NMC 125
ANNIVERSARY BOOK RELEASED
The inside story of making NMC, from the people who know it best.

I especially want to acknowledge the special contribution that the thousands of alumni from the Nebraska Methodist School of Nursing and those faculty and staff have made to what is now Nebraska Methodist College. These contributions provided an exceptional foundation and springboard for NMC to successfully make the transition to a degree-granting institution. They also provided NMC with a solid and outstanding reputation of graduates who were exceptional clinical practitioners, efficient problem solvers and caring professionals who have embodied the meaning of care since 1891.

There is also a special group of alumni who have graduated from NMC since 1989 that deserve special recognition: the graduates who enrolled at NMC as the inaugural students for new degree programs being started at Nebraska Methodist College. These students gave us their trust and believed in us when all we had to offer them was our promise that these “new programs” would be a success... This could not have happened with these inaugural students were it not for those many entrepreneurial faculty and staff who were willing to join us on this journey to build a college and to build it the right way and for the right reasons...“

Nebraska Methodist College is proud to announce the release of the NMC book, “Nebraska Methodist College at 125: Scaling New Heights”. Dr. Joslin, along with local Omaha author Leo Biga, spent the past year visiting with alumni, students, faculty and stakeholders who helped Nebraska Methodist College get to where we are today. This book, written from the vantage point of NMC President Dr. Joslin, recounts the challenges and triumphs of becoming a degree granting institution and captures the perspective of many of those involved in its evolution. The book goes beyond history and truly captures the personal stories of many who helped shape NMC.

Below is an excerpt from the introduction.

“The purpose of this book is to document the magnificent journey that Methodist School of Nursing and now Nebraska Methodist College has taken over the past 125 years and to highlight the preparations that are in place for the next 125 years. I also want to acknowledge the significant contributions that have been made by so many people who went before me and have been a part of both my journey and NMC’s journey over the past 40 years...”

Dr. Dennis Joslin and Leo Adam Biga

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Please send story suggestions and comments to: nmcalumni@methodistcollege.edu

To purchase the book “NMC At 125, Scaling New Heights” for yourself or as a gift, visit bookstore.methodistcollege.edu under “alumni gear” or contact Angela Heesacker Smith. The full purchase amount of $20 goes directly to the Spirit of Caring Scholarship fund.
MESSAGE FROM DR. JOSLIN

Dennis Joslin, PhD, RN
(Honorary Alumnus ’99)
President and CEO

During this past year, we have had many successes and celebrations. In addition, we have also intentionally paused to reflect on the significance of the past 125 years. During our reflection, we often wondered what those first few deaconesses would think of us today. As I look back at our history, as someone who has been a part of it for 40 of those 125 years, I can say with confidence that they would be proud.

They would be proud of the journey that Methodist School of Nursing, and now Nebraska Methodist College has had over the past 125 years.

• Proud that we have grown to 1,100 students who learn with us on campus and online around the country.
• Proud that we have thousands of alumni throughout the country and the world who have carried on their legacy of providing care and the impact they have had on the tens of thousands of lives they have touched.
• Proud of the maturity of our Nursing programs that now include bachelors, master’s and doctoral degrees.
• Proud of the diversity in the addition of our many allied health programs at the undergraduate and graduate degree levels.
• Proud of our integration of the arts and sciences coursework and our focus on producing educated citizens for the world.
• Proud of the lifelong professional development we provide to nurses, physicians and all healthcare professionals.
• Proud of our commitment to the holistic development of our students and ourselves.

Our past leaders, such as Miss Edna Fagan, would be proud of the continued faculty and staff focus on academic excellence. Miss Shirley Robbins would be proud of the exceptional clinical expertise possessed by our faculty and cultivated with our students; and that Mrs. Charlotte Schultz and Dr. Jean Beyer would be proud of the expanded focus on holistic student development.

There are so many others things that we could add to this. But the one thing that I believe they would be the most proud of is what our students have learned while at Methodist. While the specifics as to “what” our students have learned has changed and evolved over the years, what has not changed is the core essence of who we are and the mission of teaching students to learn to care. Irrespective of your graduation date or academic discipline, Methodist students learned to CARE long before the marketing tag line “the meaning of care” was generated. This is what differentiates you, our Methodist alumni. This is what differentiates Nebraska Methodist College. This is our legacy and our heritage. I thank each of you, and the collective alumni since 1891, for creating this rich legacy of caring and excellence for which the name Methodist is known for and why we have always been, and still are today, proud.

FOUNDAATION UPDATE

Elizabeth Borisow
Methodist Hospital Foundation
Development Officer

Proud Past—Focused Future

It is time to celebrate! You are an important part of the 125th anniversary at Nebraska Methodist College – The Josie Harper Campus. As Alumni, your achievements and triumphs help tell NMC’s story. Your education has empowered you to positively influence the health and well-being of the communities you live in. For 125 years NMC has produced the best nurses and healthcare professionals by providing top-notch education and training. It has expanded from a nursing school to an institution that offers a variety of healthcare programs and degree levels—all the way up to the doctoral level.

We need your help to continue NMC’s excellence for the next 125 years. Alumni support is essential. Over the years it has helped create scholarships, emergency funds for students in need, and a facility that educates over 1,000 future healthcare workers annually. Thank you for making NMC proud. We are grateful for your accomplishments.
The NMC Alumni Association held its annual golf tournament September 16th, 2016. The event, which was located at Eagle Hills Golf Course in Papillion, Nebraska, is an annual benefit to raise money for student scholarships.

Participation in the charity golf tournament was open to the public. Participants ranged from members of the Omaha business community to NMC alumni, faculty and staff and also included Methodist Hospital executives and board members.

