



*L to R: Mrs. Cathy Cole,  
Mrs. Ann Edwards and  
Dr. Linda Weglicki at  
the Dean's Scholarship  
Reception*

As we begin to think about and prepare for celebrating the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, there is so much for which we can all be thankful. In the nursing profession, it is easy to find meaning and inspiration in our shared commitment to caring for and promoting the health, well-being, and dignity of all.

At this special time, I want to extend my genuine appreciation to the faculty, staff, and students who help make the MUSC College of Nursing an outstanding place to work, learn, and discover. Our shared commitment to educating future nurses, nurse leaders, and nurses who will be instrumental in creating innovative solutions in meeting the country's health care challenges makes this institution an extraordinary place.

Additionally, I am genuinely grateful to have such loyal alumni and friends who have chosen to give back to the MUSC College of Nursing. Your strong spirit of service and support contribute to helping us meet our college mission of educating the next generation of nurses who will be leaders in practice, research, in shaping and transforming the future of healthcare. I witnessed this commitment and generosity at last month's Dean's

Scholarship Reception. It was a personal honor and pleasure to meet so many of our benefactors who truly believe in our mission to educate future generations of nurses. More importantly, it was such a special and lovely celebration in which our student scholarship recipients were able to personally thank donors for their generosity in helping them fulfill their dreams in becoming a nurse or in helping them advance their nursing careers at the doctoral level. It truly was an amazing evening – one that will change so many young lives as they navigate the complex healthcare needs of today's society.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone that November 27 is Giving Tuesday, a global day of giving. Held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, Giving Tuesday kicks off the holiday giving season and inspires people to give back to the causes they support. As you think about your giving plans, [please consider a gift](#) to the MUSC College of Nursing. Your gift will definitely make a difference, a difference in more lives than you know. #MUSCtogether

Warm wishes for a happy Thanksgiving holiday,  
*Dean Linda Weglicki*

## CON NEWS BRIEFS

**New Digs for IT** // College of Nursing's technology department has relocated. You will now find Bernie, Alex, Josh, Toni, and Bill in room 402. Come by and say hi, but if you need tech assistance please open a help desk ticket so that they can continue to assist you with the same level of customer service.

**Felicitations** // Shannon D'Alton, MSN, APRN, and Joy Lauerer, DNP, RN, walked with undergraduate students in the Suicide Awareness Walk on Oct. 14th. The team raised more than \$2,300 dollars - the most a CON team has ever raised for the organization.

**Kudos** // Michelle Nichols, Ph.D., RN, has been appointed to serve as an associate editor for *Family & Community Health*, a peer review journal focused on health disparities and health equity. She also have been appointed to the Mixed Methods International Research Association's Board of Directors as the chair for marketing and communications.

**Thumbs Up** // Suparna Qanungo, Ph.D., was invited to serve on the MUSC Center for Global Health's Advisory Board which is a two-year term. The advisory board is charged with providing input on the strategic direction, goals, and vision of the center, guide policy, development, and recommend investments in key initiatives.

**Full Heart, Clear Eyes** // Emily Johnson, Ph.D., received a patient-caregiver scholarship that will fund her registration and travel cost to Academy Health's 11th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health that will be held in December in Washington, D.C. You may remember last April when Johnson received another patient-caregiver scholarship to attend the Academy's Datapalooza event where she took part in a patient-caregiver focused panel discussion. Johnson's husband, Brian, has leukemia which makes her perspectives - first as a patient-caregiver and second as a researcher - a unique one, and Johnson the perfect recipient of this scholarship.

On a side note...while Brian received chemotherapy at MUSC for several months, he became bored and wanted to keep up his strength. Finding no outlets for his restlessness, he and another patient decided to do something about it. [Read more](#) about more his efforts to fund a couple exercise bicycles at Ashley River Tower.

**Career Development Opportunity** // The Women Scholars Initiative has announced a half-day career development workshop that focuses on promotion and tenure for both women and men faculty who are planning to submit their applications in the next two years. The Career Development Program (CDP) will be held on March 15, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and is open to faculty in all ranks and all tracks.

