November is a wonderful month. It heralds in the briskness of the fall with a colorful palette, and then reminds us to “give thanks” for the blessings in our lives. In many ways it is better than the December holidays because one is not distracted by gifts and parties and shopping frenzies. November is a time for relishing the love of family and friends and catching up with those whom we hold dear.

This Thanksgiving I will be especially grateful for a nodal event in my life. Come next spring I will be a grandmother. My son, Morgan, and his wife, Sarah, are expecting their first child. As you can imagine I greeted this news with unbridled joy!

It also made me reflect both backwards and forward. Backwards, as I recalled Morgan’s growing up years and his many days of childhood. And forward, as I saw myself blossoming in another new life role – that of grandmother. Backwards and forward…the pattern of life, ever unfolding, ever evolving, ever building upon itself.

This is true of our College of Nursing as well. In the next couple of months we will be making important decisions about our future and the strategic directions we will take in the years ahead. We will be building on the genes of our rich past and giving life to a new sculpting of our school. Such nodal events are more than exciting; they are overflowing with anticipation, expectation and unimagined possibility.

This Thanksgiving, when I give thanks, I will be remembering each of you and all that we have accomplished here in the College. With great appreciation…Gail
Transition to Blackboard Begins

The much anticipated move to Blackboard (Bb) begins in January with the accelerated BSN students who began in fall 2009 and the group who will start in January 2010. Other cohorts of undergraduate students will continue with WebCT until fall 2010 at which time all programs will be migrated to Bb.

The transition should be seamless, as the Learning Management Systems are quite similar. However, Bb is a bit more intuitive and easier to navigate. The reason for the switch is that Bb, which also owns WebCT, will eliminate technical support for WebCT beginning in the fall of 2010. This transition is University-wide with the medical school having taken the lead this fall.

One major change based on student feedback will be the standardization of course navigation using links on the course menu (instead of icons) so that all courses will look the same. This should eliminate unnecessary time spent trying to figure out where content is located in each course. Discussion boards will function much the same. One major difference, however, is that Bb does not have an internal e-mail system. All e-mail sent from Bb will go to your MUSC e-mail. All students whose courses will be in Bb in January will be required to complete a Bb tutorial that should be available in November. The College of Nursing looks forward to the transition and welcomes your feedback. For questions, contact Sally Kennedy at kennes@musc.edu.

Fine Feedback

Below is a letter from MUSC Provost John Raymond regarding the 2008-09 Annual Report.

Gail W. Stuart, Ph.D., R.N.
Distinguished University Professor
Dean, College of Nursing
Medical University of South Carolina

Dear Gail:

Thank you so much for sharing with me a copy of the 2008-2009 College of Nursing Annual Report. The report keeps getting better and better every year, and clearly highlights the participatory governance model in the College and your outstanding strategic planning. Further, your engagement with all constituent groups including the community, alumni, students, staff and faculty is very obvious from the report. I was pleased to learn that grant submissions and funded grants have increased steadily over the last three years. I take particular note of the increase in funded NIH grants. Congratulations to you, Dr. Andrews and Dr. Jenkins, and the rest of the faculty and staff who have invested so heavily in improving the scholarship in the College. I am particularly pleased with the growing visibility of the Center for Community Health Partnership, with the excitement of starting the DNP Program, and the full engagement of the College in the MUSC Excellence Program.

Truly, your annual report is a celebration of achievement during challenging times. Well done! Please pass on my appreciation and congratulations to your faculty, staff and students, and especially to those who were instrumental in putting together such a fine annual report.

Sincerely,

John R. Raymond, M.D.
DCI Professor of Medicine
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

MUSC Excellence: Principle 9 - Recognize and Reward

We now come to the ninth and last principle of MUSC Excellence – Recognize and Reward. This principle is so obvious and so essential to human nature. We all want to be recognized and rewarded for our outstanding performance! And yet it is something that is often overlooked in our busy lives.

