



DR. SUSAN L. DAVIS, R.N.,  
& RICHARD J. HENLEY  
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Sacred Heart University

[Website](#)

[Programs](#)

[Donate](#)

[Contact](#)



## SHU Scripts: Stories from the Heart of Nursing

### Welcome from Dean Donius

Welcome to the inaugural issue of ***SHU Scripts: Stories from the Heart of Nursing***. I would like to thank Karen Bauce, associate dean for online programs, for her inspiration and dedication in developing this publication. Kudos to her team—Fred Flynn, executive-in-residence; Anna Goddard, assistant professor; and Sacred Heart University's marketing team—for their support of the initiative.

As our college has grown and thrived, we have been eager to share the accomplishments of our students, alumni and faculty, the happenings and our continued efforts to advance the University's mission and extend the DHCON's caring-healing philosophy.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made us realize how fragile our lives are at any given moment. And yet,



as nurses, we do what we must in this time of crisis. The frontline stories I have heard from our Dr. Susan L. Davis, R.N., & Richard J. Henley College of Nursing students and graduates represent a small sample of what I know to be typical of many others: the fatigue of long hours and days without relief; the frustration of working with limited supplies; and the feeling of helplessness as patients die alone. Through it all, however, I also hear the stories of nurses' resilience and resolve—resilience born of compassion to share the suffering of others and resolve to reaffirm the caring-healing commitment for those we serve. The value of our service is appreciated by society, and the privilege of being a nurse is acknowledged by our profession.

Sacred Heart University's mission is to respond to the needs of those who suffer has never seemed more appropriate than at this time. The Corporal Works of Mercy etched on the outside wall of the Chapel of the Holy Spirit are stated simply, yet their meaning is so profound: "Feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit those in prison, and bury the dead." This is the work of nurses and the context for our DHCON education. This is the legacy we carry on and carry forth. As this unsettled time continues, I hope you will draw on the ideals and values learned at SHU and the DHCON, and that they will strengthen your faith and resolve in all you do. There is no more important time to live these values than now. For you are the *Sacred Heart of Nursing*.

*Mary Alice Donius*

Mary Alice Donius  
Dean, Davis & Henley College of Nursing

---



### **Marking a Milestone: First Nursing Program at SHU Marks 40 Years**

In 1980, Sacred Heart University administrators and nursing leaders



### **Nursing Alumna Oversees Virtual Home Care for At-risk Patients**

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged traditional models of care

developed a new program focused on enhancing the educational and professional development of registered nurses practicing in the greater Bridgeport, CT, area.

[Read More](#)

delivery, including home-based care. SHU graduate Deborah Cavalier, RN, MA, MBA observes, "Many of our patients are isolated, and the pandemic has only made it worse for them."

[Read More](#)



### **Nursing Students, Faculty Help Administer New COVID-19 Tests at SHU**

Sacred Heart University's coronavirus planning team reached out to nursing students and faculty in the Dr. Susan L. Davis, R.N., & Richard J. Henley College of Nursing for help in providing a new type of COVID-19 test being implemented on campus. Yale Medical School developed a [saliva-based test](#), SalivaDirect™, that is easier to administer and provides results more quickly. The goal is to increase the number of SHU students randomly tested, which will aid in controlling the spread of the virus. The new testing began in early October and is expected to continue until Nov. 19, and then resume in spring 2021.

---





### **Nursing Students Help Jewish Senior Services with COVID-19 Screening**

Two students from Sacred Heart University's Dr. Susan L. Davis, R.N., & Richard J. Henley College of Nursing earned praise from the administration at Jewish Senior Services (JSS), Bridgeport, after spending the summer there screening patients and staff for COVID-19.

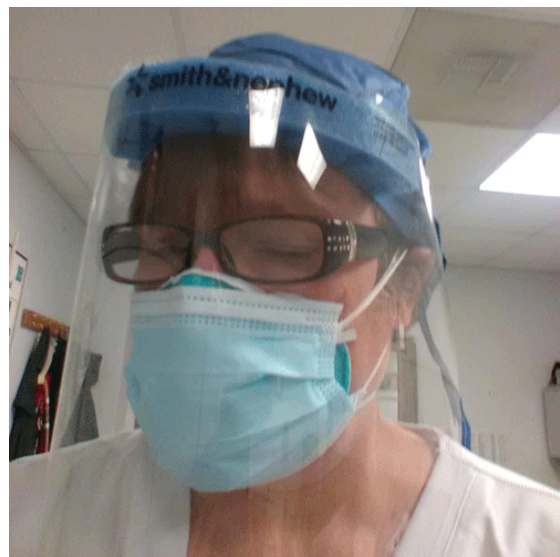
[Read More](#)



### **Digital Digest Corner: New Devices Help Skill Development**

The Dr. Susan L. Davis, R.N., & Richard J. Henley College of Nursing has purchased two mobile devices—OphthoSim and OtoSim—for online master of science in nursing/family nurse practitioner (MSN/FNP) students to learn assessment of eyes and ears.

[Read More](#)



## Caring as the Moral Imperative in Nursing

This is a bold statement, but one borne from society's needs and the evolving value and significance ascribed to the nursing profession. Florence Nightingale famously declared that a moral disposition was essential for nurses. And in 1918, during the influenza pandemic, volunteers were charged with a "moral duty to care."

[Read More](#)

## Alumna Uses Lesson Learned at SHU to Comfort COVID-19 Patients

When COVID-19 hit our small hospital on Long Island, it hit hard. With its first surge, we received patients from our area and also from the harder-hit New York City region. Visitors were restricted from seeing patients, and this struck a chord with me.

[Read More](#)

## Upcoming Events

Don't miss out on the upcoming events within the Davis & Henley College of Nursing. Offerings include Doctor of Nursing Practice colloquium and Telehealth Technology Certificate Program for Nurse Practitioners.

[Learn More](#)

---

FOLLOW US