The goal of the program is to provide faculty with personalized feedback on key elements of their drafted promotion or tenure package. Sessions will include a panel discussion with recently promoted faculty and general information on the promotion and tenure process. Small group college-specific breakout sessions will follow, in which college-specific criteria will be discussed and attendees will receive personalized feedback on their drafted promotion or tenure materials. To participate, you will be required to submit an updated CV and personal statement six weeks prior to the program for review by a faculty mentor. Additionally, your division director, chair, or dean must agree that you will be released from all duties to attend the program. If you are interested in attending, complete the [REDCap application](#) by November 30, 2018.

Accepted applicants will be notified in January. If you already participated in the 2017 half-day CDP, you are not eligible for the 2019 program. Contact Rachel Simmons at [wsiinfo@musc.edu](mailto:wsiinfo@musc.edu) with any questions.

## NOVEMBER

November 2  
**MUSC Research Day**  
 Campus wide

November 4  
**Daylight Saving Time Ends**  
 Set clocks back 1 hour

November 5 / noon - 1 p.m.  
**Faculty Writing Workshop**  
 Topic: Systematic, Integrative,  
 Scoping and Other Reviews  
 CON 532

November 6  
**Election Day**  
 Go Vote!

November 7 - 9  
**PhD Learning Intensive**  
 CON

November 9 / 1 - 5 p.m.  
**Spring 2019 ABSN Mini-Orientation**  
 CON 202

November 12  
**State Holiday: Veterans Day**  
 CON open

November 12 - 16 / noon - 2 p.m.  
**National Nurse Practitioner Week**  
 Library Portico

November 19 / 1 p.m.  
**Faculty & Staff Assembly**  
 CON 221

November 22 - 23  
**Thanksgiving Holiday**  
 CON closed

November 27  
[#GivingTuesday](#)

## DECEMBER

December 6 / 10 a.m.  
**Convocation**  
 Charleston Music Hall

December 13 / 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**Clinical Instructor Orientation**  
 CON 202



**Thank you to our veterans for your courage  
 and sacrifice to ensure our freedom.**

## Fall 2018 Alumni Scholarship Recipients

The College of Nursing is fortunate to have many alumni and friends who invest in the education of our nursing students thus advancing the nursing profession through the establishment of scholarships. We are truly grateful to have such loyal alumni and friends who have chosen to give back to the College of Nursing.

**Molly Bullington**, a BSN student, has been selected as the recipient of the Elizabeth Ann Jones Scholarship. Bullington's leadership qualities and influential roles with several volunteer organizations have led people to describe her as poised, focused, and a self-starter with a strong work ethic. Bullington graduated with a bachelors degree in public health from the College of Charleston but established a relationship with the College of Nursing as an intern in the research department where she assisted with research and prepared presentations to increase awareness of elderly abuse to health care professionals. These qualities will serve her well as she moves through the baccalaureate program.



The recipient of the Irene Dixon Scholarship is DNP student, **Maggie Brownlee**. Brownlee, a 2017 summa cum laude graduate of our BSN program, is a nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit at MUSC's Children's Health. A former clinical instructor describes Brownlee as a bright and personable future nurse leader. "She holds a wealth of common knowledge which makes her wise beyond her years," her instructor said. "She has a passion for nursing (especially in the pediatric realm) that is most certainly palpable and infectious, and displays a caring attitude with an uplifting bedside manner."



**Diana Choi**, a Ph.D. student, is the recipient of the Ruth Chamberlain Scholarship and is the executive director at LHC Group, a Maryland-based organization that delivers health care in the home. Choi went into nursing as a second career but now aims to educate people and shed light on the impact nurses can have on a community. She feels she can make a lasting impact by spreading knowledge through her research, exploring community disparities and searching for ways to make quality health care more affordable. "I have seen educational differences in my home health job as well as in the classes that I teach regarding how people are able to obtain knowledge to improve their health," she said. "My desire is to leave a lasting footprint as a nurse researcher."

## Winter Convocation Set for December 6

The College of Nursing Convocation (hooding ceremony for MSN, DNP, and PhD students and pinning ceremony for ABSN students) will be held December 6 at 10 a.m., in the Charleston Music Hall (37 John St.). Students completing degree requirements should plan to arrive by 9 am. Graduates will wear their graduation gown and hood, no caps. Faculty should dress in full regalia. Carpooling is recommended. Parking is available in adjacent lots, but is limited.



## '97 Grad Pays It Forward



Mary Neff at an Pittsburgh Steelers game.

"After what I had just seen and experienced, I knew I had to become a nurse", said **Mary Neff, BSN '97**, as she thought back to the very moment she knew she had found her calling.

