## Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences Ethos

I will honor and respect NWCNHS's heritage of innovation, excellence, diversity, cultural competence and compassion. I will continuously build on this heritage. Complacency is not part of our culture.

I am committed to the success of the NWCNHS, my teammates, and myself. I am humble, hardworking and compassionate. I will learn from past challenges or past setbacks and seek future success.

I am outcomes driven. I will undertake all of my responsibilities with the utmost of honesty and integrity. I will approach every task with passion, responsibility, creativity, teamwork and innovation. We succeed as a collaborative team.

Mediocrity and selfishness are not part of my fabric and my education is never complete – there is no finish line. I encourage a flexible approach to accomplish milestones but I am inflexible in the stellar nature of my execution. The promotion and delivery of safe, quality, compassionate and evidence-based care is my ultimate goal. Interprofessional teamwork and respect for one another and the services and the care we deliver to others are paramount.

I will positively contribute to our culture and community. I embody teamwork and leadership. I am in control of my environment because I own my actions. I am accountable for myself and for mentoring others.

I will be kind and welcoming to others. I believe it is a privilege to be a member of the NWCNHS community and this honor must be earned every day through my actions and deeds.

I am fueled by intellect; driven by innovation and caring.

### FIU Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Nightingale Pledge

(Patterned after the original Florence Nightingale Pledge)

I solemnly pledge myself in the presence of this assembly to pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully. I shall abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous, and shall not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug. I shall do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling. I shall be loyal to my work and devoted toward the welfare of those committed to my care.

### The History of FIU's Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Caring. Culturally competent. Trailblazing. Dedicated. Passionate. These are the attributes of the faculty, students, and alumni who are the lifeblood of the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences at Florida International University in Miami.

The Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences was created in 2006 with the joining of the FIU School of Nursing and the School of Health Sciences, each bringing with it more than 30 years of academic distinction. This young, vibrant and dynamic institution is focused on advancing the quality and spectrum of care through the highest levels of education, training, research and leadership. The Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences has more than 10,000 alumni in the fields of nursing, athletic training, health services administration, occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech-language pathology. They have gone on to serve communities locally and globally.

On September 25, 2013, the futures of Florida International University's nursing and health sciences programs were transformed when South Florida philanthropists Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim presented a \$10 million gift to name and endow the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences. This record-setting gift to the College means much more than a name change. It embodies the Wertheim family's commitment to clinical and interdisciplinary research, preventive health care and the belief that the best health care is delivered when health professionals work together as a team. It serves as a catalyst to accelerate our aggressive strategic plan to further enrich our academic and research programs and attract top faculty and students.

The Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences is one of the founding units of the Academic Health Center at FIU, built on an interprofessional approach to health care education that mirrors the new paradigm of today's health care system. It is making important strides to enhance practice and policy through interdisciplinary collaboration, state-of-the-art technology and resources, integration of real-world training in the curricula, and programs of research designed to make a difference in patient care and advocacy.

The multicultural student body and faculty of the College reflect the highly diverse South Florida community. This diversity, illustrative of changing demographics across the country, provides students with a unique perspective and distinct set of capabilities to address the health care delivery and health access concerns of minority and underserved populations.

The family of professors, academic leaders and students that comprise the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences work together to prepare culturally competent, compassionate and caring practitioners who are ready for the complexities and challenges of today's health professions. They are innovative clinicians and scientists who help their professions evolve to optimally meet society's health care needs. And they are leaders who fight tirelessly to transform and elevate the healthcare system so that everyone in our society can benefit.

This is the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences at Florida International University. Fueled by intellect; driven by innovation and caring.



The History of the Pinning Ceremony

The pinning ceremony is a prominent nursing school tradition, as it signifies one's official induction into the solidarity and fellowship of nurses. The ceremony is rich with symbolic representation of both the values and ideals of Florence Nightingale as well as the core principles of the nursing profession. The history of this rite of passage can be traced all the way back to the Crusades of the 12th century. During this time, the Knights of the Order of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist tended to injured and infirmed Crusaders. When new monks were inducted into the order, they vowed to serve these sick soldiers in a ceremony where each monk was given a Maltese cross, the first badges given to those who nurse.

