

**FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY'S
CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF NURSING**

**ROOTED IN CARING,
RISING IN EXCELLENCE:**

Our Promise





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Eminent Dean

"This document is more than a set of goals. It is our commitment to one another and our community, grounded in who we are and bold about who we are becoming."

ROOTED IN CARING, RISING IN EXCELLENCE:

Our Promise

Dear friends and colleagues,

I am full of pride and energized to share Rooted in Caring, Rising in Excellence: Our Promise.

For more than four decades, this college has been a home for Caring Science: advancing the science, studying its meaning, practicing its art, and living it day to day. That identity is our foundation. As healthcare continues to evolve, our purpose remains clear: to prepare nurses and leaders who practice with heart, think with intention, and lead with courage. Everything in Our Promise grows from that commitment.

The five commitments before us build on one another. We will **empower** a community where every student, faculty, and staff member feels respected, supported, and known. We will **become** the region's destination of choice for nursing education. We will **discover** through bold inquiry, interdisciplinary research, and scholarship that reaches the bedside and the communities we serve. We will **transform** how we work so that our people and our resources are ready for an evolving future. And through it all, we will **lead through caring**, embedding it into everything we do.

I am profoundly proud of what makes this college distinct. In 2026, we became the first Watson Caring Science Institute Lead Academic Affiliate in the nation, strengthening our leadership in Caring Science education and scholarship. Through the internationally recognized Anne Boykin Institute for the Advancement of Caring in Nursing and our community-based care centers – including the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center and the FAU/NCHA Community Health Center, now a federally funded Federally Qualified Health Center – our students learn to care by caring, in service to real people and real communities.

Looking ahead, Florida Atlantic University's planned Health Professions Clinical Training and Research Facility represents a transformative moment. This innovative shared space will unite the College of Nursing, the College of Social Work and Criminal Justice, and the College of Medicine in a bold model of collaboration, learning, and discovery. Our college is proud to be part of this visionary effort, which will expand hands-on clinical training, enhance simulation-based education, support growth in allied health professions, and create powerful interprofessional learning experiences where students develop together across disciplines to meet the complex needs of those they will serve.

To every faculty member, staff colleague, student, alumnus, and community partner who shaped this document, thank you. I have had the privilege of listening to your ideas, learning from your experiences, and witnessing the deep care you bring to this work and to one another. That spirit is the heart of Our Promise. I move forward with great hope and confidence, knowing that together we commit to leading with courage, remain grounded in caring, and shape a strong future for nursing.

Points of Pride

Over the past four decades, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing has graduated more than 9,400 nurses to help address the nursing shortage locally and nationally.

Today, we offer academic programs spanning the full continuum of nursing education, including Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Freshman Direct Admit, Accelerated and RN-to-BSN tracks), Master of Science in Nursing, post-master's certificates, the Doctor of Nursing Practice and the Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing. Our undergraduate and graduate programs are nationally ranked by *U.S. News & World Report*. Students learn on the Boca Raton and Davie campuses, with the college expanding to Florida Atlantic's Jupiter campus beginning in fall 2027.

Modern simulation and clinical learning laboratories on each campus allow students to develop clinical judgment, strengthen critical thinking, practice complex patient-care scenarios and build confidence before caring for patients in hospitals and community settings.

The college serves South Florida through the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center, a State-Designated Memory Disorder Clinic, and the FAU/NCHA Community Health Center, which transitioned in 2026 from a Federally Qualified Health Center Look-Alike to a federally funded Federally Qualified Health Center. These centers connect individuals and families with comprehensive care while giving students hands-on experience guided by the college's caring philosophy.

In U.S. News & World Report's 2026 rankings, the college ranks **No. 60 for Best Nursing Schools: Master's, No. 85 for Best Online Master's in Nursing Programs and No. 86 for Best Nursing Schools: Doctor of Nursing Practice.**

Graduates from the Boca Raton campus achieved a **97.58% NCLEX pass rate in 2026.**

85% of the college's alumni remain in Florida, including 65% who remain in South Florida.

In 2026, new and active grant awards totaled **\$14.8 million**, with **\$4.8 million in grant expenditures.**

College faculty includes **12 nationally recognized fellows: eight Fellows of the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN), three Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP), and one Fellow of the National Academies of Practice (FNAP).**

During the 2025-26 fiscal year, Faculty produced **76 publications**, including journal articles and book chapters.

In 2026, college researchers delivered **14 presentations internationally**, including in Norway, England and Mexico.

