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Spotlight on Research



Professor Patricia J. Neafsey's work, supported by a \$1 million NIH grant, aims to reduce adverse self-medication practices in older adults with hypertension.

School of Nursing

Full 10-year accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education granted October 2005



University of
Connecticut

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Unison is published each year for the alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends of the School of Nursing at the University of Connecticut. Its purpose is to inform alumni, friends, prospective faculty, and students of the School's programs and activities, in addition to faculty accomplishments. If you have any questions about this publication, or the School of Nursing, you can contact us by phone at (860) 486-3716 or by fax at (860) 486-0001. You can also find additional information on our website at: www.nursing.uconn.edu.

On the Cover

From left to right: Research team members Zoe Strickler, Carolyn Lin, Elizabeth Anderson, and Patricia J. Neafsey (Principal Investigator) look on as Elise Bennett, seated, from the SON Center for Nursing Research, is shown the Personal Education Program – Next Generation (PEP-NG) adapted for Neafsey's work to improve self-medication practices, health literacy, and self-efficacy in older adults. See the full article on page 2.

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Edilma Lynch Yearwood
'74, RN, MA, PhD
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School of Nursing & Health Studies,
Georgetown University Medical Center
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Preparing professional nurses to provide leadership at the state, national and international levels for over half a century

Laura Cox Dzurec '74, PhD, RN, CS
Dean and Professor

The School continues its commitment to fulfilling the health care needs of the state, nation, and world through exceptional teaching, research, and service. The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education granted 10-year accreditation to the School's bachelor's, master's entry, and master's programs, following completion of a complex self-study report and a rigorous, on-site review process. The stability and acclaimed quality of our nursing programs is especially important in this critical time of nursing faculty and practice shortage.

A few salient highlights of the past academic year are:

Teaching

- The Master's Entry into Nursing accelerated pre-licensure program continues to attract a strong and competent student cohort.
- New Clinical Nurse Leader and Generalist tracks in the master's program are responsive to the changing needs of nursing.
- We will offer a Post-Master's Certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing beginning in summer, 2006.
- Through articulation and conversations with schools of nursing statewide, we continue to strengthen access to nursing education.

Research

The School currently boasts more research funding than any of the other similarly sized schools at Storrs.

- Dr. Patricia Neafsey's study focusing on Reducing Adverse Self-Medication Behaviors in Older Adults with Hypertension received over \$1 million from the NIH's National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (page 2).
- The new Associate Dean for Research is actively involved in research outreach, promotion of interdisciplinary studies, and identification of optimum foci for our research efforts (page 5).

Service

- MbEIN students provide education sessions and direct care to clinics for migrant workers at Thrall Farm, Pride's Corner, Agency for Health Education Collaborative sites, and the Willimantic soup kitchen (page 7).
- Through Compañeros Por Salud: Partners for Health intervention, students and faculty address health disparities in the Willimantic community (page 7).
- Carelink, our award-winning community/university partnership, continues to provide much needed wellness care to elders (page 7).

Thanks to the generosity of our many friends and donors, we have more than tripled our scholarship dollars in the last five years. Last fall we presented over \$100,000 in scholarship dollars, representing 50 awards, to 43 deserving recipients. Opportunities to get involved with the School abound. We invite you to join us in our efforts in addressing the health care needs of the State and beyond.

Farewell, Dean Dzurec

Academic Year 2006 marks the end of Dean Dzurec's term as head of the School of Nursing. She looks forward to the opportunity to return to addressing the concerns confronting nursing practice and education. These issues are particularly heightened in this time of nursing- and nurse faculty-shortage.

"Serving the School of Nursing has been an honor and a challenge," noted the Dean. "Our accomplishments in the past six years at UConn have been many. We renovated Storrs Hall, and achieved stellar results, first, in our state reapproval and next, in our national reaccreditation – the visitors' final report included not a single recommendation! We built a strong research focus among participating faculty, established numerous new scholarships, and built new and creative offerings like the master's entry program (MbEIN) and the new post-master's psychiatric-mental health certificate. Our student numbers over the past six years have nearly quadrupled."

Alumni and friends of the School have expressed excitement about the renewed vigor of the School of Nursing and its programs.

Joan Quinn, a 1959 graduate of the BS program, 1974 graduate of the MS program, is an active member of the School's Advisory Board. She noted, "I know that I speak for the School of Nursing Advisory Committee when I state the Advisory Committee will miss Dean Dzurec's creativity and energy. Fundraising efforts for the School of Nursing have been enhanced by the Dean's enthusiasm. The creation of a national level nursing advisory committee has been most advantageous to the School in the past 6 years.

Placement of advanced practitioners in the corporate environment in innovative Medicare programs has been an advantage to them as they learn both of different Medicare programs and are able to avail themselves of mentors in this environment all of whom are nurses. It also exposes them to a different view of health care."

We will celebrate the many achievements of the School under Dean Dzurec's guidance at our Fall, 2006 Alumni Banquet.

Thanks, Dean Dzurec. We will miss your leadership!



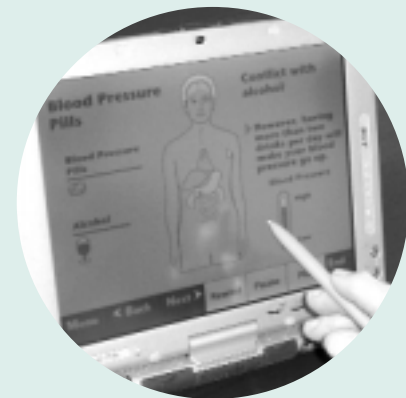
Professor Neafsey's \$1M Grant Aims to Reduce Adverse Self-Medication Practices and Increase Health Literacy

Older adults will have an opportunity to keep their blood pressures in check, improve their overall health literacy, and avoid adverse drug interactions thanks to research being conducted at the UConn School of Nursing (SON). Professor Patricia J. Neafsey, PhD, RD, is heading up an interdisciplinary team interested in reducing adverse self-medication practices in older adults with hypertension. Neafsey serves as the principal investigator on the \$1,039,593 grant, a three-year study funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The study is designed to show whether an intervention, the Personal Education Program—Next Generation, or PEP-NG, can help older adults to increase their knowledge of potential drug interactions and how to avoid them. The study focuses on improving medication adherence and achieving target blood pressure readings among older adults. The investigators also hope to show an increase in APRN knowledge of drug interactions, resulting in improvements in APRNs' ability to encourage self-efficacy in an older adult population, and to show that the PEP-NG can reduce health care costs for older adults.

The PEP-NG is a modification of an earlier program, the Personal Education Program (PEP), specifically developed by Neafsey and Zoe Strickler, a design research specialist with the UConn Center for Health/HIV Intervention & Prevention (CHIP) who holds a Master of Design degree. The PEP and the PEP-NG were designed with older adults and primary care givers in mind. The research team working on the study includes professionals and doctoral

students from a variety of disciplines including communication sciences, computer science, graphic design, pharmacoeconomics, primary care nursing, and medicine. Community partners involved in the research include the Connecticut Center for Primary Care/ProHealth MD and APRNet, groups of physicians and APRNs, respectively, who are in primary care networks interested in community research. Both networks were established with funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). There are definite advantages to working with an interdisciplinary team such as this one according to Neafsey. "You get a much better product if you have many pairs of eyes with different training and different ways of looking at the problems to build solutions that really work."

While they wait to be seen by their APRNs, older adults will use the touch screen technology of the PEP-NG to answer questions about drugs they commonly take and their knowledge of drug interactions, as well as to report demographic information about themselves. Information the older adults enter on the PEP-NG will be analyzed, and then program content tailored to each user's specific adverse self-medication behaviors will be delivered to him or her, complete with animations, to teach specific information about drug interactions. Summaries of patient-reported behaviors and the corrective strategies provided to them will be printed for both patient and health care provider, so the provider has a good idea of the client's self-medication practices before beginning a visit. The PEP-NG will make optimal use of both older clients' waiting time and providers'



clinical time. The research team anticipates testing the PEP-NG in 14 sites with 22 APRNs and 500 active, community living older adults.

In the fall of 2005, the earliest stages of the research began with usability studies and the development of the software and database, themselves rather elaborate processes. Christian Rauh, MS, a computer scientist and doctoral student in the Department of Communication Sciences, programmed the interface and database in consultation with Joel Rosiene, PhD, a computer scientist at Eastern CT State University. Chelsea Hammond, MS, doctoral student in the Department of Communication Sciences and Olga Jarrin, BS, RN, a doctoral student in the School of Nursing recruited groups of five to six older adults from Ashton Towers in Willimantic, CT to participate in the focus groups. Elizabeth Anderson, PhD, APRN director of the UConn Primary Care NP program recruited groups of advanced APRN students to participate in additional focus groups. The focus groups, led by Strickler, provided feedback on the "graphical interface" which is the how the PEP-NG looks and feels as the user moves through the program.

Older adult users of the original PEP completed paper and pencil surveys to report their demographic characteristics, medication use, knowledge, and self-efficacy. The PEP-NG makes use of a touch screen device (a tablet PC) to access user information, so the APRN does not have to enter the data from the surveys into the computer system by hand. PEP modifications incorporated in the new PEP-NG maximize the use of both time and energy for APRNs and older users.

The PEP-NG has the potential to make important improvements to health literacy, empowering people to better take care of themselves and to reduce their risk for health complications and avoidable hospitalizations. In a global sense, improvements to health literacy will reduce health care costs due to a reduction in serious, perhaps potentially life-threatening, complications.

Older adults are a population who may be particularly susceptible to complications from self-medication practices. Previous research conducted by Neafsey and Strickler suggests that older adults with hypertension tend to self-medicate with over-the-counter drugs like pain relievers, cold remedies, and antacids. Frequent use of seemingly harmless medications, like these, can have negative consequences for people with hypertension because they can counteract medications used to treat high blood pressure.

“What we have found is that people tend to take medications together because that is convenient.” But convenience, in many cases, may have unexpected consequences.

The timing of self-medication practices is also an important factor for patient health. Neafsey explains that most existing software programs to educate patients about their medications don’t ask when the patient takes something in conjunction with something else he or she might be taking. Neafsey explains that some medications, whether prescribed or over-the-counter, taken together may impede the benefits of one or the other.

Currently, the research team is working with an additional group of older adults from Juniper Hill Village in Mansfield, CT recruited

by graduate student Veronica Segarra of the Department of Communication Sciences. These older adults and APRN students are participating in individual “Think Aloud” usability tests of the PEP-NG. They are asked to think out loud as they use the PEP-NG. They are videotaped by a team of researchers from UConn’s Department of Communication Sciences led by Carolyn Lin, PhD. The video tapes are specifically analyzed to evaluate users’ frustration and confusion with the PEP-NG. This is an important step in identifying any obstacles that might exist in the design which would distract from an optimal, user-friendly format.

Following a four-month beta-test with UConn APRN students and older adults recruited from Ashton Towers in Willimantic in addition to Juniper Hill Village and Mansfield Senior Center in Mansfield, the team will conduct clinical trials at more than a dozen practice sites. At the end of the study, a graduate nursing student, trained in qualitative methods by UConn SON Dean Laura Dzurec, PhD, RN, CS will interview both APRNs and older adults to assess their satisfaction with the PEP-NG. Then, the team will conduct a study comparing the healthcare utilization costs for older adults using and not using the PEP-NG. UConn School of Pharmacy’s Craig Coleman, PharmD will conduct a cost benefit analysis to show the effect of PEP-NG education on health care costs, using measures provider visits, emergency room visits, and hospitalizations as the variables of study.

