A Year for the CON Memory Book

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

In just a few weeks we will bid farewell to 2008 – and what a year it has been for the College of Nursing. We celebrated with great style and grace our 125th anniversary, noting both the footsteps of the past and the freeways of the future for our school. Our student enrollment and faculty numbers are at an all time high and our record of excellence is evident in NCLEX scores, grants, publications and national leadership positions. In future history books I think 2008 also will be noted as the year we received approval to open the DNP program. It is clear that this has been a most active and productive year for us!

The year 2008 also may be remembered as a watershed year for the College based upon significant budget reductions in the midst of a national financial downturn. The decisions we will be making over the next few months will further define and refine our mission, vision and values. But we are up to the task and I truly believe that we will emerge as a stronger and more focused organization.

So here’s to 2008 and, most of all, here’s to each and every one of you – faculty, staff and student alike. I hope that you are able to partake of the joy of this season and spend time with those you love. I wish you many holiday blessings...Gail

Breaking News

Dean Gail Stuart has been invited to serve on the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health, for a term beginning February 1, 2009 and ending January 31, 2013.

The Council consists of 15 members appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and six non-voting, ex-officio members: the Secretary, Health and Human Services; the Director, NIH; the Director, NINR; the Chief Nursing Officer of the Department of Veterans Affairs; the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs; the Director of the Division of Nursing of the Health Resources and Services Administration.
Breaking News (cont. from p. 1)

Of the 15 appointed members, two-thirds are selected from among the leading representatives of the health and scientific disciplines (including public health and the behavioral health or social sciences) relevant to the activities of the Institute; of these, at least seven shall be professional nurses who are recognized experts in the area of clinical practice, education or research.

The Council provides the second level of review of grant applications, and recommends to the Institute Director which applications should be approved and considered for funding. These recommendations are based not only on considerations of scientific merit, as judged by the IRGs, but also on the relevance of the proposed project to the Institute’s programs and priorities. Funding decisions are made by the Institute Director, who may not legally delegate this decision-making responsibility to the NACNR Council or to any other outside advisory group. However, the Director may follow the Council’s recommendations in making funding decisions. In addition, the Council reviews the Institute’s extramural programs and also makes recommendations about its intramural research activities.

CON Clean-Up

Let’s end the year by cleaning out the old and ringing in the new in 2009. On Thursday, December 18 and Friday, December 19, the College will have large receptacles available to accept your old papers, books and other items. Let’s get all of our offices uncluttered and organized. Mark your calendars now for our end of year clean sweep!

eConnections Survey Results

Thank you to all who participated in last month’s survey. We will sift through all of your suggestions and comments and hopefully put them in play early next year. One suggestion that seemed to pop up over and over was the need for a calendar of events that would encompass ALL meetings and events for the month that are relative to CON faculty, staff and students. We will look into this and other suggestions in 2009.

Getting to Know...Teresa

Name: Teresa Kelechi
Position: Associate professor
How many years at CON? 7 years
How many years at MUSC? 21 years
First position at MUSC? General Internal Medicine/Geriatrics working with the Geriatric Assessment team
Most rewarding thing about your job? The students
Hometown: Lisbon, OH
Describe your hometown in 3 words: Hilly (Appalachian foothills), old (founded in 1803), and rundown
What did you listen to on the way into work today? Duran Duran and The Cure
If you could invite three guests (living or deceased) to dinner, who would they be? Gilda Radner because she was hysterical and smart; Indra Nooyi (Chairwoman/CEO of Pepsico) so that I can hear what is like to run a huge company; Hillary Clinton so I can hear what it is like to be in politics; and Jill Specht because she does spectacular photograms of herself while dancing.
What book are you currently reading? Q & A by Vikas Swarp
Last movie you saw? Sex and the City
First concert you ever attended? Foreigner
Favorite place you’ve traveled to? Venice
One thing you’ve never done, but hope to accomplish one day? Comedic dancing
In which store would you like to win a $3,000 shopping spree? B & H Photo in New York City
What do you enjoy most doing in your spare time? Taking pictures
Favorite color: Green
Favorite sport to play: Badminton
Favorite sports team or player: Natalie Gulbis (golf)
Favorite outdoor activity: Running
Favorite board game: Candy Land
Favorite TV show(s): Rob & Big
Favorite movie: When Harry Met Sally
Favorite magazine: The New Yorker
Favorite cookie: Macaroons dipped in chocolate
Favorite candy bar: Heath bar
Favorite thing about living in Charleston? Lots of picture opportunities
**Attention Class of December 2008**

The College of Nursing will hold Convocation to celebrate the Classes of August and December 2008 on Saturday, December 6, 10:00 am at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, 405 King Street. The will be a light reception in the adjacent Fellowship Hall following the ceremony.

