

NURSING

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Transforming patient care through professional practice

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A newsletter
from the office
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Chief Nursing
Officer

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APRN GRAND ROUNDS KICKS OFF SEASON

About 200 people gathered in Light Hall on Jan. 21 for the kickoff of the 2020 series of Advanced Practice Grand Rounds, a monthly educational series organized by the Vanderbilt University Medical Center Office of Advanced Practice.

The session featured a keynote address by Capt. James Dickens, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) and branch chief for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Dickens, a board-certified family nurse practitioner with more than 30 years of experience in the federal health care system, gave the presentation "Impact of Diverse, Unified, Interprofessional Teams to Achieve Highly Reliable Care."

Dickens spoke about multiple notable medical deployments to far-flung parts of the world, including Afghanistan, Northern Mariana Islands in the South Pacific and Liberia in West Africa.

In the latter country, Dickens was part of a response team to the Ebola outbreak that was gripping that region of Africa five years ago. He described how it was essential that the interprofessional team worked together — health care workers, representatives of multiple federal agencies and local officials — because everyone's health depended on it.

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Advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants are a crucial part of the fabric of Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Many of these remarkable individuals throughout our organization were in the same room for the APRN Grand Rounds kickoff.

I encourage you to read about the event and attend one of the upcoming monthly events in this great series. More details are inside.

In this issue, we recognize a group of nurse leaders — Kate Copeland, Teresa

Hobt-Bingham and Patti Runyon. Please read more about these great colleagues.

I also encourage you learn about how to leave comments for the ACME certification process for VUSN's Nurse Midwife program.

Lastly, details of our Certified Nurses Day group photo are inside. Please prepare to join us.

Enjoy this issue,

“When I was in Liberia, everything that we did with our Ebola patients was very intentional,” he said. “There was nothing that wasn’t rehearsed or orchestrated when we went in with an EVD (Ebola virus disease) patient who was active.”

Dickens described working in 100-degree heat wearing protective gear that covered every inch of his body.

“This was the biggest, most interprofessional team that I worked with in my career,” he said.

“They were the most diverse team.”

Dickens imparted advice to the gathered crowd of advanced practice professionals.

“Whatever group you’re in, expect to be one of the leaders,” he said. “You’re a go-to person. That’s why you’re there.”

There are more than 1,200 advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician assistants (PAs) practicing at VUMC.

In addition to PA colleagues, APRN roles encompass Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse



Capt. James Dickens, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, of the United States Public Health Service and branch chief for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, delivered the keynote address.



Kim Sandler, MD, second from right, received the Advanced Practice Ambassador Award. With her are, from left, Jessica Walker, DNP, APRN, Alexis Paulson, MSN, APRN, and Amanda Dickert, CRNA.

Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives and Clinical Nurse Specialists. All practitioners are educated in nationally accredited programs, clinically trained and board certified in their area of practice.

This year’s Grand Rounds theme is “promoting inclusion and unity among diverse inter-professional team members to provide the highest quality

and accessible health care,” said April Kapu, DNP, RN, ACNP-BC, associate nursing officer for VUMC Advanced Practice and director of the Office of Advanced Practice.

During the kickoff session, the 2020 Advanced Practice Ambassador Award was presented to Kim Sandler, MD, assistant professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences and assistant director of the Vanderbilt Lung Screening Program. The award honors non-advanced practice nurses for their contributions to the profession.

The next Advanced Practice Grand Rounds presentation, “Implementing a Targeted Trauma NP Rounding and Paging Strategy to Improve Efficiency, Patient Safety and Job Satisfaction,” will be held from noon to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 18, in 512 Light Hall.

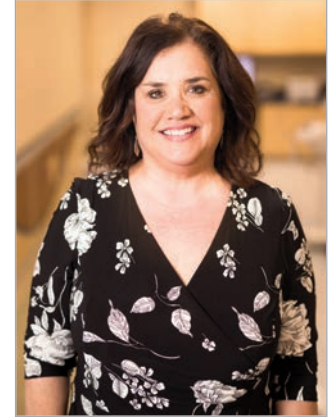
For more information about the VUMC Office of Advanced Practice, go to <https://www.vumc.org/nursingngoap/>

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WITH VUMC NURSE LEADERS

Kate Copeland, MSN, RN, NEA-BC

Position: Administrative Director, Emergency Services
Work area: Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt



How long have you been a nurse leader at Vanderbilt? I began my career in August 1991 and began my first leadership position as an Assistant Manager in the Peds ED in 2007.

