UPCOMING EVENTS

March 6
State of Women’s Scholars & Leaders at MUSC

March 7
Education Committee of the Dean’s Advisory Board

March 8
CON Homecoming

March 10 - 14
Spring Break

March 17
St. Patrick’s Day

March 21 • 6:00 p.m
Student Nurses Association Trivia Night; Burns Alley

April 4 • 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m
Student Nurses Association Career Day; Education/Library Building; Rooms 116, 118, 121

This Old House

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

I’m sure most of you have seen this television show, even if just flipping channels. The handymen take an old house and transform it with their wits, will and work ethic. That’s exactly what we’re doing with the College of Nursing building.

The first floor Simulation Center is scheduled to be completed in mid-May. Each day it takes on more shape and substance. The interior design elements have been selected and a new entrance is emerging as seen in this photo. On June 10 at 1 p.m. we will have the official ribbon cutting of this technological wonder so please mark your calendars to attend.

Before then, other work will be commencing as well. You may soon see a crane with a worker restoring the wood elements in your office windows. Our outside structure will be undergoing a face-lift that is sorely needed. We will then start on the interior renovation and precede floor-by-floor beginning on the second floor and going up. Clearly, this renovation will be disruptive and expensive but definitely worth it in the end. As we redo each area we also anticipate replacing old furniture and standardizing paint color and window treatments in each office.

The bottom line is that just like those folks on This Old House we will use our wit, will and work ethic to create an enhanced College of Nursing environment. You can help as well by looking at your own workspace and clearing the clutter to make way for the new.

They say that you can tell a lot about a person from their work environment. What does your personal workspace say about you? Is it inviting or intimidating? Does a person have a comfortable place to sit or is every inch taken up with “stuff?” Does it convey a sense of order or chaos? This is your “old house” and it awaits your magic touch. - Gail
March Staff Meeting

On March 19th at 9 a.m. University Human Resources will present a training session entitled "Teamwork: The Impact of Communication, Collaboration, and Cooperation on Achieving Team Goals." This class will be held in the Historical Library and will focus on how communication impacts teamwork and workplace harmony. Conflict management skills will also be addressed. The session should last approximately two and a half hours, so please plan accordingly.

Did You Know? MUSC is now officially a designated "Level 4 Epilepsy Center". LEVEL 4 status is the highest designation given by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers. Last fall, MUSC became the only designated comprehensive epilepsy center in South Carolina.

University Alert System

In an effort to provide the MUSC Community with relevant, timely information regarding campus-related emergencies, MUSC University Risk Management and the MUSC Marketing Department are offering students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to receive text message alerts via their mobile devices such as cell phones & blackberries. Desktop alerts (MUSC networked computers only) and e-mail alerts will be sent out as well. Please note this system does not currently incorporate the Simon paging system. This notification will only be sent in the event of a dangerous situation that would impact the MUSC campus.

All MUSC e-mail addresses and phone numbers will automatically receive the alert, however, you may register additional phones or e-mail addresses. You will only receive quarterly test alerts and any true alert. The list is secure and will not be released for any other purposes. Visit https://www.muschealth.com/Ealerts to register for this alert.

Mark Your Calendars

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1
CON School-wide Retreat for Faculty, Staff and Students
All faculty and staff are expected to attend.
More information to come.
Alumni Homecoming 2008

All faculty, staff, students, and alumni are invited to attend the Alumni Homecoming on Saturday, March 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Holliday Alumni Center, The Citadel. To sign-up for the event, visit http://alumni.musc.edu/colleges/groups/NursAlum08.pdf.

The evening’s festivities will celebrate the College of Nursing’s 125th Anniversary and include a Lowcountry meal, beer and wine, special recognitions, and a Silent Auction to raise funds for student scholarships.

Shirley Hendrix and Leigh Wood, two CON alumnae, will be recognized with the Alumni Association “Outstanding Alumnus Award”. In addition, five student scholarships will be awarded to current students Ashley Bath, Rebecca Freeman, Pamela Murphy, Andrea White, and Erin Wilson.