The modern ceremony dates back to the 1860s, when Florence Nightingale was awarded the Red Cross of St. George in recognition for her tireless service to the injured during the Crimean War. Florence Nightingale chose to extend this honor to her most outstanding graduate nurses by presenting each of them with a medal for excellence. The Wolverton Royal Hospital in England adopted the tradition of presenting all graduates with a badge. However, the first pin was presented to the graduating class of 1880 at the Bellevue Hospital School of Nursing in New York City. By 1916, the practice of pinning new graduates was standard throughout the U.S. FIU and the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences have celebrated this tradition throughout the history of the Nursing Program and will continue to celebrate nursing scholastic achievements while commemorating the common goals of all nurses around the world.

#### Order of Ceremony Friday, April 28, 2023 Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall

PRESIDING & INTRODUCTION OF PLATFORM PARTY

NATIONAL ANTHEM & ALMA MATER

PROVOST MESSAGE

REMARKS BY GENERIC TRACK CLASS PRESIDENT

INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

RECOGNITION OF NURSING HONOR SOCIETY

PRESENTATIONS OF AWARDS

PRESENTATIONS OF THE NURSING PINS

NURSES ANTHEM NIGHTINGALE OATH

CLOSING REMARKS

Ora Strickland, Ph.D., DSc (Hon), RN, FAAN Dean & Professor, Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

Donald Roomes, Ph.D. Teaching Professor, Department of International Business

Elizabeth M. Béjar, Ph.D. Provost, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Florida International University

Ashley Bernard, BSN '23

Yhovana Gordon, EdD, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

Captain (Ret.) Patrick M. Denis, BS, BSN, MBA, RN

Audrey Miller, PhD, MSN Ed, APRN, PPCNP-BC, CPN, CNE, LNC Undergraduate Nursing, Assistant Chair President, Pi Alpha Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing

Nightingale Excellence Award presented by Tamara LaCroix, PhD, MSN-Ed, RN, QM-TOC Undergraduate Nursing, Department Chair

Nursing Worlds Ahead Award presented by Victor Delgado, DNP, APRN, ANP-BC, NP-C Undergraduate Nursing, Clinical Assistant Professor

Deans Legacy Award *Presented by* Yhovana Gordon, EdD, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC *Associate Dean of Academic Affairs* 

Elizabeth M. Béjar, Ph.D. Provost, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Florida International University Ora L. Strickland, Ph.D., DSc (Hon), RN, FAAN Dean & Professor, Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences Tamara LaCroix, PhD, MSN-Ed, RN, QM-TOC Undergraduate Nursing, Department Chair

Video Montage featuring Dee Jones

Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences Class of 2022 - 2023

Ora L. Strickland, Ph.D., DSc (Hon), RN, FAAN Dean & Professor, Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences

### Mrs. Nicole J. Wertheim, Honorary Chairwoman Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences



Nicole was born in Nice, France and is the oldest of three daughters. When Nicole was 4 years old she and her family moved from Nice to the 9th arrondissement in Paris near L'Opera. Nicole graduated college with a degree in Fashion Design and decided she wanted to travel the world. At the age of 20, she began her journey to Martinique and Guadeloupe, where she spent a year and a half, and then went on to live in St. Lucia and Barbados for two years. In 1967, she visited Canada for the World's Fair in Montreal and ended up living there for almost a year. After spending a cold winter in Montreal, Nicole sought warmer weather and ventured off to Miami Beach, Florida. There is where she met the love of her life, Herbert Wertheim. It was such love at first sight that in May of 1969 they married; 5 months after meeting each other.

