There’s a lot of “buzz” these days about innovation. It appears across the media, in all kinds of Ted Talks and presentations, and now it is even part of our MUSC vision! I like to think that we here in the College of Nursing are hooked on innovation as long as it is tied to better quality outcomes and more efficient processes.

So I did a little research on how to stimulate innovative workplaces. A couple of interesting things emerged. First, I found a delightful quote that read “all geniuses are leeches.” This notion challenges the way we think about creativity. It suggests that innovative ideas are really about using old ideas in new ways, places and settings. It reminds us that innovation is the art of seeing old things in new ways.

I also discovered six insight channels that can apply to education, practice or research (Sawhney & Khosla, HBR, November 2014):

1) Anomalies – Look at things that deviate from the bell-shaped curve and examine data that surprises you. There is a fertile field of innovation before you.

2) Frustrations – Life’s irritations can be great fountains of ideas. Things that annoy you or slow you down are ripe for innovative alternatives. Think of Post It notes and double-sided tape.

3) Orthodoxies – If something has always been done the same way, it’s worth thinking about how can it be done differently. Status quo does not always mean status acceptable.

4) Extremities – People who think differently can be a rich source of ideas and insights if they are not discounted in the workplace. Listen to those who dissent.

5) Voyages – Get out of your zone and mingle with others, including those who have different jobs and different experiences. Then apply what you observe to innovate in your own setting.

6) Analogies – Borrow things that work from other businesses or organizations and apply them to what you are doing to perhaps get unexpected, and better results.

I think these are all great ideas and they remind me of two other beliefs I have. The first is that you can’t fail when you innovate. The most you can find out is that something does not work and you will be smarter than you were before. In fact, the only real failure is not taking any action at all. The second is to remain optimistic. Remember there is always something better just around the corner! ...Gail
CON ranked 14th in NIH research funding

College continues to improve quality of health care and the advancement of nursing research

The College of Nursing continues to climb to the top of the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) research funding list by ranking 14th out of the 63 US nursing schools ranked. The College of Nursing was the highest ranked institution in SC, according to annual figures posted by the NIH. This is the fifth year the college has achieved a national ranking.

Rankings are established by the amount of research dollars awarded by the NIH to each school of nursing. In 2014, MUSC College of Nursing research faculty attracted over $2.6 million in NIH grants for research. These funds enable CON’s nurse scientists to continue their innovative efforts in areas such as leg ulcers prevention, wound care, spinal cord injuries, weight loss, enhancing kidney donation, hypertension and diabetes smartphone interventions, and health literacy and disease management in African-Americans. This type of funding is considered a strong indicator of an institution’s strength in research, as well as nursing science.

“I am incredibly proud of our faculty as they work to improve the health of our citizens and expand knowledge in new avenues of research,” says Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN. “This ranking places us in a small and very prestigious group of schools across the nation.”

The NIH is the largest source of funding for medical research in the world granting more than 80 percent of its budget to researchers in more than 2,500 universities and research institutions in every state across the country and around the world.

MUSC College of Nursing’s 2014 NIH-funded researchers include:

- Frank A. Trieber, PhD
  Professor and Center for Economic Excellence Endowed Chair
- Teresa J. Kelechi, PhD, RN, FAAN
  Professor and David and Margaret Clare Endowed Chair
- Gayenell S. Magwood, PhD, RN, Alumnus CCRN
  Associate Professor, Department Chair
- Ida J. Spruill, PhD, RN, FAAN
  Associate Professor
- Susan D. Newman, PhD, RN, CRRN
  Associate Professor

Multicultural student group finds learning opportunity in volunteering

Diversity embraces the distinctiveness of each individual and the groups to which each belongs.

The Multicultural Student Nurses Association (MSNA) is a College of Nursing group that serves as a platform for cultural exchange among all nursing students regardless of age, disability, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, or religion. The MSNA is particularly interested in creating a climate of inclusion, professional development, increased awareness of diversity issues and health quality and supportive community by sharing knowledge and skills.

