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President's message



Welcome! We are reestablishing the AAHN Bulletin after a long hiatus. We hope that you will find each issue an informative and entertaining way of staying connected with AAHN. We have planned several regular features in the Bulletin including coverage of conferences and meetings, member interviews, spotlights on historic nurses, and other updates for members. In addition to these, we welcome member input and contributions. On page four, you will find contact information for any items you'd like to submit.

In this issue, we are bringing highlights from our 39th annual Nursing and Healthcare History conference. It was great to see everyone in person again and Lexington, Kentucky proved to be an excellent location for our meeting. In addition to a number of inspiring presentations, we were happy to present several awards. The winner of the H-15 grant was Michelle C. Hehman, PhD, RN. The winners of the H-31 grants were Ren Capucuo and LeNie Adolphson. The winner of the President's Award was Donna Curry, PhD, RN. Congratulations to these talented AAHN members!

Three research awards have also been announced. Hafeeza Anchrum, PhD, MSN, RN received the Christy Award, Susan Grant, PhD, received the Dock Award, and Lydia Wytenbroek, PhD received the Nutting Award. We look forward to seeing their important contributions to nursing history research.

We hope that you will enjoy the Bulletin and will consider contributing to it in the future.

Sincerely,

Annemarie McAllister

President, AAHN



Attendees enjoy the AAHN 39th annual meeting in Lexington, Kentucky.

39th Annual Conference in Lexington, Kentucky

AAHN members were in for a treat at our first face to face conference in several years. Highlights included keynote speaker Dr. Melanie Beals Goan, a number of great presentations by members, a wonderful reception, a very successful silent auction, and many other activities. It was wonderful to be able to network in person. Many thanks to immediate past president Melissa Sherrod and Vice President Donna Curry for all of their efforts to make this program a success. Here are a few photos of our activities. Florence Nightingale's owl even made an appearance.



2021 AACN Essentials Highlight Expectation for Knowledge of Nursing History

By Liz Rogan

We have entered a new era in nursing and, as an historian at heart, I couldn't be happier!

Until last year, 2021, nursing education as a whole did not identify the history of nursing as essential, by which I mean the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) had not included the history of nursing within any of their Essentials documents (e.g., baccalaureate, master's, etc.).

But now, the light has dawned and the history of nursing is prominently displayed in one of the new domains within the 2021 Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education. The contextual statement from AACN (2021) relevant to the history of nursing is, "the lens of nursing, informed by nursing history, knowledge and science, reflects nursing's desire to incorporate multiple perspectives into nursing practice, leading to nursing's unique way of knowing and caring" (p. 27). Prior to this inclusion of the history of nursing, the Essentials reflected nursing theory and knowledge or science which, naturally, includes historical aspects of those topics, but now it is there in black and white for all to see: The history of nursing is essential nursing education at all levels.

The new Essentials reflect a shift in the paradigm within which nursing education has taken place in these many years. We have seen shifts from content-based curricula to concept-based curricula. Now we are challenged to revise our curricula (at all levels) to reflect a competency-based curriculum. There are 10 domains and eight concepts within these new Essentials which extend over or through all levels of nursing education. Within those domains, the AACN has provided competencies that cover both entry-level (i.e., pre-licensure) and advanced-level (i.e., graduate level) nursing education. The advanced-level sub-competencies build on the entry-level sub-competencies which we can use to revise and/or create learning activities that will allow us to assess our students' ability to meet these competencies and sub-competencies. After all, we do not need to reinvent the wheel!

The domain in which the Essentials include the history of nursing is Domain 1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice, in which there are three competencies with sub-competencies within or under each. The competency of concern for us, as nurse historians, is 1.1: "Demonstrate an understanding of the discipline of nursing's distinct perspective and where shared perspectives exist with other disciplines" (AACN, 2021, p. 27). Beneath that competency is sub-competency 1.1g: "Integrate an understanding of nursing history in advancing nursing's influence in healthcare" (AACN, 2021, p. 27).

I don't know about you, but my antennae are already a-quiver! Any time I can put my students in the way of learning about the history of nursing, I do so.

I've been mulling the implications of this new paradigm (i.e., competency-based learning) combined with the addition of the history of nursing. How can we, in our graduate nursing program, provide students with opportunities to dig into the history of their current and future professions? (And how do we convince them that these are not just busy work or fluffy assignments?)

