

VISIONS: Unitary Nursing-Caring Science and Natural Laws of Nature

**Jean Watson, RN, PhD, AHN-BC, FAAN, LL (AAN);
Demitri Watson Ervedosa, BA-SLHS**

Unitary Rogerian concepts are more evident in nursing's evolving disciplinary discourse since the seventies. This article explores ancient universal Laws of Nature that coincide with Unitary Nursing/Caring Science. These principles of life have not been addressed in nursing literature. Rogers' Science of Unitary Human Beings in convergence with Watson's Transpersonal Caring Science/Unitary Caring Science, are highlighted as evidentiary exemplars of the presence of these Natural Laws, referred to as Hermetic truths. By uncovering the universals that underpin Unitary Nursing/Caring Science, the discipline of Nursing is helped to mature to a higher level of consciousness, affirming the timeless universal unitary nature of Human-Universe phenomena of Nursing. **Key words:** *unitary caring science, universal laws*

BACKGROUND: NATURAL LAWS

I had never heard of *The Kybalion*, until my grandson introduced me to it.

*The Kybalion*¹ is a secondary source from the Three Initiates: teachings from Hermes Trismegistus, and the mystery schools of ancient Egypt and Greece (with rumored connections to Hinduism). These teachings happen to intersect with the cosmology of Ayurvedic Indian medicine, based on the "science of life," which has evolved in India over thousands of years; it is interesting to note that *Ayu* in Sanskrit, means "life" and *Veda* means "science" or "knowledge". Tibetan and Chinese healing practices also

share this common wisdom that the cosmos is ultimately composed of *qi* (the energy that constitutes organic matter and causes growth and change) based on the interaction of opposites; *yin/yang*.² Moreover, the Chinese philosophy of *yin/yang* coincides with the Hermetic Principle of Correspondence as noted below: eg, *As above/So below* – the oneness of heaven/earth and humanity as the cosmic order of the universe.

These teachings found in the *Corpus Hermeticum*, were compiled in the first few centuries, in Alexandria, Egypt. They inspired the work of many great minds from Luca Pacioli to Leonardo da Vinci and directly influenced the hermetic obsession during the Renaissance, when Cosimo de Medici obtained the body of work in 1430. More recently, in 1908 this ancient wisdom was passed on through *The Kybalion*. These seven universal laws are born out of an Akashic intelligence and deeper systematic understanding of how these principles are all-encompassing and interconnected. The hermetic emphasis positions truth knowledge with divine spiritual understandings of the universe and Cosmos. Many of which are relevant

Author Affiliations: College of Nursing, Anschutz Medical Center, Boulder, Colorado (Dr Watson); and Certified Caritas Coach; Watson Caring Science Institute, Boulder, Colorado (Mr Ervedosa).

The authors report no conflict of interest.

Authors received no outside external funding

Correspondence: Jean Watson, RN, PhD, AHN-BC, FAAN, LL (AAN), University of Colorado Denver - Anschutz Medical Campus, 2441 Seventh Street, Boulder, Colorado 80304 (jean@watsoncaringscience.org).

DOI: 10.1097/ANS.0000000000000584

Statement of Significance

What is known or assumed to be true about this topic?

Natural Laws of Nature known as Ancient Hermetic Truths are considered Universals of Life Principles that are found in ancient texts but not acknowledged as foundational to everyday life.

What this article adds:

This article uncovers and aligns ancient, timeless universal Laws of Nature with Unitary concepts from Science of Unitary Human and Unitary Caring Science – contributing to Nursing’s mature disciplinary evolution. These natural principles of life that intersect with nursing’s unitary transformative paradigm have not been addressed in nursing literature. By uncovering universal ancient Hermetic truths that underpin Unitary Nursing/Caring Science, the discipline of Nursing is helped to mature to a higher level of consciousness, affirming the unitary nature of Human-Universe phenomena of Nursing.

today in our current understanding of the unitary fractal nature of reality, and nursing’s highest disciplinary focus: human-universe unity.

DISCIPLINARY CORE UNITARY THEORETICAL CONCEPTS – CONTEXT FOR EXPLORING NATURAL LAWS

Key core concepts from Rogerian Unitary Science and Watson Transpersonal Caring (as exemplar of Unitary Caring Science) are reviewed as core unitary caring disciplinary concepts, not fully included in Nursing Science knowledge development. Universal Natural Laws and Unitary Caring Nursing, both reside within the Unitary Transformative Paradigm, and coincide with eternal Hermetic Life-Energy Principles. This overview serves as a foundation for connecting these ancient Universal Laws of Nature with Unitary Nursing/Transpersonal Caring concepts, not well known within nursing.

