May is such a fantastic month. It is finally warm, flowers are smiling, and Mother’s Day reminds us of our roots and how much we are loved. It also is in May that we celebrate Nurses’ Week in honor of Florence Nightingale’s birthday on May 6.

Recently I have been reading a truly fascinating book written by Cecil Woodham-Smith titled *Florence Nightingale: 1820-1910* (now available in paperback on Amazon). It is an amazing biography of her life as a child, through young adulthood and of course, her dedicated career to nursing. I was very moved by some of the text and so this month I share those with you as a spring renewal to all of the nurses at MUSC. Here are some of my favorites:

Her calmness, her resource, her power to take action raised her to the position of goddess. The men adored her. The doctors came to be absolutely dependent on her, and Colonel Sterling wrote home: “Miss Nightingale now queens it with absolute power.”

“If it was that of a dying man, the more certainly might her slight form be seen bending over him, administering to his easy by every means in her power and seldom quitting his side until death released him.” It was her rule never to let any man who came under her observation die alone.

One of the nurses described accompanying her on her night rounds. “It seemed an endless walk….A dim light burned here and there, Miss Nightingale carried her lantern which she would set down before she bent over any of the patients. I much admired her manner to the men – it was so tender and kind.”

The surgeons were amazed at her ability to strengthen men doomed to an operation. “The magic of her power over men was felt,” wrote historian Alexander William Kinglake, “in the room – the dreaded, the bloodstained room – where operations took place. There perhaps the maimed soldier if not yet resigned to his fate, might be craving death rather than meet the knife of the surgeon, but when such a one looked and saw that the honoured Lady in Chief was patiently standing beside him – and with lips closely set and hands folded – decreeing herself to go through the pain of witnessing pain, he used to fall into the mood of obeying her silent command and – finding strange support in her presence – bring himself to submit and endure.”

The troops worshiped her. “What a comfort it was to see her pass even,” wrote a soldier. “She would speak to one, and nod and smile to as many more; but she could not do it all you know. We lay there by hundreds; but we could kiss her shadow as it fell and lay our heads on the pillow again content.”

May we all aspire to such acts of heroism, compassion and love of nursing. — Gail

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*Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people – your family, friends, and coworkers, and even strangers you meet along the way.*

— Former First Lady Barbara Pierce Bush
Nurses Week: May 6–12

A note to all of our nurse graduates, students and friends

You change the lives of millions of patients and their families every day. Your work and impact extends far beyond the bedside and hallways of the hospital. You show up each day despite the stress and demanding hours to provide superb care to our nation’s ill. You answer countless questions with patience and a smile. You build relationships with your patients through everyday care and through listening to their every concern. And you do all this with no expectation of recognition. You’re truly irreplaceable.

During Nurse Nurses Week, we celebrate you and your countless hours of service. Thank you for all that you do to care for so many patients and their families. Without you, what would we do?

Walters Named Staff of the Year

Congratulations to Alex Walters, recipient of the 2018 Staff of the Year Award. This award was presented on April 25 during the CON Administrative Professionals Day breakfast hosted by the faculty. Walters moved to Charleston from West Virginia and has been with the College of Nursing since 2015. As an educational technology specialist, he has become an irreplaceable team member, assisting faculty with online education platforms. While teaching fifth grade in W.V., Walters’ patient demeanor was shaped. Today, his poise and troubleshooting abilities shine through in his interactions with faculty and staff.

A few of the many accolades he received from faculty and staff include: “Alex does more than his job, he excels at facilitating learning and creates an environment that almost always results in success.” “Alex brings novel ideas with a positive attitude.” “Because he is quiet, he sometimes doesn’t get the recognition he deserves, but we couldn’t do [our job] without him!”

Each April we celebrate the accomplishments of all of our staff with an administrative professionals breakfast and announce the award winner. Other staff members nominated include: Tonya Hazelton goes above and beyond the call in her representation and dedication to the CON. Moby Madisetti is always cheerful, optimistic, and never gets rattled. Carolyn Page shows love and support to her staff on a daily basis. Jessica Williams is very patient and always keeps a smile on her face no matter how stressful her job gets. Jo Smith writes thoughtful pieces for Lifelines and I appreciate her willingness to help with issues large and small. Kathy Williams is always friendly, with a prompt response and happy to help attitude. Sonya Smalls is a true pleasure to work with. Toni Fancy-Denton is persistent in troubleshooting and sees a problem through to a solution. Shelly Drake’s door is always open to discuss student needs and is quick to respond to problems. Adriana McKenna is a dream to work with. She is dependable, proactive and helpful. Virginia Vedilago is strongly committed to the college and university’s vision of providing care to diverse individuals.

