May is the month in which we celebrate nurses and the many visible and invisible contributions we make to improve the health of the nation. So to all the nurses and nursing students reading this column I say kudos to you and thank you for your constant vigilance and dedicated compassion!

In keeping with this theme we are highlighting the nurses who work at our Medical Center on our homepage this month. Many of these nurses are our graduates, while others are our future students as they advance their education. In this way the College of Nursing and the Medical Center work together to achieve higher levels of nursing excellence.

But this month also is a good time to remind us that one of our obligations as nurses is to give back to our profession. There are many ways to do this and all of them are important.

- For those of our students who are graduating this month I encourage you to contribute to a class gift. This is a long tradition within the college and our school has been enhanced by the many gifts we have received from previous classes. This includes beautiful chandeliers and gracious serving pieces that we use when we have receptions. These are items that we could not afford from our constrained budget and they enhance the beauty of our surroundings.

- For those of you who have graduated and are working in various clinical settings, you can give back by mentoring those students who are coming up behind you. If you are in a hospital setting, please volunteer to participate as a preceptor for our accelerated BSN students. If you are one of our DNP graduates working in primary care, please offer to precept one of the currently enrolled DNP students.

- And for all nurses, please consider donating to one of our College of Nursing funds. Scholarships are needed more than ever and there are many other funds within the college that can reflect your special passions.

The point is that each of us has an obligation to “give back” in direct and supportive ways whenever possible. Such activity is a hallmark of a profession and reflects our pride in being a nurse...Gail
Giving back to MUSC

The Yearly Employee Support (YES) campaign is in full swing. The 2014 YES campaign kicked off April 1 and will run through June 30. Co-chairs, Dr. Mary Mauldin and Dr. Don Rockey, have set a campaign goal of $300,000 that will support about 1,300 funds through the MUSC Foundation. The foundation is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, contributions to which are tax-deductible.

The YES campaign is an annual fundraising drive that allows MUSC employees the chance to give back, with a contribution to any fund of their choice within the MUSC Foundation. Please consider donating by visiting https://giving.musc.edu/yes.

This year, the College of Nursing has issued a challenge to all of its faculty and staff to increase participation. CON faculty or staff with the largest number of contributions (not dollar amount) will receive an ice cream social with the losing team serving the winning team.

If you have any questions contact Lauren Brown at brownlau@musc.edu.

CON YES CAMPAIGN PARTICIPANTS AS OF 4/28/14

Elaine Amella
Robin Bissinger
Lauren Brown
Brenda Brunner-Jackson
Brian Conner
Arty Douglass
Bonnie Dumas
Elizabeth Harmon
Teresa Kelechi
Beth Khan
Marilyn Laken
Lynne Nemeth
Yolanda Long
Carolyn Page
Laurie Scott
Ida Spruill
Gail Stuart
Deborah Williamson

Billboard - Taking nursing to a higher level

If you are driving into Charleston on I-26 on May 12 you may see a new billboard that catches your eye. The College of Nursing will be putting the message, “Taking Nursing to a Higher Level,” on a billboard near the Rutledge Ave. exit (Exit 215) on I-26 eastbound.

The billboard will stay up for 30 days and act as a reminder to residents and thousands of visitors that the MUSC College of Nursing has much to offer in the education of nurses. The message (same as last year), “Taking Nursing to a Higher Level,” lets the audience know that the MUSC CON is much more than a nursing school. It is the state’s leader in online nursing education and advanced nursing degrees.

Convocation & graduation

Convocation is the pinning ceremony for BSN students, and the hooding ceremony for MSN, DNP and PhD students and will be held Thursday, May 15 at 3 p.m. at the Charleston Music Hall (37 John St.). While no tickets are required for convocation, it is suggested that you have no more than five guests. The ceremony generally lasts about 90 minutes.

