I have recently read a book entitled *Three Cups of Tea*. It is an inspiring true story of a young man, Greg Mortenson, who in his own way, wanted to change the world through building schools and educating children. He grew up with parents who were missionaries and his view of the world was global and, at the same time, inclusive. Interestingly, he went to nursing school and was able to weave his work as a nurse around his travel and passion for building schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

At one point in the book he describes how it was not the supplies he carried but his training as a trauma nurse that proved to be the most valuable. “With tubes of antibiotic ointment, he treated open sores and lanced and drained infected wounds...He set broken bones and did what little he could with painkillers and antibiotics. Word of his work spread and the sick on the outskirts of Korphe began sending relatives to fetch “Dr. Greg,” as he would thereafter be known in northern Pakistan, no matter how many times he tried to tell people he was just a nurse.”

“Just a nurse” indeed. Why is it that nurses minimize the value of our work and the impact it has on the lives of those for whom we care? Why is it that nurses stand in the shadow of other providers and are largely absent in the public dialogue about health policy? Why is it that nurses are doers but not movers and shakers? This has not served nurses or our patients well. And it belies the powerful role nurses really do play in health care.

May is the month that we celebrate nursing. May is the month that we launch new graduates into the nursing workforce. May is the month that the new health care law is being analyzed and implemented. Now more than ever before, May also should be the month that we, as nurses, pledge to leave our old habits behind and march into the emerging health care reform with raised voices, strong hands and open hearts, vowing never again to be described as “just a nurse.”
CON staff of the year

As part of the College’s Administrative Professionals Day celebration, Carlos Lopez was given the 2010 CON Staff of the Year award. Carlos has served as Grants Administrator for the College since 2006. His loyalty and dedication to the College shows through in the increased number of complex grant submissions and awards. He has a can-do attitude and outstanding customer service skills. Way to go, Carlos!

The College of Nursing is fortunate to have a dedicated and talented group of support staff. This was reflected in a record number of nominations for the Staff of the Year Award. Thirty-nine nominations were submitted by both CON faculty and staff. Just read some of the wonderful comments…

“I have been unusually impressed by Melissa Cox - her planning, community interaction and the positive image she creates for the CON. I have never worked with a more positive and professional young lady.”

“Patrick Davis is a consummate professional! This is exactly the kind of service that makes our NTC the best!”

“If positive attitude, work ethic, reliability, consistency and a willingness to laugh speak well of the CON then Joanne Langdale gets an A!”

“Mardi Long works so well with the students and representing the college. I cannot believe how she remembers ALL of it ALL of the time!”

“Yolanda Long exemplifies MUSC Excellence every day. She is competent, willing and eager. She has a great sense of humor and a superb style”

“It is an honor to work with someone of Carolyn Page’s caliber. She not only knows what went on yesterday, but what is going on today and what will go on tomorrow.”

“Maria Toler is a delightful and creative individual. She strives to put every inch of herself into her work and it shows”

“Carol Whelan has become the ‘go to person’ when things need to be done and done well. She has been a positive and calm voice in assisting others and deserves honors for the way she represents the CON”

National Nurses Week history

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale’s birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event. As of 1998, May 8 was designated as National Student Nurses Day, to be celebrated annually. And as of 2003, National School Nurse Day is celebrated on the Wednesday within National Nurses Week (May 6 - 12) each year. The nursing profession has been supported and promoted by the American Nurses Association (ANA) since 1896.

A Brief History of National Nurses Week

• 1953 - Dorothy Sutherland of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare sent a proposal to President Eisenhower to proclaim a “Nurse Day” in October of the following year. The proclamation was never made.

• 1954 - National Nurse Week was observed from October 11 - 16. The year of the observance marked the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale’s mission to Crimea. Representative Frances P. Bolton sponsored the bill for a Nurse Week. A bill for a National Nurse Week was introduced in the 1955 Congress, but no action was taken.

• 1972 - Again a resolution was presented by the House of Representatives for the President to proclaim “National Registered Nurse Day.” It did not occur.

• 1974 - In February, a week was designated by the White House as National Nurse Week, and President Nixon issued a proclamation.

