Thank you for your service

By Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN

In March, Dr. Brian Conner and our VA colleagues, Mary Fraggos and Janice Skipper, attended a two day conference in St. Louis focused on the VA Nursing Academy Partnership, also known as VANAP. You may know that we have been in this partnership with the Ralph H. Johnson Veterans Affairs Medical Center for five years as a strong educational component of our BSN program.

Because of this initiative we have been able to increase our BSN enrollment and expose our students to the unique health care needs of our veterans and their families. Currently there are 18 VANAPs nationally. Twelve of them are new and six are among the early grantees. We are one of those six early grantees.

At this conference I was particularly impressed that our Charleston nurses were leaders among the programs. Specifically there were six presentations, and someone from Charleston was on the panel of four of those sessions. We made significant contributions to each topical discussion and led the group in posing recommendations for the future.

One of the most important points made in the conference was that we need to prepare all nurses in providing veteran-centric care. This is because only a fourth of our veterans and their families seek care at VA hospitals. The other three-fourths access care in their local community hospitals and clinics. Thus it is critical that in assessing all patients we teach nurses to ask, have you been in service for your country. Only then can we identify and begin to address the health concerns of these individuals who have served us in our time of national need...Gail
Fowler, Lauerer to receive Palmetto Gold award

In January 2002, a coalition of nurse leaders representing major nursing organizations in South Carolina met to discuss the formation of an annual statewide nursing recognition program that would both showcase the valuable contributions nurses make to patient care in our state and raise funds to endow scholarships for registered nurse students. Today, the South Carolina Nurses Foundation presents the Palmetto Gold award to nurses for their excellence in nursing practices and commitment to the nursing profession. Two CON instructors will receive that honor this month.

Terri Fowler, DNP, APRN, FNP-C and Joy Lauerer, DNP, RN, PMHCNS-BC, have been selected to receive the 2014 Palmetto Gold Award. The Palmetto Gold Gala will be held on April 12 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia, SC. The program, sponsored by the South Carolina Nurses Association, recognizes and honors nurses who have demonstrated excellence in the practice of nursing and a commitment to their professions.

Diversity award to be presented to Williamson

Congratulations to Associate Dean Deborah Williamson, DHA, MSN, RN, who is the recipient of the 2014 Earl B. Higgins Achievement in Diversity Award. This award is presented to an employee and a student in recognition of exemplary strides/contributions in promoting diversity. A presentation and reception are held on the first Wednesday of April every year in honor of the nominees and award recipients. Also honored on this occasion are six students nominated by their Dean to receive the Earl B. Higgins Scholarship.

First presented in April 1996, this award has become an annual event at MUSC. The award is a tribute to the late Dr. Earl B. Higgins, former director of affirmative action and minority affairs at MUSC. Dr. Higgins was born in 1946 and passed away on August 30, 1992.
APRIL

WED 02  
Earl B. Higgins Diversity Awards  
5 p.m. (program begins at 5:30) | Wickliffe House

---

THU 03  
NP & CNM Legislative Day at the Statehouse  
8 a.m. breakfast | Statehouse - Columbia, SC

---

THU 10  
MUSC Board of Trustees Meeting  
Thursday & Friday

---

TUE 15  
Presidential Scholars Day  
4 - 6 p.m. | IOP Auditorium  
Learn about the work our scholars have been engaged in this year. A light reception will follow.

---

MON 21  
Cupcake Shower for Amy Williams  
Following faculty assembly | HOT - 10th floor

---

WED 23  
Administrative Professionals Breakfast  
9 a.m. | HOT - 10th floor

---

CON Staff Meeting  
10 a.m. | HOT - 10th floor

---

FRI 25  
3rd Annual MUSC Mentoring Retreat: Practical Advice for Developing your Career & Getting Promoted  
8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Bioengineering Bldg. Auditorium

---

RESEARCH FOR LUNCH  
facilitated by Jane Zapka, ScD

Harborview Office Tower (304P) | Noon – 1 p.m.  
(bring your own lunch)

- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9  
  Presenter: Dr. Janelle Wagner

- TUESDAY, APRIL 15  
  Presenter: Dr. Susan Newman

- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23  
  Presenter: Dr. Lynne Nemeth

---

LOOKING AHEAD

SPRING CONVOCATION  
Thursday, May 15 @ 3 p.m.  
Charleston Music Hall

MUSC GRADUATION  
Friday, May 16 @ 9 a.m.  
The Citadel, McAlister Fieldhouse

STETHOSCOPE CEREMONY  
Thursday, August 21 @ 4 p.m.  
St. Lukes Chapel

WINTER CONVOCATION  
Thursday, December 11 @ 10 a.m.  
Charleston Music Hall
Convocation and graduation

Convocation is the pinning ceremony for BSN students, and the hooding ceremony for MSN, DNP and PhD students. It is scheduled for Thursday, May 15 at 3 p.m. at the Charleston Music Hall. While no tickets are required for convocation, it is suggested that you have no more than five guests. Convocation generally lasts about 90 minutes.

