The value of U-turns

By Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN

I am a big fan of U-turns. I have never been embarrassed or apologetic about needing to make a U-turn. In truth, some days I find it to be downright fun! After all, there’s no point in continuing down a road that you think is a detour or maybe even a dead end. Instead, what I do find annoying are those signs that read “No U-Turns Allowed.”

But U-turns can apply to more than driving experiences. On the feature tabs of our website this month we have highlighted in text and video the work of our MUSC Medical Center as they promote professionalism in the clinical environment. Specifically, they are combatting the issues of disrespect, conflict and poor behavior within and across disciplines to improve the clinical caregiving environment. Combatting these problems not only affects staff morale and performance, but it also improves clinical care.

A core element of their program is the U-turn. After staff education on the program, the medical center has adopted the use of the term U-turn to interrupt an interaction or professional exchange that is going badly. So think about it. In the middle of a difficult or conflictual conversation either party can say “Let’s stop and do a U-turn.” The goal here is to get the interaction back on track in a more respectful and productive way.

I think this is a truly proactive and positive way of addressing a problem, and I commend our nursing staff in the medical center for developing this initiative. I am really excited about it, even more so given that we have decided to adopt this same approach here in the College of Nursing.

At the end of the day, professionalism means respecting each other as we go about our work. Yes, differences of opinion will arise and often there are misperceptions or misinterpretations. Still resolving these differences must be done in a way that acknowledges the value and good intentions of each individual. So here’s to the value of U-turns as we continually strive to improve the organizational culture of our College of Nursing....Gail
Wanted: Young nurse faculty

*Nursing schools are in desperate need of faculty and not enough young nurses are answering the call.*

According to a recent survey by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing and the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers, fewer than 4 percent of nurses younger than 40 work in academic settings. In addition, only 14 percent of nurses who hold full-time faculty positions are younger than 40—further evidence that young, early-career nursing professors are rare.

Patricia Moulton, PhD, co-author of the survey and chair of the NFsNWC’s research committee is worried that the inadequate number of young nurse faculty will intensify the imminent nurse shortage, “Ten years from now, when all of these faculty retire, there aren’t going to be a lot of younger nurse faculty in the pipeline to replace them,” she said.

This begs the question: Who will prepare the next generation of nurses?

Nursing schools all over the country are already turning away tens of thousands of qualified nursing applicants every year, due in part to a shortage of nurse faculty. It is expected that the demand for nurses is going to continue to grow as the nation’s population ages, more people are living with more chronic illnesses, and health care reform increases access to health care services.

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**New videos spotlight Future of Nursing**

When the Institute of Medicine released its landmark *Future of Nursing* report in 2010, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and AARP created the Campaign for Action to implement the report’s recommendations relating to training, education, leadership, and workforce policy.

The new video explains the Campaign for Action’s work, and why nurses are invaluable to our changing health care system as the population ages, more people are living with more chronic illnesses, and health care reform increases access to health care services.

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**Celebrating our success**

Read about many of the College of Nursing’s accomplishments in the 2012-2013 Annual Report—posted in the Annual Reports folder on CON Intranet under College Reports, Plans, and Initiatives. Congratulations to all for another successful year!
**O C T O B E R**

**THU 10**  
**Film Screening:** Hidden Pictures - A personal journey into global mental health  
4:30 p.m. (reception); 5 p.m. (screening); 6 p.m. (panel discussion)  
Drug Discovery Auditorium (334)  
Panelists: Gail Stuart, PhD - CON; Cindy Swenson, PhD - Family Services Research Ctr; Michael de Arellano, PhD - Dept. of Psychiatry

**THU 10**  
**MUSC Board of Trustees Meeting**  
Thursday & Friday

**WED 16**  
**Welcoming Diversity Workshop** presented by National Coalition Building Institute  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Harper Student Center Auditorium  
Free; Open to all MUSC students, staff, faculty and MUHA employees

**WED 16**  
**CON Staff Meeting**  
9 a.m.  
HOT (910)

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**N O V E M B E R**

**WED 13**  
**Research for Lunch**  
“mHealth lifestyle program for older dialysis patients to achieve transplant wait list status” presented by Dr. John Sieverdes  
Noon  
HOT (304P)  
Bring your own lunch; RSVP to Raquel Vining at vining@musc.edu

**MON 25**  
**Research for Lunch**  
“PCORI-Decision making regarding lung cancer screening” presented by Dr. Lynne Nemeth  
Noon  
HOT (304P)  
Bring your own lunch; RSVP to Raquel Vining at vining@musc.edu

**THU 28**  
**Thanksgiving Holiday Begins**  
Thursday & Friday

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Attention All Benefits Eligible Employees  
2013 Open Enrollment began October 1 and runs through October 31. All plan and premium changes are effective January 1, 2014. Employees are encouraged to review the University Benefits website that contains detailed information about Open Enrollment. If you have questions, contact the University Benefits office at 792-2607 or benefits@musc.edu.

