

**From:** [YSN Alumni Association](#)  
**To:** [Regan, Mike](#)  
**Subject:** Alumni Newsletter from Yale School of Nursing  
**Date:** Sunday, May 4, 2025 12:00:47 PM

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# The world is calling. We answer.

Yale SCHOOL OF NURSING



Dear YSN Community,

In less than a month, we'll proudly welcome a new class of graduates into the Yale School of Nursing alumni ranks—congratulations to the Class of 2025!

As your Alumni Association President, this first year has been an honor, filled with meaningful programming on self-advocacy in the workplace, population health and value-based care, and the future innovation of nursing's healthcare leadership powered by AI, technology and other advances. We also invite you to join us this summer for our June entrepreneurship program and a community-led book club—**stay tuned for details!**

We sincerely appreciate your genuine dedication to giving back, as demonstrated by your overwhelming response to this year's inaugural YSN Graduating Student Mentoring Program, Perspective Student Outreach Program, and our newest offering, the Peer Support Network.

**And don't forget—you can meet Dean Emami and other members of the YSN community when you join us for the [YSN Nurses Week Celebration on Thursday May 8th](#).**

We've heard from so many of you, and your insights have shaped every event. Even more is on the horizon for the coming year, guided by your feedback and designed to keep us

connected, informed, and inspired.

If you have ideas for what you'd like to see, we want to hear from you: email us anytime at [YSNAA@yale.edu](mailto:YSNAA@yale.edu).

Sincerely,

Caroline Piselli '15 DNP  
President, YSN Alumni Association

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## 2025 Distinguished Alumni Award Winners – And Event

The YSN Alumni Association Board of Directors is excited to announce that the 2025 Yale School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Awards will be part of the special YSN Commencement Reception on **Sunday, May 18, from 2:00 to 5:00 PM at the Schwarzman Center in New Haven**. The ceremony will begin at 2:00 PM, followed by a reception.

This year's event will not only honor our distinguished alumni but also celebrate the Class of 2025, alongside the recipients of the YSN Student and Faculty Awards, making it a true celebration of excellence across the entire YSN community. Registration is required, but there is no fee to attend —[click here to RSVP](#).

### Distinguished Alumni Award

[Allison Squires, PhD '07](#)



### Decade Award

[Stephan Davis, DNP '16](#)



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## Events

### Celebrate Nurses Week at YSN on Thursday, May 8th!

Join us on **Thursday, May 8**, for a **special in-person celebration honoring you, our incredible nurses, for Nurse's Week!**

**Where:**

Yale School of Nursing  
400 West Campus Drive, Orange, CT 06477

**When:**  
**Thursday, May 8**  
5:00 – 8:00 PM

### **[Tell us you're coming!](#)**

This evening is all about celebrating the YSN nursing community **with Simulation Lab tours, a social reception with Dean Azita Emami, and time to connect with fellow alumni and graduating students.** Whether it's been years or decades since you've visited campus, this is a perfect chance to reflect, reconnect, and recognize the impact of nurses everywhere. The event is free, but [registration](#) is required.

## News and Updates from Campus

### World-Renowned Neuroscientist Miia Kivipelto to Lead New YSN Center for Aging Well

**YSN is thrilled to welcome world-renowned neuroscientist Dr. Miia Kivipelto** as the Rodman Family Endowed Professor of Gerontology and founding director of the upcoming **Center for Aging Well**. Known for her groundbreaking work on preventing cognitive decline through lifestyle changes, Dr. Kivipelto leads a global research network spanning 70 countries.

**The new Center will launch in the Fall of 2025**, putting YSN at the forefront of aging and brain health, plus, she's helping shape exciting new courses in precision wellness and longevity.

Read more about Dr. Kivipelto and the Center for Aging Well [here](#).



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YSN Joins in Celebrating President Maurie McInnis's Historic

## Inauguration



YSN proudly took part in the historic inauguration of Yale's 24th president, Dr. Maurie McInnis, during a weekend full of tradition, celebration, and bold vision for the future. Dean Azita Emami joined the academic procession, while YSN welcomed visitors to explore the Simulation Center and see nurse education in action. From hosting global partners to spotlighting student-led care at Haven Free Clinic, YSN helped showcase the power and impact of nursing at Yale.

Read the full story [here](#).