In these challenging economic times our rewards will have to be non-monetary in nature. That may be disappointing, but public praise and kudos can be very powerful acknowledgements of our contributions, as we shine in the eyes of those around us.

So too, such credit need not come from only one source. Rather, each of us can contribute to this. We can pause for a moment in our day to think about who went out of their way to help us, and then tell them how much we appreciate what they did.

We know from psychology that carrots are far more effective than sticks. Let’s become a College that grows a new crop of carrots every day as we recognize and reward each other for going the extra mile!

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

COMPLIANCE REMINDER

YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL ASSIGNED TRAINING MODULES BY DECEMBER 1, 2009.

THIS IS A FEDERAL MANDATE.
Questions?
Contact Maria Toler at tolerm@musc.edu or 792-2051
WebCT Tips and Tricks

Is your e-mail inbox looking a bit crowded? Below are instructions on how to create folders within WebCT so that you can organize your e-mail.

**HOW TO SORT E-MAILS**
1. Create a folder
2. Click on “mail” in the course menu
3. Over to the right on the “actions” area, click on “create a new folder”.
4. Type in the name you want to call the folder, such as “Need response” and click “create”.
5. You will see the folder listed.

**HOW TO MOVE E-MAILS TO ANOTHER FOLDER**
1. Go into your mailbox
2. Place a check in the box (or boxes to move multiple e-mails) next to the e-mail you want to move
3. Below and to the right is a drop-down screen. Click on that and on the folder where you want this e-mail moved to.
4. Click “go” and a screen will pop up to verify that you want to move this e-mail. Click OK.
5. E-mails can be moved back to the Inbox by repeating the same process.

Preserve CON’s Rich History

MEDICA is a publicly accessible digital repository of scholarly and historical materials relating to MUSC and the history of health sciences in South Carolina. MEDICA’s collections include articles written by MUSC faculty, theses and dissertations written by MUSC students, and historical photographs and documents relating to the history of the health sciences.

The College of Nursing has already begun a historical collection. You can explore the collection at [http://medica.library.musc.edu/conhome.php](http://medica.library.musc.edu/conhome.php).

Almost anything in a digital format - manuscripts, peer-reviewed articles, pre-prints, book chapters, audio/video recordings, photos, presentations - can be contributed to the repository. If you would to contribute your work, visit the MEDICA web site at [http://medica.library.musc.edu/index.php](http://medica.library.musc.edu/index.php). This site allows the user to upload files directly from your desktop. MEDICA staff will then add further information to assure your documents are accessible to all. For more information, contact Jennifer Welch at welchje@musc.edu.

New Department Chair

Effective November 1, **Teresa Kelechi** will assume the role of Department Chair. Employed at MUSC for 22 years, Teresa joined the College of Nursing faculty in 2001. She is a board certified gerontological clinical nurse specialist and a certified wound care nurse. Teresa takes over the reins of Department Chair from **Elizabeth Erkel** who will retire at the end of the year.

Tobacco Surcharge Reminder

Please remember to complete the Tobacco Surcharge form by **November 15** or you will be charged $25 extra for your insurance.

To complete this certification, visit the University’s Benefits web page at [http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/vpfa/hrm/benefits/index.htm](http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/vpfa/hrm/benefits/index.htm).

Effective January 1, 2010, the South Carolina State Budget and Control Board approved a $25 monthly surcharge be added to the health insurance premiums of tobacco users covered by the South Carolina Employee Insurance Program (EIP). If you, or any dependents covered on your health insurance, smoke or use tobacco you will pay the additional surcharge of $25 per month. This is a monthly surcharge, not a “per person” fee.

---

**BEAT the Flu Bug**

Get your Shot!

**Barbara Edlund** spoke at the SC Student Nurse’s Association Annual Conference at Hilton Head, SC on Saturday, October 10. The presentation was titled: “Can you tell me the difference between a PhD and DNP?”

