

*Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way*



**Uniformed Services University**  
*of the Health Sciences*  
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## **USU Awarded Grant from Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare**

**Bethesda, MD** – As part of the national effort to address the shortage of nursing faculty and the number of advanced practice nurses providing direct patient care, the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare has awarded a \$70,000 grant to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences to advance the scholarly work of two individual Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Science (PhD) and five individual Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) students in the university's Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing.

Seven USU Jonas scholars are among the 425 scholars competitively selected for the 2016-2018 cohort, joining over 1,000 Jonas Scholars from 140 schools and universities around the country. USU's awards are part of the Center's Jonas Veterans Healthcare Program which supports nurses pursuing PhDs and DNPs, both terminal degrees in the nursing field.

As the nation's leading philanthropic funder of graduate nursing education, the Jonas Center is addressing the critical need for qualified nursing faculty. U.S. nursing schools turned away nearly 70,000 qualified applicants from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2014 due in large part to an insufficient number of faculty. Further, nearly two-thirds of registered nurses over age 54 say they are considering retirement.

Donald Jonas, who co-founded the Jonas Center with his wife Barbara Jonas, said "In 2008, we set an ambitious goal to support 1,000 Jonas Nurse Scholars. This year, on our Center's 10th anniversary, we celebrate this achievement and are amazed by the talent of this cohort of future nurse leaders. In the decade to come, we look forward to continuing to work with our partner nursing schools and to the great impact that the Jonas Scholars will have on improving healthcare around the world."

"We are excited that this grant will allow our school to enhance the research and scholarly inquiry of uniformed nurse officers who will serve as future military health leaders, educators, scientists and advanced practice clinicians," said Dr. Diane Seibert, associate dean for Academic Affairs in the Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing.

The seven 2016-2018 USU Jonas Scholars were competitively selected from the GSN students who matriculated in 2015. Two Ph.D. students, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Kennett Radford and Army Maj. Christopher Stucky, and five DNP students -- Army Capts. Melissa Boetig, Amy Brzuchalski, and Christina Terehoff, Air Force Capt. Tekia Jones, and Navy Lt. Colleen Spiri -- will receive support from the Jonas Foundation.

This is the second time USU students have been selected for the prestigious award. The first USU Jonas Scholars (2014-2016 cohort) included five Ph.D. students Navy Lt. Cmdrs. William Danchanko, Lalon Kasuke, and John Litchfield, and Air Force Maj. Jacqueline Killian and Laurie Migliore, and two DNP Scholar groups: Army Maj. Audry Torres and Imshin Kim, Capt. Jeremy Mahoney and Elizabeth Poindexter (Scholar Team I), Air Force Capt. Michael Allen and Alexander Kats and Air Force Maj. Jenifer Prosser (Scholar Team II).

“The Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing is very pleased that this grant will support the scholarship of future military nurse educators and leaders who will advance nursing science and the expansion of evidence-based practice for military and veterans’ health care,” said Dr. Carol Romano, dean of the Inouye Graduate School of Nursing.

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### **About the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences**

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, founded by an act of Congress in 1972, is the nation’s federal health sciences university and the academic heart of the Military Health System. USU students are primarily active duty uniformed officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Public Health Service who receive specialized education in tropical and infectious diseases, TBI and PTSD, disaster response and humanitarian assistance, global health, and acute trauma care. A large percentage of the university’s more than 5,200 physician and 1,000 advanced practice nursing alumni are supporting operations around the world, offering their leadership and expertise. USU also has graduate programs in biomedical sciences and public health committed to excellence in research, and in oral biology. The University’s research program covers a wide range of clinical and other topics important to both the military and public health. For more information about USU and its programs, visit [www.usuhs.edu](http://www.usuhs.edu).