The MSNA members are looking forward to a productive spring semester. Last month the group volunteered at the Tri-County Black Nurses Association’s 25th Annual Health Fair. Next month the members will be walking in the March of Dimes’ March for Babies. Some MSNA members have been shadowing NICU nurses and have become interested and excited about the research the March of Dimes is doing to prevent premature births and lower infant mortality. If you would like to support the MSNA March for Babies team click here.

The group is also selling World’s Finest Chocolate bars to raise money for the March of Dimes.

In 2011, the MSNA was reestablished by Associate Professor Ida Spruill, PhD, RN who serves as a co-advisor. Tiffany Williams, DNP, APRN, assistant professor, serves as the faculty adviser.

Visit CON’s Diversity and Inclusion Committee for more information.
M A R C H

MON-FRI
9-13
Spring Break
CON open

M O N
16
Faculty Assembly
1 - 4 p.m. | CON 202

W E D
18
Staff Meeting
9 a.m. | CON 202

M O N
30
Faculty Workshop: Evaluation & Assessment presented by Michael Bridges, PhD
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. | CON 221

A P R I L

W E D
1-3
DNP Immersion
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. | BSB

W E D
1
DNP Reception
5 - 6:30 p.m. | College of Nursing

T H U - F R I
9-10
MUSC Board of Trustees Meeting
Colcock Hall

M O N
13
Faculty Assembly
1 - 4 p.m. | CON 202

W E D
15
Staff Meeting
9 a.m. | CON 202

EVERY DAY MAY NOT BE GOOD BUT THERE IS SOMETHING GOOD IN EVERY DAY.

Save The Date

One Voice, One Plan
Future of Nursing Action Coalition

2015 Leadership Summit

March 27, 2015
8:30 - 4:00

Columbia Conference Center
169 Laurelhurst Avenue
Columbia, SC

Nurses On Boards: Are you Ready? Future of Nursing Competency in Academic Progression SC Action Coalition Update

SPEAKERS:
Maureen Sroczynski, DNP, RN
President, Farley Associates Inc. Consultant for the Center to Champion Nursing in America

Constance Mullinix, RN, MBA, MPH, PhD
Clinical Associate Professor, East Carolina University

For more information contact outen@mailbox.sc.edu

WALK FOR WATER
A WATER MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL EVENT

9TH ANNUAL WALK FOR WATER
MARCH 21 | 9 AM | BRITTLEBANK PARK

No running! In fact, that’s only rule for the 9th Annual Walk for Water day. As we unlace our running shoes and slip into something more suitable for walking, Water Missions’ aim is to focus on the people who will no longer have to walk for dirty and unsafe water.

Please consider joining team Sigma Theta Tau International or simply donate to the cause.

Water Missions International is a nonprofit Christian engineering organization providing sustainable safe water and sanitation solutions for people in developing countries and disaster areas. Using state-of-the-art technology and engineering expertise, the organization has provided access to safe water for more than 2.4 million people in 49 countries on five continents since 2001. Water Missions International implements customized solutions through a comprehensive community development model in its ten permanent countries programs in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. www.watermissions.org
DOCTORAL STUDENTS WIN ACCOLADES

Crystal Graham, (MSN ‘11), PhD student, was selected as the sixth recipient of the Francis Marion University (FMU) African-American Faculty and Staff Coalition Diversity Award. Graham is an instructor of nursing and the simulation coordinator at FMU. The award seeks to recognize a FMU faculty or staff member for their significant contributions to enhance the university’s diversity and inclusiveness on and off campus. “Crystal is most deserving of this award. Not only does she contribute to the well-being of faculty, staff and students across this campus but her work within her profession and in the community is above and beyond what is asked of her,” said Teresa McDuffie, chairman of FMU’s Diversity Award Committee.