The college awarded **347 degrees during the 2025-26 academic year.**

The college's alumni community has grown to **9,450 graduates.**

BEST
ONLINE PROGRAMS

& WORLD REPORT
U.S. News

GRAD NURSING
2026

BEST
GRAD SCHOOLS

& WORLD REPORT
U.S. News

NURSING
MASTER'S DEGREE
2026

BEST
COLLEGES

& WORLD REPORT
U.S. News

NURSING (BSN) PROGRAMS
2025

Mission

The Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing is a leader in advancing Caring Science, studying its meaning, practicing its art, and living caring day to day. The college is committed to excellence in nursing practice, education, research, scholarship and service grounded in caring through the arts, sciences and humanities to improve health globally.

Vision

Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing at Florida Atlantic University envisions a future in healthcare delivery shaped by Caring Science. Through innovative education, transformative research, holistic knowledge, scholarly inquiry and collaborative partnerships, we commit to prepare students to lead with compassion and advance evidence-informed practices that promote health, healing, and wellness worldwide.





VALUES

INTEGRITY

Living in alignment with one's beliefs, values, ethics, and actions in ways that foster trust and authentic relationships.

LOVING KINDNESS

Extending compassionate presence, equanimity, genuine concern for the well-being of oneself and others.

RESPECT

Recognizing and honoring the dignity, perspectives, contributions, and worth of both oneself and others.

TRUST

Believing in another's capacity to grow in their own time and their own way, without controlling the outcome.

COLLABORATION

Working together within nursing and across disciplines and with communities to achieve shared goals.

INNOVATION

Embracing creativity and curiosity to advance nursing knowledge in service to humankind.





OPENNESS

Being receptive, reflective, and willing to share one's perspectives while remaining open to learning from others.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Taking responsibility for our relationships, actions, decisions, and commitments to promote human flourishing.

COMPASSION

Entering another's experience with sensitivity, appreciation, and a shared sense of humanity.

AUTHENTICITY

Leading and engaging with authentic presence, honesty, and veracity.

COURAGE

Acting in alignment with one's values and ethical convictions to address challenges, advocate for others, and drive positive change despite uncertainty or personal risk.

The values of the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing have been informed by the caring frameworks of theorists, including, but not limited to, Anne Boykin, Savina Schoenhofer, Marilyn "Dee" Ray, Simone Roach, Jean Watson, Milton Mayeroff, Rozzano Locsin, and Kristen Swanson.

OUR COMMITMENTS

1. EMPOWER

By 2031, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing will strengthen an environment of empowerment, belonging, and engagement. We commit to fostering a sense of belonging that strengthens our academic community and advances our mission through intentional engagement and shared purpose.

2. BECOME

By 2031, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing will be the top choice nursing school in the region. We commit to supporting every student from admission through graduation, licensure, and entry into professional practice by prioritizing the mental, emotional, and professional well-being of students, faculty, and staff.

3. DISCOVER

By 2031, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing will be the preeminent leader in Caring Science, innovation, research and interdisciplinary collaboration. We commit to leading the future of nursing through bold innovation, rigorous research, and impactful scholarship.

4. TRANSFORM

By 2031, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing will have facilities, innovative technologies and integrated systems that support excellence in education, clinical practice and research. We commit to delivering operational excellence and prioritizing continuous improvement throughout the college.

5. LEAD THROUGH CARING

By 2031, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing will have integrated Caring Science across education, research, practice, leadership, operations and communications. We commit to embedding the principles of Caring Science throughout every aspect of our work and creating a shared foundation that reinforces the importance of nurturing loving kindness in all interactions.



AT A GLANCE

1. EMPOWER

1.1 We commit to nurturing a safe, caring, and inclusive environment across campuses, clinics, and online learning.

1.2 We commit to strengthening two-way engagement and transparent communication, where students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community partners feel connected, informed, and heard.

1.3 We commit to enhancing the learner and employee experience rooted in caring, where every person is known, valued, and empowered to grow.

2. BECOME

2.1 We commit to supporting every student from admission through graduation, licensure and entry into professional practice.

2.2 We commit to expanding nursing programs and developing new programs in allied health professions.

2.3 We commit to building mentorship and workload models that support high-impact teaching and learning.

2.4 We commit to prioritizing the mental, emotional, and professional well-being of students, faculty, and staff.

3. DISCOVER

3.1 We commit to cultivating a dynamic research environment that empowers faculty and students to pursue bold inquiry and scholarly growth.

3.2 We commit to increasing high-impact publications and diversifying external and interdisciplinary funding.

3.3 We commit to advancing the translation of research into clinical practice and health policy.

4. TRANSFORM

4.1 We commit to strengthening our budgeting and forecasting practices and diversifying our revenue streams.

4.2 We commit to investing in facilities, innovative technologies, and integrated systems that support excellence in education, clinical practice, and research.

