New role for Founding Dean Heather M. Young

After launching and leading the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis for 10 years, Founding Dean Heather M. Young steps down as dean and plans to contribute to the school in a new way. Young leaves her post in July and will turn her focus to research that aligns with her interests in family caregiving and healthy aging for older adults.

Young joined UC Davis in 2008, after the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation announced its $100 million commitment to launch a nursing school on the UC Davis Sacramento campus. Over the past decade, Young led the establishment of five graduate-degree programs, cultivated a faculty numbering more than 28, launched a research program with more than $12 million in funding, oversaw the design and construction of the 70,000-square-foot Betty Irene Moore Hall and celebrated a ranking among the top 25 percent of all master’s-degree nursing programs in the country the first year it was eligible for consideration. She also has served as UC Davis associate vice chancellor for nursing since 2008.

Harvey Fineberg, foundation president, said Dean Young’s “legacy will have positive reverberations long into the future.”

U.S. News & World Report names the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis among the nation’s best for master’s-degree nursing programs in the 2019 U.S. News & World Report Best Graduate Schools. The publication ranked the UC Davis School of Nursing’s master’s-degree leadership program as 46th, tied with three other programs. Since the first class entered in 2010, there are now 146 alumni who work in all major health care systems in Northern California and beyond.

HAPPY NURSES WEEK! In May, we honor the dedication and expertise of nurses everywhere. At this time, I encourage you to celebrate yourself if you are a nurse, thank a nurse who has cared for you or a family member, as well as recognize the role all members bring to the care team to elevate health.

I came to UC Davis 10 years ago for the opportunity of a lifetime – to launch the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing. I’m grateful that you have walked this journey with me. From national and community partners who have provided wisdom and encouragement, to our alumni who live out our school’s impact every day, to our students who engage and inspire me, to our donors whose investment propels our shared vision to new heights, I thank you.

The belief that the leaders at UC Davis and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation placed in me one decade ago sparked the most exciting and exhilarating experience of my life. Our school has a strong foundation, a beautiful new building and
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT PROFILE: ROMEO RIVERA

 Appreciation in action

During his final year in nursing school, Romeo Rivera participated in a simulation training project conducted by a master’s degree leadership student at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis. Three years later, he prepares to graduate from the program with a new perspective of his profession and himself. “This experience has taught me how to see things both in a more detail-oriented perspective and the bigger picture to get a more comprehensive view of what’s going on,” Rivera says. “I know I’m coming out prepared to be a better nurse, a better educator and to be a better person.”

As a medical telemetry nurse, graduate education was always on his radar, but the financial commitment loomed. Thanks to generous School of Nursing donors, he received his first-ever scholarship, the Sandy Smoley Endowed Award. “I think people don’t realize how big of an impact it is when you give. This philanthropy has been life-changing,” Rivera adds. “I really want to show them not just by my words, but by the things I do in health care and education that I appreciate so much the support they’ve given.”

For his thesis, Rivera explored innovative use of simulation in master’s-degree nursing programs. It was a continuation of the research that first led him to the School of Nursing. Next month, he will graduate with the hopes of furthering his impact on future generations of nursing students. “It’s not just a small ripple when you toss a rock into this pond and give to students like me,” Rivera explains. “These ripples extend outward and get stronger. Because of the support, I’ve been able to do things I never imagined and make a difference in ways I once only imagined.”

DONOR PROFILE: Jerry and Misara Bambao

“TOGETHER WE WILL SUCCEED.” That phrase is etched on a metal plaque outside Room 1145 in Betty Irene Moore Hall. Above it are the names of Jerry and Misara Bambao, an alumnus and current student, who chose to invest in the success of future students at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis through naming the study space. “You’re never really alone in this journey. Whether it’s your education or in your professional career, the team effort is very important,” says Misara, who currently wraps up her first year in the master’s-degree leadership program. “We all come from different perspectives, backgrounds, cultures and experiences. But despite those differences, we can all excel and succeed together.”

