Recently I was asked what makes our nursing school unique. After giving it some thought, I replied that for a small school, we are developing a rather large global footprint.

The international partnerships we have established provide our faculty and students greater personal and professional growth along with an increased awareness of global nursing issues. Our partners include the National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences in Taipei, Taiwan; the Taiwan Nurse Practitioners Association; The Dayeh University, Taiwan; Colombia Adventist University, Medellin, Colombia; Centre de Formation Pour Les Secteurs Infirmier, Brussels, Belgium; Hadassah University School of Nursing, Tel Aviv, Israel; Bharathi Vidyapeeth University, Pune, India; and the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. We look forward to identifying additional sites in the months ahead and further cultivating our existing relationships.

This summer, our faculty and I will be speaking at a number of conferences. In July, Zelda Suzan, EdD, MA, RN-CNE, Associate Professor, will present at the International Council of Nurses 2019 conference in Singapore on “Increasing Student Knowledge of Maternal and Family Practice.” This conference brings together thousands of nurses to explore the many ways in which they work to achieve universal access to care, not only by providing it directly, but also by addressing the social determinants of health, such as education, gender equality, and poverty. Carleen Graham, MSN, RN, SAFE, Assistant Dean for Baccalaureate Programs, and Joana Velasquez, MS, RN, CNOR, AAS Program Director and Associate Professor, will be presenting at the Sigma Theta Tau 30th International Nursing Research Congress in Canada in July on “Debriefing the Debriefer: How to Debrief Interprofessional Simulation.”

Also in July, I have been asked to be a member of the Oxford International Round Table on Health, Nutrition, and Aging at the University of Oxford, Harris Manchester College, in Oxford, England. This esteemed group is composed of 25 pre-eminent scholars, chosen to represent their respective topical areas based on their internationally recognized expertise. In October, I will serve as the keynote speaker and a member of the Scientific Committee at “The International Conference on Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing” (IPN 2019) in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The objective of this year’s Nursing Conference is to reinforce the “Interdisciplinary Approach for Innovation and Invention in Nursing Science Research.”

Closer to home, PSON was recently selected as one of 250 schools of nursing nationally to implement the End of Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) undergraduate curriculum, an online curriculum designed specifically for nursing students. The online curriculum meets the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Competencies and Recommendations for Educating Undergraduate Nursing Students (CARES) to prepare nurses to care for the seriously ill and their families. We introduced this curriculum in summer 2019.

I am so proud of our professors and the inspiring work they are doing on behalf of nursing education. I look forward to another productive year ahead. Best wishes for a happy and safe summer.

Sincerely,

Todd F. Ambrosia, DNP, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, FNAP
Dean
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