“What’s missing in existing databases and software programs is an easy way that saves time for the clinician to find out what people are taking on their own,” says Neafsey, who emphasizes that this education program does not replace the role of the APRN.

“The PEP-NG serves to enhance the role of the APRN. What the PEP-NG does is easily get the information that it would otherwise take a fair amount of time to collect so health care practitioners can get right to the important behaviors that they can address.”

Interdisciplinary Research Team

Patricia J. Neafsey, PhD, RD
UConn School of Nursing
Principal Investigator

Leah Altieri Alger, MPH
Research Manager
CT Center for Primary Care/Pro Health MD
Co-Investigator

Elizabeth Anderson, PhD, APRN
Track Coordinator, Primary Care APRN
Program
UConn School of Nursing
Collaborator

Meg Bourbonniere, PhD, RN
Project Liaison, APRNet
Yale School of Nursing
Co-Investigator

Craig Coleman, PharmD
UConn School of Pharmacy/Hartford Hospital
Collaborator

Jo (Ceci) Demarest, MS, APRN
Coordinator, APRNet
Yale School of Nursing
Collaborator

Laura Dzurec, PhD, RN, CS
Dean and Professor
UConn School of Nursing
Collaborator

Margaret Grey, DrPH, RN, FAAN, CPNP
Dean
Yale School of Nursing
Principal Investigator, APRNet
Co-Investigator

Leonard Katz, PhD
UConn Department of Psychology
Statistician

Carolyn Lin, PhD
UConn Department of
Communication Sciences
Co-Investigator

Joel Rosiene, PhD
Eastern CT State University
Computer Research Specialist

Zoe Strickler, MDes
Design Research Specialist
UConn Center for Health/HIV
Intervention & Prevention (CHIP)
Collaborator

Graduate Students:

Chelsea Hammond, MS
UConn Department of
Communication Sciences

Olga Jarrin, BS, RN
UConn School of Nursing

Christian Rauh, MS
UConn Department of
Communication Sciences

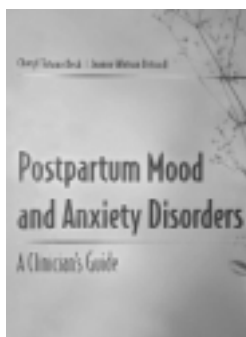
Veronica Segarra, BS
UConn Department of
Communication Sciences

Postpartum Mood and Anxiety Disorders: *Assessment and Treatment*

Postpartum mood and anxiety disorders are reported to affect between 10 and 75% of women, making them a significant public health issue. School of Nursing Professor, Cheryl Beck, DNSc, CNM, FAAN, has been involved in researching these postpartum disorders for more than 20 years. In 2005, Beck, in collaboration with Jeanne Watson Driscoll '04 PhD, APRN, BC, Principal with JWD Associates, Inc., published a book, *Postpartum Mood and Anxiety Disorders: A Clinician's Guide*, dealing with postpartum disorders. According to the authors, "The premise of this book is the integration of research and clinical practice." They explain, "This book is setting the stage to move the science to the next level. The purpose of this book is not to dictate a singular model of treatment but rather to stimulate

creative thinking in the assessment process and treatment plan." The authors provide details on the six different mood and anxiety disorders potentially encountered in the postpartum period, as well as an examination of a case study and diagnostic criteria for each disorder.

Beck is also a co-principal investigator on a current project, with Dr. Carol Lammi-Keefe in the Department of



Professor Cheryl Beck, DNSc, CNM, FAAN presented her program of research "Post-partum Depression: Methods & Implications for Research" at the Nobel Forum. The Nobel Forum is where the annual medical Nobel Awards are announced. Only researchers with a distinguished program of research are allowed to speak at the Nobel Forum podium. After her speech, Dr. Beck (on left) and Barbara Welles-Nystrom, PhD, from Karolinski Institutet, Stockholm Sweden chatted.

Nutritional Sciences. The researchers are involved in continuing research into the effects of the intake of Docasahexaenoic Acid, or omega-3 fatty acid, during pregnancy and its effects on the occurrence of postpartum depression symptoms. "Since the project began in January 2005 we have had 12 expectant mothers enroll and an additional 32 requests for information about participating," Beck reports. "This a very positive sign and vital for the success of the project."

Tracking the Long-Term Effects of Chemotherapy

With breast cancer survival rates improving, a UConn School of Nursing professor is turning her research attention to the quality of life patients have both during and after chemotherapy.

For years, breast cancer patients whose treatment includes chemotherapy have reported memory, attention and concentration problems, says Amy Laufer Kenefick, Associate Professor of Nursing, who recently received a \$200,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Defense to study the phenomenon known colloquially as "chemo-brain."

"Patients describe their experiences, but right now we don't have enough research to understand the phenomenon," Kenefick says. "Any advice nurses give patients now is based on their experience and best intentions, not on scientific evidence."



Kenefick and research assistant Joyce Thielen, a doctoral candidate in nursing, will measure the neurocognitive function of 25 women undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer over the course of nine months. Because chemotherapy can induce early menopause, which has been linked to similar symptoms, they will also monitor 25 women experiencing early menopause after having a hysterectomy. She is studying both groups of women to determine if reduced levels of sex hormones

might be related to the chemo-brain phenomenon. The study will be one of the first to follow breast cancer patients before, during and after treatment. Previous studies have not addressed menopause induced by chemotherapy.

When evaluated just once, the cognitive effects of chemotherapy appear relatively subtle, but patients report them as very recognizable. Some women say they notice an extremely unsettling difference in their mental abilities, Kenefick says, so it is crucial to compare brain function in the same patients at different times.

Conventional thinking has been that the side effects of chemotherapy subside shortly after treatment ends. As cancer survival rates increase, however, it becomes even more important to study the patient's experience of long-term side effects of treatment, she says.

A Model for Trauma Victims and Families

Even after the death of Terri Schiavo last year sparked a debate about end-of-life care and the right to die, there was little national attention focused on the many issues faced by trauma victims and their families.

Now a three-year, \$299,000 grant from the Aetna Foundation, awarded to researchers affiliated with UConn's School of Nursing and Hartford Hospital's Trauma Program, will establish a national best practices model for end-of-life care for trauma victims.

"Often trauma patients and their families are thrown into this absolute cacophony with no preparation," says Barbara Bennett Jacobs '02 PhD, UConn Associate Professor of Nursing, a clinical ethicist, and one of the project's co-investigators. "This best practices model will help health care professionals to ease the pain and suffering of patients and their families while honoring their individual beliefs and values."

Karyl Burns '74, '80, formerly an Associate Professor of Nursing at UConn and currently a research scientist for Hartford Hospital's trauma program, is the project's other co-investigator.

The research team will address six clinical areas: decision making, communication, physical care, psychological care, spiritual care, and culturally sensitive social care.

As part of the project, UConn's Center for Survey Research and Analysis surveyed 1,000 members of the general public nationwide, representing various racial and ethnic groups, on their thoughts about issues following a sudden catastrophic injury and the use of life-sustaining care. The survey also has been converted into a questionnaire for health care providers.

"We are going to look for areas of overlap in their opinions and areas of disconnect," says project director Lenworth Jacobs, director of Hartford Hospital's trauma program, Chair of Traumatology and Emergency Medicine at UConn's School of Medicine and member of the UConn board of Trustees. "This is a major national problem, and health professionals are looking for a good, clear plan to address it."

The best practices model will be tested first at Hartford Hospital before further application at other hospital sites around the country.



Pictured from left to right: Jack Rowe (CEO Aetna), Barbara Bennett Jacobs (Co-PI), Lenworth Jacobs (Project Director), Karyl Burns (Co-PI), and John Meehan (CEO Hartford Hospital).

Shelton Serving as New Associate Dean for Research

The faculty created the Associate Dean for Research position in May 2005. An internal search process resulted in the appointment of Associate Professor Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, CNA, BC to the position. Shelton joined UConn in 2004 from Catholic University. She has extensive nursing research experience, and has generated more than \$1 million in research funding during her career.

In this new position, Shelton has taken on a leadership role in the development of the Center for Nursing Research (CNR). Her focus for SON programs remains on enhancing the research productivity of the School through faculty contributions to the development of new knowledge, and demonstration of efficacy of the nursing practice. Shelton is working to establish and expand the School's research network, as well as to gain greater recognition for UConn nursing scholarships. She suggests "... active networking and involvement with various Centers throughout the University system, in addition to supporting faculty and student research development, may be the best way to improve SON's research profile."



Shelton is developing partnerships with service agencies to meet their training needs and develop certificate programs. Part of her new role is to strengthen the Continuing Education Provider Unit (CEPU) and enhance Continuing Studies programs.

Shelton affirms that expanding the School's research efforts will have a positive impact in stemming the nursing shortage. "Strengthening the research capacity of the current nursing workforce will improve quality, stimulate professional development, and empower nurses to mentor and support their profession," she explains. "This action will sustain retention in the field and will assist our own recruitment efforts. It will enhance nurses' professional image and support UConn's contributions to nursing research."

Center for Nursing Research

The Center for Nursing Research (CNR) was established in 1991 to support research efforts of faculty, staff, students and community health professionals. Today, it houses a collection of faculty publications and provides support through the following services: grant writing and submission assistance, research and data analyses, review of publications, and development of posters and presentations. Associate Dean for Research and Associate Professor Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, CNA, BC serves as the director and oversees the work of three graduate assistants and a program assistant.

The CNR provides an 800 sq. ft. computer lab with 14 workstations, all having direct access to the mainframe computer, UConn library, and internet. Specific stations provide additional software including: Acrobat Reader, Comprehensive Meta-Analysis, Microsoft Office 2003, Power and Precision, Roxio CD Creator, SPSS both 12.0 and 13.0 and SAS 9.1.3.

Toner Funds

The Pauline Toner Fund was established through the Estate of Pauline Toner as a donation to support the School of Nursing's greatest program needs. The Toner funds offer a maximum of \$5,000 and \$3,000 to faculty and student researchers, respectively, to support their research projects.

In the 2005 calendar year three faculty members were awarded Toner funds to further their research efforts. Associate Professor Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, CNA, BC recently received Toner funds (\$5,000) to begin a one-year pilot study called LEAD (Leadership, Education, Achievement and Development). Professor Patricia Neafsey, PhD, RD received funding (\$5,000) for *"Preventing Adverse Self-Medication Behaviors in Older Adults with Hypertension"* in which she worked with a PhD candidate from the Department of Communication Sciences to program a beta-version of an online patient data collection system for a larger NIH funded project. Associate Professor Deborah McDonald, PhD, RN used Toner funds (\$5,000) to collect and analyze data at the University of Connecticut Health Center and with research subjects at their homes to further her work with *"How People Communicate with Health Care Practitioners about Their Pain."*

Attributional Style Research Looks to Reduce Nurses' Stress

Assistant Professor Lynn Allchin, RN, PhD, Dean and Professor Laura Dzurec, PhD, RN, CS, and Associate Professor Arthur Engler, DNSc, RNC, ARPN, are conducting research on the ways psychological type affects stress and nurses' interactions with peers. The authors propose that psychological type, as it is influenced by the stresses faced by nurses, may significantly influence interpersonal and professional behavior among nurses, ultimately affecting patient outcomes. Stress can be found in most areas of nursing and can influence nursing communication and performance, according to the literature and to the authors' findings thus far.

