Okay…so maybe not here in the College of Nursing where everyone is in overdrive as we work double time to compensate for significant budget cuts while also increasing student enrollment. Still, life needs balance and everyone needs to get away for some rejuvenation. I did exactly that on my recent vacation in Alaska. It was an escape from my usual world as the entire trip was focused on nature – whales, eagles, moose, caribou, wolves, sea lions – you name it; I saw it. I also saw the immense majesty of nature in awesome glaciers and the proud and monumental Mt. McKinley, the highest mountain in North America. In many ways I truly felt as if I were in a foreign country.

Best of all, this trip allowed me to relax a perhaps overused part of my brain, while tapping into other aspects of life. We all need a break from our routine world to catch our breath and gain new perspective. Honestly, with all that magnificent nature around me, I didn’t feel all that essential to the universe!

And oh the things I learned. I learned about how the large animals store food and prepare for the coming seasons. I learned about the “calfing” of glaciers and how they both retreat and advance in the dance of nature. I learned about why we should definitely not eat farmed salmon and its negative impact on our environment. I learned about how the outside of the “Devil’s Club” plant can be beautiful but deadly, but how the inside stalk is actually medicinal.

So here I am, back in the grind along with all of you. But now I have truly wonderful memories, many fabulous photos, and some really great new party chatter to share with others. I wish you all a visit to Alaska…Gail
CCNE Accreditation Site Visit

In September 2009, the College of Nursing will be participating in a voluntary, comprehensive, self-study and national accreditation process conducted by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The purpose of CCNE accreditation is to ensure quality and integrity of baccalaureate and graduate education programs preparing nurses. Many facets of the College will be assessed to determine the extent to which the College achieves the stated mission, educational philosophy and goals/objects. CCNE serves to assess and identify programs that engage in effective educational practices, thereby contributing to the improvement of the public’s health. The on-site evaluation conducted to assess the College’s compliance with CCNE standards will occur over a three-day period, specifically September 14 - 16.

You are invited to submit signed, written comments about the College of Nursing to CCNE by August 14, 2009. Please send all comments to the following person and address:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education  
Attention: Amanda Brownbridge, Accreditation Assistant  
One Dupont Circle, NW; Suite 530  
Washington, DC 20036-1120

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Ms. Amanda Brownbridge, CCNE Accreditation Assistant at (202) 887-6791 x252 or abrownbridge@aacn.nche.edu.

MUSC Excellence: Build Accountability  
By Gail Stuart

This month we are focusing on the 6th principle of MUSC Excellence – Build Accountability. In the long and the short term, this is one of the most essential elements of an organization’s success. If you have any doubts about it just think of this country’s recent financial failure. Here we had lots of individuals and companies working hard and “doing their job” but with little accountability for how what they did actually affected their constituencies.

In health care and health care education, accountability is nothing less than essential. In our line of work we are holding the very health and well being of individuals, families and communities in our hands. If we don’t educate the most competent and compassionate nurses then we here in the College will have failed them and their patients.

Equally important is our accountability to the growth, quality and integrity of our College of Nursing as an organization. The dean, faculty, staff and students are all accountable to each other and ultimately to our patients. You can think of it as an intertwined and ever interacting circle in which we all hold hands to achieve true MUSC Excellence.

To learn more about the MUSC Excellence Program, visit http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/univ_excellence.

Room Facelift

As you may know, CON 401 has been given a “facelift” with new furniture and state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment. Given that it has the best videoconferencing capacity in the College, priority for reserving this room will be given to those meetings that require the use of its AV equipment. If you would like to reserve this room, contact Susan Sparks at sparkssa@musc.edu or 792-3941.

College of Nursing Retreat

When  
Tuesday, August 11 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Where  
South Carolina Research Authority (5300 International Blvd.)

