Tighten That Belt and Unpack Those Bags

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

The financial forecast does not look good for the days ahead. You drive down a street and see many parked cars and some idle boats with “for sale” signs taped to their windshields. You go to the grocery store and bemoan the rising costs of many food staples. And of course you go to the gas pump and gasp at the ever-rising digits on the dial. Can the world change any quicker or challenge us any more as we try to keep afloat?

While this is true for our personal lives, our professional lives are clearly being affected by the economy as well. First of all, salaries are flat – particularly bad news when costs are rising. Second, the state’s expenditures offer little if any new income for us to expand programs to meet rising needs for our College of Nursing. Reports also suggest that airline prices will rise considerably in the year to come. We need to take this into consideration if we are thinking of going to a conference for a paper or poster presentation. Then the costs of doing business are rising every day, whether it’s technology, Xeroxing, or renovating our building.

So how can we best deal with all of this? First, the good news is that we either have jobs, or in the case of students, have the potential for obtaining very good jobs. We then need to work hard to keep those jobs by demonstrating our willingness to go “above and beyond” to help both the College of Nursing and MUSC.

Next we all need to pitch in to identify and implement cost saving efforts. Little things, such as turning off lights and computers or reusing paper, can add up if everyone endorses them. Finally, this next year just might be the time to unpack those travel bags, and stay put. With the time and money you save by not traveling you can finish a project, work on a manuscript, create a new teaching module, exercise more, give back to your community, or simply spend additional quality time with your colleagues, students, friends and family. Come to think of it, that’s really appealing and it may be one way we can turn tightened belts and unpacked bags into something very positive. - Gail
Nursing Education Capacity Summit

OVERVIEW
On June 26 - 27, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Center to Champion Nursing in America, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration sponsored a Nursing Education Capacity Summit, in Washington, D.C.

SUMMIT DESCRIPTION
The Nursing Education Capacity Summit focused on four key aspects of increasing nursing education capacity: 1) Strategic Partnerships and Resource Alignment; 2) the Role of Policy and Regulation; 3) Increasing Faculty Capacity and Diversity; and 4) Education Redesign.

States were invited to assemble a team and submit a Letter of Application to attend the Summit. States were selected based on the quality and depth of the applications. Teams, composed of up to 10 participants, were required to bring representation from each of the seven categories: the nursing education system, employers of nurses, the workforce investment system, regulatory bodies, nursing leadership, government agencies, policymakers and policy and consumer advocates, and state or regional philanthropic organizations. States were also given an option to add a representative from the state AARP office as an 11th team member.

STATE TEAM SELECTION
After reviewing 49 applications, in a competitive team selection process, 18 state teams were invited to attend. The teams include: California, Maryland, Virginia, Oregon, Texas, Alabama, North Carolina, Mississippi, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Wisconsin, South Carolina, Florida, Hawaii, Colorado, Michigan, Illinois, and New Jersey.

After the summit, teams will be tracked and monitored for one year. Technical Assistance will be provided to teams, via conference calls and Webinars.

Getting to Know...
Name: Beth Khan
Position: Marketing Director
How many years at CON? 2
How many years at MUSC? 2
Most rewarding thing about your job? The people I work with.
Hometown: Columbia, SC
Describe your hometown: Hot and humid!
Family: Husband, Jamie; daughter, Katie (6 weeks); and a Chocolate Lab named Boo.
Astrological sign: Cancer
If you could invite four guests (living or deceased) to dinner, who would they be? The funniest people I know... my mother, my late aunt Rose Mitchell and my friends Celeste Hudson and Todd Tennyson.
What book are you currently reading? Too many baby books to list.
Last movie you saw? Into the Wild
First concert you ever attended? The Bee Gees
Favorite place you've traveled to? Italy
If you could attend any sporting event what would it be? Wimbledon
One thing you've never done, but hope to accomplish one day? Five years ago I would have said run a marathon, today I'll say travel to Africa and Australia.
In which store would you like to win a $3,000 shopping spree? Pottery Barn
What do you enjoy most doing in your spare time? Spending time with my family and visiting friends.
Favorite color: Blue
Favorite flower: Gardenia
Favorite sports player or team: Roger Federer
Favorite outdoor activities: Walking & running
Favorite movie: Out of Africa
Favorite TV show(s): Lost, The Office
Favorite magazine: Vanity Fair and US
Favorite chips/snack: Chex mix
Favorite cookie: Homemade chocolate-chip
Favorite candy bar: Milky Way
Favorite thing about living in the Charleston area? The beach!
Stuart Receives National Award

