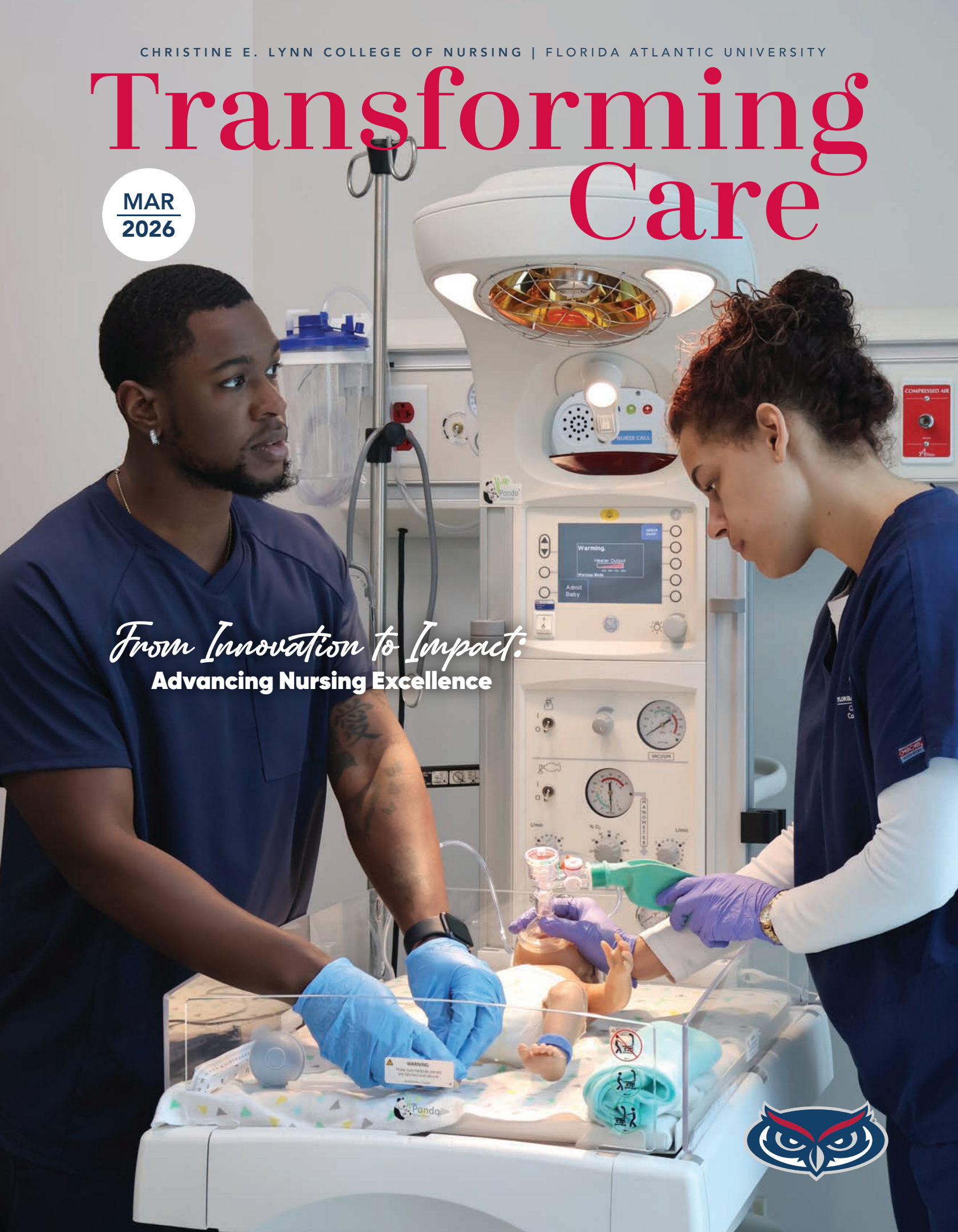


# Transforming Care

MAR  
2026

*From Innovation to Impact:*  
**Advancing Nursing Excellence**





## A *Message* from the Dean

I am pleased to share that Florida Atlantic University's Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing is charting a course for our students, faculty, staff, alumni and community partners that will significantly enhance nursing education, practice, scholarship and research. Following a collaborative process with stakeholders, the college has developed a new Strategic Plan that focuses on five priorities with specific objectives – Operational Excellence, Student Success, Caring Science, Research and Community Engagement. We are excited about our intention to raise the bar in these areas and excel as a leader in academia locally and globally.

In fall 2025, the college officially opened its new Advanced Nursing Simulation Clinic at the Boca Raton campus, which encompasses both a simulated clinical office environment and a comprehensive hospital floor. Specialty units include an emergency department bay with high-fidelity mannequins, an intensive care unit, medical-surgical suites, a pediatric unit, and a home health and hospice room. This clinic was made possible by Christine E. Lynn, Cross Country Healthcare, Broward Health and other major donors who recognized the importance of providing state-of-the-art technologies to prepare students for an evolving and challenging health care environment.

Our nurse-led community clinics have expanded services for individuals and families in need of health care. The Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center, a Florida designated Memory Disorder Clinic, provides caregiver education and dementia care for local residents and with the support of grants and community partners, evidence-based caregiver interventions and services to those with intellectual disabilities. The Florida Atlantic University Northwest Community Health Alliance (FAU/NCHA) clinics, in collaboration with partners, has extended free blood pressure and cancer screenings, and participated in community health fairs to increase access to primary and behavioral health services.

The college's research projects are addressing major health threats, including breast cancer among women under 50, cardiovascular, and Alzheimer's disease and cognitive function of older drivers. Our data scientists are exploring the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning to detect disease in the early stages and identify individuals at high risk of cognitive impairment.

Our innovative research and nationally ranked academic programs are among the reasons why undergraduate and graduate students come to us to achieve their goals. I welcome the chance to engage with the entire university community and beyond to discover new ways to support our students in the year ahead.

With care,

**Cameron Duncan, Ph.D., DNP, APRN, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC, CNE, FAANP**  
Holli Rockwell Trubinsky Eminent Dean

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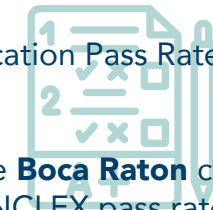


# Caring in Action HIGHLIGHTS

**Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing** is ranked **No. 57** Best Nursing Schools: Masters by *U.S. News & World Report*.



FNP Certification Pass Rate is **91.84%**.



Graduates from the **Boca Raton** campus achieved an **88.54%** NCLEX pass rate in 2025.

The College of Nursing awarded **\$670,000** in scholarships in FY 2024-25.



**7,050** individuals were served in the College of Nursing’s two nurse-managed centers in FY 2024-25.



**85%** of the College of Nursing’s alumni remain in Florida, and **65%** remain in South Florida.



## Quick Reference Guide

### Main Office Numbers

Boca Raton Campus  
561-297-6261

Davie Campus  
954-236-1276

Harbor Branch  
Oceanographic  
Institute Campus  
772-242-2426

Office of the Dean  
561-297-3207

### Admissions & Student Services

Undergraduate  
Admissions & Advising  
561-297-2535

Freshman Direct  
Admissions & Advising  
561-297-4648

RN-BSN Admissions & Advising  
561-297-3761

MSN Admissions & Advising  
561-297-3261

DNP Admissions & Advising  
561-297-1109

PhD Admissions & Advising  
561-297-0006

Office of Academic Programs  
561-297-3347

Office of Research and  
Scholarship  
561-297-4832

FAU/NCHA Community  
Health Center  
561-803-8880

Louis and Anne Green Memory  
and Wellness Center  
561-297-0502

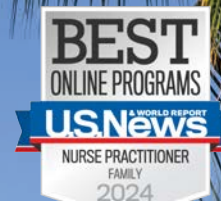


# 'U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT' RANKINGS

Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing's academic programs are listed in the top 100 of *U.S. News & World Report* rankings.

The college is ranked **No. 57** in Best Nursing Schools: Master's, **No. 90** in Best Nursing Schools: Doctor of Nursing Practice and **No. 85** in Online Master's in Nursing. Schools are assessed on their performance across widely accepted indicators of excellence.

The college's philosophy of caring science is woven throughout its curriculum, research, scholarship and practice. It fosters an environment where every aspect of the individual is respected, nurtured and celebrated.



# College of Nursing's *New* Strategic Plan



As the health care landscape evolves at a rapid pace, Florida Atlantic University's Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing is embarking on a bold new chapter with a forward-looking Strategic Plan. This plan is designed to strengthen the college's position as a leader in nursing education, research, clinical practice, scholarship and community engagement.

nurse leaders and addressing the critical health challenges of our time.

- Student Success
- Innovative Research
- Caring Science
- Community Engagement
- Operational Excellence

Grounded in caring science and our mission to foster academic excellence, innovation and compassionate care, this strategic roadmap outlines five key goals that will guide the College of Nursing over the next five years. Each priority reflects our commitment to producing highly skilled

Our Strategic Plan sets a clear course for the future of the College of Nursing to prepare nursing leaders equipped to provide high quality care across the lifespan. Through our commitment to increasing the number of workforce-ready nurses, we are not only shaping the next generation of nurses but also shaping the future of health care. ■

# Nursing Owls Advocate for *Expanded* Opportunities, Resources in Tallahassee

Every year, Florida Atlantic sends a select group of students to advocate on behalf of the university for “Florida Atlantic Day” at the State Capitol. Three Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing graduate students – Nicole Carty Mullings, Zaysheron Keora Francis and Tracey Saint-Louis – were chosen to join a delegation of university leaders, students, alumni and elected officials on Feb. 18, 2025, in Tallahassee.

Alongside Dean Cameron Duncan, the group spent the day meeting with state legislators. They highlighted the College of Nursing’s statewide impact and offered valuable perspectives on advancing nursing education and improving health care for Floridians of all ages.

“It was an honor to represent Florida Atlantic and the College of Nursing at the State Capitol,” stated Keora Francis, a part-time Family Nurse Practitioner student. “It was an excellent chance to voice the needs of my fellow nursing students and future health care providers.”

During “Florida Atlantic Day” at the State Capitol on Oct. 14, 2025, College of Nursing representatives advocated for university priorities and celebrated achievements, notably Florida Atlantic’s R1 Carnegie Designation as a top-tier research university.

Freshman Direct Admit student and Student Council President Gabriel Fonarov joined meetings with state legislators and their staff. He shared the impact Nursing Owls have across the Sunshine State in research and practice, as well as what nursing students require in order to reach their goals and enter the workforce.

“It was an eye-opening experience,” Fonarov remarked. “The most valuable part for me was building connections. I gained first-hand insights about where decisions are made, and I was able to meet directly with legislators and their aides. All of them were genuinely interested in our work, our research, and they wanted to know what we thought as regular, everyday students.” ■



# Student Nurses' Association Making an Impact

Tashanique Meredith, an Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing student and Mia Scali, a Freshman Direct Admit student, are excited to serve as co-presidents of the Student Nurses' Association for the 2025-26 academic year. Meredith shared her passion behind running for president, stating, “it allows me to help create opportunities for professional growth, give our peers a voice, and make sure our time in nursing school is not only about academics but also about building connections and giving back to the community.” The association is open to all nursing students at the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing at Florida Atlantic University. The purpose is to foster the development of students into professional nurses through both social and career-focused activities.

The organization has outlined various events for the academic year, including the Florida Nursing Students Association Convention in October and the Alzheimer’s 5K walk in November, along with other activities such as food and toy drives.

“I’m looking forward to the Alzheimer’s Walk because it’s a chance for us to support such an important cause, raise awareness, and come together as a group outside of the classroom,” Meredith added. With leadership from Meredith and Scali, the organization is ready to make a meaningful impact during the academic year and create connections with fellow students and partners inside and outside the classroom. ■



# Nurses Christian Fellowship, Student Council Engage in Fellowship and Community Service

Student organizations at Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing have supported members in their academic growth, professional development and community service. The Student Council, led by faculty advisor Dr. Katherine Heinz, coordinates representatives to join college committees and provides student perspectives related to policies and initiatives discussed at the faculty level. “Their input is invaluable to the policymaking process and builds strong connections among students and faculty,” noted Dr. Heinz. “I’m excited that members of the Council have become energized in the college environment, and I’m proud of our student leaders for all their efforts to ensure that students have a voice.”

As part of their year-round efforts, the Student Council hosted an Earth Day activity in April 2025 to allow students to express their creativity by painting rocks in the college’s labyrinth as they reflected on ways to preserve nature and connect with one another.

The Nurses Christian Fellowship (NCF) provides experiences and resources to help students grow in their faith, develop as leaders and view nursing from a biblical perspective. Faculty advisor Dr. Mary Ann Leavitt said NCF members have volunteered at Boca Helping Hands, a local nonprofit, sorting donations and assisting with food deliveries. In December, the group participates in Operation Christmas Child, sending care boxes to Samaritan’s Purse to distribute to children in various countries. ■



## COMPASSION WITHOUT BORDERS: NURSING STUDENTS DELIVER LIFESAVING CARE IN RURAL GUATEMALA



Nurse practitioner students and faculty from the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing are transforming lives in rural Guatemala. Through a partnership with Nursing Heart, Inc. (NHI), a nurse-led nonprofit dedicated to improving health outcomes for rural and Indigenous communities across Guatemala, the study abroad program provides care to residents with limited or nonexistent access to health care.

From makeshift clinics in mountain villages to long lines of patients seeking care, the program, offered in fall and spring semesters, gives students a rare and humbling opportunity: to learn by serving—and to grow by caring.