Graduates should plan to arrive at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church by 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 6. Student services personnel will be there to assist you with regalia. Announcements and regalia are available for pick-up in room 307 of CON. For graduates who are unable to pick up regalia prior to Convocation, it will be available at the church Saturday morning.

Traffic and parking are always a problem in Charleston. There are several garages convenient to the church, however. The largest one is located on King Street and is part of the Westin Francis Marion Hotel (corner of King and Calhoun Streets). There is also a large garage on St. Phillips Street near the corner of St. Phillips and Vanderhorst Streets. The Charleston Visitor’s Center Garage is also nearby on Meeting Street.

Convocation will begin promptly at 10 a.m. and the ceremony generally ends by 11:15 am.

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**Welcome, Yolanda!**

**Yolanda Morrison**, has joined the College as an administrative assistant in the Office of Academics. Yolanda, a Brooklyn, NY native, has lived in the Charleston area for over 23 years and comes to MUSC after 10 years at Hill-Rom. We are so happy to have her join our Office of Academics team!

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**Aging Population Fuels Nursing Demand**

Jobfox, a Washington-based job listing company, compiled a list of the 20 jobs with the best median monthly rankings. It shouldn’t be a surprise to any of us that nursing was ranked in the top three professions that are in-demand by recruiters and other employer agents with Sales Representative/Business Development and Software Design/Development ranking number one and two respectively.

As we know, nursing is a profession that is facing a shortage—due mostly to aging population and advances in medicine. Patients who wouldn’t have survived certain diseases, such as cancer or HIV, 10 years ago are living longer thanks to new medical breakthroughs. However, these patients may require more long-term treatment, which in turn means these careers should stay in demand for years to come.

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**Thank You!**

Thanks to each and everyone who contributed to the 125th Anniversary Fund. Although we didn’t quite reach our goal we should be very proud of the money we collected considering the economic climate that we are in today. To date, we’ve raised a nearly **$105,000**! This money will go toward supporting the College’s nursing scholarships that will help to educate our future nurses. Thanks again for your support.

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**Xerox Totals for November**

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<td>5th Floor</td>
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Research Faculty Submit Proposals

Best wishes to the following faculty who submitted proposals for funding this month:

**Carole Bennett** as Project Director and **Lisa Vandemark** as Co-Director of “Sim-Co Talk: Using simulation to teach effective communication,” a proposal to BrPH/HRSA that will support using simulation to teach communication skills for nursing students across the state.

**Elaine Amella** as Dual Principle Investigator with Mark DeLegge from the Digestive Diseases Center for “Feeding elderly in late-stage dementia: The FIELD trial,” a proposal to the National Institute of Aging that would test the feasibility of conducting a larger randomized control trial of hand-feeding vs. tube-feeding in persons with late-stage dementia.

**Sally Stroud** as Project Director for the Advanced Education Nurse Traineeship, a proposal to BrPH/HRSA that will support students’ tuition in the upcoming year.

Doctoral Student Kudos

Doctoral student **Julius Kehinde** was chosen to attend the National Institute on Aging’s pre-conference workshop for pre-doctoral training at the Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. Kehinde submitted a competitive research proposal concerning falls in older adults to be chosen among many applicants. Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Jodi Protokowicz**, a second year PhD student, for acceptance of her poster “Screening for depression during pregnancy” for the Southern Nursing Research Society Conference that will be held in February 2009 in Baltimore, MD. Protokowicz’s work was a result of Jeannette Andrew’s course on measurement.


**Sarah Johnson** successfully defended her doctoral dissertation on December 1. Way to Go!

Changing of the Guard

**Elaine Amella** will be stepping down as associate dean of research and evaluation—a position she has held since February 2004—to focus on her research grants and develop her RO1. **Jeanette Andrews** will be taking the reigns of the CON’s research department effective December 1. Although she has some big shoes to fill, we know she will do a fantastic job.

“Good ideas are not adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous patience.”

~ Hyman Rickover

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**PhD Residency Week**
July 13 - 17, 2009

All PhD students in course work will travel to campus for a week of immersion that enhances their socialization with peers and faculty and stimulates their progression towards preparing for candidacy. The CON is currently accepting PhD applications for fall 2009 entry.
Research Assistant Needed

Are you a nursing student looking to work between 12-20 hours per week on a variety of research projects? Two new researchers at the Hollings Cancer Center (HCC), Drs. Katie Sterba and Kristin Wallace, have begun several exciting new studies and are looking for assistance.

