



Update

MAY 2021

A Message From the Dean

Nurses have always answered the call to serve their country and communities during times of crisis. With this understanding, the School of Nursing answered the call to provide nursing care during the COVID-19 crisis.

Our Advanced Practice students provided telehealth services to the Boston community's most vulnerable populations; they continue this work, reaching out to marginalized patient populations to assess their emerging needs and mobilize support services. More than 60 of our nursing students provided supportive nursing care at Boston Hope, the field hospital employed during the 2020 spring and summer surge. Over the past two months, our students have had the privilege to participate in vaccination clinics at both Mass General and at Mass General Brigham's Assembly Row location; this experience brought them full circle in our work to bring hope and healing to citizens who have lived through the greatest public health challenge in a century. We are so proud of the School of Nursing's role in providing essential nursing care to the Boston community.



This year, following the series of tragic killings of African Americans in summer 2020, faculty and staff in the SON embarked on a year of reflection and discussion about how bias, micro-aggressions, and a lack of inclusiveness exists in our nation, in our communities, and within the SON. We know that addressing and responding to racism is an additional urgent public health crisis, and the SON is committed to building justice and equity for our students, faculty, and staff.

Over the past academic year, faculty, staff, and students in the SON have worked collaboratively with the IHP Office of Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) and with our colleagues across the IHP to come together as a community to surface issues of bias, to hear student stories about their experiences of micro-aggressions while a student at IHP, and to identify gaps in the nursing curriculum that potentially hinder students' ability to respond appropriately and sensitively to the health needs of diverse client populations. Faculty and staff have engaged in workshops to explore the experiences of BIPOC graduates from the SON and to develop action plans to become allies and accomplices in the struggle for racial equity and social justice.

We are committed to maintaining an inclusive and welcoming environment where every person is treated with dignity and respect – a core value of the SON. We reaffirm our dedication to meet the highest academic standards while bringing awareness to critical social issues. We draw our strength as a community of learners, knowing that we are stronger when we learn together, care for those in need together, and support one another.

Elaine Tagliareni, EdD, RN, CNE, FAAN
Dean

IHP Board Chair Is Called to Run MGB Vaccine Center

IHP Board Chair [Jeanette Ives Erickson, DNP '11](#), right, did not hesitate when Mass General Brigham asked her on two separate occasions to jump into the midst of the world's deadliest medical crisis in more than a century. This leadership role brings her in close contact with the Institute's BSN students, such as Midgi Cadet, who have been giving vaccinations at the MGB center. Dr. Ives Erickson also was profiled in March in the *Boston Globe's* "Tribute to Trailblazers" honoring groundbreaking women in science and medicine, for running the MGB vaccination clinic and the Boston Hope COVID-19 field hospital in 2020.



"There Are No Hospitals for Sick Planets"

U.S. Senator Edward Markey (D-MA), NBC10 meteorologist Pete Bouchard, and keynote speaker Dr. Renee Salas of Harvard University were among the experts who discussed solutions and strategies to combat climate



change in April with more than 170 participants at the virtual symposium, "[Climate Change and Health 2021: The Intersection of Climate Change, COVID-19, and Structural Racism.](#)" This was the second event in which Sen. Markey spoke on climate change with IHP faculty; last fall, Climate Center Director Dr. Patrice Nicholas and Associate Professor of Nursing Dr. Suellen Breakey participated in a [virtual panel discussion](#). In photo, Sen. Markey speaks with Dr. Nicholas during April's symposium.

Nurse Practitioner Program Moves Up in U.S. News Rankings

The Master of Science in Nursing program moved up two positions in the [2022 Best Graduate Schools list](#), published by *U.S. News & World Report*. It is now the third-highest ranked program in Greater Boston, is tied for fifth in New England, and is [tied for 69th](#) out of 220 programs nationwide according to the publication.



A Nursing Leadership Program for the Times

Nurse leaders in the “[Raising Your Leadership Impact](#)” program, such as Michelle Dearborn, learned about their strengths, areas for growth, and resilience through classwork, group discussions, and meetings with assigned personal coaches to develop and accomplish their goals. The program is run by the Continuing and Professional Development office.



FACULTY, STUDENT, AND ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

Associate Professor **Suellen Breakey, PhD, MSN '94, RN**; Assistant Professor **Eleonor Pusey-Reid, DNP '11, RN, MS, MEd**; and Associate Professor **Kathy Simmonds, PhD, MPH, MSN '93, RN, WHNP-BC**, have been named Fellows of the [MGH Institute's Teaching Excellence Academy for Learning](#).

Talya Briana, MSN '22, was one of just eight pre-licensure nursing students in the country named to the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments (ANHE) Student Nurse Committee. She helped create ANHE's Mindless Composting Guide: Reduce, Reuse, Compost, which highlights how people can make the most of their food waste. She also was interviewed in a recent [ANHE podcast](#).