There are three parking garages located near the Charleston Music Hall, as well as hotels and restaurants. Visit [http://charlestonmusicchall.com](http://charlestonmusicchall.com) for more information about this location.

Graduates wear their gown and hood, no caps to Convocation. You may wear any appropriate attire under your gown. Please plan to arrive by 2 p.m. so we can assist you with your gown and line you up for the processional. A photographer will be at the event.

Graduation is Friday, May 16 at 9 a.m. at McAlister Fieldhouse on The Citadel’s campus. Plan to arrive with all of your academic regalia at 7:30 a.m. You should leave all personal items in your car or with a guest. Tickets are required for Graduation. Each graduate will receive 10 tickets. (You do not need a ticket for yourself.) Graduation generally lasts two hours.

[Click here](http://charlestonmusicchall.com) for additional details about parking, reserved seating for disabled guests.

Faculty should wear full regalia at convocation and graduation.

---

**Fountain selected for Palmetto Gold scholarship**

Jacob Fountain, a fourth semester student enrolled in the Accelerated BSN program, has been named the Palmetto Gold Scholarship recipient for the MUSC College of Nursing. He will be recognized at the Palmetto Gold Gala in Columbia, SC on April 12, along with nursing students from other institutions, as well as nursing faculty, administrators, researchers, and practitioners.

Before enrolling in the college, Fountain distinguished himself in the United States Army and was recognized with a Meritorious Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, National Defense Service Medal, and NATO Afghanistan Service Medal. A graduate of The Citadel, Fountain previously earned a Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts in history. “His maturity, character, and natural inclination for service are apparent,” wrote Kathy Neeley, MSN, RN, CCRN, instructor for the college.

Taking on leadership roles and promoting nursing in a positive way has also been a hallmark of Fountain’s enrollment in the ABSN degree program. Selected for the Robert Wood Johnson New Careers in Nursing Scholars Program, Fountain submitted an essay and was recognized at the national level for his response to “I Believe This about Nursing” Contest. He wrote, “I believe the values of a great nurse are compassion, diligence, integrity, and selfless service. Nursing is the perfect venue for me to continue my own service to others.”

**SCNF scholarship opportunity**

The South Carolina Nurses Foundation (SCNF) is accepting applications for the 2014 Nurses Care Undergraduate and Graduate Nurse Scholarships. There will be fifteen $1,500 scholarships, five graduate and ten undergraduate) to nursing students currently enrolled in a BSN, MSN, DNP, or PhD degree program. The deadline is May 31. The scholarship will be awarded for the fall 2014 semester. Checks will be distributed with the stipulation that the funds be used toward educational expenses.

For scholarship details and information about the application process [click here](http://charlestonmusicchall.com). Two completed recommendation forms are required for these scholarships which may also be found at this site.

The Nurses Care Scholarships are made possible through the proceeds received by the SCNF from the sale of the Nurses Care license plates.

---

**DNP proposals, projects, & presentations**

- **April 7-8 & 15** ➔ DNP Final Poster Presentations
- **April 9-11, 14-15, & 16** ➔ DNP Project Proposals
- **April 16-18** ➔ DNP Immersions for NRDNP 818 and 866
Funded grant

Congratulations to Frank A. Treiber, PhD, for receiving funds from the National Institute of Health (NIH)/National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for his R21 application titled, “Smartphone medication adherence stops hypertension (SMASH) among Hispanics.” The proposed research represents an innovative, qualitative and quantitative approach aimed at testing and further optimizing a mobile health technology blood pressure and medication adherence monitoring program interfaced with a smart phone application for improving blood pressure control among uncontrolled hypertensive Hispanic adults.

Submitted grants

Shannon Hudson, PhD RN, submitted a proposal to the AstraZeneca HealthCare Foundation for the Connections for Cardiovascular HealthSM (CCH) program titled “Community based hypertension control for low-income and minority school-aged children.” The program’s goal is to engage a portion of the Charleston County community at highest risk for hypertension in learning about pediatric hypertension, to accurately measure blood pressure in youth in school and primary care, to reduce unnecessary healthcare visits, and to coordinate the referral system for children with true hypertension to optimize blood pressure control.