Schedule of Events  
8:30 - 9 a.m. • Breakfast & Ice Breaker  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m. • Team Building  
12 p.m. • Lunch  
1 - 4 p.m. • Team Building

Remember to bring a hat that identifies the many different roles you play in your life. Prizes will be awarded.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

4 TUESDAY
New Faculty Welcome
4:30 - 6 p.m.
BSB 402
Reception immediately following in the fourth floor lobby.

11 TUESDAY
College of Nursing Retreat
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
South Carolina Research Authority
5300 International Blvd.

13-14 THURSDAY-FRIDAY
MUSC Board of Trustees meeting

17 MONDAY
CCNE Self Study Review
1 - 3 p.m.
CON 220

SEPTEMBER

18 TUESDAY
CON Alumni Board meeting
5:30 p.m.
CON Historical Library

24-27 MONDAY-THURSDAY
Accelerated BSN New Student Orientation

27 THURSDAY
Stethoscope Ceremony
4:30 p.m.
St. Luke’s Chapel

31 FRIDAY
Faculty Development Workshop
Evidence Based Practice: Singing from the Same Page
CON 220

Getting to Know...Elaine Amella

○ Position: Professor
○ How many years at CON? 10.5 years
○ How many years at MUSC? 10.5 years
○ Hometown: Wisconsin Dells, WI
○ Alma Mater: New York University (M.A. & Ph.D)
○ Family: Husband, Jim; daughter, Kate (lives in MA with my grandsons); son, Damon (works at MUSC).

○ Superstitions? No
○ Worst habit: Procrastination and saying “yes.”
○ What time did you get up this morning? 6:20 a.m. to water plants and feed the birds.
○ What music are you currently into? Classical, especially opera.
○ What did you want to be growing up? An astronomer.
○ Web page bookmarks? SNRS, NIH/NIA
○ What book is on your nightstand? Primitive Mythology: The Masks of God by Joseph Campbell
○ Last movie you saw? Synecdoche, NY
○ First concert you ever attended? Simon & Garfunkel in Madison, WI in 1968.
○ Superpower I’d most like to possess: Flying
○ If you could attend any event, what would it be? Opening night at the Metropolitan Opera.
○ I’d love to trade places for a day with: Eleanor Roosevelt (when she was chairing the UN’s Commission on human rights).

○ In your opinion, what is the world’s greatest problem? Intolerance.
○ Talent I’d most like to have: Play the piano well.
○ Coke or Pepsi? Coke
○ My very first job was... As a stock girl in a gift shop at age 11.
○ Biggest pet peeve: When people say they are bored.
○ Three adjectives your friends would use to describe you: A good sport, happy, kind.
○ Last thing you experienced buyers remorse with? Shoes!
○ Three things in your bucket list:
2) Spend a summer at Silver Lake, WI.
3) Dance at my grandchildren’s weddings.

FAVORITES:
○ Flower/plant: Violet
○ Animal: Basset hound
○ TV Show: Curb Your Enthusiasm
○ Movie: Moonstruck
○ Sports team: Green Bay Packers
○ Pie: Homemade apple cinnamon with a piece of sharp cheddar cheese (a real WI treat).
○ Place you’ve traveled to: Florence, Italy
○ Thing to do on a Saturday night: Go to East Bay Meeting House.
○ Thing to do on a Sunday afternoon: Make a nice meal for my family.
○ Thing about living in Charleston? It’s quality of life.
CCNE Accreditation Site Visit
The CCNE accreditation site visit is scheduled to take place next month. Four site visitors will be on campus September 14 - 16 to meet with university administrators, CON administrators, faculty and students. Room 401 in the CON will serve as the resource/exhibit room during this visit. Visitors will meet with faculty (without administrators) on Monday, September 14 from 2 to 3 p.m. in room 220. On Tuesday, September 15, the visitors will meet with students from 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. in Gazes Auditorium (lunch will be served). All faculty and students are encouraged to attend these meetings. The visitors will present their findings to faculty on Wednesday, September 16 at 11:30 a.m. in room 220.