In February 2025, a team of students led by Drs. Nancy Harris and Kathleen Kazdan treated 514 patients in the villages of Chi Don Juan and Pastores (Sacatepéquez). This included: 316 patients in general medical clinics, 135 middle school students, and 63 women who received cervical cancer screenings, three of whom were treated for precancerous cells.

“These trips immerse students in environments where medical resources are scarce, yet the need is immense,” said Dr. Harris. “They’re exposed



to a wide range of health conditions and must rely on their clinical skills, adaptability and empathy to make decisions. It’s an unmatched learning experience.”

Dr. Harris noted that the ability to practice in low-resource settings strengthens students’ diagnostic and treatment abilities—while also fostering creativity, resilience and cultural humility—essential traits for nurse practitioners in any community.

Beyond clinical competence, the trips leave an indelible mark on students.

“The college’s caring philosophy is perfectly aligned with the mission of Nursing Heart, Inc.,” added Dr. Kazdan. “This program not only changes lives in Guatemala—it shapes our students into more thoughtful and responsive clinicians.”

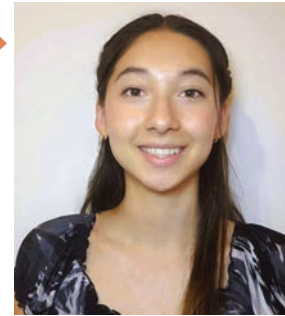
For Heidi Wills, a student in the MSN Family Nurse Practitioner program, the trip was nothing short of life-changing.

“It was one of the most challenging yet rewarding experiences I’ve ever had as a nurse,” she said. “I came back with a deeper appreciation for the comforts I often take for granted—and even more respect for the resilience of the people we served.”

Baudelaire Duvert, also in the MSN-FNP program, shared that the trip marked a turning point in both his academic and professional journey.

“The experience strengthened my confidence in clinical assessments and diagnostics—and reaffirmed the importance of our training at the College of Nursing.” ■

## Exceptional STUDENTS



**Nhia Megargee**  
Freshman Direct Admit student Nhia Megargee, Class of 2027, has a passion for nursing that is driven by a strong desire to support her future patients in every aspect of their well-being. With an additional minor in health administration, she feels it will help ensure optimal patient care.

“I am dedicated to becoming a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist or Nurse Practitioner,” said Nhia. “I am confident that FAU’s nursing program will provide me with the knowledge, skills and support that I need to excel in these advanced roles.”

As both a Lamplighter and Cross Country Healthcare Scholarship recipient, Nhia shared that funding from these programs provided her with crucial financial support and offered invaluable emotional strength to fuel her dedication and scholarly pursuits.

Nhia has always had a passion for aiding others but lacked a straightforward idea of what she wanted to do in life. After tearing her ACL playing soccer and spending a lot of time in the hospital during her recovery, she observed her nurses’ expertise and unwavering commitment.

“It was also the peak moment of depression for me as I struggled to cope with changes in my physical abilities and lifestyle,” she said, adding that getting care and support from the nurses during that time in her life inspired her to pursue nursing as a career.

Nhia considers her grandmother as her mentor. Even though she did not work in the medical field, her grandmother always cared for everyone’s well-being.

“My grandmother is selfless and hardworking and shaped me into who I am today,” she noted. “I am grateful to have developed a strong sense of empathy and a commitment to supporting others in their time of need, whether it is by lending a listening ear or offering physical care.”

As a nurse, she hopes to carry forward the lessons and values imparted by her grandmother and make a positive difference for others.

“I want to be there for my future patients, ensuring their well-being physically, mentally and emotionally, and I am committed to advocating for my patients to execute the best plan of care for them,” Nhia expressed. ■



**Cody Shumaker**  
Cody Shumaker is drawing inspiration from his mother’s career in nursing leadership to pursue a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree at the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing. His mother, who worked her way up from nursing management to CEO of a hospital in Mississippi, motivated him.

“I have always admired how selflessly she serves her community,” Cody shared. “Growing up, we were very active in church, homeless shelters and other community-based organizations, and that early connection to people deeply shaped who I am today.”

Scheduled to graduate in December 2026, Cody believes his MSN degree, combined with a concentration in nursing administration and financial leadership, will bring him closer to his goals.

“Earning a master’s degree in nursing not only validates the work I have done, but it also opens doors to leadership roles and opportunities that I would not be eligible for otherwise,” he said. “It equips me with the advanced knowledge I need to speak confidently on nursing issues, advocate for meaningful change and help shape solutions that directly impact nursing practice today.”

Cody said he always felt a strong need to help others and nursing seemed like the perfect way to turn that passion into a career. In his current role as a trauma case manager at Broward Health, he has been deeply influenced by patients who have faced prolonged hospital stays due to complex challenges.

“Their strength in the face of adversity has shaped my approach to nursing more than any textbook ever could,” Cody shared.

Like his mother, Cody generously volunteers his time to serve his community. He volunteers as a Disaster Health Services Nurse with the American Red Cross, and he also advocates for environmental and climate policies to improve public health outcomes with the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments.

As a member of the Commission for Nurse Reimbursement, a national initiative, Cody is working to ensure nurses are properly reimbursed for the care they provide. After earning his MSN degree, Cody plans to continue working within the Broward Health system. ■

”  
“THIS PROGRAM NOT ONLY CHANGES LIVES IN  
GUATEMALA—IT SHAPES OUR STUDENTS INTO MORE  
THOUGHTFUL AND RESPONSIVE CLINICIANS.”

Dr. Kathleen Kazdan  
Adjunct Faculty Member

# Christine E. Lynn Advanced Nursing Simulation Clinic Trains *Future* Nurses



”

**“BY REPLICATING PATIENT CARE SITUATIONS AT VARYING LEVELS OF COMPLEXITY, THE LAB EMPOWERS NURSING STUDENTS TO STEP INTO THE ROLE OF THE PROFESSIONAL NURSE, READY TO FACE THE DEMANDS AND REWARDS OF CARING FOR PATIENTS.”**

**Dr. Cameron Duncan**  
*Dean, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing*

The Christine E. Lynn Advanced Nursing Simulation Clinic offers a cutting-edge learning environment at the Boca Raton campus for undergraduate and graduate students to enhance their knowledge and skillsets. The clinic, which officially opened September 2025, bridges the gap between theory and practice, ensuring students are well-prepared to deliver high-quality patient care in clinical settings.

“This innovative space allows our students to engage in realistic, hands-on learning experiences that build clinical confidence, critical thinking and compassionate care—hallmarks of the nursing profession,” said Cameron Duncan, Ph.D., dean, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing. “It is more than a lab; it is where future nurses grow into leaders.”

The clinic features a fully outfitted simulated clinical

office and a comprehensive hospital floor that includes specialty units such as:

**Emergency Department Bay:** Six cots and six high-fidelity mannequins that allow students to manage acute care scenarios.

**Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and Medical-Surgical Suites:** These spaces enable learners to engage with complex, high-acuity patient care cases.

**Labor and Delivery Room:** Includes a high-fidelity birthing mannequin and newborn stabilization unit for hands-on obstetric training.

**Pediatric Unit and Home Health/Hospice Room:** These areas simulate specialized care environments, preparing students for community and family-centered care.

Designed with flexibility in mind, the lab supports a range of advanced clinical experiences including telehealth sessions, mental health simulations and Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs). Two dedicated control rooms allow faculty to manage simulation scenarios, record student interactions and assess performance using both standardized patients and high-fidelity simulators.

“By replicating patient care situations at varying levels of complexity, the lab empowers nursing students to step into the role of the professional nurse, ready to face the demands and rewards of caring for patients,” noted Dr. Duncan. ■



## New Certificate on Holistic Health Care Practices

The Advanced Holistic Practice & Nurse Coach Certificate provides professionals with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree and the knowledge of contemporary views of healing and holistic interventions for patients. Rooted in the college’s philosophy of intentional health and caring science, this fully online certificate supports nurses in integrating holistic approaches into clinical practice, leadership and education.

The 12-credit graduate certificate, scheduled to launch in summer 2026, is intended for nurses who are passionate about whole-person healing, wellness coaching and creating meaningful change in patient care. The course focuses on the development of a reflective holistic practice that integrates the core principles of nurse coaching and an awareness of holistic healing modalities that promote health and well-being such as mind-body and manipulative body practices and energy-based healing. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible to apply for board certification in both Holistic Nursing and Nurse Coaching. ■

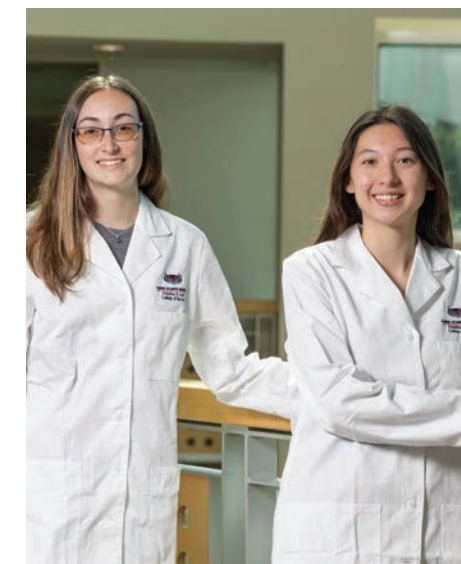
## WHOLE-PERSON WELLNESS: INITIATIVE FOR INTENTIONAL HEALTH

The Initiative for Intentional Health (IIH) at Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing has expanded its offerings and impact, promoting a holistic and intentional approach to well-being across the college, university and broader community. With a focus on whole-person health, IIH integrates strategies that nurture body, mind, spirit and environment—empowering individuals to thrive personally and professionally.

The programs of the IHI are designed to encourage mindful engagement in caring for self and others, and focus on supporting human potential, self-knowledge and conscious living. Activities are guided by the five IIH Pillars:

- PHYSICAL VITALITY
- EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE
- MENTAL CLARITY
- SPIRITUAL CONNECTION
- ENVIRONMENTAL HARMONY

IIH offerings include Mindful Mondays to encourage faculty, staff and students to start their week with stillness and to carry it into everything they do, and free Yoga classes held every Tuesday at noon in the College of Nursing building on the Boca Raton campus. For more information, visit <https://www.fau.edu/nursing/outreach/initiative-for-intentional-health/> ■



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES EXPAND KNOWLEDGE IN SPECIALTY AREAS

Florida Atlantic University’s Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing offers specialized certificate programs that prepare nurses, nurse practitioners and other health care providers for high-impact roles. From caring science to telehealth and dermatology, the college strives to offer academic pathways that provide the highest quality of continuing education.

The caring science certificate is an 8-week online and on-demand course designed for nursing faculty, graduate students and practicing nurses considering a teaching career and delves deep into the art and science of caring. Participants explore philosophical foundations, methodologies and real-world applications in clinical, classroom and simulation settings. The program is designed and presented by scholars, theorists and experts in teaching nursing grounded in caring, who are on the board of the Anne Boykin Institute for the Advancement of Caring in Nursing including Drs. Marlaine Smith and Jean Watson. In addition, the course includes interviews with 19 international scholars in caring science.

The 16-contact hour, online and on-demand telehealth certificate empowers nurses with the knowledge to deliver skilled telehealth services with competence and care. Through completion of this accelerated

4-week course, participants will have the knowledge needed to build out their telehealth services. The course focuses on telehealth platforms and models for practice, evidence-based telehealth technology, quality improvement measures and regulatory, reimbursement and policy factors. As health care continues to pivot to digital platforms, this course ensures nurses lead the way with both skill and empathy, delivering care that reaches patients no matter where they are.

The hybrid, 120-contact hour dermatology certificate program prepares nurse practitioners with the knowledge and skills for specialization in general dermatology to care for patients across the life span. This is a three-course series taught by Certified Dermatology Nurse Practitioners and Board-Certified Dermatologists with curriculum focused on advancing scientific knowledge in areas like immunology, dermatopathology and pharmacology. The program combines online coursework with in-person clinical intensives and skill workshops to build entry-level dermatology competencies that typically are not covered in traditional nurse practitioner education.

For more information about the college’s certificate programs, visit <https://www.fau.edu/nursing/academics/certificates>. ■

Exceptional FACULTY



**Jasmin Evangelista, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC**  
For Instructor of Nursing Dr. Jasmin Evangelista, Florida Atlantic University is more than just her place of employment – it is her academic home. She earned her Master of Science in Nursing–Family Nurse Practitioner degree and graduated with honors in 2017, and she completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in 2020.

“The Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing has had a profound impact on my growth as a nurse and educator,” expressed Dr. Evangelista. “The college’s commitment to caring science, cultural competence and innovation truly resonates with me. It is a place that not only nurtures academic excellence, but also cultivates empathy, which is at the heart of nursing.”

Dr. Evangelista’s journey into nursing education grew naturally from her deep passion for patient care and community advocacy. As a nurse, she has always believed in empowering not only patients, but also future health care professionals.

“Teaching allows me to extend my impact beyond the bedside and help shape the kind of nurses our communities need: culturally competent, compassionate and evidence-based,” stated Dr. Evangelista. “I see education as a powerful form of advocacy and stepping into the classroom has been one of the most meaningful decisions of my career. Seeing students grow into confident nurses is incredibly rewarding.”

Within the college, Dr. Evangelista is heavily involved in program development and clinical coordination to ensure that both students and faculty have the support to meet clinical excellence standards. Her work directly contributes to maintaining regulatory compliance and building strong clinical partnerships—essential foundations for any evidence-based nursing program.

