So life in an organization—any organization—is nothing if it is not interesting! Most recently, as the College of Nursing has gained national prominence, I sense a new nuance of organizational interaction emerging. Specifically, on campus I sense a level of perhaps increased awareness among some, and perhaps increased curiosity among others, as we here in the college continue the work we have always been doing.

Yes, there have been widespread and heartfelt congratulations. Still, there is also often the implicit question—how did you get to be No. 1? What did you do and how did you do it?

The answer is simple. In the College of Nursing we work as a true team as we envision a future with creativity; identify what needs to be done; and then, heads down, we go about doing it. If there are obstacles, we go around them. If the front door is closed, we try the back door. If one path causes us to stumble, we pick ourselves up and head down another. We accept that others have different agendas and different views but that does not discourage us from doing what we believe is best.

Maybe the real change is that we have come out of the shadows, and sometimes being “under the radar” is better than being in the sunlight. Quite honestly being “under the radar” may be partly responsible for how we have achieved that which we have. Still nothing we are doing has changed—it is simply getting more sunlight shining on it.

In the past I have sadly noted that nursing is too often invisible. Here at MUSC those days may be receding as we continue on our road to excellence. Along the way we will gladly lend a hand to others and share what we have learned. But we will not be distracted, detained, discouraged or derailed from our incredible vision, mission and goals. Full speed ahead! ...Gail
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION SPOTLIGHT

Men in nursing

Did you know that according to HRSA there are close to 3 million registered nurses in the US? Did you know that male nurses make up less than 10 percent of all nurses in this country?

Male nurses are considered a minority in the female-dominated field of nursing. To provide support and encouragement for males who decide to go into nursing Berry Anderson, PhD, RN formed the MUSC Men in Nursing group. Anderson, assistant professor and current president of Men in Nursing, founded the group in hopes of decreasing the stigma of men entering the nursing field.

The group also connects male nursing students with male nurses throughout MUSC who can offer words of encouragement. According to Anderson, the connection fosters professional development that enhances teaching and learning. “We promote positive interactions between student nurses and registered nurses to foster professional development, role modeling, and support among men in the nursing field,” he says.

These guys also like to have fun. The group regularly hosts social events at Fuel Cantina and organize shark fishing trips. The members meet every other month and have completed several community service projects.

If you are interested in joining Men in Nursing, contact Berry Anderson at andersob@musc.edu.

Convocation, graduation info - Class of May 2015

CONVOCATION

Convocation is the pinning ceremony for BSN students, and the hooding ceremony for MSN, DNP and PhD students. It is scheduled for Thursday, May 14 at 2 p.m. at the Charleston Music Hall. While no tickets are required for convocation, it is suggested that you have no more than four guests. Convocation generally lasts 1 ½ hours. You should leave all personal items with a guest.

There are three parking garages located near the Charleston Music Hall, as well as hotels and restaurants. Charleston is a tourist town, and very busy in the month of May. Hotel and restaurant reservations are highly recommended.

Graduates wear their gown and hood, but no caps to Convocation. You may wear any appropriate attire under your gown. Please plan to arrive by 1 p.m. so we can assist you with your gown and line you up for the processional. A photographer will be at the event. Guests should dress appropriately as well.

GRADUATION

Graduation is Friday, May 15 at 9 a.m. at the MUSC Horseshoe. Plan to arrive at the Drug Discovery Building for the line-up and assistance with your cap, gown, and hood by 7:30 a.m. Please leave all personal items with a guest. Click here for graduation details, including parking and transportation.

Tickets are not required to attend graduation. However, seating is not unlimited. Guests are invited to stand, or graduation may be viewed by television in the Basic Sciences Building. Click here if you need reserved seating for disabled guests.

POST-GRADUATION INFORMATION

As soon as you have graduated, transcripts are no longer provided free of charge by the Office of Enrollment Management. Transcripts are $15 per copy beginning May 15.

You may order your transcripts in advance and have them held until your degree is posted on May 15th to avoid charges.

Congratulations on all you have accomplished! Please share your future endeavors with us.

Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure | April 1-30

All MUSC employees are required to complete mandatory COI training and sign a disclosure agreement (link below) by April 30, 2015. If you have questions or need assistance, contact Maria Toler at 792-2051 or tolerm@musc.edu. http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/coi/
### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### APRIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WED 1-3</th>
<th>DNP Immersion</th>
<th>8 a.m. - 5 p.m.</th>
<th>CON 202</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WED 1</td>
<td>DNP Reception</td>
<td>5 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>CON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THU-FRI 9-10</td>
<td>MUSC Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
<td>Colcock Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 10</td>
<td>LEAD Commencement</td>
<td>Keynote speaker: Kevin Grigsby, MSW, DSW, is the senior director of leadership and talent development at the Association of American Medical Colleges</td>
<td>1 - 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MON 20</td>
<td>Faculty Assembly</td>
<td>1 - 4 p.m.</td>
<td>CON 202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 22</td>
<td>Administrative Professionals Breakfast</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>CON (Chitty Drawing Room)</td>
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#### MAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FRI-SAT 1-2</th>
<th>Health Evidence Based Practice &amp; Nursing Research Conference</th>
<th>Keynote speaker: Cheryl C. Rodgers, PhD, RN, CPNP, assistant professor at Duke University's School of Nursing</th>
<th>8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.</th>
<th>Drug Discovery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THU 12</td>
<td>Scholarship Reception</td>
<td>5 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>CON</td>
<td>Mary Watcher Swain Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>THU 14</td>
<td>Convocation</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Charleston Music Hall</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FRI 15</td>
<td>Graduation</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>MUSC Horseshoe</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MON 18</td>
<td>Faculty Assembly</td>
<td>1 - 4 p.m.</td>
<td>CON 202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WED 20</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>CON 202</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MON 25</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>CON Closed</td>
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</tbody>
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**SAVE THE DATE**

June 4-5, 2015 @ MUSC College of Nursing

End of Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) Core (adult) & Pediatric Courses

Promoting palliative care for adult medical/surgical and pediatric patient populations across the care continuum

**TARGET AUDIENCE:**

Nurses, social workers, case managers, physicians, respiratory therapists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, students, and other clinicians

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**MUSC Health Evidence-Based Practice and Nursing Research Conference**

**Generating and Integrating Evidence into Clinical Practice**

May 1-2, 2015

MUSC’s Drug Discovery Building

Presented by

MUSC Health’s Nurse Alliance

Evidence-Based Practice and Research Council in collaboration with the Center for Evidence-Based Practice

This conference will focus on building the foundation for generating and integrating research into clinical practice.

Registration Fees:

- MUSC Employees & Students - $30
- Non-MUSC Employees - $60

Register at [http://muscresearch.ezregister.com](http://muscresearch.ezregister.com)
Scholarship opportunities

SCNF ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The South Carolina Nurses Foundation is accepting applications for the 2015 Nurses Care Undergraduate and Graduate Nurse Scholarships. The Board of Trustees will be awarding ten $2,000 undergraduate scholarships and five $3,000 graduate scholarships to qualified nursing students currently enrolled in a RN, master’s or doctoral programs. Deadline for submission of applications is May 31. Scholarships will be awarded in September. The students must be currently enrolled in a nursing program when they receive the award. Checks will be awarded to the student with the stipulation that the funds be used toward educational expenses.

Information related to the award criteria, and links to the application and recommendation forms are found on the SCNF website.

NURSE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The 2015 NURSE Corps Scholarship Program application cycle is open and will close on May 21 at 7:30 p.m. (EST). Please refer to the 2015 Application and Program Guidance for all of the program requirements.

This program assists students completing their nursing education by paying tuition, fees, other education costs, while providing a monthly living stipend. The program is open to full-time or part-time nursing students accepted or enrolled in diploma, associate, baccalaureate or graduate nursing programs at accredited schools located in the US. Upon graduation, scholarship program members fulfill a service commitment at an eligible NURSE Corps site.

The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program continues to be competitive and applicants are encouraged to begin the application process early as on average it takes approximately three weeks to complete the application.

Applicants are encouraged to participate in two application technical assistance conference calls with program staff. Prior to the calls, applicants are also encouraged to view the NURSE Corps Scholarship Technical Assistance Webinar with more information on the application process and service requirements.

Our students are doing amazing things

On Feb. 26, 45 BSN students attended a public forum on SC’s human trafficking issues presented by the Jewish Community Center. CON faculty who attended include Joy Lauerer, Kathy Neeley, Stephanie Armstrong, and Charlene Pruitt.