The authors' findings suggest that in comparison to baccalaureate nursing students, post-baccalaureate nursing students are similar in psychological type, but are significantly less depressed, less fatigued, and less positive in explanatory style. The data suggest a potential need for support as post-baccalaureate students address the demanding roles they will encounter as nurses. Knowing more about students' personality characteristics will support faculty as they plan meaningful educational programs for nursing students across all program types.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, April 7

Connecticut League for Nursing Convention
Location: St. Clemens Castle, Portland, CT

Saturday, April 8

Open House
Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Location: School of Nursing, Storrs Hall

Thursday, April 13

ATHENA Research Conference Research Presentations, Networking Luncheon and Poster Session,
Time: 8:00 am – 3:30 pm
Location: Rome Hall, South Campus, Storrs

Thursday, April 13

Advisory Board Meeting
Time: 8:45 am – 10:15 am
Location: Nathan Hale Inn, Storrs

Monday, April 17

MS/PhD Information Session
Time: 6:15 pm
Location: UCHC/John Dempsey Hospital, Room C2038

April 20-22

Eastern Nursing Research Society Convention Alumni & Friends Reception (Friday, April 21st
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm)

Monday, May 1

Spring Luncheon for Faculty (Current/Emeritae/Retired) and Staff
Time: 12:30 pm
Location: Nathan Hale Inn, Storrs

Saturday, May 6

MS/PhD Graduate Reception
Time: 12:00 pm (Reception), 12:45 pm (Program)
Location: Centennial Alumni House
Doors Open at Gampel Pavilion at 1:30 pm for 2:30 pm Commencement Ceremony

Sunday, May 7

Undergraduate Convocation/Pinning Ceremony
Time: Immediately following Commencement Exercises
Location: Rome Hall, South Campus, Storrs

Friday, June 2 and Saturday, June 3

Reunion Weekend 2006 – Campus-wide activities (25th, 50th, 60th & Classic Classes)
Friday: School of Nursing Gathering, Bus tour & Reception

Monday, August 28

Welcome Back to Campus Make Your Own Ice Cream Sundae Party (Open to All SON Students, Faculty & Staff)
Time: 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Location: School of Nursing, Storrs Hall

Tuesday, August 29

Clinical Recognition Ceremony (Sponsored by SBLI)
Time: TBA
Location: Thomas J. Dodd Research Center

Sunday, September 24

Open House
Time: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Location: School of Nursing, Storrs Hall

Friday, September 29

Advisory Board Meeting
Time: 9:30 am – 11:30 am
Location: Starr Reading Room, UConn Law School, Hartford, CT

Friday, October 13

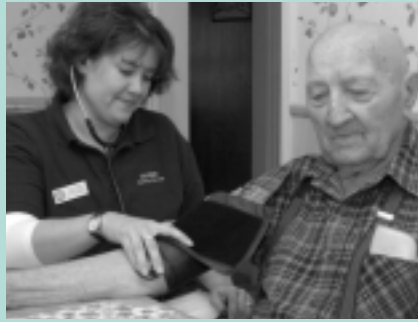
10th Annual Alumni Banquet
Time: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm (Social Hour), 7:00 pm (Dinner), Program to follow
Location: Centennial Alumni House, Great Hall

Calendar information is subject to change. For additional information about School of Nursing events, please visit our website at www.nursing.uconn.edu for the most updated calendar of events. Please contact the Advancement Office by phone at (860) 486-0613, or by email at SONadvancement@uconn.edu for additional information.

CARELINK

The CARELINK partnership model of providing care to older adults in the community has far exceeded expectations since the program was developed eight years ago. CARELINK, a program coordinated by Assistant Professor and John A. Hartford Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity Fellow Juliette Shellman '03 PhD, APRN-BC, provides free services to a community of elders through undergraduate and graduate nursing students, under the supervision of instructors and agency staff. During the past eight years CARELINK-New Britain, in partnership with the VNA of Central Connecticut, has served over 500 clients and educated over 400 students. Program evaluations have identified decreases in falls, blood pressures, and social isolation as positive client outcomes as resulting from student interventions.

Last fall marked another milestone for the program as CARELINK-New York (VNS of New York and NYU College of Nursing) and CARELINK-Meriden (Midstate VNA and UConn) were welcomed by the CARELINK network. Now, students under the supervision of their instructors from NYU College of Nursing, University of Connecticut, Yale, and St. Joseph's College provide health assessments, education, and home visits to a greater number of older adults in Connecticut and New York.



MbEIN Program Addresses the Nursing Shortage

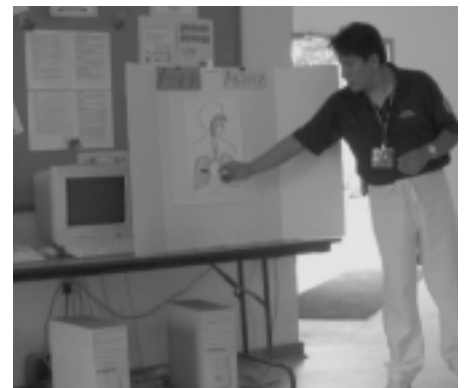
In a continuing effort to help address the significant nursing shortage in Connecticut and beyond, the School of Nursing established the Master's Entry into Nursing (MbEIN) program in 2002. The intent of the program is to prepare qualified candidates, with non-nursing undergraduate degrees, for careers in basic nursing. The program requires one calendar year of schooling and prepares graduates for practice or advanced studies. Prospective students must have completed a comprehensive list of science prerequisites and earned a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 to be considered. Despite these demanding prerequisites and the rigorous undergraduate standards, interest in the MbEIN program has been very high. The program receives over 200 queries per year with approximately 50% submitting applications for a given class.

Community-Based Research and Practice Have Lasting Results

Compañeros Por Salud: Partners for Health is an innovative collaboration that addresses health disparities for Latino and Hispanic families in Willimantic, CT. This interdisciplinary project focuses on social, political, and economic realities for the Latino and Hispanic population while identifying established strengths and gaps in services within the community. Associate Dean for Research and Associate Professor, Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, CNA, BC explains that Compañeros is a UConn School of Nursing-based initiative that includes faculty and students from a variety of disciplines. Its community partners include health care providers, service agencies, and community residents. There are approximately 20 nursing and allied health students currently working with five faculty from both UConn and Eastern Connecticut State University on the collaboration.

The Area Health Education Centers for Health Education Collaborative (AHEC) initially surveyed the community to determine the healthcare needs of residents. Community residents assisted in identifying strategies to address need, and ultimately will help implement the interventions that are planned. Shelton notes, "Compañeros provides important multi-disciplinary practice and research mentoring for students as well as valuable service-learning opportunities."

"Community-based participatory research and community-oriented practice are two very effective means of building and strengthening the capacity of community residents to address existing, as well as future, health risks through education, outreach and training," Shelton explains. "It is our goal to not only enhance the health of these diverse communities now, but to have a lasting impact on their futures."



MbEIN students continue their commitment to local communities through outreach partnerships with AHEC, the UConn School of Medicine, and Compañeros Por Salud. In each case, they have been actively promoting health awareness by teaching health education classes, conducting health assessments, participating on research projects, and providing supervised health screening. Above, MbEIN 2005 graduate Carlos Terrazos, a student at the time, conducts an educational session on asthma at a meeting with migrant farm workers at Pride's Corner in Lebanon, CT. Community response to these outreach efforts has been very positive and they look for more activities.

McNulty Serves as New Head of Academic Advising



John McNulty '84 MS, RN, BC serves as the new head of Academic Advising for the School of Nursing. McNulty earned an MS in nursing from the University of Connecticut and his BS in nursing from American International College in Springfield, MA. His new role is a multifaceted one. McNulty works with both undergraduate and graduate students. He believes his role as an advisor, "is to develop a relationship with each student". By understanding that each individual unique attributes, the guidance and support provided will assist students in their educational progress toward a degree. He encourages students to make the most of their time on campus by getting involved in activities outside of their discipline, attending events, and participating in community service projects. "These extracurricular activities are important to learning how to assume the role responsibilities of a registered nurse upon graduation and be a productive citizen in the community," he explains. McNulty's responsibilities include serving as a liaison to the offices of Financial Aid, Admissions, and Career Services. His research interests are in the area of math competency for medication administration and freshmen students' successful adjustment to college life. He formerly served the School as Clinical Coordinator.

Service-Learning Project Improves Campus Public Health

Last spring, School of Nursing students took an extraordinary step by participating in a "Take Back Spring Weekend" program and several new activities that encouraged students to be responsible during spring weekend. The "Take Back Spring Weekend" program emphasized that students could celebrate their accomplishments without the risks posed by engaging in high-risk behavior centered around alcohol.

One of the activities that evolved from this new program was a collaborative effort among a number of campus offices including: the UConn School of Nursing, Student Health Services, Alcohol and Other Drug Education Services, and Residential Life. Under the direction of Sherry Bassi, EdD, APRN, BC, SON assistant professor, 43 students were recruited from her NURS 270: Public Health class to participate in a service learning option with training by Diana Lastergagne, RN and her colleagues from Student Health Services, focusing on acute alcohol poisoning safety issues. Students, who were part of the South Nursing Living Learning Community, received training from Tom Szgethy, Director of Alcohol and Other Drug Education Services, regarding safe practices to avoid the consequences of high-risk

alcohol behavior. These students prepared and presented programs in the freshman resident halls prior to spring weekend. Students campus-wide have already been meeting to plan spring weekend 2006. The "Take Back Spring Weekend" project again will play an important role in promoting campus public health. "This SON effort reinforces the

value of experiential learning for our students, not only to earn academic course credit but more importantly, to give back to our community," Bassi affirms. "By its participation in the "Take Back Spring Weekend" program, the School of Nursing made a significant contribution to improving campus public health."

2005 UConn Wellness Fair



Several SON students were on hand at the 2005 UConn Wellness Fair to provide health related information and take blood pressure readings from participants.

Student Accolades

SON student selected for the 2006 CLARION project

Ben Wishneski has been selected to serve as the 2006 UConn SON student representative for the CLARION project, a national project affiliated with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. The project is designed to pair up four students from the participating Schools of Business, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy to collaborate on a case study, thinking out of the box to address problems often faced by healthcare providers, affecting the quality of patient care. The goal is development of optimal ways to conceptualize and address the problems presented in the case study. Wishneski will represent the School during a number of activities, including several meetings beginning early in the Spring semester to prepare the presentation, and a trip to Minneapolis in April for the presentation and competition.

Senior nursing student published in National Student Nurses' Association publication

Senior nursing student, Stephanie Andrade, has published an article in the November/December 2005 issue of National Student Nurses' Association *Imprint*. "The Impact of Learning in a Mentorship Community", co-authored by Assistant Professor Sherry Bassi, EdD, APRN, BC, describes the First-Year Learning Community of the University of Connecticut, School of Nursing. You can view Andrade's article on line at http://www.nсна.org/pubs/imprint/novdec05/imp_nov05%20features.pdf.