Sterba’s projects are related to assessing quality of life (QOL) and social support in breast cancer patients during and after treatment, with sub-analysis focused on potential racial differences in QOL and social support that may exist. Wallace’s projects are related to assessing racial differences in uptake of standard colorectal cancer care for Stage IV colorectal cancer patients. This opportunity would provide a student familiarity with working in the clinic environment and in the clinical computer systems.

The position is temporary for this academic year, with the possibility of extension if more funds become available. An hourly rate of ten dollars has been budgeted for this position.

Duties include:

• Chart abstractions of cancer patient records
• In-depth patient interviews
• Data entry and management
• Literature reviews

If interested in this position, contact Kathleen Cartmell at HCC at 792-8250.

Welcome New Staff

The Office of Practice would like to welcome **Anna Tecklenburg** to the position of program assistant for the Duke grant, “Reducing Violence in the Community.” Tecklenburg grew up in Charleston and attended Bishop England High School. She received her baccalaureate degree in Sociology from the University of South Carolina, and her master’s degree in international development and social change from Clarke University in Worcester, MA.

Her international experience includes LIMPAL (Liga Internacional de Mujeres Pro Paz y Libertad /Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom) in Bogota, Columbia; Mefak-eng Tourism Development Project in Tzaneen, South Africa and WORLDTEACH in El Cajon, Costa Rica. Her past work experience includes family literacy, domestic violence and sexual assault, and with Americorps focusing on disaster relief, teaching bilingual second grade students, and other service projects. Tecklenburg’s office will be located in the CON room 515.

**Judith Rundbacken** joins the College of Nursing as the patient navigator for the Hispanic Health Initiative for Johns Island. Rundbacken has worked with El Sol radio and as a community advocate has been involved with programs offered by the North Charleston Police Department. Judith grew up in Mexico and studied marketing at Bauer Tech in Mexico City. Welcome!

**CON Students Participate in Health Fair**

On Saturday, November 15, CON students **Ashley Bath, Kiri Nevin** (MUSC Presidential Scholars), and **Mandie Turner, Reames Rinehardt** (Hispanic Health Initiative (HHI) Scholars), as well as, **Amy Parker** and **Nick Porter** (MUSC students from the Alliance for Hispanic Health), participated in a Health Fair for the Latino community that was held at Low Country AIDS Services. Over 15 local agencies were represented. The students performed blood pressure screenings and computed BMI (body mass index) values for fair participants. In addition, a variety of health information related to chronic diseases, women's and children's health was disseminated. Over 40 participants came to the MUSC booth. Also, HHI Scholars interviewed participants to learn what they perceived as health issues in their community, what barriers exist to accessing care, and what additional health information they would be interested in learning about.
New Faculty Orientation Schedule
MEET THE OFFICES OF DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING
Monday, December 8 • 4:00 p.m. • Room 211
▷ Denise Ciccarelli, Development Director
▷ Beth Khan, Marketing Director

Presentations & Publications

Annemarie Donato published an article in the September issue of Clinician’s Reviews, a peer-reviewed journal. “A Clinician’s View” is a case study of a college student with mental health problems.

Elaine Amella lead a symposium and presented a paper co-authored by Ruth Stockdell, MUSC Instructor and Doctoral Candidate, at the annual Gerontological Society of America’s Annual Meeting that was held in Washington, DC on November 24. The symposium was entitled, “Mealtimes and malnutrition: An examination of models, meaning, measurement, methods and decision-making in serious illness and end-of-life.”


Six Ways to be a Better Boss

1. Empower your employees. Give them very clear direction then let them loose to be successful.

2. Communicate in a straightforward fashion. Let your employees understand their goals and provide regular feedback. Don’t wait for a formal review to respond to concerns.

3. Set measurable goals. Monitor progress at regularly set checkpoints in order to make sure everyone is still on point. Address any problems quickly.

4. Giving credit where credit is due. Don’t take credit for something an employee did. Shine the light on your employee and the light will reflect back on you.

5. Play to your employees’ strengths. Learn your employees’ strengths and passions in order to create an environment that allows them to excel at what they do best.

6. Appreciate differences. Exploring differences with the intention of better understanding and motivating your employees. Great leaders are great communicators.