Will You Help?

If you ever went to summer camp you know what a life enhancing experience it can be. But there are girls who, in spite of being given scholarships to Girl Scout Camp, are unable to attend because their families cannot afford the camp physicals. The Girls Scouts of Eastern South Carolina is seeking help in meeting this need.

Appointments for physicals will be scheduled at the Girl Scout Service Centers in Charleston and Florence on a Saturday in early June. If you are a nurse practitioner who is willing to perform a few camp physicals, contact Kay Chitty at (843) 881-3451 or kaykchitty1@comcast.net. A little of your time can make a big difference in the life of these girls.

New Address for CON

MUSC is no longer using the PO Box on the CON address, rather the College will use a MSC (Mail Stop Code) number. Please be sure that all correspondence and e-mail signatures reflect the change. The new CON address should read:

Medical University of South Carolina College of Nursing
99 Jonathan Lucas St., MSC 160
Charleston, SC 29425

Simulation Update

Prior to the start of the Simulation Lab construction, trash and recycling dumpsters were located in the back of the College of Nursing. Upon completion of the Simulation Lab, that area will be the primary entrance to the Lab and no longer a suitable location for dumpsters. Therefore, the dumpsters will be relocated to the smoking area behind the Public Safety Building. The smoking area will be relocated—most likely to the west end of the Public Safety parking lot, just to the north of its current location. Over the next few months, workers will surface the new dumpster location with asphalt, and provide a visual screen to keep the dumpsters hidden from the view of folks traveling to and from the College of Nursing, the Simulation Lab, and Parking Garage I.

Mark your calendars!
Simulation Lab Ribbon Cutting
June 10th at 1 p.m.

It’s Official

At the February 8, 2008 Board of Trustees meeting our Center for Community Health Partnerships was officially approved as a University Center. Many thanks to all who helped to make this a reality. You also might be interested in the official logo of the center.

The Green Challenge

How is it possible that the College made 30,000 Xerox copies in January?

What are you doing to help the College "go green" and reduce unnecessary copying?
Call for Abstracts

The Global Alliance on Nursing Education and Scholarship (GANES) has announced that the group’s inaugural conference will be held October 1 - 3, 2008 in Toronto, Ontario. This convening of nurse educators from around the world will bring together leaders in education and policy to debate the global challenge of increasing capacity and ensuring sustainability in the nursing workforce. GANES has issued a Call for Abstracts for topics which reflect the conference theme: “Educating the Future Nursing and Health Workforce: A Global Challenge.” For details and to submit an abstract online, see www.casn.ca/index.php.

Congratulations to...

Congratulations to Dr. Charlene Pope who submitted a grant to AHRQ that will support a conference entitled, “Local Practices, Language Barriers: International Nurse Migration as a Research Challenge.” Offered in October, this conference will be one of the highlights of our 125th year anniversary!

PhD Kudos Korner


BSN to PhD student, Robin Matutina, had a manuscript accepted for June publication in The Journal of School Nursing, titled “Recruiting Middle School Students Into Nursing.”


SRNS Conference Wrap-Up

We were well represented at the 22nd Annual Southern Research Nursing Society Conference in Birmingham, AL. Dr. Jeannette Andrews presented a paper entitled, “The Effect of a Community Health Worker: Intervention to Promote Health Behavior Change in Low Socioeconomic African American Women” and was co-presenter on a paper, “Faith-based Interventions: Are They Using Recommended CONSORT Guidelines?.” Dr. Teresa Kelechi presented the paper entitled, “Hour-to-Hour and Day-to-Day Temperature Variability of Skin Affected by Chronic Venous Disorders,” and Dr. Marilyn Schaffner, a recent graduate of the PhD program and Administrator of Medical University Clinical Services, presented her dissertation findings in a paper entitled, “Antecedents and Consequences of Work-related Fatigue: A Preliminary Evidence-based Model.”

