In October 2005, Stephen Colbert coined the term truthiness while on Comedy Central’s The Colbert Report. Colbert defined it as “believing something that feels true, even if it isn’t supported by fact.” The made up word struck a nerve and went on to become Merriam-Webster’s Word of the Year in 2006. Now, 12 years later, truthiness continues to define those who appeal to raw feelings at the expense of facts. I think we are experiencing an epidemic of truthiness and this is not good. It seems as if George Washington’s “I cannot tell a lie” is no longer what we see from our public figures or from others who should be role models – especially for our children and grandchildren.

And we no longer call a lie, a lie. Our vocabulary (and thesaurus) has expanded as we now have other words to describe a lie. Some of these include evidence-free, alternative facts, walking back the truth, no evidence, misinformation, fake news, misspoke, unsubstantiated, unproven and baseless. Wow – we act as if using other descriptors makes truthiness acceptable, but all it does is help us avoid the fact that one has lied.

It has been said that “a lie gets halfway around the world before truth has a chance to get its pants on.” That is a sad but also a dangerous reality. It requires one to be diligent and thoughtful in assessing information.

Let me be clear. Lies do damage and destroy both trust and credibility. As health care professionals we need to rise above the fray and set a standard of truth, veracity and accuracy when we talk with each other, our students, our patients and our communities. We can and should expect nothing less.

As nurses we have been ranked No. 1 by the Gallup poll as the most ethical and trusted of all professionals for the past 15 years. Ethics and trust mandate that we speak the truth and not the truthiness. Enacting this commitment of ethics and trust starts with our own authentic and respectful interactions with each other. This is a great opportunity for us to be the change we wish to see in the world. Truthfully — Gail
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION NEWS

Members of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee look forward to working with student recruiter, Kaleigh Larson, and believe she will be an instrumental asset to the group. Larson, who joined the College of Nursing in April, will be actively recruiting students for the college’s nursing programs, as well as working closely with the committee to ensure that the goal of admitting, retaining and educating a diverse student body is being met. Larson moved to Charleston at the end of 2016 after living four years in New York City where she worked in the admissions office at Pace University. She is a native of Syracuse, NY, and loves apple picking, pizza and wineries in the Finger Lakes. But her favorite place to be is on the beach so the move south has been easy and enjoyable. In her free time, Larson enjoys exploring her new city with her husband, playing with their dog, Mitch, eating, working out and traveling when possible. Welcome Kaleigh!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO D/I COMMITTEE'S NEWEST MEMBER, TONYA HAZELTON WHO WAS ELECTED IN MAY BY FACULTY AND STAFF.

OTHERSEN LECTURE SERIES REACHES ITS 7TH YEAR

Since 2010, the Janelle Othersen Visiting Professorship Lecture has contributed to broadening the educational experience of MUSC nursing students and faculty by bringing engaging and influential health care professionals to campus. This annual presentation aims to encourage thought-provoking conversations and ideas, while also allowing dedicated nursing students be exposed to a diverse and vibrant array of nurse leaders, backgrounds, and ideas.

Dean Gail W. Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN, who is set to retire in June 2018, has been selected to give this year’s feature presentation, “Taking the Pulse and Scoping the Future of the MUSC College of Nursing.” She will provide an update on the progress that has been made in advancing nursing education and take a look at what lies ahead for the College of Nursing to ensure that the nursing workforce is prepared to provide exceptional care to patients, families, and communities.

All students, faculty, staff, regional alumni, donors and the South Carolina nursing community are invited to attend. The lecture will be presented on Wednesday, July 19 at 4:00 p.m. in the MUSC Drug Discovery Auditorium (70 President St.), followed by a reception.

NEWS & NOTES

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SAVE THE DATE

Janelle Othersen Visiting Professorship Lecture

TAKING THE PULSE AND SCOPING THE FUTURE: THE MUSC COLLEGE OF NURSING

presented by Gail W. Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Distinguished University Professor

Wednesday, July 19, 2017 | 4 p.m. (reception to follow)
MUSC Campus | Drug Discovery Auditorium

Yes Campaign 2017

Click here to give today.
**JUNE**

02  Feed Your Mind | Noon | CON 513
5-9  Qualitative Research Intensive | CON
14  DOTS | Noon | CON 202
19  Faculty Assembly | 1 pm | CON 202
21  Staff Meeting | 9 am | CON 202

