2014...making a move

By Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN

So here we are ushering in a new year and what a year it will be. We have a grand agenda for the next 12 months and I hope everyone is ready to make a move.

HOT TOPICS INCLUDE:

> Welcoming Dr. Ron Acierno as our new associate dean for research, and setting ambitious horizons for our research
> Developing our new 2013-2018 strategic plan and initiatives
> Preparing the report for our next CCNE accreditation with a site visit scheduled for spring 2015
> Exploring new opportunities to expand our educational offerings
> Designing new models for delivering health care that take full advantage of the skills and expertise of nurses at all levels
> Expanding the use of technology in every aspect of our work
> And, of course, moving back into our original College of Nursing building that will be beautiful, functional and futuristic

Now if that is not a tall order of activity then I don’t know what is! And yet that is what we are about as a College of Nursing. We set our sights high and carefully craft strategies to assure success; and, if we are not always successful, we learn from what did not work and move forward on yet another new path. This is how the College has grown in recent years, and this is the path we will continue to pursue in the year ahead.

A final important new focus will be on our renewed efforts to reconnect and reengage with our alumni. We will be exploring new venues for socializing with our graduates around the state and region both in person and using technology to network and keep in touch.

So here is to all of us at the MUSC College on Nursing and the brightest of new years ahead...Gail
White House honors Dr. Spruill

On December 23, President Obama named 102 researchers as recipients of the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers that included Ida J. Spruill, PhD, RN, LISW, FAAN. This recognition is the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers. Dr. Spruill, associate professor, was selected for her work for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) on ethno-cultural barriers to health literacy and disease management in African-Americans. She is the only recipient this year from South Carolina.

In 2011, Dr. Spruill won the Trailblazer Award from the National Black Nurses Association. More recently, she was named the first recipient of the Clemson University Robert Rutland J. Institute for Ethics’ “Bringing Ethics into Focus” Award in 2012. Dr. Spruill teaches undergraduate and doctoral nursing students.

“The impressive achievements of these early-stage scientists and engineers are promising indicators of even greater successes ahead,” President Obama said. “We are grateful for their commitment to generating the scientific and technical advancements that will ensure America’s global leadership for many years to come.”

The Presidential Early Career Awards embody the high priority the Obama Administration places on producing outstanding scientists and engineers to advance the Nation’s goals, tackle grand challenges, and contribute to the American economy. The recipients are employed or funded by the following departments and agencies: Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of Education, Department of Energy, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of the Interior, Department of Veterans Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Science Foundation, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Intelligence Community, which join together annually to nominate the most meritorious scientists and engineers whose early accomplishments show the greatest promise for assuring America’s preeminence in science and engineering and contributing to the awarding agencies’ missions.

The winners will receive their awards at a Washington, DC, ceremony in the coming year.

The awards, established by President Clinton in 1996, are coordinated by the Office of Science and Technology Policy within the Executive Office of the President. Awardees are selected for their pursuit of innovative research at the frontiers of science and technology and their commitment to community service as demonstrated through scientific leadership, public education, or community outreach.

CON welcomes two babies to the fold

Dean Gail Stuart is the proud grandparent to Naya Gail Shah who arrived into the world on December 17 weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces and measuring 21 inches long. Naya was born to Dean Stuart’s daughter, Elaine and her husband, Nirav, in Brooklyn, NY. The name Naya is derived from the sanscript and means renewal.

Joanne Langdale, human resources manager, also welcomed her first grandchild on December 9. Aiden Hunter Sirles was born in Mt. Pleasant to Joanne’s daughter, Alex and her husband, Mike. Baby Aiden weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces and measured 21.5 inches long. The name Aiden is Irish in origin and means little fire.
January 2014

**J a n u a r y**

**MON 06**
**Accelerated BSN New Student Orientation**
January 6 - January 9

**TUE 07**
**Research for Lunch** | "A time-series trial to test the effect of systemic patient screening on cancer clinical trial enrollment" presented by Drs. Kathleen Cartmell and Chanita Hughes-Halbert
Noon | HOT (304P)
Bring your own lunch; RSVP to Raquel Vining at vining@musc.edu

**THU 09**
**Stethoscope Ceremony**
4:30 p.m.
St. Luke’s Chapel (corner of Bee St. and Ashley Ave.)
Reception for follow in Colcock Hall

**FRI 10**
**Interprofessional Day**
All accelerated BSN students to participate

**FRI 10**
**MUSC SGA Annual Oyster Roast**
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.
Visitors Center Bus Shed
TICKETS: On sale December 2 in the Student Programs Office. Students: $15 each (no more than 2 tickets can be purchased). Employees: $20 each and up to 2 can be purchased. Due to increased student participation, there will only be a limited block of employee tickets available. MUST have MUSC ID in order to purchase tickets. Cash or check ONLY. Contact Kevin at smuniewk@musc.edu for more info.

