Happy New Year

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

And we’re off...off to a fabulous new year! A year in which each month we will celebrate the glorious 125th anniversary of our College of Nursing. The kick off event will be January 7th - our party launch and first showing of the academy award winning production, “The MUSC College of Nursing: Embracing the Past, Envisioning the Future,” which visually captures our CON history. We will even have a little gift for those attending.

And from there we have an unfolding menu of activities - some scholarly, some professional and some just plain fun. We hope you look at the calendar of events posted in this newsletter and mark them on your calendar right now.

This year we also will produce two special issues of Lifelines. The spring issue will find us “Treasuring the Past”, while the fall issue will propel us into “Transforming the Future”. If you have ideas for contributions to these issues please share them with Suzanne Gresle. Photos would be most welcome as well.

And one of the best parts of what we are planning is that it is giving us the motivation to review the many archives and mementos of life here in the CON, and then catalog, record and preserve them with generous help from the Waring Historical Library. All of this leaves a legacy to those who will follow in our footsteps in the years to come. And one day a future student or faculty member might even say, “You know, way back then in 2008, those folks really took the College to new heights - all the while enjoying the ride!”...Gail
DNP Update

Work is well underway by faculty who are developing the new programs of study for our proposed DNP degree. At this time it appears that the post-BSN DNP program will be three years in length. At the end of the first two years, students will have the option of exiting with a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree. With this degree they would be able to sit for certification as a:

- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Nursing Administration and Nurse Educator will also be available at the MSN level. The combined MSN/MBA program with the USC Moore School of Business will continue to be offered.

All programs of study will be available for full-time or part-time study, except for Nursing Administration, which will only be offered for part-time study.

Finally, students who are currently being offered admission are being accepted into the accelerated BSN program with early admission to the post-BSN masters degree program in fall 2010, pending registered nurse licensure.

More details will be provided next month as additional work is completed.

Faculty Honor Roll

With this issue of eConnections, we are establishing a Faculty Honor Roll. At the end of each semester we will be posting the names of the regular faculty who have received an e-Value Educator Average score of 4.75 or above. This reflects a 95 percent or greater teaching performance score–reflective of true teaching excellence! For the fall 2007 semester the following faculty achieved this high distinction:

- Robin Bissinger
- Janet Grossman
- Carolyn Jenkins
- Teresa Kelechi
- Gigi Smith
- John Welton

Getting to Know...Erika

Name: Erika Jenkins
Position: Administrative Coordinator
How many years at CON? 3
How many years at MUSC? 17
Most rewarding thing about your job? Continuous learning
Hometown: Charleston, SC
Describe your hometown: Southern hospitality, great weather, great food.
Family: Husband, Corrie; two daughters, Corrtnie (13) and Jasmine (12)
Astrological sign: Libra
If you could invite four guests (living or deceased) to dinner, who would they be? My grandmother, great-grandmother, Dr. Stuart, and Dr. Kim Davis
What did you listen to on your way into work today? The Steve Harvey Morning Show
Last movie you saw? American Gangster
First concert you ever attended? Frankie Beverly and Maze
Favorite place you’ve traveled to? Dover, DE
If you could attend any sporting event what would it be? A Dallas Cowboys NFL game.
One thing you’ve never done but hope to do one day? Fly
What do you enjoy most doing in your spare time? Spending quality time with family and friends.
Favorite color: Brown (any shade)
Favorite flower: Gardenia
Favorite sport to play: Basketball
Favorite sports team: Dallas Cowboys
Favorite TV shows: Judge Judy, House, Trapper John, MD
Favorite board game: Monopoly
Favorite movie: Shawshank Redemption
Favorite magazine: Ebony
Favorite fruit: Banana
Favorite chips/snack: Sun Chips
Favorite cookie: Oreo
Favorite cereal: Frosted Flakes
Favorite candy bar: Three Musketeers
Favorite thing about living in the Charleston area? Its accessibility.
Convocation Award Recipients

Congratulations to **Blair Webb, Peggy Bollinger,** and **Jackie Malone** for receiving student awards at December’s convocation. Blair completed her studies as the First Honor Graduate, Peggy received the Alumni Association Outstanding BSN Student Award, and Jackie was presented with the Kimberly Michelle Limbaker Award.

CON students voted for outstanding faculty and presented **Dr. John Welton** with the Golden Lamp Award and **Ms. Ellie Smith** with the Outstanding Clinical Faculty Award.

Homecoming 2008

All alumni and friends of the College of Nursing are invited to take part in activities marking the 125th anniversary during this year’s annual homecoming on Saturday, March 8.