**JULY**

04  Independence Day | state holiday | CON closed
12  DOTS | Noon | CON 202
??  Research for Lunch | Noon | CON 513
17  Faculty Assembly | 1 pm | CON 202
19  Staff Meeting | 9 am | CON 202
18-19  Board of Trustees Meeting | Colcock Hall
19  Janelle Othersen Visiting Professorship Lecture featuring Dean Gail W. Stuart | 4 pm | Drug Discovery

**QUALITATIVE RESEARCH INTENSIVE**

- **DISCUSS**
- **DISCOVER**
- **DETERMINE**
- **DEVISE**

**JUNE 5 - 9, 2017**

Medical University of South Carolina • College of Nursing
Charleston, South Carolina

**SCHWARTZ CENTER ROUNDS**

June 2 / Noon - 1 p.m. / Gazes Auditorium
Employees, faculty, students and staff welcome.

Lunch provided

Schwartz Center Rounds is a multidisciplinary forum where caregivers discuss difficult social and emotional issues that arise while caring for patients. Visit “Schwartz Center Rounds” on Yammer at [https://www.yammer.com/musc.edu](https://www.yammer.com/musc.edu) to sign up for email alerts about upcoming events.

**STROKE CAREGIVERS SUMMIT**

“Supporting the Care Partners of Stroke Survivors with Education and Engagement”

Saturday, June 17 | 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Roper St. Francis Hospital (2095 Henry Tecklenburg Dr.)

No cost to attend but registration is required.
Contact Michelle Woodbury at (843) 792-1671 or WoodbuML@musc.edu.

**COMING UP**

**FACULTY RETREAT**

August 18 / Mt. Pleasant Waterfront Park (Cooper River Rm.)

**FACULTY CONVOCATION & JAMES W. COLBERT LECTURESHP SERIES**

August 22
4 p.m. - convocation & lecture / 5:30 p.m. - reception

**CON RECOGNITION FUND**

Please consider a contribution to the CON Recognition Fund.
Faculty: $50 | Staff: $25

These funds are used to send faculty and staff cards and flowers for births or bereavement, purchase retirement gifts, and to pay for parties and showers.

Only checks made out to ‘CON Recognition Fund’ can be accepted. Place checks in an envelope in Kathleen Cartmell’s mailbox on 5th floor.

Thank you for your support!
CONVOCATION 2017
On May 18, the College of Nursing recognized 126 students who completed their studies in the spring at a convocation ceremony that was held at the Charleston Music Hall. This year, 74 BSN, 51 DNP, and one PhD student walked across the stage to be pinned (BSN) or hooded (DNP or PhD). During the ceremony several students and faculty were recognized for their achievements.

STUDENT AWARDS
Palmetto Gold Award
Hannah Kloch

Lanzaone Men In Nursing Award
Nicholas Jackson

Outstanding BSN Student Award
Bernadette Gaffney

Josephine Fogle Award
Heather Morrison

2016-17 First Honor Graduates
Susannah Rogers (BSN)
Brittany Dillon (DNP)
Catherine Melin (DNP)
Anna Fisk (PhD)

2016-17 Second Honor Graduates
Rroseanne Leah (BSN)
Thomas Lovette (BSN)
Elizabeth Galvin (DNP)
Theresa Trivette (DNP)

FACULTY AWARDS
Golden Lamp Award
Joy Lauerer, DNP

Outstanding Clinical Faculty Award
Lynn Sherwood, MSN

Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award
Terri Fowler, DNP

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY
The South Carolina Nurses Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2017 Nurses Care Undergraduate and Graduate Nurse Scholarships. The SCNF will be awarding 11 $2,000 undergraduate scholarships and five $3,000 graduate scholarships to qualified nursing students currently enrolled in an RN, master’s or doctoral program. Deadline for submission of applications is June 15. Scholarships will be awarded in September 2017. Students must be enrolled in a nursing program when they receive the award. Checks will be given to awardees with the stipulation that the funds must be used toward educational expenses. Information related to the award criteria, and links to the application and faculty recommendation forms can be found on the SCNF website.

The 2017 MUSC Interprofessional CLARION Case Competition, was held March 24, where three MUSC teams competed and were awarded team scholarships. For the local competition, students from different disciplines have the opportunity to work as a team to analyze and provide recommendations surrounding an extensive health care case dealing with interprofessional issues.