Senior nursing student receives 2005 Connecticut League for Nursing honor

Join us in congratulating senior nursing student Abigail Woglom as a 2005 Connecticut League for Nursing RN Student Peer Recognition Award recipient. Woglom was presented with the award at a ceremony on December 1st, along with fellow student recipients from other nursing schools across the state.



Left to right: Lisa-Marie Griffiths '91 MS, School of Nursing (SON) Alumni and Friends Society Past President; Don St. Onge '84 MS, SON Advisory Board Member/Alumni Society Sponsorship Chair; Laura Dzurec '74, PhD, SON Dean and Professor; and Greg Roto, AVP, Human Resources, SBLI of Connecticut at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center for the 2005 Clinical Recognition Ceremony.

SBLI of CT Sponsors 2005 Clinical Recognition Ceremony

On August 30 the 3rd Annual Clinical Recognition Ceremony took place at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center marking 130 third-year students' transition into clinical coursework. The event was sponsored by The Savings Bank Life Insurance (SBLI) Company of Connecticut, which continues its multi-year commitment to help fund students' clinical education at the UConn School of Nursing. SBLI's contribution toward clinical laboratory equipment included two mannequins that support simulated patient education experiences. "It is rewarding for SBLI to be involved in the preparation of quality nursing graduates who will fulfill the healthcare needs of citizens of the state, nation, and the world," acknowledges Peter Tedone, SBLI President and CEO. Grateful for the support from SBLI, Dean Laura Dzurec is working with legislators and administrators statewide to increase opportunities for nursing students. "With Connecticut's nursing shortage, it is gratifying to see an ever increasing number of students ready to enter the clinical phase of their studies," says Dzurec. "In a short time they'll be entering our workforce, well prepared to meet the demands of this challenging and rewarding career."



Students and Clinical Instructors recite the Nightingale Pledge at the 2005 Clinical Recognition Ceremony.

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Mu Chapter, Welcomes New Executive Committee!

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For more information about Mu Chapter's activities and membership opportunities please contact Olga Jarrin, president, at Olga.Jarrin@uconn.edu.



Student Scholarship Recipients were presented over \$100,000 in scholarship support, representing 50 awards to 43 deserving recipients at the SON Scholarship Recognition Brunch, Saturday, October 1, 2005 at the Student Union in Storrs, CT.

We Dare to Care!

UConn's rise nationally among the ranks of public research universities is nothing short of remarkable. U.S. News & World Report recently placed us at 28th among public research institutions, and 68th among all private and public research universities. This level of recognition is only the starting point: our goal is to be recognized among the top-ranked universities in the nation.

Through the development and application of nursing knowledge and the creative testing of nursing theory, the UConn School of Nursing is a leader in the fast-changing field of health care practice. "It is because of such a quality foundation and our dedication to enduring relationships with community partners," Dean Dzurec notes, "that we have been able to continue to graduate students who serve the health care needs of a diverse population in our State and beyond." We recognize the accelerating demand to educate an increasing number of well-qualified nursing students to address Connecticut's health care needs. Among

the creative strategies developed and implemented by the School to address the nursing shortage are: managing increased undergraduate enrollment; mounting new avenues for nursing education, such as the Master's Entry Into Nursing program; and fostering articulation agreements with the state's community colleges to provide seamless progression in education and enhance excellence in patient care.

One dimension of the shortage may have especially far-reaching consequences: the shortage of faculty to teach in schools of nursing. This problem has become increasingly critical at UConn, and it must be corrected in order for the School to effectively serve a community whose need for health care service will only continue to increase in the coming decades.

According to findings from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's (AACN) Annual Survey of Institutions with Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Nursing Programs, U.S. nursing schools turned away 32,617 qualified applications due primarily

to a shortage of nurse educators. To further the provision of quality education and patient care, one of our School's goals is to create a Distinguished Endowed Chair and recruit a nationally acclaimed nursing scholar and researcher to the School. Establishment of such a Chair will send a strong message to nursing faculty nationally that UConn is an excellent place to consider to advance their careers. Further, the Chair will leverage additional external opportunities for support of patient care and nursing education.

Other goals to strengthen nursing education include expanding our School of Nursing Endowment for Excellence, a fund that provides scholarships to doctoral students (a likely source of future faculty). We encourage our friends in nursing to continue to participate with the School in its education, research, scholarship and community service opportunities. Dean Dzurec adds, "We welcome you to explore new ways to connect with the School of Nursing and to help us strengthen nursing in Connecticut and the world."

We gratefully acknowledge those individuals, corporations, and foundations who have made gifts from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005.

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*Joseph Maurice Cantin and Charles Ernest Goosman Scholarship
Left to right: Amanda Campbell (student recipient), Mary Cantin, and William Cantin at the 2005 Scholarship Recognition Brunch.*

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The Charles Lewis Beach Society honors the many individuals that support the University through will, trust, retirement plan and life insurance gifts. The Society also honors donors who make gifts that will enhance their or a loved one's financial position, and ultimately support the School of Nursing's initiatives.

"As a doctoral student, I am working on my third degree from the School of Nursing. The School provided me with a foundation for a rewarding and successful career. When my husband Steve and I sat down to prepare our wills, we decided to do our part to help the School carry excellence in nursing education into the future. We are glad to give back in support of the generations of students to come."



Elizabeth '74, '80 and Stephen Beaudin Members, Charles Lewis Beach Society

A teacher and researcher in dairy production, Charles Lewis Beach was asked to husband the resources of the Connecticut Agriculture College in 1908. In 1933, President Beach established a fund through his will to honor the memory of his wife, Louise Crombie Beach, and to provide enduring support to the University.

Please join Elizabeth '74, '80 and Stephen Beaudin, and the 500 members of the Charles Lewis Beach Society, whose gifts ensure excellence for the future.

To advise the School of Nursing about your gift, or to request confidential information about will, trust, retirement, life insurance, or income-enhancing plans, please contact Suzanne O'Connor, JD at (800) 269-9965, or soconor@foundation.uconn.edu.

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Richard J. Hofffelder Memorial Scholarship Left to right: Richard Hofffelder Jr, Kim Hofffelder, Amara Shields, Beth Hofffelder, Maureen Hofffelder, Suriel Luciano (student recipient), and Suheidi Rodriguez at the 2005 Scholarship Recognition Brunch.

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continued on page 14

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Left to right: Dean Laura Dzurec with Joan Quinn and Patricia Bouffard, members of the SON Advisory Board, share a conversation Dr. Peter Nicholls, UConn's new provost, at the Dean's Appreciation Event, Fall 2005.

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Robert Andrew Matheson Nursing Scholarship Left to right: Pat Matheson Bender '69, Sean Kelley '06 (student recipient), Chris Orris Matheson, and Ruth Lenz at the 2005 Scholarship Recognition Brunch.

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MbEIN Scholarship Recipients Ceremony 12-13-05 Standing from left to right: Jeffery Otis, VP Webster Trust & Trustee of Paul L. Jones Fund (MbEIN Scholarship Fund), Elizabeth St. Onge, Courtney Shea, Rosemarie Matava, Bruno Cardoso, Ruth Jorge, Meera Kanakia, Jessica Urban, Noreen LaCroix, Pia Bonaparte, Susan McCready, and Dean Laura Dzurec. Seated from left to right: Nancy Nurge, Christine Joyner, Crystal Cunningham, Jake Cutter, and Michelle Before.

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We have prepared the 2005 Honor Roll of Donors with great care. If, however, we have omitted, misprinted, or listed your name incorrectly, please notify Associate Director of Development Erica Pagliuco, UConn Foundation, at (860) 486-6444. In some cases, the School may not yet have been notified of matching gifts. These contributions will be recognized in future publications.

Alumni President's Message



Geraldine Pearson '02 PhD, APRN

Greetings Fellow Alums!

UConn Nursing is on the rise in many ways — quality academic programs, soaring enrollments, and successful events.

As they always have, UConn School of Nursing graduates continue to contribute significantly to the health of Connecticut, the nation, and beyond. We welcome your input, ideas for reunions, and updates in your personal and professional life.

It is easy to be part of the excitement at UConn! One awesome new service offered by our UConn Alumni Association is the Online Community (<http://www.alumniconnections.com/uconn/>). To take full advantage of the community, search for friends, and make new connections all you need to do is proceed through the registration process to establish a User ID and password. Membership is exclusive and free to alumni only.

To strengthen your commitment to UConn and the School of Nursing we hope you consider joining the thriving UConn Alumni Association (UCAA). Joining has multiple benefits and provides you with a dual membership in the UCAA and the School of Nursing Alumni & Friends Society. Getting involved will expand your sense of community and provide memorable experiences with fellow alumni, students, and faculty.

To learn more about our benefits and membership call toll free at 1-(888)-UC-ALUM-1.

Join those who have rediscovered the spirit of UConn and get involved.

Geraldine "Geri" Pearson '02 PhD, APRN

President

School of Nursing Alumni & Friends Society

Notecards



Watercolor of Carolyn Ladd Widmer Building was painted by Alice Eschholz '54 for her class reunion in September 2001.

The Carolyn Ladd Widmer building, built in 1919, was the University of Connecticut's first infirmary. It contained an open ward for patients, several private rooms, office space and a large solarium with a fireplace. The School of Nursing first occupied the Widmer Building, also known as "the cottage," in 1950 when the present day infirmary was constructed. Conversion of the building's open ward into a classroom, and the private rooms into offices, made the space suitable for academic purposes. For the Nursing School, this relieved a decade of being in confined quarters in the Home Economics building. From the mid-1950s until the 1968-69 academic year, the building was shared with the School of Physical Therapy. The significant structural deterioration and potential exorbitant costs to relocate the building prompted a decision to demolish "the cottage" in December 1996.

These are the first in a series of notecards printed by the School of Nursing Alumni and Friends Society. Profits from the sales of notecards will support Alumni Society sponsored activities and the School of Nursing.

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Enthusiastic Alumni Reconnect

Classmates from the Class of 1947 and 1951 reunite at Dolan Memorial



Classmates from the Class of 1947 gather over archival photos at the Celebration of the Life of Josephine Dolan on Sunday, April 3, 2005. From left to right: Theresa Proto, Connie Proto, Anne Moye Strunk, Sr. Virginia Farrell, Class of 1948, and Dorothy Edwards.



Classmates from the Class of 1951, joined by their former Instructor Sr. Virginia Farrell '48, rejoice and reminisce during the reception honoring Josephine Dolan on Sunday, April 3, 2005. Seated from left to right: Pauline Fahey, Jean D'Orio, and Janet Erickson. Standing from left to right: Bobbie Hogan, Sr. Virginia Farrell '48, and Mary Dicks.



Class of 1955 Reunion 6-11-05

Standing from left to right: Eleanor Castronovo Orrico, Sylvia Sharpiro Gordon, Joanne Atwood Goodale, Jacqueline Montefaclo Pfrang, Roslyn Swirsky Dresner, and Jeanne Laine Silk. Seated in back row: Margaret Sage Davidson '50, Frances Swedburg Campbell, Elizabeth Ross Hostetler, Lois Smith Franz, and Elizabeth Hacker Pierce. Seated in front row from left to right: Ilda Lindley Hunter, Winifred Granger Willoughby, Barbara Beaney Patten, and Ann Barry Tobin. In attendance but not pictured: Ruth Ellen Hansen Goodale.



