MESSAGE FROM DR. RATCHNEEWAN ROSS

Hello, Everyone.

Last year’s mild winter has nourished a gentle spring, germinating exquisite blooming flowers—likewise, our international accomplishments have been cultivated by our blossoming, talented, and hardworking students, staff, and faculty. We hope you enjoy our newsletter and rest well this summer. See you in the fall for another productive and fun semester!

Best Wishes,

Ratchneewan Ross, Ph.D., RN, Associate Professor
Director, Ph.D. Program
Director, International Initiatives
College of Nursing, Kent State University
E-mail: rross1@kent.edu

MOBILE LIBRARY FUND FOR AFRICA

Sigma Theta Tau International Delta Xi Chapter Student Leadership Interns Elan Caruso (right) and Alyssa Wenger are working to sponsor a Nursing Mobile Library through the International Council of Nurses.

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STTI NURSING RESEARCH CONGRESS

Jo Dowell, Ph.D., RN, CRNP, FNP-BC, CFNE, and Sureeporn Suwannaosod, Ph.D., RN, will be attending the Sigma Theta Tau International 27th International Nursing Research Congress this summer in Cape Town, South Africa.

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MOBILE LIBRARY FUND FOR AFRICA

Sigma Theta Tau International Delta Xi Chapter Student Leadership interns, Elan Caruso and Alyssa Wenger, are working to sponsor a Nursing Mobile Library through the International Council of Nurses.

“Alyssa and I were able to study abroad in Geneva, Switzerland, through the College of Nursing. While there, we learned about the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and their Nursing Mobile Library project,” Caruso said.

A Nursing Mobile Library is a transportable trunk that is weather-resistant, and is not susceptible to insects or hard knocks while moving. These trunks house more than 90 new books filled with up-to-date information covering many different healthcare topics. The libraries, which are customized to meet the destination’s needs, are mostly distributed to remote clinics, health centers, and refugee camps in rural Africa.

“The ICN donates Nursing Mobile Libraries to aid in the training of new nurses in remote regions,” said Caruso. “Each trunk costs $3,000. Alyssa and I decided to use our passion for global health to raise money towards a mobile library.”

Nursing Mobile Libraries have become a source of empowerment for nurses in countries that are less fortunate than the United States. It has given these nurses the opportunity to learn, share and teach others, and improve the health of their communities.

Click here to donate to the Nursing Mobile Library fund

SPRING INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Photos courtesy of Wimonthip Phuangkhem and Dr. Ratchneewan Ross

CHUTARAT AKKARAWONGVISIT’S FAREWELL PARTY

A farewell party for Dr. Chutarat Akkarawongvisit was held in early February at an Asian restaurant in Cuyahoga Falls. Attendees included her host family and close friends.

Dr. Akkarawongvisit has studied at the College of Nursing for nearly 6 years. She returned to Thailand on Thursday, February 18.

INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK

Over 40 students and their families, faculty and staff enjoyed the spring International Potluck Dinner. Participants enjoyed networking, playing games and sampling fried rice, U.S. vegetable soup, Korean dishes, baked rice and vegetables, and pizza! A raffle prize drawing was held - 20 individuals won Kent State merchandise, toys and stationary.

Mark your calendars and join us for the fall 2016 International Pizza Party on Monday, August 29.
BACKGROUND:
I am from Irbid, Jordan. My wife, Nour Alshannaq, and I have two daughters, Salma and Lena. I enjoy playing and watching soccer.

EDUCATION:
I finished my bachelor’s degree in 2007 from Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan. I attended Kent State University and received my master’s in Psychiatric Mental Health in 2012.

RESEARCH AREA:
My research area is mental health treatment adherence. My dissertation title is: “Predictors of Partial Hospitalization Attendance by U.S. Adults with Mental Illness.”

RECENT POSITION:
I am a research assistant within the College of Nursing.

Why did you choose Kent State University?
A Jordanian friend who was pursuing his MSN degree at Kent State strongly recommended the university. I decided to pursue my degree at Kent State College of Nursing because it is highly reputable and is one of the best nursing programs in Ohio. I was drawn to the high-level of safety at the university and the city of Kent. Also, because the university is located within a small city, I felt that made it a good fit for students such as myself.

What have you liked best about the College of Nursing?
I really appreciate the hospitality and endless support I receive from the faculty and staff. The College of Nursing feels like my second home.
Jo Dowell, Ph.D., RN, CRNP, FNP-BC, CFNE, and Sureeporn Suwannaosod, Ph.D.c, RN, will be attending the Sigma Theta Tau International 27th International Nursing Research Congress July 21-25, in Cape Town, South Africa.

Dr. Dowell will be presenting “Conceptualizing cultural weaving to decrease health disparities: What are the culture characteristics of a community organization?”

“This will be my second time attending,” Dr. Dowell said. “I enjoy coming together with nursing researchers, students, clinicians and leaders to learn from evidence-based research presentations from around the world.”

Sureeporn will be presenting her abstract “Quality of Life in Adolescents and Very Young Adults with Cancer: The State of the Science.”

While in South Africa, Dr. Dowell and Sureeporn plan to visit the Red Cross War Memorial Children’s Hospital & Allergy Clinic along with the Western Cape School of Nursing.

Sureeporn Suwannaosod, Ph.D.c, RN, defended her dissertation proposal “A Structural Equation Modeling of Spiritual Well-Being, and Health-Related Quality of Life among Thai Adolescents with Cancer” on Monday, February 29, 2016. Her chairperson is Ratchneewan Ross, Ph.D., RN.

Jehad A. Rababah, Ph.D., RN, defended his dissertation “Examining the Effects of a Tai Chi Intervention on Psychosocial Consequences of Driving Cessation among Older Adults” on Tuesday, May 24. His chairperson is Barbara L. Drew, Ph.D., RN, PMHCNS-BC.

Soon Young Ha, Ph.D.c, RN, defended her dissertation proposal “A model for falls with major injury in nursing home residents” on Thursday, May 19. Her chairperson is Patricia Vermeersch Ph.D., CNP.

Wanchana Sachai shows off her certification of completion with Dr. Patricia Vermeersch at Spring Graduate Convocation. Wanchana graduated in May with her master’s from the Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner program.

“Thank you to everyone in the College of Nursing. I did it!”