ROGERIAN SCIENCE OF UNITARY HUMAN BEINGS:

Martha Rogers 1970 first book, *An Introduction to the Theoretical basis of Nursing*³ was the origin of unitary concepts in nursing and set the stage for ever-expanding views of energy and of the human-environmental field as one indivisible whole. Within that framework, terms and concepts were introduced which were revolutionary. For example:

Pandimensionality – a nonlinear domain without spatial or temporal attributes; unitary oneness of awareness beyond time, space and physicality; opening to paranormal, invisible, non-physical and metaphysical phenomena. This concept alone was and remains beyond frontiers of science as we know it. It unlocks new horizons of awareness of the oneness of ALL.

Integrality – an irreducible mutual harmony between human-environment and the universal field.

Energy Field – was and is the unifying concept – all is energy; humans are indivisible pandimensional energy patterns, which cannot be predicted from knowledge of any one part.

Pattern – unique characteristics, of an energy field, which is manifest as a wave in human-environment/universal fields.

Resonancy – all phenomena are viewed as self-organizing within the larger field; there is continuous interchange in energy frequency patterns; energy is always repatterning from lower to higher frequencies in the unitary field.

WATSON TRANSPERSONAL CARING – UNITARY CARING SCIENCE⁴

Watson’s work has evolved and expanded to locate her original theory of human caring within the unitary field of consciousness; in the unitary transformative paradigm, energy of caring resonates into concentric circles from self/other/environment/universe. The “Ethic of Belonging” (to the infinite field of Cosmic Universal

Love Energy) is noted as the first principle of Unitary Caring Science. Core concepts include:

Transpersonal – conveys frequency of higher energy existing within a field of Caritas Consciousness (Energy of Cosmic Love Consciousness), the highest level of consciousness extending to infinity.

Transpersonal Caring Moment – transcends time, space, and physicality (thus is Pandimensional); is grounded in the “eternal now” of the moment; is open to infinity and is continuous with evolving consciousness of the universe.

10 Caritas Processes® – identify an ontology of human caring as universals, which provide language and guidance for micro/macro-Unitary Transpersonal Caring Moments (see Table 1).

Caritas Consciousness – a higher vibrational frequency of Love/Caring Consciousness that guides authentic compassionate presence. The 10 Caritas Processes® guide micro/macro caring practices that are grounded in Transpersonal Caring Science.

CONVERGING UNITARY CARING-HEALING MODALITIES:

Science of Unitary Human Beings and Transpersonal Caring share commonalities of energy-based caring-healing modalities – including but not limited to: Therapeutic Touch (TT), Healing Touch (HT), Reiki, Acupuncture, Acupressure, Reflexology, Aromatherapy, Chromotherapy, Visualization, Creative Arts, Sound Therapy, Music Therapy, Meditation, Breathwork, Yoga, and Dance-Movement Therapy. The above unitary nursing concepts from Rogers and Watson, as well as Holistic Nursing, reside within the unitary transformative paradigm. They also can be found within the Hermetic principles descriptive of Natural Law (as noted later).

The following section explores the seven Hermetic, Universal Natural Laws and their presence in Unitary Caring Nursing.

On that day when science begins to study non-physical (spiritual) phenomena, it will advance

in a decade more than in the early centuries of its history.

—Nikola Tesla

SEVEN HERMETIC UNIVERSAL NATURAL LAWS:

The core Seven Natural Principles are as follows:

1. Principle of mentalism

The Buddhist expresses it in one way, the Christian in another, but both say it the same. We are all one.

—Nikola Tesla

The ALL is Mind/Consciousness. The mind affects perception, our reality, our worldview, and our actions. Take for example, the “Placebo affect” and how the mind affects healing outcomes. Or not. Take the “Nocebo” affect – which can have devastating outcomes, where a person experiences genuine, tangible negative symptoms or side effects, and in some cases full blown “disease”, because of their belief. The way the physician or nurse introduces medication can have a “Placebo” or “Nocebo” effect via Mentalism. Meaning and perception reside within and affect both experiences and outcomes. Further examples of the power of mind include the recent use of mind-altering drugs to address Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and the successful treatment of physical addiction. Mind-altering virtual reality (VR) is validating Mentalism by intensifying and/or manipulating sense perception, augmenting one’s reality (AR). This VR mental/consciousness manipulation is further enhanced when sensations of touch and vision are introduced. Goggles/headsets and gloves, for example, stimulate touch and vision receptors further simulating and altering perception, confusing one’s ability to distinguish between the tangible and intangible. Virtual reality has been extended to surgery through technological use of robotic devices controlled remotely. Such advances have led to