Also, three faculty members and four of our PhD students presented poster sessions at the Conference:

- Ruth Stockdell, Elaine Amella, and Sarah Laditka. “Spreading the Word: Teaching Caregivers to Support Meals at Home.”
- Theresa Lawson and Catherine Ling. “Improving Online Education: An Engagement Model for Online Interaction.”
- Catherine Ling, and Sheila Smith. “Step it Up: Women Wearing Pedometers.”

Research For Lunch

Research for Lunch will not be held in March, but look for a return in April!

Xerox Totals - February

Student Svs - 2,934
Mail room - 1,904
3rd Floor - 10,325
4th Floor - 7,667
5th Floor - 3,249
E-Value Implementation for Spring Semester

1) E-Value is the system MUSC has chosen for students to evaluate student satisfaction with all university courses and instructors. This system is designed to provide maximal anonymity for students. A CON staff member (not a faculty member) is assigned the task of administering and monitoring the system. Faculty cannot link specific responses to any students.

2) The CON faculty value student feedback regarding student satisfaction with courses, instructors, clinical rotations, and clinical supervision.

3) All E-Value data is reviewed by CON faculty, administrators and designated curriculum committees for quality improvement of our instruction and the curriculum.

4) To increase student participation in this very important process, students will be rewarded this semester for completing all of their assigned evaluations. Students who complete all of their assigned E-Value evaluations prior to the designated deadline will have one percentage point added to their final percentage score in all courses in which they have met the minimal passing grade (the added point cannot be used to pass a student who is failing a course).

5) All E-Value evaluations will be activated April 7. Students will receive an e-mail with instructions on the process for completing E-Value evaluations. Students will have two weeks to complete all assigned evaluations. Evaluations will close on April 18.

Specialty Certification Exams

The Pediatric Nurse Certification Board reported all seven MUSC PNP students achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the PNP certification exam. The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) reported the following results for MUSC CON students:

- 3 of 4 candidates passed the ANP exam (75%)
- All 8 candidates passed the FNP exam (100%)
- 3 of 4 candidates passed the adult psychiatric and mental health NP exam (75%)

The Graduate program committee will be reviewing this data and developing a plan for improvement.

MUSC Student Leadership Society

The purpose of the MUSC Student Leadership Society is to recognize those students who have made notable contributions to the university through their character, service and commitment to enhancing the university environment.

All faculty, students, staff, and administrators are encouraged to nominate a student who has served the university in an exceptional manner largely beyond what recognition they might receive at the college level. Students at any point in their academic career can be considered.

Criteria for selection include evidence of:

1) Having made the university a better place through their service and contributions by the example they set for others through their character, integrity and spirit of giving
2) Embodying the characteristics of servant leadership including listening, empathy, awareness, persuasion, conceptualization, foresight, stewardship, commitment to the growth of others, and building community
3) Commitment to working effectively with diverse groups including other health professional students
4) Promoting interprofessional and interpersonal respect and understanding
5) Significant accomplishments and service to university-wide or interprofessional initiatives
6) Potential for future contributions as a leader not only in their own profession, but also in the broader context of health care or biomedical research

Students in any year of study may be nominated. Nominees should be in good academic standing. A nomination form and a two-page resume/curriculum vita will also be required.

Contact Dr. Valerie T. West for a nomination form at westvt@musc.edu. All materials are due by March 24th.

Scores Are In

Our BSN graduates achieved an NCLEX pass rate of 90.59 percent for 2007! Congratulations to our students and faculty on this achievement. The NCLEX national average was 85.47 percent.
Heart Healthy

What better day to talk about the heart than on Valentine’s Day? CON nursing students, Sarah Burden, Rebecca Freeman, Brooke Holman, Kelly Holmes, Ali Linneman, and Nicole Staubes, and Erin Wilson, RN; as well as faculty member, Anne Lawn, organized activities for 7th and 8th graders at Charleston Progressive Academy. The session consisted of teaching the kids about blood pressure, and checking for their resting heart rate. The middle school students also had their blood pressure measured. Overall, more than 85 students turned out to learn and talk about their heart. Lee Moultrie, Community Outreach Coordinator – rEACh, also spoke to the youth about the dangers of fast food and the benefit of a healthy lifestyle.

