UPCOMING EVENTS

November 12
Veteren's Day - College open, classes scheduled

November 15 • 6 p.m.
Sigma Theta Tau Induction, St. Luke’s Chapel

November 16 • 1 - 3 p.m.
Mini Orientation for incoming accelerated BSN students

November 22 - 23
Thanksgiving Holiday - no classes

December 21 - January 1
College closed for holidays

Yours, Mine or Ours?
By Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, APRN, BC, FAAN

These are fast-moving and demanding times. As I see it there are four major challenges facing all of us, whether faculty, students or staff:

1) Rising expectations for accountability – Increasingly, we are being held accountable for discrete outcomes. These may be related to the quality of our teaching, the mastery of content in the classes we attend, or the work products we create.

2) Financial pressures – Here the focus is on the cost-effectiveness of our actions in an environment that has fewer resources, more fiscal oversight and growing demands.

3) Expanding technology – This often feels like a cyclone that whirls around us creating new opportunities, but also more work and the growing need for skills that often seem to be just beyond our reach.

4) Growing diversity – The changing face of our population requires us to not only think and examine our traditional values, but also to adopt new ways of understanding, relating and intervening.

Each of these areas requires that we gain new knowledge and new skills. But my question to you is – who is responsible for providing for our expanding needs.

Is that responsibility yours, mine or ours? This question is compounded by the fact that we are not homogenous in our needs. In the above areas we will each have different baseline skills. So too, each one of us has areas of strengths and areas that need improvement. So how can we tackle this issue of professional growth and development?

I think the only way we can truly move forward is for us as individuals to take on the task of seeking out and pursuing exactly what we ourselves need to meet these challenges. For faculty, that might mean taking a course in online teaching. For students, that might mean extra practice time in the skills lab or personal time with a faculty. For staff that might mean seeking out a class to learn a new computer program or master some piece of new equipment.

(continued on page 2)
I am sure you have seen the new advertisement campaign for MUSC, with the “tag line” - “We do this every day.” The campaign lauds the extraordinary care as well as the more mundane or routine care that we routinely provide here through innovation and teamwork. “We Do This Every Day,” the commercial emphatically concludes. This is a powerful message for the families and community we serve, and a powerful reminder to ourselves of what we stand for and what we accomplish here, day in and day out—every single day of the year. Whether participating directly in patient care activities or promoting care indirectly through education, research, or administration, we are all a critical part of the MUSC team that is committed to excellence in all we do every minute of the day. This is, of course, why MUSC Excellence matters so much to each and every one of us.

We have had some remarkable successes with MUSC Excellence so far. Our patient satisfaction scores have risen dramatically, we have enhanced critical functions and improved infrastructure within the College of Medicine and beyond, and we are continuing to make great strides in leadership development because what we do is so critical to all those we serve. We are buoyed by our progress and very thankful for the incredible hard work and dedication of the majority of MUSC students, teachers, investigators and administrators who have taken our goal to embrace excellence firmly to heart.

That said, we do appear to have a small, persistent and even predictable cadre of naysayers who are neither committing to our institutional improvement efforts nor contributing ideas on how to make MUSC Excellence work better for them, and those around them. We are asking these folks to step up to the plate right now. We all know from our grade school days that if we are not part of a solution, we are likely part of a problem. Many of our colleagues here have already spent and will continue to devote tireless hours to this effort, and we need hands-on, helpful input from all since not all our goals and expectations have been met thus far.

So, if MUSC Excellence does not seem relevant to you, then please take time right now to reflect on why and share your insight proactively. Then, roll up your sleeves and pitch in meaningfully. Be a contributing fellow traveler on our excellence journey and work alongside your colleagues toward achieving our established goals and developing new aspirations.

Remember Aristotle’s observation: Excellence is not an act, but a habit. As our add says, we do this every day and those we work with and serve expect “this” to be excellence.

