Education
The University of Florida College of Nursing is dedicated to high-quality programs of education, research, patient care and public service. The college is a major provider of baccalaureate-prepared (B.S.N.) nurses in the state. (Peer-reviewed national studies demonstrate that B.S.N.-prepared nurses have positive impact on mortality rate of patients.) The college has innovative education programs designed to address the national shortage of nurses and nursing faculty, including the B.S.N. to Ph.D. program, the Accelerated B.S.N. program for college graduates from other fields and the Clinical Nurse Leader master’s degree program.

The college graduated its first class of D.N.P. (Doctor of Nursing Practice) students in Spring 2009, and welcomed one of the state’s first B.S.N. to D.N.P. programs in Fall 2009, allowing direct entry into the D.N.P. program for baccalaureate graduates in four clinical specialties. The college’s faculty form three departments: adult and elderly nursing, women’s, children’s and family nursing and health care environments and systems (comprising psychiatric-mental health nursing, public and community health nursing, and nursing administration) on two campuses in Gainesville and Jacksonville.

The College of Nursing collaborates with the other colleges of UF Health, the University of Florida Academic Health Center, as well as area clinical partners across the state, including the Shands family of hospitals, Baptist Health-Jacksonville and the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System, with which it partnered to become one of the first four VA Nursing Academies in the country. The VA Nursing Academy supports nursing education efforts, improve the quality of health care for veterans, and fosters closer ties between the local VA and the College of Nursing.

Grants/Contracts $1.4M 13%
Clinical revenue $0.8M 7%
State funding $7.4M 65%
Other (UFF, AEF, Misc) $1.8M 16%
Total: $11.44M
Research

The College of Nursing has funded interdisciplinary research programs focused on women’s health and health disparities, autism, mental health, aging, and infant development. Faculty members receive funding from a number of sources, including the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and private foundations. The work of these nurse scientists covers a broad range of interests, from the nutrition of very low birth weight infants to the effects of nursing workforce on patient safety. This research has resulted in improvements in health promotion, disease prevention and symptom management for young and old, alike. Students are actively involved with faculty members’ research, thus helping students understand and value clinical research. Undergraduate nursing students are encouraged to be a part of the UF Scholars program or the College Honors program. Students can be active members of faculty research teams and nursing doctoral students receive strong mentoring and support in pursuit of their dissertation research.

Patient Care/Outreach

The College of Nursing maintains and participates in nursing and interdisciplinary clinics for women, children, adults and the elderly, with special emphasis on underserved and rural populations.

In 1998, the college incorporated its Faculty Practice Association, which allows the generation of income in support of education and research programs and provides financial incentives to practicing faculty members. Practice sites serve as extended classrooms, where students join faculty members in providing care. Faculty members work at more than 10 sites across the region.

Archer Family Health Care is the college’s comprehensive nurse-managed primary health center. Faculty members provide primary care and psychiatric-mental health services to underserved adults, children and families in Alachua County and surrounding areas. Community health faculty members and students provide health screening and education, and serve as a vital link between the primary care setting and families in the community. More than 50 percent of the practice’s patients lack health insurance coverage and many are below the poverty line.

The college has educational and research collaborations with schools of nursing across the globe, including Gdansk, Poland; Chungham, Korea; and Yucatan, Mexico.