“Student success starts with preparation and support,” said Dr. Evangelista. “I am passionate about creating structured, compliant and meaningful clinical experiences because I know first hand how those experiences shape students into competent, safe practitioners. Ensuring that students and faculty are well-prepared is my way of contributing to the quality and integrity of our nursing program.”

Outside of the classroom, Dr. Evangelista has worked with student professional organizations such as the National Student Nurses Association, where she previously served as a faculty advisor. She also participates in outreach programs that help connect students with the broader community through health education and advocacy.

“I believe strongly in the importance of service learning and encouraging students to see themselves as both caregivers and community leaders,” noted Dr. Evangelista. ■



**Narciso Quidley-Rodriguez, Ph.D., BSN, RN**  
Dr. Narciso Quidley-Rodriguez, a tenure-track assistant professor in the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, has always enjoyed teaching. Whether he was leading a study group as a nursing student, educating a patient or precepting a newly licensed nurse, Dr. Quidley-Rodriguez found meaning in providing others with knowledge.

“Knowing the happiness that teaching brought me, I pursued a career in nursing education. After I taught my first class, I knew it was the career for me,” shared Dr. Quidley-Rodriguez. “It is gratifying to know that I play a small part in students’ journeys by training the next generation of caring nurses.”

In a testament to his outstanding teaching skills, Dr. Quidley-Rodriguez received the Daisy Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators from the College of Nursing in 2024. As part of its service to the nursing profession’s role in patient care, the Diseases Attacking the Immune System (DAISY) Foundation established the DAISY Faculty Award to provide colleges of nursing a national recognition program to demonstrate appreciation to nursing faculty for their commitment and inspirational influence on their students.

“It meant a lot to me to be nominated by my fellow peers and students and receive an award that highlights compassionate care,” expressed Dr. Quidley-Rodriguez.

Even as a professor, he can easily relate with many students at Florida Atlantic. Dr. Quidley-Rodriguez attended a university that also served a multifarious student body, many of whom were first-generation students just like him.

“I love working at the College of Nursing because the faculty are all motivated to help our students succeed,” said Dr. Quidley-Rodriguez. “I think that has a large part to do with the college’s caring philosophy.”

As a researcher, Dr. Quidley-Rodriguez received a Sigma Small Grant to explore the physical, mental and emotional benefits of companion dogs with LGBTQIA+ military veterans. The study seeks to address the health disparities that this population experiences as related to their two unique identities.

“Additionally, the research may highlight the health benefits related to human-animal connections,” noted Dr. Quidley-Rodriguez. “As an animal lover, this is exciting!” ■



**Alan Eddison, DNP, APRN**  
For Dr. Alan Eddison, serving as a preceptor for Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing students offers the opportunity to share the vast amounts of knowledge he has acquired over his 30-plus-year career.

“Preceptors help bridge the gap between didactic learning and clinical practice,” said Dr. Eddison. “Florida Atlantic students come to their initial clinicals well-prepared, and they are equipped with the background knowledge to start caring for patients in a practical setting. They enter practice with a strong, patient-centered focus.”

In addition to training the next generation of health care workers, Dr. Eddison is also the clinical director at the Volunteers in Medicine Clinic in Stuart, FL, which treats low-income, uninsured primary care patients. He also serves as an affiliate assistant professor at the College of Nursing, where he teaches Primary 1, Primary 2 and Primary 3 courses, and he has the “privilege” of lecturing once a semester on diabetes.

“Teaching provides a kind of ‘professional immortality,’” noted Dr. Eddison. “In 30 years, I will probably not be practicing anymore, but my students will. Perhaps some of them will become teachers, and they will pass down what they learned from me.”

Dr. Eddison began his health care career as an emergency medical technician (EMT) in the United States Coast Guard. While still on active duty, he began taking courses toward his associate’s degree in nursing. After receiving his RN, Dr. Eddison worked in a wide variety of specialties, including telemetry, heart transplant, ER, trauma, infectious disease and flight nursing.

At the age of 40, he went back to school and earned a BSN degree, followed by an MSN degree, and eventually a DNP. He has worked in a few practice settings as a Nurse Practitioner, especially in the areas of cardiology and primary care, which he enjoyed. However, Dr. Eddison shared that his most satisfying work has occurred since he arrived at Volunteers in Medicine. While Dr. Eddison has won many awards throughout his career, he appreciates the smaller ones the most.

“I have a shelf full of tokens of appreciation that I have received from my patients over the years,” said Dr. Eddison. “I also have a drawer filled with thank you cards from former students. I consider these to be my highest honors.” ■

Exceptional PRECEPTORS



**Amanda Simionie, BSN '01, MSN '13, DNP and FNP-C, '22**  
For more than 25 years, Florida Atlantic University alumna Dr. Amanda Simionie has devoted herself to nursing. Her life’s mission has been to support people at their most vulnerable and to make a positive impact, one patient at a time.

She began her career in health care as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in 1996. At Martin Memorial Hospital in Stuart, she soon realized her passion for assisting in the dynamic environment of the emergency room (ER).

“I loved the ER during my clinical rotation, and I knew that I wanted to work in the ER someday,” recalled Dr. Simionie. “I then went to nursing school and became an ER nurse before becoming an NP. Having ER experience definitely helped me to become the NP I am today. I was exposed to so many conditions and was able to learn so much.”

Dr. Simionie continued to work in an ER setting for 14 years across three hospitals and two states—Florida and Illinois—as well as become a triple-time alumna of the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing along the way.

“Florida Atlantic’s College of Nursing had great professors when I attended school, and it still has great professors today!” expressed Dr. Simionie. “I always felt supported, and they really cared about you as a person.”

Since 2013, Dr. Simionie has cared for patients at the Cleveland Clinic Family Health Center in Port St. Lucie. In addition to her APRN duties, she is also guiding and mentoring the next generation of nurses as a preceptor.

“I think it is important to give back however much you can,” shared Dr. Simionie. “I learn so much from my students since health care is always changing. It is a mutually beneficial relationship—they teach me, and I teach and mentor them.”

Over the course of her career, Dr. Simionie has garnered numerous awards. Her latest accolades include the 2024 NP of the Year from the NP Council of the Treasure Coast and the 2025 Carolyn Niemen APRN Excellence Award. She was also a 2025 Maria and Sam Miller Nursing Excellence Award Honoree.

“I thoroughly enjoy being able to mentor the future NPs and nurses who will be taking care of us and our family members one day,” noted Dr. Simionie. “They are the future of health care.” ■

FAU/NCHA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

# FAU/NCHA Community Health Center Builds *New Partnerships*



The Florida Atlantic University Northwest Community Health Alliance (FAU/NCHA) Community Health Center serves as a trusted source of primary and behavioral health care, particularly for residents with limited access to quality care.

Through innovative partnerships and outreach initiatives, the center's two locations in West Palm Beach are actively bringing care directly to the communities that need it most.

In collaboration with the Florida Department of Health, College of Nursing faculty, staff and students are offering free blood pressure screenings to help reduce the high burden of heart disease in the region. In addition to the screenings, the team educates patients on lifestyle changes and medication adherence, providing essential tools for better health

management. Patients also receive free blood pressure cuffs to encourage ongoing at-home monitoring and empower them to take an active role in their care. The center has also partnered with Cologuard®, a non-invasive, at-home colon and rectal cancer screening service. This initiative has significantly increased screening rates, particularly among uninsured individuals who are hesitant to undergo traditional colonoscopies.

Under the leadership of Clinic Director Dr. Monica Roundtree Cleckley, the FAU/NCHA Community Health Center provides compassionate, comprehensive care regardless of a patient's ability to pay. Nearly one-quarter of West Palm Beach residents are uninsured, and the center serves as a vital safety net for these individuals.

"Being able to serve those in our communities who may be overlooked or uninsured and seeing the positive outcomes directly related to the care they experience is truly fulfilling," said Dr. Cleckley.

Further demonstrating its commitment to community engagement, the health center participated in the West Palm Beach Back to School event on July 26, 2025, offering free health screenings and wellness education for families as they prepared for the new academic year. This outreach event allowed the center to connect with hundreds of local residents, provide preventative care and share valuable health resources with children and their families.



**"BEING ABLE TO SERVE THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITIES WHO MAY BE OVERLOOKED OR UNINSURED AND SEEING THE POSITIVE OUTCOMES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE CARE THEY EXPERIENCE IS TRULY FULFILLING."**

**Dr. Monica Roundtree Cleckley**  
Clinic Director

Students from the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing play an integral role in the health center's operations and outreach events. These hands-on experiences allow students to apply classroom knowledge in real-world settings, while also learning the importance of collaboration with other health care professionals and community organizations.

"Our community partnerships, coupled with the support of students and staff, allow our health center to offer tangible health care services and advocacy that can close care gaps and address social determinants of health," added Dr. Cleckley.

Sustained by strong partnerships and innovative practices, the FAU/NCHA Community Health Center remains a cornerstone of accessible, nurse-led care in Palm Beach County. ■

## MEMORY AND WELLNESS CENTER EXPANDS IMPACT THROUGH CARE AND OUTREACH

The nurse-led Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center (MWC), a State of Florida–designated Memory Disorder Clinic, serves as a hub for dementia care, education and community engagement. Operating under the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, the center is nationally recognized for its integrated model of care, grounded in caring science, that supports individuals living with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (ADRD), their families and the professionals who care for them.

“The center continues to grow as a trusted referral resource for physicians and neurologists across the region,” said Dr. Alice Brumley, interim director. “By strengthening and expanding these partnerships, we are building broader access to timely, coordinated cognitive care and reinforcing the community’s network of dementia services.”

Supported by an annual grant from the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, the center has expanded access to cognitive health services across South Florida through strong partnerships and new initiatives. Collaborations with local health systems have advanced research and innovative treatment options, while partnerships with Baptist Health South Florida and Boca Raton Regional Hospital provide scholarship-funded access to the center’s clinical services and Adult Day Center. Students engaged in these efforts are immersed in caring science principles, learning to approach dementia care with empathy, presence and respect for the lived experiences of individuals and families.



“These partnerships allow us to expand caregiver education, provide respite care and deliver inclusive care to diverse individuals and families,” Dr. Brumley said.

With a \$1.3 million grant from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, the center is extending its services into Broward County. This includes the implementation of REACH Community, an evidence-based caregiver support program, services for individuals living alone with or at risk for dementia and specialized training for health care workers serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

“This initiative demonstrates how an interprofessional model can strengthen regional capacity and reduce care gaps,” Dr. Brumley noted.

Throughout Palm Beach and Broward Counties, MWC also promotes brain health and reduces stigma through health fairs, public lectures and wellness expos, ensuring that individuals, families and communities have greater access to dementia-specific care and support. Through its commitment to caring science, the center fosters not only clinical excellence but also meaningful human connection, ensuring that those affected by dementia feel seen, supported and valued within their communities. ■



**“THE CENTER CONTINUES TO GROW AS A TRUSTED REFERRAL RESOURCE FOR PHYSICIANS AND NEUROLOGISTS ACROSS THE REGION. BY STRENGTHENING AND EXPANDING THESE PARTNERSHIPS, WE ARE BUILDING BROADER ACCESS TO TIMELY, COORDINATED COGNITIVE CARE AND REINFORCING THE COMMUNITY’S NETWORK OF DEMENTIA SERVICES.”**

Alice Brumley  
Interim Director

## Beyond The Bedside: A CALL TO ACTION FOR NURSING

Cross Country Healthcare, in partnership with Florida Atlantic University’s Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, conducted its fourth annual survey, Beyond the Bedside: The State of Nursing in 2025. The study captured responses from more than 2,600 nurses and students which revealed challenges within the profession. The findings indicate that stress, burnout and chronic staffing shortages continue to threaten both the well-being of nurses and the quality of patient care.

Despite the attention nurses received during the pandemic and promises of reform, the reality is that little progress has been made to address systemic issues. According to John A. Martins, president and CEO of Cross Country, “This year’s report is not just data – it’s a resounding cry for change. If we don’t act now, we risk losing an entire generation of dedicated professionals.”

Key survey highlights include:

- 65% of nurses report high levels of stress and burnout.
- Only 60% would choose nursing again if given the choice.
- Leading stressors include short staffing, inadequate pay, lack of leadership support and patient abuse.
- 67% of student nurses are already concerned about managing workload, though 82% remain excited about their future in nursing.
- The profession’s top demands focus on improved staffing levels, stronger leadership, flexible scheduling and meaningful recognition.

Dean Cameron Duncan emphasized the urgency for reform. “Our data reveals a troubling paradox. While students are hopeful and eager to begin practicing, our experienced workforce is sending distress signals loud and clear. This moment requires bold, coordinated action at every level – from nurse educators to hospital executives to national policy makers.”

The report outlines five priorities for health care leaders to stabilize the workforce: strengthening staffing and recruitment, ensuring competitive pay and benefits, improving work-life balance initiatives, fostering empathetic leadership and streamlining credentialing processes. ■



Exceptional CLINICIANS



**Monica Roundtree Cleckley, DNP, APRN-BC, NP-C**  
Dr. Monica Roundtree Cleckley's journey to becoming a standout clinician began long before she assumed her current role as clinical director of the Florida Atlantic University/Northwest Community Health Alliance Community Health Center (FAU/NCHA Community Health Center). Shaped by a personal family health crisis as a teenager, Dr. Cleckley experienced firsthand the impact of

compassionate, informed care—or the lack thereof. That early incident ignited her calling: to become the kind of nurse she once wished for her own family.

