TAKING NURSING HIGHER IN 2017

By Dean Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN

Did you see the movie Up? I did, and as you can see, I am holding on to my balloons tightly because I want to stay on the ground as we are kicking off another new year for the College of Nursing!

Balloons are a great image for the launch of our 2017 Scholarship Campaign that we are calling Take Nursing Higher. It is a bold and ambitious campaign with the goal of raising $1 million in scholarship funds in 2017 for our very deserving students.

In addition to our 135th Scholarship Fund we have established three new funds:

- Diversity
- Men in Nursing
- Veterans

These new funds will allow us to reach out with focused funding in these areas and hopefully attract new donors.

Is this campaign ambitious? You bet. But the College of Nursing is nothing if not ambitious. And these focused areas are in need of dedicated scholarship support along with all of our students. For example, did you know that 80 percent of our students have financial need, and yet only 36 percent of our students receive some type of scholarship support?

I think these facts make the case for why we are launching this campaign. And we are well on our way as we have $674,000 already donated or pledged by friends of the college to this campaign.

That is a great start for sure. But wouldn’t it be wonderful if each person who is reading this column would contribute to this campaign? I mean even contribute $10 or $20. Small steps truly can take us to large outcomes.

So please show you support of this campaign. Click here and give life to your belief in our students and your commitment to the MUSC College of Nursing!

I’d love to write more but I need to access that link and make my contribution now. - Gail
NEW SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCED

On Jan. 3, the MUSC College of Nursing unveiled a new campaign to raise at least $1 million for nursing scholarships. The Take Nursing Higher scholarship will provide funding to incoming and current MUSC nursing students who are looking to take their nursing careers to a higher level through obtaining a bachelor’s, masters or doctoral degree in nursing.

Dean Gail Stuart is confident the college will achieve its million-dollar goal by the campaign’s conclusion in July 2018.

“Everyone knows a nurse, so I think people, in general, have a very deep, personal appreciation both for our profession and our college,” said Stuart. “They understand that the first step in producing the best nurses is attracting the best nursing students. These scholarships will help make that happen.”

Most of today’s MUSC nursing students enter the program with significant financial responsibilities. These men and women are sacrificing time away from their families to put themselves through nursing school because they want to make a difference in the lives of their future patients. Many applicants demonstrate academic promise but lack the means to pay full tuition. Through this campaign, these students will be eligible to receive scholarship money to lessen the financial burden of returning to school.

The Take Nursing Higher scholarship campaign will offer need- and merit-based scholarships, as well as scholarships aimed at creating opportunities for nursing’s underrepresented groups including minority students, male students, and military veterans. These students often face significant financial obstacles to entering nursing school and typically do not receive enough financial support.

If you would like to help take nursing higher by improving the availability and quality of nursing education, visit our giving page, Take Nursing Higher, or contact Laurie Scott, director of development, at 843-792-8421 or scotlk@musc.edu.

NURSE: MOST TRUSTED PROFESSION

Nurses have been voted the most trusted profession in America in Gallup’s annual survey which ranks professions for their honesty and ethical standards.

Eighty-four percent of the American public believe nurses’ honesty and ethical standards are either “high” or “very high.”

It is the 15th straight time nurses have been voted the most trusted profession.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Very High/High %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pharmacists</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Medical Doctors</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Engineers</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dentists</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Police Officers</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>College Teachers</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Clergy</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Chiropractors</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Psychiatrists</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Bankers</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Journalists</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lawyers</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>State Governors</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Business Executives</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>HMO Managers</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Senators</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Stockbrokers</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Advertising Practitioners</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Insurance Salespeople</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Car Salespeople</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Members of Congress</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**JANUARY**

3 / CON Reopens

11 / Research Think Tank / 9:00 am / CON 513

11 / Stethoscope Ceremony / 4:30 pm / St. Luke’s Chapel

16 / Martin Luther King, Jr. Day / State Holiday / CON Closed

20 / Interprofessional Day / Various MUSC locations

27 / WISSDOM Lecture / 10:00 am / CON 221

---

**Research Think Tank**

Jan. 9 / 9-10 am / CON 513

PI - Carolyn Jenkins, DrPh, APRN, FAAN

Grant proposal: “Community Academic Research for Engaging Stroke Survivors and Support Systems - CARES”

If you are interested in reading the proposal and the critiques contact Martina Mueller at muellerm@musc.edu

*Research Think Tank is for PIs who would like to brainstorm possible directions/methods at the early stages of proposal conceptualization, usually four to six months in advance of grant submission. PI will offer a brief conceptual piece (e.g. abstract) in writing and orally to the group. Discussion ensues.*

