

KCON Alumni Chapter Open House 2011

The KCON Alumni Board and KCON hosted the reception which saw alumni and guests brought together to say good-bye and thank-you to retirees and to be introduced to new faculty appointees. It was an evening filled with laughter, reminiscing, and opportunities for alumni to gather and wish retiring faculty members Bielak, Britton, Gendler, Kline and Martin well in their retirement.

Among the attendees were recent graduates as well as graduates from early classes, undergraduate and graduates programs. Ann Harris, MSN '90 spoke fondly of the influence Emily Bielak had on her nursing career and in the education of many of the nurse faculty in west Michigan. Kay Kline acknowledged that she won't miss the 100 mile per day trip, but she will miss faculty colleagues and the students. RN-BSN graduate Marcia Wright, '04 came to say thank you to faculty members Agnes Britton and Phyllis Gendler for their role in her education and subsequent career development. Katherine Kim, professor emerita came to congratulate members of the osteoporosis research team Gendler and Jean Martin. This program of research started back in the late 80's and continues today having contributed to the broader nursing profession as well as providing the platform for countless MSN scholarly projects.

Dean McCurren's remarks highlighted each of the retiree's careers. She expressed gratitude for their many contributions to KCON. The class of seven incoming faculty members were introduced and welcomed. Incoming faculty are Karen Burritt, Karyn Butler, Paulette Chaponniere, Dianne Conrad, Lori Houghton Rahrig, Melodee Vanden Bosch, and Heather Wallace-Renter.



[Linda Nicholson Grinstead; Tracy Hosford, '02; Lee McCormick, '81](#)



Lori Houghton Rahrig, '81, '01; Karen Burritt, Dianne Conrad



Jean Nagelkerk (Vice Provost for Health) and Kay Setter Kline



Marsha Wright, '04; Karyn Butler; Cynthia Coviak, '85



Phyllis Gendler and Cynthia McCurren



Dean McCurren, Heather Wallace-Renter, Catherine Weisbeck (faculty)



Joy Washburn, '94; Lucille Grimm (emerita)