Yours, Mine (Cont. from p. 1)

The one thing I know for sure is that the College of Nursing cannot meet everyone’s needs. We cannot be all things to all people. What we can do, however, is direct you to resources that you can take advantage of as you pursue your own professional growth.

So please don’t wait for someone to “give you what you need.” Instead, take the initiative to go get what you need—and then be sure to tell the rest of us about it so that we can take advantage of it too...Gail

Markham Chosen for First MUHA Scholarship

On Friday, October 5, the College of Nursing interviewed five of the “best and brightest” incoming Accelerated BSN and Accelerated BSN/MSN students for the $25,000 MUHA Patron Scholarship.

The first MUHA Patron Scholarship will be awarded to Aaryn Markham, Class of May 2009. It will be presented at the College of Nursing 125th Anniversary Party on January 7, 2008.

Originally from New York, Aaryn earned her Bachelor of Science, summa cum laude, from SUNY at Buffalo. Her major was Business Administration and she graduated with a 3.85 GPA in three years. She participated in four liberal arts honors seminars and taught classes and mentored students in a freshman seminar course. She is a member of Phi Eta Sigma Honors Fraternity.

Upon graduation, Aarynn took a (continued on page 4)
DNP Update

The CON faculty are immersed in the work of developing our anticipated DNP program. It clearly promises to produce a strong advanced practice nurse who will be a true asset to answering the challenges posed by the health care system in the 21st century. This is the most current information about our progress to date.

- Only full-time students will be admitted to the current masters degree program tracks in the fall of 2008.
- We will admit full-time students to all of our masters degree program tracks in fall 2008, including Neonatal NP and Nurse Midwifery.
- All students enrolled in the existing masters degree program tracks must complete their course of study and graduate no later than December 2010.
- In the fall 2009, we will not accept applications for our current masters degree program tracks.
- In the fall of 2009, we will be accepting applications for post-BSN full-time and part-time study in our DNP program, assuming approval by all necessary bodies.
- The DNP program will be a three-year full-time program of study, or longer if the part-time option is selected.
- Students who enroll in this program will be expected to identify a focus as a family nurse practitioner, pediatric nurse practitioner, or adult nurse practitioner.
- Students who enroll in the DNP program with a BSN will have the option of exiting the program after two years of study with an MSN.
- In the fall of 2011, we will be accepting applications for post-MSN full-time and part-time study in our DNP program.

We are still considering many other issues including offering a DNP role focus on education and/or administration. Other aspects of the program also are being explored and as we reach consensus we will share these decisions with you in eCONNections.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this important development in the CON and the options it will open to our future students.....Gail

Getting to Know...Anette

Name: Anette Hebebrand-Verner
Position: Program Coordinator
How many years at CON? 9
How many years at MUSC? 9
Most rewarding thing about your job? Solving difficult situations
Hometown: Charleston
Describe your hometown in three words: Interesting, slow-paced, friendly
Family: Husband and cat named Butterbean
Astrological sign: Scorpio

If you could invite four guests (living or deceased) to dinner, who would they be? Sam Elliott because I like his looks. Mother Theresa, the Dalai Lama and my mother because I consider them to be some of the wisest and kindest people and I could learn from all of them.

What did you listen to on your way into work today? Papa Wembe

What book are you currently reading? “Ghenghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World”

Last movie you saw? The Queen

First concert you ever attended? The Abduction from the Seraglio

Favorite place you’ve traveled to? France

One thing you’ve never done but hope to do one day? Travel to Africa

In which store would you like to win a $3,000 shopping spree? Sundance catalog

What do you enjoy most doing in your spare time? Reading and writing

Favorite color: Green
Favorite flower: Hibiscus
Favorite board game: Scrabble
Favorite TV shows: Criminal Minds
Favorite movie: Ghandi
Favorite magazine: Vanity Fair
Favorite Cereal: Kashi
Favorite thing about living in the Charleston area? The rhythm.
Please remember that the MUSC address is to be used when joining organizations or ordering journals/magazines with MUSC funds. Home addresses are not allowed.