Kathleen Cartmell, PhD, MPH, and Chanita Hughes-Halbert, PhD (Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences) submitted an R21 application titled, “An exploratory study of patient navigation for clinical trial accrual.” This application represents an innovative strategy for improving patient participation in cancer clinical trials (CT). This study will test the feasibility and potential efficacy on CT enrollment of utilizing nurse and social work navigators to identify, educate and support patients in the context of CTs. We hypothesize that explicitly expanding the role of nurse and social work navigators to: 1) identify patients who are eligible for a CT, 2) educate patients about CT options and 3) help patients overcome CT barriers will increase CT enrollment among cancer patients.

Gayenell S. Magwood, PhD, RN, Alumnus CCRN, submitted a revised R34 application to the National Institute of Health (NIH). The goal of this two-year planning project entitled “Novel intervention linking public housing and primary care to prevent diabetes” is to develop, implement, and evaluate a pilot translational, DPP intervention. It proposes to partner with the City of Charleston Housing Authority and the Fetter Health Care Network (FHCN), a federally qualified health center (FQHC) primary care network to reframe and pilot test a community-based, behavior focused DPP intervention to reduce obesity and diabetes risk in public housing residents who are already eligible for FHCN/FQHC services. This project will use a randomized wait list control design to allocate participants to a translational community based DPP intervention or FHCN/FQHC usual care.

Publications


> Bays, Alison; Engelberg, Ruth; Back, Anthony; Ford, Dee; Downey, Lois; Shannon, Sarah; Doorenbos, Arlidh; Edlund, Barbara; Christianson, Phyllis; Arnold, Richard; O’Connor, Kim; Kross, Erin; Reinke, Lynn; Feemster, Laura; Fryer-Edwards, Kelly; Alexander, Stewart; Tulsky, James; Curtis, Randall. (2014) Interprofessional communication skills training for serious illness: Evaluation of a small-group, simulated patient intervention. Journal of Palliative Medicine, 17(2): 159-166.


NIH news: applications & project titles

NIH’s eRA systems can now accept project titles (item 11 on the SF424 R&R cover form) of up to 200 characters. That’s right – eRA systems will no longer truncate your project titles to 81 characters. Over the years we have seen some rather unfortunate truncations so this is a welcome and long overdue change.

Keep in mind that when submitting a revision application, you must use the exact project title displayed in eRA Commons for the awarded application. If the project title of the awarded grant was truncated to 81 characters, then only those 81 characters can be used for the revision application.
New faces join CON

Kenneth Ruggiero, PhD, joins the College of Nursing as a professor and associate director of TACHL. Ruggiero comes from MUSC’s National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center where he was a professor. He received a BA from SUNY Buffalo and MA and PhD from West Virginia University. He is principal investigator on four ongoing federally funded grants. One is an R01 funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to develop and evaluate a brief Web-based Intervention for disaster-affected adolescents and families. Under a second NIMH grant, he is developing and evaluating mobile web applications that are designed to improve quality of care in child mental health treatment via increased child engagement and provider fidelity. Ruggiero also is a co-investigator on several ongoing grants funded by the Department of Defense, National Institute on Drug Abuse, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration.

Gena Ryan has joined the College of Nursing as the new compliance officer in Student Services. She will also function as Robin Bissinger’s direct administrative support. She will reside at 151-B Rutledge Ave. along with the other student services team. Ryan has a degree in psychology with a minor in health science from Clemson University. Prior to coming MUSC, she was an associate director of career services at Miller Motte Technical College. Her experience in student services, data analysis, administration and education will benefit our students during one of the most challenging and invigorating times of their education.

Dana Burshell joined the College of Nursing in March as the community engagement coordinator for the South Carolina Clinical & Translational Research Institute (SCTR). Originally from New Orleans, Bruschell moved from Virginia to Charleston in 2012. Before joining the CON, she was a program coordinator in MUSC’s Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology. Burshell has a bachelor’s degree in anthropology from Washington University in St. Louis, MO, and an MPH in epidemiology and public health from Johns Hopkins University. Her office is currently located on the third floor of HOT.