"The need to pursue nursing was awakened when I was a teenager watching my father face a serious health challenge," shared Dr. Cleckley. "The experience woke up a desire that was inside of me. As I matriculated through school, I knew that I wanted to be in a profession that offered care, support and education to others, and this profession allows me to do so. In essence, I answered the call to nursing."

Today, Dr. Cleckley leads the FAU/NCHA Community Health Center with a unique blend of clinical expertise and heartfelt dedication. Her leadership is marked by an unwavering commitment to addressing the needs of underserved communities and a passion for mentoring the next generation of nurses.

"The most rewarding part of my job is making a genuine and authentic impact in the lives of the clients and families I care for, as well as the staff and team members I lead," expressed Dr. Cleckley.

Her roles as a leading nurse clinician and caregiver are unique because she combines a multifaceted perspective on client care with hands-on clinical experience. She feels these experiences make her a more informed leader.

"It guides my decision making, supports my caring approach to clients and helps to enrich the relationships of the staff and students that I serve," stated Dr. Cleckley. "As a nursing leader, I am able to share real experiences with the students I precept, in order to broaden and shape their lens of caring." In February 2025, Dr. Cleckley became certified as a Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP). That same year, she received the President's Award from Rhonda's Promise, a nonprofit organization, honoring her dedication to preserving the dignity and well-being of people who seek medical support and guidance in Palm Beach County. ■



**Stephanie Gomez, BSN '17, DNP with AGPCNP- BC '21**  
Growing up, Florida Atlantic alumna Dr. Stephanie Gomez watched her grandparents battle many different medical conditions, including heart disease, diabetes, cancer and eventually Alzheimer's disease. Witnessing their struggles opened her eyes to the need for compassionate, caring health care providers.

"Their experiences inspired me to join the health care field, and it motivated me to dedicate my career to making a difference in patients' lives," shared Dr. Gomez.

As a Nurse Practitioner in the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center, operated by Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, she strives to create a true partnership with her patients. She believes in teamwork between the provider and patient, as well as taking the time to educate, answer questions and ensure patients feel comfortable making informed decisions about their care.

"My goal is always to create a safe space where patients feel heard and supported," noted Dr. Gomez. "The most rewarding part of my job is seeing the positive impact that compassionate, patient-centered care has on people's lives." During her time as a student, she noticed that the College of Nursing placed an emphasis on caring not only in the classroom, but also actively throughout the community with outreach programs, student clinical experiences and support for vulnerable populations. She feels that the college's unwavering commitment continues to make a lasting difference in our local communities.

"Florida Atlantic was vital in shaping me into the provider I am today," she remarked. "The College of Nursing instilled in me the true meaning of caring, which has become a foundation of my practice. The emphasis on compassion, holistic care and patient advocacy at the college directly influenced how I interact with and support my patients daily."

Dr. Gomez has been a member of the Golden Key International Honors Society, Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society, and Sigma Theta Tau Honors Society. She was also nominated for United Health Group's "Sages of Clinical Services" award. She is an active member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, and she has joined medical mission trips to serve indigenous populations with little to no access to medical care. ■

Exceptional STAFF



**Joseph Lotito**  
Nursing advisors are instrumental in guiding prospective students, as well as providing personalized support and clear guidance to current students throughout their academic journeys. For over eight years, Joseph Lotito has proudly served as a graduate advisor at the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing.

"I was drawn to advising because there is nothing more fulfilling than supporting students as they work toward their academic and professional goals," expressed Lotito. "Many of the students I advise juggle families and careers, so being able to assist them—even in small ways—is satisfying. Helping them overcome challenges and celebrate their successes makes this job meaningful and truly rewarding."

As an advisor, he understands how Florida Atlantic nursing students are well-prepared to address the challenges of 21st century health care. Within the College of Nursing, students benefit from a holistic and caring philosophy that prioritizes patient-centered care. In addition, they have access to a state-of-the-art professional practice lab, and they gain hands-on experience using cutting-edge tools and simulation technologies essential for modern clinical practice.

"There are also other opportunities such as the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center that equips students to tackle the growing needs of aging populations and cognitive health," noted Lotito. "Through the Anne Boykin Institute for the Advancement of Caring in Nursing, students deepen their understanding of compassionate care for diverse patient populations. Partnerships with the Northwest Community Health Alliance Community Health Center provide vital real-world exposure to community health and preventive care."

The moment Lotito stepped onto the Boca Raton campus and into the College of Nursing building, he felt an immediate sense of belonging and pride.

"I am grateful to Florida Atlantic University and the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing for giving me the opportunity to serve as a graduate advisor," shared Lotito. "Our college's building is a welcoming space that makes coming to work every day something I truly appreciate." ■



**Belinda Murray**  
For nearly half a century, Belinda Murray has dedicated her life to the art and science of nursing, touching countless lives with her compassion and expertise. Born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, Murray's journey to South Florida began in 1982 when she moved with her husband and family. Since then, she has become an integral part of the community, both as a nurse and as a mentor.

Murray's inspiration to pursue nursing came from her family's deep medical roots. Her mother, sister and brother are all nurses, and her father was a podiatrist. Early experiences working alongside her father and seeing his caring manner left a lasting impression. "I was inspired to become a nurse by working with my father and observing his caring manner when treating his patients," Murray recalled.

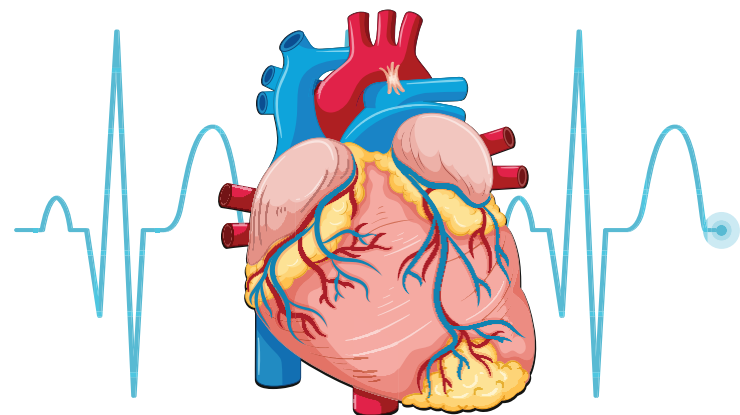
After beginning her nursing career in 1979, Murray practiced in both Ohio and Florida, ultimately specializing in geriatric care. For over 20 years, she worked with adults experiencing mild to moderate memory loss in long term care facilities, assisted living centers and adult day centers. Then in 2006, she joined the college's Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center as a nurse.

"Working at the Memory and Wellness Center was especially meaningful," noted Murray. "Engaging with the participants and observing them enjoying activities—especially music and dancing—was so rewarding," she shared.

Murray's impact extends beyond direct patient care. For 19 years, she has been a cornerstone at the College of Nursing, serving 14 years at the Memory and Wellness Center and five years as a secretary in Student Services within the college. She finds joy in greeting people with a wave and a smile, hoping to brighten their day, and she takes pride in the achievements of nursing students.

"The most rewarding part of my job is watching the students grow and develop into caring nurses as they go through the program," Murray stated.

Murray's legacy is one of kindness, commitment and community. Through her work at the College of Nursing, she helps cultivate the next generation of caregivers, ensuring that the philosophy of caring continues to thrive in South Florida and beyond. ■



## Psychometric Validation of the Modified Fatigue Impact Scale in Individuals with Heart Failure

Fatigue is one of the most prevalent and debilitating symptoms encountered by patients with heart failure (HF). It is characterized as a multifaceted, complex, and subjective phenomenon, often described as a persistent sensation of exhaustion that does not ameliorate with standard restorative activities. Consequently, fatigue contributes to activity intolerance and impairs an individual's capacity to perform daily functions. Despite its clinical significance, the assessment of fatigue in HF remains challenging, as most existing measurement tools primarily quantify symptom severity without capturing its multidimensional nature.



The Modified Fatigue Impact Scale (MFIS) specifically evaluates the extent to which fatigue influences physical, cognitive, and psychosocial functioning, thus serving as a valuable instrument for assessing the efficacy of fatigue-targeted interventions across diverse health domains.

The research team led by Principal Investigator Dr. Rita Gengo examined the psychometric properties, specifically the reliability and validity, of the MFIS in patients with HF.

"Early recognition of fatigue in patients with heart failure using self-report tools, such as the Modified Fatigue Impact Scale, is essential for initiating timely interventions," said Dr. Gengo. "By addressing fatigue proactively, we can help patients conserve energy for vital self-care activities, ultimately enhancing their quality of life and reducing hospitalizations."

A total of 63 community-dwelling adults diagnosed with HF were recruited. Participants completed the MFIS alongside two additional fatigue measures, the Dutch Fatigue Scales for General and Exertion Fatigue (DUFS and DEFS). Researchers examined the data generated from the various measurement tools and evaluated through correlation analyses comparisons between groups known to differ in symptoms.

Preliminary findings suggest that the MFIS constitutes a potentially valuable instrument for early detection and tailored management of fatigue in patients with HF. Effective fatigue management may enhance patient engagement in self-care behaviors, adherence to treatment and participation in physical activity, all critical behaviors for slowing HF progression, reducing avoidable hospitalizations and improving quality of life.

Study co-investigators: Dr. Mary Ann Leavitt and Dr. Candy Wilson. Collaborators: Dr. Janet Holt, Dr. David Newman and Judyta Kocielek. ■



## DEEP DIVE: FAMILY CAREGIVERS' JOURNEYS NAVIGATING ALCOHOL USE DISORDER

Alcohol use disorder (AUD) is a major global public health issue, affecting more than 28 million adults in the United States and causing 3 million deaths each year worldwide. The impact of AUD extends beyond the individual. At least five people are affected by an individual's drinking problem, with family members typically stepping into the role of primary caregiver.

Caregivers, burdened by the severity of alcohol-related issues, frequently struggle with ineffective coping, leading to feelings of hopelessness. However, most research focuses on helping individuals with AUD and promoting abstinence, neglecting their support systems. To foster a holistic approach, researchers at the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing conducted a qualitative study to explore the lived experiences of family caregivers and uncover the essence of their role in caring for a relative with AUD.

Results of the study, published in the *Scandinavian Journal of Caring Sciences*, reveal six major themes: traversing the peaks and valleys; wandering in the unknown; pointing fingers; weathering the storm; drawing a line; and looking back, looking in. These themes shed light on the diverse obstacles, coping strategies and personal demands the family caregivers face.

"The family members' experiences illustrate the many challenges that they faced, which impacted their social, emotional and psychological well-being. Yet, they never relinquished their role as caregivers," said Clarene E. Brown-King, Ph.D., first author and an instructor in the College of Nursing.

Though deeply concerned for their relatives' well-being, these caregivers also recognized the importance of their own mental and emotional health. The study underscores the need for improved support systems, resources and evidence-based interventions for family caregivers to mitigate the emotional and physical toll of caring for a relative with AUD.



**"CAREGIVERS PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WITH ALCOHOL USE DISORDER, BUT THE CHALLENGES THEY FACE CAN TAKE A TOLL ON THEIR HEALTH. EFFECTIVE COPING STRATEGIES AND TOOLS TO SET HEALTHY BOUNDARIES ARE ESSENTIAL. HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS AND POLICYMAKERS MUST WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE SOLUTIONS THAT MEET THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF THESE FAMILY CAREGIVERS."**

**Dr. Beth Pratt**  
Co-author and Assistant Professor,  
Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing

"Caregivers play a vital role in supporting individuals with alcohol use disorder, but the challenges they face can take a toll on their health. Effective coping strategies and tools to set healthy boundaries are essential. Health care professionals, support organizations and policymakers must work together to create solutions that meet the unique needs of these family caregivers," said Beth Pratt, Ph.D., co-author and assistant professor at the College of Nursing and a faculty fellow at the FAU Institute for Human Health and Disease Intervention (I-HEALTH). Study co-authors are Kyndall Mammah, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the College of Nursing and Wanda Morancy, DNP, an instructor in the College of Nursing. ■

# GENERATIONS 'SYNC' UP IN RURAL 'GLADES' TO *Boost* HEALTH TECH USE



**“OUR STUDY CREATED A WIN-WIN SITUATION FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED: OLDER ADULTS GAINED NEW SKILLS IN USING WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY TO MONITOR THEIR HEALTH, WHILE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN PROCESSES FOR CONDUCTING MEANINGFUL RESEARCH AND DEVELOP VALUABLE SKILLS.”**

**Dr. Lisa Ann Kirk Wiese**  
Senior Author and Associate Professor,  
Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing

Given the growing role of mobile technology in supporting older adults, it is essential to implement initiatives that encourage its adoption among this population. However, older adults are often unfamiliar with mobile technology, especially those in rural areas with limited digital access or literacy.

To bridge this gap, researchers from the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, and collaborators implemented a pilot study to test an intergenerational program involving high school students, older adults and local faith-based health educators in the “Glades,” a rural community nestled at the southern tip of Lake Okeechobee in South Central Florida.

Older residents in this tight-knit community share a strong desire to maintain healthy habits that support aging in place. However, their ability to track and monitor these habits using wireless fitness devices like Fitbits and smartwatches is hindered by the area’s limited resources and the difficulties many residents have with mobile technology literacy.

The impetus for the community-driven study in this under-resourced area was for older residents to embrace technology and gain greater acceptance and use of health-tracking devices as well as assessing everyday brain health behaviors.