Please remember to exhaust your supply of all items with old MUSC logo - including stationery and business cards - before reordering using the new MUSC logo.

Simulation Lab Timeline:
Due to recent construction issues, the completion date has shifted from April 4 to April 23, 2008.

If faculty or staff have furniture that they no longer need, please contact Susan Sparks. All furniture transfers must go through her office. Thanks so much for assisting with this.

Markham (Cont. from p. 2)

personal and professional risk to work as a broker associate with Hibernia National Bank in New Orleans, LA. Aaryn shares, “I moved into a poor neighborhood of New Orleans, which could not contrast more starkly with the Northeastern suburban town of my childhood. But despite differences in race, religion, and upbringing, I was invigorated by the prospect of breaking down barriers and forming relationships with my neighbors.”

Working at an uptown bank, Aaryn interacted with a wide variety of customers, many of them elderly. She found these interactions particularly rewarding. Then, New Orleans was struck by Hurricane Katrina. The devastation was overwhelming, and during this time, she developed a particular interest in how this tragedy impacted health care of the elderly. “I have a keen interest in helping the underprivileged, and hope to have the knowledge and skills to positively influence the outcome of future emergency situations such as Hurricane Katrina,” shares Aaryn.

Four other stellar students interviewed for the MUHA Patron Scholarship: Melissa Barr, Allison Griffin, Rachael Mullis, and Zerlinna Shannon. Candidates for the scholarships were selected based on their incoming grade point average, GRE scores, previous experiences, and interest in working in an academic tertiary care hospital upon graduation. Faculty participating in the interview process included Dr. Barb Edlund, Dr. Ann Hollerbach, Dr. Teresa Kelechi, Dr. Marilyn King, and Ms. Carol McDougall.

Finalists pictured left to right: Melissa Barr, Zerlinna Shannon, Rachael Mullis, Dr. Marilyn Schaffner, Allison Griffin, and Aaryn Markham.
Congratulations to Dr. Lisa Vandemark who submitted an R15 proposal to the NIH-NINR entitled, "Neighborhood factors and prevalence of mental illness." Vandemark will be combining her expertise in geography and GIS software with her background as a Psychiatric CNS to examine how serious mental illness is influenced by factors in the community where people live. The award would be for $150,000 for 24 months.

On Monday, November 12 at noon in the Historical Library, members of the research, financial and business offices will discuss purchasing, hiring, and managing your grant. This overview of the grants management process will be tailored to your issues. Please email Carlos Lopez at lopezc@musc.edu for details.

A user’s guide to EndNote is now available on the CON Research Resources Web page. Hopefully you’ll find everything you need to know to build a library and import references into a Word document. You can find the guide underneath “Grantwriting Tips” at www.musc.edu/nursing/departments/researchoffice/resources.htm

Research For Lunch

Monday, November 19 | noon
College of Nursing Historical Library

PhD student Catherine Ling will be presenting her NRSA - F31 proposal entitled, “Stepping Forward: Motivation and Physical Activity for Pre-Bariatric Surgery Candidates.” This discussion should be instructive for both faculty working with students preparing NRSA-type proposals as well as doctoral students.

Fall Convocation

The College of Nursing will hold its 2007 Fall Convocation on Saturday, December 8 to recognize the success of our graduating class. The ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church located at 405 King St. Convocation rehearsal will be Friday, December 7 from 3 - 4 p.m. at St. Matthew’s.