Approximately 300 nursing students attended the conference, including MUSC SNA President, Chip Burger, Class of December 2009.

Barbara is pictured with **Lori Jackson**, classes of 2002 (RN-BSN) and 2004 (MSN). Lori is the Academic Coordinator for the nursing program at Horry-Georgetown Technical College and was attending as an advisor.
NOVEMBER

4 WEDNESDAY
CCHP Brown Bag Session: “CBPR: What is it and why are funders paying attention?” presented by Susan Newman & Melissa Cox
Noon
BSB 502

6 FRIDAY
Research Day - No Classes

7 SATURDAY
SC Nurses Walk
10 a.m.
Riverfront Park, Huger & Laurel Streets, Columbia, SC

8 SUNDAY
2nd Annual Barbeque Benefit
Hosted by the Hilton Head Island Dean’s Advisory Board
12 - 3 p.m.
Honey Horn Plantation, Hilton Head Is.

12 THURSDAY
Sigma Theta Tau Gamma Omicron at Large Induction
6 p.m.
BSB Auditorium

13 FRIDAY
Mini Orientation for Spring 2010 accelerated BSN Students
1-4 p.m.
CON 220

14 MONDAY
Holiday Party and Retirement Party for Elizabeth Erkel
12 p.m.
CON Historical Library

The College will be CLOSED for the holidays from December 22, 2009 to January 4, 2010.

CON CLEAN-UP

December 17 - 18 have been designated CON Clean-Up days.
Bins will be provided, so take the time to do your winter office purging, and start the new year off right!

Getting to Know...Sharon Bond

- Position: Assistant Professor
- How many years at CON? 21 at CON, and 3 at MUH as L&D staff nurse.
- Hometown: Long Island, NY (on the LI Sound)
- Alma Mater: SUNY and MUSC
- Family: Husband, Jim; son, Robert (25), daughter, Michela (21). My mother and sister also live in Mt. Pleasant.
- Superstitious? Not at all.
- Worst habit: Daydreaming
- Collect anything? Memories and photos of good times with family and friends.
- What time did you get up this morning? 5:30 a.m.
- What music are you currently into? Old rock & roll and whatever my children introduce me to...my daughter brought home music from Malawi, West Africa, and my son brought music from Argentina. Rhythm and politics - a great combination.
- What did you want to be growing up? A ballet dancer.
- What book is on your nightstand? All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque.
- Superpower I’d most like to possess: The power to end violence against women and children worldwide.
- If you could attend any event, what would it be? Whatever day in the future my daughter gives birth and the weddings of both children.
- I’d trade places for a day with...Bruce Springsteen’s wife, Patty Scialfa.
- In your opinion, what is the world’s greatest problem? War and hatred generated by intolerance among religious and cultural groups.
- Talent I’d most like to have: The ability to sing...to move people with music.
- Coke or Pepsi? Neither - I drink Propel.
- My very first job was... A checker in a NY supermarket.
- Biggest pet peeve: Traffic jams that make me late.
- Three adjectives your friends would use to describe you: Focused, thoughtful, and reserved.
- Last thing you experienced buyers remorse with? A hat I purchased in Paris that I will never wear in Charleston.
- Three things in your bucket list:
  1) To do women’s health and research with the World Health Organization or International Agency for Research on Cancer.
  2) Dance on a table in a Paris nightclub.
  3) To not work at all and be a volunteer.