First Annual CON Talent Show

ATTENTION ALL FACULTY AND STAFF
On Monday, December 15, the College of Nursing will be hosting a talent show—not the singing and dancing stuff—but a showcase of the many creative ways in which we express the other sides of our lives outside of the College. If you have a “knack” for making knicknacks, a “penchant” for making pennants, or an “eye” for taking photographs, please consider displaying your treasures. There are quilters, photographers, knitters, crafters, jewelry makers, bakers and others among us and it would be fun to see the many wonderful creations we work on outside MUSC. Sales of any items is not prohibited and any proceeds to the CON 125th Fund would be greatly appreciated.

If you are interested, contact Jo Smith at smithjo@musc.edu or Teresa Kelechi at kelechtj@musc.edu. The show will take place immediately following the CON holiday party. (Location to be announced.)
Facebook for New Students
The students entering the accelerated BSN degree program were on campus for a mini-orientation on Friday, November 14. They were introduced to their Facebook page...MUSC Nursing ACC BSN Class of May 2010.

All students, faculty, and staff are welcome to be part of this social network to provide students with up to date information, opportunities to buy books and uniforms, find housing, etc.

New Student Orientation is scheduled for January 6 - 8. The Stethoscope Ceremony will be January 8 at 4:30 p.m. in St. Luke’s Chapel.

Wachovia Scholarships Awarded to Two CON Students

J’Vonne Hunter and Tiffany Hunter were each recently selected to receive a $5,000 scholarship from Wachovia through Roper-St. Francis Hospital.

J’Vonne is completing her first semester of course work in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the Medical University of South Carolina. She will complete this program in December 2009. She has dual degrees from North Carolina State University: a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Bachelors of Arts in Spanish.

Most recently, J’Vonne worked for Duke Pathology Genome Trials Support Facility in Durham, NC. Prior to this experience, she worked as a Spanish interpreter and eligibility screener for Urban Ministries Open Door Clinic in Raleigh, NC. She has worked with the bilingual community and has a passion for people. She spent a semester abroad in Costa Rica and interned in Mexico. Her interest in healthcare comes from her humanitarian interests and ethical perspective on access to healthcare.

Tiffany is also a first semester student in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the Medical University of South Carolina. She will complete this program in December 2009. She has a previously earned Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Winthrop University.

Tiffany developed an interest in health care careers during a summer internship with Lowcountry AHEC in 2002. She further developed this interest while attending an undergraduate research program at MUSC in the summer of 2003. During this experience she worked closely with three physicians performing analysis. She followed-up on this research as a Research Fellow at Winthrop University.

Tiffany has been involved in the Bethlehem United Methodist Women and Habitat for Humanity. She is concerned with mentoring young women and actively participating in local, regional, and national initiatives to support their growth and education.

SNA Elects New Officers
Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Student Nurse’s Association!

Zerlinna Shannon - President
Ashley Ragan - Vice President
Aisha Choudry - Community Director
Heather Williams - Treasurer
Catherine Coker - Secretary
Krissy Douglass - Historian
Britney Diaz - Legislative Director
Hannah French - Breakthrough to Nursing Director

Their first major project for the new year is Career Day scheduled for February. Many thanks to the outgoing officers for their leadership and enthusiasm for students and nurses! Best wishes as you begin your nursing career!
Give a gift to your favorite MUSC College of Nursing alumnus from the College’s Marketplace. A variety of gift items such as books, pins, and bookmarks are available for purchase. Proceeds benefit the College of Nursing’s 125th Anniversary Scholarship.

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<td><strong>BOOK</strong></td>
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<td><em>The School of Nursing of the Medical College of South Carolina</em> written by Ruth Chamberlin</td>
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<td>provides a fascinating and fun account of the life and times of the College from 1886 - 1966.</td>
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<td><strong>DVD</strong></td>
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<td>The MUSC College of Nursing video: <em>Embracing the Past, Envisioning the Future</em> is a video</td>
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<td>that chronicles the College from its founding in 1883 to current day.</td>
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<td><strong>PIN</strong></td>
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<td>A brass, gold-plated recreation of the lovely ironwork found on the front railing of the College.</td>
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<td><strong>BOOKMARK</strong></td>
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<td><strong>REPLICA</strong></td>
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<td>A three-dimensional (6.5” x 5”) wooden, painted collectible of the College building by Sheila.</td>
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<td><strong>HOLIDAY ORNAMENT</strong></td>
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<td>A representation of the College in 24k gold flashed brass. Ready to hang on a stand or tree.</td>
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<td><strong>WRISTBAND</strong></td>
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<td>Support nurses everywhere with a NURSESTRONG wristband. Made of white silicon.</td>
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MUSC College of Nursing, 99 Jonathan Lucas St., MSC 160, Charleston, SC 29425  Questions? Call (843) 792-9690.

Great Holiday Gift! Order by 12/10/08 for Christmas delivery.