A group of nurses from Vanderbilt University Medical Center attended the annual National Magnet Conference, Oct. 10-12 in Orlando, Florida.

The conference, organized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), attracted thousands of attendees from around the world. Magnet, a designation from the ANCC, is the most prestigious honor an organization can receive for the provision of nursing care and interprofessional collaboration.

Fewer than 10 percent of hospitals in the U.S. have the distinction, and VUMC has received it three times — in 2006, 2012 and 2017. VUMC is in the process of seeking its fourth designation.

Vanderbilt nurses were active in poster presentations. Mary Duvanich, MSN, RN, Associate Nursing Officer, Orthopaedic and Surgery Patient Care Centers, presented “Developing an Ambulatory Care Model,” which focused in on the journey to standardize and clarify roles in the ambulatory setting. One of the final outcomes was agreement on the role of the RN in ambulatory practice (Care Coordination and Triage).

“I was able to discuss at length the need for others to embark on a similar journey and several of the nurse leaders that I spoke to from across the

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country have contacted me after returning home to continue the conversation and compare notes,” Duvanich said.

Susan Bosworth MSN, RN-BC, FNP, Nursing Education Specialist, was invited by the ANCC Practice Transition Accreditation Program (PTAP) to present a poster titled “Make It Relevant: Facilitated Debriefing to Enhance Nurse Resident Transition to Practice,” co-authored by Brandi Meacham, MSN, RN, CPN.

“One of the best moments was getting to meet the current chair of the ANCC Commission on Accreditation in Practice Transition Programs (COA-PTP), Jean Shinners,” said Bosworth, who is also director of the Nurse Residency Program.

Mamie Williams, MPH, MSN, FNP-BC, Director, Nurse Safety and Wellbeing, presented “VUMC Partnership with the ANA Healthy Nurse Healthy Nation Initiative.”

“Attending the 2019 Magnet conference offered me an opportunity to learn what other organizations are doing in the nurse staff health and wellness space and to realize how far advanced the programs offered at VUMC truly are compared to similar institutions,” Williams said.

Other attendees shared their thoughts of the conference:

- “I was very impressed with the breakout educational sessions offered at the conference and came back with some new ideas for our units!” — Robin S. Elmore, BSN, RN-BC Clinical Staff Leader, VBH Adult I Inpatient.
- “It made me really proud to be part of an organization and be with individuals who are so eager to learn and are truly devoted to improving our patient care.” — Ashley Vosilla, MSN, RN, NE-BC, senior Magnet program manager for Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital.
- “Attending the Magnet Conference served to renew my ongoing commitment toward professional/personal growth and mentoring within the nursing profession as well as my organization.” — Kimberly Burkeen, MSN, RN, Clinical Manager
- “I cannot express the amount of gratitude I have for the opportunity to attend such an empowering and ‘magnetizing’ conference”— Haley Bryan, BSN, RN, Assistant Nurse Manager.
- “I was so encouraged by the work we already do at Vanderbilt and all the opportunities to learn from some of the best nursing minds in the country!” — Drew Walls, BSN, RN, Assistant Nurse Manager, Surgical Specialty Clinics
- “This was my first nursing conference, so I’m pretty sure that attending Magnet Conference as a first conference has ruined me for all others!” — Paula K. Culbert, BSN, RN, Assistant Nurse Manager, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery & Dental Clinics
- “I learned so many things to improve my practice and our hospital.” — Janine Mccowan, BSN, RN, Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital
- “I enjoyed getting to know colleagues from across the enterprise and making lasting friendships while learning ways to improve nursing practice and satisfaction at MCJCHV.” — Elizabeth (Eli) Phillips, BSN, RN, ECMO Specialist, Nursing Staff Council Chair
- “In addition to attending seminars about self-care, kindness, The Happiness Project, and taking in all the information from the vendors and the posters, it reframed my image of what being a nurse is.” — Marianne Broyles, BSN, RN, Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital
- “It was an amazing experience to be included in a group of over 10,000 nurses that love what they do and are working so hard to improve care to those they serve.” — Connie Hare, BSN, RN-BC, Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital
SPOTLIGHT ON MAGNET CONFERENCE
KRAUSE APPOINTED TO GOVERNOR’S TASK FORCE

Kathie Krause, MSN, RN, Chief Nursing Officer for Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt, has been appointed to serve on Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee’s Health Care Modernization Task Force.

The Task Force will host public discussions with the goal of providing options for consideration to address some of the state’s major health care issues.

“It is an honor to serve on this task force and share both my experience and recommendations for a healthier Tennessee,” Krause said. “Throughout my career I have been a staunch advocate for patients and their families, regardless of the health care setting. I hope that my continued advocacy as a member of this group contributes to better access and services for all citizens in our state.”

Krause is one of 26 members of the bipartisan task force, which consists of Tennessee health care leaders and experts as well as state officials.

VUMC, VUSN RECOGNIZED FOR MODEL PARTNERSHIP

The active and productive partnership between Vanderbilt University School of Nursing and Vanderbilt University Medical Center has been recognized by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) with its 2019 New Era for Academic Nursing Award.

The competitive honor recognizes schools of nursing and academic medical centers that are committed to positioning academic nursing as an equal partner in health care transformation in the U.S. It is the organization’s highest academic/practice partnership award.

Embracing this equal status for nursing was the top recommendation from the AACN 2016 report, Advancing Healthcare Transformation: A New Era for Academic Nursing, which looked at the role of nursing schools in health care reform and challenged schools to strengthen nursing’s impact.

VUSN and VUMC received the 2019 award for their public and visible commitment to incorporating academic nursing into the mission and practice of the health system, as demonstrated by a variety of joint initiatives.

“The School of Nursing is very fortunate that VUMC supports academic nursing as a valued teammate in health care delivery, education and research,” said VUSN Dean Linda D. Norman, DSN, RN, FAAN, the Valere Potter Menefee Professor of Nursing. “We benefit from each other’s vision and expertise: for example, School of Nursing faculty serve in senior leadership roles at the Medical Center and on VUMC boards. VUMC clinical nursing leaders are in leadership at VUSN, hold faculty positions and advise doctoral students.”

VUMC Executive Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, also serves on the VUSN Dean’s Advisory Council and as associate dean for clinical practice at the school.

“Academic health care systems like VUMC are changing to meet societal and economic needs,” Dubree said. “They see the value in community-based care, interdisciplinary teams and chronic disease prevention and management — all patient-focused models at which nurses excel. And increasing-ly, they’re looking to nurses to lead. At VUMC, we’re partnering with the School of Nursing and our nurses to explore new approaches of care delivery, achieve improved health outcomes and foster innovation.”