• 1982 - In February, the ANA Board of Directors formally acknowledged May 6, 1982 as “National Nurses Day.” The action affirmed a joint resolution of the United States Congress designating May 6 as “National Recognition Day for Nurses.”

• 1982 - President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation on March 25, for “National Recognition Day for Nurses” to be May 6, 1982.

• 1990 - The ANA Board of Directors expanded the recognition of nurses to a week-long celebration, declaring May 6 - 12, 1991, as National Nurses Week.
Happy retirement

Well wishes to Maryanne Craig who is set to retire from the College on April 30th. Maryanne has served in various capacities at MUSC for almost 30 years, wth the last 10 years being here at the College of Nursing. She has been an integral part of the Office of Academics, Dean’s Office and Nursing Business Center during her tenure in the College.

In this next phase of her life, Maryanne plans to spend time with family, particularly grandchildren, Hannah, Connor, Cavin and Langdon. Enjoy!

Free Reconnective Healing sessions offered

In honor of Nurses Week, Susan Sparks will be donating her time and services to offer short sessions of Reconnective Healing therapy to CON faculty and staff.

Reconnective Healing is a form of non-touch healing that is considered to be able to reconnect us to the universe not just through a new set of healing frequencies, but through possibly an entirely new bandwidth brought in via a spectrum of light and information. The reality of its existence has demonstrated itself clearly in practice as well as in science laboratories.

The sessions will take place in a Simulation Lab classroom. A sign-up sheet can be found in the second floor mail room, please sign up according to your availability. If you have any questions, contact Susan Sparks at sparkssa@musc.edu.

CON receives highest level of accreditation

The College of Nursing has received a full 10-year accreditation without any recommendations for its baccalaureate and master’s degree programs following a thorough onsite evaluation of the school’s curriculum by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

“This excellent accreditation report confirms MUSC’s mission of “fueling the nursing pipeline” by providing more entry level nurses, nurse practitioners, and nurse faculty. It also reflects on the truly outstanding quality of our faculty, as educators, clinicians and researchers,” says College of Nursing Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, RN. “As a College of Nursing, we set the bar high and, as reflected by this report, we have achieved success.”

Receiving CCNE’s full accreditation assures students, parents and the public that the MUSC College of Nursing adheres to high quality standards based on successful and effective educational practices.

Limbaker Award

On Friday, April 23, the College of Nursing hosted a ceremony and reception honoring Kimberly Michelle Limbaker, a member of the Class of 2000, who was killed in an automobile accident during her first semester of coursework in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program.

In Kim’s honor, a perpetual award was created and it is presented each December to a member of the graduating BSN degree program. This award is given to the individual who shows enthusiasm for life, a willingness to learn, caring and kindness to others, and love of the nursing profession. Peers nominate individuals for the award and faculty make the final decision.

There have been nine recipients of the Kimberly Michelle Limbaker Memorial Award, and four were able to join the Limbaker family and College of Nursing family to celebrate Kim’s life and the legacy of this award. The other recipients were able to send updates about their nursing career and personal life. A plaque was presented to the College of Nursing recognizing these extraordinary award recipients. It will be updated annually with the selection of each new recipient.

Thank a nurse during Nurses Week

Because May 6 - 12 is National Nurses Week, a thoughtful yet simple way to let a nurse know that you’re thinking of them is through the College’s Honor Someone Special Tribute Booklet.

For a small donation of $10 or more, a beautiful linen card will be mailed to a nurse of your choice letting them know that you have honored them in this meaningful way.

To request a booklet, contact Denise Ciccarelli at 792-8421 or ciccarel@musc.edu.
Getting to know...Jane Anderson

Position: Undergraduate program instructor
How many years at CON? Almost three
Hometown: I was born in Charleston, WV but moved to Roanoke, VA for my high school years.
Alma Mater: Radford University
Family/Pets: Two mixed Lab/retrievers, Sampson and Maggie (a registered therapy dog).