The Bambaos credit the School of Nursing with shaping the new, global view of health care they have working as registered nurses at UC Davis Medical Center. Both recipients of scholarship support, their donation of a named space — one of several in the School of Nursing building — pays it forward for others who want to lead in health care. “I never thought I’d be in a position to do something like this. I walk into work and see the names of those who contributed to UC Davis Health never thinking it was possible for me, too,” says Jerry, a master’s-degree leadership alumnus from the Class of 2017. “It’s awesome to see students using the writable walls. We want to share this investment with others and be an example for our children. We always talk about how important education is and the importance of investing in your future. We want to show them we put our money where our mouths are.”

The Bambaos say the oldest of their four children is already talking about college. They want him to recognize the value of education and the importance of supporting others in their quest of graduate school. “I’m honored that others invested in me and I feel the need to give back,” Misara says. “I’ve had my share of obstacles in life when financial resources were lacking. Supporting the school like this helps complete the circle.”

A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN A DECADE

Sallie-Grace Tate, Assistant Dean for Advancement

10 YEARS AGO, the world was just learning to use that new invention called the iPhone. Barack Obama was elected the first black president of the United States and the government had to bail out the financial sector to save the economy. While mobile apps and the stock market captured much of the attention, a visionary took a chance on a new school with a new approach to how health care should be taught, researched and practiced. When Heather M. Young came to UC Davis as the founding dean of the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing, there was no official school, yet. Reimagined graduate nursing education did not exist in the Sacramento region. But she blazed this time is still here with us, in a new capacity as a devoted researcher grappling with the issues faced by family caregivers and our aging population. A lot can happen in a decade. I can’t wait to see how our School of Nursing family will continue to thrive, innovate and enrich the health of everyone.
Advancing | Alumni News

School’s First New Nurses Head to Work
Less Than Three Months after finishing coursework, a handful of alumni from the inaugural class of the Master’s Entry Program in Nursing landed jobs as registered nurses. For those now employed as new nurses, the reality is a dream come true.

“I interviewed for a position before I had my licensing exam results back, so I could be ready. Once I knew I had passed and was a registered nurse officially, I was in the nursing residency program at UC Davis within two weeks,” says Brooke-Ashley Cook, a Class of 2018 alumna. “It almost hasn’t sunk in. To finally have my license and to be working in the unit I’ve dreamt of for 10 years is surreal.”

Cook makes the transition from the role of student to professional nurse for the next 12 months in the neonatal intensive care unit. Working alongside her is Alana Matarazzo, a former classmate at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis. “Doing my patient care today and seeing my name on the computer screen with the R.N. behind it is a big deal,” Matarazzo says. “I feel like the school gave me a good foundation to build on. I have all the tools necessary to be a master’s-prepared new nurse.”

Matarazzo and Cook are among five graduates from the UC Davis program now working at UC Davis Medical Center. As of April, more than two-thirds of their class of 24 have passed the licensing exam and are in various stages of applying for jobs.

“I really feel like this is exactly where I was meant to be,” Cook says. “I knew it from the minute I read the vision, mission and admissions requirements to the School of Nursing. Now it’s even more evident as I start my first job. I am so blessed.”

Alumni Present at WIN
More Than Two Dozen Alumni, Faculty and Students from the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis presented their scholarly work at the Western Institute of Nursing 51st Annual Communicating Nursing Research Conference in Spokane, Washington, in April. From examining outcomes of family caregivers and using social media for research, to exploring diabetes in California’s agricultural workers and linking childhood food scarcity to cognitive decline in older Hispanics, the symposium presentations and poster sessions demonstrate real impact in the world of health.

This conference illustrates how our alumni live out our mission to transform health care through bold systems change, from both the experiences of individuals and the challenges that impede quality and safety at a health-systems level,” says Terri Harvath, executive associate dean.

Robin Whitney, a 2016 doctoral alumna, won the 2018 WIN Best Gerontology Practice Presentation for her abstract “Associations of Medical or Nursing Task Performance and Family Caregiver Outcomes.” Her classmates Sally Moyo, Bronwyn Fields and Amy Doray also presented, along with Deborah Greenwood and Sheriden Miyamoto, graduates of the inaugural doctoral Class of 2014.

 Thoughts from Graduates
How has the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing equipped you to be a better nurse?

