Each day we are faced with multiple and diverse problems. Some arise at work, others at home, many come from our local, national and global communities. I recently began to wonder about the problem-solving process—what is it and can we improve the way in which we tackle these recurrent challenges.

So I picked up a book called *The Art of Problem Solving* and gave it a read. It describes how most people approach problems and solutions from two perspectives. The first is that most people dive into finding the best solution. The second is that they spend less time on the problem and find an adequate “quick fix.”

Author Ackoff suggests that there is a third path based on the notion that we often cannot solve a problem because of our self-imposed constraints. Specifically, we get stalled in our problem-solving because our view is too narrow. He believes that we most often fail as we don’t see the true nature of the problem and how it fits into the bigger picture.

Thus the third type of problem-solving he proposes is a redefining and effectively eliminating the problem by thinking beyond the apparent constraints. The catch is that the better you get at seeing and solving problems conventionally, the harder it is to envision other approaches.

So my suggestion is that as we face these inevitable problems in our lives we take a deep breath and think a bit more creatively. Before we invest a lot of time in finding the best solution, let’s spend at least a little time in thinking how we can make the whole problem go away by reframing it, placing it in a different context or redesigning the situation. With that in mind I am off to rethink my problem list…Gail
On September 23 the College of Nursing welcomed Carrie Conway, senior program officer from the Lettie Pate Whitehead (LPW) Foundation, to Charleston for her first visit to MUSC. A reception was held at The Old Village Post House Inn in Mt. Pleasant where students and faculty gathered to thank Conway and the Foundation for their generous support over the years. Twenty-seven local scholarship recipients attended the event. Dean Gail Stuart welcomed all of the attendees and spoke of the significance of the support the LPW Foundation has given to the College in order to attract the best and brightest students. MUSC President David Cole, MD, attended the event to personally thank Conway for the Foundation’s exceptional generosity as well as to address the students. DNP student, Aminah Fraser-Rahim addressed the group to express her thanks to the Foundation for the opportunity to pursue her dream of a PhD in nursing.

Since 1990, the LPW Foundation has awarded over $1.2 million to 750 MUSC nursing students. In the past year, the LPW Foundation donated $200,000 to the College—up from $100,000 the previous year, therefore making the LPW Foundation the College of Nursing’s largest scholarship donor.

Along with traditional BSN students, The LPW Foundation has also expanded their scholarship funding for students pursuing graduate degrees.

Scholarship recipients thank Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation for its support

THE LETTIE PATE WHITEHEAD FOUNDATION

The Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, located in Atlanta, GA, devotes most of its resources to the Lettie Pate Whitehead scholarship program. The Foundation’s scholarship program awards annual grants for the education of deserving female students with financial need at more than 200 accredited educational institutions in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia.

The Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation was created in 1940 by the son of Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans, Conkey Pate Whitehead, upon his death. Mrs. Evans was a generous philanthropist and accomplished businesswoman. She was the wife of Joseph B. Whitehead, one of the original bottlers of Coca-Cola. At his death, she assumed management of his business affairs, establishing the Whitehead Holding Company and the Whitehead Realty Company and leading the Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Atlanta. She also became one of the first female directors of any major U.S. corporation when she was appointed to the board of The Coca-Cola Company in 1934, a position she held for nearly 20 years. Mrs. Evans was an ardent supporter of education, and she gave generously to many educational institutions during her life.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

TUE 07
Student Blood Drive Challenge
Noon - 4 p.m. | Wellness Center Gym

THU-FRI 09-10
MUSC Board of Trustees Meeting
9:00 a.m. | Colcock Hall

THU 09
MUSC Presidential Inauguration
2 p.m. (ceremony) | 4 p.m. (reception)
Drug Discovery Building Auditorium
A simultaneous broadcast of the ceremony will occur in the Bioengineering, Basic Science, ART, and Storm Eye Institute Auditoriums. A live feed will be available at www.musc.edu/inauguration