Table 1. The 10 Caritas Processes®

The 10 Caritas Processes®	Description
1. Embrace (Loving-Kindness)	Sustaining humanistic-altruistic values through loving-kindness, compassion, and equanimity with self/others.
2. Inspire (Faith-Hope)	Being authentically present, enabling faith/hope/belief system; honoring subjective inner, lifeworld of self/others.
3. Trust (Transpersonal)	Being sensitive to self and others by cultivating own spiritual practices; beyond ego-self to transpersonal presence.
4. Nurture (Relationships)	Developing and sustaining loving, trusting-caring relationships.
5. Forgive (All)	Allowing for expression of positive and negative feelings – authentically listening to another person's story.
6. Deepen (Creative Self)	Creatively problem-solving “solution-seeking” through caring process; full use of self and artistry of caring-healing practices via use of all ways of knowing/being/doing/becoming.
7. Balance (Learning)	Engaging in transpersonal teaching and learning within the context of a caring relationship; staying with other's frame of reference; shifting toward a coaching model for expanded health/wellness.
8. Co-create (Caritas Field)	Creating a healing environment at all levels; subtle environment for an energetic authentic caring presence.
9. Minister (Humanity)	Reverentially assisting with basic needs as sacred acts, touching the mind-body-spirit of others; sustaining human dignity.
10. Open (Infinity)	Opening to spiritual, mystery, unknowns – allowing for miracles.

less invasive forms of surgery and treatments. These VR/AR techniques for manipulating the human sensory organs have become standard in medical treatments. All these exemplars are concrete manifestations of the universal law of Mentalism.

Unitary nursing/transpersonal caring – law of mentalism/consciousness

The Hermetic Principle of Mentalism/Consciousness is foundational within unitary nursing and transpersonal caring. Concepts such as *Infinite consciousness*, *Pandimensionality*, *Caritas Consciousness* and *Transcendence of time/space and physicality*, are all examples of Mentalism. This principle invites nursing to explore the role of unitary consciousness, transpersonal caritas consciousness, and the very heart-center of nurse's vibrational presence as foundational to this Hermetic Law, defining the infinite ALL. For example, a transpersonal caring moment whereby the nurse holds

Caritas Consciousness as higher-level Love Energy, transcends time/space and physicality; thereby energetically repatterning the field. The physical presence of Caritas Consciousness facilitates an energetic caring-healing relationship. All nursing phenomena are considered unitary and embedded in a larger self-organizing field which is all-encompassing, unified and infinite, ie, ALL is consciousness/mind.

2. The principle of correspondence

Behind everything physical in the world lies the unseen substance of Spirit – God the unseen source and substance of everything that exists.

—Daily word

Everything is governed by one law. The human being is a microcosmos, i.e. the laws prevailing in the cosmos also operate at the minutest space of the human being.

—Victor Schauberger

As Above–So Below/As Below–So Above. As Within–So Without/As Without–So Within.

What is obvious on the visual physical plane also has a non-physical/metaphysical correspondence that is hidden/cloaked/concealed and veiled from our cognitive logic. The law of Correspondence is not obvious. However, “*The All-law principle*” reveals that all phenomena correspond to a greater unitary field beyond usual visual comprehension. Consider the Fractal nature of reality – the repetitive patterns that repeat at different scales; the macroscopic level also has a microscopic recursive interrelation. Common examples are repetitive patterns seen in the branches of trees, leaves, lighting bolts, river systems, and so on, including our own circulatory system. There is a repeated correspondence at higher and lower planes of existence due to the importance of mathematical concepts like the Fibonacci sequence, and phi (ϕ), also known as the golden ratio/section/mean/proportion. The divine proportion (*Divina Proportione*) is the math of natural creation found from the logarithmic spiral growth seen in Mollusk shells to the geometry of Human DNA. Nature widely expresses the golden section through a simple series of whole numbers, known as the Fibonacci Sequence, one of the most important and beautiful concepts in mathematics. The series is made up of successive terms added together to produce the following number in the sequence (the basis for both fractal and vortex mathematics). Every ratio of successive terms in the sequence approximates phi, oscillating above and below ϕ with increasing accuracy. The longer the sequence is extended, spiraling outwards, we get everything expanding toward infinity.⁵

Unitary nursing/transpersonal caring – law of correspondence

Beyond the physical human-care plane, lies an infinite unitary field of corresponding spiritual/non-physical existence, ie *transpersonal caring transcends time/space and*

physicality residing within this ethereal realm. Within human evolutionary-thinking, human consciousness continues to expand into infinity (*Omega point*).⁶ For every illness there is a metaphysical dimension. The Correspondence Principle is notably emphasized in the first caritas process® of Caring Science Theory: “*Practicing loving kindness for self comes before caring for others.*” As caring *within*, so there is a manifestation of caring *without*. Roger’s tenet of *pandimensionality*, ie, the indivisible/irreducible energy field, is congruent with this ideology. There is one relationship between the levels of existence, an interconnection between all things (Æther) – no separation, no boundaries... no void. We may not perceive this metaphysical phenomenon, but it corresponds to what is visible. This framework also invites the discipline of nursing, ie, Rogers and Watson, to include non-local consciousness phenomena (Caritas Process 10) such as miraculous, mystical, transcendental, metaphysical and the unseeable, as the foundation for healing and health. The Correspondence Principle unites science and infinite spirit as ONE.