Superstitious? Never
Worst habit? Having too many projects underway
Collect anything? Willow tree angels
What time did you get up this morning? 5:30ish
What music are you currently into? I really like a wide variety from oldies rock and roll, to country, bluegrass, jazz and contemporary Christian. I could throw a little classical in there too.
What did you want to be growing up? A teacher then a nurse. I guess I had it right both times.
Last movie you saw? Extraordinary Measures
Webpage bookmarks? MUSC, CON, Elsevier, LWW, and composters.com
If you could have any superpower, what would it be? Cloning. I’d love to be in my garden and reading a book at the beach at the same time.

First concert you ever attended? Seals & Croft
I’d love to trade places for a day with: No one
In your opinion, what is the world’s greatest problem? Selfishness and pride
Talent I’d most like to have: To sing and play piano flawlessly.
Coke or Pepsi? Regular Pepsi but Diet Coke
My very first job was... A babysitter
Biggest pet peeve: Rude people
Three adjectives your friends would use to describe you: Organized, open and caring
Last thing you experienced buyers remorse with? A pair of shoes
Three things in your bucket list:
1) Travel to Alaska
2) Travel to Australia
3) Travel to Ireland

FAVORITES:
Flower/plant: Too many to list
Animal: Dogs
TV Show: Castle
Cookie: Cranberry Oatmeal
Place you’ve traveled to: Hawaii
Thing to do on a Saturday night: Go dancing
Thing to do on a Sunday afternoon: Work in my gardens
Thing about living in Charleston: The many sights to see, the warm weather and the year round flowers.
CON convocation and graduation reminder

Congratulations to the Class of May 2010! Convocation is scheduled for Thursday, May 20 at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church, 405 King Street. The program will begin promptly at 3 p.m., however graduates are asked to arrive by 2 p.m. There will be a rehearsal on Wednesday, May 19 at 3 p.m.

Parking is available in the area, specifically at the garage adjacent to the Francis Marion Hotel (corner of King and Calhoun Streets) and the Charleston Visitor’s Center located on Meeting Street.

Graduation will be held the following morning, Friday, May 21 at 9 a.m. However, graduates are asked to arrive at the Institute of Psychiatry Auditorium Lobby by 7:30 a.m. so you may be assisted with robing and line-up for the procession.

Commencement’s website is www.musc.edu/em/grad. Here you will find information for guests (including disability accommodation), as well as other information including adverse weather plans. There is also a map for candidate and audience seating.

Graduates who are unable to pick up their gown prior to rehearsal can get it from Mardi Long at St. Matthew’s Lutheran Church. Contact Mardi Long, longm@musc.edu, for additional information.

Suicide prevention support

A person dies by suicide every 16 minutes in our country, and many more think about it or wrestle with suicidal feelings. So many lives are touched by suicide, yet people often struggle in silence due to stigma, isolation and lack of awareness. We want to change that locally.

Out of the Darkness Community Walks focus on suicide prevention and support for survivors who have lost a loved one. The local Charleston committee is looking for persons who might be interested in joining in this effort. Maybe you have lost a loved one or know someone who has, or maybe you just want to help raise awareness about mental health and suicide. All interested persons are invited to attend the next monthly planning meeting May 11 at 5:15 p.m. in the College of Nursing Board Room – Room 211. If you have any questions, contact Martina Mueller at 792-3997 or muellerm@musc.edu. Visit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention website for more information at www.afsp.org.

New controlled substance prescribing courses offered

Two new online courses are being offered to help meet the requirements of the Nurse Practice Act 898 (passed in 2004) which will grant expanded prescribing authority to APRNs for Schedule Drugs III-V. Both courses will be entirely web-based and can be taken online at your convenience once you are registered for the course. Both courses will be taught by Claire DeCristofaro, MD, a clinical assistant professor at MUSC.

- **NURSCE 110** (2 nursing contact hours): This course is for APRNs who already have prescribing authority. This course satisfies the Continuing Education requirement of ongoing education in Controlled Substance Prescribing. This course must be completed within one month of confirmation of registration. Cost: $50 (includes certificate)

- **NURSCE 210** (15 nursing contact hours): This course is for APRNs who have NOT obtained their prescriptive authority in South Carolina, and need to make initial application for prescriptive authority including controlled substances. This course will provide 15 nursing contact hours in Controlled Substance Prescribing and must be completed within six months of confirmation of registration. Cost: $375 (includes certificate)

These continuing education courses are designed to review issues associated with prescribing controlled substances within the role and scope of the practice of the APRN. The considerations for use of controlled substances for patients within the APRN specialty will be addressed. Social and ethical responsibilities of the APRN when prescribing controlled substances will be outlined.