During the visit, if you see the visitors in the hallways, please make them feel welcome!

How to Create an Excellent Poster
In July, the Apple Tree Society hosted a Brown Bag session titled, “Tips & Tricks for Creating Excellent Posters” that was presented by Tom Hamm and Sherman Paggi. Due to high demand the session was recorded and can be viewed by copying and pasting the link below into your Web browser. The Apple Tree Society hopes to offer the session again in the near future. http://tegrity2.musc.edu/tegrityUtils/GetCourseListing.aspx?Session_Info=PVgDYXDK%2bAXOU9%2fCSV0EZKpdeD5KgyGA%2fKThtzrZdNgwWFSPiHBUpNfC2dCmEMR
(You may be prompted to download a plug-in which is very quick and easy to do.)

SCNF Walk
The South Carolina Nurses Foundation (SCNF) is organizing its First Annual SCNF Nurses Care walk in Columbia on Saturday, November 7 and is reaching out to nurses and nursing students across the state. Their aim is to increase the visibility of nurses and the nursing profession and provide an opportunity to honor all past, present, and future registered nurses in SC.

If you are interested in participating, call SCNF at 803-252-4781 or visit www.scnursesfoundation.org.

CON Welcomes Fall 2009 DNP and PhD Students
Barbara Edlund hosted a dinner at her home, along with Elaine Amella, during CON’s PhD residency week held July 13 - 17. The College admitted 15 PhD students to begin study in fall 2009 (three students are post-MSN-DNP graduates and two are post-BSN-PhD graduates).
Funded Projects Congratulations!

**Deborah Williamson** has received funding for the project titled, “Portales de Salud – Gateway to Health.” Abortion Access Project (AAP), a non-profit corporation, will fund this sub-award to the College of Nursing from monies set aside for the South Carolina Access Initiative (SCAI), in the amount of $3,000. The project period is from July 1 to December 31, 2009.

Deborah also received funding from Communities in Schools of the Charleston Area, Inc. (CIS). CIS and the College will utilize a community based approach to promote adolescent health service in the school and community to youth and families on Johns Island. The period for the project entitled, “Promotoras of Health” will be from July 1, 2009 until June 30, 2010 for the amount of $25,000. **Anna Tecklenburg** will serve as project coordinator.

**Sally Stroud** has secured another year (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010) of funding from HRSA for the “Nurse Faculty Loan Program.”

**Janet Grossman** is the co-investigator on a VA-funded MERIT grant titled, “Patient and Provider Outcomes of E-learning in CAMS.” The principal investigator is Kathryn Magruder. This project period is July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.

**Susan Newman** has received funding from South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute (SCTR) for the project titled “A survey of Unmet Needs After Spinal Cord Injury.” The project period is from August 1, 2009 to July 31, 2010.

July Grant Submissions

**Elaine Amella**, along with Mark Delegge, submitted an administrative supplement to the NIH American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (“Recovery Act” or “ARRA”), for their R21 proposal titled, “Feeding in Elderly Late-Stage Dementia: The FIELD Trial.” This project was submitted by the Digestive Disease Center/ART DDSL. Elaine will serve as a co-investigator on this project.

NEED SUPPLIES?
Whether you need office supplies or copy paper, see Maryanne Craig or Carol Whelan on the 5th floor. Either will be happy to assist you.

NEW FACULTY WELCOME
Tuesday, August 4
4:30 - 6 p.m.
BSB 402
Reception to follow

Research Spotlight

**Phyllis A. Bonham** is an associate professor in the College of Nursing and program director for the Wound Care Education Program. Phyllis also currently serves as the president of the Wound, Ostomy, Continence, Nursing (WOCN) Society. Her current funded research is titled, “Are Toe Pressures Measured with a Portable Photo-phlethysmograph (PPG) to Assess Lower-extremity Arterial Disease (LEAD) Interchangeable with Those Measured with Standard Laboratory Equipment?” This study is funded by the Southeastern Clinical and Translational Research Institute (SECTR) Pilot Projects Program.