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

Graduates should wear their gown and hood, but 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. Please 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 for additional details about parking, reserved seating for disabled guests. Faculty should wear full regalia at convocation and graduation.

The latest issue of Lifelines will be arriving in your mailbox soon! Inside this issue: How CON’s “Game Changers” are developing quality improvements in education, practice and research.
**FACULTY ANNOUNCEMENT**

It’s time to begin the annual faculty evaluations process for 2013-14. Please update your CV in the FAIR database and complete your evaluation in REDCap by May 23. Start early so you will be prepared for your evaluations that will take place in June.

**RESEARCH FOR LUNCH**
facilitated by Jane Zapka, ScD

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

MONDAY, MAY 12
Presenter: Dr. Charlene Pope
R21: “Intervention Mapping for Race and Gender Disparity in Veteran Diabetes Control”

TUESDAY, MAY 13
Presenter: Dr. Shannon Hudson
NINR R21: “Transitions and Health Care Utilization in Children and Adolescents with Sickle Cell Disease”

THURSDAY, MAY 15
Presenters: Drs. Teresa Kelechi & Robin Muise-Helmericks
R01: “Genomic Analysis of Biofilms and Inflammatory Regulators in Chronic Ulcers.”

TUESDAY, MAY 27
Presenters: Drs. Kathleen Cartmell & Michael Cummings
AHRQ R21: “Reducing Hospitalization Readmission Rates by Implementing Inpatient Tobacco Cessation Services Following Joint Commission Guidelines.”

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**MUSC College of Nursing Alumni Networking Wine Reception**

**JOIN US AND WINE DOWN ON MAIN!**
The MUSC Nursing Alumni Association invites you to reconnect with fellow alumni!

Thursday, May 29
6:30 - 8:30 pm
1520 Main Street, Columbia

Spread the word and bring fellow alumni!
Kindly RSVP by May 26 to 843.792.7979 or wines@musc.edu

Attire: Come as you are

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**NPP demand rising under value-based care models**
John Commins | HealthLeaders Media

‘American Nurse’ documentary hits theaters May 7-8
Nurse.com

Why nurses need a Google Doodle
Amanda Anderson | CHMP blog at Hunter College

Nurses’ experience key to better patient care, study says
Robert Preidt | Health Day

Psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners: Filling the gaps in mental health care
Johnson & Johnson Nursing Notes
SCNF scholarship opportunity

The South Carolina Nurses Foundation (SCNF) is accepting applications for the 2014 Nurses Care Undergraduate and Graduate Nurse Scholarships.

- Fifteen $1,500 scholarships (five graduate, ten undergraduate) will be awarded to nursing students currently enrolled in a BSN, MSN, DNP, or PhD degree program.
- Deadline is May 31. The scholarship will be awarded for the fall 2014 semester, funds be used toward educational expenses. Click here for details.

Student kudos

Congratulations to Crystal Graham, PhD student, for passing the Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator exam.

New Presidential Scholars announced

Marie Beck, John Hughes, Jessica Mills, Samantha Radkin, and Paul Tripp have been selected for the prestigious MUSC Presidential Scholars Program. These students were selected from a competitive applicant pool from each of the six colleges at MUSC. The mission of the Presidential Scholars is to explore the complex social, political, and human issues that shape the delivery of health care services in South Carolina.

Leadership Society selects Hill, Williams

Richard Hill (BSN ’11), DNP student, and Toya Williams, BSN Class of May 2014, have been selected for the prestigious MUSC Student Leadership Society. The purpose of the MUSC Student Leadership Society is to recognize those students who have made notable contributions to the university through their character, service and commitment to enhancing the university environment or in their actions and activities that reflect positively on the university. Each year six to eight students are inducted into the society and awarded a scholarship. This year’s recipients will receive $1,500.

MUSC Gives Back Awards

Each year one student group from each of the six colleges and one university-wide group are recognized for their contributions to the community during the Annual Student Service and Leadership Event that was held this year on April 16.