The next two years were busy for Nicole and Herbert. In 1971, they had been blessed with their first daughter, Erica, started a new business, and built their own home. In 1974, they had their second daughter, Vanessa. For the next twenty years, Nicole and Herbert worked hard building their successful business together and traveling to trade shows all around the world. They joined the Young Presidents' Organization and then went on to become members of the Chief Executive Office.

In 1977, Nicole and Herbert started the Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Family Foundation. Nicole and Herbert both share the same belief in giving back. Since then, they have funded many projects from public education to health care initiatives most notably, the Dr. Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine and the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences, both at FIU in Miami, Florida. Recently, the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma), overwhelmingly voted to induct Nicole Wertheim as an Honorary Member of Sigma. The honorary status is conferred by the Board on those who demonstrate superior achievement in a chosen field and a commitment to the ideals and concerns of nursing. Nicole Wertheim will be presented the Tribute Award in the Fall of 2023.

Nicole and her husband enjoy spending time and traveling with their daughters and grandchildren.

### Captain Patrick M. Denis, BS, BSN, MBA, RN Keynote Speaker



Captain (CAPT Ret) Patrick Denis, BS, BSN, MBA, RN, is currently retired from the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps within the Uniformed Services after 30 years of service.

CAPT (Ret) Denis was a Health and Human Services (HHS) Senior Advisor with the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) from November 2021 to October 2022. In this last role, he supported states, tribes, and local jurisdictions in the HHS Region 10 as they recover and adapt from the COVID-19 pandemic. This position holds the additional responsibilities of directly supporting the Recovery Missions Branch (RMB) Team Lead for Regions 8 & 10, Health & Social Services Recovery Support Function on strategic planning, policy initiatives, and priorities for the program; coordinating with the RMB information management specialist on communication to/from leadership on management priorities; coordinating with leadership to develop a strategic plan, outlining anticipated capacity needs, and identifying factors that limit Recovery Stakeholder Engagement

Program's ability to maintain adequate network capacity, promoting and enhancing support to field staff at the highest level of Response and Recovery.

CAPT (Ret) Denis had been collaborating with ASPR since 2006 and had been assigned to ASPR since 2013. He previously served at ASPR's Division of Human Capital-Business Partner Branch as the Senior Program Advisor from 2017 to 2021. This role informed ASPR leadership on all matters related to the USPHS Commissioned Corps Force Management which included liaison activities.

Previous assignment, CAPT (Ret) Denis served as the Executive Officer in the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program for the Office of the Surgeon General and the Office ASPR from 2011-2017. CAPT (Ret) Denis' principal responsibility was to lead, manage, and provide complete National oversight for the day-to-day operations of a \$6M operating budget by assessing, planning, developing, budgeting, implementing, and evaluating several assigned national programs, successfully ensuring the programmatic portfolio outcomes were sustained at a 98% efficacy rate.

CAPT (Ret) Denis also served as the Deputy Director of Training and Medical Readiness in the Office of the U. S. Surgeon General, Office of Force Readiness and Deployment (OFRD) from 2006 to 2011. Prior to his OFRD assignment, he was assigned to Indian Health Service - Santa Fe Indian Hospital in Santa Fe, New Mexico as the Director for Perioperative Nursing Services and Birthing Center.

Patrick Denis has over 30 plus years of leadership and uniformed service experience in the field of nursing, public health, specializing in public health emergency responses, program management, operational field health training, patient care advocacy, and concentrating on public health emergency responses in global/domestic operational theater settings. CAPT (Ret) Denis military career consist of 11 plus years of prior service with the United States Navy as a Nurse Corps Officer and concluded with 18+ years as United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officer.

He graduated with bachelor's degree in 1993 from Florida International University in Nursing. He is a distinguished Florida International University "Golden Panthers" alumni and recipient of the 2010 FIU Torch Award. In 1989, he received a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Nova Southeastern University. Patrick Denis also holds an executive MBA from National University in La Jolla, California from 2002.

CAPT Denis is a native from South Florida and resides in Maryland.