Cameo Green, DNP student, was named a 2015 Palmetto Center for Women TWIN Awards honoree. The TWIN Awards are distinguished honors presented to women whose outstanding achievements mark them as leaders and role models in business and in the community. Since the inception of the TWIN Awards in 1980, over 500 businesswomen have been honored who have made outstanding contributions to their professions and/or community. Honorees must reside or work in Richland, Lexington, Kershaw, Newberry, or Fairfield Counties. The TWIN awards are given by the Palmetto Center for Women, which is the women’s outreach branch of the YMCA of Columbia. An awards ceremony was held Feb. 5 in Columbia.

VET DOC WINS OSCAR GOLD

A powerful short film won an Academy Award last week. "Crisis Hotline: Veterans Press 1" won an Oscar for Best Documentary Short Subject.

The veterans crisis hotline launched in 2007 and has taken more than 1.3 million calls. This 40-minute documentary produced by Dana Perry and Ellen Goosenberg Kent highlights the switchboard heroes, many of whom are veterans themselves, and who take on the heavy responsibility of trying to save their fellow soldiers every day and night. For more information, visit http://www.hbo.com/documentaries/crisis-hotline-veterans-press-1/

STUDENTS ADVOCATE FOR NP REFORM AT STATEHOUSE

On Feb. 10, CON faculty and students traveled to the SC Statehouse in Columbia to attend APRN Lobby Day. Over 200 APRNs and students from all over the state arrived at the capital to show their support for House Bill 3078, a bill that endorses expansion of NP practice and increased access to care for patients.

"APRN day was a great opportunity to see how the legislative process works," said Mary Butler, DNP student. "I learned the importance of being politically involved in order to change the laws that will affect the care I provide.”

Elizabeth Bilancione, MSN student, echoed Butler’s statement and noted that she was glad she had the opportunity to participate. "The show of support for the removal of scope of practice barriers was impressive, a true demonstration of APRN’s determination to increase access to care for South Carolinians who are so desperately in need of it,” she said.

Faculty members Ruth Conner, PhD, RN, Cathy Durham, DNP, APRN, FNP-C and Joy Vess, DNP, APRN, ACNP-BC were proud to stand with their colleagues and students and share in this experience and advocacy for NP’s across the state. Students were extremely encouraged by the large turnout. "Seeing so many nurse practitioners and nursing students from all over the state gathered to support a common cause was impressive,” said Jeanette Parker, DNP student. "Prior to the start of the legislative session, all the NPs and NP students were recognized from the floor by one of our state representatives. As we rose together from our seats in the balcony, the sound of our large group standing as one unit caused many of the legislators to turn around and look at us with surprise. I really felt the impact of our power in numbers and was proud of the united front that we presented.”
Funded grants

Congratulations to Elaine J. Amella, PhD, RN, FAAN, for receiving funds from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for the RWJF’s Future of Nursing Scholar. The funding will support two Future of Nursing Scholars to complete their PhD in Nursing in three years. The funding will be used for tuition, fees, living expenses, health insurance, or professional development activities.

Submitted grant applications

INVESTIGATORS: Gayenell S. Magwood, PhD, RN, [PI] & Robert J. Adams, MD (Neuroscience)
FUNDING SOURCE: American Heart Association for the Strategically Focused Research Network
APP TITLE: Community-based intervention under nurse guidance after stroke (CINGS)
GOALS: Identify patient, family and community factors predictive of disparate stroke outcomes; translate the predictive factors of disparate outcomes into targeted, community based intervention; conduct a pilot test to examine its feasibility and acceptability and gain preliminary estimates of impact.

