



School of Nursing Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 3

Early Spring Issue

March 2013

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Upcoming Dates

March 28-29: Easter Break

April 8: "Meet and Greet" for Dec. '15 Prelicensure Cohort, noon-1:30 p.m. McNeill Hall 1051.

April 16: Undergraduate Council Meeting, McNeil Hall 2056, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

April 19: Nu Omega Research Day Podium and Poster Presentations, Burney Center, 8 - 1:30 p.m.

April 26: NHRMC Clinical Negotiations Meeting, NHRMC, noon - 4 p.m.

April 30: Last day of classes

May 2 - 8: Final exams

May 7 - 8: Hurst NCLEX Review. Multipurpose Room, 8 - 4 p.m.

May 7: Nurses' Day Celebration, Burney Center Ballroom, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

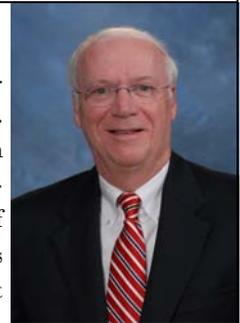
May 10: SON Awards Ceremony, Kenan Auditorium, 2 p.m.

May 10: University Commencement for CHHS and Watson School of Education, Trask Auditorium, 5:30 p.m.

Please submit items of interest, calendar events, notable achievements, community events and questions you may have for our faculty and staff to our editorial/production staff: Sandy O'Donnell or Debra Simpson.

Greetings from the Director

The School of Nursing's (SON) spring '13 academic semester is very active with many new initiatives. Several faculty searches are occurring. Our NCLEX pass rate from December prelicensure class is 96 percent. In January, the SON submitted to the North Carolina General Administration a request to plan for a Doctor Nursing Practice (DNP) Program. If this request is approved, the SON will then develop the final documents for approval to implement a DNP. It is anticipated that our first cohort would begin in the fall of 2014.



In collaboration with the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS), several nursing faculty are moving forward on CHHS's Seven Strategic Initiatives: **Patti White** is taking the lead on "The Integration of the Arts, Humanities, and Sciences in the Health and Human Services"; **Stephanie Smith** and **April Matthias** are taking lead on "Understanding and Serving Our Military Community-Veterans, Active Duty Soldiers and Their Families"; **Jane Fox** and **Don Johnson** are taking lead on "Achieving Health Equity by Serving and Empowering Underserved Communities and Vulnerable Populations." These initiatives will enhance our efforts to have a link with the Wilmington community.

Newest Prelicensure Curriculum Is Underway

The new courses offered this semester within the new prelicensure curriculum are underway and the students and faculty are progressing well. The Curriculum Committee, chaired by **Anne Marie Goff** and including members **Kathy Ennen**, **Nancy Grant**, **Carol Heinrich**, **RuthAnne Kuiper**, **Kelly Laham**, **Brandy Mechling** and **Debbie Pollard**, has begun to evaluate these new courses and to suggest minor changes which could impact other areas of the curriculum.

The committee is also in the process of finalizing the development of fall '13 courses under the new curriculum utilizing the new NCLEX-RN test plan as a guide. Two new interdisciplinary trial courses have been approved: Women's Health Issues and Global Awareness & Cultural Sensitivity to be taught by Paula Reid and Jane Fox respectively.

The College of Health & Human Services (CHHS) Curriculum Committee has been developing policies and procedures for the approval of curriculum proposals. The overall goal of this committee is to create new and innovative courses or programs that are interdisciplinary, both within CHHS and other disciplines across campus.

Congratulaton to the Newest Prelicensure Cohort!

Congratulations to the 99 students who have begun their prelicensure nursing studies this semester. Out of 100 eligible applicants for the Class of Dec. '14, 49 students were accepted. Out of an applicant pool of 87 eligible students for the Class of May '15, 50 students were accepted.