FAVORITES:
- Flower/plant: Hydrangea
- Sports team: Duke Blue Devils
- TV Show: “24”
- Cookie: Chocolate chip
- Place you’ve traveled to: St. John, USVI or Paris, France.
- Animal: Dog
- Board Game: Boggle
- Movie: Slumdog Millionaire
- Magazine: Eating Well
- Thing to do on a Saturday night: Walk the bridge, visit with friends.
- Thing about living in Chas.: Warm temperatures, the beach and great people, of course!
New University Interprofessional Course

As part of MUSC’s C3 Initiative (Creating Collaborative Care), the University is implementing an interprofessional core course in spring 2010. All accelerated BSN students admitted beginning January 2010 will be required to take this new two credit course during their first semester. In order to keep the total number of credit hours for the BSN at 121, the Undergraduate Program Committee and the CON faculty have approved decreasing NURS 385 (Professional Nursing and Nursing Practice) and NURS 372 (Health Care Systems and Policy) from three credit hours each to two credit hours each. Currently enrolled students will not be required to complete this new course, however, it is available as an elective. Current students will complete the three credit NURS 385 and NURS 372 courses.

Copyright and Tegrity

If you are using any copyrighted information when you record a Tegrity session with PowerPoint slides, make sure that you have followed copyright laws. Also, remember that when you determine the “Settings” for your Tegrity session, one of the “Default Settings” is “Allow students to download classes.” This setting allows students to download your slides and share with anyone. Therefore, if you don’t want your slides available to the world, use the “Actions” drop down box on the bottom left of the Tegrity page and uncheck “Allow students to download classes.” If you wish students to be able to listen to the lecture, you can use the other audio download settings (MP3 podcast, iPod/iTunes etc). The library staff is in the process of updating the Copyright Toolbox, as some of the links are not active. However, the web site has some very good references for information about copyright laws pertaining to educational uses. Check out the Copyright Toolbox site: www.library.musc.edu/copyright.

NCLEX Scores Above Average

According to the third quarter NCLEX report, MUSC had 64 first time candidates testing with an 89 percent pass rate. The South Carolina pass rate was 88.5 percent while the national pass rate was 88.9 percent.

Audience Response System (Clickers)

A University task force is currently reviewing and evaluating audience response systems in order to standardize systems across campus. The College of Nursing will implement an audience response system in 2010. This system can be used during meetings and classes for interactive participation and/or polling of the audience.

Exam Master Online

The MUSC Library recently purchased a one-year subscription for Exam Master Online, a web-based NCLEX-RN exam preparation system. This database can be accessed through the MUSC Library homepage http://www.library.musc.edu by clicking “Other Databases” and use “Jump To”, click on “E” and scroll down to “Exam Master Online NCLEX-RN”. This database provides questions (with rationales for correct answers) to simulate the NCLEX exam, in addition to study and review sessions.

Flu Video Available

Below is the link for a flu video that MUSC has produced http://www.ets.musc.edu/Movies/h1n1.html. All students are strongly encouraged to view it.

In addition, the link for the flu evaluator, developed by Student Health, can be accessed at https://carc.library.musc.edu/dev/H1N1. Students should use this site if they are having flu like symptoms.

If a student wants to be seen at Student Health for flu symptoms, they must call first. Their phone number is 792-3664. Student Health is directing these individuals to an alternate entrance to the clinic to decrease exposure to other patients. Student Health Services is located at 30-A Bee St.
Community Engaged Scholars Spotlight

Susan Newman and Gwen Gillenwater are one of six teams participating in the Community Engaged Scholars (CES) program. Below is a spotlight on their partnership and work together. For more information on CES, contact Melissa Cox at coxme@musc.edu.

Susan Newman and Gwen Gillenwater have been working together since the fall of 2007. The partnership began when Gwen was hired as executive director of the disAbility Resource Center (dRC), a Center for Independent Living, in North Charleston, SC. Just prior to Gwen’s arrival, Susan had joined forces with the dRC to conduct her dissertation research. The study used the community-based participatory research method Photovoice to identify barriers and supports in the community that affected people with spinal cord injury. Gwen’s background in disability policy legislation provided her with the insight to immediately recognize the potential benefits of the Photovoice study in supporting the mission of the dRC – “Advocate, Educate, Empower for a fully inclusive community.” As a result of the partnership, the dRC and consumers with spinal cord injury were able to use the evidence gathered during the project to effectively advocate for changes in SC’s accessible parking laws. A participatory approach to disability research is endorsed by disability scholars and advocates and similarly reflects the mantra of the International Disability Rights movement – “nothing about us without us.” Gwen and Susan share a personal philosophy about disability research – that it should be conducted with, not on, people with disabilities.