For more information on registration, contact the Office of Continuing Nursing Education at the MUSC College of Nursing at (843)792-2651 or visit www.musc.edu/nursing/departments/continuingeducation.

“Something magical happens when you bring together a group of people from different disciplines with a common purpose.”

~ Mark Stefik, Palo Alto Research Centre Fellow
April grant submissions

Nancy D. Duffy, DNP, RN, CEN, assistant professor, submitted an application to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The proposal’s title is “Making it work: A diverse workforce for a diverse population.” This proposal submission is for the Equipment to Enhance Training for Health Professionals (EETHP) program. The purpose of the application is to acquire funds to purchase equipment that will provide education in new technologies. The target populations are the BSN students in the MUSC College of Nursing. This proposal addresses the use of simulation equipment as a new technology for educational innovation and the use of media to capture interactive teaching opportunities.

Additionally, Nancy, along with Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Amy Painter, BSN, RN-BC, submitted an application in response to the SC Nursing Needs Initiative Simulation Research Call for Proposals, sponsored by the Health Sciences of South Carolina Center of Excellence. The proposal titled, “Senior Student as Teacher (SSAT) Project,” explores the effectiveness of 4th semester students in the role of faculty with junior students during simulated experiences.

Funded minority supplement

Congratulations to Ida Spruill, PhD, RN, MSN, LISW, assistant professor, who submitted a minority supplement to promote diversity in health-related research that has been approved. The title of the parent grant is “Genetic contributors to diabetes and dyslipidemia in African Americans.” The principle investigator on this R01 grant is Michèle M. Sale, PhD, associate professor, University of Virginia.

The goals of Ida’s research under the supplement are to address the following questions:
1) What is the likelihood that an individual will change his or her health behaviors if they have knowledge of a genetic susceptibility?
2) What is the best format and source for presenting genetic information?

Faculty publications and presentations


PRESENTATIONS

Susan Newman, PhD, RN, CRN, attended the annual conference of the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protections Programs (AAHRPP) April 13 in Atlanta, GA. AAHRPP is the nationally recognized accrediting body for Institutional Review Boards (IRB). Susan was invited to attend along with Stacey Goretzka, CIP, program manager for MUSC’s IRB for human research.

This year’s conference was especially notable due to an increased focus on the ethical issues related to community engagement in research. Susan and Stacey will be working together to educate the IRB, as well as MUSC researchers about ethical considerations of community-based participatory research (CBPR) and how they can improve the IRB processes to address the unique ethical issues of community engaged research.
Teen Health Leadership Program update

On April 15, students from the Teen Health Leadership Program were guests of honor at the first annual Mr. CHP Contest. This event was put on by students of the College of Health Professions (CHP) and all proceeds raised will be directed towards scholarships for students in the Teen Health Leadership Program. The night was a huge success. Many thanks to all the people from CHP for their time and effort for making it possible.

CON co-sponsors HIV/AIDS roundtable

The College of Nursing’s Hispanic Health Initiatives co-sponsored the second annual South Carolina Hispanic Roundtable on HIV/AIDS on April 9th. The morning session was filled with speakers and a question and answer segment. During the afternoon, participants divided into smaller groups to discuss the strengths, opportunities, and aspirations of the participants and developed an action plan in order to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS in the community. The event was a great success and we look forward to co-sponsoring it with LowCountry AIDS Services again next year.

CES program now accepting applications

The Center for Community Health Partnerships will begin a Community Engaged Scholars (CES) Program in August 2010. This program will provide training, pilot funds, and mentorship for six teams consisting of an academic and community partner(s) who have interests in community-based participatory research (CBPR). The goal of this program is to increase the capacity of academic-community partnerships to conduct research with mutual ownership of the processes and products, and ultimately, improve the health of our communities in South Carolina and beyond.