Neff began her career as a lab technician at MUSC, helping to run and analyze tests and samples ordered by health care providers.

As a lab tech, Neff worked in a space with large glass windows which allowed her to see across the floor and into a few hospital rooms. Since she was in close proximity to patient rooms she could hear and see nurses and physicians racing about the floor when emergencies arose. One day, a patient close to her lab coded. Though she could not see the patient, she saw the team rushing to respond. After witnessing the patient code and the nurses and physicians jump into action, Neff knew that nursing would become her calling.

"Nursing has afforded me a joyful and fulfilling lifestyle," Neff said. "As a nurse, you get to be the voice of compassion and understanding for patients and their families. For some, you become a part of their family."

Neff is still in contact with a few of her patients even years after they have left the hospital. One patient, in particular, was a young marine involved in a car accident. He was badly injured and was rushed to the MUSC Medical Center one evening while Neff was on duty.

Fifteen years later their paths would cross again nearly 650 miles from their first encounter in the emergency room. While in Pennsylvania to attend a Pittsburgh Steelers game, Neff was able to reconnect with the marine and his family. "You meet so many different people from all walks of life, and some become lifelong friends."

Neff's career in nursing has not only allowed her to connect with patients and their families but also has allowed her to connect with her community. Through nursing, Neff has volunteered on medical teams for community races and American Red Cross events. She also has traveled to several music festivals as a volunteer nurse.

*"A gift like Mary's provides a unique opportunity that our students might otherwise never have."*

After graduation from nursing school (Neff also holds a biology degree from College of Charleston), Neff traveled extensively and worked as a nurse in many different units - her favorites being the PACU and ICU - but she always remained connected to the MUSC College of Nursing through its publications and giving opportunities.

"I got to the point where I could give back, so I did," shared Neff, "I would encourage others to do the same - it doesn't have to be a lot." Neff began giving to the college's annual fund upon graduation, but in 2018 she decided she wanted to do more.

Neff contacted the college to share her desire to make a difference for future generations of nurses through a bequest. After meeting with **Linda Weglicki, PhD, RN**, dean of the College of Nursing; **Anahita Modaresi**, director of development; and **Sarah Schwartz**, development associate, Neff made the decision to establish an endowed scholarship in the college's global health initiatives program.

An avid traveler, Neff felt her gift was a perfect fit as it achieved her philanthropic goal of providing financial assistance to students who share her love of adventure. Through the college's global health initiative, students will be afforded the opportunity to travel on faculty-led trips to global research sites where they help

provide care and services in areas where healthcare access is scarce.

“The College of Nursing is very thankful to donors like May Neff, one of our many outstanding alumni, who see the value in supporting our programs, such as our global health initiative,” Dean Weglicki said. “In addition to helping build healthy communities through our global partners, this type of support provides unique opportunities that our students might otherwise never have – in which they learn to provide care and services in very vulnerable populations and in some of the hardest places to live. The experiences, where students learn to authentically provide care in

these difficult environments, will be carried with them through the rest of their nursing careers.”

Natalie Hahn, gift administrator in the Office of Gift Planning, helped Neff navigate the planned giving process to ensure her gift was handled with care. Hahn explained that choosing to leave a gift in your estate plans to the college is an incredible way to make an impact and leave a legacy. A planned gift is non-binding and can be altered at any time.

“Mary’s bequest provides the perfect opportunity for her to fulfill both passions of supporting the College of Nursing and traveling the globe as it does not affect her current cash flow,”

Hahn said. “She can make a gift now that will benefit the college for years to come.”

Neff’s motivation for giving back? Gratitude. “I just have to say thank you,” she shared. “I would not have the life I have if it were not for my nursing education. All the places I have traveled and the people I have met, it can all be traced back to nursing.”

If you are interested in paying it forward through leaving a gift or learn more about other gifts that may appeal to you, please contact the Office of Planned Giving at 843-792-9562 or visit [muscgiving.org](http://muscgiving.org).

## Students Meet Their Benefactors at Scholarship Reception

The Dean’s Scholarship Reception, an annual celebration of the College of Nursing’s scholarship program, was held October 3. Approximately 90 scholarship donors and recipients attended the reception, as well as the college’s development committee, friends of the college and faculty from each program.