4.3 We commit to expanding the college's clinical services and community-based care.

4.4 We commit to maintaining modern quality standards and transparent metrics to meet accreditation and regulatory requirements.

5. LEAD THROUGH CARING

5.1 We commit to integrating Caring Science across education, research, practice, leadership, operations, and communications.

5.2 We commit to developing caring competencies in students, faculty, staff, and community partners.

5.3 We commit to modeling relationship-centered communication and recognizing caring behaviors within the college and across our partnerships.

EMPOWER



BY 2031,
CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE
OF NURSING WILL STRENGTHEN
AN ENVIRONMENT OF
EMPOWERMENT, BELONGING,
AND ENGAGEMENT.

WE WILL FOSTER A SENSE OF
BELONGING THAT STRENGTHENS
OUR ACADEMIC COMMUNITY
AND ADVANCES OUR MISSION
THROUGH INTENTIONAL
ENGAGEMENT AND SHARED
PURPOSE.



BUILDING AN ENVIRONMENT OF EMPOWERMENT, BELONGING, AND ENGAGEMENT

1.1 We commit to nurturing a safe, caring and inclusive environment across campuses, clinics and online learning. A caring community is built on people who feel respected, supported, and connected. By investing in belonging and well-being, we commit to improving satisfaction and retention, deepening collaboration across programs and practice settings, and better preparing everyone to lead with resilience and compassion.

1.2 We commit to strengthening two-way engagement and transparent communication, where students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community partners feel connected, informed, and heard. Genuine engagement starts with listening. By creating intentional channels for dialogue, we commit to ensuring that every interaction fosters

meaningful connections, enhances learning experiences, and expands opportunities for mentorship, partnership, and real-world impact.

1.3 We commit to enhancing the learner and employee experience rooted in caring, where every person is known, valued, and empowered to grow. People bring their whole selves to a place that recognizes them as individuals and champions their growth. By attracting high-achieving students, faculty, and staff and nurturing their continued development, we commit to enriching the learner and employee experience at every stage.

*“We want the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing to be the place aspiring nurses across our region look to first – known for the **quality of its education**, the strength of its community and the nurses it prepares. As an Advisory Board, we are **committed** to championing that vision, building connections and helping create opportunities that move the college forward.”*

MELISSA EMERSON, CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF NURSING ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR

BECOME



BY 2031,
CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF
NURSING WILL BECOME THE TOP
CHOICE NURSING SCHOOL IN
THE REGION.

WE WILL SUPPORT EVERY
STUDENT FROM ADMISSION
THROUGH GRADUATION,
LICENSURE, AND ENTRY INTO
PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BY
PRIORITIZING THE MENTAL,
EMOTIONAL, AND PROFESSIONAL
WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS,
FACULTY, AND STAFF.



CULTIVATING STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH FACULTY AND STAFF EXCELLENCE

- 2.1 We commit to supporting every student from admission through graduation, licensure and entry into professional practice. Every student deserves a clear and attainable path to success. By strengthening advising and student support, removing barriers to progression, and broadening access through innovative recruitment and enrollment strategies, we commit to guiding each learner toward strong licensure and certification outcomes and the confidence to thrive as they enter the profession.
- 2.2 We commit to expanding nursing programs and developing new programs in allied health professions. Growing the college's impact begins with elevating the nursing programs our students already trust and creating new opportunities in allied health professions. By responding to workforce demands, expanding enrollment capacity, and enriching our academic offerings, we commit to preparing more graduates to meet evolving healthcare needs with skill and compassion.
- 2.3 We commit to building mentorship and workload models that support high-impact teaching and learning. Our faculty do their best work when they feel valued, mentored, and well resourced. By expanding professional development opportunities and building intentional mentorship and sustainable workload models, we commit to empowering educators to deepen the learning experience and lead innovative research.
- 2.4 We commit to prioritizing the mental, emotional and professional well-being of students, faculty and staff. The well-being of all persons is central to who we are. By nurturing a culture rooted in care, we commit to strengthening resilience, belonging, and engagement across our academic community.

"A nursing college does not become a destination of choice through reputation alone. It earns that distinction in classrooms, clinical settings, and everyday interactions. Our responsibility is to recognize each student's potential, hold them to high standards, and provide the tools they need to become capable, compassionate professionals."