On June 26, **Gail Stuart** received the Hildegard Peplau Award in Washington, DC for her contributions to the field of psychiatric nursing. Stuart has devoted 35 years of her professional life to the furtherance of psychiatric nursing theory, research, education and practice. Her work clearly reflects the leadership tradition of Dr. Hildegard Peplau. Stuart has participated in 29 funded research studies, exploring the many aspects of psychiatric care, including: patient compliance, medication efficacy, treatment of depression, anxiety and eating disorders, and mental health service delivery. Congratulations, Dr. Stuart!

VA Selected for Academic Program

The College of Nursing has been selected as one of only six nursing schools in the country approved for funding as a site for the VA Nursing Academy’s Enhancing Academic Partnership Program. This selection will require us to increase our accelerated student enrollment and strengthen our ties with the VA.

Six proposals were approved for funding based on the high quality of the proposals and the successes of the first cohort of partnerships. Congratulations to **Charlene Pope** and Amy Joseph for submitting a truly excellent proposal.

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<th><strong>VA LOCATION</strong></th>
<th><strong>SCHOOL(S) OF NURSING</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Charleston, SC</td>
<td>MUSC</td>
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<td>Hines, IL</td>
<td>Loyola University</td>
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<td>Michigan (Detroit, Saginaw, Battle Creek, Ann Arbor)</td>
<td>University of Detroit Mercy Saginaw Valley State Univ.</td>
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<td>Oklahoma, OK</td>
<td>Univ. of Oklahoma Health Science Center</td>
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<td>Providence, RI</td>
<td>Rhode Island College</td>
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<td>Tampa, FL</td>
<td>University of South Florida</td>
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Inappropriate Internet Usage

Recently, officials in the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) learned through an audit of MUSC’s Internet usage that a significant amount of Internet bandwidth is being consumed by individuals who routinely log on to streaming audio and video sites that do not directly support the mission of the MUSC enterprise. The audit revealed that the inappropriate sites most frequently accessed include:

- firehose-bb.stream.aol.com
- Play.cbsradio.com
- www.pandora.com
- dl.emusic.com
- Scfire-ntc.aa04.stream.aol.com
- wbur-sc.streamguys.com
- Rhapsody.com
- www.jazzdia.comuse

The opening of the Ashley River Tower and other expansions of the MUSC computing network have fueled the need to identify additional bandwidth. That being the case, we ask that you immediately discontinue using any of these or the other dozen free streaming audio sites not listed.

We are seeking your cooperation in this matter because streaming audio and video sites hog bandwidth. Normally, when logging on to the Internet, connectivity takes fractions of a second to complete. Once logged on, the bandwidth used to do so is released back to other MUSC Internet users. When logging on to streaming audio sites, the bandwidth used is not released back to the MUSC community until the user logs off the site.

When there are hundreds of devices around campus connected to streaming audio and video sites then significant amounts of bandwidth are unavailable for legitimate communication needs.

The University’s computing and network resources exist to support the University’s missions of teaching, research, patient care and public service. Incidental personal use of these resources by authorized users is permitted only to the extent that such use is lawful and ethical, does not conflict with the University’s missions, does not interfere with other authorized users, and does not cause additional expense to the University.

Please note that those individuals who disregard this request to discontinue use of streaming audio or video sites may be in violation of the MUSC computer use policy and could face disciplinary action as a result. Thus, your cooperation in limiting the use of such sites will be appreciated.

If you have questions please contact Kurt Nendorf in OCIO by email at nendorf@musc.edu or by telephone at 792-9055.

After totaling all the donations from the Gene Glave presentation of *Mammalogues*, the College collected $475.00! This money will go toward the 125th Scholarship fund.
was funded. The project will use the existing PPRNet network and is entitled, “Implementation and Evaluation of Standing Orders Using Health Information Technology.” The project will be conducted in 9 PPRNet practices across the U.S. Dr. Heather Rose, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine at MUSC, will be the Principal Investigator.