During the reception, students and donors had the opportunity to meet one another, many for the very first time. After a welcome from Provost Lisa Saladin, **Dean Linda Weglicki** recognized each donor who was present, as well as the corresponding scholarship recipient. Three scholarship recipients spoke about what their scholarship meant to them and shared their stories. Speakers included **Melissa Fluharty**, Ph.D. student, **Ashley Martin**, DNP student, and **Danielle Ravenell**, ABSN student.

The College of Nursing would like to thank everyone who attended and helped to make the event such a success. Congratulations once again to our student recipients.



## Funded Grants



**PIs:** Martina Mueller, Ph.D. and Brent Forester, M.D., MSc

**Sponsors:** Sub McLean Hospital/NIH/NIA

**Time Period:** 9-30-18 through 5-31-23

**Amount:** \$1,997,625

**Title:** A randomized controlled trial of electroconvulsive therapy versus usual care for the acute  
**Goal:** MUSC will provide independent oversight and management of data collection, data flow, data entry, data quality assurance, and data analysis activities of the ECT-AD Data Center.



**PIs:** Tracy Stecker, Ph.D. and Kenneth Conner, Ph.D. (University of Rochester)

**Sponsor:** University of Rochester/NIH/NIAAA

**Time Period:** 9-1-18 through 8-3-22

**Amount:** \$443,547

**Title:** CBT by phone to promote use of alcohol related care and reduce drinking  
**Goal:** To implement a randomized controlled trial tests the efficacy of a promising, cognitive behavioral SBIRT (screening brief intervention and referral to treatment) intervention to increase treatment engagement, improve alcohol-related outcomes, and show that treatment engagement explains, in part, the improved outcomes.



**PI:** Gayenell Magwood, Ph.D., RN, FAHA, FAAN

**Sponsor:** S.C. Research Authority

**Title:** Using portable telemedicine to connect home bound patients to medical and social resources

**Time Period:** 6-1-18 through 5-31-19

**Amount:** \$100,000

**Goal:** To examine the feasibility of introducing a portable telemedicine care platform, Zeriscope, that provides face to face clinician-patient and nurse-direct care worker interaction and examination, along with sensor data, into existing home services.



**PIs:** Tatiana Davidson, Ph.D. and Angela Moreland, Ph.D. (Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences)

**Sponsor:** Department of Homeland Security/FEMA

**Time Period:** 8-22-18 through 8-21-20

**Amount:** \$426,921

**Title:** Mobile web resources to improve firefighters' use and benefit from behavioral health services  
**Goal:** To 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. Secondly, develop tools for behavioral health providers to help address stigma and other barriers to care, execute a firefighter-centric treatment plan, and select the best available course of treatment that matches the firefighter's needs.

## Grant Submissions

**Sub-PI:** Julie Barroso, Ph.D., RN, FAAN (PI: O. Winifred Adebayo, Ph.D., RN)

**Sponsor:** Sub. Pennsylvania State University of South Carolina/NIH/NIMHD

**Title:** Facilitators and barriers to self-initiated sexually transmitted infection testing among sexual minority college students

**Goals:** To compare the personal characteristics and scores from surveys of SGM students that self-initiate STI testing and never tested; identify qualitative themes that explain the facilitators and barriers to self-initiation of STI testing; relate identified themes to personal characteristics and scores from survey.

## Presentations

- **Lauerer, J.** (2018, October). Screen time: The impact of digital technology on youth and strategies for care. Presented at the American Psychiatric Nurses Association's 32nd Annual Conference in Columbus, OH.
- **DeCristafaro, C.** (2018, Oct 17, Oct. 25, Nov. 1, Nov. 7). Pain Management and Opioids: Balancing the Risks and Benefits (ASAM core curriculum). Presented throughout the S.C. AHEC System (live and webinar).

