UPCOMING EVENTS

September 3
Labor Day - no classes

September 4
Last day to drop/add classes

October 10 - 21
Pre-registration for Spring 2008

November 2
Research Day - no classes

November 22 - 23
Thanksgiving Holiday - no classes

MUSC Excellence

By Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, APRN, BC, FAAN

The College of Nursing has launched a dialogue about our culture and the many ways in which it impacts our behavior. This work is part of a larger university initiative underway called MUSC Excellence based on the Studer model. It is focused on “raising the bar” by addressing five pillars that provide the foundation for setting organizational goals for service and operational excellence. These are: Service, People, Quality, Finance and Growth.

(continued on page 2)

MUSC PILLAR GOALS

PEOPLE
We make MUSC a great place to be.

SERVICE
Serve patients, families, and each other with compassion, respect, dignity, and respect.

QUALITY
Achieve the highest standards of excellence in patient care, research, and education through interdisciplinary programs with a diverse faculty and student body.

GROWTH
Achieve national recognition for excellence in clinical, educational, and research activities.

FINANCE
Generate the resources required to attract and keep excellent people, and optimize patient care.
Pillars (cont. from page 1)

To date, the hospital, UMA and College of Medicine have embraced this work. The College of Nursing will soon come on board as well and so stay tuned for more about this effort in future eConnections. I thought that you also might appreciate the perspective that the Dean of our Medical School, Dr. Jerry Reves, has to say about “Why this, Why Now?”

Read his perspective in column to the right.

Till next month....Gail

MUSC Excellence: Why This, Why Now?

By Dean Jerry Reves, MD – College of Medicine

“Excellence is an art won by training and habituation. We do not act rightly because we have virtue or excellence, but we rather have those because we have acted rightly. We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”

- Aristotle

The single most asked question to me about the MUSC Excellence program is “Why are we doing all this? Don’t we know all the things to make us successful?”

Last October, I had the honor of presenting the keynote address to my anesthesiology peers at our national meeting. My topic was “We Are What We Make.” Some attendees may have been disappointed to find that the lecture was not centered on the acquisition of wealth, but rather was focused on the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge. We generate new knowledge through investigation and spread it by education. Our mission is therefore tripartite: research, teaching, and clinical care. Excellence is the common thread weaving these three broad domains into a common, durable fabric. In fact, if we do not achieve excellence in these pursuits one can question whether we should do them.

All of us are busy. All of us are already committed to at least one aspect of our tripartite mission. We wouldn’t work at MUSC if we weren’t also committed to exercising our individual skill sets within the academic medical center setting. All of us strive to do our best on a daily basis. So, some of you have been asking “Why MUSC Excellence, why now?”

How is this additional activity going to help me improve upon what I already do so well? Is it simply a campaign that will pass and allow us to focus completely on what we should be doing?

The MUSC Excellence initiative to better ourselves is designed to be certain that all that we do, not only as individuals but also as an organization, is firmly rooted within the drive to excel. It is a method for us to actually form habits – and like Aristotle says, we are doing this to make excellence our habit.

Suggested Reading

How to Write a Lot: A Practical Guide to Productive Academic Writing

by Paul J. Silva, PhD

All students and professors need to write, and many struggle to finish their stalled dissertations, journal articles, book chapters, or grant proposals. Writing is hard work and can be difficult to wedge into a frenetic academic schedule. In this practical, lighthearted, and encouraging book, Paul J. Silva explains that writing productively does not require innate skills or special traits but specific tactics and actions. Drawing examples from his own field of psychology, he shows readers how to overcome motivational roadblocks and become prolific without sacrificing evenings, weekends, and vacations. After describing strategies for writing productively, the author gives detailed advice from the trenches on how to write, submit, revise, and resubmit articles; how to improve writing quality; and how to write and publish academic work.

- American Psychological Association

A quick read! Available in paperback for $14.95.
What Motivates You?

People work, and are attracted to jobs, for all sorts of reasons—money, status, independence, security, co-workers. What are your motives for work? In light of recent discussions at the College of Nursing, we thought you may enjoy a bit of a self-assessment about what motivates you at work.

There is a questionnaire available on the University of Bradford’s web site (www.bradford.ac.uk/admin/conted/guidance/questionnaire/quiz.php3) that some may find enlightening.

It is likely that each person has been attracted to their career for different reasons. If you can identify your work motives it may help you identify the type of organization or way of working that will allow you to use your skills to best advantage.

Need a Signature?

If you know that you will need a timely signature or other type of help from someone in the College related to a report, proposal or any other purpose, please check their schedule to be sure that they will not be away from the office at the time you need it. Remember that catchy phrase “Your lack of planning does not constitute an emergency on my part.”