Class of 1980 Reunion 6-11-05

From left to right: Theresa Sweeny Barnett, Stephanie Bonwill Bilskis, and Sherry LaCoursiere. In attendance but not pictured: William G. Cantin.



IN MEMORIAM

Marcia Neville Doohen '61
Lois Kiss Walston '61

The Carolyn Ladd Widmer Outstanding Alumni Award for Leadership in Nursing

Lucille Kindely Kelley '69, RN, MSN, PhD, is currently dean and associate professor in the School of Health Sciences at Seattle Pacific University (SPU). Kelley earned a diploma from St. Vincent's Hospital, Bridgeport, CT, a BS from the University of Connecticut, and both her MSN and PhD from the University of Washington. In 2001, Kelley co-founded the Pacific Northwest



Left to right: Michael Widmer, Lucille Kindely Kelley '69, RN, MSN, PhD, and Eric Widmer at the 2005 Alumni Banquet.

Nursing Leadership Institute, a collaboration of nurse executives in Washington and Oregon. She also co-founded the SPU Living Well Initiative, a program in collaboration with the SPU School of Psychology, Family, and Community. She also helped pioneer the SeaTac Clinical Nurse Leader Consortium, a three School and five practice partner collaboration in the Seattle/Tacoma, Washington area. She has served as president of the Board of Directors of the National Council of Community Mental Health Centers and the Eastside Community Mental Health Center, Bellevue, WA. Kelley is chair of the Northwest Organization of Nurse Executives Education Commission and member of the Board of Directors of the National Foundation for Rehabilitation Research, Certification and Education in Chicago, IL.

Kelley's past awards include the SPU 1993 *Burlington Northern Teaching Award* and the 1997 *Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing President's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Psi Chapter-at-Large*.

The Eleanor K. Gill Outstanding Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence in Nursing

Sister Virginia M. Farrell '48, MSN, FNP, earned her BS in nursing from the University of Connecticut, an MSN from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and a Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate from Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, KY. Following completion of her U.S. Army Nurse Corps active duty, Farrell served with the U.S. Agency for International Development U.S. (AID) in Nicaragua as a hospital nursing service consultant for two years. She returned to the U.S. in 1964 to enter the community of Maryknoll Sisters. In 1968, she was recruited as the field director for Catholic Sisters involved with medical care in Vietnam. Farrell later took a short-term assignment as a consultant with the World Health Organization in Peru. In 1972, she became head nurse of the Extended Care Facility and coordinator of the Hospital wide

continued on next page

The Marlene Kramer Outstanding Alumni Award for Research in Nursing

Karyl Burns '74, '80, RN, PhD, is a research scientist for the Department of Traumatology and Emergency Medicine at Hartford Hospital. She received her BS in Nursing, MS in Nursing, and PhD in Exercise Science from the University of Connecticut. Burns is currently working as a co-investigator with Dr. Lenworth Jacobs and Dr. Barbara Bennett Jacobs, on a three-year project funded by the Aetna Foundation to develop a Best Practice model for end-of-life care in trauma. Formerly, Burns was an associate professor of Nursing and director of the Center for Nursing Research at the University of Connecticut. Her previous research focused on the care of cardiac patients and the promotion of exercise.

Burns is certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, specializing in cardiac rehabilitation and medical-surgical nursing. Burns has served on the Clinical and Community Health Review Committee at the Donaghue Medical Research Foundation in Hartford, CT since 1999. She has received the *University of Connecticut, School of Nursing Mary Lawrence Research Award* and a *Certificate of Appreciation for Provision of Excellent Educational Experiences*. Burns has been recognized by the Donaghue Foundation for her invaluable service as a science adviser, as well as by the American Heart Association with the *Greater Hartford Service Award*.



Left to right: Karyl Burns '74, '80, RN, PhD, and Dean Laura Dzurec '74, PhD, RN, CS at the 2005 Alumni Banquet.

In-Service Education Program for the Appalachian Regional Hospital in Eastern KY. Farrell also served as hospital outreach coordinator with the Ephraim McDowell Community Cancer Network prior to founding and becoming director of the Hazard Perry County Hospice Program. Farrell has received numerous awards including the *Bronze Star for Meritorious Service* in Pusan, Korea; *Woman of the Year for Hospice Work* in Hazard, KY; the *Berea College Service Award for Hospice Work*; and the *Catholic Diocese Mission Award* in Lexington, KY.



Left to right: Michael Widmer, Sister Virginia Farrell '48, MSN, FNP, and Jeanne Widmer at the 2005 Alumni Banquet.

The Beverly Koerner Outstanding Alumni Award for Education in Nursing

Esther Haloburdo '60, '77 MS, PhD, is professor emerita and former chairperson of the Division of Nursing at Saint Joseph College. She received a BS and an MS in Nursing as well as a PhD in Education, with a major focus on Curriculum and Instruction, from the University of Connecticut. Her research interests include quality, pedagogy, and international health. Haloburdo has served as a member of the Hartford Area Association of Parish Nurses' Advisory Board and is currently treasurer of the Executive Committee. Her leadership contributed to international exchanges and experiences for nursing majors at Saint Joseph College, as well as to creative programs for non-traditional students. In 2006 an article regarding her work on international partnerships and the promotion of quality care through faculty groundwork and student projects will be published in the *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*. She is currently co-investigator with Dr. Mary Ann Thompson on a national project



Left to right: Esther Haloburdo '60, '77 MS, PhD, and Beverly Koerner '70, '73 MS, PhD, RN, FAAN at the 2005 Alumni Banquet.

related to the inclusion of international content and experiences in professional baccalaureate and master's nursing curricula. Haloburdo was a recipient of the *Connecticut Nurses' Association 2000 Diamond Jubilee Josephine A. Dolan Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Education* and a *Sigma Theta Tau International Chapter Mentor Award* has been named in her honor.

The School of Nursing Josephine A. Dolan Distinguished Service Award

Kathleen A. Hiatt '74, MHA, MA, RN, a retired Captain from the U.S. Navy, Hiatt received a BS in Nursing from the University of Connecticut, a Master's in Health Administration from Baylor University in 1983, and an MA from the Naval War College in 1990. Hiatt entered the Navy in 1972 under the Nurse Corps Scholarship program and served in a variety of medical facilities including Naval Regional Medical Centers at San Diego and Oakland, CA, and Branch Hospital, Adak, AK. Throughout 25 years of Naval nursing service, her leadership positions included medical operations analyst at Naval Medical Command: senior health facilities planner for the Defense Medical Facilities Office: and commanding officer of the Naval Hospital/Naval Ambulatory Care Center in Groton, CT. Her role as SON assistant dean from January 2003 to March 2005 included overseeing internal operations and academic programs, including the report required for the school's accreditation in February 2005. Her contributions included improvements to academic, student, advancement, business operations, and recruitment efforts.



Left to right: Eleanor Herrmann EdD, RN, FAAN and Kathleen A. Hiatt '74, MHA, MA, RN at the 2005 Alumni Banquet.

Currently serving as a first selectman in Thompson, she has been the recipient of the *Legion of Merit*, the *Defense Meritorious Service Medal*, the *Navy Meritorious Service Medal* (3 awards) and the *Navy Commendation Medal*.

Alumni and Friends Society Cabinet

Margie Brown '91, MSN, RN
Clinical Instructor, School of Nursing, UConn

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Rosemary DiMaggio Courtney '56
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Lisa-Marie Griffiths '91 MS
Clinical Instructor, School of Nursing, UConn

Judith Neiderwerfer Kelly '73
Family Nurse Practitioner, St. Mary's Hospital of Amsterdam, NY

Jocelyn Brown Libros '00
ICU-Cardiac, St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center

Geri Pearson '02 PhD, APRN,
President Assistant Professor & Director, Homecare Program UConn Health Center Department of Psychiatry

Donald St. Onge '84 MS, RN
Practice Manager Center for Bone and Joint Care

Sharon Ehlers Swofford '73
Transplant Case Manager, Oxford Health Plans

Mary Jane Williams '82 MS
Nursing Associate Professor, University of Hartford & Emeritus Professor, Central Connecticut State University

Alumni and Emeritae Faculty: Making a Difference in Their Communities

Amy Davis '95 is the proud recipient of the *2005 Clinician of the Year* award at Yale University Health Center (YUHC). Davis, a graduate of the Adult Primary Care Program, currently works as a nurse practitioner for the dermatology department at Yale University Health Services. The Clinician of the Year is an award given out each year based on votes/ballots received from colleagues and patients at YUHC.

Robert R. Ramonas '95, CPT, AN, serves as Officer in Charge of Medical Operations Task Force 261st Multi-Functional Medical Battalion LSA Anaconda, Balad, Iraq. His Task Force controls all of the Level I and Level II area support facilities. As the OIC, he travels to different clinics, along with his staff of eight, and makes sure they are running smoothly with regard to clinical, pharmacy, and other operations. His section works out of the Task Force Headquarters with other staff officers who are responsible for areas including administration, intelligence, operations, logistics, preventive medicine, and mental health. Although not involved in patient care he supports detainee care utilizing his background as a correctional nurse from CT.



Ramonas, fourth from left, with MEDOPS staff showing their Husky spirit.

Assistant Professor Emerita Edna E. Johnson, PhD, is counter part to the General Coordinator of Curran Lutheran Hospital, ZorZor, Liberia. Johnson prepares proposals for the development of Curran Health Services. She assists in the planning and coordinating the rural health promotion program. Last fall, she collected texts from School of Nursing faculty for staff education. Johnson sends an email journal to her colleagues in Storrs and wrote about a visit to one school. "The principal presented me with a letter requesting items including a chalk board, a gas light, textbooks, football, and a pump. At this point, the government is unable to support the country's schools and health clinics. My great sadness is learning over and over again the overwhelming needs of this country. Surely every child should have an education and health care." Her email address, so you can contact her about her work, is edna@uuplus.com.

Accepting Alumni Award Nominations

We are currently accepting nominations for the following awards to be given at the Tenth Annual Alumni Awards Banquet:

The Carolyn Ladd Widmer Outstanding Alumni Award for Leadership in Nursing

The Eleanor K. Gill Outstanding Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence in Nursing

The Marlene Kramer Outstanding Alumni Award for Research in Nursing

The Beverly Koerner Outstanding Alumni Award for Education in Nursing

The award criteria are outstanding contributions in leadership, clinical excellence, research or education, as specified in each award. Individual alumni or a group may be nominated, however, at least one member of the group must be an alumnus of a SON degree program. Individuals nominated may be living or deceased.

Submit a letter of nomination identifying contributions made, and include the nominee's curriculum vitae.

A committee with Alumni Board representation will make the selection.

Forward your nominations to:

University of Connecticut
School of Nursing, Advancement Office
231 Glenbrook Road, Unit 2026
Storrs, CT 06269-2026

Phone: (860) 486-0613

Fax: (860) 486-0001

Email: SONadvancement@uconn.edu

School of Nursing Publications Reach Far and Wide – Improving Well Being for All People – Beginning in Connecticut

LYNN ALLCHIN

Allchin, L. (2005, February). Medication errors: More basic than a system issue. Afternoon with an Author, Capitol Alliance for Nursing Research, Hartford, CT.

Allchin, L. (2005, March). *The Experience of Caring for a Dying Person: The Nursing Students' Perspective*. Presentation at the 13th Annual Connecticut Research Day, Sigma Theta Tau.

Allchin, L. (2005, April). *Get a Grip on Symptom Management*. Presentation to the Central CT Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society.

