LIFELONG LEARNING
By Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN

August is the start of a new semester for our college. It also gets me thinking about a commitment that I hope all of our students and faculty make – a commitment to the idea of lifelong learning. I particularly like this quote from Clay P. Bedford, “You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.”

There is a wealth of good ideas out there about how we can help our students and peers learn. This month I’d like to share with you these lessons from the Research Academy for University Learning at Montclair State University.

People Learn Best and Most Deeply When:
• They try to answer questions or solve problems they find interesting, intriguing, important, or beautiful.
• They can try, fail, receive feedback, and try again before anyone makes a judgment of their work.
• They can work collaboratively with other learners struggling with the same problems.
• They face repeated challenges to their existing fundamental paradigms.
• They care that their existing paradigms do not work.
• They can get support (emotional, physical, and intellectual) when they need it.
• They feel in control of their own learning, not manipulated.
• They believe that their work will be considered fairly and honestly.
• They believe that their work will matter.
• They believe that intelligence and abilities are expandable, that if they work hard, they will get better at it.
• They believe other people have faith in their ability to learn.
• They believe that they can learn.

I’m sure each of us could add to these lessons from our own experiences in the teaching-learning process. If you’d like to share one send me a tweet to @MUSC_CON. Would make for a lively dialogue for sure. — Gail
CON RECEIVES $5.5 MILLION FOR INNOVATIVE GRANTS

The College of Nursing has received more than $5.5 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to develop and use technology-based solutions to address a couple of today’s health care challenges. Two research projects, led by Professors Ken Ruggerio, PhD and Frank Treiber, PhD, were federally funded to help mental health providers and the heart health of African-Americans.

More than $3.1 million was awarded to Ruggiero for his grant titled, “Improving quality of care in child mental health service settings,” to support mental health providers with interventions that will ensure that children and families receive the best quality care using mobile technology applications to increase engagement between the provider and child. Studies in child education show that interactive games, touch-screen learning, and demonstration videos enhance engagement, knowledge, motivation, and learning.

According to Ruggiero, nearly nine million children in the U.S. meet criteria for at least one mental health disorder at any point in time. Effective treatments exist for these disorders; however, children and families who seek these services rarely receive them. Mental health providers need more support in the delivery of these interventions to ensure that children and families receive the best quality care.

This project will take an important step toward addressing these challenges by testing a novel, technology-based solution designed to improve the delivery of child mental health interventions in real-world community settings.

Additionally, Treiber, who holds the endowed chair in the Center for Economics, was awarded more than $2.4 million from the NIH’s National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to study medication adherence by African-Americans with uncontrolled hypertension.

Treiber’s 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 medication adherence and blood pressure control among African-Americans with uncontrolled hypertension.

Efforts to improve the effectiveness of patients with hypertension to following prescribed medication recommendations have been met with limited success. This research will test and refine a smart phone medication adherence program which includes automated reminders from an electronic medication tray, tailored text message/voice mail motivational feedback and reinforcement, automated summaries and direct alerts to providers.

SPOTLIGHT ON...DANTE PELZER

By Kimbi G. Marenakos, DNP, FNP-C, LPC

The CON’s Diversity & Inclusion Committee welcomes Dante Pelzer, PhD, to the MUSC family. Pelzer recently joined the Office of Student Programs and Student Diversity as the assistant director for student diversity. A Charleston native, Pelzer is returning to the Lowcountry after completing his undergraduate studies in mass communications and journalism at the University of South Carolina, and his doctoral research in higher education administration at Florida State University. Pelzer’s dissertation focused on the factors influencing the gender identity of African-American males on a southeastern university campus.

My conversation with Pelzer turned into a rich discussion on the changing face of health care education. He shared that while walking around campus, he likes to people watch and take note of who is wearing a badge and who is not, who is walking with a purpose and who seems lost in the maze of buildings. He noted a significant ethnic diversity, especially in MUSC’s patient population, and believes this changing demographic requires a new approach to educating health care professionals in all disciplines. He talked about the challenges that face both sides of the podium – colleges and their recruitment, retention, and support of ethnic minorities, and the minority students who apply and enroll in rigorous programs often with the deck stacked against them.

“I think the village approach that the College of Nursing uses is appropriate,” Pelzer said. “It is time and labor intensive, though most students from under-represented and historically marginalized backgrounds are used to this approach because of the way certain social systems have been put in place particularly in America.”

