

eCONNECTIONS

APRIL 2018

Learning From Others

By Gail Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN

One of the things I find most beneficial from traveling and presenting in other countries is that I always learn new things. For example, I have just returned from one of the cleanest, most efficient and safest cities in the world. Where do you think I was? Did you guess Singapore? If not you may be like one of my colleagues who, before I left, warned me that it was a dirty, unpleasant city so I was prepared....and then totally blown away by the Singapore that welcomed me. I was exposed to many fascinating aspects of this sovereign city-state, but in this column I will only focus on those related to health and wellness.

So first I learned that Singapore is ranked highly in education, health care, quality of life and personal safety. Specifically it ranks 6th in the world in the World Health Report. It ranks lowest in infant mortality in the world and fourth in the world in life expectancy. There is a high level of immunizations and adult obesity is below 10 percent of the population, which is impressive given that they enjoy an Asian rather than a Mediterranean diet with lots of rice and noodles and a good amount of fried food. Go figure.



Singapore also has one of the lowest crime rates in the world. I felt totally safe walking the city even in the evening and never saw a police officer. Maybe the reason for this is that they have tough gun control laws. Using or attempting to use a firearm when committing an offense is punishable with death. The death penalty may also apply to the offender's accomplices present at the scene of the crime, and anyone who owns two or more guns is considered a gun trafficker and arrested.

I experienced their high quality of life just strolling down the street. First of all, the city is immaculate. I saw no litter of any type, including no cigarette butts anywhere, yet no garbage cans either. I literally walked around with a wrapper all day looking for a trash can and only disposed

Continued on next page.

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*The beautiful spring came; and when Nature resumes her loveliness,
the human soul is apt to revive also.*

— Harriet Ann Jacobs

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Learning...Continued from p. 1

of it in my hotel room that evening. Even the restrooms only have air hand dryers and I was impressed that public rest rooms have a lower sink for children to use. Why haven't we thought of that as it makes such good sense! So what's the explanation behind this cleanliness? Well there is a \$1,000 fine for littering, chewing gum is banned in the country and no public smoking is permitted. I guess that's why the streets are so incredibly clean.

I also was amazed that traffic was very low given their population of more than 5 million people. The reason for this I learned was that they limit the number of cars allowed, and the roads were designed to be spacious with three lanes each way. Thus, most people rely on public transportation including an underground metro and an impressive cohort of clean, electric buses that are readily available. In fact, their city planning group looks 40 years ahead to identify and design ways to increase quality of life. I had to think about that in contrast to us here in Charleston where our traffic worsens each day and no effective plans ever seem to be in place for tomorrow let alone 40 years from now.

And here is a final notion. They have two casinos but residents have to pay a \$100 admission fee while tourists are free. The reason for this is to discourage their citizens



from gambling, and if a family member has a gambling problem the family can obtain an "injunction" that prohibits him or her from entering a casino.

Now you might say that these are great outcomes but they do come at the expense of limiting some personal freedoms and that is true. But at the end of the day I found myself questioning our notions of rights, responsibilities, personal well-being and social outcomes, and asking – in this country do we have the right balance between personal freedom and social consciousness, and what can we learn from others to improve our own health and well-being? It is a complex issue but given current events it seems like one that is worth revisiting. — Gail



Weglicki Named College of Nursing Dean

Linda S. Weglicki, RN, Ph.D., currently the Schmidt Family Foundation Distinguished University Professor and associate dean in the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing at Florida Atlantic University (FAU), has been named the new dean of the MUSC College of Nursing. She will begin her new role on July 1, 2018.

Weglicki has more than 40 years of professional experience in practice, education, and research, with extensive leadership experience in a variety of roles. An internationally recognized scholar and leader in adult and community health nursing, Weglicki brings with her numerous leadership achievements that showcase her commitment to mentoring and fostering the next generation of nurses. She is a strong advocate for nursing research and the advancement of nursing science and also recently was selected as an Ambassador to the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Overall, Weglicki has been instrumental in mentoring and fostering the development of the next generation of nurse leaders, researchers, scholars, and practitioners.

She began her nursing education in a hospital-based diploma program at Harper Hospital School of Nursing and then completed her Bachelor of Science in nursing and master's degree in community health nursing at Wayne State University College of Nursing. Her love for teaching resulted in completion, as the first cohort of graduates, of the Graduate Teaching and Education certificate program at Wayne State University. Weglicki completed her Ph.D. at the University of Michigan, School of Nursing, in the substantive research area of health promotion and risk reduction.