For the study, Dr. Diane Cook’s team from Washington State University designed and coordinated a smartwatch intervention for use in the Glades. This included an ecological momentary assessment (EMA), which was used to deliver health-related survey questions via a smartwatch four times a day asking questions such as “How physically active have you been?” and “How mentally engaged have you been?” A daily assessment of cognition using a one-back memory question was administered. In addition, paper-and-pencil assessments were used to screen for cognition, health literacy and technology competence.

Researchers explored the relationships between these screening measures and the usage of the smartwatch. Results, published in the journal *Educational Gerontology*, showed that 91% of older adults engaged with the smartwatch prompts, with an overall response rate of 77.8%. Interestingly, response rates were not influenced by factors such as health literacy, technology self-efficacy, self-reported cognitive status, education, age or rural living. Additionally, social contact was found to be positively associated with physical activity and mental engagement.

“Our study created a win-win situation for everyone involved: older adults gained new skills in using wearable technology to monitor their health, while high school students had the opportunity to learn processes for conducting meaningful research and develop valuable skills,” said Lisa Ann Kirk Wiese, Ph.D., senior author and an associate professor in the College of Nursing. ■



# ★★★★★ IMPROVING VETERANS' ★★★★★ COMPLEX HEALTH CARE NEEDS

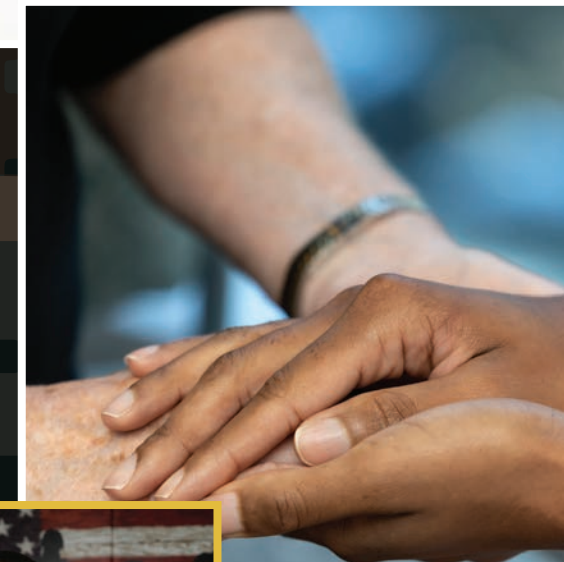
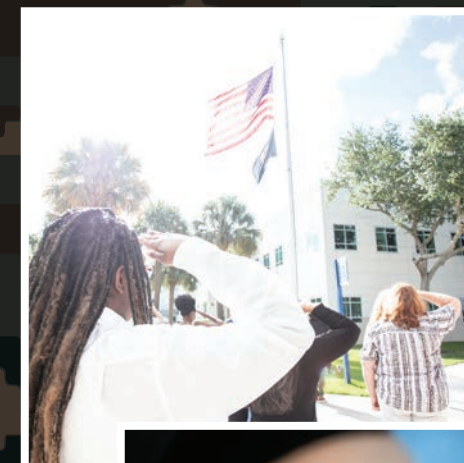
As a dedicated researcher and mentor for undergraduate and graduate students, Beth Pratt, Ph.D., RN, is fostering the next generation of scholars in veteran-centered health care research. The assistant professor of nursing at Florida Atlantic University, faculty fellow in the university's Institute for Human Health and Disease Intervention (I-Health) and associate director for Canines Providing Assistance to Wounded Warriors (C-P.A.W.W.®) is conducting community-centered research that is bridging the gap between clinical interventions, biopsychosocial factors and precision biomarkers in veterans’ health care.

Three major projects aim to make significant strides to address specific health issues that veterans face. These initiatives focus on post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI) and employ innovative approaches, as well as interdisciplinary collaboration. Dr. Pratt also serves as the project co-lead for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Initiative (PCORI) Dissemination Initiative titled, “On the Double,” with project lead Cheryl A. Krause-Parello, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, associate vice president for research at Florida Atlantic. For this study, the team is developing educational materials and a dissemination toolkit to spread awareness of PTSD treatment options. This veteran-driven campaign intends to better inform health care decisions for veterans and their families.

The second initiative, the Veteran Canine Rescue Mission (VCRM), investigates the effects of human-animal interaction on biopsychosocial processes. Under professional guidance and in partnership with the Humane Society of Broward County and Happy with Dogs, veterans adopt and train shelter dogs. Preliminary findings indicate significant improvements in depression and anxiety levels. An additional magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) study is underway to examine neurobiological changes before and after the dogs were adopted.

The third initiative, a photobiomodulation study, explores low-level light therapy as a non-invasive treatment for mild TBI. This project is currently in the data analysis phase and will incorporate machine learning to assess any changes in the subjects’ RNA, inflammatory biomarkers, electroencephalogram (EEG) and validated psychosocial measures.

“These projects demonstrate a commitment to veteran-focused research that aims to improve health outcomes, inform clinical practice and contribute to policy development,” stated Dr. Pratt. “Innovative approaches range from disseminating evidence-based treatments to exploring novel interventions, such as canine companionship and photobiomodulation.” ■



# RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: DATA SCIENCE



Data science researchers within Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing have three major studies underway that could potentially improve the early diagnosis of major diseases. The first project, “Early Detection of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias Using Health Records and Voice Data with the Aid of Machine Learning Methods,” aims to build a decision support system using Machine Learning (ML) models that can: distinguish between healthy individuals, those with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and those with ADRD; predict the likelihood of MCI progressing to ADRD; and identify individuals at high risk based on preclinical data such as medical history, drug exposure and cognitive tests.

The research team includes Dr. Debarshi Datta, assistant professor and data scientist; Dr. Subhosit Ray, senior research fellow; Dr. David Newman, professor and statistician with Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing; Dr. Alice Brumley, interim director, Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center; and Dr. Elan Barenholtz, associate professor, Department of Psychology, Florida Atlantic University Charles E. Schmidt College of Science.

The second study, “Explainable Machine Learning for Identification of Important Clinical Features Underlying the Risk of Mortality of In-Patients with HIV,” plans to identify features that underlie the risk of end-stage human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) in people with HIV. The proposed cross-sectional study, based on a

secondary dataset collected in Memorial Healthcare System (MHS), will serve as the basis for creating a cohort and analyzing patient clinical features using advanced ML techniques.

Drs. Subhosit Ray, Debarshi Datta, David Newman, Christine Toledo and Elizabeth Opeyemi Adenmosun with the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, and Dr. Javad Hashemi, associate dean for research and professor, Department of Ocean and Mechanical Engineering, Florida Atlantic University College of Engineering and Computer Science, are the team members for this study. In addition, researchers are investigating the “Early Detection of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias Using Health Records and Voice Data with the Aid of Machine Learning Methods.” Results of the study hope to develop advanced ML and DL methods to improve the early detection and prognosis of ADRD. With no known cure and projected cases expected to exceed 15 million by 2050, ADRD poses an escalating personal, clinical and societal burden. By identifying early diagnostic biomarkers and building predictive models to support earlier, more accurate diagnosis and targeted monitoring, the outcome could lead to more efficient, personalized treatment planning and proactive care to significantly delay the progression of ADRD.

This study is being conducted by Drs. Debarshi Datta, Subhosit Ray, David Newman, Laurie Martinez and Javad Hashemi. ■

## Exceptional RESEARCHERS



**Ruth Tappen, Ed.D., RN, FAAN**

Dr. Ruth Tappen, professor and Christine E. Lynn Eminent Scholar, has an impressive research career that spans several decades. Dr. Tappen is nationally and internationally renowned as an innovative researcher and scholar. Her leadership roles, prestigious reputation and cutting-edge research projects all benefit the biomedical, high-tech and health care industries.

She is a proven leader in the field of Alzheimer’s disease and related memory disorders (ADRD) and long-term care of older adults. Her research has meaningfully impacted ADRD in the fields of geriatrics and gerontology and populations affected by ADRD. Among her many accomplishments is the development, testing and dissemination of an evidence-based resident and family decision aid titled, “Go to the Hospital or Stay Here?,” which has resulted in a 30 percent drop in unnecessary transfers to acute care for nursing homes upon implementation of the guide.

“Each study was designed to learn more about older adults’ needs or test ways to help them walk better; overcome the limitations of dementia; take better care of themselves; be partners in decisions about their care; identify problems before they are too advanced to address; prepare for the future; or achieve as much comfort or peace as possible as their lives end,” stated Dr. Tappen.

Dr. Tappen is the author of more than 125 published articles and books. In 2020, she was awarded a \$5.3 million grant from the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health for her research on cognitive change in older drivers.

“Currently, with their permission, we are placing video cameras, GPS and other sensors that detect vehicle operations in the cars of older drivers to track their driving behavior for up to three years,” said Dr. Tappen. “Then, we compare it with any change in their thinking ability to observe if a change in driving could be a harbinger of early Alzheimer’s disease.”

Dr. Tappen is the recipient of numerous accolades, including the 2025 Doris A. Schwartz Gerontological Nurse Researcher of the Year from the Gerontological Society of America; 2021 Alliance World Class Faculty award from the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance; and the 2021 Sigma Global Nursing Excellence from the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. In 2021, she was also inducted into Sigma Theta Tau’s International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame. ■



**Christine Toledo, Ph.D., MSN, APRN, FNP-C**

Dr. Christine Toledo studies maternal-child health issues, with a focus on breastfeeding, postpartum depression and other health disparities among women. Dr. Toledo’s work addresses critical gaps in maternal-child health, particularly among Hispanic women—a population that continues to face challenges in both breastfeeding outcomes and access to mental health support.

Postpartum depression and low breastfeeding exclusivity are linked to long-term negative outcomes for both mothers and infants, yet culturally tailored interventions remain limited. Dr. Toledo’s use of innovative, community-based strategies—such as the dramatized health intervention, “Mi Leche Es Suficiente”—not only bridges cultural gaps, but it also enhances engagement, education and empowerment in order to create positive behavioral changes and healthy outcomes.

As a neonatal intensive nurse at a level IV hospital in Miami, Dr. Toledo was exposed to the challenges that Hispanic mothers face with lactation.

Although Latinas in the U.S. have higher rates of breastfeeding initiation (87.4%) than the national average (84.1%), only 18% breastfeed their infants exclusively at six months compared to the national average of 24.9%. “As a Hispanic woman myself, I understand there are many cultural beliefs and values that can be barriers for exclusive breastfeeding,” shared Dr. Toledo. “I wanted to develop an innovative intervention to help combat these barriers by developing a telenovela [soap opera] that discusses cultural barriers and increases breastfeeding knowledge among Hispanic women.”

Dr. Toledo was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nursing (AWHONN) to pilot test her intervention—a filmed dramatized story entitled Mi Leche Es Suficiente (MLES), or “My Milk is Enough,” to address the marked disparity in breastfeeding exclusivity among Hispanic women living in the U.S. The telenovela emphasizes the influence of cultural myths and beliefs regarding infant nutrition and formula supplementation. The results of this study will lead to an R01 proposal to test the impact of the telenovela intervention on behavioral and biological outcomes in the Hispanic population.

“I am so pleased to be part of Florida Atlantic’s College of Nursing that is training the next generation of researchers by fostering a strong foundation in evidence-based practice, transformative research and high-quality nursing education,” said Dr. Toledo. “Through rigorous academic programs, mentorship from experienced faculty and hands-on research opportunities, students are prepared to tackle complex health challenges affecting diverse populations.” ■

# BY THE NUMBERS

## APPLICANTS

Freshman Direct Admission: **1,247**  
 RN to BSN: **76**  
 BSN Accelerated: **79**  
 Graduate: MSN – **194**  
 Post Masters DNP – **82**    PhD – **5**

## ADMISSIONS

2024 Freshmen Entering Nursing – **445**  
 Average SAT – **1254**    Average ACT – **27**  
 Average GPA – **4.21**

## ENROLLMENT

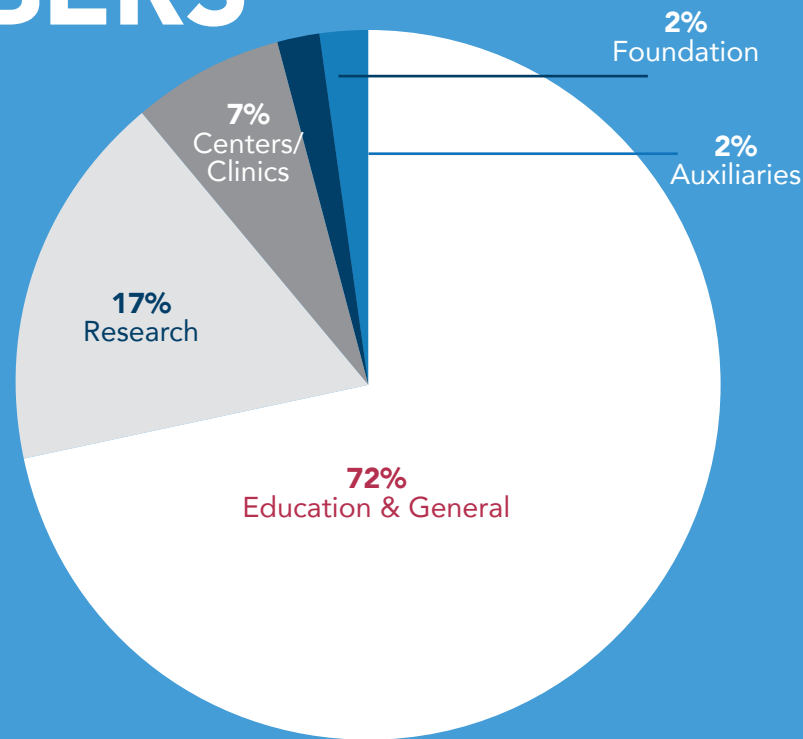
Freshman Direct Admission: **89**  
 RN to BSN: **39**  
 BSN Accelerated: **68**    Graduate: MSN – **96**  
 DNP – **38**    PhD – **4**

## ENROLLMENT TRENDS

Ethnic Diversity of Student Body:  
**141** White    **162** Racial/Ethnic Minority  
 Gender Diversity of Student Body:  
**294** Female    **40** Male  
 First-generation: **113**  
**1** Students over Age **60**  
**14** Students Age **17** or Younger  
**297** Florida Residents    **37** Non-residents  
 Students from **6** Different Countries and  
**17** Different States

## GRADUATION TRENDS

Degrees Awarded  
**154** BSN    **74** MSN    **25** DNP    **4** PhD



**Total Budget \$28,190,944**

**88.54%** NCLEX Pass Rate 2025 Boca Raton campus  
**91.84%** FNP Certification Pass Rate  
**5,417** Patient Visits at the FAU/NCHA Community Health Center  
**1,633** Evaluation Visits at the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center and 3,131 Adult Day Care Attendees  
**18** Fellows in the American Academy of Nursing

## SCHOLARSHIPS

**\$669,500** College of Nursing Scholarships Awarded to 389 Students  
**\$39,441** in Emergency Funding Provided to **32** students    **27** named scholarships

## RESEARCH

**\$16.3M** in Active Grant Total (new and active awards)  
**\$4.7M** in Grant Expenditures  
**\$71,340** in Total for Internal Awards

# Celebrating Accomplishments



**Dr. Ruth Tappen**, professor and Christine E. Lynn Eminent Scholar in the College of Nursing, is the recipient of the 2025 Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award by the Gerontological Society of America (GSA). The award was presented to Dr. Tappen at the GSA's annual Scientific Meeting held in November in Boston.