The homecoming party will be held Saturday evening and will once again feature the Nursing Alumni Association’s silent auction. Proceeds from the auction go toward the Association’s five scholarships for current College of Nursing students. In recognition of the College’s 125th anniversary celebration, an ambitious auction goal of $10,000 has been set for 2008.

Fabulous items snapped up by past auction attendees have included stays at the Woodlands Resort in Summerville and the historic Mills House Hotel, a special-occasion cake by local pastry chef Elizabeth Perry, decorator items; a variety of gift certificates for boat trips, beauty salons, and other personal services, jewelry, artwork, and sporting goods, just to name a few.

If you would like to help in some way with this year’s auction, please contact Silent Auction Committee Co-Chairs Nancy Finch, ’85, (finchn@musc.edu) and Stephanie Chomos, ’04, (chomoss@musc.edu) or Shari Wise in the MUSC Alumni Office at wises@musc.edu or 792-7979.

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

As you know the College of Nursing will be celebrating its 125th Anniversary in 2008. One way the College will be commemorating this monumental event is by hosting a RiverDogs baseball game on Friday, May 2.

We would like to invite all friends and families of the College to join in on the fun. Tickets are $14 which includes entrance into the game, hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, cookies, tea and lemonade. (FYI - The $14 only covers the ticket, food, & drink and CON will not make any additional money from this event...it is simply a night for us all to root together.)

If you would like to purchase tickets, please contact Beth Barnett Khan at barnette@musc.edu or 792-9690.
Congratulations to Gigi Smith, MSN, PNP who received notification that her proposal to the National Epilepsy Foundation entitled, “Depression Screening in Youth with Epilepsy,” will be awarded for the upcoming two years. Additionally, this proposal received the highly competitive award as the highest ranked proposal submitted. Way to go, Gigi!

Congratulations to Drs. Elaine Amella and Jane Zapka who were among the authors of an integrative review published in Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology entitled, “Feeding Alternatives in Patients with Dementia: Examining the Evidence”. The team of authors represented the interdisciplinary group who recently submitted an R21 proposal to the National Institute on Aging (NIA) concerning tube-feeding.

Research For Lunch
Tuesday, January 22
12 - 1 p.m.
Room 211 (CON boardroom)

Dr. Sheila Smith will be presenting a preliminary proposal of her upcoming NINR submission.

T-shirts for Sale
125th Anniversary t-shirts are now on sale! These 100 percent cotton t-shirts are white with the College of Nursing logo on the front and the 125th Anniversary logo on the back. T-shirts come in sizes small, medium and large and are available with short sleeves (s/s) or long sleeves (l/s).

T-shirts will be sold for $20 (s/s) and $25 (l/s). Students prices are $15 (s/s) and $20 (l/s).

If you would like a t-shirt in a different size, we will be accepting special orders. Deadlines for special sizes will be February 4 and April 28.

To purchase a t-shirt or place a special order, contact Mardi Long at longm@musc.edu or 792-6683.
On November 4, **Dr. Charlene Pope** presented a paper entitled, “Membership Categorization: How Language Use Constructs Difference and Disparities in Health Encounter Talk” at the 39th Biennial Convention of Sigma Theta Tau International in Baltimore, MD during the Theoretical and Global Issues Session.

Charlene also submitted a revision for a three-year VA Merit Proposal Grant with Dr. Leonard Egede, co-PI, and Dr. Boyd Davis, co-investigator, for the study entitled, “Racial Variations in Communication, Decision Making, and Diabetes Outcomes.” The study proposes the recording and coding of 150 provider-patient encounters at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center using tools for an analysis of communication and decision making in comparison with glycosolated hemoglobin (HGA1c) levels as a measure of diabetes outcomes.

**Gigi Smith** revised the Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders chapter in Betz’s and Sowden’s Sixth Edition of Mosby’s *Pediatric Nursing Reference* which will be published in 2008 by Mosby, Inc.

The December 5th workshop entitled “Increasing Access to Services for Latina Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault” was a great success. This workshop was sponsored by MUSC’s National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center (NCVC) and the College of Nursing. The audience consisted of representatives from S.C. Legal Services, Dee Norton Lowcountry Children’s Center, Beaufort-Jasper Health Care, Charleston Police Department, Department of Social Services, Communities in Schools and MUSC.

A special thanks to **Maria Toler** and **Melanie Slan** for planning and coordinating this workshop.

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**Wound Care News**

The Wound Care Education Program was formally awarded a full five-year accreditation from the Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society (WOCN) effective until December 2012. The program has been continuously accredited since its inception in 1994.

Seven graduates completed the 2007 Wound Care Specialty Course that was held in October and November of last year.

The 2008 dates for the course are as follows:

- **Traditional on-site course**: February 16 - March 8, August 9 - 30, or October 11 - November 1
- **Split-option, Web-enhanced, Distance Option**: April 12 - August 2 with April 12 - 19 being on-site. Applications are being accepted.

