



**Glen Taylor Nursing
Institute for Family and Society**
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025





A Note From Our Director

This past academic year has been one of steady growth, meaningful collaboration, and deepened impact. Now in our second year working alongside our advisory board, we've benefited from their thoughtful guidance as we continue to explore ways to maximize the influence of the Glen Taylor Institute for Family and Society. Their support has helped ensure that our work remains relevant, responsive, and grounded in our mission to advance family and societal nursing.

One of our most exciting developments this year was the introduction of the affiliate faculty and community partner roles. These positions recognize individuals and organizations whose work aligns with our mission and who actively contribute to shaping the future of family and societal nursing. We are especially proud to welcome the Minnesota VA Homes as one of our newest community partners.

International collaboration also remained a strong priority. We were honored to host visiting professor Dr. Sandy Richardson from New Zealand, whose work with our students and faculty enriched our collective understanding of family nursing and contributed to scholarly advancement across our programs.

Additionally, we welcomed two new Becky Taylor Fellows, offered more than a dozen scholarships to support student success, and awarded dissemination grants to ten faculty members publishing in the field of family and societal nursing. The institute also played a key role in the selection process for our incoming cohorts of FNP and SNP students, ensuring a continued focus on excellence and impact.

These are just a few highlights from a full and productive year. As we look ahead to the 2025–2026 academic year, our theme, "Planting the Seeds of Family and Societal Nursing," will guide our work. We remain committed to supporting initiatives that promote innovation in nursing education, strengthen clinical practice, and enhance the well-being of families and communities.

Thank you for being part of this ongoing journey.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hans-Peter de Ruiter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hans-Peter de Ruiter RN, PhD
Director, Glen Taylor Nursing Institute for Family and Society

Our Mission

The mission of The Glen Taylor Nursing Institute for Family and Society is to focus on innovative nursing practice knowledge that influences the health and healing of families and society, and to provide leadership and expertise in family and society health related issues.

Strategic Areas of Focus



Teaching & Education



Research & Scholarship



Interdisciplinary & Global Partnerships



Community Engagement & Practice



2024-2025

GTNI at a Glance

From international partnerships to conference representation, these numbers reflect GTNI's reach and impact across during the 24/25 academic year.



\$35,250

In scholarships awarded to 13 students including language partners, Becky Taylor Fellows, and dissemination funds for students presenting and publishing work focused on family and societal health



14 Affiliate Faculty Added

Affiliate faculty bring specialized expertise that strengthens GTNI's research, teaching, and community engagement efforts.



8 Faculty at IFNA 17

GTNI faculty had a strong representation at the 17th annual IFNA conference in Perth in June



13 International Connections & Exchanges

Students and faculty connected at home and abroad with INFA and non IFNA institutions in Belgium, the Netherlands, Austria, and Japan

Research & Scholarship

The Institute supported multiple research and dissemination efforts over the course of the 2024-2025 academic year.

- Dr. Stacey Van Gelderen received a Dissemination Award for her international research on simulation in nursing education.
- Dr. Louisa Krueger's article Collaborative International Nursing Writing Group: A Non-Patriarchal Approach, published in Creative Nursing (2024), was co-authored with colleagues from MSU, New Zealand, Japan, South Africa, Spain, and Austria.
- Dr. Ellen Vorbeck co-authored a state-of-the-art review in the International Journal of Palliative Nursing examining the state of community-based palliative care in rural southern Minnesota and across the U.S.
- Dr. Laura Schwarz and Dr. Nancyruth Leibold co-authored two chapters in the newly released second edition of Population Health and Its Integration into Advanced Nursing Practice (DEStech Publications, 2024), contributing meaningful insights into culturally congruent care and family-focused strategies in advanced nursing.
- Abigail Simek, a GTNI Becky Taylor Fellow published an article in Medsurg Nursing that offers essential insights for nurses supporting families through the end-of-life process.
- Dr. Sarah Ogilvie re-published a study focuses on the burden associated with type 1 diabetes on school-aged youth and families.



WEBINAR

GTNI-affiliated faculty participated in the International Family Nursing Writing Group: A Collaborative Approach Beyond Patriarchy webinar, which showcased the benefits of global, non-hierarchical writing groups in advancing family nursing scholarship. The session emphasized international mentoring, shared power in research, and the role of writing groups in promoting inclusive, cross-cultural academic growth.



