This past semester I had the pleasure of teaching the doctoral students their course on leadership and national perspectives. I find that the best part about teaching is that, in the process, I learn so very much. This time I learned how to negotiate in a completely online format. Once I got the hang of it, I really enjoyed the interaction. The other things I learned came from the assigned readings – most of which I knew but some of which were new to me as I explored the latest literature in the field.

One of the most compelling lessons that the students and I learned was that to become a truly great leader you have to start by listening. Listening is hard. It is an active, not a passive activity. Listening means accepting what someone else has to say, and not becoming defensive, critical, or instantly composing a response in your head to what the person is saying. Listening is receptive rather than responsive. It is one of the most affirming ways in which we can interact with another person. It connotes respect, openness, and confirmation of the other person.

As I thought about this critical issue, I also thought about e-mails. I think that while there is much value in e-mails, they really don’t help us to listen. In fact, e-mails demand a response…the sooner, the better. And often that response is not fully thought out, or does not really reflect a full understanding of the issue at hand. Has e-mail made us poorer listeners? Perhaps so.

In a work setting, listening means talking to people (faculty, students, staff) face to face. It also means asking good questions and truly taking in what people have to say. Listening also means hearing what people aren’t saying. What’s bothering them? What are they holding back? What issues are festering under the surface and not being addressed?

What I hoped to convey to my students this past semester is that we are all leaders in our own way. As such, we all need to not just practice but to master the art of listening. If we listened attentively to those around us what would we learn and how would our world be different? I’m listening…- Gail
Getting to Know...Lynn

Name: Lynn Shull
Position: Assistant Dean for Finance & Administration
How many years at CON? 14
How many years at MUSC? 21
If applicable, first position at MUSC? Director of Project Accounting
Most rewarding thing about your job? I feel like I work with a great team. I also enjoy teaching the nursing students about the “business” part of nursing.
Hometown: Columbia, SC
Describe your hometown: FUN during football!
Family: Husband, Lon; daughter (14), Margaret; and Golden Retriever, Lacey.
Astrological sign: Scorpio
If you could invite four guests (living or deceased) to dinner, who would they be? Both of my grandmothers, my mom, and my daughter. My daughter was named for one of my grandmothers, although she never met them. They had a great influence on me and I would like to have them together once more.
What book are you currently reading? “Pillars of the Earth” by Ken Follett
Last movie you saw? Fantastic Four
First concert you ever attended? John Denver
Favorite place you’ve traveled to? San Juan Islands to watch Orca whales.
If you could attend any sporting event what would it be? US Open or Wimbledon
One thing you’ve never done, but hope to accomplish one day? Give my daughter a debt free education and then do a lot of traveling.
In which store would you like to win a $3,000 shopping spree? Nordstrom on Michigan Ave. in Chicago
What do you enjoy most doing in your spare time? Hanging out with my family and close friends, going out in the boat and being outdoors.
Favorite flower: Daisy
Favorite sports team: Carolina Gamecocks
Favorite outdoor activities: Boating around Charleston
Favorite movie: White Christmas
Favorite TV show: 24
Favorite magazine: Southern Living
Favorite snack: Sunchips
Favorite candy bar: 3 Musketeers
Favorite thing about living in the Charleston area? Close enough to the beach and the mountains.

F.A. Davis Editor Visits College

On Tuesday, June 3 we will be visited by Tom Ciavarella, an acquisitions editor with F.A. Davis Company in Philadelphia. Ciavarella is the editor of Davis’s Drug Guide for Nurses. He is interested in your thoughts on the F.A. Davis texts you’ve used and any competing texts you might have reviewed. In addition, Ciavarella seeks educators who might want to contribute to books in pharmacology, dosage calculation, ethics, forensic nursing, and a number of other fields, and will be happy to answer questions about creating book proposals and other publishing matters.

If you will be available June 3 and would like to meet with Ciavarella, feel free to e-mail him at tac@fadavis.com.

Study Connects Nursing Education with Patient Outcomes

Dr. Linda Aiken and her colleagues with the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing have once again provided evidence that the level of nursing education has a direct impact on patient care. In an article published in the May 2008 Journal of Nursing Administration, Aiken found that hospitals with better care environments, the best nurse staffing levels, and the most highly educated nurses have the lowest surgical mortality rates. In fact, the researchers found that every 10 percent increase in the proportion of BSN nurses on the hospital staff was associated with a four percent decrease in the risk of death. The abstract for the study, titled “Effects of Hospital Care Environment on Patient Mortality and Nurse Outcomes” is available at www.jonajournal.com.