## Recent Published Work

- Herber, O.R., Kastaun, S., Wilm, S., Barroso, J. (2018). From qualitative meta-summary to qualitative meta-synthesis: Introducing a new situation-specific theory of barriers and facilitators for self-care in patients with heart failure. *Qualitative Health Research*. doi: [10.1177/1049732318800290](https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732318800290).
- Chandler, J., Beets, M., Saint-Maurice, P. Weaver, R., Cliff, D., Drenowatz, C., Moore, J. B., Sui, X., Brazendale, K. (2018). Wrist-based accelerometer cut-points to identify sedentary time in 5-11 year old children. *Children*, 5(10), 137. doi: [10.3390/children5100137](https://doi.org/10.3390/children5100137).
- Khairat, S., Ottmar, P., Sleath, B., Welch, B., Qanungo, S., Nichols, M., Obeid, J.S. (2018). Facilitating the informed consent process using teleconsent: Protocol for a feasibility and efficacy study. *JMIR Research Protocols*, 7(10):e11239. doi: [10.2196/11239](https://doi.org/10.2196/11239)
- Harshfield, G. A., Hanevold, C. D., Jasti, B. S., Ghosh, S., Pollock, J., Pollock, D., . . . Treiber, F. A. (2018). Angiotensin II and the natriuretic and blood pressure response to mental stress in African Americans. *Ethnicity & Disease*, 28(4), 511-516. doi: [10.18865/ed.28.4.511](https://doi.org/10.18865/ed.28.4.511).
- Ward-Ciesielski, E. F., Peros, O., Conigliaro, A. Gilmore, A. K. (2018). Perceived benefits of psychotherapy via telemedicine based on suicide risk severity. *General Hospital Psychiatry Journal*. doi:[10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2018.09.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2018.09.002).
- Gilmore, A. K., Price, M., Bountress, K. E., Zuromski, K. L., Ruggiero, K., Resnick, H. (2018). A longitudinal examination of interpersonal violence exposure, concern for loved ones during a disaster, and web-based intervention effects on posttraumatic stress disorder among adolescent victims of the spring 2011 tornadoes. *Journal Interpersonal Violence*. doi: [10.1177/0886260518791236](https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260518791236).
- Hahn, C. K., Gilmore, A. K., Aguayo, R. O., Rheingold, A. A. (2018). Perinatal intimate partner violence. *Obstetrics & Gynecology Clinics of North America*, 45(3), 535-547. doi: [10.1016/j.ogc.2018.04.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ogc.2018.04.008).
- Gilmore, A. K., Bountress, K. E., Selmanoff, M., George, W. H. (2018). Reducing heavy episodic drinking, incapacitation, and alcohol-induced blackouts: Secondary outcomes of a web-based combined alcohol use and sexual assault risk reduction intervention. *Violence Against Women*. 24(11), 1299-1313. doi: [10.1177/1077801218787934](https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801218787934).
- Tomko, R. L., Jones, J. L., Gilmore, A. K., Brady, K. T., Back, S. E., Gray, K. M. (2018). [N-acetylcysteine: A potential treatment for substance use disorders](https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801218787934). *Current Psychiatry*. 17(6), 30-36. 41-42, 55.
- Gilmore, A. K., Jones, J. L., Moreland, A. D., Hahn, C. K., Brady, K. T., Back, S. E. (2018). Gender moderates the association between distress tolerance and alcohol use among individuals with opioid use disorder. *Drug Alcohol Dependence*, 190, 9-12. doi: [10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2018.05.016](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2018.05.016).
- Gilmore, A. K., Hahn, C. K., Jaffe, A. E., Walsh, K., Moreland, A. D., Ward-Ciesielski, E. F. (2018). Suicidal ideation among adults with a recent sexual assault: Prescription opioid use and prior sexual assault. *Addictive Behavior Journal*, 85, 120-124. doi: [10.1016/j.addbeh.2018.05.028](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addbeh.2018.05.028).
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- Bauza, C., Yeatts, S.D., Borg, K., Magwood, G., Martin, R.H., Selassie, A., Ford, M.E. (2018). Determining the joint effect of obesity and diabetes on functional disability at 3-months and on all-cause mortality at 1-year following an ischemic stroke. *BMC Endocrine Disorders*, 18(1), 40. doi: [10.1186/s12902-018-0255-1](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12902-018-0255-1).
- Burns, S.P., Mueller, M., Magwood, G., White, B.M., Lackland, D., Ellis, C. (2018). Racial and ethnic differences in post-stroke subjective cognitive decline exist. *Disability and Health Journal*. doi: [10.1016/j.dhjo.2018.08.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dhjo.2018.08.005).
- Marebwa, B.K., Adams, R.J., Magwood, G.S., Kindy, M., Wilmskoetter, J., Wolf, M., Bonilha, L. (2018). Fibroblast growth factor23 is associated with axonal integrity and neural network architecture in the human frontal lobes. *PLoS One*. doi: [10.1371/journal.pone.0203460](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0203460).