DEAN CAMERON DUNCAN

DISCOVER

**BY 2031,
CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE
OF NURSING WILL BE
THE PREEMINENT LEADER
IN CARING SCIENCE,
INNOVATION, RESEARCH,
AND INTERDISCIPLINARY
COLLABORATION.**

**WE WILL LEAD THE FUTURE
OF NURSING THROUGH BOLD
INNOVATION, RIGOROUS
RESEARCH, AND IMPACTFUL
SCHOLARSHIP.**



ADVANCING INNOVATION, RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP AND DISCOVERY

- 3.1 We commit to cultivating a dynamic research environment that empowers faculty and students to pursue bold inquiry and scholarly growth. Discovery flourishes when curiosity is nurtured and supported at every stage. By strengthening mentorship, expanding scholarly development resources, and providing accessible tools such as grant templates and project repositories, we commit to building the infrastructure that sustains meaningful research and helps faculty and students grow as investigators.
- 3.2 We commit to increasing high-impact publications and diversifying sources of external and interdisciplinary funding. The value of our discoveries lies in the lives and communities they improve. Advancing the rigor, reach and competitiveness of our research and scholarly activity, while deepening our leadership in Florida Atlantic's Office of Interprofessional Education and Practice, will amplify the college's contributions to nursing science and health innovation.
- 3.3 We commit to advancing the translation of research into clinical practice and health policy. New knowledge matters most when it reaches the bedside and shapes the systems that care for people. By partnering with healthcare systems, community organizations, industry leaders, and policymakers, we commit to turning our discoveries into meaningful applications that improve practice and inform health policy.



OUR FOUNDATIONS

Learning Through Service, Caring Through Practice

The Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center and the Florida Atlantic University Northwest Community Health Alliance (FAU/NCHA) Community Health Center expand access to high-quality care for South Florida communities while giving students meaningful, hands-on clinical experience under the guidance of experienced faculty and clinicians.

These clinics bring Caring Science to life, allowing students to apply classroom knowledge in real-world settings, develop clinical judgment, and experience the power of direct, compassionate patient care.

LOUIS AND ANNE GREEN MEMORY AND WELLNESS CENTER

Memory and brain health for older adults and their care partners

- Adult Day Care Center
- Comprehensive memory and wellness evaluations
- Cognition-based driver evaluations
- Neuropsychological testing
- Individual and family counseling
- Care partner education and support

FAU/NCHA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Primary care for children, adults, and older adults at our U.B. Kinsey and Westgate locations

- Family healthcare
- Pediatric care
- Chronic disease management
- Mental health services
- Laboratory services
- Telehealth
- School, sports, and employment physicals

*"Expanding simulation across the Boca Raton and Davie campuses, with the Jupiter campus soon to follow, is an important investment in how we prepare the next generation of nurses. These experiences give students **the space to develop clinical judgment, practice complex care,** and enter the nursing profession with the confidence and skills that lead to better patient outcomes."*

ERIKA YATES, DNP, DIRECTOR OF SIMULATION

TRANSFORM

**BY 2031,
CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE
OF NURSING COMMITS TO
INVESTING IN FACILITIES,
INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES
AND INTEGRATED SYSTEMS
THAT SUPPORT EXCELLENCE IN
EDUCATION, CLINICAL PRACTICE
AND RESEARCH.**

**WE COMMIT TO DELIVERING
OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND
PRIORITIZING CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENT THROUGHOUT
THE COLLEGE.**



- 4.1 We commit to strengthening our budgeting and forecasting practices and diversifying our revenue streams. By managing our resources with discipline and foresight, we commit to building financial stability that sustains growth and long-term excellence.
- 4.2 We commit to investing in facilities, innovative technologies and integrated systems that support excellence in education, clinical practice and research. When the spaces and systems around us support our people, they are free to do work that matters. By creating a learning environment that nurtures well-being and connecting the systems behind our daily work, we commit to equipping students, faculty, staff, and community partners to succeed in a changing healthcare landscape.
- 4.3 We commit to strengthening the college's clinical services and community-based care. Serving others is where our mission comes to life. Through the Louis and Anne Green Memory and Wellness Center and the FAU/NCHA Community Health Center, we commit to expanding access to compassionate care and preparing future nurse leaders who strengthen the health of the communities we serve.
- 4.4 We commit to maintaining modern quality standards and transparent metrics to meet accreditation and regulatory requirements. Accountability is a promise we keep to the students and patients who count on us. By upholding rigorous quality standards and clear, honest practices, we commit to honoring that trust across education, clinical operations, and research.





OUR FOUNDATIONS

Extending the Reach of Caring Science

Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing is home to the Anne Boykin Institute for the Advancement of Caring in Nursing and the Archives of Caring, which preserve the history of caring in nursing and make the work of leading scholars available for research and study.