Polifroni, E.C., Allchin, L., & McNulty, J. (2005). Limited math skills: Prescription for change. *Journal of Nurses in Staff Development*, 21 (2), 79-81.

Dzurec, L. C., Allchin, L., Szarlan, J., Polifroni, E. C., & Brewer, T. L. (2006). Toward a qualified yes: Personal characteristics of post-baccalaureate nursing students and implementation of the CNL role. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 22 (1), 15-22.

ELIZABETH ANDERSON

Anderson, E. H. (2006). Modes of Transmission, in T. Guberski (Ed.) *Clinical Challenges in HIV/AIDS*. New York: NP Communications, p. 5-10.

SHERRY BASSI

Bassi, S. & Polifroni, E. (2005). Learning communities: The link to recruitment and retention. *Journal for Nurses in Staff Development*, 21, (3).

Bassi, S. & Caldrello, L. (2005). *Tobacco-Free Huskies: A Service-Learning Project*. Paper presented at Innovations in Interdisciplinary & Service Learning Education at the national meeting of the Association of Community Health Nursing Educators, 2005 ACHNE Spring Institute and Annual Meeting, June 2-4, 2005.

Bassi, S & Lastergagne, D. (2005). Abstract submission, *Alcohol First Aiders: A campus public health project*. American College Health Association National Meeting June 2006: NYC. (pending)

Caldrello, L., Cannone, C. & Bassi, S. (2005). *Tobacco-Free Huskies: A Pilot Project*. Poster presentation at the UConn SON 2005 Scholars Day.

Bassi, S & Lastergagne, D. (2005). (Poster Presentation). *The Alcohol Safety Squad- A Service Learning Pilot Project*. American College Health Association Annual Meeting.

CHERYL BECK

Beck, C.T. (2005, February). *Post-traumatic stress: In the eye of the beholder*. Presented at the 22nd Annual Houston Perinatal Symposium, Houston, TX.

Beck, C.T. (2005, September). Keynote address: Giving Mothers a Voice: Overcoming Post-traumatic Stress Disorder due to Childbirth. Annual Perinatal Conference: Psychosocial Challenges and Pregnancy. North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, New Hyde Park, New York.

Beck, C.T. (2005, September). Postpartum Depression: Lifting the Veil of Silence. Annual Perinatal Conference: Psychosocial Challenges and Pregnancy. North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System, New Hyde Park, New York.

Beck, C.T. (2005, September). Birth Trauma and Post-traumatic Stress Disorder. United Brachial Plexus Network Conference, Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Beck, C.T. (2005, October) The Massachusetts Department of Public Health Statewide Summit; Perinatal Connections: Strategies to address maternal depression and related issues. Closing Keynote: Birth Trauma and its impact on maternal mental health.

Beck, C.T. (2005, October). Postpartum depression: Methods and Implications for Research. Karolinska Institute, Noble Forum, Stockholm, Sweden.

Beck, C.T. (2005, October). Translation of the Postpartum Depression Screening Scale into Swedish. Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden.

Beck, C.T. (2005, October). Developing Evidence Based Practice: Meta-Analysis and Meta-Synthesis. Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden.

Beck, C.T. (2005, November). Preterm Delivery as Trauma: Its Impact on the Development of PTSD and Postpartum Depression. First annual Connecticut Prematurity Summit, Rocky Hill, CT.

Beck, C.T. (2005, November). Stopping the thief that steals motherhood: Postpartum depression. Presentation at Villanova University, Villanova, PA.

Beck, C.T. (2005). Benefits of participating in Internet interviews: Women Helping Women. *Qualitative Health Research*, 15, 411-422

Beck, C.T., Froman, R., & Bernal, H. (2005). Acculturation level and postpartum depression in Hispanic mothers. *MCN: The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing*, 30, 299-304.

Beck, C.T. & Indman, P. (2005). The many faces of postpartum depression. *Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic, and Neonatal Nursing*, 34, 569-576.

Beck, C.T. & Gable, R.K. (2005). Screening performance of the Postpartum Depression Screening Scale-Spanish Version. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*, 16, 331-338.

Beck, C.T. & Gable, R.K. (2005). The Postpartum Depression Screening Scale (PDSS). In C. Henshaw and S. Elliot (eds.) *Screening for Perinatal Depression*. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Beck, C.T., & Driscoll, J.W. (2006). *Postpartum Mood and Anxiety Disorders: A Clinician's Guide*. Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett Publishers.

Polit, D. & Beck, C.T. (2006). *Essentials of Nursing Research: Methods, Appraisal and Utilization*. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Polit, D., & Beck, C.T. (2006). *Study Guide to Accompany Essentials of Nursing Research*. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

REGINA CUSSON

Cusson, R. (2005, April). Invited Keynote Speaker: *GI physiology: Review and clinical application*. Neonatal-Pediatric Symposium. Arizona State University, Mesa, AZ.

Cusson, R. (2005, April). *Invited Endnote Speaker: Images in nursing: Historical influences on neonatal and pediatric roles*. Neonatal-Pediatric Symposium. Arizona State University, Mesa, AZ.

Cusson, R. (2005, November). Invited Keynote Speaker: Neonatal Nursing Research: Putting the Evidence into Practice. CT Organization of Neonatal Nurses. Hartford, CT.

Cusson, R. M. & Edwards, S. (2005, July). *Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Role Transition in Great Britain*. Poster presented at the 16th Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Research Congress, Hawaii.

McGrath, J., Cusson, R., Harrison, L., & Robinson, C. (2005, October). *Neonatal nurse, practitioner online education consortium: Implementation to prepare culturally competent NNPs to provide best practice in diverse settings*. Paper presented at the National Association of Neonatal Nurses 21st Annual Conference "Tiny Babies, Big Dreams", Anaheim, CA.

LAURA DZUREC

Dzurec, L.C. (2005). Intervening in the experience of depression: Nurses' forte. Guest Editorial. *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing*, 43 (1), 6-7.

Dzurec, D. J., & Dzurec, L. C. (2005). Writing across the curriculum: A hermeneutic study of students' experiences in writing in food science education. *Journal of Food Science Education*, 4, 22-26. (Available on-line at www.ift.org.)

Dzurec, L. C., Allchin, L., Szarlan, J., Polifroni, E. C., & Brewer, T. L. (2006). Toward a qualified yes: Personal characteristics of post-baccalaureate nursing students and implementation of the CNL role. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 22 (1), 15-22.

KATHRYN STEWART HEGEDUS

Hegedus, K.S. (2005, May). Transitions: Remembering the Past and Anticipating the Future. *Invited Keynote presented at Nursing Graduation, Central Connecticut State University*.

Hegedus, K.S. (2005, June). *Aesthetics: The Art of Nursing*. Presentation at 27th Annual Conference of the International Association for Human Caring. Kings Beach, CA. Workshop.

BARBARA BENNETT JACOBS

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, January). *Futility and The Leaky Container Metaphor*. Presentation to the John Dempsey Hospital Ethics Committee, Farmington, CT.

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, March). *Lingering in the Intensive Care Unit: Clinical Ethics*. Presentation at Trends in Medicine and Surgery, Hartford Hospital Annual Symposium. Telluride, Colorado.

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, March). *Futility and Clinical Ethics*. Presentation at Hospital for Special Care, New Britain, CT.

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, March). *The Ethics of Consent and Refusal for Clinical Research*. Presentation to Society of Clinical Research Associates, Hartford, CT.

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, April). *End-of-Life Ethical Issues in Trauma Care: The Clinical Ethicist's Point of View*. Presentation at 7th Annual CT Trauma Conference, The American College of Surgeons, Ledyard, CT.

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, April). *2005 Annual Retreat Facilitator for Hospital of St. Raphael's Ethics Committee*. New Haven, CT.

continued on page 22

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, June). *Medical Futility*. Presentation at John Dempsey Hospital, Farmington, CT.

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, September). *End-of-Life Ethics*. Presentation at the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) Annual National Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia.

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, September). *Nurses' Involvement & Clinical Ethics Consults in the Intensive Care Unit*. End-of-Life Decision Making in Intensive Care Units. Presentation to the University of CT Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Social Work, Psychology Department, & Office of Continuing Studies, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT.

Bennett Jacobs, B. (2005, October). Nurses as Moral Leaders: Ethical Issues in Oncology Clinical Practice: Plenary Invited Speaker, The 4th Annual Oncology Nursing Conference at Yale New Haven Hospital. *Challenges in Adult and Pediatric Oncology Nursing Practice*.

Bennett Jacobs, B., Fontana, J., Kehoe, M.A., Mataresse, C., & Chinn, P. (2005). An emancipatory study of contemporary nursing practice. *Nursing Outlook*, 53 (1), 6-14.

Bennett Jacobs, B., & Taylor C. (2005). "Seeing" artificial hydration and nutrition through an ethical lens. *Home Health Care Nurse*, 23 (11).

Bennett Jacobs B., & Taylor C. (2005, accepted in Press). Medical futility from the natural attitude. *Advances in Nursing Science*.

Jacobs, L., Burns, K., & Bennett Jacobs, B. Co-principal investigators of a Grant Award of \$299,000 for three years from the Aetna Foundation. *Development and Testing of a Best Practice Model in Trauma* is a collaboration between Hartford Hospital (official grant recipient), UConn School of Nursing, and UConn Center for Research and Analysis; Grant Period June, 2005-June, 2008.

AMY KENEFICK

Kenefick, A.L. (2005). Commencement. *International Journal of Human Caring*, 9(1):43-44.

Kenefick, A.L. (2005, May). *Researching Symptom Experience Following Surgical Treatment of Breast Cancer*. University of Connecticut Health Center.

Kenefick, A.L. (2005, April). *Patterns of Symptom Distress in Elderly Women with Breast Cancer*. Poster, Distinguished Scholars Day, University of Connecticut.

Kenefick, A.L. (2005, April). *Patterns of Symptom Distress in Elderly Women with Breast Cancer*. Paper, 17th Annual Scientific Sessions of the Eastern Nursing Research Society.

Kenefick, A.L. (2005) *Quality of Life Assessment in Cancer Clinical Trials*. In proceedings from, *The Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Program: Second Annual Research Retreat*. Westbrook, CT.

Kenefick, A.L. (2006). *Patterns of symptom distress in older women after surgical treatment for breast cancer*. *Oncology Nursing Forum*, 33(2):1-9.

CHANYEONG KWAK

Xu, Y. & Kwak, C. (2005). Teaching in nursing in the U.S.: An Asian faculty experience and reflection. *Home Health Care Management & Practice*, 17(3), 250-253.

Xu, Y., & Kwak, C. (2005). Characteristics of internationally educated nurses in the U.S.: Findings from the 2000 National Sample Survey of Registered Nurses. *Nursing Economics: The Journal for Health Care Leaders*, 23(5), 233-238

Chung, B. Y., Xu, Y. & Kwak, C. (2005). Hospice and hospice care in Korea: Evolution, current status, and challenges. *Home Health Care Management & Practice*, 18(1), 73-77.

Xu, Y. & Kwak. (2005). Changing faces in U.S. registered nurse workforce in long-term care settings. *Home Health Care Management & Practice*, 17, 421-423.

DEBORAH MCDONALD

McDonald, D., Thomas, G., Livingston, K., & Severson, J. (2005). Assisting older adults to communicate their postoperative pain. *Clinical Nursing Research*, 14, 109-126.

