We believe that diversity is an essential component of achieving academic excellence and reducing health disparities. Nurses and other health professionals in the United States are caring for a progressively more diverse patient population, and we are committed to our students being exceptionally competent in providing care for all of the world’s people.

Bernadette Melnyk, PhD, RN, CPNP/PMHNP, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN
Dean and Professor, College of Nursing
University Chief Wellness Officer

Nursing Students Championing Diversity

Nursing Students Promoting Initiatives to Reinforce Equality (NSPIRE) provides educational and volunteer opportunities to promote health equity. Its recent 5K event raised $10,000 for NSPIRE’s community health initiatives.

Nurses of Character (NOC) offers professional development and personal support to racial, ethnic and cultural minorities. NOC also supports pre-nursing students through social events, peer mentoring and engagement with faculty, staff and current students.

Buckeye Assembly for Men in Nursing (BAMN) fosters community and professional support for men in nursing. BAMN hosts social events and opportunities to participate in national conferences.

Student Ambassadors aid in outreach and recruitment of a diverse student pipeline. Student Ambassadors share their passion for Buckeye nursing by participating in panels, guiding campus tours and leading hands-on activities.

Promoting Leadership and Achievement in Nursing (PLAN) is a peer mentoring program which facilitates professional development and social support for students from historically underrepresented backgrounds (Black/African American, Native American, Asian, Hispanic, male and first generation students). Any interested student is welcome to apply.

Study Abroad Opportunities

Students in the College of Nursing have several exciting opportunities to travel as part of their education. The study abroad program exposes students to concepts of international health care.

Students gain exposure to a healthcare system different to that of the United States, learn the healthcare needs of people in a foreign country and strengthen their ability to communicate and care for patients of different cultures. They learn to provide nursing care, including health promotion and disease prevention, and gain skills and experiences they will be able to apply to immigrant health care delivery.

The college currently has study abroad programs in Ethiopia, Nicaragua and Honduras.

Interested in exploring nursing at Ohio State? We would love to hear from you!

Jen Robb, MPA, MA
Program Manager, robb.48@osu.edu

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Diversity Associate, roush.136@osu.edu

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING
A CHAMPION FOR DIVERSITY IN HEALTH SCIENCES

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Dean and Professor, College of Nursing
Associate Vice President for Health Promotion
University Chief Wellness Officer
The Ohio State University College of Nursing is committed to ensuring a positive, nurturing and safe environment by respecting the diversity of individuals’ identities, backgrounds and points of view.

We view “diversity” as the variety of differences and similarities among people, which, among other things, may include gender, race/ethnicity, age, culture, language, nationality, different abilities, sexual orientation, religion and other ideologies.

At Ohio State, we believe that diversity requires moving beyond simple tolerance to respecting and embracing differences in a safe, positive and nurturing environment.

How we support these ideas

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion hosts frequent recruitment events with high school and college aged students that aim to increase the number of historically underrepresented populations in nursing, such as Black/African American, Native American, Asian, Hispanic and male. This way, we can better serve the nursing profession as well as the nation’s health.

Participants in these events receive information about nursing careers, participate in nursing skills labs, tour our Technology Learning Complex with lifelike patient simulators, learn about nutrition and wellness, explore opportunities and research in global health, and interact with nursing faculty, staff and students. We conduct visits to area high schools, participate in career fairs, and conduct interdisciplinary recruitment programs on the Ohio State campus for students to explore health science careers.

The College of Nursing is committed to community outreach. We host diverse groups of elementary and middle school students to engage in hands-on activities and explore careers in nursing and health sciences. Our nursing students provide academic support and after-school programs to youth along with foot clinics and mom and baby classes for community members experiencing homelessness.

Our College of Nursing Diversity Committee designs programs to enrich our environment. Students, faculty and staff may all participate in these activities:

- Welcome Reception
- Ask Anything Panel
- Faculty Forum
- Book Discussion
- Recognition Reception
- The Ohio State University Open Doors Anti-Bias Training
- Film discussions, ethics panels and social events
- Idea sharing with international scholars
- Climate assessment for faculty, staff and students

About The Ohio State University College of Nursing

- Program founded: 1914
- Total students: 1,950 (Autumn 2014)
- Total faculty: 125
- Total staff: 78
- N-CLEX pass rate: BSN—94%
- Graduate Entry—92%
- Degrees offered: BSN, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, MS, Master of Applied Clinical and Preclinical Research, PhD, DNP
- Dean: Bernadette Mazurek Melnyk, PhD, RN, CPNP/PMHNP, FNAP, FAAN was named the first chief wellness officer of a US university
- Ohio’s top-ranked public nursing program

**Spotlight: Summer Institute for Diversity in Nursing**

This program is a great way for students to see how nursing could be right for them. Held on the campus of The Ohio State University each summer, high school juniors and seniors and incoming Ohio State freshmen from across the nation get four days of hands-on nursing experience. They are equipped with scrubs, a stethoscope, a blood pressure cuff and Ohio State gear. They attend lectures, skills labs and ACT preparation, as well as take tours of our labs, The James Cancer Hospital and The Ohio State University campus. Highlights include visiting an anatomy lab, interacting with lifelike patient simulators and using state-of-the-art nursing tools to experience what it’s really like to be a nursing student.

For more information on this program, please contact Josh Roush at roush.136@osu.edu.

“Creating a safe and welcoming environment is an active, consistent commitment. We recognize that our diverse backgrounds, identities and viewpoints strengthen our learning environment and our ability to provide patient care.”

Jen Robb, MPA, MA
Program Manager, Office of Diversity and Inclusion

“This day I realized that I wanted to become a nurse.”

—SIDN student participant

“In Buckeye Nation, we are dreaming big and teaching our students to fuel their dreams, innovate and take risks.”

Bernadette Mazurek Melnyk, PhD, RN, CPNP/PMHNP, FNAP, FAAN
Associate Vice President for Health Promotion
University Chief Wellness Officer
Dean, College of Nursing