**THU 16**
**Research for Lunch** | “Gene X environment interactions in the Jackson heart study: Selective biobehavioral blood pressure control crossvalidations with machine-learning based CVD/stroke explorations” presented by Dr. Mat Gregoski
Noon | HOT (304P)
Bring your own lunch; RSVP to Raquel Vining at vining@musc.edu

**MON 20**
**Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**
CON closed
Convocation recognizes excellence

Several students and faculty were recognized at the College’s Convocation held on December 7. Congratulations to these achievers:

### Outstanding BSN Student Award
- Kelli Schoen
- Kimberly Limbaker Award
- Gregg Davis
- Paula Theilan Award
- Kara Edmond

### First Honor Graduates
- Kaitlyn O’Gorman
- Kelli Schoen
- Ruth Jaqui Skudlarek Award
- Zach Childress

### Golden Lamp Award
- Kathy Neely
  (undergraduate instructor)

### Outstanding Clinical Faculty Award
- Teresa Atz
  (assistant professor)

Three students also were recognized for completing the Interprofessional Education Fellowship Program which is designed to encourage interprofessional engagement among students and faculty. Zach Childress, Kelly Creech, and Allison Roble all completed additional coursework and activities to demonstrate interprofessional competencies that go beyond those developed within individual academic programs.

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**Advocating for continuation of Children’s Health Insurance Program**

As our nation continues to work through the glitches of the Affordable Care Act, we must begin to think about a large piece of health care legislation set to expire in 2015. The Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides insurance coverage to vulnerable children either as part of a state’s Medicaid program or as its own entity. It is funded jointly by the federal government and states through a match system that identifies states with higher needs; CHIP is incentivized by the federal government at a higher rate than Medicaid. We know that uninsured children are disproportionately affected by higher rates of acute and chronic disease, lack of access to care, and poorer academic achievement as compared with children who have private health insurance, CHIP or Medicaid. Since reauthorization of CHIP in 2009, enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP has consistently risen; 87.2 percent of all children in the U.S. were insured in 2011. Furthermore the Affordable Care Act is expected to augment this legislation resulting in an increase in participation in CHIP.

While the future of CHIP remains uncertain after 2015, we know that CHIP funding increases public health care coverage, increases access to medical and dental care, and decreases uninsurance for recipient children. Health care advocates including nurses need to begin strategizing now for the continuation of CHIP coverage to maintain these gains. Furthermore, data exists about gaps in coverage for CHIP recipient children despite its many successes. Specifically, nurses can advocate for this important piece of legislation that addresses the complex needs of vulnerable children while looking for ways to improve upon the legislation to better fill gaps that exist in care related to mental healthcare coverage, preventative care and emergency room utilization. This ensures comprehensive coverage for the most vulnerable children in the U.S. Targeted care provision to this group can improve long-term health outcomes, increase the well being of families and decrease burden of chronic disease.

**REFERENCES**

Submitted grants

Ida Johnson-Spruill, PhD, RN, LISW, FAAN, and David P. Turner, PhD (Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine) have submitted an application, “Project AGE: Linking basic science with clinical research among Gullahs with Metabolic Syndrome,” to the National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. The goals of this study are to make an initial assessment of the occurrence and severity of Metabolic Syndrome (MetS) within the Gullah population; examine for the first time the mechanistic contribution of advanced glycation end-products (AGE) metabolites to MetS risk factors; and assess the biomarker potential of AGes as a measure of MetS during a physical activity intervention to better identify high risk patients.

Publications & presentations

PUBLICATIONS:


The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has picked up a chapter written by Elaine Amella, PhD, RN, FAAN and CON alumna, Melissa Aselage, PhD, RN-BC, FNP-BC for its national guidelines. The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing submitted the protocols from Evidence-Based Geriatric Nursing Protocols for Best Practice: Fourth Edition to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality’s National Guidelines Clearinghouse (NCG). The protocols have been submitted and published as guideline summaries on the NGC web site since 2003, and from August 2012 to July 2013 were accessed over 300,000 times.


How should I format an NIH grant number in my publications?

When citing your NIH grant in your research publications, include the activity code (e.g., R01), and two-letter institute code (e.g., GM) followed by the serial number (including any including any leading zeros), and leave out any separating spaces or dashes.

A proper grant number citation would look like this: R01GM987654.

Inspirational quotes for 2014

“There are years that ask questions, and years that answer.”
- Zora Neale Hurston

“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language. And next year’s words await another voice.”
- T.S. Eliot

“We are the authors of our destinies. No one can see the vision any clearer, believe in and work any harder to make it a reality more than the visionary.”
- Nike Campbell-Fatoki

“Another fresh new year is here… Another year to live!
To banish worry, doubt, and fear, To love and laugh and give!
This bright new year is given meTo live each day with zest…
To daily grow and try to be My highest and my best!

I have the opportunity Once more to right some wrongs,
To pray for peace, to plant a tree, And sing more joyful songs!”
- William Arthur Ward

“I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You’re doing things you’ve never done before, and more importantly, you’re Doing Something.”
- Neil Gaiman

“Decide that you want it more than you are afraid of it.”
- Bill Cosby