Campus-wide Inoculation

First semester undergraduate nursing students participated in a mass inoculation on the MUSC campus on October 16. These students helped give a record number of free flu vaccinations to employees of MUHA, MUSC, UMA, Crothhall and Sodexho. Over 1,300 vaccines were administered at the disaster tents provided by MUSC’s Clinical Preparedness Department. Thanks to all the College of Nursing students who participated. You had a real impact on the day.
Visitors Hosted by the College

Sponsored by the National Library of Medicine in a collaboration between the MUSC College of Nursing and the MUSC Library, the newly funded Carolinas Conversations Collection (Principal Investigator, Dr. Charlene Pope and Co-PI, Dr. Boyd Davis) hosted Dr. Margaret Maclagan and Dr. Robert Fromont, consultants from the University of Canterbury, in Christ Church, New Zealand. Dr. Maclagan gave a presentation on ONZE Miner, an innovative program that will be used by the Carolinas Conversations on October 19, 2007. Representatives were present from the College of Nursing, College of Medicine, College of Pharmacy, College of Health Professions, and College of Graduate Studies as well as members of the MUSC Library and archivists who have an interest in spoken or video recorded data, its storage, and the qualitative and quantitative methods that can be applied to such data for health research. Dr. Maclagan and Dr. Fromont also consulted with Dr. Pope, Dr. Davis, and Dr. Lillian Trettin, of the MUSC Library staff who serves as archivist for the Carolinas Conversations and demonstrated the use of a number of software and programming systems that the Collection will use. This research collection will also extend the work of the Hispanic Health Initiative, since elderly speakers of languages other than English are rarely represented in archives of spoken data.

Nancy Duffy, RN MSN CEN and Fran Lee, DBA (Center for Clinical Effectiveness and Patient Safety) presented on October 19th to the SC Hospital Association Society of Educators at the 7th Annual Fall Networking Conference “Simulation Odyssey: The Next Frontier.”

Hispanic Health Initiative News

The Hispanic Health Initiative held its biannual advisory board meeting on October 24. A video conference was held afterward which featured Dr. Debra Perez, senior program officer in research and evaluation, as a speaker. The topic was “Health Disparities in the Latino Community: Strategies That Work.” Faculty, staff and students from various departments in MUSC and the community were present.

Dr. Deborah Williamson, Dr. Sheila Smith and Dianna Inman of the Hispanic Health Initiative will attend the 135th American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting in Washington, DC on November 3-7.

Wound Care News

As invited speakers, Drs. Phyllis Bonham and Theresa Kelechi presented a half-day workshop on “Differential Assessment of Lower Extremity Disease and Role of ABI” on September 27 at the Southeast Region WOCN (SER WOCN) Annual Conference in Greenville, with 50 nurses participating in the workshop that included a hands-on skills session to measure ABI.

In addition, Bonham served as the Chair of the Education Program Committee for the SERWOCN conference that had over 250 Wound OC nurse and RN participants attending from the Southeast region.

Each year, members of the host state for the annual regional conference select a WOC nurse to be recognized by having the Region’s Annual Scholarship Award named in their honor. This year, Bonham was named the 2007 Scholarship Honoree for the Southeast Region WOCN during the awards ceremony. Congratulations, Phyllis.
Amanda Duke has joined the College of Nursing in the Nursing Technology Center as WebCT coordinator. Originally from Columbia, SC, Amanda moved to Charleston after graduating from Clemson University. While attending the MHA program at MUSC, she began working for the Administrator of Integrated Services of MUSC’s Medical Center. She worked for MUSC for approximately four years. Most recently, Amanda worked at Roper St. Francis Healthcare (RSFH) as a Web Developer. She was employed with RSFH for approximately four and a half years. She lives in West Ashley with her husband Legare and their two children: three-year-old Tyler and four-month-old Ana Maria. Amanda is located in room 208.

Dr. Sheila Smith presented a program entitled “Healthy Moms - Healthy Babies” to over 400 attendees at Cross Elementary School in Cross, SC. Smith’s discussion included the benefits of pre-conceptual pregnancy planning, the benefits of exercise before, during, after pregnancy, and preterm labor signs and symptoms.