Baseball Round-up

On May 2, the College of Nursing celebrated its 125th Anniversary by attending a RiverDogs baseball game and picnic. A good time was had by all. Thanks to everyone who attended.
In Other News...

An annual survey on medical school expansion, conducted by the AAMC, indicates that first-year enrollment in U.S. medical schools is estimated to grow 21 percent (3,400 students per year) by 2012 to 19,900 students.

According to survey results, more than 86 percent of existing schools have already expanded the number of first-year students or plan to do so within the next five years. In addition, nine new medical schools are under development or discussion, according to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, which accredits medical education programs leading to an M.D. degree. The AAMC estimates that almost 800 first-year students will attend these new schools in the academic year 2012-13, based on future enrollment figures. The results of this survey were presented at the opening of the 2008 AAMC Physician Workforce Research Conference. The latest issue of AAMC Analysis in Brief also examines some of the results from this survey, which can be found at http://www.aamc.org/data/aib/aibissues/aibvol8_no3.pdf. For more information, visit http://www.aamc.org/newsroom/pressrel/2008/080501.htm.

College Security

We are finalizing the plan for entry and exit from the college once the simulation lab is open.

Of note, once you enter the building there will be a separate door to the lab on each side entrance and the one central back entrance. CON personnel will be able to use both side doors and the center back door with card access. However if you use the side doors only the stairwell will be available as the separate door to the lab will be key locked. This will prevent unnecessary traffic through the lab. If you need the elevators then you must use the back center door. Only CON personnel and CON students will have their cards accessed to the elevators so other lab personnel cannot enter the upper floors of the college. Finally all non-CON personnel and non-simulation personnel will only be granted access to the center back door, which will be open during normal working hours.

MUSC College of Nursing Selected for Unique Program

The MUSC College of Nursing was selected by the Faculty for the Engaged Campus as one of 20 colleges and universities invited to build a cadre of community-engaged faculty members through innovative models of faculty development. Institutional teams joined project staff and advisors in Chapel Hill, NC May 28-30 for a charrette. Mainly used in architecture, urban planning and community design projects, a charrette is an intensely focused multi-day session that uses a collaborative approach to create realistic and achievable designs. The Faculty for the Engaged Campus charrette designed competency-based campus-wide models of faculty development that support community-engaged careers in the academy.

Over 100 applications were received. In reflecting on the overwhelming response, Initiative Co-Director Lynn Blanchard, Director of the Carolina Center for Public Service at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill observed, “The number, diversity and caliber of applications we received underscores the widespread interest and commitment of campuses across the country to develop, support and reward community-engaged faculty.” Each application was assessed by three reviewers, with geographic and institutional diversity considered in the final selections, listed below:

- Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama
- Langston University, Langston, Oklahoma
- Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
- Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston
- Messiah College, Grantham, Pennsylvania
- Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minnesota
- North Carolina State University, Raleigh
- Northwestern University, Chicago, Illinois
- Ohio University, Athens Texas
- Christian University, Fort Worth
- Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi
- University of California, Merced
- University of Denver, Denver, Colorado
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Minneapolis
- University of New Mexico, Albuquerque
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond
- Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio
**Convocation Award Recipients**

Students, faculty, and staff were recognized at Convocation held at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church on May 15.

First Honor Graduate from the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program was **Erica Grove-Anders**. Erica completed her studies with a 3.98 GPA and summa cum laude distinction. First Honor Graduate from the Master of Science in Nursing degree program was **Erin Wilson** who completed the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner track with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

**Rebecca Freeman** was the recipient of the Josephine A. Fogle Award and Community Service Award. The Alumni Association also presented the Outstanding Student Awards to **Nicole Staubes**, BSN program, and **Ashley Miller**, MSN program.

The Student Government Association presented the Golden Lamp Award to a professor they would most like to emulate as a professional nurse. Students from the BSN program selected **Ann Hollerbach** and students from the MSN program selected **Cindy Allen. Ruth Reeder** was selected by the students to receive the Outstanding Clinical Faculty Award.

A faculty member from each of the programs was also recognized for excellence and role modeling: **Ruth Stockdell**, BSN program, **Janet Grossman**, MSN program, and **Teresa Kelechi**, PhD program.

For the first time a staff member was recognized for excellence. **Peggy Sires**, Office of Student Services, was recognized for her “can-do” spirit and customer service. Students gave a standing ovation for Peggy as she received this award. Other staff members nominated for this award were: **Maryanne Craig, Ida Desrosiers, Mary Evans, Anette Hebebrand, Joanne Langdale, Carlos Lopez, Carolyn Page, Jo Smith, Maria Toler** and **Carol Whelan**.