Faculty Research Spotlight

Dr. Stacey Van Gelderen
Dissemination Award Recipient

Dr. Van Gelderen received a Dissemination Award for her international research on simulation in nursing education.

“When nursing and midwifery education was disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, simulation stepped in to fill the gap.”

Research Shared on Social Media

GTNI amplified research insights throughout the year via its Monday “Research Post” series on LinkedIn and Facebook.

- A literature review on the effects of family nursing interventions on caregiver burden
- A feature on the use of simulation to build empathy in nursing students
- A spotlight on adolescent mental health interventions in rural communities led by affiliate faculty
- Ongoing dissemination of GTNI-led global collaboration projects in writing groups and publication pipelines



Taylor Nursing Institute for Family and Society

140 followers • 10 following



Lynn Kuechle • 1st

Coordinator at Glen Taylor Nursing Institute for Family and Society

★ Admin • Admin • 1mo •

A new state-of-the-art review co-authored by Ellen Vorbeck, explores the past, present, and future of palliative care services (PCS) in rural communities with a focus on southern Minnesota and rural areas across the U.S.

The review reinforces the long-recognized benefits of PCS while highlighting ongoing barriers such as limited service provision, funding, and provider shortages. The takeaway: access to palliative care in rural communities remains deeply unequal, and addressing these gaps is critical to improving outcomes and quality of life.

Vorbeck, E., Abbott-Anderson, K., Reed, A., & Mondejar-Pont, M. (2024). A state-of-the-art review: Rural community palliative care services. *International Journal of Palliative Nursing*, 30(10), 524–533. <https://lnkd.in/gYKNSaVY>

#GTNI #PalliativeCare #RuralHealth #HealthEquity #NursingResearch #MSUMankato #FamilyNursing #EndOfLifeCare #HealthcareAccess

These posts helped translate academic work into community-facing narratives that elevated GTNI's visibility and made research more accessible.

Community Engagement & Practice

The Institute continues to deepen collaborations with community partners through hands-on nursing and public engagement at home and abroad.

Collaborations with clinical partners continued and grew throughout the 2024-2025 academic year.

- Madelia Community-Based Collaborative (MCBC)
- Ecumen
- VA Nursing Homes
- MyPlace, Mankato
- Health Commons at the Pond
- NicBlu Cares - Compassionate Community

The Intitute served as an event sponsor for MyPlace, Mankato's annual Block Party fundraiser.

New collaboration with Walgreens for a COVID and flu event in October.

Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) Involvement

In August 2024, GTNI members attended the Society for the Study of Social Problems' Annual Meeting in Montreal.

The theme of the meeting was "Toward a Society of Violence." Members made new and reconnected with old contacts in the Institutional Ethnography section. Hans was elected co-chair and is helping to plan sessions and a workshop at the 2025 meeting in Chicago.



Health Commons at the Pond

Health Commons at Pond, GTNI's flagship clinical partnership with Bloomington Public Schools, had a standout year. The clinic received a Gold Rating from the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics for the second consecutive year and passed the MnVFC audit with zero areas for improvement.

- \$115,000 in vaccine inventory managed
- 915 visits through October 10, 2024 (43% increase over 2023)
- 350+ additional vaccines administered at community events

Vaccination event at The Pond, October 2024



MyPlace Block Party Sponsor

As an event sponsor, the Institute joined with dozens of local organizations, families, and students for an evening of celebration in support of Mankato's youth! Events like this remind us of the community's importance in supporting family and societal health beyond the clinical setting.



13 Affiliate Faculty Named This Year

Affiliate faculty of the Glen Taylor Nursing Institute contribute to advancing research, education, and clinical initiatives aligned with family and societal nursing. These individuals demonstrate an ongoing commitment to GTNI's strategic goals through scholarship, teaching, and practice.

- Rachel Schickling
- Sabrina Ehmke
- Stacey Van Gelderen
- Alison Gulden
- Shantelle Smith
- Allyson Hopperstad
- Nancyruth Leibold
- Marilyn Swan
- Angela Christian
- Daniel Moen
- Sarah Ogilvie
- Elizabeth Coleman
- Jason A. Kaufman

Communications & Web



The Institute strengthened its digital presence through a focused social media strategy built around consistency and clarity.

- Posts were shared three times per week across LinkedIn and Facebook, organized into three themes: research highlights, affiliate faculty features, and GTNI initiatives and news.
- The Institute also launched a presence on BlueSky, expanding reach to new audiences.
- Articles are regularly posted to The Fountain internal communication channel for MSU faculty and staff, as well as the news section of the GTNI website.

