In mid-September the College of Nursing was site visited by CCNE as part of our accreditation process. While we won’t have “official word” until spring of 2010, the visitors did have a closing meeting with us and their words were music to our ears! They said that they would report that we were in full compliance and would not receive any recommendations or concerns—a perfect score! They also highlighted some of our accomplishments, which we often overlook as we go about our day to day work. They complimented all of us on clearly working as a team – communicating openly, participating actively and fully supporting our joint vision. They remarked on how incredible our students are, and said that the students told them that they were taught by talented and dedicated teachers. The overall academic program was described as outstanding, and the scholarly productivity of the faculty as incredible, particularly in light of the difficult year we had just experienced. They pointed out that our research activity was amazing, especially given our size.

Finally, they confirmed that we hold a very high profile across campus, noting that the College of Nursing was described as the best innovators, best educators and most dedicated to true interprofessional collaboration.

So let’s all savor the moment and enjoy the glow from this important and impressive appraisal of our College! ...Gail
There’s an App for That

NurseTabs is an application that allows novice nurses and nursing students to search for over 200 common diseases and disorders, separated by body system. Once the disease/disorder is selected, the user will be able to have useful information right at their fingertips, including a nursing process approach to managing client care. In addition, useful information is included that incorporates priority assessments needed for clients with the selected disease/disorder. Potential applicable Nursing (NANDA) Diagnoses with related factors and client goals are also incorporated. This application is available on iTunes for $9.99.

MUSC Excellence: Principle 8-Communicate to All

Pick up any book about leadership and a highly functioning organization and you will find ample discussion on the priority need for communication. In fact, it has sometimes been said that it is impossible to communicate too much!

The world around us changes so quickly from moment to moment that it is quite challenging to stay up to date. However, if an organization like our College of Nursing does not have vehicles to inform, then research tells us that people will make up information to fill the void—information that is often inaccurate, misleading and potentially damaging to the organization.

Here in the College we have many communication venues—eCONnections, Lifelines, faculty assembly, monthly staff meetings, and town halls to name just a few. We also judiciously use e-mail to communicate important information, striving not to overload our inboxes. Faculty post office hours and we all respond to phone messages as well.

Can we increase communications? Yes, it is likely that additional opportunities exist and we should identify and act upon them. Until then, perhaps an equally important question that we should be asking is: Are we all using the existing mediums of communication? After all, “If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?” Communication is a two-way street.

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

Cool Facts

SNEEZES REGULARLY EXCEED 100 MPH. There’s a good reason why you can’t keep your eyes open when you sneeze—that sneeze is rocketing out of your body at close to 100 mph. This is, of course, a good reason to cover your mouth when you sneeze.

COUGHS CLOCK IN AT ABOUT 60 MPH. Viruses and colds get spread around the office and the classroom quickly during cold and flu season. With 60 mph coughs spraying germs far and wide, it’s no wonder.

Flu vs. Cold?

By visiting the following web page http://www.musc.edu/h1n1 you will find a questionnaire that you can rapidly fill out and determine if you have the flu and what to do. Please save this URL so that if you think that you may be coming down with the flu versus a simple cold, you can help make that determination.

MUSC Eco-Friendly Bags for Sale

Cost: $4 per bag or $10 for 3 bags

To purchase: Stop by Mardi’s Long’s office, CON 221B. All proceeds go to the MUSC SGA to support student activities.

Reserving a Room

To reserve a conference room in the College, please e-mail your request to Susan Sparks. All room requests are booked by 11 a.m. Any room request made after 11 a.m. will be scheduled the following morning. Susan may be reached at 792-3941 or sparkssa@musc.edu.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

8-9 THURSDAY-FRIDAY
MUSC Board of Trustees meeting

8-10 THURSDAY-SATURDAY
SC Student Nurse’s Association
Hilton Head Island

20 TUESDAY
Dean’s Town Hall for 1st Semester Accelerated BSN Students
12 - 12:50 p.m.
BSB 302

21 WEDNESDAY
Dean’s Town Hall for 3rd Semester Accelerated BSN Students
12 - 12:50 p.m.
BSB 302

22 THURSDAY
Dean’s Town Hall for 4th Semester Accelerated BSN Students
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
BSB 302