The winning team, Parker Rhoden, from left, (CHP–MHA); Mary Lewis Griffin (Pharmacy); Jillian Harvey (coach, CHP-DHLM); Maylin Taylor (Nursing); and Andrew Hill (Medicine) received a $3,000 team scholarship. The group went on to compete at the national competition, April 7-8, at the University of Minnesota. The competition is designed to broaden the educational experience of health care students through interprofessional interaction as well as raise awareness of each profession to improve patient health outcomes. The local CLARION is cosponsored by the Student Interprofessional Society and the Office of Interprofessional Initiatives.
**Funded Grant**

**PI:** Tatiana M. Davidson, PhD  
**SPONSOR:** Duke Endowment  
**PROJECT PERIOD:** June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2020  
**AMOUNT:** $540,000  
**TITLE:** To expand the trauma/telehealth resilience and recovery program in South Carolina  
**GOAL:** To support to expand trauma/telehealth services to three additional trauma centers in South Carolina.

**Grant Submissions**

**PI:** Ron Acierno, PhD  
**SPONSOR:** NIH/NIMHD  
**TITLE:** Community based treatment of bereavement in American Indians after motor vehicle crash: Addressing the consequences of the leading cause of death in American Indians age 0-44 years  
**GOAL:** To reduce suffering and functional impairment associated with complicated grief (CG) that disproportionately affects American Indian families following motor vehicle crash fatalities by providing a tool designed for community paraprofessional providers to deliver core ingredients of evidence based CG treatment.

**PI:** Ken Ruggiero, PhD  
**SPONSOR:** FEMA  
**TITLE:** Mobile web resources to support spouses and family members of fire service personnel  
**GOAL:** To develop and evaluate resources for families of firefighters at the request of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Studies show that after critical incidents and occupational stressors, 19 percent of firefighters look to peers for support but 74 percent turn to spouses and family members who are often the first to recognize the need for help. This shows a critical need for resources that can help firefighter families to understand and identify common firefighter stressors and behavioral reactions; identify their own stressors and behaviors (e.g., worry, anxiety, distress, marital discord) when they occur; learn about evidence-based self-care, peer/social support, and communication strategies; build skills to recognize warning signs and take action; and know how to seek help through local and online resources.

**PI:** Chanita Hughes-Halbert, PhD (MUSC Institute of Psychiatry)  
**PROJECT LEADERS:** Gayenell S. Magwood, PhD and Robert J. Adams, MD (COM)  
**SPONSOR:** NIH/NIMHD  
**TITLE:** IMPACT atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease/cardiovascular (ASCVD/CMB) risk for families  
**GOAL:** To identify African-Americans with ischemic stroke (proband) who have at risk family members in order to provide guideline-based secondary prevention and reduce ASCVD risk in the targeted family members. IMPACT aims to implement and evaluate a multi-level telehealth intervention to enhance management of ASCVD/CMB risk factors that can guide future system/policy level discussions by addressing the information gap on the effectiveness of engaging at risk family members after a sentinel event such as stroke.

**PI:** Kathleen B. Cartmell, PhD and Anthony Alberg, PhD (COM)  
**SPONSOR:** AHRQ  
**TITLE:** An IT driven tobacco treatment service model for use in diverse primary care practice settings  
**GOAL:** To evaluate wide-scale translation of a health-IT driven, hospital-based tobacco treatment service model for use in diverse primary care practice settings.

**PI:** Leslie Parker, PhD (University of Florida)  
**SUB PI:** Martina Mueller, PhD  
**SPONSOR:** UF/NIH  
**TITLE:** Enhancing lactation success in mothers of extremely premature infants  
**GOAL:** To influence health policy and practices that may directly translate to increased breast milk production for mothers and better health outcomes for premature infants.

**PIs:** Frank Treiber, PhD and Dawn Wilson, PhD (USC)  
**SPONSOR:** University of South Carolina/NIH  
**TITLE:** Genetic pathways influence motivational interventions for obesity  
**GOAL:** To use underlying genetic predisposition to better identify youth most likely to benefit from a particular motivational intervention for obesity prevention.