McDonald, D., LaPorta, M., & Meadows-Oliver, M. (2006). Nurses' response to pain communication from patients: A post-test experimental Study. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*.

McDonald, D. & Nicholson, N. (2006). Dietary supplement information and intention to continue supplements: an experimental study. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 43(1), 51-57.

JOHN MCNULTY

McNulty, J. (February 2005). *Medication errors: More basic than a system issue*. Afternoon with an Author, Capitol Alliance for Nursing Research, Hartford, CT.

Polifroni, E. C., Allchin, L., & McNulty, J. (2005). Limited math skills: Prescription for change. *Journal of Nurses in Staff Development*, 21 (2), 79-81.

PATRICIA NEAFSEY

Neafsey, P.J., Principal Investigator. Reducing Adverse Self-medication Behaviors in Older Adults with Hypertension. NIH-NHLBI R01 HL084208-01. \$1,040,000. 2005-2008.

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). *Self-study Modules* In: Lilley, L.L., Neafsey, P.J., Snyder, J.S., Gutierrez, K., Agins, P. & Haugen, N. *Pharmacology Online to Accompany Pharmacology and the Nursing Process*, 4th ed. Philadelphia: Elsevier. (12 online, self-study modules with interactive animations, learning activities and quizzes.)

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). *Self-study Modules* In: Lehne, R. A., Neafsey, P.J., Snyder, J.S., Gutierrez, K., Agins, P. & Baker, V. *Pharmacology Online to Accompany Pharmacology for Nursing Care*, 5th ed. Philadelphia: Elsevier. (11 online, self-study modules with interactive animations, learning activities and quizzes.)

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). *Self-study Modules* In: Kee, J.L., Neafsey, P.J., Agins, P. & Haugen, N. *Pharmacology Online to Accompany Pharmacology: A Nursing Process Approach*, 5th ed. Philadelphia: Elsevier. (10 online, self-study modules with interactive animations, learning activities and quizzes.)

Strickler, Z. & Neafsey, P. (2006). Visual design of interactive software for older adults. In: A. Bennet. (Ed.) *Design Studies: Theory & Research in Graphic Design*. Princeton: Princeton Architectural Press.

Luciano, S., Neafsey, P., Jarrin, O., & Coffman, M. (2005, April). *Self-medication practices of Spanish Speaking older adults in Hartford, CT*. Poster presented at the UConn School of Nursing Research Day, Storrs, CT.

Luciano, S. & Neafsey, P. (2005, April). *Self-medication practices of Spanish Speaking older adults in Hartford, CT*. Poster presented by S. Luciano at the UConn Frontiers of Undergraduate Research, Storrs, CT.

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). Role of medications in the etiology and treatment of restless leg syndrome. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 23(4), 207-209.

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). Ketolides: New antimicrobials for community-acquired pneumonia. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 23(3), 141-144.



The University of Connecticut School of Nursing Want a New Canine on Campus... A "Nightingale" Husky!

Husky dogs will be the focus of "The UConn Husky Trail" project as artists nationwide transform more than 125 three-dimensional fiberglass husky sculptures into works of art displayed across the state of Connecticut.

The decorated Husky dogs will part of a public art exhibit held in honor of the UConn's 125th anniversary. The event is scheduled to debut in June and end with an auction during the University's homecoming weekend in October with proceeds to benefit the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

The School of Nursing (SON) would like to raise \$6500 so a husky statue can be decorated in nursing motif and remain on display at the School of Nursing. In addition, the Alumni Association will recognize at least one student (with a \$1000 scholarship) from any school/college/department that sponsors a husky statue. According to Laura Dzurec, Dean of the University of Connecticut's School of Nursing, "SON already has a sponsor for student donations. If student donations total \$500, there will be a match."

For information on how to help sponsor the SON "Nightingale Husky" please contact Barbara Slater at the SON Advancement Office at (860) 486-0613 or email Barbara.slater@uconn.edu.

American Society of Healthcare Publication Editors 2005 Bronze Award as Column Editor for "Medication News" in Editorial Category: Regular Column, Contributed.

Neafsey, P.J. & Tyler, C. (2005). Efficacy of influenza vaccine in the elderly. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 23(10), 640-641.

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). Lyrica (pregabalin): Neurontin Replacement? *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 23(9), 563-564.

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). Inappropriate drug prescriptions for older adults. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 23(8), 495-497.

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). Efficacy of continuous subcutaneous infusion in patients with cancer pain. *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 23(7), 421-423.

Neafsey, P.J. (2005). What's the QT on the QT? *Home Healthcare Nurse*, 23(6), 359-360.

ANTONIA NELSON

Nelson, A.M. (2006). A metasynthesis of qualitative breastfeeding studies. *Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health*, 51(2), e13-e20.

E. CAROL POLIFRONI

Polifroni, E.C. (February 2005). *Medication errors: More basic than a system issue*. Afternoon with an Author, Capitol Alliance for Nursing Research, Hartford, CT.

Bassi, S. & Polifroni, E.C. (2005). Learning communities: The link to recruitment and retention. *Journal of Nursing Staff Development*, 21 (3) 103-109.

Dzurec, L. C., Allchin, L., Szarlan, J., Polifroni, E. C., & Brewer, T. L. (2006). Toward a qualified yes: Personal characteristics of post-baccalaureate nursing students and implementation of the CNL role. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 22 (1), 15-22.

Polifroni, E.C., Allchin, L. & McNulty, J. (2005) Limited math skills: A prescription for change. *Journal of Nursing Staff Development*, 21 (2) 79-81.

Polifroni, E.C. (October 2005). The enhancement of evidence based practice-The forces of magnetism at Presentation at the 9th Annual Conference on Evidence-based Practice: Living Well, Aging Well. Hartford, CT.

JULIETTE SHELLMAN

Shellman, J. (Summer 2005). Selected to attend National Institute on Aging's Summer Research Institute.

Shellman, J. (2005). *The Effects of a reminiscence education program on BSN students' cultural self-efficacy in caring for elders*. Paper presented at the 17th Annual Eastern Nursing Research Society Scientific Sessions, New York, NY.

Shellman, J. (2005). *Reliability and Validity Testing of the Eldercare Cultural Self-Efficacy Scale*. Paper presented at the 17th Annual Eastern Nursing Research Society Scientific Sessions, New York, NY.

Moody, M, Smith, S, Hewitt, N, Martin, M., & Shellman, J. (2005, April). *Experiences and Methodological Considerations in Conducting Research with an African-American Elder Population*. Paper presented at the University of Connecticut Research Day.

Nicholson, N, Reid, K., & Shellman, J. (2005). *Does the CARELINK Partners in Caring Model Decrease Social Isolation in the Elderly?* Sigma Theta Tau Connecticut Chapters Research Day. New Haven, CT.

Nicholson, N, Reid, K., & Shellman, J. (2005). *Does the CARELINK Partners in Caring Model Decrease Social Isolation in the Elderly?* Paper presented at the University of Connecticut Research Day.

Nicholson, N, Reid, K., & Shellman, J. (2005). *Does the CARELINK Partners in Caring Model Decrease Social Isolation in the Elderly?* Poster Presentation at the 17th Annual Eastern Nursing Research Society Scientific Sessions, New York, NY.

Juliette Shellman (2006) "Development and Psychometric Evaluation of the Eldercare Cultural Self-Efficacy Scale", *International Journal of Nursing Education Scholarship*: Vol. 3: No. 1, Article 9. <http://www.bepress.com/ijnes/vol3/iss1/art9>

Shellman J., Moody, M, Smith, S, Hewitt, N, Martin, M. (2005). *Experiences and Methodological Considerations in Conducting Research with an African-American Elder Population*. Paper presented. 58th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. Orlando, FLA.. November 20, 2005.

Shellman J., Moody, M, Smith, S, Hewitt, N, Martin, M. (2005). *Experiences and Methodological Considerations in Conducting Research with an African-American Elder Population*. Paper presented at the 31st Annual Transcultural Nursing Society International Conference, New York City, NY. October 21, 2005.

Shellman J., Moody, M, Smith, S, Hewitt, N, Martin, M. (2005) *The Effects of a Structured Reminiscence Program on Depression and Life Satisfaction in African-American Elders: Preliminary Findings*. Poster Presentation. Geropsychiatric Nursing: State of the Future Conference, University of Pennsylvania.

Korean Professors Visit School of Nursing



Front row, Left to right: SON's Art Engler; Kathryn Stewart Hegedus; Laura Dzurec; Deborah Shelton; and Bok Yae, Chung, Visiting Professor, School of Nursing, Kyungpook National University, South Korea. Back row, left to right: Hyun Sook, Park; Kyung Hee, Kwon; Sang Hee, Kim; Kyung Hea, Kim; Sue Kyung, Sohn; Kyoung Hee, Kim; and Ga Eon, Lee.

A group of seven Korean professors visited Storrs last summer, as part of an international exchange hosted by the School of Nursing. Their visit included observation of clinical practice sites according to their areas of specialty (critical care, hospice, geriatric, and managed care) and workshops on credentials, certification, and the national exam as well as overview/management of the CNS curriculum. Sites included St. Francis Medical Center, St. Francis Hospital Home Care & Hospice, East Hartford VNA, and New Britain VNA. They enjoyed a tour of UConn SON facilities and capped off their visit with a celebration dinner/gift exchange.

DEBORAH SHELTON

Shelton, D. (2005). Child Delinquents (2nd Ed.). *Encyclopedia of Nursing Research*, 68-70.

Shelton, D. (2005). Patterns of Treatment Services and Costs for Young Offenders with Mental Disorders. *J Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing*, 18(3) 103-112.

Shelton, D. (2005). A Study of Young Offenders with Learning Disabilities. *J Correctional Healthcare*. Vol. 11 (5).

Shelton, D. (2005). Design of a mental health promotion program for vulnerable African American youth. *J Forensic Nursing*.

Shelton, D. (2005) Tow Foundation, Wilton, CT. (\$30,000) and The Toner Fund (\$5,000). *A Community Prevention Strategy for First Time Minority Young Offenders*. 2005-2006.

Shelton, D.A. (2005, March). *Health Care for Children and Adolescent in the American Correctional Care System*. Invited speaker at the Annual meeting of CT Chapter of IAFN. Meriden, CT.

Shelton, D.A. (2005, March) Invited speaker. *Domestic Violence*. Advance Job Fair. Cromwell, CT.

Shelton, D.A. (2005, March). *Professions and the Common Good*. Symposium at The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.

Shelton, D.A. (2005, April). *Leadership, Education Achievement and Development: a prevention strategy for juvenile offending*. Poster presentation. Scholars Day. University of Connecticut, School of Nursing. Storrs, CT.

Shelton, D. (2005, Summer). Why Do We Need to Focus on Disproportionate Minority Contact? *CT Juvenile Justice Alliance Newsletter*, (2) 3.

Shelton, D. (2005, Fall). Child Abuse and Delinquency-Is there a relationship? *CT Juvenile Justice Alliance Newsletter*, (2)4.

Shelton, D. (2005, September) *Juvenile Forensic Nursing Time Study*. International Association of Forensic Nurses, 19th Annual Conference, Crystal City, VA.

Shelton, D. (2005, September) L.E.A.D.: *Leadership, Education, Achievement and Development for prevention of juvenile offending*. 9th Bi-annual Custody & Caring Conference. Saskatoon, Canada.