“I feel very fortunate to have been a student at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing. I am a better nurse practitioner, because our training was alongside physician assistant students and a good mix of medical and nursing principles. That impacts the way that I provide safe, research-based, comprehensive health care for our veterans.”

SANDRA CALDERON, MASTER’S-DEGREE NURSES PRACTITIONER, CLASS OF 2015

“AT THE BETTY IRENE MOORE SCHOOL OF NURSING at UC Davis, I learned the importance of not only good communication and teamwork, but also the need to be highly flexible in order to meet emerging challenges and needs of patients. The school’s emphasis on leadership is phenomenal and second to none.”

JERRY BURTON, MASTER’S-DEGREE LEADERSHIP, CLASS OF 2015

TaketheSchoolofNursingAlumniSurvey

Upcoming Events

JUNE 8: Academic Symposium, Betty Irene Moore Hall, UC Davis Sacramento campus.

JUNE 14: Graduation Celebration, Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts, UC Davis campus.

Look For Your Email
May 7 inviting you to complete the alumni 2018 survey by May 19.

The school uses the survey data to continue to improve its programs and understand alumni impact in health care and education.

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RESEARCH PROFILE:
Family Caregiving Institute hosts summit to map out research priorities

THE FAMILY CAREGIVING INSTITUTE at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis brought together more than 50 national and international experts in family caregiving at a two-day summit March 22-23 designed to map out research priorities in the field. The Research Priorities in Caregiving Summit: Advancing Family-Centered Care across the Trajectory of Serious Illness identified research priorities so that investment by funders yields the greatest impact. The action agenda they developed emphasizes interventions that incorporate multicultural approaches and the use of technology to optimize care for a person with serious illness.

“The number of older adults living with chronic disease, functional decline and serious illness is growing exponentially at a time when availability of both family and professional caregivers is strained. Achieving optimal outcomes for this vulnerable population involves advancing the knowledge needed to improve the quality of care delivered by families, health professionals and community programs. A variety of disciplines were represented in the conversation, including nursing, medicine, social gerontology and computer technology. The research priorities focus on four main areas:

- Trajectory of Family Caregiving
- Technology in Caregiving
- Unique Needs of Family Caregiver Populations
- Heterogeneity of Family Caregiving

Funded through a grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the goal of the Family Caregiving Institute is to advance research, education and policy to support caregivers in the demands that impact their mental, physical and financial health, and threaten their quality of life. Coupled with School of Nursing faculty who have expertise in aging, technology and family caregiving, it puts the school in a good position to be a broker of this very important conversation.

NEW FACULTY ADDITIONS
THE BETTY IRENE MOORE SCHOOL OF NURSING AT UC DAVIS welcomed Jeffrey Pearl to the faculty team in March. Pearl, a physician, serves as a visiting professor with an emphasis in teaching primary health care. He also serves as interim program director for the physician assistant program. Charleen Singh, David Grega and Gordon Worley also joined the school in April as health sciences clinical professors for the physician assistant, family nurse practitioner and nursing programs.

Three additional faculty are expected to join in May and June as part of the Family Caregiving Institute. They bring expertise in the science of gerontology and family caregiving, as well as leadership attributes and communication skills to successfully implement the goals of the institute, and to nurture and sustain innovative partnerships.
“I’m too busy.”
“I don’t know where I’ll find time.”
“It’s too expensive.”

A lot of nurses say these things when they talk about pursuing a graduate degree. It’s stressful to think about how to fit graduate school into an already busy schedule. But it’s not as hard as you think and now is the best time!

Did you know that nearly 100% of the graduate nursing students at the Betty Irene Moore School of Nursing at UC Davis are working nurses? And all of them received generous financial support.

Combine your passion for patient care with your desire to lead the changes in health care we urgently need. See what UC Davis can do for you.

“Engage with us.
Together, we build a strong foundation and bright futures.

Visit nursing.ucdavis.edu/giving
Prefer to receive email updates? Drop a line to hs-BettyIreneMooreSON@ucdavis.edu.

UC DAVIS
BETTY IRENE MOORE SCHOOL OF NURSING

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BY THE NUMBERS
• 302 current students
• 271 alumni
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• 90+ community partners and collaborators
• 250+ clinical sites for student rotations

Learn more at nursing.ucdavis.edu