21-22 WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY
Josten’s Graduation Fair
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Colbert Education/Library Building

23 FRIDAY
Dean’s Advisory Board
1 - 3 p.m.

NOVEMBER

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

26-27 THURSDAY
Thanksgiving Break - CON Closed

Getting to Know...Bonnie Dumas

- Position: Assistant Professor
- How many years at CON? Almost one year
- Hometown: Siler City, NC
- Alma Mater: University of South Carolina
- Family: Husband, Dave; two sons, David and Michael and our yellow Lab, Honey.
- Superstitious? No, but I enjoy the tales of Lowcountry ghosts.
- Worst habit: Picking up yet another variety of tea.
- Collect anything? Paper weights - my favorite is in the shape of a fishbowl with a paper goldfish inside.
- What time did you get up this morning? 6:45 a.m.
- What music are you currently into? Anything that’s good, from gamelan to bluegrass.
- What did you want to be growing up? A statistician like Florence Nightingale.
- What book is on your nightstand? East of the Sun by Julia Gregson
- Last movie you saw? Moon
- First concert you ever attended? Andre Segovia
- Superpower I’d most like to possess: To communicate with dolphins. I read a book by John Lilly in high school and have been intrigued ever since.
- If you could attend any event, what would it be? Go to the World Expo with my family
- I’d love to trade places for a day with: Shakespeare, writing a commentary on current happenings in play format.
- In your opinion, what is the world’s greatest problem? Achieving world peace.
- Talent I’d most like to have: Play the piano well.
- Coke or Pepsi? Pepsi...it’s less sweet.
- My very first job was... Baby sitting
- Biggest pet peeve: No maple syrup for my waffles.
- Three adjectives your friends would use to describe you: Efficient, loyal, creative
- Last thing you experienced buyers remorse with? Tulips
- Three things in your bucket list: 1) Breakfast on the Orient Express 2) Be at the top of physical fitness 3) Make the perfect caramel cake

FAVORITES:
- Flower/plant: Camellia
- TV Show: Monk
- Cookie: Peanut butter
- Animal: Hunting dog
- Movie: Blowup
- Magazine: Cooks Illustrated
- Place you’ve traveled to: Edisto Beach is still my favorite of all the places I’ve visited.
- Thing to do on a Saturday night: Eat oysters on Bowen’s Island.
- Thing to do on a Sunday afternoon: Walk the Cooper River Bridge.
Pre-Registration
Pre-registration is scheduled from October 12 - 23. An e-mail will be sent to all students from Student Services regarding this event. Please watch your MUSC e-mail for this message. Students should contact their assigned academic advisor prior to registering for Spring courses. If a student does not know the name of his/her advisor, the Advisor List is located on the CON Intranet under the heading “ADVISING.”

H1N1 and Seasonal Flu
During this time of year, most upper respiratory illnesses are due to organisms other than the flu. Acute cold symptoms usually begin gradually over 1 – 2 days; Flu symptoms appear more abruptly and include symptoms such as high fever, chills, severe muscle aches, dry cough, severe headache and fatigue.

To avoid spreading infection:
1) Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth
2) Cover nose and mouth (use tissue or bend of elbow, not your hand)
3) Wash hands frequently, especially after coughing or sneezing. Hand sanitizers are also effective in decreasing transfer of germs
4) Avoid handshaking during flu season
5) Avoid close contact with people who have respiratory infections

Students should identify a “flu buddy.” This person would deliver meals; obtain medications and other necessary items for the ill student. Students who develop flu symptoms should isolate themselves from roommates and/or family members and use good hand washing techniques. Students should not attend class or clinicals if flu symptoms are present. Students should not return to class until fever is absent for 24 hours without use of medications. If possible, students should e-mail course faculty about class absence and call clinical faculty for clinical absences.

If you aren’t sure if you have a common cold or the flu, go to the following MUSC Student Health web site: http://www.musc.edu/h1n1. Complete a brief questionnaire and it will help you decide if you have the flu or a cold and what to do if you have the flu.

