What an extraordinary time we are living in! We hope this message finds you well and able to stay positive and healthy while we are being challenged in novel ways. We express our deepest appreciation for your generous support of our work over the years and our strong hope we can stay connected. Living through a pandemic is very unsettling; however, history teaches us that catastrophic events provide unexpected opportunity for growth and change. In this spirit, the Center for Nursing is striving to find ways to better address the needs of the nursing profession in these unprecedented times.

Our mission - to support professional nurses and nursing students through mentoring, educational advancement, and promoting population-focused research and evidence-based practices to improve the knowledge and health care of individuals and communities in New York State - is now more critical than ever. Our three Centers - History, Research and Education - are well positioned to meet the challenges we face together and make a significant impact on the future.



Unfortunately, due to the uncertainty about the pandemic, this year's Nightingale Gala was cancelled. The Gala is the Center for Nursing's major fundraiser, so this was a difficult but responsible decision. While we were looking forward to seeing many of you and honoring our awardees, we are thrilled to announce we were able to secure the same location for next year and our awardees are available to accept their awards then. So, please SAVE THE DATE for Saturday, October 2, 2021 at the Albany Capital Center!

In this *Year of The Nurse and Midwife*, we commend and celebrate our brave and amazing nursing professionals who continue to serve on the front lines. These colleagues' stories are uplifting while at the same time heartbreaking. <u>Click here</u> for one of many stories that describes in a New York nurse's own words the trauma and challenges faced on a daily basis.



Staying connected with colleagues is of utmost importance to us so we will share messages on a regular basis about interesting happenings affecting nurses in NY and how the Center for Nursing is staying informed and proactive.

In the next issue of *Nurses Notes for Novel Times* we will provide an opportunity for you to share your story about how COVID-19 impacted your life! Stay tuned!

Until next time, stay healthy and keep the faith!

Joan Madden Wilson, MA, RN President

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Deborah Elliott, MBA, BSN, RN Executive Director

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