#### Class of Academic Year 2022 - 2023

Fall 2022

Ana Aguila Adriana Concepcion Ana De Leon Aniyah Girtman Anastasiia Grybova Andrew Hagmann Abigail Kalil Adrianne Kong Amanda Sanchez Benjamin Champion Brenda Lebada Beth Rodriguez Claudia Alonso Courtnay Henton Crystal Portocarrero Crystal Simeon-Delhomme Elizabeth Dalmau Eva Reynoso Fabianne De Pinedo Rodriguez Fatma Saleh Faiza Siddiqui Grether Barbon Gady Hernandez Hugo Noriega Zimmerman Jennifer Ocana Garcia Kristyn Alvarez Katiana Charles

Josefina Davy

Kayleigh Prince Laura Genao Lorena Martinez Laura Valdivia Marcus ellBello Marlon Bello Melanie Delgado Gomez Mohamed Eid Maria Giral Malena Madrigal Nimra Ali Natasha Carmona Nayling Materan Olivia Edstrom Omar Trujillo Pamela Le Patrice Similien Richard Beauge Riley Kline Rachel Marcus Samantha Dorismond Stephanie Jacob Sirisha Reddy Sabrina Sanchez Tariq Mehmood Tara Ramsay

#### Spring 2023

Paola Aguilar Hannah Alber David Alfonso Natalie Aller Francesca Amati Fadjeannah Annilus Nathalia Helen Araujo Cunha Rhojanie Artiste Xenaysis Arzu Marialys Barrios Leanna Basanta Ashley Bernard Alexander Blanco Catalina Blasco Indhira Bonhomme Brooke Bonincontri Lauren Borges Yasmin Borges Millares Gabriella Breier Jaiden Bubel Natalia Bustamante Okason Campbell Joanne Castellin Angie Castellon Daniela Castro Natalia Chamorro Annie Chen Aniela Chipia Kenrik Chirinos Laura Cortes Nicole Criado Denae Davis¬

Shafia Dawla Charlize Dayoub Martin De Alba Alexa De la Rosa Janet Delancy Jetlynn Dorismond Angel El Aitana Esquivel Vanessa Fanfan Joanna Farina Gabriela Fernandez Natalie Fernandez Yeny Fernandez Juliana Gallego Isabella Gandolfo Juliana Gata Samantha Goenaga Lucas Gomes Coelho de Oliveira Ashley Gonzalez Amanda Gonzalez Isabell Gonzalez Seth Hart Danay Hernandez Carolina Hernandez Melissa Herrero Katherine Herring Mikaela Holthaus Daniel Hurtado Reyes Kendra Jean Daline Jean Elizabeth Jimenez

Christina Jimenez Jennifer Laguerre Marylis Lahens Isabel Laverde Isabella Lopez Kayla Martin Rosalba Martinez Guzman Veronica Martinez Villalba Ariadna Martins Romeo Mendoza Monica Milton Faith Misenas Shanelle Mitchell Glorylu Montoya Matthew-Emmanuelle Morales Yavnielle Murphy Amana Najjar Charlene Nicolas Bryanna Noriega Rebecca Oakey Midaphka Olibrice Jemi Ortega Kyle Trisha Parago Krysten Parente-Sardinas Ernesto Pedroso Emely Peralta Celeste Pereira Livan Perez Sophia Perez Caroline Pestana Ketia Pierre Claudia Pildain

Nathaly Portillo Jesse Potts Ashley Quintana Aymee Rafael Omkar Ramkishun Hannah Reynardus Ariana Richards Sofia Rivero Torres Rosemary Rodiles Emily Rodriguez Alexandra Rodriguez Isabella Rogg Candela Rosito Alexandra Rubio Angeles Salgado Pulido Delgado Breanna Samuel Briana Santiago Nicole Sosa Isabella Suarez Temprest Toombs Ivan Torrens Kristi Toussaint Meagan Triana Jonathan Vado Kenneth Vargas Katerina Vazquez Ashley Venegas Alex Venulejo Valmaseda Isabella Vilaragut Alicia Villagomez Rachael Worcester