He believes the family (nuclear and extended) puts forth a great deal of effort to get these under-represented students to a place where they can even apply to MUSC. “When [students] get within the walls of the university, strong peer and faculty support is essential to their successful matriculation. The goal is not just to get them through, but finish in a way that builds and develops their character, competence, and confidence to deliver excellent care, then the work to get them there can be very rewarding.” Pelzer says that a sense of belonging and a feeling of connection to the college can only have a positive impact their MUSC experience.
AUGUST

09  DOTS | Noon | CON 202
10-11 Board of Trustees Meeting | Colcock Hall
11  Integrating Behavioral Health in Primary Care | CON 202
15  RN to BSN Pinning Ceremony | 4 pm | St. Luke’s Chapel
16  Feed Your Mind | Noon | CON 513
Sachin Patel, CON Research Instructor, will present Demonstration on Mobile Health Application Development Platform for Non-developers
18  Faculty Retreat | 9 am-4 pm | Mt. P. Waterfront Pk (Cooper River rm)
20-25 New Student Orientation | 1 pm | CON 202
21  Solar Eclipse | afternoon |
22  Faculty Convocation | 4 pm | Drug Discovery Building (110)
23  Staff Meeting | 9 am | CON 202
24  Stethoscope Ceremony | 4 pm | St. Luke’s Chapel
30  Feed Your Mind | Noon | CON 513
Patrick Coyne, Palliative Program Director, Department of Medicine Acute Critical Care and General Internal Medicine, will present Scrambler Therapy: The Basics

SEPTEMBER

04  Labor Day | State Holiday | CON closed
18  Faculty Assembly | 1 pm | CON 202
20  Staff Meeting | 9 am | CON 202
21  BSN Scholarship Reception | 4 pm | CON-Mary Swain Foyer
30  Lowcountry Heart Walk | 9 am | Riverfront Park (N. Chas)

TAX FREE SHOPPING AT MUSC’S INNOVATION STATION - AUG 4 - 5
MUSC’s Innovation Station is participating in the annual Sales Tax Holiday August 4 and 5, during which, a variety of approved school supply items are exempt from the 6 percent state sales tax and any applicable local taxes.

In order to make a tax free purchase, payment must be received in full at the time of purchase. Innovation Station team members have begun to place items on hold for tax free weekend for students and employees.

If you have any questions, contact an Innovation Station team member at 843-792-5312 or visit the store on the 1st floor of the Colbert Education Center. The Innovation Station will be open on August 4 & 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

What’s exempt from tax at the store?
Computers, iPads, and associated accessories (such as external hard drives, mice, keyboards, track pads) purchased with a computer are tax free. All other accessories will be taxed.

What’s not exempt?
Apple Watch, and accessories not purchased with a computer.

SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING EVENT
In just 94 minutes, the Great American Eclipse of 2017 will cross the country from Oregon to South Carolina. After leaving the eastern coast, the moon’s shadow will pass over most of the Atlantic Ocean before ending at sunset near Africa. The path of the total solar eclipse lies exclusively within the United States. No other land mass, island or continent, is again touched by totality.

The total solar eclipse is expected to be visible in Charleston at approximately 2:46 p.m. on August 21. An MUSC viewing event is in the works with glasses be available. Watch for emails and Yammer for more details to come.

PLEASE NOTE: MUSC (university), MUSC Health, and MUSCP will NOT be closed. Annual Leave or PTO will need to be requested if you are planning on taking the day off.

Integrating Behavioral Health in Primary Care
FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2017
Medical University of South Carolina • College of Nursing • Charleston, SC
To register: www.musc.edu/nursing/conhub
DEAN DELIVERS PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF CON AT OTHERSEN LECTURE

More than 100 attendees came out to hear Dean Gail Stuart’s presentation at the 7th Annual Janelle Othersen Visiting Professorship Lecture on July 19.

Since 2010, the Othersen Lecture has broadened the educational experience of MUSC nursing students and faculty by hosting engaging and influential health care professionals on campus. In early spring, the faculty discuss who they would like to extend an invitation to speak at MUSC. Since this would be the dean’s last Othersen Lecture before her retirement, it was unanimously decided that Dean Stuart should be this year’s speaker. During her presentation, “Taking the pulse and scoping the future,” the dean spoke about the accomplishments the college has made over the past decade and what the future holds for the MUSC College of Nursing.

SGA HOSTS LUNCH FOR FACULTY

The College of Nursing’s Student Government Association hosted a lunch for faculty on July 17 as a way to say thanks.
FUNDED GRANTS

**PI:** Frank A. Treiber, PhD  
**SPONSOR:** NIH/NHLBI  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** July 10, 2017 – April 30, 2021  
**AMOUNT:** $2,449,989  
**TITLE:** Patient Centered Health Technology Medication Adherence Program for African American Hypertensives  
**GOAL:** 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 medication adherence and blood pressure control among African Americans with uncontrolled hypertension.