Getting to Know...Brian

Name: Brian Getsinger
Position: Information Technology Manager
How many years at CON? 5
How many years at MUSC? 8
Most rewarding thing about your job? Being a part of MUSC.
Hometown: Charleston, SC
Describe your hometown in three words: Historic, family, and coast.
Family: Son, Andrew, 7
If you could invite four guests (living or deceased) to dinner, who would they be? Robin Williams, Rachael Ray, Marisa Coughlin, Andrew Getsinger
What did you listen to on your way into work today? Garden State soundtrack
First concert you ever attended? R.E.M.
One thing you’ve never done but hope to do one day? Travel to Europe
Favorite color: Blue
Favorite sports to play: Surfing, fishing & running
Favorite sports player or team: Clemson Tigers
Favorite outdoor activities: Surfing, fishing, & going to the beach.
Favorite TV shows: The Office, Ghost Hunters
Favorite movie: Garden State
Favorite magazine: Wired
Favorite Cereal: Crispix
Favorite Fruit: Banana
Favorite Chips/Snacks: Salt & vinegar potato chips
Favorite Cookies: Oreos
Favorite Candy Bar: Baby Ruth
Favorite thing about living in the Charleston area? The many water ways and activities provided by the coast. Also, the weather, history, and seafood.
Congratulations to Sharon Bond, PhD(c), who received notification from the NIH/ National Cancer Institute that her proposal entitled, “Translating an Efficacious HPV Vaccine into the Control of Cervical Cancer” will start September 1, and will include a total budget for the year of $76,060! Bond is clearly forging new ground with her investigation of ways to work with families and young women in SC to decrease HPV. Dr. Anthony Alberg from the Hollings Cancer Institute was Bond’s mentor on this proposal.

Congratulations to John Welton, PhD who along with Richard Lindroth, PhD, Project Director, from the College of Health Professions had a proposal for $299,888 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation entitled “Linking Processes of Nursing Care and Patient Safety Outcomes” funded from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2009. This project will examine how adoption of the National Quality Forum safe practices affects nursing-sensitive patient safety outcomes, and barriers to their adoption.

Congratulations to Gayenell Magwood, PhD and Lisa Vandemark, PhD who have been approved for funding through the NIH Health Disparities Loan Repayment Program (LRP). This competitive award is based on the applicant’s proposal for research in the area of health disparities.

Lynette Duley, MSN, a second-year doctoral student, had the following paper published in the ATI Journal, “Eating Disorders: Differentiating Anorexia, Bulimia, and Binging with a Focus on Individualized Care Planning.” Additionally, she received second place for Best Nurse in the Fond du Lac Reporter’s Readers’ Choice Awards. Congratulations, Lynnette.

On September 17 at noon, Dr. Deborah Williamson will be presenting her manuscript, “Integrating Practice, Education and Research”. RSVP to Cheryl Brown at brownche@musc.edu to receive a copy of the document before presentation.

“Nurses have come a long way in a few short decades. In the past our attention focused on physical, mental and emotional healing. Now we talk of healing your life, healing the environment and healing the planet.”

~ Lynn Keegan, RN, PhD, HNC., FAAN
**Wound Care News**

**Dr. Phyllis Bonham** completed all requirements for her board certification and has been re-certified for five years as a Wound Ostomy Continence Nurse (CWOCN).

Also, two members of the WOCN Accreditation Committee visited the College on August 24 to conduct a site visit as part of the 5-year re-accreditation process of the Wound Care Specialty Course, which has been accredited since 1994. Many thanks to Carol Whelan for her diligent help and assistance with the Wound Course and its participants.

Just last month, five RNs participated in the Wound Care Specialty Course that was held August 11 through September 1. One nurse even came from as far as Alaska to attend the three week course.

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**Williamson Receives Grant**

**Dr. Deborah Williamson** received a $14,000 grant from the Henry and Sylvia Yaschik Foundation to fund needed physical upgrades to the Sea Island Medical Center (SIMC). Two summer interns, **Ricky Patel** and **Melissa Cox**, helped submit the grant to pay for physical improvements to SIMC. SIMC holds a strong partnership with the College of Nursing Hispanic Health Initiatives (HHI).

Patel just completed his first year in MUSC’s Masters in Healthcare Administration program. He graduated from the University of South Carolina in 2004 with an emphasis on Management and Marketing. Patel is a MUSC MHA SGA representative, presidential scholar, part-time employee in the patient accounting department at MUSC, and a weekly volunteer at the MUSC Children’s Hospital.

Cox worked as a student-intern with the Office of Practice. During the summer she participated in several projects including the development of programs and models on domestic violence prevention and teen health literacy.

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**Nurse-Midwifery News**

On Thursday, August 23, certified nurse midwives gathered at High Cotton restaurant in downtown Charleston to welcome new and returning nurse-midwifery students.