**Dr. Rita Gengo** received the Distinguished Global Contribution to Nursing Knowledge and Nursing Diagnosis award at the 2025 North American Nursing Diagnosis Association International (NANDA-I) conference held June 3 to 6 in Lisbon, Portugal.

During the International Association for Human Caring (IAHC) annual conference, held June 26 to 28, 2025 in Providence, Rhode Island, **Dr. Armiel Suriaga** received the Boykin and Schoenhofer Nursing as Caring Award; graduate student **Judyta Kociolek** received the Parker, Barry, & King Community Caring Award; and graduate student **Nicole Carty-Mullings** received the Jean Watson Student Award.

College of Nursing students **Lauren Cruz** and **Nicolas Bukley** were nominated for HCA Florida Aventura Hospital's prestigious Flower Bud Award in 2025 during their clinical experience at the hospital.

Master of Science in Nursing Leadership and Financial Administration student **Genesi Gozalez**, along with a team of Florida Atlantic students, won the Health Equity Innovation Award during the 20th annual CLARION National Interprofessional Case Competition from April 11 to 12, 2025.

**Dr. Lauren Fleck** received the 2025 Distinguished Alumni award for Florida Atlantic University Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing. Dr. Fleck was inducted during the annual Hall of Fame and Distinguished Alumni Award Ceremony and Reception on April 15.

Freshman Direct Admit student **Helen Grammen** was recognized for her scientific accomplishments as the College of Nursing's 2025 Undergraduate Researcher of the Year. She received the award during Florida Atlantic's 56th annual Honors Convocation, which recognizes the university's most outstanding students and faculty.

BSN student **Sarah Lievano** was named a 2025 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) awardee by Florida Atlantic's Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (OURI). SURF projects are intensive summer immersion research experiences for an undergraduate student and faculty mentor.

**Drs. Beth Pratt** and **Wanda Morancy** received DAISY Awards in 2025. **Drs. Mary Ann Leavitt** and **Rita Gengo** received the Faculty Awards for Outstanding Scholarship and Excellence in Research. **Drs. Ruth Tappen, David Newman** and **Beth Pratt** were recipients of the Office of Nursing Research and Scholarship's Challenge Coins.

Students **Christina Dimeo, Kerry-Ann Dixon** and alumna **Raquel Panos** received the Provost's Certificate of Recognition for Publishing during the 10th annual Student Publication Ceremony on March 19, 2025. **Drs. Subhosit Ray** and **Debarshi Datta** were also honored for their joint research article.

Ph.D. student **Tammy Depascale** won the first Boykin-Shaw Excellence in Nursing Dissertation Award Competition held on March 27, 2025.

Graduate students **Nicole Carty-Mullings, Zaysheron Keora Francis** and **Tracey Saint-Louis** were selected to join **Dean Cameron Duncan** for "FAU Advocacy Day" at the State Capitol on February 18, 2025.

**Dr. Narciso Quidley-Rodriguez** was awarded more than \$4,500 by Sigma Nursing for his first-of-a-kind study that explores the relationship between companion animals and LGBTQIA+ veterans.

Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing students **Autumn Boone** and **Sarah Shahady** and Freshman Direct Admit student **Clara Rose** are recipients of the Boca Woods Women's Club Scholarship. The scholarships were announced at the club's "Mardi Bra" gala on Jan. 13, 2025.

**Dr. Armiel Suriaga** received the 2025 Most Outstanding Alumni award from West Visayas State University for Research/Technology on Jan. 28, 2025 at the Iloilo Convention Center in the Philippines. He accepted the award in-person during a special ceremony as part of the university's jubilee celebration.

**Dr. Jacquie Marshall** was appointed as a member of the Memorial Cancer Institute Florida Atlantic University (MCIFAU) Cancer Center of Excellence (CCE). In this role, she is leading an active research program and collaborates with other members to develop and deliver professional initiatives.



# Selected Faculty Publications

AUGUST 2024 - OCTOBER 2025

## BOOKS

Wagner, C., M., **Butcher, H. K.**, & Clark, M. (Eds.). (2025). *Classificazione NIC Degli Interventi Infermieristici*. 8e. [Italian Translation]. Translation by O. Meneghette and C. Santin. Casa Editrice Ambrosiana. (Original work published 2024)

## BOOK CHAPTERS

**Barry, C., Martinez, R. C. K. P., & Heinze, K. E.** (2025). Community health nursing: extraordinary nursing caring for persons using folkloric health and wellness practices. In Z. R. Wolf & M. E. Wright (Eds.), *Extraordinary nursing practice: Multiple roles, caring practices* (pp. 39–59). Cambridge Scholars Publishing

**Hain, D.** (2024). Nephrotic Syndrome, pp.155-158. In C. Harris Adult Gerontology Acute Care Practice Guidelines. 2nd ed. New York: Springer Publishing.

**King, B., Alberts, L., & Banzhaf, S. E.** (2025). Psychiatric-mental health advanced practice nurses: Extraordinary nurses' caring in primary care practice. In Z. R. Wolf & M. E. Wright (Eds.), *Extraordinary nursing practice: Multiple roles, caring practices* (pp. 6084). Cambridge Scholars Publishing

Stubin, C., & **Mendonca-Cali, L.** (2025). Critical care nurses: Extraordinary nursing in volatile practice situations. In Z. R. Wolf & M. E. Wright (Eds.), *Extraordinary nursing practice: Multiple roles, caring practices* (pp. 25–38). Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES

Abshire, D., An, K., Ashcraft, P.F., Catarelli, B., Davis, S., McNeill, C., Mumba, M.N., Loerzel, V., Prevost, S.S., and **Rivera, A.** (2025). Defining Research for PhD and DNP Prepared Nurses: A Collaborative Approach. *Research in Nursing & Health*, 48(2):97-99 <https://doi.org/10.1002/nur.22448>

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Besser, L. M., **Wiese, L.**, Cook, D., **Holt, J.**, Magzamen, S., Minor, B., & **Williams, C.** (2024). Rural Roads to Cognitive Resilience (RRR): A prospective cohort study protocol. *PLOS1*, 2024-10.

**Brennen, M., Tappen, R.**, & Johnson, V. (2025). The association of perceived stress, glucocorticoids receptors, and corticotropin-releasing hormone gene expression during pregnancy. *Biological Research for Nursing*, 27(4):524-534. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10998004251336366>

**Brown-King CE, Pratt BA, Mammah K, Morancy W.** (2024). Exploring the experience of family members caring for a relative with alcohol use disorder: A phenomenological inquiry. *Scand J Caring Sci*. 39(1):1–8. <https://doi.org/10.1111/scs.13306>

**Butcher, H.K.** (2025). Disciplinary thinking for the scholarship of nursing research. *Nursing Science Quarterly*, 38(1): 8-17. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08943184241291548>

**Butcher, H.K.** (2024). Heuristic inquiry for advancing nursing science. *Nursing Science Quarterly* 37(3):204-211. Doi. [org/10.1177/08943184241247](https://doi.org/10.1177/08943184241247).

**Chiang-Hanisko, L.** (2024). AI and the Art of Healing: Cultural Perspectives on Healthcare Innovation. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing* 35(6):398.

**Chukwuere, P. C., & Horne, C.** (2025). Acculturation, cultural marginalization, and culturally responsive mental health care for immigrants: Reimagining caring presence practice amid sociopolitical challenges. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*, 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01612840.2025.2572032>

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**Cowling, W** & Nicoll, L. (2025). Through a window: Finding meaning in unitary appreciative knowing. *Advances in Nursing Science* 48:302-309 <https://doi.org/10.1097/ANS.0000000000000568>

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Gleason, M. M., Flom, M., Rapoport, S., **Williams, A.**, Birch, A., Wells, N. K., & Robinson, A. (2025). A Relational Agent Intervention for Adolescents Seeking Mental Health Treatment: Outcomes From a Randomized Controlled Trial Within a Children's Outpatient Hospital. *JAACAP Open*.

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Hoch, C. R., **Leavitt, M. A.**, Viveiros, J., & Dennis, H. (2025). Biomarkers in heart failure: A review for nurse practitioners. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners* 26(16):8046.

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# YEAR IN PHOTOS 2025



1. College of Nursing staff engaged with attendees at the Florida Nurse Practitioner Network's annual conference from Aug. 21 to 23 in Orlando.
2. The FAU/NCHA Community Health Center staff, clinicians and nursing students provided immunizations and mental health assessments at the Back-to-School Palm Beach County event on July 26.
3. The Florida Atlantic Foodies event at The Blue Dog Boca Raton on July 23 featured special guest Dean Cameron Duncan.
4. Nursing students and faculty joined the Community Care Health & Wellness Expo at U.B. Kinsey Educational & Community Center on May 17 to provide health screenings and information to attendees, including Palm Beach County Commissioner Bobby Powell Jr.
5. The International Association for Human Caring Annual Conference held June 26 to 28 featured student and faculty presentations on various aspects of caring theory.
6. Accelerated BSN and Freshman Direct Admit students presented Aesthetics in Caring Science projects at the Boca and Davie campuses in October. The projects included live performances, poetry and song, and displays of homemade cookies, paintings and abstract art demonstrating their interpretation of caring in nursing.
7. Several faculty presented research on student success initiatives and intentional wellness at the Nursing Consortium of Florida conference held June 27 and 28 in St. Pete Beach.
8. College of Nursing faculty and students offered health screenings and consultations at the Community Care Health and Wellness Expo on May 17 at the U.B. Kinsey Educational and Community Center.
9. Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) spring graduates participated in the traditional Pinning Ceremony and celebrated at a reception on May 2 on the Boca Raton campus.
10. The Nursing Scholarship Showcase held April 17 featured transformative research and quality improvement studies from students and faculty in the college's undergraduate and graduate programs.
11. Faculty, staff and students came together for a celebratory luncheon and pinning ceremony on April 8 to recognize Kay Carpenter scholarship recipients.
12. Alumni, faculty, staff and board members participated in the college's Nursing Alumni Reunion on April 3 on the Boca Raton campus.
13. Nursing students and clinicians from the FAU/NCHA Community Health Center conducted blood pressure and mental health screenings at Celebrate Westgate on April 12.
14. The Share Your Caring Heart event at the Cove Brewery on April 27, hosted by the Caring Hearts Auxiliary, raised funds in support of care giver programs and day center scholarships for the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center.
15. Faculty and students joined researchers from across the university for the 2025 Research Renewal event on April 23, hosted by Florida Atlantic's Office of Research Development.
16. College of Nursing held its annual White Coat Ceremony in Boca Raton on March 20. The event welcomed over 120 first-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing students into the profession as they received their white coats for the first time.
17. Dr. Alice Brumley, interim director, Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center, delivered the keynote address at the South Healthcare Advocacy Network (S.H.A.N.) meeting on March 19, hosted by the Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce.
18. Ph.D. students Vanessa Duncan, Tammy Depascale and Lea Crestodina participated in the First Annual Boykin-Shaw Excellence in Nursing Dissertation Award Competition held on March 27.
19. Nursing students Baudelaire Duvert and Shanice Clayton attended the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Student Policy Summit March 30 to 31 in Washington, D.C.



## Nicole Carty-Mullings, MSN '22

For Nicole Carty-Mullings, service and leadership go hand in hand. As the Vice Chair of Florida Atlantic's Nursing Professionals Alumni Network, Carty-Mullings is passionate about strengthening alumni connections and creating meaningful opportunities for engagement.

*"My goal is to build bridges between alumni, current students, faculty and staff," Carty-Mullings said. "It's about showing how staying connected can fuel both personal growth and professional development."*

Carty-Mullings is leading by example. She's actively involved in the college's mentorship program, supporting BSN students as they prepare to enter the nursing workforce. She actively encourages fellow alumni to get involved through events, reunions and volunteer opportunities.