3. The principle of energy/vibration

If you want to find the secrets of the universe, think in terms of energy, frequency and vibration.

—Nikola Tesla

The nurse’s presence and caring consciousness change the field, by repatterning from lower frequencies to higher frequencies, – caring consciousness carries higher energy in contrast to anxiety and/or non-caring.

—Jean Watson

Everything vibrates. Nothing stands still.

Everything in the universe is energy. Matter is “frozen”, solidified energy at a slower vibration, whereby the mind perceives it as physical. According to Pythagoras, “*All is number*”. Known for his geometric theorem and understanding of triangles that he acquired from

the Egyptians, Pythagoras is credited with transforming numbers from simple tools of calculation into a system that mirrors the structure and harmony of the universe. (REC 2) Consider the wisdom of the Quadrivium: Arithmetic, the study of numbers; Geometry, the study of numbers in space; Music, the study of numbers in time; Astronomy, the study of numbers in time and space. Numbers as the “alphabet” or essence of reality, gave way to the deeper understanding of energy, frequency, and vibration, governing everything from the motion of the stars to the patterns and inner workings of music. His belief, that numbers have mystical and metaphysical significance, would directly influence later developments in philosophy. Of particular importance to this discussion is the idea that the world is not a chaotic random place, but a cosmos governed by rational and harmonious principles.⁷ Everything is a manifestation of energy with different frequencies of vibration. Nothing rests; everything is in motion; everything vibrates.

“Vibration is considered the music of the universe” (The Kybalion).

Unitary nursing/transpersonal caring – law of energy/vibration

Essentially, here is where we can understand this hermetic principle found in Rogerian science, that energy is the foundational unit and explicit unifying concept of, not just nursing, but amongst all living/non-living entities. For vibrations to travel, a medium is needed for their propagation, despite the erroneous design and conclusions (set forth by the Michelson-Morley Experiment) and dominant paradigm (Einstein himself conceded later that his most famous theory was dependent on space possessing physical properties). The luminiferous “æther” or “akasha”, is that interconnecting medium, the primordial all-encompassing “primary substance” that permeates space, from which all matter is derived and to which all things eventually return. Historically many cultures

believed in this interconnected universal concept and was studied by many great minds, ie, Nikola Tesla’s Dynamic Theory of Gravity, proposing material existence as the result of the condensation and rotation of a sea of tiny, spinning vortices; conceptualized using fluid dynamics. This medieval “quintessence” or “fifth element” traced back to ancient Greece, India, and China, has been foundational in our understanding of our conscious interconnected ‘UNI’verse (ONE). If empty space was truly “empty” or void as fraudulently taught to many of our young minds, none of the characteristics of vibration, resonance, or harmony would be relevant to the study of energy, nor nursing, or the study and science of caring for others.

Energy and vibration are congruent with the “*unitary transformative paradigm*” prominent in nursing science discourse. For example, *qi* or *chi*, defines this principle, acknowledging energy as the “*vital force*” of our universe. This timeless understanding of the “æther,” is foundational for many energetic caring-healing modalities of Unitary Nursing/Transpersonal Caring and Holistic Nursing. As noted above, these include as examples: Meditation; Breath work; Transpersonal Caring; Therapeutic Touch (TT); Healing Touch (HT); Reiki; Tai Chi; Sound Therapy; Music Therapy; Chromotherapy; Acupuncture; Acupressure; *Qi Gong*, and other ancient and/or contemporary healing practices. Increasingly, these and other energy-based modalities are prevalent in unitary caring science nursing, further aligning these theory-guided practices with the Natural Law of Energy and Vibration.

4. The principle of polarity

Love must be stronger than hate or there is no future for us.

—Nightingale

The higher level simply transcends the lower level... in another sense the higher one contains the whole.

—Bohm

Everything has poles. There exists only one pole of everything, with a continuum depending upon the vibration.

Like and unlike are the same. Is the cup half full or half empty? Opposites are identical in nature but differ in degree. For example, the whole includes both poles, antonyms representing the extremes at opposite ends of a given spectra; yin/yang; light/dark; hate/love; +/- charge; joy/pain; good/evil; hot/cold; male/female; each representing different vibrations on the continuum. All truths are but half-truths, in that the contrasting truth is contained at the opposite extreme. All paradoxes are exposed through the Polarity Principle.

