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News From the Graduate School - Nursing Summer 2021

Otterbein Office of Graduate Programs

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Graduate School News Highlights



From Dr. Barbara Schaffner, Associate Provost for Graduate Studies

Take Time to Appreciate the Work You Do

We are fast approaching the end of the COVID-19 pandemic in our country, and we could not be more pleased or thankful. Now is a time for reflection of our recent past, one that forced us all to face and acknowledge the horror of the disease and the effects on all our communities. History from the 1918 “Spanish flu” pandemic, which wiped out entire U.S. communities, allows us to review the response from some of the nurses that served during those horrific times. As recorded in *The Spanish Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: New Perspectives*, a student nurse named Mabel Chilson decided to join the ranks “of helpers” but wondered “were we helpless or could we fight?” Chilson recounted her experiences as challenging, but also as positive, “emphasizing the opportunity it held for meaningful ministrations.” [Continue reading >>](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Graduate Orientation

August 19, 2021 – The Point

**Graduate Fall
Guest Lecture Series
October 2021**



**OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY GRADUATE NURSING
VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSIONS:**

- Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Family Nurse Practitioner
 - Nurse Anesthesia
- Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

**Accepting
Applications**



Nursing An Unexpected Advantage

Two years ago, there were 229 million cases of malaria worldwide. One of the reasons the disease continues to be so hard to treat is that the one existing malaria vaccine is only about 30% effective (Martin, 2021). However, the current focus on developing a vaccine to fight COVID-19 has opened opportunities for teams working on more complex and deadly communicable diseases to benefit with new and improved vaccines.

A new malaria vaccine has shown high efficacy in trials. It prevents the disease 77% of the time among those receiving it. The WHO's target efficacy for malaria vaccines is over 75%. This is the first time that this percentage has been reached (Hill, 2021).

As we are making headway in controlling the COVID-19 pandemic, we could eradicate malaria, which kills over 400,000 people a year, with over half being children under five years of age.

Some parts of the world had forgotten that infectious diseases are the one element in the area of health that could pose systemic threats to mankind. COVID-19 has been an unexpected and harsh reminder of our vulnerability to communicable diseases. People in other parts of the world live permanently under the threat of the consequences of communicable diseases. The development of better and more flexible vaccination agents and plans will only benefit everyone.

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Regina Prusinski
Nursing Graduate Director

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