**Recent Work**

**Publications**


**Presentation**


**Poster Presentation**

HHI SCHOLARS SUMMER 2017

Congratulations to Tanya Hunt, Jessica Montoya, Mimi Pacheco, Whitney Pasquini, Elena Rivers, Alex Ruppe and Jack Weaver who were selected as the 2017 Hispanic Health Initiative Scholars. This semester in the Population Health course, HHI Scholars will study health issues in agricultural workers. To orient the students into this community, they spent a day on Johns Island meeting with an immigration attorney, visiting a migrant camp, and completing a farmworker simulation by picking strawberries. Below are excerpts from their reflections about their first clinical day.

“I enjoyed hearing about immigration law and was surprised by how small changes can have a huge impact on millions of people. I admired the attorney’s passion for protecting her clients and fighting for their rights. Advocating as a lawyer is similar to advocating as a nurse. You have to think about all the factors affecting a patient, not just that one problem.” – Alex Moseley Ruppe

“They work hours upon hours in the field and come home to a tiny mattress and fly infested quarters. The migrant workers have some community resources, but may not always feel comfortable reaching out and that is something I think we can work on. Making sure our patients feel comfortable coming to us and forming a trusting relationship is so important. I learned so much in this short day and gained such a new perspective on how to approach health care with this incredible group of hard working individuals who deserve so much more than what they are currently receiving.” – Jessica Montoya

“As I listened to the attorney I found myself very flustered trying to fully understanding all of the information that she was giving us and I could only imagine how these workers feel and the fears that they face, especially when language is a barrier.” – Mimi Pacheco

“I respect the farm workers for their hard work and perseverance, because I know that I could not do it myself. I’m proud to be part of this experience so that we can learn from migrant farm workers and help teach them certain ways to look out for their own health.” – Whitney Pasquini

“It was a day full of learning and a huge reality check for the poor conditions migrants in this country face. Every bit of that day was eye opening to me and I see the problems these migrants face in a whole new light.” – Elena Rivers

“It’s difficult to establish the primary problem and how to solve it, but I’m excited to help with the health care of this population and learning more about their needs.” – Tanya Hunt

Throughout the summer the HHI scholars will be partnering with Fetter Health Care Network to provide health services in the migrant camps and working with other organizations that provide care to underserved populations.

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FACULTY PRACTICE HIGHLIGHT

FACULTY PRACTITIONER: Kathy Van Ravenstein PhD, APRN, FNP-BC
PRACTICE: One80 Place
LOCATION: Charleston
POPULATION FOCUS: Homeless adults, families, and veterans
ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OVERVIEW: Assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and medication management for acute and chronic conditions. Appropriate referrals to specialty medicine.
FAVORITE PART OF ROLE AS AN APRN: Providing comprehensive care to a population that does not often receive medical care and helping the homeless in their journey in starting a new life.
HHI SCHOLARS ATTEND MIGRANT WORKERS CONFERENCE, LEAVE WITH SENSE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

In May, most of the HHI scholars attended a national conference in Savannah, GA on the health of agricultural workers in the U.S. that was sponsored by the National Association of Community Health Centers. BSN student and HHI scholar, Jack Weaver, found the conference inspiring. “I saw how much a registered nurse can achieve when working together with others in a community health center,” he said.

The event’s keynote speaker was George Rust, MD, MPH, director of the Center for Medicine and Public Health at Florida State University and prominent advocate for health equity in the U.S. Rust is trying to change the conversation when it comes to health equity. He sees health equity as achievable, rather than ‘health disparities are inevitable.’

“The frank discussion of the obstacles and the opportunities for progress was encouraging,” Weaver said. “I appreciate that we got the opportunity to talk with him personally and his advice really resonated with me. He encouraged us to be humble when approaching obstacles in a community and to help the community bring about change with its unique strengths instead of imposing our approach on the community.”

Alex Moseley Ruppe, BSN student and HHI scholar, found Rust’s presentation enlightening as she “mostly thought of health inequity in terms of lacking access to health care services and socioeconomic status being a strong predictor of health outcomes.” Though her studies, she had a general understanding of health disparities, but she never thought to break down the overwhelming problem and deal with one specific population at a time such as migrant farm workers. “It seems these workers are taken advantage of from the second they come into our country,” said Ruppe. “Dr. Rust discussed how landlords take advantage of seasonal workers, workers who are forced to handle carcinogenic insecticides that are banned from households, and undergo psychological stressors on a daily basis.”