Unitary nursing/transpersonal caring – law of polarity

The Polarity principle is evident in Unitary-Transpersonal Caring in the very nature of life/death; illness/health; suffering/pleasure; pain/joy; male/female; light/dark and so on, experienced in our everyday nursing world. However, we do not necessarily realize that the Natural Law of Polarity is operating in our lifeworld; all experiences are on a continuum. Each emotion or experience we have or witness, vibrates at a different frequency. Everything has its opposite. One phenomenon... *no boundaries*. Polarity is related to the *Pandimensionality* of Unitary Nursing; concepts of *Pattern and Resonancy*; continuous change from lower to higher frequency of vibration affecting phenomena and/or experience. In *Transpersonal Caring, the nurse's Caritas Consciousness can repattern the lower vibrational field via higher energy frequencies and is an (un)intentional use of the knowledge of Polarity*.

We witness this within our own experience; when we are angry or upset, time passes, and our mind shifts to positive thoughts, our energy shifts. We come back in balance or “right relation” with ourselves. This is evident in common micro-caring practices, such as breathing into heart center; releasing negative or fearful thoughts;

the renewal of energy through breath, affirming the impermanence of all. Everything is expanding and contracting. We have a body, but we are not the body; we have thoughts, but we are not our thoughts; we have emotions, but are more than our emotions; they are all passing away and changing. This is related to the rhythm principle, nothing stands still. Everything is in motion.

5. The principle of rhythm

Everything in the universe manifests wave frequencies, vibrations, resonances of pattern and fields.

—John Phillips

Everything flows in rhythm, out and in.

—*The Kybalion*

Everything has its tides, like the waves in the sea and the cycles of nature; in and out; rising and falling; expansion and contraction; like the rhythm of the breath. Consider the compression and rarefaction in the oscillating motion of the sine wave. Take for examples: the rhythmic patterns of heart-rate variability; brain waves; night/day; sunrise/sunset; a nurse “reading the rhythm of a pulse.” Contemplate our own rhythm of sleep/wake cycles; the circadian biorhythm that gets off schedule during international travel through different time zones; the necessity of work/play; coming and going; eating/resting; and the rhythmic cycles of personal solitude and community participation. The Law of Rhythm – *nothing stands still... everything moves...* is connected to Polarity, Energy and Vibration.

Unitary nursing/transpersonal caring – law of rhythm

Within Unitary Nursing and Transpersonal Caring, the Natural Law of Rhythm is evident in major concepts informing micro and macro unitary caring-healing practices. The Unitary concept of *Integrality/human-environment*

Mutuality and flow, are informed by the Natural Law of Rhythm. In any *Transpersonal Caring Moment* there are wave patterns of frequency and vibration manifesting *Resonancy* and *Pattern*. These Unitary and Transpersonal concepts guide Caring Moments, allowing for rhythmic flow in all cycles of any *Transpersonal Caring Moment*, and in everyday life.

6. The principle of cause and effect

Throughout the infinite, the forces are in a perfect balance, and hence the energy of a single thought may determine the motion of the universe.

—Nikola Tesla

Everything has an effect; every effect has its cause.

Actions cause reactions; those reactions alter the cause of the initial action, because all is One. Consider the “butterfly effect”, indicating subtle nonlocal happenings when a small change in one state of initial condition(s), can catalyze large metamorphoses. Similarly, this phenomenon is captured in unitary thinking and quantum science, whereby small acts have great impact in the unitary field; even though they may not be immediately detected. Thus, a higher vibrational energy affects the whole field. Likewise, our thoughts/consciousness can carry higher vibrational energy (Caring Love) emanating outward, elevating the entire field. On the other hand, low vibrational energies of anger, fear, distrust and so on, can be felt, which contaminate the larger field with sensations of anxiety. Louise Hay a healing master metaphysician, discovered this Hermetic Principle through her concept of “*metaphysical causation*”, whereby, the power of words and thoughts from our inner world create outer world physical manifestations.⁸ While all the hermetic principles belong to one ancient cosmology, the Principle of Cause and Effect is associated with Polarity, as well as Mentalism.

Unitary nursing/transpersonal caring – law of cause and effect

Underneath any given health-illness and healing phenomenon, lies the Principle of Cause and Effect. The Natural Law of Cause and Effect is evident in Transpersonal Theory and the Unitary concepts of *Unity of ALL; Irreducible Processes*; transcendent *Transpersonal Caritas Consciousness*; staying present... ONE with the *universal field of consciousness*. Raising vibrations from “*Within*” self, to “*Without*” to the outside world; *staying open* to infinity – to receive Miracles/Mysteries. In a *Pandimensional* universe of Unitary Nursing, phenomena are *unitary and self-organizing* within the larger expanding field; reflecting the whole which cannot be seen. Foundational in any given phenomenon is an underlying, unknown and unseen larger continuum of an ALL-pervasive energy, or “*FORCE*” (young Skywalker), affecting the visible “*known*” effect. Cause and Effect Law is operating underneath all our physical phenomena and experiences in life, which is exactly what the yin/yang symbolizes in its equilibrium; the push/pull of our interconnected universe. One of the more all-encompassing laws, ie, action/reaction, the Law of Cause and Effect has been embedded and hidden within Unitary Nursing and Transpersonal Caring principles and concepts for some time, but here being made more explicit.