Help is on the Way
Frustrated with WebCT? Spending more time trying to navigate your course than you are trying to teach or learn? We got it! Help is on the way! Beginning with this edition of eCONnections, a series of “how to’s” related to WebCT will be presented. In addition, a separate web site will be created to archive these “tips and tricks” for future reference. The address of that site will be listed in next month’s newsletter.

HOW TO FORWARD E-MAIL IN WEBCT
Taking several courses and frustrated with having three places to check for e-mail? WebCT allows you to forward your e-mail to an account of your choosing, a personal e-mail account or your MUSC e-mail. Here is what you do in each WebCT course:

Students:
1) On the course menu, click on the mail link.
2) Click on the “message settings” button at the top of the screen.
3) Check the box that says “Forward my e-mail to:”
4) Put the e-mail address in the space provided.
5) Click “update.”
6) Send yourself a test message to be sure it works. To do that:
   a) Click on “compose message” at the top of the screen
   b) Click on the “browse” tab to the right and find your name in the list and highlight it by clicking on it.
   c) Click on the “select” button at the top of the screen. This will populate the e-mail with your NetID.
   d) Put something in the subject line like “WebCT test” and send.
   e) Check the e-mail account where you forwarded your e-mails.

Keep in mind that you will need to do this in EVERY WebCT course where you want mail forwarded. If you receive an e-mail that was forwarded by this process, you cannot reply to it and expect the person who originated the message to receive it. It will be sent to your WebCT e-mail address. To respond, you will need to go into the WebCT course where this e-mail originated and respond to the sender.

Faculty
1) On the course menu, click on the mail link.
2) At the top is a “message settings” button – click on that.
3) Be sure the first box is checked “Allow users to forward a copy of WebCT mail to an external account.”
4) Click “update.”

Have questions you would like to see answered here or on our WebCT Tips and Tricks site? E-mail them to Sally Kennedy at kennes@musc.edu.
Project Submitted

In September, **Gail Stuart** submitted an ARRA Recovery Act Limited Competition: Core Facility Renovation, Repair, and Improvement (G20) application to the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), National Institutes of Health (NIH). This application requests funds to renovate 10,400 square feet on the third floor of the College of Nursing building to create a centralized Core Facility for Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR). The proposed MUSC Core Facility for CBPR is designed for training, resource sharing, academic/community cross-fertilization and collaboration for community-oriented research projects based at MUSC and supported by NIH and other sponsors. The overall aim is to enhance the impact of sustainable, positive social change and health outcomes in our socially, racially and ethnically diverse region. The specific aims are to:

1) create engaging, well designed shared core space where interprofessional research teams, including community partners, can plan, evaluate and disseminate the results of research utilizing CBPR;
2) provide assignable core research areas for identified CBPR research clusters; and
3) enhance the Community Engagement Core of MUSC’s NIH funded CTSA initiative by advancing CBPR processes (training, resource provision and sharing) and products (sustainable positive health outcomes) through core services and consultative expertise. No similar core facilities exist at MUSC or in South Carolina.

Student Wins Grant Approval

Congratulations to MSN student, **Mia Barron** who was part of the Clinical Nurse Scholars program. Mia completed a “special topics” elective with associate professor, **Lynne Nemeth** last spring with the objective of writing a grant proposal. Last month, Mia’s proposal, “Unlocking the Mystery of Lupus and Cardiovascular Health,” was funded by the Daisy Foundation. CON graduate, **Winnie Hennessy** assisted Mia with some revisions on behalf of the University hospital. This award can only be granted to a hospital nurse at one of the Daisy Foundation hospitals. Kudos to Mia for this amazing achievement.

Sister to Sister Project Welcomes New Staff Member

**Juanita Brunson** joined the Sister to Sister Research staff as a program coordinator. Her responsibilities are to organize and lead the tobacco cessation smoking group interventions and provide study participants support for quitting smoking, maintain participants’ records, administer and monitor participants’ nicotine replacement therapy and process evaluation measures for group interventions.

Juanita is a native of Orangeburg, SC where she received a B.S. in biology from South Carolina State University. She earned her master’s degree in health promotion management from Marymount University in Arlington, VA.