Ruppe was moved by a powerful quote from “Harvest of Shame,” a television documentary that aired in 1960. “We used to own our slaves, now we just rent them,” said a farmer in the film. A documentary that aired nearly 60 years ago shined a light on the lack of rights for farm workers that is still hidden in plain sight today.

“I can’t imagine being a child afraid to go to school because you may come home to an empty house and your parents deported. I wonder how all these people are affected by the same problem that has been going on for decades, and no one is doing anything about it,” said Ruppe.

However, Rust’s presentation showed Ruppe and her classmates that there are many who are passionate about this subject and willing to take up the cause. Rust and many like him are making strides each day to help migrant farm workers. Ruppe came away with the understanding that the health community must educate their peers and students about this injustice, so they can teach this patient population to become the teachers of their community.

According to Ruppe, Rust believes health disparities can be perceived as powerlessness for the patient, but instead one should focus on improving inequities rather than accepting their repercussions.

“This presentation was important for me because for a few minutes I got to step away from school, where there is one right answer and success is a grade, and think about the bigger picture,” said Ruppe. “The conference attendees and Dr. Rust have found their passion, and are working to make tomorrow better, even if that is improving an outcome for just one patient. It gives them the satisfaction to keep going.”
LEADERSHIP: Helen Ballestas, PhD, ANP-BC, RN, has been tapped to lead the college’s undergraduate program effective May 30 as Thomas Connelley, PhD, RN, leaves Charleston in June. Ballestas has plenty of experience in her new role as the new undergraduate program director since she held the same position at Long Island University before joining MUSC last year.

FACULTY EVALUATIONS: It’s time to begin the annual faculty evaluations process for 2016-17. An up-to-date CV in the FAIR database and a completed self-evaluation must be submitted no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled evaluation appointment. There is a fillable Word document for each of the faculty evaluation forms; they are located on the CON Intranet under Resources > Faculty Evaluation Forms. Start early so you will be prepared for your evaluation that will take place in June. If you have questions about the process, please contact Julie Barroso, department chair.

IPE AWARD: The MUSC Office of Interprofessional Initiatives has named Kimbi Marenakos, DNP, RN, LPC, instructor, as one of four outstanding facilitators of IP710, an interprofessional course that is designed to lay the foundations for beginning (first year) professions students to understand the complexities of the health care system and the role of interprofessional collaboration to improve the system. She received a $500 stipend and was honored at a Student Interprofessional Education Fellowship Recognition Ceremony in May. The faculty were chosen based on student feedback and evaluations.

In addition, graduating student, Erika Lynn Harris was recognized as a MUSC 2017 graduate as a champion for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice. In total, 11 graduating students completed all the requirements and were recognized at the ceremony. Students received a certificate of completion as well as a MUSC Interprofessional Fellow lapel pin.

COMPLIANCE: 2017 MUSC General Mandatories must be completed by June 30, 2017. To complete lessons log in using your NetID and password to MyQuest and refer to your list of current learning modules. You also can access MyQuest from MUSC’s home page. Scroll down to bottom of the page to the blue footer box, under About click on MUSC A-Z, then click on the letter “M” and search for MyQuest. If you have any technical questions, please contact our learning team at myquesthelp@musc.edu.

BIKE SHARE: The Holy Spokes bike share officially launched May 30. MUSC Health CEO, Pat Cawley, MD, started things off by noting how this new partnership really gets to the heart of our Imagine MUSC 2020 strategic goal to Build Healthy Communities. This program is the city’s first large-scale bike share program. Bikes will be stationed at 25 strategic locations across the peninsula to encourage residents — not just tourists — to ride. Visit https://charlestonbikeshare.com for more details on how to rent a bike. Also, be sure to read the Post & Couriers story on Holy Spokes.

IT STARTS WITH US: The 2017 Yes (Yearly Employee Support) Campaign will come to an end on June 30 but you still have time to help MUSC reach its goal of $430,000. You also can help CON increase its participation rate by donating $5 or $10. Presently we only have a 36% total participation rate. Remember, gifts of any size make a huge impact on our friends, family, patients, and community. This is our chance to show our neighbors we believe in the work MUSC does. If you have any questions, contact Whitney McLuen, YES Campaign Coordinator, at mcluen@musc.edu. Click here to give today.