7. Principle of gender

Gender is manifested in everything, from the smallest atom to the largest galaxy.

—The Kybalion

Everything has its Masculine and Feminine Principles – manifesting in all planes – nature, humanity, and biological cycles of all living things. Energetics of the masculine and feminine are essential to all aspects of life and nature. Gender polarity distinctions are rooted in Natural Law principles and can be found in the magnetic attraction of opposite charges. For example,

all species, mammals, birds, reptilians, amphibians, insects, and plants, produce and sustain life through the universal Law of Gender.

Each half carries energy of the other within, varying in degree and extent, eg, yin energy (connected to the feminine), carries yang energy (connected to the masculine), and vice versa. The balancing of both qualities in all things adhere to this universal Gender Principle. This harmony is symbolized within the yin/yang iconic representation, confirming fundamental universal laws of physics and equilibrium. However, gender is a social construct in current society and can be highly polarizing. It is important to not confuse the Natural Law of Gender which applies to all living entities, with social roles and constructs. While respecting and honoring evolving social discourse, these Gender Principles are universal to all living things.

Unitary nursing – law of gender

This Gender principle is congruent with the Rogerian Unitary principle of *Integrity – human-environment mutuality*. Likewise, the Unitary concept of *Pattern*, is congruent with the distinguishing energy wave continuum, represented by a single wave (sine wave) which has both masculine (peak) and feminine (crest). Unitary Caring – Healing Principles require yin energy for inner healing to balance external yang treatments and interventions. Watson's *Transpersonal Caritas Consciousness* and energetic healing modalities also are philosophical-theoretical examples of Nursing's transpersonal presence in harmonizing yin/yang and the Law of Gender.

HERMETIC AND NURSING UNIVERSALS

These seven universals prevail at every conceivable level of human-nature universe existence: the highest level of nursing's full disciplinary focus.^{9,10} These hermetic principles are provable facts that we recognize on many metaphysical levels. "*Everything is*

mental/consciousness-perception; everything is energy, vibration, rhythm". For example, the invisible properties of magnetism; the non-physical energy of electricity flowing through our bodies; the electrical beat of the heart; brain waves; the peristaltic muscular contractions of digestion. We know and experience these realities in our daily life through our five senses, but do not examine, detect or comprehend their metaphysical nature.

Nursing's timeless covenant with the human-universe connection, the sacred circle of life/death and natural life processes, correspond to these Universal Natural Laws. They serve as a source of Energy for our caring-healing professions, putting nursing in right relation with the order of the Universe. Nursing's reason for existence is to uphold and nurture life, health and the sacred circle of life-death... and beyond. By uncovering these timeless, Natural Laws of the Universe with Nursing's Caring Unitary disciplinary ethos, Nursing is more capable to make new connections to affirm and fulfill its global unitary caring service in the world.

That is the meaning of the covenant, to honor our unitary connection to humanity, our Mother Earth and the Universe itself. Nursing avows and deepens its intertwined foundation with Nature and Life itself.

Since Rogers' 1970 Science of Unitary Human (SUHB), unitary science scholars have advanced the disciplinary foundation of nursing (Barrett, Cowling, Newman, Parse, Phillips, Smith, and others). More recently, nursing theories and nursing scholarship have incorporated and expanded on this unitary thinking; for example, Unitary Caring Science (UCS) and Transpersonal Caring Science (TCS).¹¹ Concepts such as "Caritas Consciousness", transpersonal caring, energetic healing, cosmic Love and Spirit, all reside within the unitary field of science; thus, congruent with Hermeticism. The discipline of nursing has matured through the unitary worldview of science.

THE FUNDAMENTAL UNIT OF LIFE (ENERGY)

Rogers' science of unitary human being (SUHB) in 1970 identified unitary human energy as the fundamental unit of life, including indivisible fields within fields beyond the physical plane. Further, concepts such as Pandimensionality; Infinity; Resonance; Integrality (mutual human-environment field process); and Energetic Caring-Healing modalities are all congruent with universal Hermetic Principles, such as, Energy/Vibration, Rhythm, Polarity, Correspondence, and Cause/Effect. Later, Newman, a Rogerian scholar, identified health as evolving consciousness, positing Consciousness as the media for health and healing. Newman elevated the Hermetic Principle of Consciousness and *No-Boundaries* within the unitary transformative scientific paradigm.¹² More recently, contemporary Unitary Nursing tenets that intersect with the Hermetic Principles, can be found in Phillips¹³ (pp. 223-224) article where he provided the most evolved statement of Rogerian theoretical thinking of unitary science.