Last month Dean Gail Stuart was recognized for her 16 years as dean and 33 years with MUSC. The Board of Trustees approved Stuart as dean emerita effective June 30 when she steps down after dedicating 47 years to the nursing profession.
MAY

May 2 / 10 am - 2 pm
Innovation Summit & Innovation Station’s One Year Anniversary
(see p. 7 for details)
Innovation Station

May 4 / Noon
Research For Lunch with Dr. Leigh Ridings
CON 513

May 9 / Noon - 3 pm
MUSC Employee Appreciation Day
MUSC Horseshoe & Greenway

May 10
Confederate Memorial Day (State Holiday)
CON Open

May 16 / Noon
Research For Lunch with Dr. Kathleen Cartmell
CON 513

May 17 - 18
MUSC Board of Trustees Meeting
Colcock Hall

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 23
Clinical Sciences Bldg. (Rm HE628h- 6th floor)

JUNE

June 1
New CON Dean Weglicki Arrives
CON

June 4 - 8
Qualitative Research Intensive
CON

June 18 / 1:00 pm
Faculty & Staff Assembly
CON 202

June 18 / Following Assembly
Celebration of Upcoming Retirements
Honor Barbara Edlund, Joanne Langdale,
Lynn Shull, Gail Stuart & Deborah Williamson
CON Historical Library

Know Your Numbers
Do a Worksite Screening

Next appointment availability is: May 23
Clinical Sciences Bldg. (Rm HE628h- 6th floor)

This screening is available to employees with the State Health Plan (including MUSC Health Plan) at no charge for the initial basic test in 2018. Employees and spouses without this insurance can participate for $47. Worksite screening information including pricing for optional tests and registration, is available online.

Look for the Imagine U card (pictured right) at the screening to record your numbers, then enter them into MyLife CheckTM (directions provided).

JUNE 4 - 8, 2018

Space is limited.
Register today at musc.edu/nursing/conhub
NIH Researcher to Deliver Commencement Address to MUSC Graduates

As the end of another academic session comes to an end graduating students are looking forward to the College of Nursing’s convocation ceremony. 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. There will not be a reception afterward.

Graduation exercises for the entire university will be held Saturday, May 19 at 9:00 AM in the MUSC Horseshoe. Approximately 640 candidates are expected to receive their degrees during the ceremony.

MUSC alum, John F. Tisdale, MD, will address the 2018 graduating class during commencement ceremonies. The NIH researcher is a renowned authority on sickle cell disease. Tisdale and his research team have been able to cure an African-American woman of sickle cell disease. Last fall, the Discovery Channel aired a documentary that followed Tisdale and his patients during experimental clinical trials at the National Institutes of Health.

Minorities In Medicine

The College of Nursing joined the other five MUSC colleges on April 3 at the College of Charleston to help minority students who aspire to become health care providers. The Minorities in Medicine program is a partnership between MUSC and the College of Charleston to bring mentors and other resources to prospective under-represented minority students. Presentations included information about programs within each of the colleges at MUSC, as well as information regarding the application processes. Darshonda Guess, in photo above with Jordan Smith, an occupational therapy student, represented the College of Nursing on a student panel. Guess, a BSN student, shared with the audience the importance of making positive choices, following your dreams and persevering through adversity.

Tese Stephens, PhD, MSN, associate professor, spoke to a group of MUSC Health leaders on the topic of resilience on April 20. For more than a decade, Stephens has been researching the importance of resilience in individuals who work in a health care environment. Her research looks at how health care professionals can increase their own resilience so that they are able to better handle and adapt to stressful work environments.
The Presidential Scholar’s 2017-2018 Equity Group, including Sarah Miller, PhD, RN, associate professor and faculty scholar, and students Brandon Gates (DNP) and Ka’Dedra Creech (BSN), along with other interested MUSC students, as well as students from the Charleston School of Law, came together to address the nation’s opioid epidemic. Along with the Charleston County Sheriff’s Office and MUSC Public Safety, the Equity Group discussed the opioid overprescription problem and opioid-involved overdose deaths. In 2016, Charleston County was the second highest county in the state for opioid-involved overdose deaths.

Currently, Public Safety houses the only medication drop box in Charleston County so the Equity Group set up a month-long drug take back event in four diverse locations (MUSC, Edisto, Awendaw, and Hollywood) to collect unused medications, distribute Deterra Drug Deactivation Systems (donated by SC Foundation Pharmacy Association), and provide educational materials. Four pounds of unused and expired medication was collected. The event was discussed on Live 5 News WCSC-TV and ABC NEWS as well as local radio. All takeback participants received medication deactivation bags for safe disposal at home, flyers and education about drug donation boxes in Charleston and surrounding areas.