**College of Nursing Cookbook**

All faculty, staff, students and alumni are invited to submit their favorite recipes for inclusion in a College cookbook. In addition to the usual sections of a cookbook, we will be including a selection of international recipes, as well as health smart recipes for heart health and diabetic diets.

Our goal is to finish by early fall to have the book ready for December gift ideas. All money raised will go to the 125th Anniversary scholarship fund. Recipes can be submitted to Mary Evans via e-mail at evansm@musc.edu or fax (843) 792-4131. Happy cooking!

**MUSC Nurse of the Year**

For the second time in three years a MUSC College of Nursing graduate has been named Nurse of the Year at the Medical University Hospital Authority. **Adina Garner**, Class of 1994 (BSn) received this highest level of merit among fifty exceptional unit winners vying for the top honor. Adina, working in Labor and Delivery, represents the best of the best.

Adina’s specialty is outpatient education, specifically childbirth and breastfeeding classes. She instructs mothers-to-be on the proper techniques of these fundamental practices at both MUSC and Babies “R” Us.

Adina is a past class president, and has served on the College of Nursing Alumni Board. Congratulations to one of our own!

**Faculty Honor Roll**

Regular Faculty High Honors *(scoring 95% or above on Evalue)*

- Robin Bissinger
- Cindy Allen

Regular Faculty Honors *(scoring 90% or above on Evalue)*

- John Welton
- Gail Stuart
- Barbara Edlund
- Teresa Kelechi
- Sheila Smith
- Gigi Smith

Clinical Faculty High Honors *(scoring 95% or above on Evalue)*

- Ellie Smith
- Ruth Reeder
- Nancee Sneed
- Ann Lawn
- Susan Stabene

Clinical Faculty Honors *(scoring 90% or above on Evalue)*

- Patricia Arford
- Cathy Brannigan
- Kathy Neeley
- Mary Lee Lavelle
Congratulations!

**Dr. Carolyn Jenkins** is a Co-investigator (Dr. Leonard Egede is Principal Investigator) on a proposal from the NIDDK entitled, “Telephone Delivered Behavioral Skills Intervention for Blacks with Type 2 Diabetes.” This is a modified and expanded version of the grant that former MSN student, Ms. Susan Cauthen developed and pilot-tested while doing a special project with Dr. Jenkins and was assisted by Dr. Charlene Pope. This R01 will be funded effective July 1.

**Dr. Sally Stroud** submitted an application to the National Faculty Loan Program to HRSA for $533,333 to fund student tuition for those Master’s and Doctoral students committed to a career as faculty. For the first time, this award, if funded, will support both full-time and part-time students who commit to working as nursing faculty for five years. We wish her luck on this wonderful way to support students!

Doctoral student, **Ms. Catherine Ling**, submitted a research proposal to the prestigious American Nurses Foundation. Her study, “Stepping Forward: Pedometers and People with Class III Obesity,” will be the basis of her dissertation work. We wish her all the best in this rigorous competition!

**Dr. Lisa Vandemark** submitted a proposal to the Gates Foundation entitled, “Changing human behavior patterns that influence vulnerability to vector-borne and infectious disease in the Mekong Valley.” This project would supplement Dr. Vandemark’s recent Fulbright Award when she travels to Thailand next winter.

**Dr. Lynne Nemeth** is a Co-investigator on a proposal that was submitted to AHRQ entitled, “Implementation and Evaluation of Standing Orders Using Health Information Technology.” This project is aligned with Lynne’s long-standing research in the area of practice change and, if funded, would begin in September 2009.

**Dr. John Welton** is a Co-investigator on a project submitted to the AGORA: Belgium Science Project to start January 2009. If funded, John will assist with interpretation of data sets and present to this international group.

**Ms. Annemarie Donato** was chosen to be the 2008-09 President of the Lowcountry Advanced Practice Nurses. This group of over 120 NPs and CNSs offers educational offerings and networking opportunities. Annemarie presented at the May meeting concerning her invited trip to Holland and nurse practitioner preparation and practice in that country.

**Mr. Carlos Lopez**, Grants Administrator for the College, had a ‘winning weekend’ recently. On May 16, Carlos graduated from the College of Health Professions with a Masters in Health Administration. That same weekend, Carlos was part of the tennis team that won the 2008 State Championship from the US Tennis Association. He will be proceeding to the US Championship in Alabama in July!