#### State of Florida

The Honorable Ron DeSantis, Governor The Honorable Jeanette Nuñez, '94, '98, Lieutenant Governor The Honorable Ashley Moody, Attorney General The Honorable Jimmy Patronis, Chief Financial Officer The Honorable Wilton Simpson, Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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#### FIU Alma Mater

Composed by Belinda Kaitlynne Gunn

We pledge to thee dear F.I.U., with voices loud and true. Alma Mater falter never, shine forever Gold and Blue. We fly our banners high, ev'ry culture we embrace. All our love and Panther spirit, young and old we make this place. We hail together F.I.U., ev'ry scholar side-by-side. And we hail to Alma Mater, Alma Mater be our guide!

#### Nurses' Anthem

Composed by Dee Jones

They gave their soul and lived their life as a living sacrifice. So I pledge here and now to use my gifts for saving lives. Give me strength this very hour, with the words I sing right now.

(Chorus) Light your lamp, hold it high for we pledge before God to be keepers of the flame, be a beacon in the night. Hold it high, flame burn bright, with all your might, shine the light.

Use my heart and my hands to nurture healing from above, let your mercy and amazing grace bring peace to this whole world.

Give me strength this very hour with the words I sing right now, right now.

(Chorus) Light your lamp, hold it high for we pledge before God to be keepers of the flame, be a beacon in the night. Hold it high, flame burn bright, with all your might, shine the light.

> It was a Light of faith a ray of hope, a flame of love they carried. From their dying bed they wrote their notes to carry on and heal the world, the whole world.

(Chorus) Light your lamp, hold it high for we pledge before God to be keepers of the flame, be a beacon in the night. Hold it high, flame burn bright, with all your might, shine the light.

Hold it high, flame burn bright, with all your might, shine the light.

# Ora L. Strickland, Ph.D., DSc (Hon), RN FAAN

Dean & Professor



Ora Lea Strickland, Ph.D., RN, FAAN is Dean and Professor of the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Florida International University in Miami, Florida. Dr. Strickland is the Founding Editor of the Journal of Nursing Measurement, and she initiated the Nursing Citation Index, which was subsequently integrated into *Cumulative Index of Nursing and Allied Health Literature* (CINAHL), a leading nursing search engine. Dr. Strickland was also one of the founders of the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Center for Nursing Research (subsequently named Institute for Nusing Research, and is founding member of the Friends of the National Institute for Nursing Research (FNINR). Her many professional activities have included serving as: a member of the Advisory Committee to The Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH); a member of the NIH National Advisory Council

for Nursing Research, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the American Journal of Nursing Company; a member of the U.S. Congressional Black Caucus Health Brain Trust; and, as a health policy Congressional intern to former U.S. Congressman Ralphe Metcalfe (D-Ill.).

Dr. Strickland has been recognized for her outstanding contributions to nursing through her election to the American Academy of Nursing at age 29, the youngest person ever inducted into the Academy. As a prolific author, Dr. Strickland is the recipient of ten *American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year* awards. A former columnist for the Baltimore Sun, her weekly column titled *"Nurse's Station,"* appeared weekly in the health magazine section of the morning and evening of the newspaper and won two health journalism awards in 1988.

An internationally known specialist in nursing measurement, research, evaluation, and women's health, Dr. Strickland was inducted into the International Nursing Research Hall of Fame in 2016. Dr. Strickland is frequently called upon as a consultant nationally and internationally and has presented more than 400 lectures, speeches, and workshops. Dr. Stricklands' professional activities and expert consultations have taken her to more than 45 countries abroad where she has advised on research, leadership approaches and health policy.

"Successful people make things happen and ineffective people let things happen."- Dr. Ora L. Strickland

The Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences nursing faculty has prepared you to make quality healthcare possible for all whom you serve. You have been equipped to be successful.