The aim of this exploratory, pilot study is to assess the level of agreement and repeatability of toe pressures measured by a nurse using a portable PPG compared to pressures obtained by a vascular technologist using standard laboratory equipment to determine whether they agree sufficiently for the tests to be considered interchangeable. Data have now been collected on thirty patients and is currently being analyzed.

Results from this pilot study will inform a future larger study, enable the investigator to develop a protocol for PPG testing, and provide data to support adoption of toe pressure tests in addition to ABI as a best practice to assess for LEAD when the ABI is elevated or cannot be performed due to wounds at the ankle.

Phyllis received a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from St. Louis University and completed the Harrisburg School of Enterostomal Therapy in Harrisburg, PA. She obtained a Master of Science degree in nursing from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, and in 2005 received a PhD in nursing science from MUSC. Phyllis has 42 years in nursing practice and is board certified in Wound Ostomy Continence Nursing.
Medical Spanish Classes Offered

BEGINNER LEVEL: Mondays from 4 - 6 p.m.
August 31 - December 7 (14 weeks)
College of Nursing room 322

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL: Wednesdays (4-6 pm)
September 2 - December 9 (14 weeks)
College of Nursing room 322

COST:
Full-time MUSC students: cost included in tuition
Continuing Education students: $300
Other: $270 (a 10% discount)
If you are interested in either class, call 792-2651.

HHI News

Katherine Chicke-Harris, a former Hispanic Health Initiative (HHI) scholar and May 2009 CON graduate has been hired as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at the Franklin C. Fetter Family Health Center, Inc. Johns Island site.

Publications & Presentations

PUBLISHED ARTICLES


PRESENTATIONS


PUBLIC COMMENT


Busy Bees

The month of July has been a busy one for the Office of Practice. The department hosted three webinars and a seminar. Congratulations to all who helped in making these a success.

WEBINAR: “Partnerships with Latino Faith Communities”
Sponsored by Latino Commission on AIDS

WEBINAR: “Dialog4Health”
Sponsored by Public Health Institute


WEBINAR: “The Early Years of Life Set Us on Paths Toward or Away from Good Health”
Sponsored by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation – Commission to Build a Healthier America
CON Welcomes...

Robin Bissinger was nominated by the National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN) and selected to receive the 2009 Distinguished Service Award for her dedication to excellence in neonatal nursing. Robin will travel to Austin, TX in September to receive the award. Congratulations on this huge honor.

Annemarie Donato has been asked by the Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners to become a manuscript reviewer.

CON Welcomes...

The College of Nursing would like to welcome Raquel Vining to the staff as a new grants administrator. Her responsibilities will be to plan, direct, coordinate and manage pre-award grant activities and selected post-award activities in the College of Nursing. Prior to joining the CON, Raquel served as the grants coordinator for the Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics and Epidemiology.

Raquel was born and raised in Venezuela, South America and has lived in Charleston for the past 19 years. She lives in West Ashley and has one daughter named Hannah who is a senior at Academic Magnet High School in North Charleston. Raquel is very active with the Spanish community at the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in West Ashley. Her expertise in the grants area will be a great asset to the College.

Please welcome the newest Nursing Technology Center staff member, Bernard Jansen. Bernard has a BS in management information systems from the University of Akron in Akron, OH, as well as systems and programming experience dating back to 2006. Bernard is familiar with the world of nursing as his wife is an OR nurse at MUSC. Bernard is an excellent addition to the NTC team and we are looking forward to working with him.

Dear Faculty and Staff,
The Volunteer Advisory Committee at MUSC Children’s Hospital is designed to help develop and implement programs and activities for volunteers, patients, families, and staff. The VAC has created a new MUSC Children’s Hospital License Plate available through the South Carolina DMV. Proceeds from the plate will be granted by the VAC to support needs and programs within the hospital. In fact, in March, we funded four different grant projects from the money raised via the license plate!