I look forward to the challenge and the opportunity the new Essentials offers relative to integrating the history of nursing into our curriculum. I'm not sure where we'll end up and whether the getting there will be pretty, but it will absolutely be an adventure!

References

American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). (2021). The essentials: Core competencies

for professional nursing education. Author. <https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/AcademicNursing/pdf/Essentials-2021.pdf>

Member profile: Liz Rogan

In this first interview, I have interviewed... myself (Liz Rogan). While not new to AAHN, I am probably one of the least known members and so I thought I would provide an opportunity for you to get to know me.

Future interviews will be with other members at all levels of the organization. If you would like to be interviewed, give me a shout: lizrogan.edd.rn.cne@gmail.com.

How did you come to join AAHN?

Well, it was during the last semester of my BSN program. I think I actually misspelled AACN—the critical care AACN—while typing a search and found, to my surprise, and delight, that there was an organization dedicated to the history of nursing. Having come to nursing with a BA and MA in history, I figured this was karma trying to let me in on something great.

What kind of work have you done relative to the history of nursing?

While teaching in a BSN program, I convinced my boss to let me develop a 2-credit elective course related to nursing history and I'll admit here in these pages: We used many of the Nursing History Review articles as readings in that course. The course covered the history of nursing from about the 1600s through the present day with a pretty serious focus on military nursing.

Which nurses are most memorable to you from that course?

Mary Seacole. That woman is/was amazing! I am about to utter heresy: I believe Seacole contributed more to the spirit of nursing than Nightingale did, pie charts notwithstanding. Seacole was out on the battlefields tending the lives of the men; she made do with the barest of supplies. For me, she more than deserves a statue in London.

Anyone else?

Some of the nurses who served during World War 2, such as Vivien Bulwinkle. My nursing research students read an article about nursing so-called care at the Ravensbrück internment camp during a module about ethics in research. They're usually gob-smacked by the horrific actions of nurses during those times.

Do you have any plans to conduct research related to the history of nursing?

I would love to dig through the archives in Mexico, both in Mexico City and Vera Cruz, to see what nursing was like in the early 1800s. I wrote my MA thesis about the contention between the merchant guild (consulado) and viceroy. The latter kept sending unseasoned soldiers to defend Vera Cruz, the key to the kingdom. These soldiers would contract malaria and yellow fever and be either down for the count or dead. The merchants wanted an army that wouldn't succumb. Where there is disease, there are hospitals, and where there are hospitals, there are nurses. Plus, digging through musty old archives is really fun!

If there was one thing you would like your students to know about the history of nursing, what would it be?

I suppose it would be that one can never know too much about where one's profession has come. We think we know why we wanted to become nurses and what we think nursing is, but the reality is that it usually turns out to be something far greater than we could imagine.

Editors: Kim Curry, Joy Pieper, Liz Rogan. Please let Kim know if you have items to contribute: akimbelcurry@outlook.com

Contact Liz if you'd like to participate in our member interviews: lizrogan.edd.rn.cne@gmail.com

NURSE HERO OF THE MONTH

Aleda E. Lutz
Born 11.9.1915



U.S. ARMY

Aleda enlisted in 1942 and served in the 802nd Airborne Medical Evacuation Squadron during WWII.



AERIAL NURSE

She logged 814 hours caring for more than 3,500 patients that she transported from the front lines to hospitals.

BRAVERY

"Lutz" was known for flying in dangerous weather and battlefield conditions, periods when people saw her perform her best. She was the first American woman to die in the war when her plane crashed in France on her 196th mission.



LEGACY

Aleda is the second-highest decorated woman in the history of the military. A hospital ship and the Saginaw VA Medical Center were named after her..

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING SITES:

[HTTPS://WWW.NATIONALMUSEUM.AF.MIL/VISIT/MUSEUM-EXHIBITS/FACT-SHEETS/DISPLAY/ARTICLE/195820/1ST-LT-ALEDA-E-LUTZ/](https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/visit/museum-exhibits/fact-sheets/display/article/195820/1st-lt-aleda-e-lutz/)

[HTTPS://WWW.MILITARYVETHALLOFHONOR.ORG/2020/LUTZ.HTML](https://www.militaryvethallofhonor.org/2020/lutz.html)

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