Proposals Submitted

Congratulations to Dr. Janet Grossman who submitted an R21 proposal to the National Institute of Nursing Research for a proposal entitled, “Community-Academic Partnership: E-learning in Youth Suicide Prevention.” This proposal will test an online educational program for teachers in the Charleston School District to determine if this method is as effective as face-to-face instruction. It will allow the investigators to determine effective ways to disseminate this program.

Publications & Presentations


Are you unfamiliar with DOI? The Digital Object Identifier (DOI®) System is the new way of citing your article that gives the reader access to the electronic version of your file? Go to http://www.doi.org to find out more information.

Funding Achieved!

Congratulations to Dr. Charlene Pope who was informed that she will be awarded the VA Merit Proposal as principal investigator (PI) for her research proposal entitled, “Racial Variations in Communication, Decision Making, and Diabetes Outcomes.” This three-year project will be funded this fall and will have a budget of $703,500 over the three year period. Along with Dr. Pope, Dr. Leonard Egede will be co-PI; he is currently Director of the VA TREP for Health Services Research and Director of the Center for Racial Disparities Research. Dr. Rebecca Knapp, Professor of Statistics, in the Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics & Epidemiology at MUSC and Dr. Boyd Davis, Cone Professor of Applied Linguistics/English and Professor of Gerontology at UNC-Charlotte and an Adjunct Faculty at the CON, will be Co-Investigators. This study will explore how communication between patients and physicians affects physiological and behavioral outcomes in persons with Type 2 diabetes. The Merit Award is equivalent to the R01 award from the NIH!

Congratulations to Dr. Jeannette Andrews who was informed that the R03 level proposal she submitted in January (when she still had packing boxes in her office) with a team from the College and Trident Urban League will be funded! This grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research entitled, “Partnership Readiness for Community Based Participatory Research” will start in the near future and seeks to optimize Community Based Participatory Research processes and products by understanding and leveraging readiness of academic and community partners (College of Nursing and Trident Urban League) and the partnership dyad. Mr. Otha Meadows from Trident Urban League is the Co-Principal Investigator on this two-year project.

Congratulations to Dr. Lynne Nemeth who was informed that a proposal to the AHRQ on which she is a Co-Investigator was funded. Dr. Nemeth is a Co-Investigator on Dr. Charlene Pope’s VA Merit Proposal as well as a Co-Investigator on Dr. Jeannette Andrews’ R03 Proposal.
Hispanic Health Initiative News

Anne Lawn, Hispanic Health Ininitive (HHI) language specialist and Spanish instructor, participated in a nationally broadcasted panel discussion on uninsured Hispanics in the US which aired on June 17th. The program, “Dialogo de Costa a Costa,” (Dialogue from Coast to Coast) was hosted by Hispanic Information & Television Network (HITN), a non-profit public broadcast for Latinos across the nation. This particular segment focused on the problem of emergency rooms filling up with the uninsured, the possible solutions or recommendations the panel had to offer and the chance for panel participants to share resources to those Spanish-speakers with limited knowledge of the health care system. During the show, Anne had the opportunity to emphasize not only the free and low-cost clinics available to the general public in the Tri-County area, but also to promote preventive care as a means to reduce the emergency room bills.

Congratulations to Nilsy Rapalo, a member of the HHI Advisory board, who was awarded the Employee of the Year award for Charleston /Dorchester Department of Mental Health.

UPCOMING MEDICAL SPANISH COURSES
Fall Semester 2008
Beginning Basic Medical Spanish for Healthcare Professionals
Fall Semester 2008
Intermediate Basic Medical Spanish for Healthcare Professionals

CON Provides Physicals for Girl Scouts

On May 24 and 29, the FNP and PNP programs provided free physical examinations for Girl Scouts who did not have the ability to obtain a well child exam in order to attend summer camp. It was a great experience for the students and faculty to provide the physicals and anticipatory guidance for 17 scouts. This goodwill gesture was coordinated by Gigi Smith and Dianna Inman. The CON students who donated their time included: Shannon Gainey, Melissa May, Mary Belle Chiles, Lauren Worsham, Heather Worsham, and Wendy Schmunk.

