Congratulations to DNP Graduates, Class of 2016!

May of 2016 marked the graduation date for Northeastern University’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) 6th Cohort. These doctoral students presented their DNP Scholarly Projects at the December 2015 Leadership Symposium held at the Raytheon Amphitheater on Northeastern University’s Boston Campus in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree.

Bouvé College of Health Sciences and School of Nursing leadership and faculty, as well as local hospital nursing leaders, attended graduation.

Mary O'Sullivan, DNP, CRNA, (Cohort 1) is volunteering for a year at Phebe Hospital in Bong County, Liberia. She is helping with the training of Nurse Anesthesia faculty and students. She was joined by Janet Dewan, PhD, MS, CRNA, a DNP Scholarly Project Advisor who spent three weeks there, consulting on and supporting curriculum design, classes, and clinical mentoring. This program is a joint venture between SEED Global Health Partnership and Peace Corps.

DNP Program Director Michelle Beauchesne, DNSc, RN, CPNP, FAAN, FAANP, FNAP presented at the 9th International Council of Nurses (ICN) International Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nursing Network (ICN NP/APNN) Conference in Hong Kong, September 9-11. Michelle presented as Co-Chair of the Council’s subgroup on education which also included Jenny Carryer of New Zealand and Sibongi Sibanda of the United Kingdom and DNP student at Queens University in Belfast, Ireland (bottom picture).

Heather Farmer (Cohort 6) has a poster accepted for the 23rd International Symposium on Current Issues and Controversies in Psychiatry in Barcelona, Spain. Sicilia Montrond (Cohort 6) presented her poster at the Canadian Nursing Education Conference in Toronto, Canada, and Yasmin Noel (Cohort 6) had her poster accepted at the Sigma Theta Tau International European Conference 2016 in Utrecht, Netherlands.

Special thanks to Kyra Noel and Brienne Leary for creating this newsletter.
### Congratulations 2016 DNP Graduates!
#### Cohort 6 DNP Scholarly Project Titles

| **Georgia Agganis**, DNP, RN, CPNP | Preventing Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) in Adolescence: A Quality Improvement Project to Determine if Adolescent Females with the Long Acting Contraceptive Nexplanon Continue with Condom Use |
| **Pooja Bhalla**, DNP, RN | Development of an Urban Leadership Development Seminar Series for Emerging Nurse Leaders at Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program (BHCHP) |
| **Jennifer Bragdon**, DNP, MTS, RN, CNOR, CPN | Current Nursing Pressure ulcer Prevention Practice and Risk Factors of Pressure Ulcer Development in the Perioperative Environment |
| **Mary Bronski**, DNP, RN | A State Wide Web-Based Survey of the Characteristics and Demographics of Residential Care Facility Residents in Massachusetts |
| **Debra Burke**, DNP, MBA, RN | Characteristics of Nurse Directors that Contribute to High Registered Nurse Satisfaction Scores |
| **Carlene Byfield**, DNP, RN | Strengthening Professional Resilience in Post Licensure Nurses Who Care for Children with Special Health Care Needs and Complex Medical Conditions |
| **Immacula Cann**, DNP, RN-BC | Assessing for Presenteeism and Interest in "One Body" Stress Reduction Fitness Program in a Healthcare Setting |
| **Julie Cronin**, DNP, RN, OCN | Implementing and Evaluating a COMFORT Communication in Palliative Care Curriculum for Oncology Nurses |
| **Heather Farmer**, DNP, RN, PMHNP-BC | Evaluating Provider Response to the Proposed Addition of the Specifier "With Psychopathic Features" to the Diagnosis of Antisocial Personality Disorder |
| **Kandree E. Hicks**, DNP, MPS, APRN, NP-C | Curriculum Design in Postgraduate Education and Training (PGET) Programs for Primary Care Nurse Practitioners: A Multiple Program Analysis |
| **Theresa Lesniak**, DNP, PMHNP-BC | Assessing Primary Care Nurse Practitioner’s Perceptions in Screening for Depression and Suicidality: An Educational Pilot Study |
| **Terra Mangum**, DNP, ARNP, FNP-BC | Parental Perceptions of Adolescent Preventive Health Care: A Community Quality Improvement Project |
| **Leah McKinnon-Howe**, DNP, APRN-BC | Identifying Knowledge Gaps in Clinicians Who Evaluate and Treat Vocal Performing Artists in College Health Settings |
| **Anne M. Mingolelli**, DNP, PMHNP-BC, APRN-BC | Analysis of Current Practice for Re-Entry to School Following Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitalization |
| **Christina Mitchell**, DNP, RN, CPNP-PC/AC | Pediatric Primary Care Mental Health Evaluation of Adolescents |
| **Nina Mitchell**, DNP, RN, PMHNP-BC, ANP-BC | The Implementation of an Electronic Health Record in Behavioral Health: An Analysis of the Patient Story |
| **Sicilia Montrond**, DNP, RN, CDN | The Past, Present and Future of Nurse Residency Programs: A Program Analysis |
| **Yasmin Noel**, DNP, FNP-BC | A Web-Based Survey Exploring the Perceived Impact of International Immersion Experiences (IIE) on Graduate Nursing Students |
| **Jessica Ochs**, DNP, APRN, ANP-BC | Developing, Delivering, and Evaluating an Innovative Pedagogy for Teaching Transcultural Nursing |
| **Caitlin O'Connell**, APRN, ANP | Midwifery Management of Pregnant Women Who are Obese |
| **Kathy Prairie**, DNP, RN, FNP, CCRN | A Quality Improvement Project Focused on Reducing Nuisance Ventilator Alarms in a Surgical and Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit |
| **Margaret Reither**, DNP, CNM | Midwifery Management of Pregnant Women Who are Obese |
| **Mark Schierenbeck**, DNP, MHS, ARNP, CRNA | Inter-rater Reliability and Usability of a New and Innovative Student Registered Nurse Anesthetist Clinical Performance Evaluation Instrument |
| **Donald Van Dam**, DNP, CRNA, LTC (Retired Army) | Peripheral Nerve Blockade Outcomes in an Ambulatory Care Center |