MUSC alert system

MUSC recently implemented a new emergency management notification system, MUSC Alert, to provide timely notification to faculty, staff and students of emergency situations that potentially impact the MUSC community. For instance, MUSC Alert was used to notify the MUSC community of the adverse winter weather conditions that affected MUSC operations last month. MUSC Alert notifications are pushed out to all MUSC-provided communication tools, but those tools may not reach all of our faculty, staff and students in a timely manner.

MUSC is asking that all faculty, staff and students register your personal telephone numbers and email accounts with MUSC Alert so that you will receive timely text, voice and/or email notifications. Your personal mobile phone will likely be the most effective way to notify you of emergency situations, because you are likely to have it with you as you travel to and from campus, while you are on campus, and on nights and weekends.

The information you provide will remain confidential and will only be used when there is an emergency situation that could impact you. More information on MUSC Alert and the link to manage your MUSC Alert account can be found at www.musc.edu/muscalert. If you have specific questions or concerns about the MUSC Alert System, please contact Amanda Ritsema in the Department of Risk Management at 792-8514 or ritsema@musc.edu.

Coalition for Access to Health Care unveils new website

SC’s APRNs Showcase Online Presence

The South Carolina Coalition for Access to Health Care has launched a new and improved website providing important information about how advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) can help fill the primary care void in South Carolina’s health care system.

The website - www.coalitionforaccesstohealthcare.com - provides information about APRNs; specifically nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and the other professionals that the Coalition represents. The new website also provides information about upcoming events, articles of interest and information about how people can join the coalition.

The South Carolina Department of Health and Humans Services reports that parts or all of the state’s 46 counties are medically underserved. In 2014, 800,000 new patients will enter the state’s health care system under the Affordable Care Act. Additionally, South Carolina has the 33rd lowest number of primary care physicians and is in the bottom five for unhealthiest states.

The Coalition will host its Nurse Practitioner & Certified Nurse Midwife Legislative Day at the South Carolina Statehouse on Thursday, April 3. In addition to the website, more information about the coalition can be found on the group’s Facebook page and on Twitter @SCAccessstoCare.
QUICK REFERENCE FOR OTOLARYNGOLOGY

Guide for APRNs, PAs, and Other Healthcare Practitioners

Kim Scott, MSN, FNP, AE-C; Richard Debo, MD, FACS; Alan Keyes, MD, FACS; David W. Leonard, MD, FACS, FAAOHNS

04/28/2014 - 496 pp - Softcover - 9780826196064 - $75.00 / $60.00 (Save 20%)

The only text of its kind for practicing clinicians, Quick Reference Guide: Otolaryngology is a comprehensive, quick-access reference written specifically for nurses, physician’s assistants, and medical students. Not only is it useful as a pithy reference guide for clinicians, it is a learning system designed to foster retention and comprehension, and an in-depth review for written boards and ENT certification. The book is authored by a nurse practitioner with two practicing otolaryngologists, who are among the most highly respected professionals in their fields, as consultants.

The guide is consistently organized by anatomical region and contains, for each topic, easy-to-follow tables, charts, diagrams, and algorithms to guide in the work-up, differential diagnosis, diagnostic methods, medical therapy, and treatment alternatives. The text includes procedure protocols used in clinical settings and staging criteria for common cancer diagnoses. Another important feature is the guide’s overview of surgical management for specific conditions. Topics are covered on a “need-to-know” basis for written boards and certification review.

Key Features:
- Provides key differential diagnosis guidelines
- Includes fifteen ‘how-to’ Procedure Protocols used in clinical settings and Staging Criteria for eight of the more common cancer diagnoses
- Presents Overview of Surgical Management for specific conditions
- Serves as a concise reference guide and review for written boards and ENT certification
- Designed for clinicians in general practice, those entering the ENT field, and for use as a diagnosis guide for referral purposes
- Includes six videos illustrating actual procedures, including nasal endoscopy, flexible laryngoscopy, and others

Send me _____ copies of Quick Reference for Otolaryngology, 9780826196064, at $75.00 / $60.00 (Save 20%)

New York and Massachusetts residents, add sales tax. Non-U.S. customers should visit our website to determine the sales agent for their area.

All prices are subject to change without notice.

Check or money order enclosed: $_____ payable to Springer Publishing Company

Charge to: __Visa __MasterCard __American Express __Discover

Card No._____________________________ Exp. date _________ Signature _______________________________________

Name_________________________________________ Institution ______________________________________________

Address ________________________________ City __________________ State ______Zip ______ Country ____________

Telephone _____________________ Email _____________________________________________________________

By providing us with your e-mail address, you agree to receive occasional book and journal announcements. You may unsubscribe at any time.