Notable Recognition



Anne Marie Goff was recently awarded a Corbett Grant to explore “Stressors, Academic Performance and Learned Resourcefulness in Baccalaureate Students.” This study is a follow-up to her dissertation, using a larger sample and longitudinal design. Learned resourcefulness involves the ability to control emotional responses, develop problem-solving strategies, delay immediate gratification and improve self-efficacy expectation. A few studies have suggested that higher levels of learned resourcefulness help decrease stressors and improve academic performance in college students, but this has not been explored in nursing students. Higher levels stimulate self-control, self-direction and health-promoting attitudes and behaviors. Since many research studies have suggested that nursing students perceive high levels of stress, learned resourcefulness could provide the tools to cope with the types of stressors that nursing students deal with on a daily basis and thereby improve academic outcomes.

Notable Achievements

Kim-Godwin, Y. S., Livsey, K. R., Ezzell, D., Highsmith, C. N., Winslow, H., & Aikman, A. (in press). Students Like Peer Evaluation during Home Visit Simulation Experiences, *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, published online 26 November 2012. [http://www.nursingsimulation.org/article/S1876-1399\(12\)00080-1/fulltext](http://www.nursingsimulation.org/article/S1876-1399(12)00080-1/fulltext)

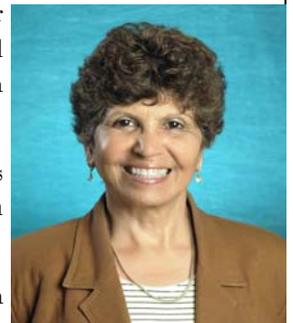
Kim-Godwin, Y. S. (in press) “Prayer in Clinical Practice: What Does Evidence Support.” *Journal of Christian Nursing*, 29 August 2012 [JCN Publish Ahead of Print] doi: 10.1097/CNJ.0b013e31826c2219

Madelaine Lawrence and her colleague **Elizabeth Repede** conducted an all-day workshop for the Charlotte, N.C. Community Health Center, titled “Thriving in Rough Waters.” The January 2013 workshop focused on managing stress resulting from a major organizational change.

Pictured left are four UNCW nurse practitioner students who were among several FNP students attending the Nurse Practitioner Advocacy Day at the N.C. General Assembly in Raleigh Feb. 12. From left to right are **Stacy Allred, Amy Denson, Catherine Williams** and **Kelli Schenk**.



Nasrin Falsafi (pictured right) presented at the 26th American Psychiatric Nurses Association Annual Conference on Nov. 7, 2012 in Pittsburgh, Pa. Her two-hour preconference presentation, was titled “Cultivating Mindfulness and Self-compassion: An Eight-week Program for Patients with Depression and/or Anxiety.”



Patty White made a poster presentation on March 8 titled “The Nuts and Bolts of Student Driven Simulation” at the fourth annual “So You Bought the Mannikin, Now What?” Conference in Greensboro, N.C.

Three UNCW honor students presented their PowerPoint© slides on Jan. 28 during the 11th annual Japanese videoconference, which was organized and led by faculty **Jeanne Kempainen**. The students and their respective presentations were: **Chandler Moeller** (“Impact of Childhood Cancer Diagnosis on Siblings Health and Wellbeing: A Qualitative Study”); **Melissa Prasnika** (“Health Literacy and Patient Understanding of Prescription Drug Labels in a Primary Healthcare Setting”); and **Lauren Phillips** (“Spirituality in College Students at Risk for Eating Disorders”). The Japanese students made their presentations Feb. 4. After the formal presentations an informal student exchange between the students was held and topics included nursing and health care issues in general, as well as campus life. Students in **Brandy Mechling’s** mental health course attended the sessions.

Lauren Phillips (May ’13) made a presentation on her research, “Spirituality in College Students at Risk for Eating Disorders,” at SON Nurse Advocate Board meeting March 11.

21st Annual Sigma Theta Tau Research Day: April 19, 2013

The Nu Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, the UNCW School of Nursing and New Hanover Regional Medical Center are sponsoring the 21st annual Research Day April 19. This one-day workshop is designed to share significant scholarly projects through poster and podium presentation with inter-professional colleagues. The biennial theme of the international honor society, "Give Back to Move Forward" is the theme of this year's event. All Research Day activities will be held in the UNCW Burney Center from 8 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Simulation Learning Center News

One hundred newly admitted nursing students entered the Simulation Learning Center (SLC) for the first time on Jan 10, 2013. Fifty students who are enrolled in the new curriculum program participated in their first health assessment lab. The remaining 50 students in the "old" curriculum participated in the Adult Health I course evaluation of previously learned CNA skills. In addition to these lab sessions, many demonstration and practice labs have been designed and implemented for the newly implemented foundations course. Several faculty members have "stepped up to the plate" to assist with the increased student enrollment this semester.