*Degree to be conferred January 2017*
Selected Student Podium & Poster Acceptances & Presentations

Agganis, G., DNP Cohort 6
Preventing Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIS) in Adolescence: A Quality Improvement Project to Determine if Adolescent Females with the Long-Acting Contraceptive Nexplanon Continue with Condom Use. Poster Presentation at Northeast Regional Nurse Practitioner Conference: May 6, 2016 (Pictured bottom row, far right)

Bhalla, P., DNP Cohort 6
Developing Emerging Nurse Leaders at a Health Care for the Homeless Program: A Pilot Education Intervention. Poster Presentation at the Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference, Baltimore, MD: October 5-7, 2016 (Pictured 2nd row, middle)

Bragdon, J., DNP Cohort 6

Bronsiki, M., DNP Cohort 6
Massachusetts Rest Homes: Who Are They Caring For? Poster Presentation at the Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference, Baltimore, MD: October 5-7, 2016 (Pictured 2nd row, far right)

Burke, D., DNP Cohort 6

Byfield, C., DNP Cohort 6
Strengthening Professional Resilience in Post Licensure Nurses Who Care for Children with Special Health Care Needs and Complex Medical Conditions. Poster Presentation at the Ninth Evidence-Based Practice on the Frontline: Building a Culture of Quality, Safety and Nursing Professionalism, Columbia, MO: April 14, 2016

Cann, I., DNP Cohort 6

Cronin, J., DNP Cohort 6
Implementing and Evaluating a Comfort Communication in Palliative Care Curriculum for Oncology Nurses. Massachusetts General Hospital Nurses’ Week, Boston, MA: May 2016

Farmer, H., DNP Cohort 6

Hicks, K., DNP Cohort 6
Describing Curriculums Across Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Postgraduate Education and Training Programs. Poster Presentation at The 6th Annual Nursing Research Symposium at Montefiore Hospital, Bronx, NY: September 2016 (Pictured 2nd row, far left)

Lesniak, T., DNP Cohort 6
Assessing Primary Care Nurse Practitioners’ Perceptions in Screening for Depression & Suicidality: An Educational Pilot Study. Poster Presentation at the National Nurse Practitioner Symposium, July 7-10: Keystone, CO. (Pictured 3rd row, far left)

McKinnon-Howe, L. DNP Cohort 6

Mingolelli, A., DNP Cohort 6

Mitchell, C., DNP Cohort 6
Pediatric Primary Care Mental Health Evaluation of Adolescents. Poster Presentation at The National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, Atlanta, GA: March 16-19, 2016

Montrond, S., DNP Cohort 6

Noel, Y., DNP Class of 2016
Leadership in Nursing Scholarship, Practice, and Education: How to Impact Nursing as a Caring Profession Globally. Accepted as a poster presentation at STTI European Conference, Utrecht, Netherlands: June 6-8, 2016

Ochs, J., DNP Cohort 6
Evaluating an innovative pedagogy for teaching transcultural nursing in an online format. Poster and Podium Presentation at Sigma Theta Tau International/National League for Nursing Education Research Conference, Washington DC: April 7-9 2016, and at the Annual Christine Cameron Symposium on Evidence-Based Practice and Quality Care, Woburn, MA: May 13, 2016
Ann Stadtler, DNP, RN, CPNP (Cohort 2, DNP Advisory Board Co-Chair) received the 2016 Loretta Ford Award in recognition of her lifetime contributions to the care of children and families. (Pictured top left with Cathy Haut DNP, RN, CPNP, ACNP, NAPNAP)

Jillian Belmon (Cohort 6) received the “Levine Nursing Continuing Education Award” from the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Office of Professional Nursing which provides her with $1500 for a continuing education conference of her choice.

Ethan Paul Schuler (Cohort 7) was awarded the 2016 Inquiry Investment Drives Evidence into Action (IDEA) Grant for his research proposal Evaluation of an Evidence-based Practice Mentorship Program in a Pediatric Tertiary Care Setting.

Kathy Prairie’s (Cohort 6) poster received honorable mention in the patient safety category at Albany Medical Center.