The strength that each partner brings to the team has helped the relationship to flourish. Gwen has 20+ years of experience in working in the disability community – including involvement in direct services, grassroots organizing, local, state and national advocacy and public policy planning. Gwen’s years of experience in advocating for public policy have helped her to develop a deep appreciation for the value of research. She says that many times in advocating for disability policy before national legislators, she was asked to provide “evidence” of the potential benefits of the policy change.

Susan, a CON faculty member, is a certified rehabilitation registered nurse with over 14 years of clinical experience in acute inpatient medical rehabilitation, caring for individuals with a variety of disabilities. Her experiences as a rehabilitation nurse provided her with a unique perspective and insight into the needs of individuals with chronic disability. Susan’s research reflects her understanding that the availability and accessibility of appropriate resources in the community plays a significant role in the process of adapting to life with a chronic disability and in an individual’s ability to continue to function as a productive member of society with a chronic physical disability. Her research interests include application of community-based participatory research approaches to address issues affecting community participation, health, and overall quality of life of individuals with disability. Both partners share a common mission to promote the independence and full community participation of people with disabilities.
Submitted Proposals

Teresa Kelechi submitted an R01 to NIH/NINR. The title of her proposal is “Preventing Venous Leg Ulcers with Cryotherapy: A Randomized Clinical Trial”. This proposed research represents an innovative, non-pharmacologic intervention that promotes a self-management prevention approach to venous leg ulcers. The overall aim of this study is to test the efficacy of cryotherapy on venous leg ulcer development in a high-risk chronic population with multiple co-morbidities.

Marilyn Laken (Co-PI) and Brent M. Egan (PI) (Medicine) submitted an R21 to NIH/NCCAM (National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine). The title of this proposal is “Does Dark Chocolate Lower BP in Pre-Hypertensives.” The specific aim of this study is to determine the effects in pre-hypertensives of Ritter vs. white chocolate on: (1) seated clinic BP (2) supine clinic BP, 24-hour ambulatory BP, vascular function, insulin sensitivity, and dyslipidemia (3) assess participant “lived experience” with dark chocolate (DC) including expectations of health benefits, fidelity of intervention, and perceptions of DC as long-term intervention to reduce cardiovascular risk.

Funded Projects

Congratulations to Carolyn Jenkins along with Steve Blair, PED from the USC Arnold School of Public Health for the recent award presented by the Centers of Economic Excellence (CoEE). Both will be leading the efforts of a new CoEE that will develop technology, such as interactive, web-based coaching programs, to help people make healthier lifestyle choices and delay or prevent chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. “The Technology Center to Enhance Healthful Lifestyles” is a partnership between the University of South Carolina and the Medical University of South Carolina. The review board approved $3 million in funds for the center. Health Sciences South Carolina is providing a portion of the private funds to help match the state’s investment.

Congratulations to Jeannette Andrews and Melissa Cox for the recent award to the Center for Community Health Partnerships from the South Carolina Translational and Research Institute (SCTR). The funds received will be used to support pilot grants for each of the 2009 academic-community teams participating in the Community Engaged Scholars (CES) Program. For more information, visit the CES web site at www.musc.edu/nursing/cchp/index.htm.

Congratulations to Deborah Williamson for receiving funding from the National Institutes of Health National Library of Medicine (NLM). MUSC will collaborate with NLM in conducting a follow-up study on video medical interpretation building upon earlier collaborative research between MUSC and NLM. The earlier research involved the use of full screen-full motion video between the interpretation office and the clinics at MUSC and compared video service with service offered by phone and in person.