**PI:** Kenneth J. Ruggiero, PhD  
**SPONSOR:** NIH/NIMH  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** August 1, 2017 – May 31, 2021  
**AMOUNT:** $3,100,432  
**TITLE:** Improving Quality of Care in Child Mental Health Service Settings  
**GOAL:** Nearly 9 million U.S. children meet criteria for at least one mental health disorder at any point in time. Effective treatments exist for these disorders, but children and families who seek services rarely receive them. Mental health providers need more support in the delivery of these interventions to ensure that children and families receive the best quality care. This project will take an important step toward addressing these challenges by testing a novel, technology-based solution designed to improve the delivery of child mental health interventions in real-world community settings. This project is directly in line with priorities highlighted in the NIMH strategic plan (strategies 3.3 and 4.1 in particular).

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**RECENT WORK**

**PUBLICATIONS**


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**GRANT SUBMISSIONS**

**PI:** Melanie L. Cason, PhD, RN, CNE  
**SPONSOR:** The Foundation of the National Student Nurses’ Association, Inc. (FNSNA)  
**TITLE:** Taking Student Learning Higher with Simulation Collaboration  
**GOAL:** This project seeks to advance the science of simulation in nursing education by: 1) developing a unique statewide alliance with student involvement to promote collaboration; 2) developing evidence-based simulation pedagogy and simulation regulation recommendations; and 3) implementing a reliable and valid outcomes based measurement system for simulation users.

**PI:** Ron Acierno, PhD  
**SPONSOR:** Sub Univ. of Pennsylvania/DoD  
**TITLE:** The Efficacy of 90-Minute vs. 60-Minute Sessions of Prolonged Exposure for PTSD: A Randomized Controlled Trial in Active Duty Military Personnel  
**GOAL:** The main aims of this study are: 1) To investigate the efficacy and efficiency (i.e., rate of improvement) of 60 vs. 90-minute Prolonged Exposure (PE) sessions (including 20 vs. 40-minute imaginal exposures, respectively); 2) To compare pre-/post- psychophysiological markers of treatment response; and 3) To test mechanisms of PE by investigating the associations between objective (i.e., psychophysiological) and subjective (i.e., self-report) measures of extinction-related arousal, changes in cognitions, and clinical outcomes.

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**SCTR DISCOVERY GRANT RFA**

SCTR’s Pilot Project Program aims to facilitate new and innovative, high-impact translational research. The primary objectives of pilot funding are to support new and innovative, scientifically meritorious projects to collect critical preliminary data for submission of extramural grant applications and to publish research findings. A premium is placed on interdisciplinary team science and new collaborations. Therefore if you are applying for this grant mechanism it is required to have an interdisciplinary team collaboration with at least one co-investigator/collaborator from a different discipline. The award amount is up to $25,000 in direct costs per 12-month period.

A pre-application submission is required by noon on Aug. 11. Selected applicants will be notified to submit full applications on Sep. 8 with full applications due by noon on Sep. 29. For more information contact Dayan Ranwala at ranwala@musc.edu.
RUGGIERO RECEIVES INAUGURAL MUSC FACULTY AWARD

Professor Ken Ruggiero, PhD, has been selected to receive the MUSC Foundation’s inaugural Population Health Award. This award recognizes and honors faculty who have made outstanding contributions that impact the health of a population or community through innovative technology, implementation of therapeutics, programs, informatics, or similar contributions. Ruggiero was chosen for this first-time award along with Andesaw Selassie, DrPH.

Ruggiero is the co-director of the Technology Applications Center for Healthful Lifestyles (TACHL), as well as director of the Telehealth Resilience and Recovery Program and has been with the College of Nursing since 2014. His research centers on the development and evaluation of technology-based interventions specifically stepped care approaches for victims of disaster and serious injury.

In partnership with the American Red Cross, Ruggiero is the principal investigator on a research grant from the National Institute of Health to conduct a randomized controlled trial of a stepped-care smartphone-based intervention for disaster survivors. He also is a co-PI on a Duke Endowment grant to adapt and implement the Telehealth Resilience and Recovery Program in three partnering trauma centers across South Carolina.

The second line of Ruggiero’s research focuses on the development and evaluation of tablet-based resources to improve the quality of care in child mental health treatment. This work aims specifically to improve child engagement and provider fidelity in the delivery of best practices.