After presenting at the AANA, Donald Van Dam’s (Cohort 6) framework will be adapted and used in the CDNA Schoolhouse to track outcomes.

Jenny Gormley (Cohort 8) received the National Association of School Nurses Recognition Award 2016 for her role as Massachusetts Data Champion for the Step Up and Be Counted national school health data collection project. (Pictured below, in blue jacket on the right)

Christina Mitchell (Cohort 6) received the Blue Ribbon for Best Poster in Adolescent Care at NAPNAP (Pictured below on the left)

Pooja Bhalla (Cohort 6) has a fellowship with the UCLA Health Care Executive Program.

Julie Cronin (Cohort 6) was elected as one of the Directors of the American Nurses Association of Massachusetts Board.

Cheryl Nimmo (Cohort 4) became president of the Arthroscopy Association of North America, an organization of over 50,000 members, for the years 2016-2017.

Kathy Prairie (Cohort 6) accepted a position as ACNO at Nantucket Cottage Hospital.

Mary Samost (Cohort 2, DNP Advisory Board Co-Chair) is now Chief Nursing Officer at Curalehealth Hospital, Boston – North Shore.

Brienne Leary (former DNP Program Graduate Assistant) graduated August 2016 and successfully completed her Pediatric Primary Care Certification.

Dorothy Mullane (Cohort 3) is now Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at The Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth.

O’Connell, C., DNP Cohort 6
Opioid & Sedative Weaning in Pediatric Congenital Heart Disease Patients. Boston Children’s Hospital Nurses Week, Boston, MA: April 2016

Prairie, K., DNP Cohort 6
Reducing Nuisance Ventilator Alarms in a Surgical and Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit. Poster Presentation at the New York State Nurse Executive and Leader Conference, Tarrytown, NY: April 10-12, 2016

Schierenbeck, M. DNP Cohort 6

Van Dam, D., DNP Cohort 6
An Evaluation of Peripheral Nerve Blockade Outcomes in an Ambulatory Care Center: Establishing a Center of Excellence for Regional Anesthesia Podium & Poster Presentation at the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Washington, DC: 2016 (Pictured on p. 3, top row, from left to right: Expert Mentor John Mayer and Donald Van Dam)

Due to space limitations, only selected presentations are listed here. Many students have multiple accomplishments and this list is not meant to be exhaustive nor fully represent of their achievements; rather it is a representation of their success as nursing leaders.

AWARDS

Jillian Belmont (Cohort 6) received the “Levine Nursing Continuing Education Award” from the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Office of Professional Nursing which provides her with $1500 for a continuing education conference of her choice.

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Debra Burke received Best Original Research Poster at Massachusetts General Hospital Nursing Research Day (Pictured left, in the middle)
From Left to Right: Kandree Hicks and her husband eloped shortly after May 2016 graduation. Tess Lesniak said “Yes!” to proposal at graduation. DNP & PhD Administrative Coordinator, Alice Szczepaniak (Murphy), married Kacper Szczepaniak on July 30, 2016. Alexis Schmid (Cohort 7) became Alexis Fogel, September 2016.

This June, Caitlin O’Connell (Cohort 6) and her husband welcomed two twin boys William “Will” Hunter O’Connell 6lbs 4oz and Henry Brooks O’Connell 5lbs 11oz. (Pictured Top Left)

Jillian Belmont (Cohort 7) and her husband welcomed a baby boy named Vincent Belmont born this spring, joining his two older brothers Joseph age 3, and Nicholas age 2. (Pictured Bottom Left)

Jessica Ochs (Cohort 6) and her husband welcomed a new addition to the family – Noah born at 7lbs 12oz.

Mark Schierenbeck (Cohort 6) became the proud grandfather of Jude Reinhard Schierenbeck. (Pictured Top Right)

Georgia Agganis (Cohort 6) and her husband welcomed baby Arthur on April 8, 2016. (Pictured Bottom Right)

Students Kathy Hassey (Cohort 8) and Jenny Gormley (Cohort 8), Directors of the Northeastern University School Health Academy, developed and provided a School Nurse Summer Academy for 142 Registered Nurses in Hyannis, MA, August 17th-18th. Topics included Vision Disorders and Learning Issues, Revolutionary Change Management for School Nurses, SBIRT Planning and Implementation, Diabetes Care Support for Students, Teaching Health in the Classroom, Dermatology, Zika Impact, Working with English Language Learners, LGBTQ Student Safety and Data Collection and Analysis.

DNP Alumna Nancy Dirubbo (Cohort 5) presented at Northeastern University’s Nurse Entrepreneurs: Leaders in Healthcare Innovation Networking and Panel Discussion. Nancy is the founder of both Travel Health of New Hampshire and Laconia Woman’s Health Center.
Are you or someone you know interested in the DNP Program at Northeastern University?

Send them our way! Interested applicants should send an email to Alice Szczepaniak, a.szczepaniak@northeastern.edu. Please visit our website for more information including sample curriculums and a copy of our Frequently Asked Questions at http://www.northeastern.edu/bouve/nursing/programs/doctor-nursing-practice/