They include the following:

- “*The universe is unitary integral and alive*”
 - (And Conscious – Hermetic **Mentalism** Principle).
- “*Spirit and soul are the universal and are integral*”
 - (Hermetic **Correspondence** Principle – Body exists within soul/spirit; versus soul/spirit within body).
- “*The universe manifests conscious awareness*”
 - (Likewise, Consciousness manifests awareness – Hermetic **Mentalism/Correspondence** Principle).
- “*The universe manifests thought, emotions, information and knowledge*”
 - (Hermetic **Mentalism** Principle – **Energy Vibration**).

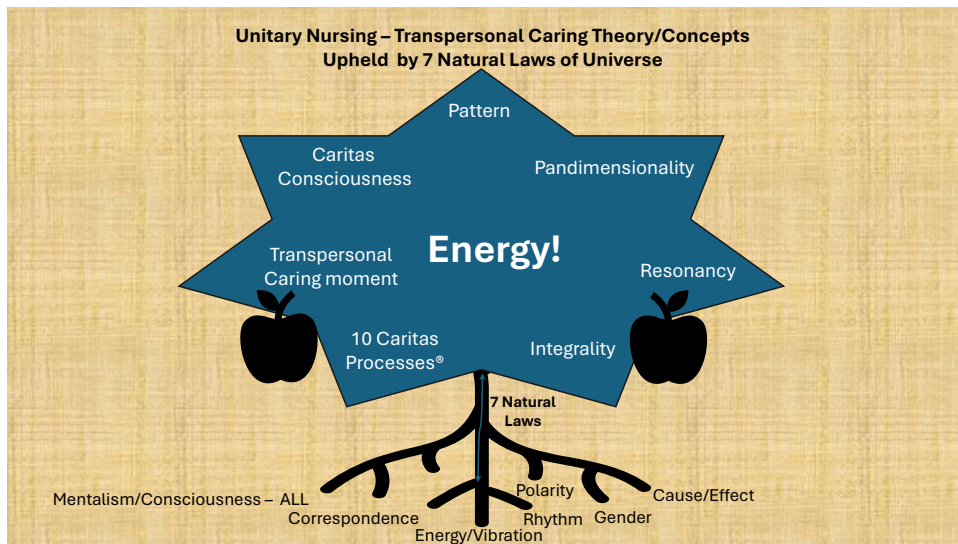
- “*The universe and communication can be non-local.*”
 - (Hermetic **Mentalism and Polarity** Principles – Consciousness **IS** non-local; it resides within the unitary field; we all have access to the unitary field).
- “*Humans have a mind that is not confined to the brain*”
 - (Non-local consciousness). Hermetic **Mentalism** Principle – Consciousness is unitary).

Each of these current unitary science tenets align with hermetic universals. The First Law, that “*The All is Mind*” aligns with Phillips tenet (consciousness manifests awareness). Consciousness informs our perception of reality and consciousness resides within the unitary field. “*Body resides in the field of consciousness, rather than consciousness residing within the body*” (Hildegard of Bingen 12th century). The Hermetic Principles provide a synthesis of universal laws of unitary nursing already in practice, such as, *Pandimensionality, Infinite Energy, Spirit, Evolving Consciousness, Intentionality, Pattern, Transcendence, Wellbeing; “Well-Becoming”* and so on. These original and contemporary unitary concepts and phenomena, take on entirely new (infinitely old) meaning.

HERMETICISM IN ROGERIAN SCIENCE & TRANSPERSONAL CARING SCIENCE

Hermetic principles can also be found in the 2002¹¹ transtheoretical treatise for Nursing knowledge development. The authors outlined the juncture between Rogerian Science of Unitary Human (SUHB) and Transpersonal Caring Science (TCS). This earlier interrelationship revealed a creative synthesis of an explicit unitary view of human–universe. Further development of nursing knowledge is extended by locating this earlier theoretical treatise within the context of the Hermetic Principles.

The SUHB concept of *Pandimensionality* coincides with TCS notions of *Transpersonal Caring Moment*, transcending time, space,



and physicality. These SUHB and TCS concepts overlap with Hermetic Principles of Energy/Vibration, Rhythm and Polarity, in that everything is energy in motion. *Nothing rests – All is One*, energy vibrating at different frequencies. The illusion of stillness, we are Being and Becoming – evolving each moment, coming in and out of existence.

The unitary field is repatterned by transpersonal caring moments emanating higher frequency energy, radiating outwards. Quantum acts of Love and caring create a language and structure for leadership.¹⁴ Thus, caring/loving consciousness becomes part of the universe of possibilities in the complex web of life. Hence, “we never know how we are touching the life of another person”.