A presentation was given by Lara Corbett, MD to local midwives and students,ollowed by dinner and entertainment provided by the restaurant. The certified nurse midwives (CNMs) in attendance included new and returning students, recent program graduates, current Chapter Chair, Tom Chappell, CNMs from Manning, SC and retired CON faculty members, as well as current faculty members, **Lee Horton, CNM** and **Sharon Bond, CNM**. The majority of nurse midwives who attended the presentation serve the College as preceptors to students. A big thank you to Ann Cason of Warner-Chillcott for helping with our New Student Welcome.
**FACULTY NEWS**

**Gigi Smith, MSN**, has been officially appointed by Governor Mark Sanford as a member of the Study Committee on Service Delivery for Persons with Epilepsy in South Carolina for the next year. This important committee will be gathering information and making recommendations to the Governor about this issue. This is a great honor for Smith.

**Dr. Gail Stuart** has been elected to the Public Policy Committee of Mental Health America (formerly National Mental Health Association) for 2007-2008. She is the only nurse serving on that committee.

**Drs. Charlene Pope and Boyd Davis** collaborated on and submitted an AHRQ Small Conference R13 Grant on August 20.

If funded, the proposed conference, entitled “International Nurse Migration: Global Phenomenon, Local Practices, Language Barriers”, will be held in October 2008 and be a part of the 125th anniversary year-long celebration of the MUSC College of Nursing. The conference is planned to gather those in the humanities (English for special purposes, ethnic studies, medical anthropology, linguistics, and medical sociology) and those in nursing and health service research to stimulate a research agenda concerning Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs), intercultural language socialization, nursing staffing, and patient outcomes.

**Dr. Barbara Edlund** has been invited to join the Advisory Board of Respite Care Ministries of St. Mathews Lutheran Church. The goal of Respite Care Ministries is to improve the quality of life for people with dementia and their caregivers by providing a program of safe, social stimulation for participants and a time of respite for caregivers.

Edlund was also asked to join the Advisory Board of the Lowcountry Senior Center of James Island for the implementation of the project “Living Well: Chronic Disease Self Management” developed by Stanford University.

Edlund has been very busy this summer as she also published a guest editorial entitled: “Pharmacotherapy in Older Adults: A Clinician’s Challenge” in the *Journal of Gerontological Nursing* (Vol. 33, No.17, July 2007).

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**REMEMBER**

Faculty must keep their information updated in the database. Publications, presentations, honors, awards, leadership positions, etc is now up to the faculty member to enter into the database effective July 1, 2007.
We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members to the College of Nursing.

**Connie Ambrose** is the new Administrative Specialist for the Hollywood School Based Clinics (Baptist Hill High, Schroder Middle, and Blaney Elementary). Ambrose has a degree in business administration and has worked for University Medical Associates for several years.

**Becky Gratton** is currently a work-study student with the College of Nursing while she works on her master’s degree in rehabilitative sciences/occupational therapy. She graduated in 2006 from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science in exercise science with an emphasis in motor development. While at USC, she was a clinician at the Perceptual Motor Development lab and worked with children with motor development delays.

In January of 2008, Becky will move to Columbia and begin her clinical rotations in occupational therapy. Her fields of interests are pediatrics, spinal cord injury, and traumatic brain injury.

**Evelyn Jaime** has been hired by the Hispanic Health Initiative as a patient navigator at the Sea Island Medical Center (SIMC). She was born in Managua, Nicaragua in Central America and came to the United States when she was five-years-old. Jaime comes to us from Northwood Pediatric Clinic.

**Anne Lawn** has joined the College of Nursing as a language specialist/interpreter. Previously, she taught Spanish at the College of Charleston where she fell in love with teaching at upper-level education institutions. Currently, Lawn teaches at the Citadel in the modern languages department, as well as at the College of Nursing for the Hispanic Health Initiative. Lawn has lived in Tennessee, Alabama, Costa Rica and Spain and earned a master’s degree in bilingual legal interpreting.

**Tiffany Williams, MSN**, a MUSC graduate, was hired by the Hispanic Health Initiative (HHI) and School Based Clinics (SBC). She is the new nurse practitioner for North Charleston Schools (Burns Elementary and North Charleston High School) where she can be found three days a week.

Williams provides pediatric and episodic illness health care services (funded by HHI) at Sea Island Medical Center on John’s Island two days a week. Prior to joining CON, Williams worked in the MUSC department of pediatrics for several years.

Sadly, **Cheryl Brown** will be leaving the College of Nursing on Friday, September 14. She has been recruited to manage MUSC’s surgery research department. A drop-in luncheon has been planned in her honor on September 6. Please stop by and say your goodbyes.

*When: Thursday, September 6 from 12 - 1 p.m.*
*Where: College of Nursing, Historical Library*

*What can you bring?*
*Food and good wishes!*