APRIL

April 6 / Noon - 12:50 PM
Apple Tree Presents: Report, Discuss & Disseminate Findings
 Ed. Center/Library 405

April 11 / 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
MUSC Earth Day & Local Food Fest
 MUSC Horseshoe/Portico

April 11 / Noon
DOTS
 CON 221

April 12 - 13
MUSC Board of Trustees Meeting
 Colcock Hall

April 16 / 1:00 PM
Faculty & Staff Assembly
 CON 202

April 20 / 8:30 AM
SCTR Scientific Retreat
 BEB 110

April 25 / 9:00 a.m.
Administrative Professionals Breakfast
 Drawing Room

MAY

May 10
Confederate Memorial Day (State Holiday)
 CON Open

May 9 / Noon
DOTS
 CON 221

May 18 / 2:00 PM
CON Convocation
 Charleston Music Hall

May 19 / 9:00 AM
MUSC Commencement Ceremony
 MUSC Horseshoe

May 21 / 1:00 PM
Faculty & Staff Assembly
 CON 202

May 28
Memorial Day
 CON Closed

— Upcoming —

RN-BSN Pinning
 August 16
 4:00 PM
 St. Luke's Chapel

#13

National Institutes
 of Health research
 ranking among
 schools of nursing



2ND ANNUAL QUALITATIVE RESEARCH INTENSIVE

Join us for a week-long series of classes for researchers and others who wish to learn how to develop and implement a qualitative research project.

- **DISCUSS** when a qualitative approach is appropriate
- **DISCOVER** how to frame your research purpose and questions
- **DETERMINE** which qualitative approach to use
- **DEVISE** data collection options, including focus group strategies and interview question development, and data analysis

JUNE 4 - 8, 2018

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

Students Exceed National Pass Rate for NCLEX



The College of Nursing's accelerated BSN graduates achieved a 94 percent pass rate on their first attempt of the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) in 2017.

The national pass rate for first time BSN graduates is 87 percent, according to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The state averaged 89 percent.

The NCLEX-RN exam determines if a nursing graduate is capable of using the knowledge and performing the skills of performing the duties required of an entry-level nurse, according to test preparation company Kaplan. The exam focuses on application, analysis and critical thinking.

Our ABSN faculty are expert educators who focus their efforts on student success. According to Gigi Smith, PhD, RN, executive associate dean for academics, "our faculty is consistently reviewing and revising the interactive curriculum while incorporating patient-centered care, interprofessional teams, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, patient safety, informatics, critical thinking, genomics, cultural sensitivity and professionalism to prepare nurses who will transform healthcare."

The ABSN program includes a focus on nursing research where students acquire the beginning skills to search for the evidence upon which to base their practice of nursing. In addition, the program focuses on population health and quality improvement to provide the skills BSN prepared nurses require to improve community health outcomes. The program includes more than 850 hours devoted to clinical practice. This time is spent in the skill and health assessment labs, our state of the art simulation center, area hospitals and community settings across the Lowcountry.

Note: Pass rates are based on candidates testing between January 1 and December 31, 2017. Candidates are first-time takers of the NCLEX and are graduates of a baccalaureate degree registered nursing program.

Grad Programs Earn Top 25 Spot

The College of Nursing's DNP degree program has been ranked No. 21 in the [2019 U.S. News and World Report graduate rankings](#), while the master's degree program was ranked No. 24. Among public schools of nursing our rankings jumped to No. 12 and 14 respectively.



Earlier this year, the college's online nursing graduate degree program was ranked No. 3 in *U.S. News'* online program rankings. The rankings are based on factors such as faculty credentials and training, student engagement, admissions selectivity, peer reputation and student services and technology.

U.S. News surveyed the 552 nursing schools with master's or doctoral programs accredited in late summer 2017 by either the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education or the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. With responses from 314 programs, the master's and DNP rankings are based on a weighted average of 14 measures of quality, including peer assessment, master's and DNP program student selectivity and master's and DNP program size, faculty resources and research activity.

Convocation, Graduation Details

Convocation, the pinning ceremony for the students earning their BSN and the hooding ceremony for the students earning a graduate degree, is **Friday, May 18 at 2:00 PM** at [Charleston Music Hall](#). Graduates should arrive by 1:00 PM with group photos at 1:30 PM. Please limit the number of guests to three-four per graduate. Traffic and parking are always a challenge in Charleston, so car-pooling is advised. Parking information can be found on [Charleston Music Hall's](#) website. Valet parking is not available for this event. Convocation usually lasts 1.5 hours and should be finished by 3:30 PM.

Graduation for the entire university will be held **Saturday, May 19 at 9:00 AM** in the MUSC Horseshoe. **This is a change from the past when graduation was held on a Friday and convocation was held on a Thursday.**

If you or guests are arriving from out-of-town, hotel reservations are important. If you are planning to go to lunch or dinner, reservations are highly suggested.



A few CON students were volunteering at the American Heart Association Go Red For Women Luncheon on Feb. 22 and when Dana Vollmer, Olympic gold medalist, walked over to have her blood pressure taken. Vollmer, a swimmer and seven time medalist, was the luncheon's keynote speaker. Pictured with Vollmer are **Alexander Brown**, **Mary Catherine Gill**, **Carlie Mzik**, **Christin Martin**, **Darshonda Guess** and **Kimberly Mansfield**.