The SUHB view of *infinity* overlaps with TCS ‘*universal field of consciousness* – (which resides in infinity). Caring Science draws upon the philosophy of Levinas, includes “*Belonging*” as a core premise for unitary caring; in that we all “*Belong*” to the infinite field of universal cosmic Love Energy which comes before the separatist worldview. For example, a Caring Conscious Nurse would hold higher

vibrational consciousness elevating the whole field. The SUHB concept of *Integrity* (*mutual human-environment field process*) supports the TCS concept of *Mutuality* – (*caring healing relationship within caring field*).

These shared unitary views align with the Hermetic Principle of “*The ALL*” – Everything is connected as ONE. The concepts of *Integrity* and *Mutuality* both coincide with the Hermetic Principles of Polarity, Cause-and-Effect and Correspondence. Within these shared views, we acknowledge that we are each a *microcosm of the macrocosmos*; The Principle of Polarity is evident, in that there is one continuum between seemingly opposite poles with different frequencies of vibration. The *Mutuality* of “*The ALL*” – holds the Hermetic Principle of Correspondence. Energy is the vibratory rhythmic foundation for the sacred circle of life/death and beyond. Therefore, our inner personal self-caring micro-practices are unveiled, showing up in our outer professional world. Whatever we do to self we are doing to the environment; Whatever we do to the environment we are doing to self. Our caring relationship with self, is reflected in our outer relationships.

HERMETICS AND INTEGRATIVE NURSING

Further evidence for the conjunction between unitary nursing and Hermetism include the scholarship of Integrative Nursing (IN).¹⁵ They introduce a unitary nursing context that connects (perhaps unknowingly) healing premises with Hermetic Universals. Universals of Healing are identified, for example:

- Human beings are whole systems, inseparable from the environment.

Hermetic **Correspondence. Integrality.**

- Human beings have the innate capacity (inner knowing/instinct) for health and wellbeing (well-becoming). Hermetic **Vibration/Energy**.
- Nature has healing and restorative properties that contribute to health and wellbeing/becoming. Hermetic **Polarity**.

These IN unitary principles of healing, contain hermetic wisdom acknowledging the Oneness of ALL; no boundaries between human/environment/nature/universe. The concepts of Polarity and Vibration/Energy correspond to the energy of Healing and Phillips notion of “*Well-Becoming*”. More recently, unitary science has been inspired by quantum physics, further connecting the Hermetic Principle of “*The All*” to our presence in a quantum universe. One can begin to see the inherent relationship among the hermetic principles and core tenets of Unitary Nursing.

DISCUSSION

Unitary thinking continues to develop within the discipline of Unitary Nursing. The connection to ancient Hermetic Universal Natural Laws has yet to be acknowledged, although, extant scholarship in nursing can be found to reside within these hermetic principles giving more depth and integrity to the

underlying ethos of Nursing across time. We have not paid attention (or not been cognizant) to hermetic conceptions within Unitary Nursing/Caring Science, per se; yet they are present. The Polarity of Oneness of seemingly opposites, eg, illness/health, life/death, good/evil, right/wrong, light/dark, pain/joy, are common exemplars. Such harmony affirms this ancient wisdom as foundational to nursing’s relational ontology and its metaphysical-epistemological philosophy. By uncovering these dormant universal laws, nursing can perhaps honor the vastness of its sacred sustainable gifts it provides to the unitary field.

Nursing and all disciplines face a changing world. We all must come face-to-face with the metaphysical characteristics and reality of Nursing and human-universe phenomena. Within a quantum, non-local universe, the mechanical physical universe begins to dissolve, fade, and disappear; whereby “*matter becomes mystery*” (*The Kybalion*). Nurses’ common experiences with miracles and mysteries affirm the hermetic truth of a dissolving physical worldview, allowing for the unknown and undefined to emerge.¹⁶ This places Unitary Nursing and Caring-Healing in the quantum metaphysical plane of existence, which aligns the discipline of Nursing with these truths. Furthermore, by uncovering and honoring these foundational truths, the scientific and metaphysical landscape of nursing knowledge-development is expanded from now and into the future.

SUMMARY

Nursing’s ontology of Oneness, in alignment with Universal Laws of Nature – Mother Earth serves as a metaphor for a Nursing-Universe connection. This convergence of Unitary Nursing/Transpersonal Caring with Natural Laws, confirms what Elizabeth Barrett and Rogerian scholars have long affirmed, that “*Nursing embraces human-universe phenomena*”. This understanding includes the physical and its relationship to metaphysical reality.¹⁷ This alignment of

Unitary/Caring Science Nursing with Hermetic Principles invites a new (or revives an ancient) discourse for an historically established caring-healing discipline. Nursing unitary/caring disciplinary evolution can celebrate energy, nonphysical/metaphysical

phenomena as One with Science and Natural laws of the Universe.¹⁸ Connecting Nursing's future to metaphysical unitary caring principles and paradigms for hermetic intelligence, brings the evolving discipline back in line with the natural order of the Cosmos.

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