Three BSN students, (l-r) Melanie Geradts, Lindsay Gohl, and Jo Singleton participated in the JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes on March 8, 2015 on Daniel Island.

BSN students, John Ellis and Patrick Morgan, spoke with a group of 25 high school minority male students from Greenwood County on nursing as a career choice.

The MSN/DNP students conducted the first of two learning intensives and competency exams. For three days beginning March 18, 85 advanced health assessment students completed practice exams, competency exams and lectures from expert clinicians. Students spent time practicing advanced health assessment skills with practice faculty. This learning intensive prepares graduate students to enter the clinical setting in the advanced practice nursing role next semester. Since these online students spend most of their time interacting via the web, they enjoyed engaging with faculty and fellow students in person. The second set of exams will take place in April for students in the advanced care management course.

The VA Nursing Academic Partnership announced its selection of CON students for the position of student nurse technician. Congratulations to Kristi Alverson, Bethany Bowen, Andrea Bowes, Kate Filearman, Leigh Ann Irwin, Stephanie Krall, Katherine Lawrence, Patrick Morgan, Kevin Pinet, and Ashley Wilson.

More than 20 students applied. The application process required applicants to research and prepare for performance based interviews, which required the applicant to communicate specific work and behaviorally related experiences. After the selection committee reviewed the results, administration decided to increase the number of hires from two to 10.

The selected students will be working intermittently, as their schedules allow, assisting the VA medical/surgical nursing staff with basic caregiving.

---- Attention Students ----

CLICK HER FOR UPDATED THE CPR/BLS REQUIREMENTS
**Funded grants**

Congratulations to Tiffany H. Williams, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC for receiving funds from the AcademyHealth/Aetna Foundation. She was selected as the recipient of the 2015 Scholars in Residence. Her goal is to acquire training, practical experience, and knowledge to support her long-term goal of becoming an independent nurse researcher in population health interventions aimed to reduce the burden of obesity and health disparities in children and adolescents.

**Submitted grant applications**

**INVESTIGATOR:** Gigi Smith, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC  
**FUNDING SOURCE:** Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) - Nurse Faculty Loan Program  
**GOAL:** Request financial loan support for students enrolled in the PhD in Nursing or the post-MSN to DNP programs at MUSC.

**INVESTIGATOR:** Gigi Smith, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC  
**FUNDING SOURCE:** Department of Health and Human Services/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
**APP TITLE:** Impacting at-risk populations through multi-modal training of nursing and medical students in SBIRT  
**GOAL:** Improve and enhance the training of health professions students (undergraduate and graduate nursing students, and medical students) to provide competent screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment for persons who have or are at-risk for substance use disorder.

**Publications & presentations**

[doi: 10.1016/j.gerinurse.2015.02.003](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.gerinurse.2015.02.003)


[doi: 10.1017/S0954579414001473](http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0954579414001473)


**PRESENTATIONS:**


**POSTERS:**


Qanungo, S., Laken, M., Lopez, C. (2015, March). Expanding access to telemedicine in research and clinical care across SC poster discussion. Poster session presented at the 2015 Annual Symposium of the Care Coordination Institute, Greenville, SC.

**Doctoral student news**

Lana Sargent, MSN, RN, FNP-BC, GNP-BC (PhD student) has been accepted into the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) Graduate Partnerships Program (GPP). This program is an unparalleled doctoral fellowship training opportunity that combines the academic environment of a university and the breadth and depth of research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). It also provides an exceptional opportunity for students who are enrolled in any PhD in nursing program across the nation to complete dissertation research on the premier research campus of the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD.

Sargent will focus on mild cognitive impairment and frailty and will be working in the lab of Andrew Singleton, PhD, a senior scientist at the NIH’s National Institute on Aging (NIA) as she completes her dissertation research. Financial support and other benefits will be provided for up to three years.