Dr. Elaine Amella has been appointed as one of the Health Sciences Section Representative on the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) Public Policy Committee. Elaine will begin her three-year term at the conclusion of GSA’s Annual Meeting held November 16 - 20 in San Francisco.

Dr. Carolyn Jenkins, along with Maria Lopes-Virella, authored a chapter entitled “Nutrition in Diabetes Mellitus” in the second addition of the Handbook of Nutrition and Food.

Dr. Phyllis Bonham has published an article entitled: “Pressure Ulcers” in Advance For Nurses (October 22, 2007, pp 21-25).

Dr. Barbara Edlund was recently elected Vice-President of the Faculty Senate.

Congratulations to Sharon Bond for her Letter to the Editor focused on women’s health published in the August issue of Skirt! Magazine.

The Student Nurse’s Association will host a Pancake Breakfast at Applebee’s on Sam Rittenburg Blvd. on Saturday, November 10 from 7:30 - 10:30 am.

For the ticket price of $5, guests may enjoy pancakes, juice or milk, and coffee. Proceeds will go to the Student Nurse’s Association. For tickets, contact Cathy Mulloy at mulloy@musc.edu or Carol McDougall at mcdougac@musc.edu

SNA Hosts Pancake Breakfast

STAFF NEWS

FACULTY NEWS
Third semester Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree student, Alan Lopez was one of the 15 students selected nationwide to receive the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA)-Janssen Scholarship to attend the annual conference in Kissimmee, FL held October 3 - 6.

Sponsored by Ortho-McNeil Janssen Scientific Affairs, LLC and APNA, the purpose of the scholarship is to stimulate continued interest in psychiatric-mental health nursing. The program provides a wonderful experience for students to obtain cutting edge information about the specialty of psychiatric-mental health nursing, to meet with leaders in the specialty, and to network with psychiatric-mental health nurses and other students.

Alan was chosen for this award based on his grade point average, membership in NSNA, and exceptional leadership skills.

Melanie Almonte was chosen by Dean Gail Stuart to represent the College of Nursing on the Editorial Board of HUMANITAS. HUMANITAS is an annual publication of poetry, prose and photographs that is organized and implemented by students of each of MUSC’s Colleges.

The Waring Library Society has a governing board composed of faculty, students and community members representing different disciplines of the health sciences. The “Friends of the Waring Library” is currently recruiting a College of Nursing student to serve on this Board.

This leadership role would involve attending quarterly meetings, communicating Waring Library events to the College of Nursing community, and providing guidance to the Board about serving the College of Nursing community.

For more information, please contact Susan Hoffius, Curator, at hoffius@musc.edu, or Dr. Marilyn King at kingmg@musc.edu.

Below is a letter that was sent to Dr. Gail Barbosa on October 29th from a 2007 College of Nursing doctoral graduate.

MUSC School of Nursing Family:

I thought I would take this opportunity to email you all about some exciting events in my professional life. As many of you already know, I am back in Atlanta with Evercare Georgia functioning in my role as a nurse practitioner (50%) and new role as corporate educator/researcher (50%) in our department of Epidemiology. I love travelling around the country to our Evercare sites and participating in the data collection and analysis that this new position affords me. It allows me to see first-hand how research can directly impact nursing care at the bedside!

Last month while in San Diego, CA at the annual National Conference of Gerontological Nurse Practitioners (NCGNP), I received the NCGNP national Excellence in Leadership Award for "commitment to geriatrics through direct care, education, research, and community service."

As of the past spring, I am also the new national chairperson for the Content Expert Panel at ANCC in geriatrics and the 2007-2008 Georgia Nurse Practitioner of the year.

But I am most proud that all the hard work and collaboration with Dr. Elaine Amella on my dissertation has resulted in my dissertation manuscript being accepted with “minimal revisions” to the Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

I hope each of you are doing well and please keep in touch.

Sincerely,

James F. Lawrence, Ph.D. APRN BC