with patients who use tobacco.” – from the nomination

As a tobacco treatment specialist, Lesa guides each individual patient through a plan to quit tobacco if they are ready. She recommends medications to the patient’s primary care team to help in this effort. Her work involves educating new residents on tobacco use and treatment plans while on rounds as well as using communication styles to help improve patient-centered care.

Allowing the patient to have autonomy is the first step toward change. Lesa uses shared decision-making with the patient regarding the choice to quit; many times when Lesa enters the room, the patient is adamant that they will not quit tobacco. She works with social workers when the patient could benefit from the medication assistance program and by the time she leaves, the patient often has set a quit date or moved further on the continuum of change.

Lesa employs her skills of health coaching and motivational interviewing to help the patient find their personal reason to quit. She is a member of the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT) and serves on international committees with regards to motivational interviewing. She has held training about motivational interviewing on campus to spread the practice with other health care providers.

NOMINEES

LESA ABNEY | KRISTIN CAMERON | CHARLOTTE CHAVOUS | ADRIANNE JANICIK | AMETHYST MCCLELLAN |
LESLEE SPEER | LAURA WILLIAMS
SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Throughout the year, many of our nurses are honored for their accomplishments and contributions to our profession by their peers, by external organizations, and by our own institution. On the following pages we recognize individuals who have gone above and beyond.
SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

INSPIRING GLOBAL NURSE AWARD
This award recognizes nurses’ frontline nursing roles who demonstrate exemplary practice by impacting the global delivery of health care.

Jessica Van Meter was honored at the second Annual International Nurses Day Event at the United Nations Headquarters for her work as program director for the Bachelor of Science in Emergency Nursing Program at Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC) in Guyana, South America. The program will be graduating their first class of nurses in November 2018. Jessica is being recognized for outstanding nursing leadership, not only in global health, but also in advancing nursing education and clinical practice through her exceptional work both nationally and internationally.

JESSICA VAN METER, DNP, MSN, RN, APN-BC, CCRN, A-EMT
Flight Nurse
Vanderbilt LifeFlight
ADVANCED PRACTICE AMBASSADORS AWARD

The Advanced Practice Ambassador award provides an opportunity for the advanced practice community to recognize exceptional individuals who have consistently advocated and supported the advanced practice role. This award provides recognition to a full-time, VUMC non-APRN/PA professional who exemplifies the essential elements of a Magnet culture: by partnering with advanced practice to apply evidence to care, advocating for continued integration of APRNs/PAs as interprofessional team members throughout the health care system, validating and supporting the contributions and impact of advanced practice, and acting as a role model and mentor in practice, teaching, research and leadership domains.

CLIFFORD LEE PARMLEY, MD
Chief of Staff
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

ROMAN PERRI, MD
Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION NOMINATION

DANIEL BROWN, MD
Radiology & Radiological Sciences
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

JENNIFER DINDO, RN, CEPN
Coordinator Disease Specialty
Pediatric Emergency, Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt

The Advocate for Children Award
Children’s Emergency Care Alliance

HALEY VANCE, DNP, APRN, CPNP-AC
Neurosurgery
Vanderbilt University Hospital & Clinics

Tennessee Nurses Association
Elected President

TERRELL SMITH, MSN, RN
Director, Patient & Family Engagement
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Martin Luther King Jr. Award

APRIL KAPU, DNP, ACNP-BC, FAANP
Associate Chief Nursing Officer & Director,
Office of Advanced Practice
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Appointed per Executive Order by Governor Haslam to a Special Tennessee Commission on Pain and Addiction Medicine Education
SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

FIVE PILLAR LEADER AWARD
The purpose of the Five Pillar Leader Award is to recognize exceptional leaders who consistently model a balanced approach to leadership across the five pillars and demonstrate Credo behaviors.