Wound Care News

On January 10 - 11, Dr. Phyllis Bonham attended the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel meeting in Washington, DC, as the representative for the Wound Ostomy Continence Nurses Society (WOCN). Dr. Joanne Lynn from CMS met with the panel and to discuss issues regarding reimbursement changes for hospital acquired pressure ulcers, and ICD-9 coding changes for pressure ulcers. Also, Kathy Duncan from the Institute for Health Care Improvement discussed the 5 Million Lives Campaign and their focus on pressure ulcer prevention.

Hispanic Health Initiative News

The College of Nursing’s Hispanic Health Initiatives (HHI) has opened its doors to The Citadel via an internship. The HHI Internship opportunity will offer cadets Richard Doelling and Jonathan Montes the chance to cultivate translation skills by working on documents, such as vaccination/immunization brochures, medical questionnaires and even the HHI Web site. These two bilingual cadets are also working in conjunction with Jason Roberson and the Interpreter Services at the MUSC Hospital, giving them a rare glance into the medical interpreting world. They will be working with Anne Lawn, their preceptor at CON, until the first of May.

On Sale

Four part DVD: Foot and Nail Care for Registered Nurses
Call (843) 792-2651 or whelanc@musc.edu

Continuing Education Programs

Mar. 1 Management of Chronic Kidney Disease
Mar. 6 - 8 2008 Sports Medicine Spring Symposium
Mar. 7 - 9 Updates in General Internal Medicine for Primary Care
Mar. 28 - 29 7th Annual Pediatric Neuroscience Update
Mar. 31 - Apr. 2 OB/GYN Spring Symposium
May 8 - 10 New Drug Update
May 28 - 31 32nd Update: Cardiology for the Primary Care Provider
Jun. 9 - 14 Intensive Review of Family Medicine
Sep. 24 - 27 Intensive Review of Emergency Medicine

Contact Carol Whelan in the Office of Continuing Education at (843) 792-2651 or whelanc@musc.edu for more information.

Congrats to Health 1st

Health 1st applied for the South Carolina Coalition for Obesity Prevention and Education (SCOPE) Business and Industry Worksite Award, and was one of five work sites in SC to receive the Bronze award. Three companies won silver, and none won the gold or platinum award. Health 1st is striving for gold next year.

Upcoming Meetings

Hispanic Health Initiative Staff Meeting
March 3 • 8:30 – 10 a.m. • Room 501
New Publications


Congratulations to Stephanie Brown-Guion who just passed her New Faculty Credentialing from the University of Phoenix and will be teaching Business Management at their Columbia, SC campus!

Congratulations to former CON grants administrator, Cheryl Brown who just graduated with her Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Kaplan University! Cheryl is working with the Department of Surgery overseeing their research administration.

Outlook Exchange Class Offered

Recently, the College of Nursing has switched from the Mozilla Thunderbird e-mail application to Outlook Exchange. Since many are not familiar with this new platform, Christine Williamson will be offering an Outlook Exchange e-mail class for the College on March 7 at 10 a.m. in Room 220. No need to sign up, but it is important you attend. This session is intended to answer any questions or concerns you may have at this time about the new e-mail application.

If you are unable to attend, please schedule a class by visiting [http://www.musc.edu/infoservices/exchange/](http://www.musc.edu/infoservices/exchange/). (Look at the top of the page for Outlook and Entourage Classes.)

What is Netiquette?

Simply stated, it’s network etiquette—that is, the etiquette of cyberspace. When you enter any new culture—and cyberspace has its own culture—you’re liable to commit a few social blunders. You might offend people without meaning to. Or you might misunderstand what others say and take offense when it’s not intended. Even well-meaning cybernauts, especially new ones, make all kinds of mistakes.