Deb Bowen, faculty member of the School of Social Work, conducted a communication role-playing activity with her students for the first time in the home care lab and hopes to develop additional learning activities for future use.

A faculty search for a simulation education specialist is in progress. This position will provide faculty support for current and expanding SLC student learning needs. Also, an announcement has been posted soliciting applications for a the position of a SLC assistant. This position entails management of day-to-day lab operations, including setup and breakdown of lab materials, and inventory control.

CHHS Partnership with Veterans Affairs Administration



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

The College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) has been working more than a year on establishing an affiliation partnership with the regional Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Fayetteville, N.C. This partnership will formalized with a signed agreement to be executed on March 25. The CHHS will host **Elizabeth Goolsby**, Veterans Affairs Medical Center executive director, and her colleagues for the signing of the affiliation agreement. The Fayetteville VAMC has oversight responsibilities for the Wilmington, Brunswick County and Jacksonville Community-based outpatient VA clinics. This partnership will focus the joint efforts of promoting collaboration in the areas of clinical training, research and health education initiatives, and exploring joint learning and professional development opportunities.

AAMN News

The new American Assembly of Men in Nursing (AAMN) officers are president **Chelsey Smith** (May '14), vice president **Martin Sills** (Dec. '13), secretary **Emily Esslinger** (May '14) and treasurer **Briana Sorensen** (May '14).

Jill Harrington, NHRMC human resources specialist, spoke at the chapter's meeting Feb. 18 and gave members insight into the hiring process at NHRMC and other medical organizations.

Welcome to our Newest Faculty

Nancy R. Ahern, full-time faculty, received a B.S.N. at the University of Delaware in 1972, an M.Ed. from Salisbury University in 1977, a M.S.N. from the University of Delaware in 1996, and a Ph.D. from the University of Central Florida in 2007. She was an associate professor and associate director of the School of Nursing at California State University, Fullerton, Calif. Her clinical specialty area is maternal-child nursing. She has taught nursing research, theory, community health, maternal-child nursing, professional roles, leadership/management, health issues and economics, and graduate courses in a Doctor of Nursing program. **Ahern** has published 19 articles since 2004, co-authored three books, and nine book chapters. She has an active program of research since 1996 in child health and nursing education. She has done numerous national presentations, is an editorial reviewer for nine journals. She is very active in professional organizations and has held many professional leadership roles.



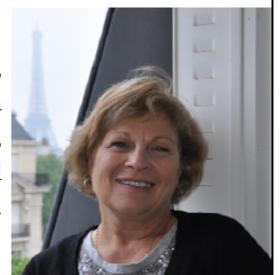
Kellie Bemelmans, part-time faculty in the Clinical Research Department at UNCW, is co-teaching scientific writing along with **Susan Roberts** and **Deborah Covington**. Bemelmans is also a clinical research associate in the oncology business unit at INC Research. In this role, she source verifies clinical data, ensures accountability of Investigational Product, and ensures compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations, International Conference of Harmonization, and Good Clinical Practices. **Bemelmans**, who also earned her law degree from the UNC Chapel Hill, practiced Social Security Disability law, specializing pediatric and psychiatric cases. She earned her B.S. in clinical research from UNCW in May '11.

Elizabeth Gazza, full-time faculty, received a B.S.N. with a minor in psychology from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1987, an M.S.N. in the nurse educator track from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2001, and a Ph.D. from Duquesne University in 2006. She is currently the director of the nursing programs and associate professor at Chatham University in Pittsburgh, Pa. Her clinical specialty is obstetrics and gynecology. She has taught medical-surgical nursing, geriatrics, long-term care, obstetrics and gynecology, pharmacology and fundamentals. Her research is in the area of faculty development. **Gazza** has 11 peer reviewed publications, multiple program grants, and numerous national presentations. She serves as a journal reviewer and has a long record of service at university, school and community levels. She has unique talents in teaching on-line courses in the R.N. to B.S. and D.N.P. programs.