Guided by the work of Dr. Anne Boykin, this internationally recognized institute advances the college's mission and connects students, faculty, and scholars to a global network devoted to Caring Science.

ADVANCING CARING SCIENCE

Scholarship, education, and practice rooted in caring

- Educational programs across the college
- Interdisciplinary Caring Science research
- Innovation in nursing education and practice
- Integration of Caring Science into leadership

BUILDING CONNECTION

Partnerships that extend the college's influence

- Development of future scholars and leaders
- Faculty development and mentorship
- A global network of Caring Science partners
- Collaborations with healthcare organizations

In 2026, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing became the first Watson Caring Science Institute Lead Academic Affiliate in the nation.

LEAD THROUGH CARING



BY 2031,
CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE
OF NURSING WILL INTEGRATE
CARING SCIENCE ACROSS
EDUCATION, RESEARCH,
PRACTICE, LEADERSHIP,
OPERATIONS AND
COMMUNICATIONS.

WE COMMIT TO EMBEDDING THE
PRINCIPLES OF CARING SCIENCE
THROUGHOUT EVERY ASPECT
OF OUR WORK AND CREATING
A SHARED FOUNDATION THAT
REINFORCES THE IMPORTANCE
OF NURTURING LOVING
KINDNESS IN ALL INTERACTIONS.



- 5.1 We commit to integrating Caring Science across education, research, practice, leadership, operations and communications. Caring Science is the heart of who we are and how we lead. By weaving its principles through every aspect of our work, we commit to creating a shared foundation that reinforces the importance of nurturing loving kindness in all interactions.
- 5.2 We commit to developing caring competencies in students, faculty, staff and community partners. Caring is a practice that can be taught, learned, and strengthened over time. By establishing clear competency standards, integrating meaningful evaluation, and aligning professional development with caring-based outcomes, we commit to setting shared expectations for compassionate practice across every role.
- 5.3 We commit to modeling relationship-centered communication and recognizing caring behaviors within the college and across our partnerships. A caring culture grows when kindness is seen, named, and celebrated. By nurturing relationship-centered communication and honoring acts of care through recognition and shared partnerships, we commit to sustaining a community where caring is our common language.



*"Caring Science has long been the **foundation** of the college and central to our understanding of nursing. It is inspiring to see this commitment continue to deepen as caring informs not only education, practice and research, but also how we lead, work together and engage with our communities."*

**ANNE BOYKIN, PH.D., AND MARLAINE SMITH, PH.D.,
PROFESSORS EMERITAE AND CO-DIRECTORS OF THE ANNE BOYKIN
INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF CARING IN NURSING**



ROOTED IN CARING, RISING IN EXCELLENCE:

Building Our Promise

Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing's Rooted in Caring, Rising in Excellence: *Our Promise* represents months of intentional effort, courageous dialogue, and collective imagination. Through a rigorous, inclusive, and deeply reflective process, we came together to examine who we are, envision who we are becoming, and chart a bold course forward for the future of nursing.

Shaped through collaboration and shared input, this document reflects the voices and visions of our community:

- College leadership provided direction and ensured alignment with the college's mission and vision.
- The college's Advisory Board brought diverse leadership experience to help refine the college's direction.
- Faculty shared expertise in education, research, and practice, helping shape the college's commitments.
- Staff added perspectives that strengthened the document's focus on operational excellence and student experience.
- Students and alumni shared valuable insights on learning, professional development and lifelong engagement.
- Community partners helped ensure the document reflects the evolving needs of healthcare and the communities we serve.
- Preceptors shared frontline perspectives that helped ensure the document reflects the realities of clinical practice and the future of nursing education.
- The Anne Boykin Institute for the Advancement of Caring in Nursing guided the integration of Caring Science principles throughout the development of *Our Promise*.
- Committees and working groups refined the commitments, strategies and measures of success.

Our Promise reflects our shared identity, values, and collective aspirations for the future. It sets a course for advancing nursing education, practice, research, and service through excellence and human connection.



ROOTED IN CARING, RISING IN EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE

Jillian Baker | Director of Development

William Cowling III, Ph.D. | Professor and John Wymer Distinguished Professor in Caring Science

Michelle Ferguson, DNP | Assistant Professor

Javaris Hammond | Director of Student Services

Beth A. Pratt, Ph.D. | Associate Professor

Sarah Snyder, DNP | Assistant Professor

CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF NURSING MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Agrippina Fadel | Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications

Alyssa Ledwon | Student Recruitment and Faculty & Staff Communications Coordinator

Jeaneen Muller | Assistant Director of Alumni Relations and Community Engagement

Gabby Cohen | Hornet Designs

Design: Crystal Bacchus | Art Director, University Communications



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