Katie McDevitt, BSN student, was named Most Outstanding Volunteer and the Multicultural Student Nurses Organization was named Most Outstanding Group.

Established in 1993, MUSC Gives Back is a student volunteer program that presents opportunities for students to learn about the community, provide needed services, and to document their individual efforts in support of area projects.

Mole receives Sunset Rotary scholarship

Corrine Mole has been selected by the Sunset Rotary Club to receive a $2,500 scholarship for the fall 2014 semester. Mole recently completed her first semester in the Accelerated BSN program. She is from Bluffton, SC and has been involved in various community outreach and fundraising activities. The Sunset Rotary Club provides this scholarship to a MUSC nursing student who is from the Hilton Head/Beaufort/Bluffton area and who has demonstrated “service above self,” the hallmark of Rotary Clubs.

Mole received her scholarship from the Sunset Rotary Club, which supports local community projects.

BSN students raised over $1,000 for Relay for Life on April 12. The funds raised for the American Cancer Society will stay in the Charleston area.

VANA Spotlight...

Brian Daigle, BSN student, was recently recognized by his clinical instructor, Vanessa Clark, MSN, RN, for the compassionate care he provided to a veteran at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center. Brian cared for the patient, Mr. M, on several occasions, but his last encounter with him turned out to be the most impactful.

In early March, Mr. M was given the devastating news that his bladder cancer had returned. Later that morning, Mr. M requested to speak with Ms. Clark, but she was not prepared for what he told her. After learning of his diagnosis, Mr. M explained that he was planning to commit suicide in his room. But Brian assisted him with breaking the news to his family, and his caring spirit changed Mr. M’s mind and made him realize that he could fight cancer again and win. He was emotional as he shared this story with Ms. Clark.

Later, mental health services were contacted to perform an evaluation of Mr. M. The provider reported that Mr. M was out of immediate danger and noted that the student nurse was instrumental in helping him.

Mr. M understands that he has a tough road ahead of him. “Anyone can go to med school, but it takes a person with a nursing spirit to take care of patients. Nurses are the ones that bring us back to life. Brian was my angel,” said Mr. M.

Brian did not treat his patient as a disease, but as a human being with a disease. He showed him compassion and offered him encouragement.

Action is the foundational key to all success.” — Pablo Picasso

McDevitt

Daigle

Hill

Williams

Hill

Williams

McDevitt
Funded grants

Congratulations to Cristina M. López, PhD, for receiving funds for her pilot project application, “Meeting Kids Where They’re At: A Substance Use and Sexual Risk Behavior Prevention Program for Rural African American Girls,” that was submitted to MUSC’s Building Interdisciplinary Careers in Women’s Health (BIRCWH) Faculty Career Development K12 Program in Neuroscience. This project will be the first in a line of research to adapt and evaluate low-cost, technology-based approaches to delivering effective, culturally tailored, integrated substance use disorder (SUD) and HIV risk behavior prevention programs to rural African American (AA) female youth. The overall purpose of the proposal is to enhance and integrate effective SUD prevention strategies into an existing evidence based HIV risk reduction program culturally tailored for AA female adolescents titled “Sisters Informing, Healing, Living, and Empowering.”

Congratulations to Jennifer Shearer, PhD, RN, CNE, for receiving funds for her pilot project application, “Global Health and Simulation in Midwifery Curriculum,” that was submitted to the MUSC Center for Global Health pilot grant program. The project’s goal is to collaborate with the Bangalore Baptist Hospital in Bangalore, India by providing a human patient birthing simulator and training for faculty, as well as to collaborate on research to determine the effectiveness of simulation for improving midwifery students’ skills.