This communications work directly supports our strategic goal of growing visibility across platforms.

Teaching & Education

GTNI continued to expand its global and interdisciplinary learning opportunities in 2024-2025 through student exchange, international collaboration, and innovative curriculum design.

GTNI deepened its global academic connections this year through ongoing collaboration with Dr. Sandra Richardson, a New Zealand-based researcher and longtime member of the International Writing Group. Her expertise shaped student learning and public scholarship in two key events:

- Dr. Richardson, presented a talk titled: "Resilience in Crisis: Learning Through Stories to Transform Healthcare Challenges into Opportunities" as part of the **Drs. Narciso and Luth Tenorio**

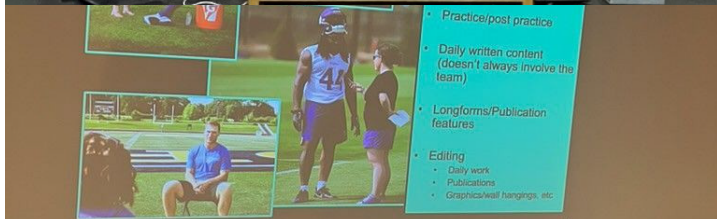
Research Lectureship series.

- Students in **Communication and Media 400: Digital Storytelling in Healthcare** presented powerful digital stories exploring nurse-on-nurse bullying. Their stories were created with insights from Dr. Richardson.



Dr. Sandra Richardson

Resilience in Crisis: Learning Through Stories to Transform Healthcare Challenges into Opportunities



Family Nursing Focus in the Classroom

Eric Meittunen, Deputy Commissioner of Healthcare at the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs spoke to MSU nursing students about the realities of serving in wars, returning home, and life as a veteran.

Lindsey Young, Minnesota Vikings Writer & Editor, spoke to nursing students in the Families in Crisis course. Drawing from personal experience and professional advocacy, she highlighted the profound impact of mental health on individuals, families, and society.

Global Partnerships

Expansion of International University Network



Dr. Itoko Tobita from Osaka Medical and Pharmaceutical University (OMPU) visited partner institutions in Salzburg and St. Pölten, Austria, to deepen collaboration and share insights.

This collaboration is a direct result of the International University Network established by the Glen Taylor Institute. Dr. Tobita is helping expand those relationships, connecting our international partners in new ways.

Doreen Devoy-Hulgan's Journey in the RN to BSN Study Abroad Program

Minnesota State University, Mankato's Study Abroad Office and the Glen Taylor Nursing Institute for Family and Society have pioneered the Online RN to BSN Global Nursing Program in partnership with Osaka Medical and Pharmaceutical University (OMPU). This program immerses nursing students, like inaugural participant Doreen Devoy-Hulgan, in Japanese healthcare and culture. Doreen's transformative experience in Japan, including interactions with elderly patients and Japanese healthcare providers, underscored the importance of compassionate, culturally informed care.

Aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this initiative supports Good Health and Well-Being, Quality Education, and Partnerships for the Goals, addressing global healthcare disparities while fostering cross-cultural understanding. The program not only enhances students' clinical skills but also builds a network of globally minded healthcare professionals ready to tackle universal health challenges. Doreen's experience exemplifies the program's impact on shaping culturally competent, globally aware nurses prepared for a connected world.

Global Partnerships

Kansai Medical University Partnership

GTNI partnered with the Center for English Language Programs (CELP) and the School of Nursing to welcome 10 nursing students and two faculty from Kansai Medical University

(KMU) in Osaka, Japan. The two-week program included English language instruction, simulation-based training, clinical observation, and cultural immersion through local homestays. The exchange deepened cross-cultural collaboration and expanded global learning opportunities for both KMU and MSU students.

Austrian Development Agency Connection



GTNI director, Dr. Hans-Peter de Ruiter was honored to meet with Evelyn Koch, Program Director at the Austrian Development Agency, to explore opportunities for integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Global Citizenship Education into nursing curricula. The conversation reinforced GTNI's commitment to preparing students for practice in a globally connected and socially responsible healthcare landscape.

Collaborative Online Experience

COIL is going strong through the CRISIIS project, connecting students across continents to explore family crisis, cultural context, and healthcare systems. This virtual exchange builds empathy, cultural competence, and global citizenship—no passport required.