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Click Here to Like Us on Facebook
Newly tapped scholarship recipients

RWJF Scholarships
Six first semester students enrolled in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program have been selected to receive a Robert Wood Johnson New Careers in Nursing Scholarship. Congratulations to Baylie Coldsmith, Rena Hasegawa, Hannah McClary, Tamesha McKnight, Ruvy Sabado, and Robert Wolfrom.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) joined with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing to create this scholarships program to help alleviate the nursing shortage and increase the diversity of nursing professionals. The program provides scholarships to college graduates without nursing degrees who have been admitted into accelerated baccalaureate degree nursing programs.

MUSC Medical Center awards scholarship
The MUSC Medical Center has awarded Ryan Dennis, Class of December 2014, a $30,000 scholarship. The MUSC Medical Center Scholarship is awarded to a current MUSC Medical Center employee who is earning a BSN at the College of Nursing. This generous gift is awarded to a student who has excellent academic skills, but has also exhibited a passion and interest in nursing.

Ryan previously earned a Bachelor of Science in biology from the University of South Carolina. He is currently working Meduflex.

Ryan will have a two-year work commitment to the MUSC Medical Center after earning his BSN and passing the NCLEX exam.

SCNF Scholarship
Emily Eling, class of December 2013, has been selected to receive a South Carolina Nurses Foundation Scholarship. This $1,500 scholarship comes from funds generated by the Nurses Care license tags offered by the SC Division of Motor Vehicles.

Before entering the CON, Emily earned a bachelor’s degree with a major in Spanish from the College of Charleston. She was selected for the Hispanic Health Initiative Scholars Program. She is also a Dean’s List student and has been active in community outreach programs, including speaking to high school students about choosing nursing as a career.

Ruth Jaqui Skudlarek Scholarship
Zach Childress, class of December 2013, has been awarded the Ruth Jaqui Skudlarek Scholarship. Zach was selected for this scholarship based on his academic performance in the Population Focused Nursing course, his passion and commitment to community health nursing, and an essay he wrote describing his clinical experience with the Hispanic Health Initiative. Zach wrote, “Striving for social justice has led me to be an advocate for the Hispanic population by informing, educating, and empowering them to navigate our health system.” Zach’s goal is to become a family nurse practitioner and serve people in need.

Student Medical History Club
Students are invited to join the Student Medical History Club for an annual membership fee of $5. The Waring Library Society sponsors the club to promote interest in the history of the health sciences among students in all health-related disciplines of the University. The group meets each month for lunch and to hear an informal lecture on a topic in the history of medicine. Lunches are provided and seating is limited for the monthly lecture series.

On October 16, Dr. Gabriel Virella will speak on the topic of “Carlos Finlay, Walter Reed, and Yellow Fever.” For more information, contact Susan Hoffius at hoffius@musc.edu.

Promise of Nursing Faculty Fellowship
Promise of Nursing Faculty Fellowships are available in select regions of the US. Baccalaureate prepared registered nurses who are seeking to pursue a career as a nurse educator at a college or university in a Promise of Nursing region (Southern California, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington) may qualify. Fellowships range from $1,000-7,500.

Awards are made based on academic achievement, financial need, documented commitment to the nurse educator role, and plans to serve in this capacity upon completion of the program.

The deadline is March 7, 2014. Applications are available at www.nsna.med/fellowship-app.
Funded grants

Congratulations to Mat Gregoski, PhD, for receiving funding from the PhRMA Foundation for the Young Investigator Postdoctoral Fellowship Center for Adherence Improvement for a proposal titled, “Camera adherence monitoring (CAM): Proof of concept increasing medication adherence and reducing clinician inertia using a low-cost CareCam platform.” The study’s purpose is to test a low-cost novel proof of concept medication adherence and therapeutic inertia program for Hispanics with uncontrolled essential hypertensive (EH) using a modified mobile health (mHealth) platform.

