



WCSU Alumni Nursing Society

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER

Save the date!
50 years of
Nursing at
WCSU!

Join us for our
50th Anniversary
of Nursing events
on Oct. 23 & 24,

Check out the
Alumni Nursing
Society Facebook
page for more
information.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/350098256834/>



2020 IS THE YEAR OF THE NURSE!!!

2020 marks the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale. She was known as "Lady with the Lamp" and was the founder of modern nursing. She also founded the first scientifically based nursing school called the Nightingale School of Nursing at St. Thomas Hospital in London for nurses and midwives working in the workhouse infirmaries.

Spring Event - Cancelled

Unfortunately, due precautionary measures the University has decided to cancel all events on campus through the end of April. We look forwards to seeing you at our 50 Years of Nursing at WCSU Celebration on October 23 and 24, 2020.

Class of 1970



NURSING DEPARTMENT



Check out our website for more information about the Alumni Nursing Society

www.wcsu.edu/alumni/nursing-alumni



Have you recently gotten married and changed your name? Did you move?

We can't tell you about the wonderful things that are happening if we can't reach you.

Update your information now. Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (203) 837-8298 or email alumni@wcsu.edu.

NEWS FROM THE WCSU NURSING DEPARTMENT

Hello to everyone - Greetings from the Nursing Department. Well, where should I start?

Congratulations to some of our faculty who have achieved their doctorates from our wonderful Ed.D. in nursing education program!

Dr. Diane Bennett
Dr. Eileen Campbell
Dr. Pat Cumella
Dr. Linda Dalessio
Dr. Mary Nielson
Dr. Monica Sousa

Up-and- coming future Doctoral Degrees:

Prof. Doreen Graham – Defended proposal and is now working on Chapter 4 & 5, Data Collection and Analyzation for her research project about “Novice Nurse Practitioner’s Perception of Role Transition.”

Prof. Teresa Puckhaber '16 is working on a proposal about Academic Nurse Educators and Teaching Efficacy, Psychological Empowerment, and Empowering Teaching Behaviors.

Reassigned Time for Research:

Dr. Mary Ellen Doherty has reassigned time for “Exploring Post Traumatic Growth in Women who have experienced loss of spouse or partner.” Series of other studies coming: Post Traumatic Growth in Women who have lost a child, had a near death experience, have been emotionally / physically abused, and/or lived through natural disaster. All of this research will be used toward writing a book titled “Exemplars of Post Traumatic Growth.”

Dr. Doherty is also presenting her research at ENRS in Boston, Massachusetts and American College of Nurse Midwives in Austin, Texas.

Dr. Doherty received word that she will receive an honor of “Fellow” in American College of Nurse Midwives at their annual meeting in June 2020.

Growth in the department:

In order to meet the growing number of students across the program we are always looking for those with talent in the clinical area and/or academic area. We are always looking for new adjuncts who have a current pediatric background and/or psych background. Please email lupinaccij@wcsu.edu if interested. Master’s degree in nursing is required

Some alumni who are working for us as adjuncts:

Christopher Balsamo '11
Cynthia Gran '91, '98
Clare Martin '17
Susan Mogan '13
Magdalena Szczerbacki '16



For more information about what is going on at WCSU, go to www.wcsu.edu/alumni.

If any master's - prepared alumni are interested in teaching as an adjunct or helping the nursing department, we'd love to hear from you!



Up-and-Coming Changes:

This coming Spring 2020, we are moving on up. Where do you ask? We are moving our department to the second floor of White Hall. This is targeted to happen somewhere around the end of spring semester. So, if you come in for a visit in the summer or fall, most likely you can find us upstairs. Health Promotion Studies will be moving from Berkshire Hall to the first floor in White Hall.

The med-surg lab where all of you practiced your nursing skills like preparing an IV bag or inserting a Foley catheter will now be on the second floor. We are also gaining another med-surg/fundamentals lab! More space to learn and grow into great nurses.

What else is expanding?

Western Connecticut State University is pleased to announce their new Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner program. This program requires a completion of 47 credits of specialized professional course designed to prepare the student in becoming a Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. The program is designed for part-time study with courses being offered in the evening, hybrid or online. Part-time study requires approximately four years for completion. At the end of the program students will be eligible to sit for the certifying board exam Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certification (PMHNP-BC). Interested students should contact Dr. Linda Warren at warrenl@wcsu.edu or Dr. Mary Nielson at nielsonm@wcsu.edu, or call (203) 837-8556.

We are also looking to add a DNP and an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program! More to come on these!

RN-BS: Online style classes. New Clinical Placements. This program is still going strong in Waterbury at the Naugatuck Valley Campus in Founders Hall. If you know of anyone wanting to go back for their Bachelor's degree, send them our way! Ninety credits transfer in. Amazing!

We are proud to announce:

Western Connecticut State University (DON) was recognized by US News and World News - Best Colleges.

We just received our 10-year accreditation from CCNE (Fall 2018).

We are celebrating **50 years of Fabulousness in the Department of Nursing. Please save the date! Homecoming Weekend October 23-24.** More details to follow. Possible activities: Cocktail Hour Friday and Brunch/Tours Saturday, followed by Reunion City - then off to the homecoming game.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Jeanette Bjurback-Lupinacci '04, Department Chair and Alumna

WINDOW DECALS AVAILABLE

New WCSU Alumni Nursing Society window decals are now available for \$5. Some of the previous window decals are also still available. Please see Terri-Ann Tilquist, Nursing Department secretary, to purchase one, or email Monica Sousa at Sousam@wcsu.edu.



WCSU is celebrating 50 years of Nursing and 2020 is the Year of the Nurse.

In honor of our 50 years, we ask you to post your selfies, group and family pictures – anything that defines YOU as a nurse on our Facebook page.

The more we see, the more we can celebrate you!

www.facebook.com/groups/350098256834



The Nursing Lab Campaign Continues!

We are looking for donations to help grow our nursing labs. Funds donated go toward replacing equipment that is old or broken, as well as buying new and innovating equipment to enhance the learning experience of the nursing students at WCSU. We greatly appreciate any donation you can give.

Please check out the video made to highlight the simulation labs.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=v6eJ0PIbGS8





WCSU Alumni Nursing Society

Membership Form

**Please print, complete and return this form along with your donation, by May 1 to:
WCSU Alumni Office, Attn: Alumni Nursing Society, 181 White Street, Danbury, CT 06810.**

Name _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

E-Mail _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Yes, I want to donate \$ _____ to the **WCSU Alumni Nursing Society**.

Yes, I want to donate \$ _____ to the **Nursing Labs Campaign**.

Preferred Payment Options:

Check (payable to WCSU Foundation/Alumni Nursing Society)

Visa

MasterCard

Discover

AMEX

Credit Card # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

News Updates: Let us know what you have been up to professionally and personally (career moves, accomplishments, retirement, etc.)

or you can donate online at alumni.wcsu.edu/nursing-society and send us your news and updates to alumni@wcsu.edu with Nursing in the subject line.