On March 17, Kathryn Kinyon Munch, DNP, participated in the March on Washington for Cystic Fibrosis. The national event brought together CF advocates from all fifty states to Washington, D.C to educate members of congress about the disease and of the struggles people with CF endure. Kinyon-Munch was accompanied by Jen Nielson, executive director of the S.C. Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The team met with representatives from the SC legislative delegation to discuss the health insurance and health care needs of persons with chronic conditions. Also, the delegation was asked to support the elimination of barriers to Medicaid in SC including employment requirements, waiting periods and life-time caps.

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In partnership with the College of Nursing, the Tri-County PASOs program offers culturally tailored labor and delivery and breastfeeding classes in Spanish to Latino mothers at the Fetter Health Care Network’s downtown Charleston site (51 Nassau St.). The classes provide education and ensure that participants feel confident and well supported during and after their pregnancies. Participants review how to eat for a healthy pregnancy, the signs of premature birth, what to expect at the hospital and how to apply for a birth certificate. Common myths and benefits of breastfeeding for both the mother and baby also are discussed. Participants range from first time moms to mothers with several children. Everyone is encouraged to share their experiences in a relaxed and safe setting.

2018 MUSC General Mandatories Due Jun. 30
All learning modules for MUSC employees are to be completed by June 30. To enroll, go to MyQuest and refer to your list of current learning modules that are accessible from the home page.

If you have any technical questions, contact the learning team at myquesthelp@musc.edu.
Funded Grants

**PI:** Ron Acierno, PhD  
**Sponsor:** Dept. of Defense (DOD)  
**Amount:** $2,112,716  
**Title:** Peer Social Support During In Vivo Exposure for PTSD: A Program to Address Dropout from Prolonged Exposure  
**Goal:** Evaluate whether the opportunity to receive social support during in vivo exposure therapy homework from veterans who have successfully competed PE (i.e., the therapeutic equivalent of an exposure therapy ‘workout buddy’) is effective in reversing dropout and improving PTSD outcomes. Also, determine if this program is helpful to those receiving PE via telemedicine.  
**Performance Period:** 03/15/2018 – 03/14/2022

**PI:** Amanda K. Gilmore, PhD  
**Sponsor:** NIH/NIAAA  
**Amount:** $663,936  
**Title:** Alcohol and Violence Prevention for College Students  
**Goal:** Conduct a stage IA and IB pilot of a behavioral intervention for heavy episodic drinking and violence among college students.  
**Performance Period:** 03/15/2018 – 02/28/2021

Submitted Grants

**PI:** Emily Johnson, PhD  
**Sponsor:** NIH/NIMHD  
**Title:** Disparities in Bariatric Surgery: Factors and Implications in the Underserved Diabetes Population  
**Goal:** To propose a mixed-methods evaluation that initiates with analysis of secondary data to identify existing disparities in bariatric surgery, as well as facilitators and barriers to bariatric surgery access in underserved patients with obesity and diabetes.

**PI:** Melba Hernandez-Tejada, DHA, PhD  
**Sponsor:** State of South Carolina Department of Public Safety/Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)  
**Title:** Elder Abuse Assessment Training and Mental Health Services Program  
**Goal:** Combine training to health care providers and mental health services to better serve elder abuse victims by seamlessly integrating training with direct treatment services.

**PI:** Wendy A. Muzzy, MRA, MLIS  
**Sponsor:** State of South Carolina Dept. of Public Safety/Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)  
**Title:** Military Sexual Trauma and PTSD Services  
**Goal:** To offer evidence-based counseling services tailored to female victims of Military Sexual Trauma in an innovative context.

Publications

**• Publications**


**• Presentations**


FIRST ANNUAL
MUSC Health Innovation Summit

You are invited to attend the First Annual MUSC Health Innovation Summit on May 2, 2018 from 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. at the Innovation Station! The Summit will showcase innovative ideas from various teams across MUSC. Vote for the best idea, and the top four teams will present via a Shark-Tank style format on May 3rd to win seed funding and support to implement their idea at MUSC!

Local innovation companies will also be on-site to share their latest innovations and talk shop with any MUSC innovators!

Save the Date to stop by, enter for a chance to win an iPad, and enjoy extra discounts at the Innovation Station!

MUSC Health
Medical University of South Carolina