Previously, Juanita worked as a tobacco cessation counselor and health educator with Inova Health Systems in Northern Virginia. She has also taught high school science in Prince George’s County, MD and Fairfax County, VA.

In her spare time, Juanita enjoys spending time with her family, reading, traveling, and learning new things. Juanita is excited about her new position with the College of Nursing and looks forward to working on the community level.

Recently Published

Congratulations to **Gigi Smith** for her first publication as first author for a journal.


**BEAT the Flu Bug**

Get your shot!
Funding Congratulations

Congratulations to Carol Whelan for submitting two proposals to Abbott Nutrition and Ikaria (iNo Pharmaceutical) for the funding of the upcoming 17th Annual Neonatal Pharmacology Conference to be held November 9 - 11. The conference is designed to help NICU professionals including physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse managers and experienced staff nurses make evidence based decisions in the clinical care and treatment of the critically ill neonates. Both proposals were funded for a total of $17,000. Way to go Carol! What an outstanding achievement.

Students Volunteer at Cultural Fair

Four Hispanic Health Initiative students, along with two nurse practitioner students volunteered at the Sea Island Cultural Fair that was held September 12. The students took blood pressure measures and administered glucose screenings to Johns and Wadmalaw Islands area residents. CON instructor, Cindy Allen also volunteered and assisted the students at the Fair that was held at the Franklin C. Fetter Clinic on Johns Island. Around 50 participants were screened and several referrals were made. The health screenings were a joint effort between Franklin C. Fetter staff and the MUSC College of Nursing. A special thank you to all of the nursing students who made the day a success.

Promotora Training has Begun

The training of the promotoras (community lay health workers) began in September. Romina Bria and Judith Rundbaken are being trained on a number of different reproductive health topics. Several different CON faculty, as well as various professionals from the community will assist with the training. Once they complete their training, Romina and Judith will go out into the community of Johns and Wadmalaw Islands to share the information that they have learned with the residents.

Portales de Salud means “Gateways to Health” and is a project funded through Communities In Schools. The principal investigator of the project is Deborah Williamson and the project coordinator is Anna Tecklenburg.

Medical Spanish Course a Success

Thanks to former CON instructor, Anne Lawn, 45 students enrolled in the first class of beginning medical Spanish and 15 students enrolled in the intermediate medical Spanish course. Due to the positive response, Sam Cogdell, instructor of the course, has agreed to offer an additional Tuesday evening class which gives currently enrolled students the option to transfer into a less crowded session. Thank you, Sam.

New Work-study Student Welcome

Rachel Rohan, CON undergraduate student is the new work-study student in the Office of Practice. Rachel is looking forward to working with the CON faculty and staff establishing relationships during her internship. You will probably see a lot of Rachel around the building as she plans on becoming involved with many of our College’s activities.

CCSB Honors CON Program

On August 24, the Charleston County School Board recognized the several CON faculty members for their efforts to reduce violence in a local elementary program. The Incredible Years is a program designed to reduce interpersonal violence through the network of community partners using primary prevention and early intervention approaches in school and primary care settings.

Pictured from left to right: Marilyn Laken, Superintendent Nancy McGinley, Dianna Inman, Angel Harmon, Tiffany Williams, Toya Hampton Green, and Deborah Williamson.
Meet Your MUSC SGA Rep
The Medical University of South Carolina Student Government Association is an active group with representatives elected from among their peers in each of the six colleges and various campus organizations. The purpose of the MUSC SGA is to make positive changes on the campus for present and future students. The representatives have required attendance at meetings, as well as volunteering their time for campus and community projects and events. Students serve on university-wide committees that address concerns such as parking and education technology, as well as university infrastructure and graduation.

Students serving from the College of Nursing include Lauren Bennett and Cari Mitchell, Class of December 2009, Journey Henderson and Amy Marialke, Class of May 2010, and Shelly Grosso and Julie Hayler, Class of December 2010.

Fennell Receives State-wide Recognition
Brandie Fennell, MSN Class of December 2005 was recently awarded the Palmetto Award for Leadership in SC. A nurse practitioner at McLeod Hospice and Palliative Care, Brandie received this award from the Carolinas Center for Hospice and End of Life Care.