KATHY MOSS, RN, MSN, MBA, PMP, NEA-BC
Radiology & Radiological Sciences
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

CREDO AWARD
The CREDO award is given to staff and faculty who exemplify the Medical Center’s standards for service and all-around professionalism.

ROSE TINCH CALVERT, BSN, RN
Patient Care Coordinator,
Spina Bifida Clinic

TONYA REMINGTON, LPN II
Surgical Specialties

BILL RAINES, RN
Principal Domain Specialist,
Health IT
SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

MARCH OF DIMES NURSE OF THE YEAR
In December 2017 several nurses from Vanderbilt were honored at the annual Middle Tennessee March of Dimes Nurse of the Year awards. The recipients represent the March of Dimes vision for healthier, happier, stronger, safer infants and families.

JENNIFER WILBECK, DNP, RN, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC, ENP-C, FAANP
Advanced Practice
Vanderbilt University
School of Nursing

ANGELA WILSON-LIVERMAN, MSN, RN, CNM, FACNM
Advanced Practice
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

STEPHANIE ABBU, DNP, RN, CNML
Graduate Student Nurse
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

ERIN HAVRILLA, BSN, RN
Hospice and Palliative Care
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

BETH SPARTA, BSN, RN 4, CC
Pediatric
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

PATRICIA DETZEL, MSN, RN, CNM
Public and Community Health
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

CAITLIN PUGH, BSN, RN, NICC
Quality and Patient Safety
Vanderbilt University
Medical Center

MARY JO GILMER, PHD, MBA, RN-BC, FAAN
Research
Vanderbilt University
School of Nursing

GINNY MOORE, DNP, RN, WHNP-BC
Women’s Health
Vanderbilt University
School of Nursing
VANDERBILT’S PROFESSIONAL NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM (VPNPP)

Vanderbilt’s Professional Nursing Practice Program is a performance-based career advancement program for RNs and LPNs supported by a comprehensive performance evaluation system to recognize and reward clinical nursing expertise in direct patient care. VPNPP exists to promote, support, recognize and reward nurses as they grow within the role of the professional nurse as defined by internal and external practice standards, the context of the organization culture, and external environmental influences. VPNPP uses self, peer and manager evaluation to recognize and reward clinical nursing expertise with one of four levels. The goals of VPNPP include attracting and retaining clinical nurses in direct patient care and building a Performance Development System that promotes, supports, recognizes and rewards RNs and LPNs by:

- Clearly defining job expectations for each of four RN and LPN levels’ job descriptions
- Challenging the status quo for the improvement of patient care
- Accurately and objectively measuring performance
- Highlighting strengths and targeting areas for professional growth
- Noting areas of strength and areas for continued development as a pathway to the next practice level

Another goal is to reward nursing performance in accordance with indicators of clinical expertise and contribution to the team, the work area and the organization. The program also provides opportunities for promotion for nurses in the practice of direct patient care and provides consistent nursing performance standards and pay equity across the clinical enterprise.

Congratulations to our new RN 3s & 4s and LPN 3s and 4s between April 1, 2017, and April 30, 2018. *Names available at time of publication. We apologize for any omissions.

LPN3
Jennifer Evans
Gwendolyn Smalling
Linda Wharton
Lisa Mickey
Leatha Rochester
Stacy Carroll
Laura Amann
Tricia Cagg
Jacqueline Parrott
Carol Barnes

LPN4
Tymna Lee
Emily Nesbitt
Melody Robinson
Maryann Douglas
Tausha Tobitt
Tonia Raymond