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**Upcoming Meetings**

**Hispanic Health Initiative Staff Meeting**
Monday, January 7 • 8:30 – 10 a.m.
Room 501

**Faculty Practice Committee**
Monday, January 14 • 8 – 10 a.m.
Room 211

**Public Health Journal Club**
Monday, January 28 • 3 – 3:30 p.m.
Historical Library
Sharon Bond has been appointed associate editor of the *Journal of Midwifery & Women’s Health*.

Gigi Smith had a chapter published with her research colleague.


Gigi will also be presenting two posters from research projects at the American Epilepsy Society Conference in Philadelphia in December.

- Smith, G., Ferguson, P., Wagner, M., Wannamaker, B., and Selassie, A. (2007). Stigma and self-efficacy in persons with epilepsy. (This poster was the winner of the 2007 American Epilepsy Society’s Nurses’ Travel Award.)

**Dr. Charlene Pope**, PI, with co-investigators, **Dr. Gayenell Magwood**, **Dr. Carolyn Jenkins**, and **Dr. Boyd Davis** were awarded a Center for Health Disparities Research (CHDR) competitive Pilot Project Program grant. The proposed study is a secondary data analysis of qualitative interviews for Dr. Jenkins’ NINR (R15) at NIH and REACH 2010 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This project is entitled: *Coding Matters: Comparative Mixed Method Analysis of Accounts of Avoidable Emergency Room Visits for African Americans with Diabetes*.

Dr. Phyllis Bonham has been appointed as a consultant editor for the *Journal of Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing (JWOCN)*.

Phyllis has also been selected as the WOCN’s liaison to the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (NPUAP) and will be attending the upcoming NPUAP meeting in Washington, DC on January 10 - 11.

The National Libraries of Medicine (NLM) is contracting with the College to develop a teen health advocacy program at St. Johns High School on Johns Island. The goals of this program are to educate students on accessing quality health information on the Internet, to create student centered programs for community health outreach and to promote a pipeline for health careers.

**Dr. Deborah Williamson** and NLM conducted a site visit at St. Johns High School on December 10. The program is scheduled to begin August 2008.

The MUSC Board of Trustees has named **J. Herman Blake, PhD** as MUSC’s inaugural Humanities Scholar in Residence. Dr. Blake has led a distinguished career in academics, community engagement in education, and in academic administration. In his role as Humanities Scholar in Residence, he will develop programs to enrich the academic environment of our academic health science center, and will work closely with the Humanities Committee, the offices of the President and Provost, and our colleges and departments to enhance our learning environment.
STUDENT NEWS

Essay Contest

KaiserEDU.org will launch its second annual essay contest on January 23. Students will be asked to submit an original, 800-word essay. Undergraduate and graduate students will be judged separately and the winners will receive $1,000. Complete details, rules and regulations for the essay contest are available online www.kaiserEDU.org/essaycontest2008.asp. All essays must be submitted by March 17, 2008.

ESSAY TOPIC: You have just started a job as an analyst working on the president elect’s health care transition team and have been asked to draft a memo fleshing out the health priorities for the new administration on a major health policy issue. Select a current candidate and an issue area (controlling health care costs, eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities, expanding health promotion and disease prevention efforts, improving women’s health, or improving the quality of health care) and identify the major policies or strategies that the next administration could develop to advance this issue.

For more information about KaiserEDU.org, the Kaiser Family Foundation’s free Web site which provides a wide range of educational materials and resources on major areas of health care policy, particularly for students and faculty, please visit the Web site www.kaiseredu.org/about.asp.

Attention Class of May 2008

All BSN and MSN students planning to graduate in May 2008 are invited to participate in the Senior Photo Day on Thursday, January 31 from 2 - 5 p.m. The cost is approximately $25 which includes the sitting fee, three 2” x 2” photographs (which can be used for licensing applications), and a small composite of the Class of May 2008. The location is pending, so please check your e-mail for updated information.

Your regalia (caps and gowns), as well as invitations for graduation will also be available. Mark your calendars...this year convocation will be held Thursday, May 15 at 3 p.m. and graduation on Friday, May 16 at 9 a.m.

STUDENT MEETING TIME

The second Monday of each month from 2:15 - 4:15 pm has been designated as the student meeting time. No classes or conferences will be scheduled during this time. Students can use this time to have SGA, SNA or class meetings.
The Medical University of South Carolina College of Nursing invites you to celebrate 125 years of providing excellence in nursing education.

Monday, January 7, 2008
4 - 5:30 p.m.
MUSC College of Nursing
99 Jonathan Lucas St.
Charleston, SC