CRISIIS Module Statistics 2024/2025

Number of:	Universities	Countries	Student Groups
Fall '24	8	7	156
Spring '25	11	8	156

GTNI at IFNC17



In July, members traveled to Perth, Australia, for IFNC17, the **premier conference presented by the International Family Nursing Association**. The Institute served as a gold sponsor and was recognized throughout the conference, including being featured in an ad in the program. GTNI members were able to connect with many conference attendees at our booth. Director Hans-Peter de Ruiter was elected to a one year term on the board of directors. The theme of the conference was Promoting Family Strengths in Globally Challenging Times.

Workshop

- Family Strengths Focused, Evidence-Based Nursing Approaches Across the Globe: Current State of the Science of Family Nursing Practice Sonja Meiers, Natalie McAndrew, Petra Brysiewicz, Sandra Eggenberger, Anna Richardson, Sandra Richardson (Sandra Eggenberger is the founding director of the Institute)



In person Session Presenters:

- Reflections on Local, Regional, and Global Nursing Partnerships That Promote Family Health, Lynn Kuechle
- Care Coordination in Foster Care: A Concept Analysis, Rachel Schickling
- The Banality of Data: Patient Records, Family, Nursing, and Ideology, Hans-Peter de Ruiter
- Barriers to Aging in Place, Sabrina Ehmke
- Multidisciplinary Certificate Course on Implementing a Trauma-Informed Care Approach, Elizabeth Coleman
- Exploring Nursing Faculty Perceptions of Family-Centered Care Embedded in Nursing Curricula Sally Clemenson



Becky Taylor Fellows

The Becky Taylor Fellowship supports DNP students in pursuing research that advances family and societal nursing. This year's fellows are addressing pressing needs in clinical education and patient care.



Sharonne Dolechek

*Increasing Learner Experience
Survey Response Rates
Among BIPOC Students*

Dolechek's project focuses on improving response rates to the Learner Experience Survey among BIPOC students at M Health Fairview, with the goal of creating a more complete and representative picture of their experiences in clinical education. A higher response rate allows for better-informed decisions and more meaningful support for students. The initiative promotes transparency by highlighting how previous feedback has led to real changes, helping to build trust

and encourage participation. When BIPOC students feel heard and supported, they're more likely to thrive, remain in the profession, and provide culturally responsive care to the diverse communities they serve. Creating inclusive learning environments helps ensure that future healthcare professionals are better prepared to care for all families with empathy, understanding, and respect.



Adriana Wohlhuter

*Reducing Complications Related
to Intermittent Catheterization: A
Quality Improvement Project*

Wohlhuter's project aims to develop an intermittent self-catheterization (ISC) education pathway for patients and nurses. The approach includes structured nurse education, consistent documentation, and a follow-up phone call one week after the initial instruction. This call provides an opportunity to reinforce key concepts, answer questions, and assess the patient's comfort and skill with ISC. By focusing on education and ongoing support, the project seeks to reduce common ISC-related complications such as urinary tract infections

(UTIs), trauma, hematuria, catheterization difficulties (e.g., strictures or inability to pass the catheter), and emergency department (ED) visits. It also aims to improve adherence, optimize catheter use, and reduce healthcare costs. Early outcomes show that the addition of a follow-up call improves patient satisfaction and confidence with ISC, reinforcing the value of personalized support alongside standardized.

Advisory Board

The Glen Taylor Nursing Institute's Advisory Board brings together national and international leaders in nursing research, education, and practice. These members provide strategic insight and academic partnership as the Institute advances its mission in family and societal nursing.

Advisory Council Members (2024–2025)

Dr. Sandra Eggenberger
*Founding Director, Minnesota State
University, Mankato*

Dr. Sonja Meiers
University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire

Dr. Kit Chesla
University of California, San Francisco

Dr. Kristen Abbott-Anderson
University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire

Dr. Kathy Knafl
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Dr. Kelly Krumwiede
Minnesota State University, Mankato

Dr. Petra Brysiewicz
University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Dr. Norma Krumwiede
Minnesota State University, Mankato

Dr. Rahel Naef
University of Zurich, Switzerland

Dr. Stacey Van Gelderen
Minnesota State University, Mankato

Dr. Wendy Looman
University of Minnesota

Dr. Marilyn Swan
Minnesota State University, Mankato