RN3
Patsy Ramey
Lara Burr
Caroline Frantz
Sara Corey
Melissa Hill
Lindsay Thomas-Batey
Timothy George
Julia Kimmens
Jennifer Hulsey
Mia Sharp
Kristen Frala
Laura Jean
Amy Adlich
Meredith Huseman
Tracy Allen
Hong Vo
Alison Rader
Kathleen Evans
Judy Gifford
Alicia Krentz
Amber Wolf
Rachel Riggins
Michele Stratton
Jessica Cowgill
Jennifer Lukens
Janice Yerge
Kiley Braden
Eric Nelson
Charlotte Garwood
Katherine Weaver
Kimberly Bartfield
Jessica Zehring
Haley Gray
Denise Williams
Chelsea Lytle
Margaret Thacker
Elizabeth Dunnam
Daryl Blackman
Fernanda Leavitt
Scott Lindquist
Cassandra Smith
Mihaela Constantin
Hyosook Kim
Keshia Miller
Eliza Truwit
Sasha Lewis
Greg Horn
Carol Bowers
Kathryn D’Angelo
Elizabeth Bradley
Nicole Tan
Frank Edwards
Carley Knisley
Tyler Miller

RN4
Clifford O’Sullivan
Julie Reynolds
Caroline Gardner
Glendyle Levinskas
Angela Balding
Mallory Thompson
Morgan Wheeler
Alexandra Speros
Julie Miller
Christopher Fritts
Gretchen Jayawardena
Katherine Fulk
Britannie Stellern
Stephanie Nelson
Michael Sahjian
Floyd Fleming
Greg Harrington
Anne Turner
Wesley Oliver
Alexandra Nash
Kayln Wolfe
Kristen Williams
Sydney Hale
Claire Hamilton
Danya Neely
Crystal Tillery
Laura Turner
CLINICAL RESEARCH NURSE ADVANCEMENTS

Under the guidance and supervision of the principal investigator, the Research Nurse Specialist III (RNS III) is responsible for assuring that the integrity and quality of the clinical research trial is maintained and that the trial is conducted in accordance with Good Clinical Practice Guidelines, federal and sponsor regulations and guidelines and Vanderbilt Policy and Procedure.

The RNS III independently plans and manages implementation of research trials, assists in grant/protocol development, negotiates contracts, prepares IRB applications and budgets, conducts coordinating center operations of multiple study sites, and interprets data and reviews analyses to perform quality assurance. The RNS III position requires five years of research experience and an advanced degree or certification is preferred.

Under the guidance and supervision of the principal investigator, the Research Nurse Specialist IV is responsible for assisting in the design of the clinical research, assuring that the integrity and quality of the clinical research trial is maintained, and that the trial is conducted in accordance with Good Clinical Practice Guidelines, federal/sponsor regulations and guidelines, and Vanderbilt policies and procedures.

The RNS IV independently plans and manages implementation of research trials, serves as a resource for inquiries on study projects, works autonomously to generate business relationships, increase funding, design new studies and study tools, and present information at formal, educational sessions. The RNS IV position requires 10 years of research experience and an advanced degree or certification.

Congratulations to our new Clinical Research RN IIIs between April 1, 2017, and April 30, 2018.

*Names available at time of publication. We apologize for any omissions.

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**Research Nurse Specialist III**

- Eric Howard
- Susan Sommers
- Anca Ifrim
- Malia Reed
- Shinnieka Wilson
- Julia Anderson
- Kristina Williams
- Candice Smith
- Vicki Stephens
- Sandra Grant