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## Dr. Martha Swartz Honored with NAPNAP's Highest Award for Pediatric Healthcare

YSN faculty member **Dr. Martha Swartz has been awarded the prestigious Loretta C. Ford Distinguished Nurse Practitioner Award by the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners**, the organization's highest honor. The award recognizes her exceptional contributions to pediatric healthcare, education, and clinical practice at the national level. A longtime leader at YSN, Dr. Swartz has influenced generations of pediatric APRNs and served in roles including Director of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Specialty and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*.



Learn more about Dr. Swartz's incredible impact and the award [here](#).

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## YSN Expands Global Impact with Strengthened Partnership in Brazil



YSN is taking its global vision to the next level by strengthening ties with the **University of São Paulo**, thanks to a recent visit from **Professor Xuehong Zhang**. From planning student and faculty exchanges to launching exciting new research on nutrition and chronic disease, the trip opened doors for deeper collaboration and global impact. With exchange programs set to kick off in fall 2025, YSN is creating more opportunities for hands-on learning, cross-cultural connection, and innovative research.

Catch the full story [here](#).

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## Alumni Spotlights

### YSN Alumni Gather for an Evening Out in San Francisco

On March 14th, YSN alumni came together in San Francisco at The Patriot House for a fantastic evening of reconnecting, sharing stories, and strengthening the YSN community. It was a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Check out the photo below from the event to see the incredible group that gathered!



The day before, at the [Menlo Park Illuminated event](#), Presidential Visiting Fellow [Daniel Dawes](#) shared his insights as one of the featured speakers, [bringing thought-provoking discussions on health equity to the forefront](#).

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## YSN Graduates Making an Impact at Planned Parenthood Northern California

YSN grads gathered at a Planned Parenthood Northern California event, enjoying some quality time while making their mark on reproductive health in the region.



Pictured above: Briana Mitchell MSN '23, Maddy Spahr MSN '17, Genna Purcell Yale College '10, Jasmine Verret MSN 19, and Sarah Gilbert MSN '13

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## Specialty Program Listening Tour – Help us Improve Our Programs!

We are excited to invite you to participate in listening sessions designed to gather your valuable insight into our specialty programs. These interactive sessions will provide a platform for open, honest discussions where your perspectives can directly influence the future of YSN's programs.

To express your interest in participating, please take a moment to complete this brief survey: [Here](#)

Your voice matters. By sharing your thoughts, you'll play an important role in shaping the direction and impact of YSN's specialty programs.

[Complete the Survey](#)

**If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out to [deborah.famodimu@yale.edu](mailto:deborah.famodimu@yale.edu).**

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## Share Your Good News

Win an award? Promoted to a new position? Speaking at a conference? We want to hear from you!

Let us know so we can showcase your accomplishments to the YSN community by emailing [YSN.Alumniaffairs@yale.edu](mailto:YSN.Alumniaffairs@yale.edu)!

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## Join the YSN Alumni LinkedIn Page

Interested in reconnecting with old classmates, hearing about upcoming events, seeing job postings from other Yalies and in the nursing field? Join nearly 1000 other members of the YSN community through our private [LinkedIn group](#)!

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## Interested in Volunteering to Support Students?

If you're looking for ways to give back or curious about how you can help support current students, there are several rewarding opportunities to consider:

### **Graduating Students Mentorship Program**

Help guide a graduating student through their final year of school and into the workforce. As a mentor, you'll offer advice, share your experiences, and provide support as they navigate this transition.

### **Admissions Ambassador**

Share your YSN story with accepted students! As an admissions ambassador, you'll answer questions and help future students understand what it's truly like to be part of the YSN community, both during school and as a graduate.

### **Peer Support Network**

Our newest program, the Peer Support Network, connects alumni with students who may be struggling. By bonding over shared experiences, you'll provide encouragement and guidance to help them through tough times.

Sign-ups for this program are ongoing—[register here](#).

The mentorship and admissions ambassador programs will begin a new sign-up cycle in the fall. We look forward to having you join one of these impactful initiatives!

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### **Become a Class Agent and Make a Difference for YSN Today!**

At YSN, Class Agents assist the Development and Alumni Affairs team by engaging classmates and encouraging contributions to the Annual Fund through both mailed and virtual outreach. In this role, your involvement directly contributes to the success of initiatives aimed at supporting current students.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Mike Regan ([Mike.Regan@Yale.edu](mailto:Mike.Regan@Yale.edu))



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