

Thoughts about Nursing past, present, and future:

- I have never been disillusioned with nursing. I am grateful I found my niche in nursing education and have seen the fruition of my work in watching the lives of my students all over the world. The hallmark of Nursing was, is, and always will be caring. So glad to see the apprentice” model replaced by the knowledgeable educated nurse who gives care based on evidence based practice. I teach pre-nursing students and the major reason they want to be nurses is they want to help people because they care about them.

—Dr. Pat Kissell faculty and former Chair of CSUF Dept .of Nursing, Current Chair of Dept. of Nursing Northwest Nazarene University.

- I love nursing, and feel so grateful that I was able to pursue this career. I was an active nurse for 45 years, and I never felt burned out. I received great satisfaction from my patients and their families, but the most rewarding part of my career is looking around and seeing how many nurses I helped train and develop. I feel like they are all my children, and it gives me such joy and pride to see how they have matured as nurses. I am fortunate to have been in a job where I maintained contact with so many of them. I may be retired, but I will always be a nurse!

—Pat Scheid Austin First class of 1962, retired after 32 years as house supervisor and manager with Community Medical Regional Medical Center. (See her BIO, photos and first year journal on the web page.)

- I have always loved nursing. I believe nursing truly personalizes the health care experience for people. I highly recommend nursing as a profession to everyone I meet!

—Dr. Pam Springer class of 1987 MSN Nursing Administration. Associate Dean of the College of Health Sciences and Chair of the Dept. of Nursing University of Boise.

- I have learned that nursing is an honorable and noble career which most people respect. I am proud to say that I am a Registered Nurse. It has taught me to be organized, research minded, and given me the ability to juggle multiple tasks at one time. Nurses can do it all!

—*Patricia Noble class of 1985*

- Nursing continues to be a profession of passion for me. It is more than a career.

—*Colleen Stuart-Panec class of 1981*

- Nursing is a great profession and one will always have a job. Job security is very important.

—*Lynn Henderson Henricksen class of 1965 Retired staff nurse after 32 years with VMC/UMC.*

- Sharing knowledge and empowering others is so important. As the emphasis preventive care has changed to acute care, I believe that lessening emphasis on the preventive aspects of disease is an error.

—*Marie Yela Madhar Hoemke class of 1962.*

- I love my job very much and often get teased that it is a shame that I get paid to do what I do, because I love it so much.

—*Lucia Boutte Osborn class of 1987 voted Nurse of the year after a flood in Napa County when she delivered a baby in an ambulance at a fire house. She called it her 15 minutes of fame.*

- Nursing was certainly not as technical in the 50's as it is now. We interacted much more with each other, and with the patients. We had a lot of fun in school, as well as at work. I respect today's nurses for their knowledge and technical skills, but don't think they have enough fun!

—*Dr. Pauline Peters Kliwer former chair CSUF Dept of Nursing.*

- Nursing has changed a lot over the last 42 years that I've been a nurse. I saw a lot more technology coming into play. The first ICUs came into being, the first nurse practitioners brought advanced practice into nursing. The variety of nursing roles kept me busy and challenged. The pay began to reflect the value of nurses in health care. I realized my niche was in preventive care, public health. I realized that Herb Cousin's book, Laughter is the Best Medicine, was very important to realize that we are not healers, only the body can heal itself, we can either help or prevent healing. This is very important to keep things in perspective. We nurses are very good at rescuing patients who are crashing and need resuscitation, critical care etc., but I think letting go and hospice is a harder thing to do. While going through this with my Dad, I remember thinking, I didn't become a nurse to do this. I'm glad there are nurses who can do this. I think the next 10 years will see more rapid new advances than the last 40 years, especially with the use of stem cells used for re-growing organs and limbs and correcting genetic defects like sickle cell disease. Learning to listen and ask the correct questions and a willingness to find the answers that make a difference will always be more important than ever. The nursing care that I hope is not lost, is the caring nurse who helps her patient take responsibility for his/her own health care. I'd like to see nurses learn to care for their own health as much as they do for their patients and family. The chronic diseases and injuries in nursing don't have to happen. We need to make staying fit, eating healthy, and practicing healthy life styles a priority. There is more to life than nursing. Broaden your horizons, visit new places, people and continue to learn new things. Do what you love to do. Life is too short to be unhappy.

—Pam Loewen SPHN, MSN, MPH class of 1966 CSUF Alumni Liaison and Historian

- Nursing has changed so much, and is so much more technical. All computerized and no more nursing caps or white hose. Scrubs are much more comfortable and practical. Hospital nursing is no longer hands on like in the old days. Of course, only very sick patients with monitors are in the hospital now (staying short times) I hope people

are going into nursing because they love the work rather than desire the good pay, that nurses now receive.

—*Nancy Scholten Bancroft class of 1967*

- Nursing is an ever-changing and advancing occupation. The history of this occupation is dense and complicated. It is such an important role in this world. We see human beings at their lowest and it is our job to make their lives better and more enjoyable. This profession is full of options and multiple different job opportunities are available.
—*Robyn Montgomery Boetje class of 2006*

- I love my job very much and often get teased that it is a shame I get paid to do what I do because I enjoy it so much.