Congratulations to Martina Mueller, PhD for receiving funds for a subcontract to the University of Florida. The title of the study is “Adequate breast milk for improved health of very low birth weight preterm infants.” The overall objective of this three year study is to identify a means wherein mothers of very low birth weight (VLBW) infants can provide a more adequate breast milk supply and in doing so foster their sense of self-efficacy, and improve health outcomes in their VLBW infants.

Submitted grants

Deborah Williamson, DHA, MSN, RN, CNM, submitted an application to the Junior League of Charleston, Inc. titled “Increasing food security in the Hispanic population.” The goal is to increase awareness of food insecurity of the tri-county Hispanic families by increasing access to healthy foods by linking families to food resources, offering nutrition and community resource classes to Hispanic families, promoting nutrition health through community outreach and advocating for increased acceptance of EBT and WIC vouchers by local produce vendors.

SAVE THE DATE
Special Edition of CON’s Research for Lunch

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 13
Presenter: John Sieverdes, PhD
Presentation: mHealth lifestyle program for older dialysis patients to achieve transplant wait list status.
F32 (R. L. Kirschstein Award)

MONDAY NOVEMBER 25
Presenter: Lynne Nemeth, PhD, RN
Presentation: PCORI: Decision-making regarding lung cancer screening

Both presentations will be located in the Harborview Office Tower, room 304P from noon until 1 p.m. Please bring your own lunch. Presentations will be facilitated by Jane Zapka, ScD.

Research for Lunch is a monthly constructive peer review of scholarly work. Research can include a concept paper, Section A proposal feedback, a mock proposal review, a review of manuscript draft, quality improvement project or program evaluation. To attend, RSVP to Raquel Vining at vining@musc.edu.

ROPER ST. FRANCIS NURSING RESEARCH CONFERENCE
Stars at the Bedside: Making a Difference Through Nursing Research
October 14, 2013
Founder’s Hall at Charlestowne Landing (1500 Old Towne Road)

Designed to highlight nursing research and the difference it has made in nursing practice. Conference objectives are to identify areas of nursing research and their impact on nursing; describe the important role staff nurses play in hospital–based clinical trials; and highlight the differences between evidence-based practice, nursing research and performance improvement by identifying examples of each from the poster presentations.

For details, contact Tanya Lott at Tanya.Lott@rsfh.com or (843) 402-1997

Mark your calendar
Get ready...the Summer Genetics Institute (SGI) 2014 Application Period Opens November 2013!
Click here for more information.
CON NP students participate in SC Lowcountry Mission

On August 23-24, the South Carolina Hospital Association held the SC Lowcountry Mission event at the North Charleston Convention Center. This event offered free primary health care services to adults who were uninsured or underinsured. College of Nursing nurse practitioner students were invited to participate and work with fellow interdisciplinary providers. The NP students used their assessment skills, formulated a patient care plan, and referred patients to needed health care services.

“It was an extremely eye opening experience,” DNP student Erin Whittington said. “The volume of people seeking the opportunity to better their health was incredible.” Erin found one of the most rewarding aspects of volunteering was being able to provide patients with a primary care provider outside the mission. “It was comforting to know that these patients would have an opportunity to establish a relationship with a provider and be able to continue their health care even after the event,” Erin said.

The students who participated were able to apply the time working with patients directly to their required clinical course hours. Gigi Smith, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC, director of MSN/DNP programs, shared, “We look forward to this as an annual event that clinical faculty will encourage NP students to participate in as it promotes interdisciplinary care and diversification of our practice.”

REACH grant funds digital storytelling workshop

Ten participants from all over the southeast came to the College to participate in a two-day digital storytelling workshop. Creative Narrations, a social change consulting firm specializing in multimedia support and training for non-profit and educational institutions, conducted the workshop. The workshop brought technology, advocacy and media literacy together by teaching the uses of digital storytelling as a tool for social change. The group viewed examples, and participated in interactive tutorials and discussion. By the workshop’s end, each participant had developed a digital story about health equity. Once finalized, the finished products will be published and made available to the public. This workshop was funded through the National REACH Coalition for which Professor Carolyn Jenkins, DrPH, APRN, BC-ADM, RD, LD, FAAN is the PI.

Unique partnership brings inspiration

In early 2013, Joy Lauerer, DNP, RN, PMHCNS-BC, College of Nursing instructor, contacted Crisis Ministries about providing a weekly clinic in the organization’s Homeless Health Clinic led by CON’s BSN students. Joy understands that providing quality mental health care to Crisis Ministries’ clients is an ongoing need. Joy’s skills and experiences as an advanced practice nurse, specializing in child and adolescent mental health, as well as a background of working in homeless shelters across the country, made her a perfect fit because she is familiar with the patient population and their unique needs.