THU 16
Diana Wilkie, PhD, UIC College of Nursing
Noon | HOT 304

WED 22
Staff Meeting
9 a.m. | HOT (910)

WED 22
Greenville CON Alumni Reception
6 - 8 p.m. | The Veranda on Main
40 W. Broad St. Greenville, SC
RSVP to hutton@musc.edu

NOVEMBER

THU-FRI 27-28
Thanksgiving Break
CON Closed

DECEMBER

THU 11
CON Building Ribbon Cutting
2 p.m. | CON front steps

MON 15
Move Into Renovated CON Building
all day | 99 Jonathan Lucas St.

TUE 23
Holiday Break
CON closed Dec. 23 - Jan. 1

ANNUAL FLU VACCINE TENT EVENT

Oct. 15 | 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Colbert Library Portico

Oct. 15 | 7:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
ART Portico

Oct. 16 | 7:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Colbert Library Portico

Oct. 23 | Noon - 3 p.m.
HOT - Room 803

Flu vaccine is available for MUHA, MUSC, UMA, Crothall, Sodexo employees and volunteers. You must bring your MUSC ID badge. Updates and other flu satellites will be posted on www.musc.edu/ehs.

CON RECOGNITION FUND

FACULTY AND STAFF:
Please consider a contribution to the CON Recognition Fund.
Faculty: $50 | Staff: $25

These funds are used to send faculty and staff cards and flowers for births or bereavement, purchase retirement gifts, and to pay for parties and showers.

Only checks made out to ‘CON Recognition Fund’ can be accepted. Place checks in an envelope in Shannon Hudson’s mailbox.

Thank you for your support!

MOVING HOME IN
69 DAYS
Two scholarships offered by TCBNA

The Tri-county Black Nurses Association (TCBNA) is an affiliate of the National Black Nurses Association, located in Silver Spring, MD. Based in Charleston, TCBNA was the first chapter organized within South Carolina and currently is the only existing chapter in the state. The mission of TCBNA is to provide a forum for collective action by African-American nurses to investigate, define and determine the health care needs of African-Americans and to implement change to make those needs available to African-Americans and other minorities.

As a means to fulfill its mission, the TCBNA has announced the opportunity of awarding two nursing scholarships to students who attend an accredited SC nursing program. The Ida D. Spruill Scholarship and the Laura Williams Scholarship are both dedicated to two nursing pioneers whom have made a difference in nursing and exemplified nursing excellence. The TCBNA will honor the recipients at a luncheon that will be held Nov. 1.

An email was sent to students earlier with specific scholarship criteria and requirements, as well as the application. If you have questions, contact Mardi Long at longm@musc.edu. Applicants must submit application and required documents by Oct. 17.

Brown receives HRSA Nurse Corps Scholarship

Congratulations to ABSN student, Juliet Brown, recipient of a 2014-2015 HRSA Nurse Corps Scholarship. The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program enables students accepted or enrolled in a diploma, associate, baccalaureate or graduate nursing programs, including RN to BSN Bridge Program to receive funding for tuition, fees and other educational costs in exchange for working at an eligible Critical Shortage Facility upon graduation. The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program is a selective program of the U.S. Government that helps alleviate the critical shortage of nurses currently experienced by certain types of health care facilities located in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). Upon graduation, NURSE Corps Scholarship recipients work at these facilities for at least two years, earning the same competitive salary and benefits as any new hire.

Brown is a cum laude graduate of North Carolina A&T in animal science. She worked at MUSC caring for laboratory animals participating in research projects before identifying her interest in nursing. Brown has been an active volunteer with Sister Circle and Habitat for Humanity.

Doctoral student achievements

Congratulations to Michelle Gilbert, PhD student, who was selected for the 2014-2016 Jonas Scholar Program. She will receive financial assistance, leadership development, and networking support through the program. In addition, Gilbert will receive a two-year scholarship in the amount of $10,000 that will be used for tuition and other academic costs.