Publications & Presentations

PUBLICATIONS:

Davis, B.H., Pope, C. Institutionalized Ghosting: Policy Contexts and Language Use in Erasing the Person with Alzheimer’s. *Language Policy*, (2009), 0(0):1-16


Zayac, S., & Finch, N. Recipients’ of Implanted Cardioverter-defibrillators Actual and Perceived Adaption: A Review of the Literature. *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*, 2009, 21(10), 549-556. (Susan Zayac graduated from the FNP program in 2005. This was her clinical paper she completed in her Role Residency course.)

POSTER PRESENTATION:

Stroud, S., Hunter, T., Long, M., Stuart, G., “Nursing Leadership in an Interprofessional Context.” New Careers in Nursing Liaison Summit Meeting, Washington, DC, October 2009. *(The poster was based on the exemplary interprofessional activities demonstrated by six of CON’s RWJ New Careers in Nursing scholarship recipients.)*

PRESENTATION:

Andrews, J.A., Meadows, O. “Partnership Readiness for Community Based Participatory Research,” NIH Partners in Health Conference, Bethesda, MD, October 2009. *(This study, now entering it’s second year, expects to develop a questionnaire for academic and community partners to assess their “readiness” to conduct community-based participatory research, as well as training elements to leverage readiness among the partners. Susan Newman and Jane Zapka, along with the study’s community advisory board, are co-investigators in this study.)*
December Convocation Date Set

The College of Nursing will hold Convocation to celebrate the Class of December 2009 on Saturday, December 5, 10:00 am at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, 405 King Street. There will be a light reception in the adjacent Fellowship Hall following the ceremony.

Graduates should read their e-mails for information regarding regalia distribution. There will be a rehearsal for graduates on Friday, December 4, 3:00-4:00 pm at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church.

This year’s speaker is 2008 Outstanding Alumnus Award recipient, Ms. Caroline Counts. Caroline is a graduate of MUSC three times! She earned her Diploma, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and Master of Science in Nursing from the College of Nursing. She is a lifetime member of the MUSC College of Nursing Alumni Association. Caroline is a leader in the clinical area of nephrology, and is also a lifetime member of the American Nephrology Nurses’ Association. She has served as the President of this organization. She has mentored nurses throughout the United States, authored a textbook, been published in at least three different journals, and participated in research activities and programs. The Palmetto chapter of the American Nephrology Nurses’ Association annually presents a scholarship to a College of Nursing student. The scholarship is named for Caroline – a great tribute to her accomplishments. It is an honor to recognize this outstanding MUSC College of Nursing graduate and role model.

Two Students Praised for their Nurse Preparedness

Millie Pochet and Amanda Turner, both accelerated BSN students, accompanied the medical team of Missionary Ventures International (MVI) to Peru from September 26 - October 2. Both were involved in providing medical care and teaching to over 700 indigenous Peruvians. The medical team traveled from the city of Puerto Maldonado to remote villages up the Madre de Dios river near the border of Bolivia and encountered all types of medical issues and environmental challenges.

Both Millie and Amanda were commended on their preparedness and abilities by the physician and nurse practitioner. Millie and Mandy were highly praised for their interpreting and assessment skills, as well as their compassion for the people of Peru. Both proved to be valuable assets to the MVI team.

“Millie and Mandy were such a joy to work with and such a crucial part of the MVI body. I personally am so very proud of the work the students did and would appreciate having them on another medical team any time,” says Lana Beckley, MSN,PT,RN, MUSC, FIRM Ground Resource Nurse/Clinical Equipment Specialist. Lana goes on to say, “As a recent graduate, I am also very proud of the MUSC College of Nursing and its mission to provide the world with such qualified nurses.”

Both were also praised by Peter Knight, MD, associate professor of Cardiology at USF Physicians Group. See letter at right.