The nursing students who provide care during the clinic are on a psychiatry/mental health rotation. This provides an opportunity for the students to integrate mental and physical health, because they treat both during the weekly clinic. For most students, this is their first clinical experience outside of a hospital setting, which means a different environment and more continuity with the same clients week to week. For Crisis Ministries’ clients, this is an opportunity for consistent mental health care.

The nursing students also host a women’s support group each Wednesday, and they have a long-term goal to establish a parent support group at the shelter. Some students who have finished their rotation have continued their involvement by leading a child support group for clients who live at Palmetto House to help teach self-management skills.

Joy plans to continue her involvement with Crisis Ministries and maintain a partnership between the organization and the College.

An unedited version of this story appeared in Crisis Ministries’ Summer 2013 newsletter.
Duffy departs, Conner to lead undergraduate program

After nine years as director of the undergraduate program, Nancy Duffy, DNP, RN, CEN, CNE said farewell on September 30 to initiate a new nursing program at Campbell University in Buies Creek, NC. We will all miss her very much but also wish her great success in this new and exciting challenge. Upon Nancy’s departure, Brian Conner, PhD, RN, CNE has assumed the role of director of the undergraduate program.

Over the span of his nursing career, Brian has served in a number of leadership and management positions including director of critical care, nursing supervisor, administrator of a multi-physician pediatric practice, director of quality improvement and community outreach, and nursing consultant. He received both a bachelor’s degree and master’s in nursing from the University of Phoenix, and a PhD in nursing from MUSC.

Kudos

Congratulations to Teresa Atz, MSN, RN who has been appointed assistant director of the HealthCare Simulation Center representing the College of Nursing. Teresa is an assistant professor and a PhD candidate in the College of Nursing. Her experience in developing medical-surgical and pediatric simulations for the Healthcare Simulation South Carolina makes her a perfect fit for this position.

A recent interview with Kahlil Demonbreun, DNP, RNC-OB, WHNP-BC, ANP-BC, has been published by Fitzgerald Health Education Associates, an NP-owned company dedicated to helping nurse practitioners achieve certification and maintain professional competence. To read more about this trailblazer (he is the first male women’s health NP to hold a doctor of nursing practice degree) click here.

Have you joined Yammer?

What is Yammer? Yammer is a private social network and communication tool that helps organizations stay on top of it all. Sign up now to get connected to the right people on campus and share information across teams.

MUSC, College of Nursing, and other MUSC departments have created Yammer groups. To join, sign-up at https://www.yammer.com/signup. Once you’ve joined you will receive an invitation to join the College of Nursing group. For the immediate future, we will keep this group closed to only CON faculty and staff in order to create a private exchange. This is great place where you can post articles of interest or throw out an idea for feedback. Look forward to seeing you on Yammer!

The MUSC Strategic Plan Technology/Innovations Operations Team has announced the 2013 Innovations in Teaching and Learning Grant Opportunity Pilot Project Program. Click here for information about this request for proposals http://tinyurl.com/l9opw9g. Deadline for proposal submission is October 18, 2013. If you have questions, contact Betsy Pilcher at pilchees@musc.edu or Mary Mauldin at mauldinm@musc.edu.

NATIONAL COALITION BUILDING INSTITUTE (NCBI)
WELCOMING DIVERSITY WORKSHOP
October 16 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Harper Student Center Auditorium
Free; Only open to MUSC students, staff, faculty, MUHA employees

Designed to introduce participants to various aspects of diversity, including: identifying information and misinformation we learned about other groups; learning how groups other than our own experience mistreatment; relating personal impact of specific incidents of discrimination; and techniques to interrupt prejudicial jokes, remarks, and slurs.

Registration will close at noon, Monday, October 14.
HIDDEN PICTURES
A personal journey into global mental health

World Mental Health Day Commemoration
Date: Thursday, October 10, 2013
Time: Reception-4:30PM | Screening-5:00PM | Panel discussion-6:00PM
Location: Drug Discovery Auditorium (#334)

Panelists
- Gail Stuart, Ph.D. – Dean, College of Nursing
- Cindy Swenson, Ph.D. – Professor, Family Services Research Center
- Michael de Arellano, Ph.D. – Professor, Department of Psychiatry

Sponsored by:
The Medical University of South Carolina
- Center for Global Health
- College of Nursing
- South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute
- Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

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