While Carty-Mullings devotes much of her spare time to the college, her professional life is equally impactful. She serves as the clinical educator at the Miami Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center, where she designs and delivers educational programs for nursing staff. Her work focuses on identifying learning needs, evaluating training effectiveness and ensuring that nurses are equipped to provide high-quality care.

*"The most rewarding part of my job is when staff tell me they feel safer when I'm around," Carty-Mullings shared. "That tells me the support and education I provide is making a real difference."*

Currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Nursing at Florida Atlantic, Carty-Mullings is also leading initiatives at the Miami VA to support new nurses beyond their initial preceptorships. She played a key role in developing a mentorship model that promotes long-term success for early-career nurses.

Her research is equally personal and powerful. A stroke survivor herself, Carty-Mullings is studying Black female stroke survivors under the age of 50, aiming to shift how nurses assess and advocate for younger stroke patients. ■



## Rachel Huerta, DNP '11, RN '07

Since earning her RN-BSN from Florida Atlantic in 2007 and her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with a concentration in Family Nurse Practitioner in 2011, Dr. Rachel Huerta has dedicated her career to providing compassionate, patient-centered care.

While completing her degree, Dr. Huerta worked in a medical/surgical hospital setting, growing her skills. After graduating with her DNP, she accepted a position at a primary care clinic in Boca Raton, where she spent seven years expanding services to include pediatric care, well-woman visits and incorporating the caring model she embraced at Florida Atlantic's Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing.

In 2017, she and her husband launched Direct Primary Care of Boca Raton, with the goal to bring CARING back into healthCARE by removing barriers and fostering stronger patient-provider relationships. Dr. Huerta delivers comprehensive care to a panel of 600 patients while managing all aspects of clinic operations.

Florida Atlantic played a pivotal role in shaping her career for this South Florida native.

*"During my time at Florida Atlantic, I was able to help the underserved population through the Cherokee Nation project. This time of service enhanced my desire to ensure that healthcare is being extended to all populations and is part of the principle of Direct Primary Care of Boca Raton," she recalled.*

Dr. Huerta remains deeply engaged with Florida Atlantic and the College of Nursing. She serves as a preceptor for Nurse Practitioner students and is an active member of the Nursing Professionals Alumni Network. Her commitment extends across campus as a member of the Investor Society supporting FAU Athletics and serves as a board member of the Alumni Association. Dr. Huerta encourages students and alumni to stay connected with the university and the college throughout their careers. ■



## Ayse Malatyali, Ph.D. '20, MBA '10

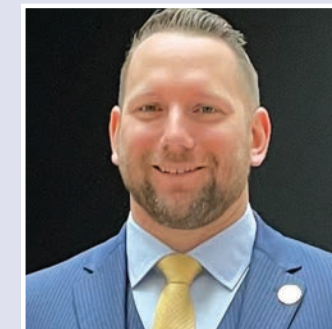
Ayse Malatyali, Ph.D., is a proud two-time alumna of Florida Atlantic University whose academic journey has taken her from Istanbul to the forefront of nursing research in Florida.

Her path to academia began with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Istanbul University, shortly thereafter, she began her career as a registered nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit of a university hospital in Turkey. A few years later, Dr. Malatyali transitioned to public health and worked as a case manager and health program officer in Florida and Turkey, allowing her to connect and collaborate with healthcare professionals worldwide.

In 2010, she earned her Master's in Business Administration from Florida Atlantic University's College of Business and her Ph.D. from the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing in 2020.

Dr. Malatyali credits College of Nursing's faculty members, Drs. Christine Williams, Lisa Wiese and Shirley Gordon for their mentorship and support throughout her doctoral journey. She now serves as an assistant professor at the University of Central Florida (UCF) College of Nursing, where she teaches both undergraduate and graduate students while leading research on cognitive aging. Her primary research focus is on biological, behavioral and social risk factors of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) and falls among underserved older adults.

*"Witnessing my students' growth remains the most rewarding part of my academic career," said Dr. Malatyali. "I hope my research leads to early prevention strategies that improve the lives of millions, especially in marginalized populations." ■*



## Derek Weit, DNP, CRNA, BSN '18

When Dr. Derek Weit graduated from Florida Atlantic's online RN to BSN program in 2018, he never imagined just how far his nursing career would take him. Today, he is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) in Orlando, Florida, where he provides anesthesia for patients of all ages, from infants to the elderly. Whether placing epidurals for laboring mothers, managing airways or ensuring patients remain safe and stable throughout surgery, Dr. Weit views his role as both a privilege and a profound responsibility.

His path to nursing began in the United States Marine Corps. While serving in Afghanistan, Dr. Weit dreamed of a meaningful career after his enlistment.

Nursing provided the answer. After earning his BSN from Florida Atlantic's College of Nursing, he went on to achieve his Doctor of Nursing Practice to become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist at York College of Pennsylvania. He graduated as a leader of his cohort and earned the program's highest honor, the Hazel M. Currier Award, for exemplary knowledge, vigilance and compassion.

Dr. Weit credits Florida Atlantic with helping him build the discipline and resilience that carried him through anesthesia school. Balancing a full-time job as an ICU RN while working towards his BSN taught him time management, endurance and focus—skills he continues to use daily in the operating room.

Dr. Weit shares his thoughts about providing lasting impact on others. *"I think every patient interaction is an opportunity to represent the nursing profession. Also, we have a moral obligation to do our best for those who trust us with their care. So, I think my lasting impact is made through positive experiences I provide daily to my patients."*

Beyond his clinical work, Dr. Weit is passionate about giving back. He works with students from various CRNA programs and prospective nurses who show interest in the field of anesthesia. He adds, "Giving back is very important as we grow. We get to where we are by standing on the shoulders of giants and pulling up those who come after us." ■

## Nursing Professionals Alumni Network Receptions



The Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing welcomed alumni, faculty, staff and board members back to campus for Alumni Reunion receptions hosted in collaboration with the college's Nursing Professionals Alumni Network and Florida Atlantic's Alumni and Community Engagement team. The events provided an opportunity for alumni to reconnect with one another and reflect on the enduring impact of nursing education.

The Spring Alumni Reception, held on April 3, 2025, honored Distinguished Alumni inductee Laureen Fleck, Ph.D. '00, '07, '11, who reflected on her professional journey to becoming a nurse, from opening the Family Medicine of Boca Raton clinic to serving as a clinical preceptor for nurse practitioner students and as an associate graduate faculty in both the Nurse Practitioner and the Doctor of Nursing Practice programs at Florida Atlantic. Dr. Fleck credited the College of Nursing as a foundational influence in her career.

"The breadth of services provided by our alumni is impressive," noted Dr. Cameron Duncan, dean, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing. "They are conducting innovative research, establishing clinics, treating residents in the Glades and other underserved areas, in addition to precepting students who rely on our alumni for their expertise and guidance."

The Fall Alumni Reception was held on October 9, 2025 at the college's Davie campus. Rachel Huerta, a two-time alumna and board member of Florida Atlantic's Alumni Association, spoke about the benefits of association membership and how proceeds help fund student scholarships. Dr. Marvalee Gilbert-Harris, chair of the college's Nursing Professionals Alumni Network, emphasized the importance of alumni engagement for supporting the next generation of nursing professionals.

The Alumni Network also participated in Florida Atlantic University tailgate events to support the football team and engage alumni and students. To stay connected or learn about future alumni events, visit [nursing.fau.edu/alumni](http://nursing.fau.edu/alumni) or email [nuralumni@health.fau.edu](mailto:nuralumni@health.fau.edu).



MEET  
DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNA  
2025

**Laureen Fleck**  
Ph.D. '11, DNS '07, MSN '00

Dr. Laureen Fleck received the 2025 Distinguished Alumni Award for Florida Atlantic's Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing. She was honored during the Alumni and Community Engagement's Hall of Fame and Distinguished Alumni Award Ceremony on April 15, 2025.

Dr. Fleck, a Family Nurse Practitioner, owns and operates Family Medicine of Boca Raton, where she oversees more than 7,000 patient visits each year. Her practice serves patients of all ages, from children to older adults. She has also been a Certified Diabetes Educator for over 25 years, specializing in obesity, metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance and diabetes. Her work emphasizes prevention, patient education and long-term management of chronic conditions.

Dr. Fleck earned all three of her advanced degrees from FAU's Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing—an M.S.N. in 2000, a D.N.S. in 2007, and a Ph.D. in 2011, with her doctoral research exploring weight loss and self-care in women with metabolic syndrome. She is committed to mentoring future nurse practitioners and has served as a clinical preceptor and associate graduate faculty member for the college's Nurse Practitioner and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs.

Outside of the clinic and classroom, Dr. Fleck is active in professional advocacy. She chaired the Political Action Committee for the Florida Nurse Practitioner Network and holds memberships in the American Diabetes Association and the Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists.

"I've always believed in educating patients and empowering nurses," said Dr. Fleck. "That's where real change begins."

Dr. Fleck's impact spans clinical care, education, research and policy. Her work continues to support healthier communities and stronger nursing leadership across Florida and beyond. ■

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**“I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN EDUCATING PATIENTS AND EMPOWERING NURSES. THAT'S WHERE REAL CHANGE BEGINS.”**

**Dr. Laureen Fleck**  
Distinguished Alumna

## Partners in Caring

The Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing greatly benefits from remarkable partnerships across South Florida. These essential collaborations offer transformative opportunities for our skilled students, encompassing hands-on experiences, service-learning initiatives and nursing research. The college is grateful to the following partners, along with many others, for their continued commitment and support of our faculty, staff and students.

### PALM BEACH HEALTH NETWORK

Palm Beach Health Network (PBHN) prioritizes Florida Atlantic nursing students' passions and fosters a healthy, supportive transition into the workforce. PBHN's dedicated educators and placement specialists are exceptionally collaborative and instrumental in advancing both our pre-licensure and RN to BSN students. Their staff ensures that each student's clinical experiences are meaningful and aligned with their professional goals. PBHN's commitment makes its partnership with the College of Nursing not only highly effective, but also deeply rewarding.

### J.M. RUBIN FOUNDATION

The J.M. Rubin Foundation generously gave \$75,000 to the Florida Atlantic University Northwest Community Health Alliance (FAU/NCHA) Community Health Center to hire a full-time Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Having this full-time support has allowed the center to better meet the critical mental and behavioral health care needs in West Palm Beach. Recognizing the need for expanded health care access and the impact of the nursing shortage, the foundation is a key partner in improving care within the county.

### MATHEW FORBES ROMER FOUNDATION

With a mission to promote and support testing, counseling and research initiatives for the prevention and cure of fatal children's genetic brain diseases such as Tay-Sachs, the Mathew Forbes Romer Foundation has been a partner throughout the years to ensure College of Nursing students receive educational opportunities about caring for these patients and their families. Together with faculty, the foundation has worked to create student simulation scenarios on these specific health needs. Since 2002, the foundation has provided scholarship funding to ease the financial challenges of students who are completing their nursing education. ■

# Meet SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS



## Amaya Wilson

For Amaya Wilson, the decision to pursue a career in nursing is deeply personal. Inspired by her mother's cancer journey, Amaya felt called to a profession where she could provide comfort, care and support for patients and families during some of life's most difficult moments.

The Freshman Direct Admit nursing student chose to attend Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing for its highly regarded academic programs and ideal location. With an anticipated graduation date of 2028, she has excelled in the program and earned placement on both the President's and Dean's List each semester. She has maintained a 4.0 GPA, while also balancing her studies with work as a Pilates instructor.

Amaya, who has been awarded the Lamplighter, White Coat and Kay Carpenter scholarships, noted the impact of this support on her education.

"For me, these scholarships have been much more than financial aid, but a sense of encouragement," she said. "Every award reminds me that there are people who see potential in me. This belief has given me greater confidence during tough semesters and motivated me to keep going."

After earning her degree, Amaya plans to work as a registered nurse before enrolling in a CRNA program to become a nurse anesthetist. She hopes to one day give back to students in the same way she has been supported. "Not only do I want to succeed and be a great nurse, but I also want to help the future generation of nurses," she explained. "The generosity I've experienced will motivate me to be generous to my patients, coworkers, and community." ■

## Lilian Krechnyak

Freshman Direct Admit student Lilian Krechnyak was drawn to nursing through a deeply personal experience. Although she had always been interested in health care, it was the compassionate care provided by nurses during her father's numerous hospital stays that solidified her decision to pursue a career in nursing.

Lilian chose Florida Atlantic University for its rigorous Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, which combines two years of clinicals with didactic classes and simulation labs. This structure, she explained, gives students the confidence and preparation needed before entering real-world settings. The Lamplighter, White Coat and Kay Carpenter scholarships Lilian received helped ease the financial burden of tuition, books and related fees. "They have allowed me a peace of mind, knowing that I'm going to finish off nursing school and become a registered nurse without the grievances of student loans."

Beyond the classroom, Lilian has embraced several leadership opportunities. She represented Florida Atlantic at the National Student Nurses Association Conference in Seattle, Washington, and currently serves as President-Elect of the Student Nurses Association.

In the future, Lilian hopes to continue her education with aspirations to either attend medical school or become a nurse practitioner. Above all, she wants to be known as a nurse who goes above and beyond her patients.