Supported by the Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare, the program aims to increase the number of doctoral-prepared faculty members by funding scholarships for nurses at the doctoral level in veteran-specific health care needs and to supporting the development of nursing faculty to alleviate the nursing shortage.

Wesley Jacobs, DNP student, has received a MUSC Women’s Club Scholarship. He was selected for the scholarship based on his academic achievement, community service, financial need and faculty recommendations. Jacobs, a Florence, SC native, graduated cum laude with a BSN from Francis Marion University and is currently a full-time student in the FNP track. Congratulations!

Student Medical History Club

Students are invited to join the Student Medical History Club for an annual membership fee of $5. Lunches are provided and seating is limited for the monthly lecture series.

On October 8, Dr. Stephen I. Schabel will speak on the topic of “Student Discoveries.” Future topics include “Pathologies in Pre-Columbia Art,” and “Schizophrenia, Colectomy and Surgical Hubris: The Tragic Misadventures of Bayard Holmes and Henry Cotton.” For more information, contact Susan Hoffius at hoffius@musc.edu.
Student Research Day

On Sep. 3, online PhD students had the opportunity to participate in a virtual Student Research Day and present their ongoing research. Nine students submitted an abstract and seven students presented their research to faculty and peers. Using Fuze, a web conferencing system, participants were able to view posters and students were able to explain the content and answer questions posed by the audience. Posters were available online 24 hours prior to the presentation to allow faculty and students to read in detail.

Michael Johnson was named the winner of this year’s competition. Students were judged by CON faculty on presentation style as well as content. Johnson will receive a free registration to the 2015 Southern Nursing Research Society’s Annual Conference that will be held in Tampa, FL.

Martina Mueller, PhD, who organized and chaired the event, would like to thank all the students and faculty who participated in making the event a success.

Save the date

Diana J. Wilkie, PhD, RN, FAAN, an internationally renowned pain specialist in palliative care, has been selected for the MUSC ARROW Initiative 2014 Eminent Scholar award. Wilkie will accept the award and give a presentation, titled "Advancing pain control: bedside to bench to bedside - A never ending, productive circle for interdisciplinary research collaboration," on October 16, 3-4 p.m., in DD 110.

Wilkie is a professor in the Department of Biobehavioral Health Science at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is also the Harriet H. Werley Endowed Chair for Nursing Research and director of the Center of Excellence for End-of-Life Transition Research.

Funded grants

Ken Ruggiero, PhD has received funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for his application submitted under the FY 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program–Fire Prevention and Safety Grants. The study, titled "A peer education approach to support the behavioral health needs of fire service professionals," aims to develop a video storytelling resource for fire service professionals. The resource will feature firefighters telling personal stories about the help that they have received to address behavioral health problems that are common among firefighters. It will be optimized for mobile devices and freely accessible by computer, tablet, and smartphone.

Ron Acierno, PhD received funding from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) for his study titled, "National elder mistreatment study: Five year follow-up of victims and matched non-victims.” In addition to funds from the OJP, the Archstone Foundation has approved a $215,000 challenge grant for the next two years to conduct a follow-up study to the 2009 national elder mistreatment study (NEMS) in order to assess health and mental health outcomes of elder abuse victims. The aim is to conduct a longitudinal follow-up of participants (mistreatment victims and matched non-victims) identified in the 2009 study to complement the original prevalence findings with findings on consequences of elder mistreatment and financial exploitation in terms of Criminal Justice System (CJS) participation and mental health, the latter of which appears to affect participation. To date, no nationally representative, epidemiologic data exists to determine factors that predict CJS participation following elder mistreatment, or whether ecological factors (community resources) or health/mental health outcomes of mistreatment (depression) influence participation.