**Mentorship**

In an effort to increase mentorship for junior faculty starting their research career and senior faculty who wish to mentor, as well as move their own research forward, the Center for Community Health Partnerships and the Office of Research & Evaluation are offering two sessions to determine needs and begin building a plan. Workshops will be held in June and the results will be shared in future issues of eCONnnections.

**Research For Lunch**

**June 16 • 12 P.M. • Historical Library**

There will be a discussion of the HSSC proposal of the Community INFORMS project. Drs. Lisa Vandemark and Carolyn Jenkins will be the principal presenters, along with Robert Coaxum from the SC Office of Research and Technology.

You Tube Video

For those of you who missed this short video in Faculty Assembly do take a moment to watch it now...it makes you think about the way we teach and the way students learn! http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGCJ46vyR9o.
NCLEX Scores

Congratulations to the Undergraduate accelerated BSN program! The first quarter (January-March) NCLEX scores demonstrated a 96 percent pass rate for 24 first time takers. Way to go!

E-Value News

At the end of Spring semester, 2,920 faculty and course evaluations were assigned to 320 CON students. Ninety-one percent of these evaluations were completed and over 87 percent of students completed all of their assigned evaluations. Unfortunately, there were 24 students who never logged into E-Value system to complete their evaluations.

This past semester all students who completed all of their assigned evaluations received one percentage point to add to their final course grades. (Note: A student must be passing the course before this point can be added.) It is the student’s responsibility to ensure the correct evaluations are assigned.

For Summer 2008, evaluations will be opened on July 18 and closed on August 8. For each clinical course, the student should receive evaluations for each the following: course, instructor, clinical rotation, and clinical instructor. For each didactic course, only course and instructor are required. If a student does not receive a notice for completion of E-Value evaluations or does not receive the correct evaluations, the student should contact Amanda Duke at dukea@musc.edu or 792-3888.

Girl Scouts Call for Help Follow-up

A follow-up to a story that ran in the March issue of eCONnctions. The Girl Scouts of Eastern South Carolina issued a call for volunteers to conduct camp physicals for underprivileged girls who could not afford physicals. Gigi Smith, Dianna Inman and Peggy Spain, along with PNP and FNP students performed these physicals on May 24 and May 29. Many thanks for your help.

CONL Donates $1,000 Scholarship

The Charleston Organization of Nurse Leaders (CONL) has offered Caitlin Tabler-Bishop a $1,000 scholarship. “Historically, the CONL hosts a reception during Nurse’s Week, but this year we decided to use the funding to provide a nursing scholarship to each of the local nursing education programs,” said Pennie Peralta, CONL President. “Our organization is very excited to provide this recognition and financial assistance to a student. Through this scholarship we will help support one of our future professional caregivers.”

Caitlin was selected for this scholarship for her leadership in the Student Nurse’s Association. She served as the Director of Community Programs last spring, and was recently elected President. She is a Dean’s List student at the College of Nursing. Prior to her enrollment at the College of Nursing, she attended the College of Charleston and was selected for their Emerging Leaders Program.

125th Anniversary Fund

Many thanks to 75 % of the regular faculty who have donated to the 125th Anniversary Fund. They include:

- Cindy Allen
- Jane Anderson
- Jeannette Andrews
- Susan Benedict
- Robin Bissenger
- Sharon Bond
- Phyllis Bonham
- Annemarie Donato
- Nancy Duffy
- Barbara Edlund
- Elizabeth Erkel
- Janet Grossman
- Ann Hollerbach
- Lenora Horton
- Dianna Inman
- Carolyn Jenkins
- Teresa Kelechi
- Gayenell Magwood
- Mary Martin
- Martina Mueller
- Lynn Nemeth
- Georgette Smith
- Sheila Smith
- Peggy Spain
- Ruth Stockdell
- Sally Stroud
- Gail Stuart
- John Welton
- Deb Williamson
- Jane Zapka

Total raised to date: $39,745

If your name is not listed above, please consider making a donation today so we can reach our target of 100% participation!
Voted
Best Play of 2007
&
Best Local Actress
by the Charleston City Paper - Best of Charleston

The Mammologues
performed by Gene Glave, RN

This one woman show
will take you on a touching journey through breast cancer
with wit, anger and laughter.
This a survival story.

June 9
4:30 p.m.
IOP Auditorium

Tickets are free. (First come, first served.)

A donation to the College of Nursing’s 125th Anniversary Scholarship Fund
would be appreciated.

Brought to you by the MUSC College of Nursing