**Research Nurse Specialist IV**

- Naomi Prashad
- Mary Jones
- Wende Fedder
HONORING RETIRED NURSES

**Patricia Smith**, Wound Ostomy PRN  
Wound Ostomy  

**June Gelpi**, RN2  
VHCS Clinical  

**Dorothy Shearon**, Research Nurse  
Specialist III  
Neuro-Movement Disorders  
Division  

**Beverly Shelton**, Case Manager  
MCJCHV  

**Nancy Hudspeth**, RN2  
VPH Adult CSL  

**Saundra Motley**, Research Nurse  
Specialist III  
Division of Epidemiology  

**Katherine Ramsay**, RN PRN  
VHCS Admin – Quality  

**Anna Marie Anderson**, Research Nurse  
Specialist IV  
Neurological Surgery  

**Kathleen Burns**, CNS  
VHVI Clinical Administration  

**Marian Clark**, RN2 CC  
General Surgery/Oncology  

**Gregory Winnett**, LPN PRN  
Med Spec Clinic  

**Christine MacLean**  
Allergy/Pulmonary  

**Judy Glascock**, RN2  
VOI Clinic  

**Julie Foss**  
Inpatient Medical Administration  

**Adele Lewis**, RN4 CC  
PHO  

**Peggy Ashton**, RN2 CC  
Cancer Infusion Center  

**Catherine Hill**, RN PRN  
CHOC Pediatric Heart Institute  

**Daniel Bulla**, RN PRN  
VOI Clinic  

**Kevin Markuson**, RN2  
General Surgery  

**Florence Printz**, RN2  
TVC Observation  

**Sarah Boerner**, RN2  
Orthopedics  

**Sally Holzapfel**, CRNA  
Anesthesiology  

**Vicky Artajos**, RN3 CC  
9N Surgical Stepdown  

**Thomas Dowd**, RN2 CC  
Main OR – PACU  

**Deborah Booth**, Case Manager  
TMO/UM  

**Kathleen Byington**, Case Manager  
MCJCHV  

**Mary Davis**, RN2 CC  
Main OR – PACU  

**Carol Santoro**, Research Nurse  
Specialist II  
VICC – Clinical Trials  

**Katherine Alwahab**, RN CC PRN  
MCJCHV HR/PACU  

**Nancy Wells**, Director  
Nursing Administration  

**Marilyn Myers**, RN2  
Williamson Co. Primary Care  

**Marie Joy Fidel**, RN2  
7RW ACE  

**Belinda Gascon**, RN2  
Obstetrics  

**Marcia Mullins**, RN PRN  
STAM  

**Deborah Whiteside**, RN PRN  
ASAP  

**Anne Nohl**  
GI Medicine  

**Stephanie Houston**, RN3 CC  
Myelosuppresion/Stem Cell  

**Rebekah Fitzgerald**, LPN2  
Williamson Co. Primary Care  

**Brenda Dill**, RN2 CC  
NICU  

**Eileen Marie Griffin**, CRNA  
Anesthesiology  

**Melissa Lieberman**, RN2 CC  
Intervention, IV & PICC  

**Laura Elzey**, RN CC PRN  
Main OR – PACU  

**Augustine Tudeme**, RN2 CC  
Main OR  

**Carol Eck**, RN, MBA  
VICC  

**Vicki Richard**, RN, MBA, NEA-BC  
VICC

TRIBUTE TO DECEASED NURSES

**Barbara Hygaard**

*Names verified by HR. Names available at time of publication. We apologize for any omissions.*
AWARD SELECTION
COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Thank you to our Selection Committee for assisting with the challenging task of choosing the 2018 award recipients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alison Rossano</th>
<th>Chelsea Lytle</th>
<th>Marlena Newbill</th>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Tilley</td>
<td>Corrie Berry</td>
<td>Missy McCoy</td>
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<td>Andrea Hughie</td>
<td>Erin Hendrickson</td>
<td>Pam Gaffney</td>
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<td>Ann Luther</td>
<td>Holly Miles</td>
<td>Sarah Wilkerson</td>
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<td>Becky Keck</td>
<td>Janice Gabbard</td>
<td>Stacy Carroll</td>
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<td>Bethany Evans</td>
<td>Julia Yao</td>
<td>Sonja Walsh</td>
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<td>Brett Young</td>
<td>Katie Brennan</td>
<td>Teresa Hobt-Bingham</td>
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<td>Caleb Sisk</td>
<td>Kim Carter</td>
<td>Zachary Nibert</td>
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<td>Carmen Mauldin</td>
<td>Maria Sullivan</td>
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<td>Charlotte Chavous</td>
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ANOTHER MAGNET MOMENT

July 20, 2017 Announcement of Third Magnet Designation