Congratulations to Nicole Auxier, PhD student, who successfully defended on March 20. The title of her dissertation is, “Job satisfaction and intent to leave among clinical teachers.” Her mentor was Marilyn Laken, PhD, RN, FAAN.
In February, Kurt Menke, founder of Bird’s Eye View GIS, visited Charleston to train several local groups, including several College of Nursing faculty, how to map their communities. Participants were taught how to use free and low cost, easy-to-use applications of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping tools for public health mapping. Health mapping allows community-based and small organizations to collect and visualize information about their communities using techniques to support planning and decision-making about community health. These tools support the collection and visualization of health statistics, demographic information, community resources, and events thereby facilitating a better understanding of community conditions.

Menke, a former archeologist, was funded by National Library of Medicine and the Center for Public Service Communications. Menke will return to the area for another training April 30 through May 1. See flyer for details.

**Staff recognized for volunteerism**

Lisa Heidelberg, program coordinator and Latino volunteer, was recognized at the Charleston City Council meeting on March 10. Heidelberg, also an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, was awarded a certificate of appreciation from Mayor Joseph Riley for her volunteer service and for her outstanding contributions in serving the low-income population in Charleston. Heidelberg works with the PASOs program and the Hispanic Health Initiative.

**UPDATE ON SC HOUSE BILL 3078: ADVANCING SCOPE OF APRN PRACTICE**

On March 17, the SC House, 3M Occupational and Licensing Boards Subcommittee chaired by Rep. Leon Howard heard testimony on House Bill 3508, the physician supported bill that imposes further restrictions on APRN practice. Over 100 APRNs and 100 physicians were in attendance for the hearing. After over four hours of testimony from both APRNs and physicians, the house voted to adjourn debate on H.3508. Rep. Anne Parks and other members of the 3M subcommittee requested that the APRN group and the physicians group come up with compromise language in the two pieces of legislation. Specifically, the committee asked that the two sides work together to come to a resolution for new legislation. Work has begun to start drafts of compromise language for both parties.

Several of the state’s APRNs provided vital testimony during this hearing that addressed major issues to health care access in our state and fought back the additional barriers proposed to APRN practice in H.3508.

The hearing from the House Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee can be viewed at [www.scstatehouse.gov/video/videofeed.php](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/video/videofeed.php).
Congratulations to Whitney Smith, MSN, APRN, ANP-C, instructor, who received national certification as a gerontological nurse practitioner from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Four faculty honored with Palmetto Gold

The following College of Nursing faculty members were recognized at the 14th annual Palmetto Gold Gala on March 28 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in Columbia, SC. The Palmetto Gold Award is a program sponsored by the South Carolina Nurses Association that recognizes and honors nurses who have demonstrated excellence in the practice of nursing and a commitment to their professions. Including the 2015 recipients, 77 percent of the college’s nursing faculty have been awarded the Palmetto Gold for Nursing Excellence.

This year, honorees include Teresa Atz, PhD, RN, assistant professor, a researcher who focuses on parents of pediatric research participants, specifically their transition experiences after the conclusion of their child’s clinical trial; Catherine Durham, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, is the interim director of the MSN/DNP program and a commander in the US Navy. Her interests are primary care, chronic disease management, and work injury prevention. Elizabeth Harmon, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, instructor, whose academic interests include adherence issues and primary care, and Whitney Smith, MSN, APRN, ANP-C, instructor, experienced in geriatric medicine, primary care, and women’s health.

The Palmetto Gold Award is an annual statewide nursing recognition program that showcases the valuable contributions nurses make to patient care in our state. The program also raises funds to endow scholarships for registered nurse students. The South Carolina Nurses Foundation, a 501-C-3 corporation, provides the vehicle through which donations to the Palmetto Gold scholarships are received and invested.

Faculty Wins
Willette Burnham, PhD, Marvella Ford, PhD, Gayenell Magwood, PhD, Sabra Slaughter, PhD, Ida Spruill, PhD, and Tiffany Williams, DNP, represented MUSC at the Remembering the Legacy of Legends event held March 14. The dinner honored and celebrated the lives and legacy of Charleston’s African-American female teachers, 80 years of age and older. This celebration coincided with Women’s History Month which is observed nationwide during the month of March.

Faculty & Staff News

The CCNE accreditation evaluation will take place September 28-30, 2015. All faculty and staff are required to be in attendance. No annual or professional leave will be granted during these dates. No exceptions will be allowed.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The CCNE accreditation evaluation will take place September 28-30, 2015.

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NO exceptions will be allowed.