The Palmetto Award is given in recognition of leadership in hospice. Brandie’s devotion and significant time promoting hospice care, her vision and forward thinking about hospice care, her involvement in hospice care throughout South Carolina, and her active participation in all stages of hospice development were cited.

Brandie was the first nurse at McLeod to receive her Palliative and End of Life Care certification. She paved the way for more than ten additional nurses who have since also received their certification.

Brandie lives in Olanta, SC with her husband and three children. Congratulations to this outstanding graduate!

Sigma Theta Tau International News
The Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing Induction Ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, November 12 at 6 p.m. in the Basic Science Auditorium. See next month’s eCONNECTions for a list of the inductees. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Duffy at duffynd@musc.edu.

Honor Council
When entering MUSC, students become part of a much larger professional community, extending far beyond the boundaries of this campus. It is a community whose foundation is healing, but whose bricks and mortar are compassion, honesty, trust and integrity. The student Honor Code at MUSC provides the framework in which each student may practice exacting principles of character in order to achieve the highest standards of self-development. Accordingly, college honor councils are entrusted primarily with demonstrating to the students who have lapses of integrity the precise nature of their mistakes and only secondarily to mete punishment. In their deliberations, honor councils will adjudicate cases based on the premise that students can and should develop a character befitting their roles as professionals.

Student representatives will serve as members of the honor council until the end of their time on campus. Upon departure, a new student member from the same class or program shall be selected by student elections.

The College of Nursing has elected the following student representatives:

| Blair Webb, President | Laura Hoover |
| Christen Black, VP | Emily Long |
| Matthew Alexander | Amy Marialke |
| Mia Barron | Cathy Mulloy (alt.) |
| Abby Benda | Kristie Quarles |
| Teresa Carnevale | Amanda Oswald |
| Anne Chalmers | Millie Pochet |
| Aisha Choudry | Gwen Shafer |
| Jonathan Edwards | Shannon Stancliff (alt.) |
| Rachel Fuller | Elizabeth Travis |

College of Nursing faculty representatives include Carol McDougall and Janet Grossman. The group’s advisor is Ann Hollerbach.

To read the University Honor Code, learn about cases to date, and how to report a suspected violation, visit http://www.musc.edu/honorcode.
DNP Application Information for BSN Students

The DNP program is offered online and addresses the most contemporary aspects of expert clinical practice and in depth knowledge and experience in leadership, health systems design and evaluation, evidence-based practice, health policy and applied research.

Students enrolled in the accelerated BSN program have preferential admission to our DNP program and may apply for admission to the DNP program by going to the following web page: http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/em/admissions/apply.htm.

The deadline for application is February 1. The cost to apply is $85, and a $440 matriculation fee will be required. You will be required to provide these supporting materials with your application:

• Cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in undergraduate coursework
• Undergraduate statistics course
• Current CV or resume
• Personal essay that includes the applicant’s professional goals, reason for wanting to study in a particular area of specialization, and how the applicant anticipates the role and scope of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree. (500-600 words)
• An interview may be requested by the Admission, Progression, and Graduation Committee

Students completing the accelerated BSN program in December 2009 and May 2010 may apply while completing their academic program, however admission will be conditional pending completion of the accelerated BSN degree program, and an unencumbered, active registered nurse (RN) license in the state where the practicum’s will be conducted.

Part-time and full-time options are available, and there is a master’s exit option for students at this time. Students may specialize as an Adult Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner, or Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. Students completing the DNP program will earn a MSN and DNP at the end of the program. Students interested in applying to the Master of Science in Nursing degree programs with specialization in Nurse Educator or Nursing Administration may also apply by the February 1 deadline, submitting the same materials as listed above.

For more information about the MUSC College of Nursing DNP program, go to: http://www.musc.edu/nursing/academics/DNP/index.htm. For “Talking Points” about the DNP, go to: http://www.aacn.nche.edu/DNP/index.htm.

If you have questions, please feel free to e-mail Mardi Long at longm@musc.edu or Carolyn Page at pagecf@musc.edu.

Happy Halloween!