—*Lucia Boutte-Osborn class of 1987*

- I feel great about the profession of nursing and feel it has a wonderful future. We must all be proactive about what we do and the quality of care we provide in all the areas of practice.

—*Nancy Busch class of 1980 & 1995*

- Before I started nursing, I felt nurses were only around to support the Medical staff and carry out the instructions of the physician. I didn't look at nurses as being professionals with the ability to critically think and analyze critical situations. Then, I thought that was the job of the physicians caring for the patient. Now, I realize nursing is a lot more than just following the physician's orders. Nursing is a profession that provides a service of wellness to patients, family and the community as a whole. Nurses are professionals who are growing more and more independent in their practice daily, which is where I see nursing in the future. As the nursing profession continues to evolve, nurses will be able to further gain the support if the medical staff and other members of the healthcare team as they practice more

and more independently than what's allowed now for bedside nursing.
—*Schaneya Carraway-Garner class of 2003*

- I love pediatrics and I love my job doing outreach sports physical for the community and CCVH orthopedics for 10 years now.
- I'm just as excited and fulfilled today as I was when I graduated in 1995. The nursing profession can be very challenging and exhausting, but the hug you receive from a child with cancer at the end of the day, or the thank you from a teenage boy returning to football after a broken arm are very rewarding. When it comes to dealing with difficult staff, physicians, or families, You have to remember, you do not know what is going on in their life at that time, or how their past experiences have influenced them and remember we are all human.
—*Carrie Ceppi-Rogulkin class of 1995 & 1998*

- Nursing is exciting in this time. I feel nurses have achieved respect and recognition based on the standards set and exceeded by our professional leaders.

— *Carol Blaser Childs class of 1963*

- Nursing was a good career choice for me. I could work part time and raise my family.
- After 27 years of nursing, I still think nursing is one of the best choices one can make. There are so many areas of nursing and work schedules to suit anyone's personal life and earn a good income.

—*Caroline Smith Dimont class of 1981*

- During the beginning of my nursing career's 7 years ago, I felt very nervous and unsure until I understood the nursing principles and standards. Now I am enjoying nursing and I am making a huge differences in the medical communities with the knowledge that one must continue to learn about the current things happening in nursing. My future feeling is excitement waiting for newer and better information

concerning nursing, but the basic nursing concepts will always be the foundation of any good nursing program like CSUF.

—*Gracie Exum class of 2005*

- Nursing has always been a means for me to bring knowledge of science, compassion, and the means to serve others related to health services. I do not believe that there is another professional career that provides or allows one to immediately gain one's trust as in providing nursing services to another person. The role of the registered nurse as an advocate for the patient, the health care manager, implementing direct nursing services, the role of assisting with obtaining community related services, as well as the patient/family educator. The list goes on and on. Nursing is an ever evolving and exciting field to be a part of. I see the role of the registered nurse growing and more important in the future as health care transitions with increased medical knowledge, the "sicker" patient living and being more medically fragile, and the concern of cost containment.

—*Roxanne Berry Garispe class of 2002 (RN from AD program in 19__)*

- As a nurse, I always felt like a Doctor's assistant. I enjoyed the contact with patients, assisting with their health instruction & care. In the Army, the mission for nurses for our soldiers was fascinating—quite different from civilian nursing. Military discipline and training were a challenge. Both military and civilian Doctors and supervising nurses in my early years were focused on prevention. Working with male nurses was a new experience. In San Francisco, I learned of a position as a public health nurse, applied, and very much enjoyed the assignments and challenges in that field for 9 years. When my son was diagnosed with leukemia, I briefly stopped working. Needing an income several months later, I learned of a part-time position as a school nurse. A couple of years part-time led to full-time school nursing until my retirement in 2001. Over the years, I enjoyed working with colleagues who went on to the new field of Nurse Practitioner. The future is exciting and will be challenging for nurses.

—*Marie Yela-Madahar Hoemke class of 1962*

- Nursing is a very demanding, high pressure, technical profession, especially in the hospital setting. I feel that those nurses who have the knowledge and skill AND have the ability to connect with their patients on an honest and personal basis are truly gifted. My hope is that nursing schools can identify, encourage and teach how to be an authentic human who is a nurse.

—*Joanna Brown Hughes class of 1977*

- In 1974, when I first entered nursing, Professor Delores Kendall identified “caring made visible” as our calling. And, I have found, there is nothing more powerful or health promoting as one individual showing actual caring for another...even if there is little that can be done medically. Although there have been times when the demands of nursing seemed overwhelming, I have never failed to believe in the value of my profession, nor have I found regret in choosing such a challenging career. Alleviating fear, relieving pain, encouraging self expression and creativity, gentle confrontation of bad health habits, therapeutically touching, active listening coupled with accurate research-based therapies define nursing at it’s best.

—*Patricia Hall Jackson class of 1978*

- My feeling about nursing is steadfast and has never wavered. Nurses have an obligation to care for the sick and dying. I strongly believe any medical profession, be it nurse or physician is a Divine calling. You have the choice to accept or reject this mission. Nursing is a life long journey and the training never ends as student, mentor, or educator. The future of the nursing profession is currently at a cross road and nurses are obligated to sustain a humanized health care system in the midst of political turmoil and legal agendas because the plight of human suffrage is more than votes and financial gains.

—*Major LeRoy Marklund class of 1993*