The list of core netiquette rules below, are excerpted from the book *Netiquette* by Virginia Shea.

Rule 1: Remember the Human

Rule 2: Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life

Rule 3: Know where you are in cyberspace

Rule 4: Respect other people’s time and bandwidth

Rule 5: Make yourself look good online

Rule 6: Share expert knowledge

Rule 7: Help keep flame wars under control

Rule 8: Respect other people’s privacy

Rule 9: Don’t abuse your power

Rule 10: Be forgiving of other people’s mistakes
Reflections from a August 2007 Graduate

By Rhoda Ascanio, MSN, APRN-BC

Publication is one benefit I received from completing Role Residency (NUSRM 764). One of the stated course objectives is to prepare a scholarly manuscript suitable for publication in a professional journal. By incorporating that objective with the professional development needs of my final preceptor, I was able to write a paper suitable for publication in a medical journal and receive co-authorship. Fortunately, my last clinical rotation was with a physician who wanted to publish a paper on a very specific topic. Here is a brief summary of how we collaborated to write, “Recognizing and Overcoming Barriers to Colorectal Screening in Primary Care”.

Dr. Walter Leventhal, MD, has worked in private practice at Dorchester Medical Associates in Summerville since 1982. He is also affiliated with MUSC as an Associate Clinical Professor of Family Medicine, and has mentored multiple medical and nurse practitioner students. Dr. Leventhal wanted to write a paper addressing how providers can overcome barriers to colorectal cancer screening in the primary care setting since he has had difficulty in persuading patients to comply with his recommendations.

I started my final clinical rotation with Dr. Leventhal in July 2007. In the first few days, he asked if there were any research requirements associated with the course. When I told him one objective was writing a manuscript suitable for publication, we decided to combine our efforts. I read his collected references, collected and read more references, developed an outline with Dr. Leventhal and began writing. We went through several versions, reorganizing the paper, adding and deleting references and incorporating editorial advice from Lisa Kerr at the Academic Center for Excellence. We submitted our original manuscript in September 2007 and were informed the article was accepted pending minor changes. The most difficult revision was limiting the number of references. We started with a library of 82 references, citing 42 in the body of the paper. However, the journal required we limit our references to no more than 10. We decided to cite the 10 most critical references and to indicate additional references were available on request. We were notified in November that our article would be published in the February issue of *The Journal of the South Carolina Medical Association*.

Within the space of six months, a course requirement became a collaborative effort between two health care professionals resulting in a publication of which we are both very proud.


(Not: Following graduation Rhoda moved with her family to Australia for a year. We look forward to hearing about her experiences as an NP in Australia in future issues.)

---

Byars Mentors Honors Research Student

Terry Byars, Class of 1999 (BSN), a certified clinical research coordinator at the Medical University of South Carolina is mentoring Ashley Bath, second semester Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing student, in her Honors Research course. Ashley will be working with Terry on a clinical drug trial for patients with cystic fibrosis.

Terry will serve as Ashley’s advisor on the project, which is coordinated by Dr. John Welton. “Ashley will have interaction with patients including taking vitals and drawing blood. She will be responsible for performing a literature review as part of the course,” says Terry. Ashley has a personal interest in cystic fibrosis. Her roommate at Denison College, where she earned her first bachelor’s degree, has cystic fibrosis.

Excited about introducing a student to the clinical trials research career path, Terry says this option has “some wonderful perks for nurses. There are always new studies – I handle multiple trials at one time. Being part of an investigator team includes travel and meeting people from the various trial sites. There is a lot of autonomy in this role as well.”
Deman Receives Marshall/Arnold Award

Alexis Deman was awarded the Marshall/Arnold AFROTC Award by the US Air Force ROTC. This award is presented to one person from each of the 144 Detachments across the United States (and out of approximately 2000 cadets). The award is presented based on scholarship, leadership, and service. As the recipient of this honor, Alexis recently returned from a seminar on national security in Washington, DC.