What is your favorite aspect of being a nurse leader? Coaching and mentoring new nurse leaders. I enjoy learning from them as well!

What is your No. 1 piece of advice for nurses? Nursing is one of the most rewarding jobs with abundant opportunities. Always keep learning and growing so you are ready for new opportunities and to reach your professional goals.

What do you do for fun when you're not at work? Spending time with my new grandson and traveling to Austin, Texas, to see him and my daughter and son-in-law. I love the Nashville Predators!



Teresa Hobt-Bingham, MSN, RN, NE-BC

Position: Administrative Director, Nursing
Work area: Vanderbilt University Adult Hospital

How long have you been a nurse leader at Vanderbilt? I started at Vanderbilt as a staff nurse on the Trauma Unit in August 2000. I became a charge nurse about 1 ½ years later. I transitioned into an assistant manager role on the day of the 2010 flood.

What is your favorite aspect of being a nurse leader? Helping other nurses reach their potential. We have such talent here at Vanderbilt, being a part of a system that respects, honors and transforms new leaders is very exciting.

What is your No. 1 piece of advice for nurses? My advice for nurses would be never forget to connect your "role to your soul." My sweet chaplain friend Mary Beth Duke taught me that phrase. Reflect on why you became a nurse. What is it that drives you to want to care for people in this way?

What do you do for fun when you're not at work? Fun for me is functional exercise. I love lifting weights! It keeps me healthy and active and makes me feel powerful. I also love to hike and kayak with my girls.

Patti Runyon, MBA, BSN, RN, NEA-BC
Position: Administrative Director, Nursing
Work area: Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt



How long have you been a nurse leader at Vanderbilt? Since December 2019.

What is your favorite aspect of being a nurse leader? The expansive opportunities it offers to work on matters that have significance, with really engaged colleagues. To those of us in nursing, it's all part of the job. But when I compare stories with my three sisters, who are all in other industries, they are always humbled by the impact nurses have in people's lives every day through our work.

What is your No. 1 piece of advice for nurses? To stay engaged. Like breathing, your level of involvement will expand and shrink over the course of your career, but we each have unique talents to contribute that make us stronger as a profession. This is an exciting time to be a nurse and to lean in and participate.

What do you do for fun when you're not at work? I am entering my last year of my DNP program which involves starting my translational research project. The little spare time I have right now I spend with my four 100-pound, four-legged children, walking and checking out our new neighborhood and dog-friendly fun in Nashville.

VUSN Nurse midwifery program seeks third party comments for ACME accreditation

The nurse-midwifery education program at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing is scheduled to be reviewed by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) Board of Review (BOR) for continuing accreditation March 31-April 2.

Please email any written third party comments to hmaurer@acnm.org or mail to ACME at 8403 Colesville Rd., Suite 1550, Silver Spring, MD by February 28, 2020. In all instances, your comments must directly relate to the continuing accreditation of this program

and the ACME Criteria for Programmatic Accreditation (Revised 12/2019). Please cite the particular criterion of concern in your comments. The criteria can be found online at [Criteria for Programmatic Accreditation](#).

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE CERTIFIED NURSES DAY GROUP PHOTO

Certified Vanderbilt nurses are invited to appear in the annual Certified Nurses Day Group Photo on Wednesday, March 11 in Light Hall 208. Please arrive between 7:30 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. to allow for positioning. The photo will be taken precisely at 7:45 a.m. Please note: Doors will not open until 7:30 a.m.

If you are unavailable to attend the group photo, you may submit photos of Certified Nurses from your unit/area (group photos preferred) with names and credentials to nursealerts@vumc.org no later than Friday, March 6.

For publication purposes, please include the following

for everybody pictured:

- Correct spelling of first and last name with credentials
- Job Title
- Work Area

Certification is the formal recognition of specialized knowledge, skills and experience demonstrated by the achievement of standards identified by a nursing specialty to promote optimal health outcomes. After meeting defined eligibility criteria, a certification candidate achieves a nationally-recognized credential through successful completion of a rigorous examination.