After successfully completing the CES Program, participants will meet the following competencies:

- Understand the concepts and components of community-based participatory research
- Apply CBPR principles in the conduct of research
- Incorporate CBPR principles and approaches in grant proposals
- Demonstrate CBPR efforts in a career portfolio
- Communicate with audiences in both academic and community settings about CBPR principles and components
- Implement a pilot CBPR initiative

Applications must be submitted via e-mail to Melissa Cox at coxme@musc.edu by May 27 at 5 p.m. Only submit one application PER TEAM. A complete application MUST include the following required documents and information:

1. CES Call for Applications
2. CES Program Application (Appendix A)
3. Supervisor Consent Form (Appendix B)
4. CES Program Schedule (Appendix C)
5. Community Partner Résumé
6. Academic Partner Curriculum Vitae
7. Proof of Non-Profit Status (if applicable for community partner)

For more information, contact Melissa Cox at coxme@musc.edu or 792-2215.

HISTORIC EVENTS IN MAY

- Christopher Columbus began his third voyage May 30, 1498.
- South Carolina became the eighth state on May 23, 1788.
- John Hopkins, philanthropist was born May 19, 1795.
- Florence Nightingale was born May 12, 1820.
- Memorial Day first observed, May 5, 1866.
- Clara Barton founded what became the American Red Cross May 21, 1881.
- Brooklyn Bridge opened to traffic on May 24, 1883.
- Mother’s Day became a public holiday on May 9, 1914.
- Amelia Earhart began the first solo flight by a woman across the Atlantic May 20, 1932.
Two faculty members awarded teaching excellence prize

Two CON faculty members have been selected to receive MUSC’s prestigious Teaching Excellence Award. The purpose of these awards is to recognize members of the MUSC faculty who have made outstanding contributions to the University through teaching.

Congratulations to Elaine Amella, PhD, GNP-BC, FAAN, professor, and Ruth Connor, PhD(c), RN, FNP-BC, instructor, for their exceptional work in the College of Nursing and MUSC.

Elaine is a recipient of a Teaching Excellence Award as a Mentor/Educator. The Educator/Mentor award is given for teaching excellence in non-traditional roles with individuals or small groups, specifically those who teach, mentor or serve as role models in their scholarly or academic development.

Ruthie is this year’s recipient of a Teaching Excellence Award as a Developing Teacher. This award is bestowed to an individual for teaching excellence demonstrated by a junior faculty member.

In recognition of their selection, both will receive a cash award of $3,000 from the MUSC Foundation, a pewter medallion to wear during Commencement exercises, and a designated parking space for one year. In addition, they will be recognized at Commencement as well as the Faculty Convocation program.

Any regular, full-time faculty member who holds an academic rank of instructor or higher in a college or department of MUSC, who has not been the recipient of this award within the previous three years, is eligible for nomination.

Presented for the first time in 1995, these university-wide teaching awards were proposed as part of MUSC’s Educational Strategic Plan.

Well done, Elaine and Ruthie! You enhance the College through continuous quality teaching measures.

CON Kudos

MUSC’s Board of Trustees has approved the promotion of Sharon Bond, PhD, APRN, BC, CNM, to associate professor. The promotion takes effect July 1. Sharon is a practicing certified nurse midwife. She received her bachelor of science in nursing degree from the State University of New York, her certification in nurse midwifery, Master of Science degree in nursing and her PhD in nursing from MUSC. Her clinical and research interests concern the care of women with abnormal Pap tests, Human Papillomavirus infection, and the new HPV vaccine. She has investigated women’s participation in follow up care for abnormal Pap tests. Congratulations, Sharon.

Georgette “Gigi” Smith, MS, APRN, CPNP, PC, has been asked by the American Epilepsy Society to co-chair the special interest group, Nursing Research. This group organizes a special part of the American Epilepsy Society Annual Conference each year and promotes nursing research in epilepsy.

Gigi just recently co-directed the 9th Annual Pediatric Neuroscience Conference, along with Kenton R. Holden, MD. The intradisciplinary conference was held April 9 - 10 in Charleston and highlighted updates in research and practice issues about autism, epilepsy, cerebral palsy, migraines, and infant hypotonia. Over 100 people attended the conference. Way to go, Gigi.