Congratulations to Tiffany H. Williams, DNP, APRN, CPNP, for receiving another year of funds from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) New Careers in Nursing. The RWJF’s New Careers in Nursing is a scholarship program to help alleviate the nursing shortage and increase the diversity of nursing professionals. Through grants to schools of nursing, the program will provide scholarships to college graduates without nursing degrees who are enrolled in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

Submitted grants

Ron Aciero, PhD. submitted an application titled “National Elder Mistreatment Study: 5 Year Followup of Victims and Matched Non-Victims” to the National Institute of Justice. The overall aim is to conduct a longitudinal follow-up of participants (mistreatment victims and matched nonvictims) identified in the first national elder mistreatment study to compliment 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 exist 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.

Gail A. Gilden, RN, ScD. submitted a proposal to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for the Future of Nursing Scholars. The goal is to develop the next generation of PhD prepared nurse leaders who are committed to long-term leadership careers that advance science and discovery, strengthen nursing education, and bring transformational change to nursing and health care. This proposal requests support for one RWJF Future of Nursing Scholar for the PhD in Nursing program. The PhD program strives to take nursing science to the highest level in a culture of innovation, collaboration and accountability.

Publications


ABSTRACTS

Vote in NIH video competition

Carolyn Jenkins, DrPH, APRN, BC-ADM, RD, LD, FAAN, is the lead U.S. investigator for Community Engagement for H3 Africa. Stroke Investigative Research and Educational Network (SIREN), a grant that is funded by the NIH, SIREN is poised to be the largest study of stroke in Africa. H3 Africa has entered the NIH Common Fund Video Contest: Follow the link and like the video titled, Sounding the SIREN for stroke solutions. Thank you!
Second Annual Nurse Practitioner/Certified Nurse Midwife Legislative Day

On April 3, the Coalition for Access to Health Care (CAHC) held its second annual Nurse Practitioner (NP)/Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) Legislative Day at the SC Statehouse. Throughout the day, advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) from throughout the state met with legislators to discuss health care policy issues and to inform them of the many benefits that APRN full scope of practice could bring to our state. South Carolina ranks 33rd for lowest number of primary care physicians and ranks in the lowest five unhealthiest states. Additionally, a bill authorizing APRN signatures for handicapped placards was introduced at the Statehouse and received a standing ovation.

CAHC awarded Representative Jenny A. Horne, from Charleston and Dorchester counties, and whose mother and cousin are both APRNs, the 2014 Gold Star Legislative Champion award. This is the organization’s highest honor for excellence and reflects her promotion of the importance of APRNs as primary care providers in the state. Governor Nikki Haley’s former chief of staff and now State Senator, Tom Davis of Beaufort County and Representative Wendy Nanney of Greenville County, mother of MUSC College of Nursing DNP student, Taylor Nanney, were presented with 2014 Legislators of the Year Awards. All legislators were praised for their recognition that APRNs can provide high-quality, low-cost care to the many citizens of our state, particularly those in rural areas where accessing care remains problematic for many citizens and the rates of chronic disease are higher.

In honor of NP/CNM day, a proclamation was introduced and unanimously adopted by both the House of Representatives and Senate. However, despite bipartisan support, it was not signed by Governor Nikki Haley. According to her staffers, she withheld her support because it contained a statement about the more than 800,000 South Carolinians that will enter the health care marketplace because of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and that she refuses to sign anything that includes information about the ACA. Furthermore, her staffers stated that she also would not sign the proclamation even if the factual statement was removed because it once contained verbiage related to the ACA.

Despite the Governor’s lack of support, the day was seen as a success since many lawmakers, including Senator Vincent Sheheen of Chesterfield, Kershaw & Lancaster Counties, have come out in support of full scope of APRN practice.

Guide to the CNE exam

The National League for Nursing broke new ground in 2005 when it initiated the Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) program to recognize excellence and innovation. Today there are more than 4,000 nurse educators in all 50 states who now hold the CNE credential. To support applicants’ preparation for the rigor of the exam, the CNE program is now providing the Certified Nurse Educator Review Book, a user-friendly, yet scholarly publication that will serve as the definitive guide for faculty pursuing the CNE credential and an essential text for all nurse educators across the spectrum of higher education.
Spruill goes to Washington

Congratulations to Ida Spruill, PhD, RN, LISW, FAAN, for receiving the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) at a ceremony at the White House on April 14.