Wound Care News

The Wound Care Education Program announced that Mary Kate Dula, RN of Charleston has been awarded the 2008 South Carolina Wound Care Scholarship Award. Mary Kate is enrolled in the Wound Care Specialty Course that will be held on August 9 - 30. Mary Kate obtained her BSN from MUSC in May 2005 and is returning to MUSC to pursue her interest in wound care nursing. Upon satisfactory completion of the course, she will be eligible to take the national board examination offered by the Wound, Ostomy, Continenence Nurses Certification Board to become a Certified Wound Care Nurse (CWCN). Mary Kate plans to pursue wound care specialty nursing in the Charleston area upon completion of the program.

The scholarship in the amount of $3,900 was made possible through a private donor who desires to stimulate interest in wound care specialty practice among nurses in South Carolina. We congratulate Mary Kate on the receipt of this award and wish her continued success as she begins her new role in the specialty practice of wound care nursing.

UPCOMING COURSES
WOUND CARE SPECIALTY COURSE
(three week courses at the College of Nursing)
August 9 - 30
October 11 - November 1
INTRODUCTION TO THE PRINCIPLES OF DEBRIDEMENT
August 16
October 18

Research For Lunch

July 21 • 12 P.M. • Historical Library
Ms. Leslie Parker, a doctoral student who has completed her coursework and was among the first cohort of online doctoral students, will present her research proposal concerning breast feeding in low birth weight infants.
Ms. Parker is the Clinical Coordinator of the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Track at University of Florida, Gainesville.
Dr. Elaine Amella is one of 35 researchers chosen nationally by the National Institute of Aging chosen to attend the NIA Summer Research Workshop from July 10 – 18 at the Aspen Wye River resort in Queenstown, MD. The workshop will provide information about research on aging and help participants develop their research interests.

Dr. Deborah Williamson’s proposal titled, “Reducing Violence within our Community: A Template for the State” was funded for $817,466 by the Duke Endowment. The purpose of this proposal is to reduce interpersonal violence through a network of community partners using primary prevention and early intervention approaches in school and primary care settings.

Dr. Charlene Pope served as one of the facilitators during the South Carolina AHEC 2008 Nursing & Dental Careers Academy that was held June 1 - 6. A total of 23 students (18 Nursing, 5 Dental) were accepted as 2008 Academy Fellows. Dr. Pope oriented students to the “Carolinas Conversations project” on June 1 and on June 2 she presented, “Identifying and defining health disparities.”

Janet Stevens, Manager for the School Based Clinics (SBC), was awarded a $2,500 MUSC YES grant. This grant will help fund the School Based Clinic’s Positive Adolescent Choices Program (PACT) and a diabetes awareness program next school year. The PACT program will help students understand their angry feelings and learn alternative ways to respond to these feelings.

The PACT program was implemented last fall at Schroder Middle School and was led by Frederica Joyner, PNP, PMH-NP and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner graduate students Spencer Verner and Dr. Randy Beckett, NP. Next year additional schools may be added.

Please welcome three new faculty members. On July 1, Dr. Carole Bennett will join us as an Assistant Professor on the Educator/Clinician track, and Ms. Tiffany Williams will join us as an Instructor on the Educator/Clinician track. In addition, Dr. Lisa Vandemark will join us full-time as Assistant Professor on the Educator/Researcher track.

Congratulations to Lori Robinson, CMA, who was elected as the Johns Island site representative for Franklin C. Fetter Community Health Care Centers, Inc. Health Fair Planning Committee. Lori is working with the HHI grant at the Johns Island clinic and will be involved in coordinating health fairs for all the Community Health Centers.

Congratulations to Denise Ciccarelli for successfully completing the CFRE (Certified Fundraising Executive) Examination. This is quite a feat for the College since no one at MUSC has this certification. Also, only 5,300 fundraisers in the world are CFRE certified. For more information visit the CFRE International web site at http://www.cfre.org/cfre-fundraising-competencies.html. Way to go, Denise!

Melissa Cox will join the College on July 7 to work with the new Center for Community Health Partnerships and the Office of Practice. Welcome, Melissa.