Faculty Service Award nominations deadline
May 17

Nominations should be submitted to the attention of John R. Raymond, Sr., M.D., Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, 179 Ashley Avenue, Colcock Hall, MSC 002, MUSC.

“The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.”

— William Arthur Ward
Students attend national convention

In April, BSN students Nicole Alexander, Emily Long, and Caitlyn Johnston attended the National Student Nurses Association’s (NSNA) Annual Convention at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL to experience “The Magic of Nursing.” Thousands of nursing students from all over the country and Canada were in attendance. The MUSC Student Nurses’ Association sponsored their attendance through fundraising efforts.

MUSC students were impressed and motivated by the high caliber of speakers discussing topics such as the future of nursing, emergency nursing, nursing advocacy, CRNA, and the unprecedented importance of breast milk in the Neonatal ICU. ANA President Rebecca M. Patton MSN, RN, spoke at the opening ceremony about her “little chat with President Obama” when she informed him that the greatest asset to healthcare in this country was nurses. She was a dynamic speaker who started the convention off on a high note and a standing ovation.

“It was impressive to see that of all the DNP programs there recruiting, not one of them had a BSN to DNP program – making the College of Nursing’s program something MUSC should be very proud to offer,” says Nicole Alexander. New and exciting ideas to inspire and encourage fellow nursing students were brought home with them, and they look forward to sharing and growing SNA at the CON.

Painted selected for MUSC Student Leadership Society

Amy Painter has been selected for the MUSC Student Leadership Society. Eight MUSC students were selected from 18 nominees. Other students nominated from the College of Nursing include Sheely Grosso, Catherine Ling, and Christy Quarles.

Amy was recently named clinical instructor and the director of the VA Nursing Academy for the College of Nursing. She is receiving both her masters in nursing education and a masters degree as a family nurse practitioner from the MUSC in May 2010. Amy received her bachelors degree in nursing from the University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. She had a prior Bachelor of Science degree in family, youth, and community science with a minor in nutrition from the University of Florida.

Presidential Scholars selected for 2010-11

Congratulations to the following students who were selected from a competitive pool of applicants for the 2010-2011 Presidential Scholars Program: Collins Daye, Shelley Grosso, Alison Miller, Amy Ogusthorpe, and Kathleen White.

Doctoral student news

Congratulations to the following PhD students who have successfully defended their dissertations.

• Catherine Ling - Dissertation title: Gait and function with class III obesity
• Lucinda Megginson - Dissertation title: Exploration of nursing doctoral admissions and performance outcomes: A journey toward evidence-based practice and process
• Jodi Protokowicz - Dissertation title: Exploring the relationship between mental illness and pre-eclampsia
• Leslie Ann Parker - Dissertation title: Benefits of breastfeeding and evidence-based interventions to increase milk volume in very low birth weight infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Robin Evans Matutina has been awarded the Sigma Theta Tau Gamma Omicron at-Large Chapter New Investigator Award for her study titled, “Educational interventions for middle school students to improve the perception of nursing as a future career choice.” During her research, Robin was mentored by CON faculty Teresa Kelechi, PhD, GONS-BC, CWCN and Martina Mueller, PhD. Also receiving a sigma Theta Tau award is CON assistant professor, Sheila Smith, PhD, RN.

Karen Stanley, PHMCNS-BC, RN was invited to speak at the Sigma Theta Tau International Leadership Summit April 23 - 24 in Atlanta. She represented both the College of Nursing and the Gamma Omicron-at-Large chapter. Karen was honored by the invitation.

“Self doubt combined with dignity is central to competent leadership. A leader is able to recognize when he is on the wrong track and perhaps identify the error by giving in to the need for complete reevaluation.”

~ John Ralston Saul, Voltaire’s Bastards: The Dictatorship of Reason in the West
One day a nurse may save your life.

It’s polite to say thank you.

To make a charitable donation in honor of a nurse who has touched you or a loved one, go to www.musc.edu/nursing.

National Nurses Week — May 6 - 12, 2010