INVESTIGATORS: Gayenell S. Magwood, PhD, RN, & Marvella Ford, PhD (Public Health Sciences) & David Turner, PhD (Pathology and Laboratory Medicine)
FUNDING SOURCE: NIH/NIA (R01)
APP TITLE: Getting onboard with an active lifestyle to reduce BCa recurrence risk in older adults (GOAL)
GOALS: Use existing clinical infrastructure of cardiopulmonary rehabilitation to investigate whether lifestyle interventions affect biological pathways that can reduce breast cancer (BCa) prognostic biomarkers in older overweight and obese BCa survivors, thus reducing their BCa recurrence risk. The effect of the interventions on cognitive function and functional impairment will also be evaluated.

INVESTIGATOR: Susan D. Newman, PhD, RN, CRRN
FUNDING SOURCE: NIH/NINR (R01)
APP TITLE: Project PHOENIX: A peer-supported telehealth self-management program after traumatic disabling injury
OVERVIEW: PHOENIX addresses self-management after spinal cord injury through the integration of peer-support and tele-health to create an internet-based self-management intervention that is accessible and highly relevant to the unique needs of individuals with this disabling traumatic injury.
GOALS: Improve participants’ community participation and quality of life, and decrease occurrence of medically serious secondary conditions and rehospitalization after spinal cord injury.

INVESTIGATOR: Lynne S. Nemeth, PhD, RN, FAAN
FUNDING SOURCE: NIH/NIAAA (R25)
APP TITLE: A virtual learning collaborative for alcohol screening, brief intervention and treatment in primary care
OVERVIEW: An innovative, virtual learning collaborative (VLC) in which primary care practice clinicians and staff will engage in web-based learning, quality improvement planning and review of performance on alcohol screening, brief intervention and medication management measures over a 12-18 month timeframe.
GOALS: Promote the dissemination and implementation of alcohol guidelines developed by the National Institutes of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and use sound implementation science concepts to foster effective adoption of strategies to improve practice outcomes.

INVESTIGATOR: Frank A. Treiber, PhD
FUNDING SOURCE: NIH/OBSSR (R01)
APP TITLE: Patient centered health technology medication adherence program for African American hypertensives
OVERVIEW: 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 medication adherence and blood pressure control among African Americans with uncontrolled hypertension.

INVESTIGATORS: Marilyn Laken, PhD & Brent Egan, PhD [PI] (University of South Carolina)
FUNDING SOURCE: University of South Carolina
APP TITLE: TEAM intervention for BP control
OVERVIEW: Conduct a multi-level, stepped-wedge trial of evidence-based approaches to achieve HTN control for predominantly minority patients. MUSC will serve as the facilitating organization for the community based meetings under the direction of Laken

INVESTIGATORS: Ida Spruill, PhD, RN, LISW, FAAN & Coretta Jeremiah, PhD, RN, CNE, AOCN [PI] (University of North Carolina)
FUNDING SOURCE: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
APP TITLE: Communication skills intervention to improve health outcomes in sickle cell
GOALS: Compare the effectiveness of a patient-centered communications skills intervention with that of a coping skills intervention on health outcomes. A repeated measures design will be used, whereby (n=122) young adults, age 18-30 years, will be randomized to either a communication skills or a coping skills intervention group. Pre- to post-intervention change in outcomes will be assessed in both groups.
Nurse practitioners (NPs) from all over South Carolina convened at the State House in Columbia on February 10 in support of House Bill 3078. The bill, presented in the 3M Health and Environmental Affairs subcommittee, endorses the expansion of NP practice and increased access to care for patients and is opposed by the South Carolina Medical Association (SCMA). Although the turnout of NPs was great (over 200 nurses), and the testimony was compelling the bill did not make it out of the subcommittee. Rep. Phyllis Henderson (R-Greenville) and Rep. Anne Parks (D-Greenwood) voted to adjourn the debate on the bill. However, the sponsor of the bill, Rep. Wendell G. Gilliard (D-Charleston), fought a hard fight to move it forward to the full committee.