That being said, if it is time for you to renew your license plate, please consider purchasing a MUSC Children’s Hospital Plate. At the very least, please tell your friends and family about the plate. If you are interested in learning more about the plate you can go musckids.com, or musckidsvolunteer.org for information on the Volunteer Advisory Committee. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Alissa Beker
Volunteer Advisory Committee Member

Our meeting wouldn’t be complete without you.
General Assembly Meeting
August 17
1 - 3 p.m.
Room 220

This meeting will be devoted entirely to preparation for the September’s CCNE site visit. Faculty is strongly encouraged to attend this review of the College’s self-study.
Dunning Selected to Receive MUHA Scholarship

Incoming accelerated BSN student, Margaret “Maggie” Dunning has been selected to receive the MUHA Scholarship. This scholarship is generously donated by MUHA, and offers the student $25,000 toward their accelerated BSN education.

Maggie was selected for this scholarship because of her outstanding academic credentials and leadership potential. She graduated from The Citadel in May 2008 with an earned cumulative GPA of 3.34. At The Citadel, Maggie served as the golf team co-captain, mock trial team captain, and recruiting sergeant for her company. She has experienced two study abroad programs as the University of London Royal Holloway Study Abroad Scholar and as The Citadel Summer in London Program Scholar.

It was a summer spent in Matamorras, Mexico at a health clinic that convinced her that nursing was the profession that would provide her with career and personal satisfaction. Her great aunt, a nurse at the clinic, was a role model for strength, dedication, and caring for the patients. “She encouraged me to pursue challenging endeavors in my life.”

Following completion of the ACC BSN program, Maggie plans to earn her DNP.

Provost Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to Carie Mitchell and Tiffany Hunter for being selected to receive the Provost’s Scholarships. Each student will receive $3,000 toward their education for the fall 2009 semester. Both students are strong role models for their peers and the future of the nursing profession.

Carie is enrolled in the accelerated BSN program and will graduate in December 2009. She is a Dean’s List student. Prior to her enrollment at MUSC, Carie completed a Bachelor of Arts and MBA degrees from Florida Gulf Coast University. “Carie always makes the choice to make a difference in patients’ lives when she enters a room,” wrote nurse manager Helena Walo, who supervised Carie as a patient tech prior to her admission to the College of Nursing. She is a leader among her peers, having served on the MUSC SGA since her first semester. She is currently the president of the CON SGA. Carie will provide the student welcome at the College of Nursing Stethoscope Ceremony on August 27.

Tiffany has a prior degree from Winthrop University, and will also complete the accelerated BSN program in December 2009. She is a Dean’s List student. Tiffany developed an interest in health care careers during a summer internship with Lowcountry AHEC during the summer of 2002. She further developed this interest during a summer undergraduate research program at MUSC during the summer of 2003. She served as a Research Fellow at Winthrop University. Tiffany is part of the Robert Wood Johnson New Careers in Nursing Program, and has been a leader in the Student Nurse’s Association. She recently experienced a mission trip to Uganda.

Dean’s Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who have received Dean’s Scholarships for $1,000 for the fall 2009 semester:

Catherine Caldwell, Katie Chamberlain, Ashley Charlebois, Sara Colbert, Chelsie Dennis, Rachel Fuller, Ashley Green, Ashli Guyton, Dally Hubbard, Lindsey Husak, Crystal Kathrotia, Devon Licari, Derek Martindale, Lindsey Matthews, Erin McBride, Ann Paradise, Emily Pond, Andrea Robison, Rachel Stephens, Jessica Stone, Amanda Turner, and Ashley Zahedi.

Suturing Bananas?

Kristie Quarles and Elspeth Dyal practice their suturing techniques on bananas during class. Both students are enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing degree program in the Family Nurse Practitioner track.