Dianne Schuler, **Sarah Schwartz**, **Anahita Modaresi**, **Christina McDaniel**, **Whitney Smith**, **Terri Fowler**, and **Deborah Williamson** led the MUSC Partners in Healthcare celebration on March 15 at the home of Geoff and Dianne Schuler. The event helped raised \$20,000 for the College of Nursing's Partners in Healthcare Fund, and approximately 60 guests attended to help celebrate the MUSC College of Nursing and East Cooper Community Outreach partnership.



Kelsie Helton and **Marissa Kemp**, both DNP students, are trainees in the SC LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities) program. They presented their project "No Hit Zone" Implementation in Pediatric Clinics at the MUSC's Nurturing Developing Minds Conference in Greenville, SC on February 23. Along with their LEND trainee colleagues, **Lindsay Cary** and **Grace Cox**, the two nursing students are looking at ways for pediatric providers and staff members to address the ramifications of physical punishment with patients and families.

Faculty Award Nominations - Deadline Extended

Submission deadlines for the awards has been extended to April 2. Each year outstanding faculty members are recognized with university-wide awards for teaching, research, service and advising during Faculty Convocation. Visit the [Faculty Awards Page](#) for details and consider nominating one of our many outstanding faculty members.

MUSC Foundation Awards

- Population Health Award
- Outstanding Clinician Award
- Distinguished Faculty Service Award

Provost Awards

- Peggy Schachte Research Mentor Award
- Developing Scholar Award

Submitted Grants

PI: Kathy Van Ravenstein, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC and Melba A. Hernandez-Tejada, DHA, PhD

Sponsor: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)

Title: Enhancing aging in place through “activate for life”: An intervention to address pain, fatigue, and mental health in community dwelling older adults

Goal: The project is a collaboration between nursing and behavioral health experts in conjunction with a low-income housing provider to empower low-income older adults with chronic pain and fatigue to improve overall physical activity and mental health and reduce pain and fatigue, resulting in increased likelihood of Aging in Place.

PI: Tatiana M. Davidson, PhD and Angela D. Moreland, PhD (Dept. of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences)

Sponsor: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA)

Title: Mobile web resources to improve firefighters’ use and benefit from behavioral health services

Goal: This project will develop a resource for firefighters that provides clear guidance to help them make decisions about how to get treatment, what types of treatment may be most helpful, how to choose a behavioral health provider, and how to track their progress in treatment. Second, we will develop tools for behavioral health providers to help them address stigma and other barriers to care, effectively execute a firefighter-centric treatment plan, and select the best available course of treatment that matches the firefighter’s needs.

Publications

• Publications

Luque, J. S., Tarasenko, Y. N., Bryant, D. C., Davila, C., Soulen, G. (2017). An Examination of Sociocultural Factors Associated with Mammography Screening Among Latina Immigrants. *Hispanic Health Care International*, 15(3), 113-12.

Shillam, C. R., Adams, J. M., Bryant, D. C., Deupree, J. P., Miyamoto, S. Gregas, M. (2017). Development of the Leadership Influence Self-Assessment (LISA) instrument. *Nursing Outlook*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.outlook.2017.10.009>

Habit, N. F. (DNP student), Johnson, E., Edlund, B. J. (2018). Appointment reminders to decrease 30-day readmission rates to inpatient psychiatric hospitals. *Professional Case Management*, 23(2), 70-74. [DOI:10.1097/NCM.0000000000000248](https://doi.org/10.1097/NCM.0000000000000248)

Gilbert, S. M. (PhD graduate), Nemeth, L., Amella, E., Edlund, B., Burggraf, V. (2018). Adult children and the transition of aging. *Mental Health Nursing*. [DOI:10.1080/01612840.2018.1434842](https://doi.org/10.1080/01612840.2018.1434842)

George, T.P., & DeCristofaro, C. (2018). Use of Mobile Technology in Nursing Education. In M. Artois (Ed.), *Teaching with Technology: Perspectives, Challenges and Future Directions* (ch. 4). Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science Publishers. www.novapublishers.com/catalog/product_info.php?products_id=64070

LOWCOUNTRY NURSING RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Friday, April 27 | 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
MUSC Bioengineering Building

Keynote Speaker:

**Carolyn Jenkins, DrPH, MSN, RD, LD, FAAN,
Ann Darlington Edwards Endowed Chair in Nursing**

The Nursing Research Councils of Roper St. Francis and MUSC Health are holding a joint nursing research conference in conjunction with the Gamma Omicron at-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. The conference will focus on bridging the gap between clinical practices and nursing research. The target audience encompasses various clinical roles throughout the health care community and will include representatives from the greater Charleston area and beyond. For more information visit <http://lowcountrynursingresearch.com>.



2018 Summer Institute

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.

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| Topics include: | ■ Bayesian Biostatistics | 5/28-5/29 |
| | ■ Clinical Trials & Design Simulation | 5/29-5/30 |
| | ■ Longitudinal Data Analysis | 5/31-6/1 |
| | ■ Population-Based Study Design & Analysis | 5/24 |
| | ■ Survival Analysis | 5/24-5/25 |



2018 SUMMER INSTITUTE | MAY 2018

Department of Public Health Sciences
Charleston, SC

Schedule and registration information at
musc.edu/2018-summer-institute