"I want to be a nurse that a patient can rely on not only with their physical care, but with their mental health and overall well-being and know that I am there to support them no matter how big or little the problem," she added. "I want them to remember me as a caring nurse." ■



## Olivia Rocco

The inspiration to pursue nursing runs in Olivia Rocco's family. Her grandmother, a nurse practitioner, modeled a lifelong passion for the profession that she hopes to carry forward in her own career. "Seeing her love for nursing and how passionate she still is about it made me want to follow in her footsteps," Olivia shared.

Olivia is now enrolled in Florida Atlantic's Freshman Direct Admit Nursing program, with an anticipated graduation date of May 2028. "I wanted a school that was well known for nursing," she explained. "I also know that throughout my time in the program, I will be taught by great professors to learn the knowledge and skills that I will need to be a great nurse in the future."

Olivia has already experienced the impact that the Lamplighter, White Coat and Kay Carpenter scholarships have had on her academic journey. These awards have eased financial stress by covering the cost of essentials such as books, scrubs and materials, allowing her to remain focused on her studies and future goals.

Looking ahead, Olivia hopes to join the Student Nurses Association, where she can take part in health screenings and outreach events that both serve the community and highlight the value of nursing. She aspires to specialize in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) or Labor and Delivery before returning to school to become a Nurse Practitioner.

No matter where her path leads, Olivia's goal remains clear, to provide compassionate, high-quality care to patients. She adds, "I want to be able to provide the best care that I can, while also getting the chance to watch my patients get better and become stronger." ■

## Samantha Boucher

Samantha Boucher, a senior in the College of Nursing's Freshmen Direct Admit program, shares how her path to nursing was inspired by her mother, a physical therapist whose compassion and dedication to patient care left a lasting impression. "I grew up watching the commitment she demonstrated in helping her patients through recovery," she explains.

Samantha was drawn to Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing for its academic excellence and caring philosophy. "What ultimately set this program apart from others is the foundation in Caring Science, which is integrated into every course to develop values of caring within both clinical and professional settings," she added.

Scholarships have played a vital role in Samantha's educational journey, helping her purchase essential learning tools and supplies. "I have been honored to receive several scholarships funded by our nursing program and generous donors who support the development of future health care professionals. These scholarships remind me to work hard, not just as a student, but in everything I do," she said. Among her honors are the Lamplighter Scholarship, the Esther Saylor Rothenberger Scholarship and the Essie C. Crain Nursing Scholarship.

Beyond the classroom, Samantha is a member of the College of Nursing Honors Program, where she conducts research in Belle Glade, Florida. This program gave her the opportunity to participate in research through a scholarship awarded by Washington State University. Her work led to an article, she co-authored, titled "Cognitive Health in Underserved Older Adults: Behavioral, Social, and Environmental Influences in Rural Southern Florida" published in The International Journal of Aging and Human Development.

After graduating in May 2026, Samantha aspires to work in pediatrics before returning to Florida Atlantic to pursue her BSN-to-DNP degree and become a Family Nurse Practitioner. "I hope to make an impact in my nursing career by incorporating all the caring values that were taught to me to become not just a nurse, but a source of comfort and advocacy for people during their most difficult and vulnerable times," she explained. ■

# LETTER FROM *Christine E. Lynn*



Christine E. Lynn, RN, the college's beloved namesake, truly exemplifies the philosophy of caring science. Her dedication to the community and to nursing education at Florida Atlantic University is a living legacy. As a leader and advocate for quality nursing services for decades, her steadfast commitment has had a transformational impact on our students.

Her vision was to create college that provides essential assets to our local community with state-of-the-art facilities and world-class faculty. Today, thanks to her remarkable support, College of Nursing students have benefited from expanded programs and resources without compromising educational standards of excellence.

"Under the direction of Dean Cameron Duncan, the college is continuing to forge a path as a leader in caring science," expressed Lynn. "His experience, exceptional leadership qualities, combined with a deep understanding of the dynamic health care landscape and an unwavering commitment to innovation and excellence, make him an outstanding leader."



**"UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DEAN CAMERON DUNCAN, THE COLLEGE IS CONTINUING TO FORGE A PATH AS A LEADER IN CARING SCIENCE."**

Christine E. Lynn  
Philanthropist



In addition, Lynn feels that the college continues to attract first-rate faculty and staff who are capable of educating the very best nurses to be prepared to address health care disparities and the ongoing nursing shortage. The college's hard-working students graduate with the essential skills and knowledge required for them to succeed in the rapidly changing field of 21st century health care.

"As we move forward, it is my greatest wish that the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing continues to be one of the best colleges for nursing in Florida," stated Lynn. "I am so immensely proud of the success of this institution that carries my name." ■



# Meet

## NEW COLLEGE OF NURSING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

Barry D. Siegel, Esq., has long admired the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing's commitment to excellence in patient-centered care and compassionate service. He joined the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing's Advisory Board in May 2025. Siegel is the founder and CEO of The Siegel Law Group, P.A.

"As someone who values education, health care access and the impact of strong leadership, I saw this as a meaningful opportunity to contribute to a program that is shaping the future of nursing," stated Siegel. "I am honored to support an institution that not only produces outstanding clinicians, but also leaders who are changing the face of health care."

Siegel aims to bring a fresh perspective from his professional background, as well as provide insights into strategic growth, collaboration and innovation. His goal is to support initiatives that strengthen community partnerships, create pathways for student success and further elevate the college's visibility and impact.

"Whether through mentorship, advocacy or helping align resources with long-term goals, I look forward to playing a supportive and engaged role," said Siegel. For him, the College of Nursing's students exemplify health care workers who are resilient, compassionate and have a deep sense of purpose—all greatly needed qualities to care for South Florida's growing communities.

"Nursing is both a science and a calling, and Florida Atlantic's students embody that balance beautifully," shared Siegel. "Their dedication to learning, their empathy for others and their drive to make a difference inspire me and give me great confidence for the future of health care."

Looking ahead, his hope for the college is that it continues to lead with heart and innovation by expanding its influence, increasing access to quality nursing education and continuing to be a national model for excellence. In addition, he also aspires to see more interdisciplinary collaboration and community engagement that equips graduates to thrive in evolving health care environments. ■

# Letter from Advisory Board By-Laws Committee Chair Melissa Durbin



As a nurse leader and proud graduate of the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, I am honored to serve as an advisory board member for such an esteemed program. Our board is comprised of individuals who are passionate about instilling excellence and innovation within the nursing profession.

Together, we collaborate with the college to expand initiatives for students to ensure their continued growth and success—especially by broadening our relationships with local hospitals and nursing schools—to facilitate a smooth transition from student to nurse. We also remain committed to the continued development of the college’s nationally ranked academic programs and to attracting world-class faculty and researchers.

The college’s deep roots in its caring philosophy are truly a special mixture of art and science, and it makes Florida Atlantic’s nursing graduates exceptionally unique. Students are well-prepared to advance into their nursing careers with intelligence, caring and compassion.

Throughout the region, the college is well-known for its outstanding community service, academic excellence and nursing research. Looking ahead, we hope to find new ways to connect our growing communities with this wonderful college and share its expertise through its clinics and educational conferences.

It is our privilege to serve as ambassadors for the College of Nursing. We encourage you to join us in supporting this vital pillar of our community, which continues to excel in preparing the nursing workforce of tomorrow.

Warmly,

**Melissa Durbin, B.S.N. '96, M.S.N. '12**  
By-Laws Committee Chair, Advisory Board  
Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing  
Florida Atlantic University



### In Memoriam: Debi Feiler

*Debi Feiler, Caring Hearts Auxiliary Board member, passed away on April 21, 2025. The longtime community volunteer, fundraiser and advocate for several local charities also served on the board of the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center and as chair of the “Keep Memories Alive” Walk-in-the-Mall in 2022.*



### In Memoriam: Elaine J. Wold

*Elaine J. Wold, longtime Boca Raton philanthropist and friend of Florida Atlantic University, including the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, passed away at the age of 97. Wold served as an honorary ambassador for the Caring Hearts Auxiliary’s “Keep Memories Alive” Walk-in-the-Mall at the Boca Town Center in support of the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center.*

### 2025 - 26 COLLEGE OF NURSING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Cameron Duncan - Dean  
Melissa Emerson - Chair  
Rosie Inguanzo-Martin - Vice-Chair  
Marlene Brennen  
Melissa A. Durbin  
Kristine M. Gobbo  
David Kurlander  
Jodi LoDolce  
Kristian Poitier  
Barry Siegel

### Honorary Members

Terry Fedele  
Louis & Anne Green  
Christine E. Lynn  
Holli Rockwell Trubinsky

### Emeritus Members

Margaret Mary Shuff  
Marilyn Lee Swillinger represented by  
Mark Swillinger  
Joan Wargo

### Non-voting Members & Staff

Jillian Baker  
Jeaneen Muller

## Expanding Our Capacity to Care

Every year, alumni, friends and community businesses play a key role in helping the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing provide the very best education, research and practice opportunities through private philanthropy. They fund critical student scholarships, provide professorships for outstanding faculty, renovate our classroom and clinic spaces and help us reach deeper into the community through our clinics. Your gift has a critical impact on our students’ success and the health of the community by helping us educate and graduate more nurses, research areas of critical health concern and provide direct service to the community. Please consider giving today in support of our areas of greatest need:

- **Scholarships: The Nursing General Scholarship supports both undergraduate and graduate students. This eases our students’ financial burden and helps them graduate debt-free.**
- **Simulation: Our students gain valuable hands-on experience in our newly renovated simulation labs. Help offset costs of supplies such as gloves, IV tubing and other limited-use items.**
- **Community Outreach: The college oversees the operations at the Florida Atlantic University/ Northwest Community Health Alliance Community Health Center in West Palm Beach and the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center. Support primary, mental health and memory care to our local community.**

Impactful academic programs, health care delivery and student financial assistance programs not only grow through philanthropy, but those programs often exist because generous, ongoing partnerships keep them viable. Your passion and support of nursing will have a tangible and lasting impact in preparing the next generation of nurses to care for our growing South Florida community and beyond.

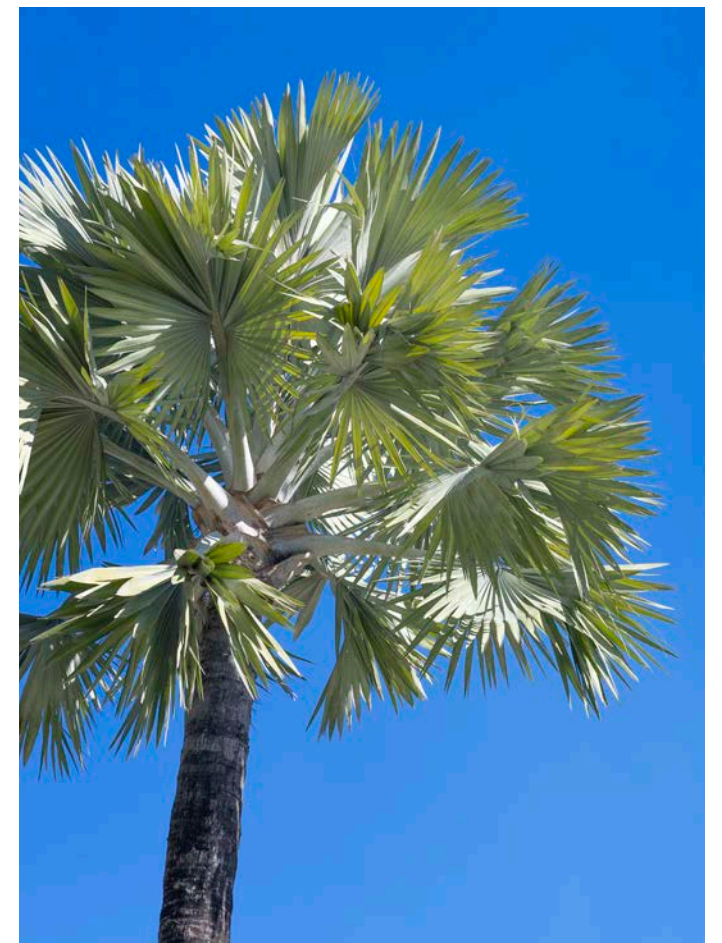
Please make your gift today! Giving is simple and easy. We are always available to answer any questions you may have. For more information, call 561-297-3511.

## Ways to Give

**Online** at [fauf.fau.edu/nursing](http://fauf.fau.edu/nursing)

**By check:** Please make your check payable to the FAU Foundation, Inc./Nursing and designate the purpose “College of Nursing” on the memo line.

Mail to: FAU Foundation, Inc.  
777 Glades Road, ADM 295  
Boca Raton, FL 33431



# 19th Annual 'Keep Memories Alive' Walk Dedicated to Champion of Local Charities

The 19th annual "Keep Memories Alive" Walk-in-the-Mall on Nov. 2, 2025 at the Town Center in Boca Raton was dedicated to the late Debi Feiler, a Caring Hearts Auxiliary Board member and fundraiser. She served as the chairwoman for the Walk held in 2022.

Many supporters from the surrounding community and Florida Atlantic University, including President Adam Hasner, participated in the annual event, which took place under the theme "One Community One Walk."

The Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing team joined several other groups to raise approximately \$85,000 for the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center Adult Day Care scholarships for individuals with memory disorders, caregiver programs and furnishings in the Day Center. ■



CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF NURSING

# Experience caring in action

## Advance Your Nursing Career

Florida Atlantic University's Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing is recognized for its highly-ranked programs by U.S. News & World Report.

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|---|--|



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The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, master's degree program in nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice program and post-graduate APRN certificate program at Florida Atlantic University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. The College is the only one in the U.S. to have all degree programs endorsed by the American Holistic Nursing Credentialing Corporation.



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