---

**Interprofessional Day Schedule - Jan. 20**

**Second Year Students**

8:15 – 8:30 am Packet Pick-Up

8:30 – 9:15 am Large Group Session

9:15 – 9:30 am Move to small group room

9:30 – 11:30 am Small Group Sessions

7:00 – 10:30 pm SGA Oyster Roast

**First Year Students**

12:45 – 1:00 pm Packet Pick-Up

1:00 – 1:45 pm Large Group Session

1:45 – 2:00 pm Travel to small group rooms

2:00 – 3:30 pm Small Group Sessions

7:00 – 10:30 pm SGA Oyster Roast

---

**“Exploring Disparities in Stroke: Looking Beyond Clinical Outcomes”**

Jan. 27 / 10 am / CON 221

Presented by Charles Ellis, PhD, CCC-SLP, East Carolina University, and hosted by the Wide Spectrum Investigation of Stroke Outcome Disparities on Multiple Levels (WISSDOM) Center in conjunction with the Center of Biomedical Research and Excellence (COBRE) in Stroke Recovery

---

**FEBRUARY**

8 / DOTS / noon / CON 432

9-10 / MUSC Board of Trustees meeting / Colcock Hall

16 / Safe Use of Opioids / Noon / CON 202

20 / Presidents Day / CON Open

20 / Faculty Assembly / 1:00 pm / CON 221

---

**“Impact of the Evolution of Change” with Tim Wise, author**

Wed., Jan. 11 @ Noon - 1 pm | BE 110

(1 hour of D/I training credit)

A DOTS post-reflection discussion will be held afterwards from 1 - 2 pm in CON 432

---

**Welcome to DOTS: Diversity and Openness Talking Series**

CON Diversity & Inclusion Monthly Brown Bag Series

Wed., Feb. 8 @ Noon | CON 432

Register on MyQuest

All MUSC students, staff and faculty are invited to attend. (D/I training credit offered.)
MEN IN NURSING TAKE ON THANKSGIVING

The Men in Nursing group took on their biggest project to date at the Father to Father’s Thanksgiving Outreach Project. The group assembled over 80 Thanksgiving box meals that included turkey, rice, green beans, stuffing and dessert, as well as common toiletry items to give out to in-need members in the North Charleston area.

Father to Father, Inc., is the only non-profit with more than ten years of experience in the region whose sole mission is to help fathers overcome the barriers to being a responsible and involved father.

Located in N. Charleston, they serve 1,200 fathers annually from Charleston, Dorchester and Berkeley counties. In addition to supporting fathers and families, they are a resource to businesses seeking employees who are ready to work, and community organizations that want to learn more about father absence and engaging fathers.

Population Health Students Give Back

During the fall semester, five CON students visited Father to Father weekly as part of the Population Health Nursing course. While providing aid to this organization, the group was able to administer blood pressure screenings and information on free health clinics in the area, assist participants in resume building and improving interviewing skills, and help with preparing Thanksgiving day food and toiletry bags. In addition, they were able to attend several Father to Father group meetings to observe discussions and the positive messages the organization promoted.

In addition, the students helped the organization move to a larger location. The group helped pack-up their old office and relocate to the new site located on Woodbine Avenue in N. Charleston. For more information, visit www.scfathersandfamilies.com.
21ST CENTURY CURES BILL IS SIGNED INTO LAW AND APPLAUDED AS A VICTORY FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

In a rare, bipartisan measure, the Senate passed the 21st Century Cures Act in a 94-5 vote in early December. This measure was passed by the House over the Summer and then signed into law during the last days of Barack Obama’s presidency. In short, the LA Times reports that the bill provides $6.3 billion dollars “to increase federal support for medical research, mental health care and controlling the opioid epidemic”. This bill provides specific funding to establish a new assistant secretary for mental health at the Department of Health and Human Services and includes funding for Vice President Joe Biden’s ”moonshot” project on cancer that was initiated after he lost his adult son to cancer last year.

A unique quality of this bill is the focus on mental health care needs of children ages 0-3. This was not initially included in the bill until key stakeholders for children aged 0-3 created efforts to have this measure added when the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions took up mental health reform last March. It was then included in both the House and Senate versions of the bill as the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act to the 21st Century Cures bill.

Researchers and clinicians have long known about this “critical period” of brain development that can help children on the path to a successful academic career and ultimately a successful life. Untreated symptoms of mental health disorders manifest in very young children and can have serious effects that effect learning, social skill development and long-term health. Conventional thinking has been that mental health is only an issue for older children and adults when in fact our mental health needs begin at birth. Researchers estimate that between 9.5 percent and 14.5 percent of children age birth to five years experience an emotional or behavioral disturbance which means that between 1.9 and 2.8 million young children in the U.S. need more intensive mental health support (Brauner & Stephens 2016). This is accomplished by supporting health promotion, early intervention and treatment, enhanced training for mental health clinicians working with young children and families and mental health consultation in early child care and education programs that are evidenced based, culturally and linguistically appropriate. Advocates for children count this as an important victory that will improve infant mental health prevention, identification and treatment. In fact, this bill represents the first time that this has been recognized by Congress.