Another bill that will soon be called up for a hearing is House Bill 3508. This bill is being touted as a compromise between nurses and physicians, however it is not. This SCMA endorsed bill seeks to create yet another oversight board including physicians and dentists (yes, dentists) to oversee nurse practitioners and nurse midwives scope of practice. This physician-supported bill is scheduled to be brought before the 3M subcommittee on March 4, 2015. The bill’s primary sponsors are Rep. Henderson and Rep. Murrell Smith (R-Sumter).

Since this bill is being advertised as a compromise many legislators have signed up as a co-sponsor. Please let your representative or a member of the 3M committee know that passing this bill is not a concession and will restrict the practice of APRN/CNMs more so than the current law thus seriously impeding access to health care for many of South Carolina’s citizens. Reps. Bernstein, Cole, Hiott, Limehouse, Tallon, Quinn, Bernstein, McLeod, and Gagnon have already removed their names as co-sponsors.

South Carolina is one of 12 of states that continue to restrict scope of practice for NPs. Nineteen states and the District of Columbia already allow licensed NP’s autonomous independent practice while the remaining states allow for a collaborative arrangement. South Carolina continues to score poorly in health care ranking according to the United Health Foundation and removing some of the barrier to practice has been shown to improve patient outcomes.

PASOS update

On January 21, three promotores, or community health workers, for the PASOs program, conducted a panel at MUSC addressing cultural competency in the health care workplace with 100 first year medical and nursing students. The promotores spoke about being Latino in the United States and the barriers they have experienced in the health system. The promotores also shared their views on today’s health care system and how future health care providers can help create a more efficient and caring environment. The Q and A provided a learning opportunity for MUSC’s soon-to-be physicians and nurses so that they can better understand how to establish a mutual relationship with Charleston’s Hispanic population.

The PASO’s program is a College of Nursing initiative within the College’s Office of Practice that focuses on Hispanic health.
Wins at the CON
Dean Gail W. Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been appointed to a four-year term on the National Advisory Council of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA). SAMHSA is the agency within the US Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. Stuart, psychiatric nursing expert, is the only nurse currently serving on this national board.

SAMHSA’s mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America’s communities. Its strategic initiatives help provide treatment and services for people with mental and substance use disorders, support the families of people with mental and substance use disorders, build strong and supportive communities, prevent costly behavioral health problems, and promote better health for all Americans.

Carrie Cormack, DNP, APRN has been approved by the SC Board of Nursing and SC Board of Medicine to extend her scope of practice as a nurse practitioner. The boards agreed to extend her mileage restriction from a supervising physician from 45 miles to 135 miles.

New hires
April Stubbs is originally from Gulfport, MS but grew up in Columbia, SC. She recently relocated back to SC from Philadelphia where she earned a master’s degree in interdisciplinary health science from Drexel University. While in Philadelphia she worked at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia as a research assistant. Davis will be working as a program coordinator for Project DIABETES, a research project funded by the NIH/NINR. This project is lead by Ida Spruill, PhD, RN, and examines the effects of beliefs and culture on health literacy and the management of diabetes in African-Americans.

Toni Fancy-Denton has been hired as an information resource consultant to provide technology support and website design for the College of Nursing. She replaces Andrew Matthews who is currently working as a system programmer on CON’s development projects. Denton is a Goose Creek native who graduated in December 2014 with a Bachelor of Science in computer engineering (minor in mathematics) from Clemson University. Denton was also a track and field athlete at Porter-Gaud High School. In 2010, Denton was state runner-up in the discus at the SCISA track and field championship. Her start date is Mar. 2.

Faculty attend doctoral education conference
Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN, Elaine Amella, PhD, RN, FAAN, Gigi Smith, PhD, APRN, CPNP-BC, and Cathy Durham, DNP, APRN, FNP-C attended the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Doctoral Education Conference in San Diego, CA in January. The conference theme this year was the Synergy of Scholarship: Research and Practice. Amella and Stuart presented a poster titled, Meeting the Challenge of an Online Community of Scholars: Using Residency Program to Create Positive Outcomes. The conference was a great resource of information and networking.