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) was commissioned by President Clinton in 1996 to create an award program that would honor and support the extraordinary achievements of the finest scientists and engineers who, while early in their research careers, show exceptional potential for leadership at the frontiers of scientific knowledge during the 21st century. The Presidential Award is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on outstanding scientists and engineers beginning their independent careers.

The awards embody the high priority placed by the government on maintaining the leadership position of the United States in science by producing outstanding scientists and engineers who will broadly advance science and the missions important to the participating agencies. The awards support the continued development of the awardees, foster innovative and far-reaching contributions to the university's teaching mission.

Vining named Staff of the Year

Congratulations to Raquel Vining for being named the College of Nursing Staff of the Year! Vining joined MUSC in 2005 as a fiscal tech in the College of Medicine Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, and Epidemiology. She came to the College of Nursing in 2009 as a grants administrator. She also works part-time for MUHA Volunteer Services at ART. Her daughter, Hannah, previously worked for the college as a student employee in the Dean's Office before entering pharmacy school.

In nominating Vining, both faculty and staff had wonderful things to say about her including: “She always goes far beyond expectations to help.” “I admire her willingness, energy, and organizational abilities,” and “Raquel is so helpful, consistent and she rocks!”

In addition to Vining, many other staff members were nominated for the award. Below are some of the comments made about several outstanding employees:

- Arly Douglass—her contributions to the DNP program faculty and students are immeasurable.” Carolyn Page—“invaluable to the undergraduate students and faculty.”
- Jo Smith—“always demonstrates outstanding service behaviors and has a very positive demeanor!” Joanne Langdale—“her demeanor and professionalism are second to none.” Kathy Williams—“always willing to assist, goes above and beyond the call!” Moby Madissiti—“the consummate professional, a great sense of humor, strong writer, always willing to help.” Sabrina Green—“demonstrates service and cooperation every day, has a contagious smile.” Youlanda Gibbs—“great job organizing event and health screenings.” Well done everyone!

Kudos

Shannon Bright Smith, DNP, RN, ACNS-BC, CGRN, has earned the designation Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) after meeting strict eligibility criteria and successfully completing a rigorous certification examination developed and administered by the National League for Nursing.

Shannon Hudson, PhD, RN, Alumnus CCRN, had a drawing (see right) published in this year’s Humanitis, MUSC’s arts and literature publication. The University Humanities Committee was formed in 1978 to devise means for integrating the humanities more fully with the total educational program at MUSC.

Faculty & Staff News

Faculty promotions

Congratulations to the faculty listed below who rose in the ranks within the College of Nursing.

Instructor > Assistant Professor
Joy Lauzer, DNP, RN, PMHCNS-BC
Shannon Smith, DNP, RN, ACNS-BC, CGRN
Tiffany Williams, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC

Assistant Professor > Associate Professor
Gigi Smith, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC

Associate Professor > Professor
Robin Bissinger, PhD, APRN, NNP-BC, FAAN
Lynne Nemeth, PhD, RN, FAAN

Conner to receive teaching award

Brian Conner, PhD, RN, has been recognized for his teaching excellence. Conner is the recipient of a Teaching Excellence Award as Educator-Mentor: Clinical/Professional. In addition to a cash award from the MUSC Foundation, Conner will be given a pewter medallion to wear with his academic regalia during the 2014 commencement exercises and a specially designated parking space for one year. The award will be presented during the fall faculty convocation. The MUSC program was established 10 years ago to recognize faculty who have made outstanding contributions to the university’s teaching mission.

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Faculty announcement

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Start early so you will be prepared for your evaluations that will take place in June.