

Renfield Foundation Endows Visiting Professorship

The Beatrice Renfield Visiting Professorship in Nursing strengthens YSN's reputation of excellence in nursing education and scholarship



Beatrice Renfield (1914–2002) believed that excellence in nursing is the foundation of quality health care.

Record numbers of students are applying to schools of nursing around the country in response to a much publicized nursing shortage. Yet hundreds of well-qualified applicants are turned away. There are just not enough faculty to teach these new students.

The nursing faculty shortage is now a serious problem at academic institutions throughout the United States. Finding qualified faculty to fill all the positions is a growing challenge for undergraduate as well as graduate and post-graduate programs. Yale is no exception.

“Among the most pressing needs at YSN is the ability to attract the highest quality senior faculty. YSN is committed to educating advanced practice nurses and nurse scholars, providing them with the best possible education, experience, and preparation. But this is necessarily dependent upon the intellectual leadership of our faculty,” explained Dean Margaret Grey.

The Beatrice Renfield Foundation has long championed nurses. Now the Foundation is helping to address the need for more qualified faculty by creating an endowed fund to recruit visiting scholars to YSN. The Beatrice Renfield Visiting Professorship will provide the necessary resources in perpetuity

to recruit senior-level nursing scholars for a limited term to pursue their academic and research endeavors.

“We are grateful to the Beatrice Renfield Foundation for this important faculty post,” remarked Dr. Barbara Guthrie, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. “An endowed visiting professorship will not only allow us to add value to our academic program by introducing visiting scholars to it, but will also help us to build a pipeline of prospective senior faculty recruits to our ranks.”

The Beatrice Renfield Visiting Professorship in Nursing strengthens YSN's reputation of excellence in nursing education and scholarship. It is a lasting testament to Ms. Renfield's devotion and commitment to nurses and to their education.

Beatrice Renfield (1914–2002) was a noted philanthropist who supported and was committed to nurses and the nursing profession. During her lifetime Ms. Renfield made important contributions to nursing at Beth Israel Hospital, the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, and to YSN. The Beatrice Renfield Foundation, led by her sister Jean Renfield-Miller, continues to support Ms. Renfield's commitment to nursing education, practice, and research.