Lisa Long (pictured left), part-time faculty, is a two-time graduate of UNCW: B.S.N. in 1994 and M.S.N.-NP in 2002. **Long** brings eight years experience as a nurse in medical surgical and operating room specialties. She has been practicing as a nurse practitioner for 11 years in family practice, surgery and urgent care. **Long** has advanced training in bariatric surgery and enjoys the fulfillment of seeing lives changed with weight loss.

Susan Marshall (pictured right), lecturer and graduate school clinical coordinator, retired as a Navy Nurse Corps Captain after 26 years of service. Originally from Woodlawn, Va., she received her B.S.N. from East Tennessee State University, her M.S.N.- NP from UNC Chapel Hill, a post-Masters degree from UNC Chapel Hill as a pediatric nurse practitioner and a D.N.P. from Vanderbilt University. **Marshall** joins the faculty after being in private practice in Cary, NC.



Michelle McEwen (pictured left), full-time faculty, brings 22 years of experience in maternity nursing and is teaching health assessment and a clinical section of the new fundamentals course. She will also teach maternity nursing during the fall 2013 semester. Her research interests include improving maternal-fetal safety, decreasing fetal hypoxic events during labor and removing educational barriers for male nursing students. **McEwen** has been a legal nurse consultant for 10 years, and she shares experiences concerning medical litigation in both classroom and clinical settings. She also provides continuing education courses for registered nurses.

New Faculty cont'd.



Barbara Pennington, full-time faculty, joined the School of Nursing in January and is teaching in the Clinical Research Program. **Pennington** began her nursing career as a research nurse at Emory University Hospital and received an M.S.N. from Georgia State University. She was a clinical nurse specialist in psychiatry before moving into research full time with PPD, a large, global Contract Research Organization (CRO). During her 13 years with PPD, she held positions in monitoring, training and management. **Pennington's** career has focused on clinical research training, most notably providing programs for clinical research site personnel throughout Africa, Asia, Europe and South America as well as in the U.S. Prior to joining the UNCW faculty, **Pennington** served as director of government services at a major CRO.

Rand Pennington, part-time lecturer for the M.S.N. family nurse practitioner tract, received an A.D.N. from Cape Fear Community College and began his nursing career in the medical intensive care unit. In 2009 **Pennington** completed the M.S.N.-Nurse Educator degree from UNCW through a Duke Endowment scholarship and subsequently accepted a joint faculty position between Cape Fear Community College and New Hanover Regional Medical Center teaching critical care clinicals while working in nursing supervision. In 2011, he completed a post master's certificate from the FNP program and accepted a full-time position with a New Hanover Regional Medical Center hospitalist.



News from the Office of Student Services

The Office of Student Services and the College of Health and Human Services are in the process of transitioning to an electronic filing system. This new system will facilitate access of student files by faculty and staff and provide a more efficient filing system. The conversion to this new system is expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2013).

The statistics of the newest cohort of admitted students to begin in the fall '13 semester (Class of Dec. '15) are as follows: 28 percent minority, 92 percent female and 8 percent male, 14 percent out-of-state students and 58 percent transfer students. The average math/science GPA was 3.64, the average non-math/science GPA was 3.73 and the average TEAS score was 78.3.

Annual Giving at Work in the School of Nursing

Alumni from the School of Nursing know how valuable hands-on practice is when it comes to patient care. That's why we encourage all of our graduates to make an annual gift to ensure that today's students have the resources they need to become successful healthcare providers. Gifts will make a difference in very specific and measurable ways:

- A gift of \$25 can help purchase learning supplies like alcohol prep pads and glucometer test strips for the Simulation Lab;
- A gift of \$100 can help us purchase a skills kit for a student;
- A gift of \$500 can help offset the cost of travel expenses to send students to Peru/El Salvador for a cultural immersion experience to distribute medicines and supplies.

To participate in this year's annual giving campaign, please visit www.uncw.edu/giveonline to make your gift to the School of Nursing before June 30.

Please submit calendar events, notable achievements, community events, research/scholarship activities and questions for faculty/staff to our editorial and production staff: Sandy O'Donnell (odonnells@uncw.edu) or Debra Simpson (simpsond@uncw.edu).