Beth Khan gave birth to a baby girl on May 20th and will be back to work on a part-time basis beginning July 21.

Congratulations to Katie Banks Khan, who was born on May 20, 2008 at 9:02 AM. Weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces and measuring 19.5 inches with love, Beth and Jamie.
SNA Officers Elected
Officers for the Student Nurse’s Association have been elected for the 2008-2009 academic year:

- **Caitlin Tabler-Bishop**, President
- **Lucy Wessinger**, Vice President
- **Zerlinna Shannon**, Community Director
- **Jessica Bullington**, Treasurer
- **Ashley Ragan**, Secretary
- **Natalie Judy**, Legislative Director
- **Lauren Harris**, Breakthrough to Nursing
- **Renee Lambert**, Historian
- **Noel Walker**, SNA/SGA Liaison
- **Carol McDougall**, Advisor

The Student Nurse’s Association is open to all College of Nursing students and its purpose is to foster the highest standard of nursing education and health care and to aid individual nursing students in the development of the whole person and their professional roles.

Provost’s Scholars Selected
This fall, three $2,500 Provost Scholarships will be awarded to students enrolled in the undergraduate and graduate programs of the College of Nursing. Zerlinna Shannon, Shannon Stancliffe, and Diana Toney have exhibited outstanding academic performance and a commitment to MUSC and the College of Nursing beyond the classroom.

Zerlinna Shannon has completed her first semester of course work with a perfect 4.0 GPA. She is a member of the College of Nursing Honor Council and was recently elected Community Director for the Student Nurse’s Association. With a strong community background, including participation in local runs for health awareness and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Zerlinna is a team player and leader. She is considering a wide range of nursing paths such as ostomy and wound care, palliative and hospice care, and gastroenterology. She served as an usher for the 2008 MUSC Commencement held in May.

Shannon Stancliffe completed the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program in December 2007 and is continuing her education in the Master of Science in Nursing degree program in the Family Nurse Practitioner track. She is also employed at the Ralph H. Johnson Veteran’s Administration Hospital and has been recognized as a hypoglycemia in-service mentor and champion. As an undergraduate, Shannon served as president of the College of Nursing Student Government Association and as a voting member of the MUSC Student Government Association.

Diana Toney completed the first half of her undergraduate degree with a 3.81 GPA. She is a member of the MUSC Student Government Association and was recognized for her perfect attendance during the 2007-2008 academic year. She has served as the Crisis Ministries Family Shelter Project Coordinator and is a member of the Service Committee. She is a member of the College of Nursing Honor Council, and was elected Vice President of the new MUSC 3H Running Club.

Congratulations to these outstanding students and role models!

2008-09 Presidential Scholars Announced
The Presidential Scholars Program brings together selected students from the Medical University of South Carolina’s six colleges to explore the complex social, political, and human issues that shape the delivery of health care services in South Carolina and the nation.

Six College of Nursing students have been chosen for this high honor: **Melanie Almonte**, **Ashley Bath**, **Damon Clembury**, **Jasmine Kennerly**, **Cathy Mulloy**, and **Kiri Nevin**.

During this year long, extracurricular program the scholars address issues that transcend their own discipline and professional boundaries. They learn more about the contributions that each discipline makes to health care and the value of teamwork.

Through discussion, debate, and interaction with community leaders, legislators, and faculty, these outstanding students develop new perspectives on important health care issues and learn how they, working together as health care professionals, can become leaders of health care change.
Simulation Lab Ribbon Cutting

On June 10th, MUSC and the College of Nursing celebrated the opening of the Healthcare Simulation Center. This simulation lab, housed on the first floor of the College of Nursing building, will revolutionize the way MUSC trains doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals. In addition, the center will be able to provide a completely new learning environment for students to practice and refine their skills in a safe and controlled setting with virtually no risk to the patient. This state-of-the-art facility promises to transform healthcare education.
Using People, Process and Technology to Enhance Outcomes for Patients and Their Caregivers

presented by Melissa Fitzpatrick, RN, MSN, FAAN
Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer, Hill-Rom

Wednesday, July 23
4 p.m.
Storm Eye Auditorium

Co-sponsored by The Center for Patient Safety & Clinical Effectiveness