Throughout his career, he has led five NIH grants, four grants from the Veterans Affairs grants, and five from the Department of Homeland Security. He also has served as a co-investigator on numerous grants funded by the U.S. Department of Defense, National Institute on Drug Abuse, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

He received his undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo and his masters and doctoral degrees from West Virginia University. Additionally, he completed an internship and National Institute of Mental Health postdoc at MUSC.

This award, along with other faculty awards, will be presented at Faculty Convocation on August 22.

NEW HHI SCHOLARS SELECTED FOR FALL SEMESTER

Congratulations to the following students for their selection into the Hispanic/Latino Health Scholars Program: Caroline Wright, Park Ashley, Leigh Rothgeb, Taylor Ryan, Carlie Mazik, Nicolette Jacinto, Julia Holmes, and Page Wise. The purpose of this community clinical is to provide an immersion experience in the local Hispanic/Latino community for students to learn about immigrant health and the impact of culture and health beliefs on health outcomes. This fall, the scholars will be working primarily in North Charleston with our community partners examining health issues for the Hispanic/Latino community. They will also have experiences on the Sea Islands working with Fetter Health Care Network to provide health services at the migrant camps.

2017 Fall Hispanic/Latino Health Initiative Scholars
Left to right: Caroline Wright, Leigh Rothgeb, Carlie Mazik, Nicolette Jacinto, Ryan Taylor, Page Wise, Park Ashley and Julia Holmes.
CONGRATULATIONS: Professor Julie Barroso, PhD, was elected to the board of directors of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care, a national nursing organization.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT: If you know a doctoral student who should showcase his/her outstanding dissertation or final DNP project nominate them for the Outstanding Dissertation and DNP Project Awards. AACN created this awards program to recognize and showcase outstanding dissertations and final DNP projects completed by students in research- and practice-focused doctoral programs. Many doctoral students are advancing ground-breaking research and practice innovations that are worthy of national recognition and could serve as exemplars for other students to emulate. Nominations may be made by the dean, doctoral department chair, dissertation committee chair, or capstone project advisor. Letters of nomination are due September 13.

DO YOU KNOW A NURSE HERO? Nominate a nurse you admire or any MUSC Health care team member as a Health Care Hero. The Charleston Regional Business Journal hosts this annual event that honors individuals and organizations that have a passion for health care and patients. There are nine nomination categories, including first responder, nurse, physician, and health care researcher. Nominations are open now through September 8 at 5 p.m.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Thank you to everyone who said YES to the 2017 MUSC YES Campaign. With 56 donors from the College of Nursing giving back to one or more of the university’s charities, the college fell short of its 60 percent participation goal. However, MUSC surpassed its goal and raised more than $436,000 with 1,050 employees giving to this year’s campaign. Of note, the 2017 campaign saw 188 new donors with 75 percent of pledges coming from the university. These contributions will greatly impact the lives of MUSC patients and their families, students, and colleagues over the next year. Thank you!

FACULTY CONVOCATION: This year the inaugural James W. Colbert Lectureship will be a part of Faculty Convocation. The inaugural Colbert Lecture speaker, Brian “B.J.” Miller, MD, is a pre-eminent speaker on patient-centered care, palliative and end-of-life care, and assistant clinical professor of medicine at UC San Francisco. Faculty Convocation is scheduled for August 22, at 4 p.m., with a reception at 5:45 p.m. in the Drug Discovery Auditorium. The Colbert Lectureship Series was established through the generosity of the family of the late James W. Colbert, MD, to honor his tenure as Provost at MUSC. Distinguished guests will include the members of the Colbert family.

WHAT DEFINES A LEADER? Compassion, Respect, Innovation, Collaboration, Integrity—do you know someone who demonstrates these characteristics? Please nominate them for the Values in Action Award. This award honors five employees each year who help fulfill MUSC’s vision statement, leading health innovation for the lives we touch. The winners will be vetted, selected, and recognized in person by President Cole and his wife, Kathy. If you have anyone in mind that you would like to nominate, please do so by the end of October of this year. Assistant Professor Suparna Qanungo, PhD, was the recipient of the 2016 Values in Action award for collaboration. Will another one of us be honored this upcoming year?
YOU’RE INVITED

Harleston Neighbor 2 Neighbor, I’On At Home, and Pleasant Village invite you to the nationwide celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the Senior Village Movement, hosted by the MUSC Center on Aging.

Join us, along with Villages throughout the country, to participate "virtually" in an event featuring Atul Gawande, MD, MPH, author of the ground-breaking book, Being Mortal.

RESCHEDULED
Monday, September 25, 2017
4:30 - 6:30 pm (doors open at 4:00)

MUSC Drug Discovery Building, Room 110
President Street, Charleston