NMC Student volunteers said “Thank You” to our golfers and sponsors by handing out popcorn.

Haleigh Cave (‘16) paying it back by swinging for scholarships. Haleigh was a 2015 scholarship winner.

Thank you to our tremendous golf committee and volunteers.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
ALUMNI REUNION 2016
A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Nearly 200 people attended the Alumni Reunion and NMC Gathering on Friday, October 21st, 2016 at the DC Center in Omaha. NMC alumni, faculty, staff and student volunteers celebrated NMC together. Dr. Joslin made a toast in honor of the 125th anniversary of the college as everyone raised a glass. Guests enjoyed a great dinner, casino gaming, dancing, silent auction and raffles. It was a beautiful night of reconnecting and celebration. Be sure to save the date for next year’s reunion, Friday, October 27, 2017.
2016 Alumni Spirit of Caring Scholarship Winners Carly Wilson and Jennifer Guthrie.
Jocelyn Araujo (’11) was named the March of Dimes Global Community Nurse of the Year.

Jani Johnson (’83) was featured in an article on 32 nurses who transitioned into hospital CEOs. “Jani L. Johnson RN, was named the CEO of Saint Luke’s Hospital of Kansas City in July 2015. In 1985, Ms. Johnson began her nursing career at Saint Luke’s Health System as a staff nurse. Saint Luke’s then promoted Ms. Johnson to leadership positions including Vice President of the cardiovascular service line for Saint Luke’s Health System and the Heart Institute in 2002. She earned her nursing degree from Omaha-based Methodist School of Nursing and a master’s in nursing from University of Missouri-Kansas City.”

If you have an update please email angela.heesackersmith@methodistcollege.edu.

**The Grow Zone**

NMC Professional Development

Save the dates for these upcoming events:

- Basic ECG Interpretation, December 5, 2016
- “Let’s Get Active” Hoedown!: An Active Teaching and Learning Strategy Swap, December 6, 2016
- Head & Neck AJCC Staging Revisions, December 9, 2016
- OFD Run Review Methodist Hospital, December 20, 2016
- Electronic Fetal Monitoring Certificate of Added Qualification Exam Review, December 20, 2016
- 2017 Cardiovascular Symposium, February 16, 2017
- 2017 Aging with Passion & Purpose: Next Generation Services, March 21, 2017
- AgeWISE Geriatric Education Seminar (AGES): Best Practices in Geropalliative Care, January 10, 2017
- Adoption in 2017, February 7, 2017
- Orthopedic Symposium, February 17, 2017
- Cervical Ripening and Induction/Augmentation of Labor, February 22, 2017
- Med-Surg Cert Review, March 8 & 9, 2017
- Pulmonary Medicine Update, March 10, 2017
- Dementia Care Conference, April 6, 2017
- CEN Cert Review, April 13 & 14, 2017
- Perinatal Bereavement, April 19, 2017
- Labor Support Workshop, April 2017
- Research Day, April 2017
- The Art of Living with Cancer, April 22, 2017
- Lung Cancer Symposium, April 2017

For full details or to register visit: www.methodistcollege.edu/pd

**Program Spotlights**

New Online Ed.D. Program: No Dissertation, Sensible Timeframe

Nebraska Methodist College is expanding its doctoral offerings once again, this time, with an education that focuses on, well, education. The Doctor of Education is the first non-nursing doctorate offered by our college, and careful thought went into making this program stand out. Our commitment to excellence extends far beyond nursing, touching all facets of the healthcare experience, including the management and higher education levels.

The Business of Compassion

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Healthcare is an online program that creates leaders who anticipate change, standing at the forefront of a new healthcare management model. As a nursing and allied health institution, we are uniquely situated to help future executives address the challenges faced by healthcare organizations in the 21st century. Our experienced faculty provide MBA students with a skillset that includes effective communication, critical thinking and complex problem-solving. Students will be able to strategically lead in healthcare settings by recognizing the value of diversity, developing human capital skills alongside business acumen to meet the ever-changing healthcare market.

For more information on these or any other programs at NMC, please contact 402-354-7200 or admissions@methodistcollege.edu.

**Alumni Highlights**

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If you have an update please email angela.heesackersmith@methodistcollege.edu.
Jillian Sisson, MSN, RN (’08, ’14) has been promoted to Dean of Professional Development and Community Partnerships. Jillian has been with NMC since 2012 and will oversee the Professional Development division, which includes Continuing Education, Professional Education, Certificate Programs, the Mobile Diabetes Center, Service Learning/Community Partnerships and the Upward Bound program.

Amy Bliemeister, MSN (’07) has been promoted to Director of Professional Education. Amy has been with NMC since 2013 and will oversee a variety of programs for students at all levels of their career. Short career courses include Nursing Assistant, Medication Aide, Sterile Processing Technician, and Pharmacy Technician. She is also responsible for professional level programs such as Microsoft Excel for Healthcare, Healthcare Leadership Certificate, and RN Refresher. She will assist in the offering of a yearly High School Healthcare Camp. Amy will also be looking at developing new certificate programs to meet the educational needs of healthcare partners within the Methodist Health System and the community.

Lisa Johnson, PhD has been promoted to Director of Student Support Services. Johnson has been with NMC since January, 2016.
The Graduate is produced by the Nebraska Methodist College Alumni Association in close partnership with Nebraska Methodist College faculty, staff, students and alumni.

This is our opportunity to share updates and successes at your alma mater as well as to inform you of ways to stay connected. It is our intent to highlight successes of alumni, students, faculty, staff and the organization to unite the College’s past with the present; evoking pride and hope for the future.