An Air Force “brat” herself, Alexis says the opportunities being presented to her are endless. Last summer, Alexis took a “leave of absence” from her academic studies to participate in a week long leadership course in Atlanta, GA, then an additional twenty-eight days of the Air Force ROTC version of “officer boot camp” at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. Much of the focus was on assessing individual abilities, leadership laboratories, and physical exercise. Alexis was recognized as a Field Training “Distinguished Graduate” as a result of her superior performance during this training event. Throughout her nursing program, Alexis has been a member of Detachment 772 at Charleston Southern University, attending a weekly class from 4:30 - 9 p.m. and mandatory physical training sessions twice a week. Additionally, US Air Force ROTC participants are expected to attend special cadet events, including recruitment and honor guard activities, visiting military bases, and joint training exercises.

“My journey has been pretty tough,” says Alexis. “I am the only nursing student in my Detachment. It was initially difficult for the other students to understand that what I learn must be applied immediately – whereas most military jobs are learned after graduation and commissioning. However, my fellow cadets have become some of my biggest supporters. Learning to balance all of these expectations has been the hardest challenge. I have a big support system locally, including my family, which has been a life-saver.”

Following graduation and passing the NCLEX exam, Alexis will be commissioned as a second Lieutenant in the US Air Force and stationed at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. Landstuhl is the nearest treatment center for injured military personnel in Iraq and Afghanistan, and is operated by the US Army and Department of Defense.

Quarles Receives Scholarship

Kristie Quarles has received a 2008 Palmetto Gold Scholarship. The Palmetto Gold Scholarship Program is the single largest scholarship program for undergraduate student nurses in the state and funded through the South Carolina Nurses Foundation, Inc. A $1,000 scholarship is awarded each year to recipients from each of the 23 approved registered nurse programs in the state. In the past five years over $100,000 in scholarships have been disseminated and an endowment has been created to sustain the scholarships over time.

Trivia Night at Burns Alley

Fourth semester Accelerated BSN student, Kelly Holmes and her husband enjoyed the first Trivia Night at Burns Alley. Faculty, staff, and students are invited to join the Student Nurses Association sponsored event. Trivia Night: Part Two will be held on Friday, March 21 at Burns Alley, located behind La Hacienda on King Street. To participate in Trivia, the cost is $5. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the trivia begins at 6:30.
Critical Needs Nursing Initiative

On February 6, over one hundred nurse administrators, nurse faculty and nursing students from across the state attended the “One Voice One Plan (OVOP)” Critical Needs Nursing Initiative Legislative Breakfast at the statehouse. The breakfast was held to provide the nursing, hospital and higher education communities the opportunity to talk with their legislators one on one about funding needs for the Initiative.

The students were introduced to the legislature at the beginning of the session by Representative Chip Limehouse. Limehouse suggested that $1 million that would come from the tobacco tax bill be designated for the nursing shortage.

The College of Nursing students were most effective in talking with the lawmakers. A number of people commented that the MUSC students were outstanding in “making the case for nursing.” Gwen Davis, South Carolina Nurse Association president, praised the professionalism of our students and how well prepared they were with vital statistics outlining everything from the cost to hospitals for having to hire traveling nurses, patient safety, and economic impact to the state.

Kudos to these students who attended the event: Jennifer Brown, Wendy Buck, Melissa Palmer and Julia Perry. And thanks also to the faculty who added their voices to this important discussion: Janet Grossman, Mary Martin, Carol McDougall, and Gail Stuart. The OVOP Critical Needs Nursing Initiative is a comprehensive, public-private partnership designed to increase the number of nurse graduates by increasing the number of nursing faculty.

Pictured from left to right: Wendy Buck, Melissa Palmer, Carol McDougall, Julia Perry, and Jennifer Brown.

CON students sit down to discuss the nursing shortage and critical care needs with a legislator.

125th Anniversary Fund

Total raised to date: $31,875

44% of our regular faculty have donated... and we are waiting expectantly for the remaining 56% to join their peers.