In addition, this legislation is expected to accelerate FDA approvals, a measure that President-elect Donald Trump says he supports.

MUSC NURSE FACULTY PRACTICE HIGHLIGHT

Hispanic Health Initiative Scholars and ABSN students, Maria Petrie and Hannah Kloch, volunteered at the PASOs community baby shower in November. The baby shower, funded through Trident United Way, served as a health fair for expectant Latino mothers. Twenty-six pregnant women and 60 individuals received information and services from local health professionals in order to have a successful, healthy pregnancy and support family development. Both Petrie and Kloch were able to contribute to this overall goal through teaching mothers about healthy food choices for different stages of their child’s development. Additionally, Kloch’s husband, Andy Kloch, DDS, provided free oral health screenings to the expectant mothers. With the support from these two students, this successful event has assisted in establishing new partnerships and will help to create healthy children, knowledgeable families, and strong communities in the Tri-County area.

STUDENTS TEACH NEW MOTHERS ABOUT MAKING HEALTHY CHOICES

Hispanic Health Initiative Scholars and ABSN students, Maria Petrie and Hannah Kloch, volunteered at the PASOs community baby shower in November. The baby shower, funded through Trident United Way, served as a health fair for expectant Latino mothers. Twenty-six pregnant women and 60 individuals received information and services from local health professionals in order to have a successful, healthy pregnancy and support family development. Both Petrie and Kloch were able to contribute to this overall goal through teaching mothers about healthy food choices for different stages of their child’s development. Additionally, Kloch’s husband, Andy Kloch, DDS, provided free oral health screenings to the expectant mothers. With the support from these two students, this successful event has assisted in establishing new partnerships and will help to create healthy children, knowledgeable families, and strong communities in the Tri-County area.
AWARDS & HONORS: Tatiana Davidson has been elected as the chair of the Hispanic Issues in Behavior Therapy Special Interest Group for the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.

NEW ARRIVAL: Congratulations to Deborah Williamson whose newest grandchild, Camille Whitaker, was born Dec. 12 at Duke Regional Hospital in Durham, NC, weighing 8 pounds and measuring 20.5 inches long. She was attended by a nurse midwife and a doula. Camille’s parents, Rebecca and Kyle, were committed to an unmedicated birth and were able to achieve their goal despite a two-day induction for post due dates.

COLLEGE OF NURSING

UNIVERSITY WIDE

INTERPROFESSIONAL DAY: MUSC’s Interprofessional Day (IP Day) for the 2017 spring semesters will be held Jan. 20. On the second Friday in the spring semester for MUSC, over 1500 students, faculty, and staff come together to participate in an annual event for all first and second year students designed to establish a culture of collaborative teamwork and improve patient care and safety. Although the size and scope of Interprofessional Day has doubled since its inception in 2006, the purpose remains the same: to provide students with a rare, valuable opportunity to engage in team-based activities that promote learning about, from and with students enrolled in all six colleges.

The Interprofessional Day event has a similar format for both morning and afternoon sessions with a speaker who, through sharing professional or personal experiences, reinforces the link between collaborative teamwork and improved patient care and safety.

At the close of the keynote session, students break into 30-40 pre-assigned interprofessional student groups that meet in locations across campus. In those smaller breakout sessions, faculty and staff volunteers work with students to facilitate specific activities. The year-one students participate in an activity that fosters awareness of the other professions and the value of interprofessional teamwork, and second-year students participate in an activity that emphasizes the importance of teamwork when facing a difficult situation.

The entire Interprofessional Day experience pulls from all corners of campus; from logistics of coordinating technology and assignment of rooms to accommodate close to 1,300 students, to the participation of many faculty, staff, and students who volunteer as facilitators, actors, and with logistical support for the day to ensure the success of this event. The teamwork needed to provide this effective university-wide experience serves as an excellent model for the role of an interprofessional team in providing an important, rewarding and enlightening educational experience for students. Click here for more information.
Are you up to date on the advances in biomedical and clinical research methodology?

Current public health professionals, biostatisticians, epidemiologists, biomedical and clinical researchers – as well as residents, post docs, fellows and graduate students – who aspire to advance in this changing field will benefit from a series of workshops on quantitative methods used in key areas of public health, population health, and biomedical and clinical research.

**Topics include:**
- Bayesian Biostatistics
- Clinical Trials & Data Management
- Longitudinal Data Analysis
- Machine Learning & GIS
- Statistical Methods for Basic Scientists

Schedule and registration information at [musc.edu/2017-summer-institute](http://musc.edu/2017-summer-institute)