

8/6/05

J. DANIELS

## Alfred State College Centennial

Name: Joanne Daniels

Department: Nursing

Dates Employed: September, 1966 to June, 1991

### Memories:

When I started teaching in September, 1966 in the School of Allied Health, Department of Nursing, we had a nursing chairman and 5 faculty members, 3 for the senior level and 2 for the freshmen. The nursing department started in 1965, but I never taught that class. The first class I taught graduated in 1968 and had 26 graduates. The next year it went to 41 graduates and continued to grow each year. By the time I retired in 1991, I had taught 1,551 graduates. I retired after 25 wonderful years spent with very caring students who were eager to learn and perform in the clinical area to the best of their ability.

In 1966 Alfred Atate College was located on the Alfred University Campus in what was called the Administration Building. We had a few classrooms in the Industrial Building across the street. My office, along with my co-worker (Loretta Smith) was quite primitive. We were in a little ante-room to the office of the chairperson of the nursing department (Peg Brady). There was quite a lot of traffic to and fro in our office.

In 1967 the nursing department moved to the newly built Allied Health Building on the Alfred State College Campus. My office was always located on the 2nd floor right next to the Dean of Allied Health's office (Bob Love). That made it very convenient for us to drop in to his office and he would listen to our needs and concerns and give us guidance. As all will remember, he was so easy to talk to. From that office, you could hear Ron Putnam (A & P professor) call to the "troups" and he would be having a review class right out in the hall. Students loved him.

In the early years of the nursing program, students ordered their own clinical uniforms during the summer prior to coming to school in the fall. Then during the first week of classes, the company would bring the uniforms to campus for students to try on. Some students would order a smaller size than they really needed in hopes they would loose some weight before school. Then the uniform would not fit, but the company was prepared for these situations and brought extra sizes. It was a happy day for students as they were looking forward to going to the hospital and caring for patients.

In the 1970's I was teaching clinical calculations to a student who could not grasp the concept. Dean Love dropped in to watch me struggling to get my point across when he suggested I talk with Professor Schogoleff, chairman of the chemistry department, to see if he could give me some help. He taught dimensional analysis, a chemistry formula, and I applied it to nursing. Thus was the beginning of the

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text, Clinical Calculations, A Unified Approach. Professor Schogoleff and I co-authored it for a few years and had it published by Kendall-Hunt Publishers. After Professor Schogoleff retired, my colleague, Loretta Smith and I co-authored the text and had it published by Delmar Publishers. It is now in its 5th edition. We were the first to introduce the dimensional analysis method of calculating dosages. It is now rapidly becoming the method of choice for nurses. Our present publisher says that the original text is now a classic. Our graduates had the advantage of using this approach long before all other nursing programs in the United States, Canada, etc.

On the days we took students to the clinical area, we held classes while riding the bus to and from the hospital. The buses were equipped with head sets, microphones and TV sets. My specialty was psychiatric nursing and we would go to Rochester Psychiatric Center for experience. It was a long trip, but by being able to show a film pertinent to the content being taught, time passed quickly and was never wasted.

Vice-President John Fisher and I started the Thursday Forum. The Forums were held each Thursday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 PM in the Central Dining Hall lounge. The presenters were usually faculty members who would share some research they had done, teach us something pertinent from one of their courses, show slides of a trip they had taken, etc. We would set up the programs for the semester and I would send the presenter a thank you note after their talk. Those who attended would brown bag their lunch during the presentation. After VP John Fisher left ASC to become President of Norwalk State Technical College, Bev Gilbert, Secretary to the VP assisted me. It was very successful. In 1991, the Dean of the School of Agriculture and Allied Health, Technologies, Jim Thompson, said of me that I never heard a Thursday Forum presentation that was not outstanding, best ever or excellent. And that was true. They were good and very well attended.

I had the privilege of serving on the College Council in 1976-77 as the faculty representative. It was a great honor and responsibility. Dr. Huntington was excellent, so very kind, and one knew he was a very special man by just being in his presence.

This is a story about one of our nursing graduates from the class of 1976. In 2005, I was with a patient at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester and the doctors nurse's name was Molly. She was so kind, knowledgeable and so good at teaching. I asked her where she went to school and she said Alfred State College. At this time I did not recognize her. I then asked when did she graduate. And then asked what was her maiden name. At that, she looked at me with recognition in her face and said, "Mrs. Daniels". We had a wonderful visit and Alfred can be proud of Molly - a great nurse.