Acierno also has received funds from the Department of Defense/U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) for his application titled, “Do you really expect me to get MST care in a VA where everyone is male? Innovative delivery of evidence-based psychotherapy to women with military sexual trauma”. The proposal’s goal is to test, using mixed qualitative and quantitative assessment strategies, the efficacy of prolonged exposure (PE) delivered via home-based telehealth (PE-HBT) versus PE delivered via standard service delivery (PE-SD) using a randomized, between groups, repeated measures design.

Frank A. Treiber, PhD and Ruggiero have received funds from the South Carolina Clinical & Translational Research Institute (SCTR) Pilot Project Program. This SCTR Discovery Grant titled, “Pilot study to examine the feasibility of a novel SMS-based patient engagement resource.” The long-term goal will be to increase patient engagement in MUSC innovations, services, and research and the goal is to examine feasibility of a novel SMS-based patient engagement resource.
Qanungo joins CON faculty

Suparna Qanungo, PhD has been named research assistant professor in the College of Nursing. As a part of her role with CON’s Office of Research, Qanungo is responsible for facilitating research collaborations within and outside the College. Responsibilities include participation in study design and grant proposal development, data oversight/interpretation and result dissemination. She is currently involved in multiple collaborative projects at MUSC, SCTR and the VA.

Prior to joining the College of Nursing faculty, Qanungo was a junior faculty member in MUSC’s Department of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences for two years where she continued basic and translational research in the areas of cancer biology, pharmacogenomics and inflammation. In 2012, she moved into the area of public health and community-based research.

Qanungo has worked on a diverse range of health-related projects and with large patient databases and has a strong background in data collection, analysis, review and dissemination of results. She has experience mentoring graduate and undergraduate students and has served as a reviewer for various well-claimed journals.

Qanungo has a bachelor’s degree in chemistry, a master’s in biochemistry and a PhD in biological sciences and biochemistry from Jadavpur University, India. She completed her postdoctoral fellowship in cancer research and continued to work as a NIH-funded Research Associate at Case Western Reserve University and the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, Cleveland, OH. Her research focus was cellular signaling pathways and cancer drug discovery.

CON welcomes new development associate

Caroline Schultz has joined the College as a development associate. Schultz is a Charleston native who has held senior development positions at Seattle University, Georgetown University, and the Epiphany School, also in Seattle. Most recently, Schultz worked as a fundraising consultant for the Association of the Blind and Visually Impaired in Charleston and also for a fundraising consultancy in Ohio. Schultz has extensive volunteer experience at Porter Gaud, The Roper Saint Francis Hospital Foundation, Georgetown University, and various organizations in the Seattle area including the Seattle Children’s Hospital and Regional Medical Center.

Faculty wins

Mat Gregoski, PhD has been invited to become a member of the Pennington Biomedical Research Center’s Nutrition Obesity Research Center. The NIH funded research group aims to address basic and clinical research on the most prominent causes of morbidity and mortality in the U.S. related to nutritionally induced chronic diseases, which many are linked to obesity.

Do’s and don’ts of email writing

When it comes to e-mail, everyone has their own set of do’s and don’ts and their own pet peeves. Whether we use it at work or at home, most of us use e-mail to get things done. Although it’s easy to go on automatic pilot when you open your inbox, you can significantly improve your productivity and success by paying careful attention to how you write your e-mail messages. Read More

“Courage doesn’t always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, “I will try again tomorrow.””
—Mary Anne Radmacher

COLLEGE HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The College of Nursing will officially close at the end of business Monday, December 22, 2014 and will re-open Friday, January 2, 2015.

The way the state holidays fall this year, this will equate to four days of annual leave:
12/23 = Annual Leave
12/24 = Holiday (Christmas Eve)
12/25 = Holiday (Christmas Day)
12/26 = Holiday (Day after Christmas)
12/29 = Annual Leave
12/30 = Annual Leave
12/31 = Annual Leave
01/01 = Holiday (New Year’s Day)

If you plan to take additional time off during this time, please get approval to do so from your supervisor.