Sheila Davis, DNP '08, MSN '97, CEO of Partners In Health, co-authored with U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-New York) “[The workers who could get us through this crisis.](#)” published on the CNN website.

Rebecca Hill, PhD, DNP, FNP-C, CNE, an assistant professor and prelicensure program director, is one of 22 nurses and nurse educators named to the 2021 National League for Nursing (NLN) Leadership Institute.

Janice Palaganas, PhD, RN, NP, ANEF, FNAP, FAAN, FSSH, associate director of the IHP's Health Professions Education program, is the lead author of the textbook [Mastering Simulation: A Handbook For Success, Second Edition](#), which won a 2020 Book of the Year award from the [American Journal of Nursing](#).

Anthony Paredes, MSN '20, [created a clinic](#) at Casa Esperanza Conexiones, Massachusetts' only bilingual/bicultural clinical stabilization services program that assists people recovering from drug and alcohol addiction.

Sarah Rossmassler, DNP '18, MSN '01, an assistant professor, published “[The 'Clog Kick': In Trying Times, Adapting to the Loss of a Palliative Care Team's Essential Rituals](#)” in the *Journal of American Nursing's* Off The Charts blog.

Kathy Simmonds, PhD, MPH, RN, WHNP-BC, received the Inspiration Award in Women's Health – Research, from the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health. It is one of the highest honors among women's health nurse practitioners.

Nursing Scholarship

Faculty members and researchers in, and alumni of, the School of Nursing [regularly publish](#) in leading academic and professional journals, present at conferences, and secure grants – all with the goal of improving techniques and care practices to help improve the lives of patients. Our faculty, a majority of whom are practicing clinicians in leading hospitals and health care centers, integrate their research into the classroom and clinical

settings to provide students with the most up-to-date information that will help them become better nurses.

ALUMNI CORNER

A Message from the Alumni Director

Happy Nurses Week to all of you! This annual national celebration begins on May 6 and ends on Florence Nightingale's birthday on May 12. Its purpose is to acknowledge the nursing profession and those individuals dedicated to it, like all of you.



This year's theme, "Frontline Warriors," is quite fitting as each of you have battled the COVID-19 pandemic professionally and, perhaps, personally in ways that you never expected when you were a student at the IHP. Thank you for rising to the challenge, for showing up each day, and for serving as a model for others on how to care for those in need.

The COVID-19 pandemic has provided you with opportunities to innovate and see health care in a new light. You may have a greater appreciation for interprofessional teams and a desire to lead them. If so, I encourage you to consider the Institute's continuing professional development workshop, "[Leading Across Professions](#)," which is being offered this fall. Additionally, the [Continuing Professional Development Office](#) is constantly innovating themselves, and I urge you to check out their offerings on a regular basis.

We all could write a book on the "teachings" from this past year. We hope you will share what you have learned each time the opportunity arises, as that is how we as an IHP community grow. Speaking of which, we would love to have alumni voices share their stories at our Schwartz Educational Rounds. If you are interested in speaking at one of our rounds, please email the [Alumni Office](#).

I would like to close by saying thank you for your compassion, knowledge, and leadership. Communities around the world are healthier, feel cared for, and are better educated because of the work that you do.

Be well.

Katie Mulcahy
Director of Alumni Relations

Career Resources Available

Making a career move? Need your resume updated? Need to prepare for an interview? Check out IHP's [career resources website](#) and start moving forward now. [Make an appointment with our career counselor](#).



Library Resources

MGH Institute alumni have access to journals, databases, and other research resources at the Institute's [Alumni Library Resources](#) section. This robust section is sure to meet many of your research needs. [Contact Director of Library and Instructional Design Jessica Bell](#) with questions or for assistance.

Precepting and Instructor Opportunities at the IHP

We are looking for alumni who are interested in volunteering their time to precept nurse practitioner students. We are also looking for alumni to teach as clinical instructors in the prelicensure (RN) programs. Please [Contact Kathleen Socha](#) or [Linda Henry](#) for more information.

Tell Us About Your Life!

We invite you to [submit a class note](#) to share with your fellow alumni what is happening in your world—new jobs and promotions, professional presentations given, awards received, along with major events in your personal life. We'll include them in an upcoming issue of the [MGH Institute magazine](#).

Join the IHP's Online Community

We invite you to become part of our expanding online alumni community by joining the IHP's [LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, and other social media](#) to keep up with the IHP and your fellow graduates.



Support the IHP

Support the IHP all year long by shopping with [AmazonSmile](#). Just sign in to your Amazon or Amazon Prime account and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.05% of the proceeds from your qualifying purchases to the IHP. [Contact Christopher Bjork](#) in the Office of Development for more information.



Feedback, Tips, Ideas, Etc.

Please forward items of interest to *School of Nursing Update* editor [John Shaw](#). [View past editions](#).

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