Shelton, D., Jairath, J., McMullen, P., Donely, M., Grandjean, M. (2005). *Nursing and the Common Good. In Professions and the Common Good*. The Catholic University Press, Washington, DC.

Shelton, D., Pearson, G. (2005). Prevalence, Etiology and Treatment of ADHD in Juvenile Offender Populations. *J Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing* (43) 9, 38-46.

Faculty

Nanette Alexander, APRN
Instructor

Lynn Allchin, PhD, RN
Assistant Professor

Elizabeth Anderson, PhD, APRN
Associate Professor & Primary Care Track Coordinator

Sherry Bassi '91, '93, EdD, APRN, BC
Assistant Professor

Cheryl Beck, DNSc, CNM, FAAN
Professor

Joanne Blum '01, RN, C, MS
Clinical Instructor

Margie Brown '91, MSN, RN
Clinical Instructor

Ann Marie Buonocore, MS, RN
Instructor

Pamela Burris, MSN, RN
Clinical Instructor

Edith Bushell, MSN, RN
Clinical Instructor

Joan Carpenter, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Bok Yae, Chung, RN, PhD
Visiting Professor, Kyungpook National University, South Korea

Rosanna Colangelo, MSN, RN
Clinical Instructor

Kathy Cooper-McDermott, RN, MPH, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Mary Ann Cordeau '04 PhD, RN
Instructor, Clinical Coordinator & Assistant Curator, Josephine A. Dolan Collection

Anne Cross '98, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Regina Cusson, PhD, RNC, NNP
Professor & Neonatal Track Coordinator

Carol A. Daisy, PhD, RN
Assistant Professor & RN to MS Program Coordinator

Susan Davis, RN, MSN, CEN
Clinical Faculty

Laura Cox Dzurec '74, PhD, RN, CS
Dean & Professor

Arthur J. Engler, DNSc, RNC, CRNP
Associate Professor

Jill Espelin, MSN, RN
Clinical Instructor

Alice Facente, RN, C, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Melissa Fedell, RN, MSN, BC
Clinical Instructor

Robert K. Gable, EdD
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Linda Garcia, MS, RN
Clinical Instructor

Bette J. Gebrian '77, PhD, RN
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Lisa-Marie Griffiths '91 MS
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Katie Haste, APRN, MSN, AHN-C
Clinical Instructor

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Mell Hobson '77, '86, MS, RN
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Barbara Bennett Jacobs '02 PhD, MPH, RN
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Clinical Faculty

Christine Johnson '77, MS, RN
Lecturer

Nancy Jordan, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Amy Kenefick, PhD, RN, FNP, CNM
Associate Professor

Cynthia Kociszewski, PhD, APRN, BC
Instructor & Acute Care Track Coordinator

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Professor

Anne Krafft, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Chanyeong Kwak, PhD, CCRN
Assistant Professor

Frances Lareau, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Alison Luckey-Percy, RN, MS
Clinical Instructor

Elaine Martin, RNC, MS, CS-PNP, CS-FNP
Clinical Instructor

Paula McCauley '98, APRN-BC, MS
Lecturer

Deborah McDonald '81, PhD, RN
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Michelle McKelvey, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

John McNulty '84 MS, RN, BC
Instructor & Head, Academic Advising

Carolyn Mull, PhD, RN
Instructor

Patricia J. Neafsey, PhD, RD
Professor

Antonia Nelson '03 PhD, RNC
Assistant Professor

Kelly Nicholson '05 MS, RN
Clinical Instructor

Bernadette O'Halloran, MS, RN
Clinical Faculty

Miriam Olack, APRN
Clinical Instructor

Sheila Orbanic, PhD
Instructor

Bozena Padykula, MSN, RN
Clinical Instructor

Mary Lyn Page, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Geraldine Pearson '02 PhD, APRN
Instructor

Kimberly Petrovic
Clinical Instructor

Jeanette Plodek, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

E. Carol Polifroni, EdD, RN, CNA, BC
Associate Professor, Graduate Program, MbEIN Program & Patient Care Services & Systems Administration Track Coordinator

Audrey Reinsmith, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Kathryn Roby '73, RN, MA, MBA
Clinical Instructor

Chris Rooney, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Joanne Roy '86, RN, PhD
Clinical Instructor

Mary Rush, PhD, APRN, BC
Clinical Instructor

Eileen Sharp, RN, MSN, APRN
Clinical Instructor

Juliette Shellman '99 MS, '03 PhD, APRN-BC
Assistant Professor

Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, CNA, BC
Associate Dean for Research, Associate Professor & Director, Center for Nursing Research

Kimberly Skehan, RN, MS
Clinical Instructor

Peggy Stolfi '70, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Lori Testa, RN, MSN
Clinical Instructor

Jeanne Thomas, MS, RN
Clinical Instructor

Maureen Vildozola, MSN, RN
Clinical Instructor

Elizabeth Visone, RN, MS, APRN, BC
Instructor

Rose Marie Zymslinski, MSN, APRN, BC
Clinical Instructor

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A Salute to Our History

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Kate Ahmadi, PhD, RN

Henrietta Bernal '68, '74, PhD, RN
Professor Emerita

Kathleen Bruttomesso, DNSc, RN
Associate Professor Emerita

Peggy Chinn, PhD, RN, FAAN
Professor Emerita

Olga Church, PhD, RN, FAAN
Professor Emerita

Marga Coler, EdD, RN, CS, CTN, FAAN
Professor Emerita

Carolyn D'Avanzo, DNSc, RN

Arlyne Della Donna '58, MS, RN
Assistant Professor Emerita

Margie Freston, CNM, PhD

Audrey J. Fulcher, MS, RN

Elaine M. Geissler, RN, PhD, CTN

Laura Govoni, PhD, RN

Gail Harkness, Dr. PH, RN
Professor Emerita

Janice Hayes, PhD, RN
Professor Emerita

Eleanor K. Herrmann, EdD, RN, FAAN
Professor Emerita, Josephine A. Dolan Collection, Curator

Edna Johnson, PhD, RN
Assistant Professor Emerita

Carol C. Keenan, RN, C, MS

Muriel W. Lessner '68, '75, RN, PhD
Associate Professor Emerita

Jane E. Murdock, RN, EdD
Associate Dean and Professor Emerita

Eileen Murphy, DNSc, RN

Roberta M. Orne, RN, PhD
Assistant Professor Emerita

Judith M. Quinn, MS, RN
Assistant Professor Emerita

Helen "Connie" Mather Scott, RN, PhD
Assistant Professor Emerita

Helen S. Shah, RN, DNSc

Virginia Smith, MS, RN

Linda R. Sues '67, RN, PhD
Assistant Professor Emerita

Janice A. Thibodeau '66, EdD, RN, FAAN
Professor Emerita

Marguerite B. White, RN, EdD
Associate Dean and Professor Emerita

Clara A. "Andy" Williams '56, RN, MS
Assistant Professor Emerita

A Mother's Legacy of Determination and Appreciation of Education will Impact Generations to Come

Ambitious, loving, devoted, and industrious. These are a few words that three UConn alumni used to memorialize their mother, Elsa Kosgalwies Adomat, in whose honor they have established an annual scholarship. The Adomat family includes Maria Adomat Ahearn '67 (Allied Health), our own Elisabeth Adomat DeLuca '69 (Nursing), and Martin Adomat '75 (Business). Their story tells of a young family who immigrated to the United States in 1954, virtually penniless, not knowing the English language, yet driven by the dream of a better life in the land of opportunity, and a mother's unyielding belief in the power of an education.

Elsa Kosgalwies Adomat was born on February 13, 1914 in the country of East Prussia, which bordered Lithuania. Described as a bright student, she was disappointed when her education came to an end after 8th grade because it was not the custom for girls to continue their schooling beyond that point. She often referred to her schooldays as some of her fondest childhood memories. "They can take away your lifetime possessions," Elsa would say, "but they can never take away what you have up here!" she would add, pointing to her head.

Elsa knew that it takes perseverance and determination to succeed, especially when life puts many obstacles in your way. As a young woman, Elsa and her family experienced hardships which included losing everything as a result of World War II and running from the oncoming armies with family in tow. Her husband, Emil, fought in the war and returned home to her shortly before their departure to the States. Their hard work and unwavering belief in their dreams enabled their own children to pursue university studies, and, as the three siblings shared, in retrospect, the crucial decision to move to America has impacted so many lives in so many positive ways.

The Elsa Kosgalwies Adomat Nursing Scholarship is given to an undergraduate nursing student who has a demonstrated of unmet financial need. Recipients are preferably students entering their senior year who intend to pursue a career in direct patient care, ideally geriatric patient care. The fund is made possible by generous contributions from numerous members of the extended Adomat family, their friends, and community affiliates. Individual and corporate donors represent the wide variety of connections that the Adomat family have in the community, from the Orange, CT Arts and Crafts Guild to the Subway Development Corporation throughout the United States.



From left to right, front row: Lasha Adomat, Maria Adomat Ahearn, Elisabeth Adomat DeLuca '69, Dean Laura Dzurec '74, Mary Sheehan (scholarship recipient), Betty Sheehan. Back row: Bob Ahearn, Martin Adomat, and Jim Sheehan.

The 2005 Elsa Kosgalwies Adomat Scholarship recipient, Mary Sheehan, truly embodies the values that the Adomat family wish to see carried on, in tribute to their mother. Martin Adomat says, "I believe our mother would be very pleased to know that a legacy in her name will continue to help students in the pursuit of their dreams. Mary and her family worked hard to achieve what they have, just as our mother did. We are glad to know that we can be of some help to them...that is what the essence of the scholarship was intended to be."

Attending the scholarship presentation and meeting the recipient and her parents were rewarding experiences for this generous family. "It's great to meet bright, young individuals and families who are passionate about their career and that enthusiasm is contagious," remarks Maria Ahearn. "It has made me more likely to award personal future contributions for the sake of education."

Elisabeth DeLuca affirms, "It is the sincere hope of all her children that any individuals receiving assistance from my mother's legacy will continue to place importance on those values of hard work, honesty, integrity, and a dedication to education in their own lives, as well as inspire others to do the same."

Credits

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Thursday, April 13, 2006

Rome Hall – South Campus
Storrs, CT
8:00 am – 4:00 pm

For more information about the conference please contact Barbara Slater in the SON Advancement Office at Barbara.Slater@uconn.edu or (860) 486-0613

2006 ATHENA Research Conference

The School of Nursing is committed to advancing the discipline of nursing through research. The ATHENA Research Conference (ARC) was originally established to provide an open environment for the exchange of information for those involved in nursing research, as well as nursing practice. ATHENA is an acronym for Advancing Toward Health: Evidence-based Nursing Applications. The ATHENA Research Conference serves as a medium for the two-way exchange of ideas and knowledge, bridging the gap between nursing research and nursing practice. The School of Nursing and faculty values historical inquiry, theory development, and philosophical reflection as important methods to illuminate the horizons of nursing thought. Abstracts for this year's conference include the following formats:

- Quantitative research: purpose, theoretical framework, methods, results and conclusions
- Qualitative and historical research: purpose, background, methods, results and conclusions
- Philosophical and theory-related research: purpose, background, approach, major points, and conclusions

The conference schedule consists of a keynote speaker presentation, faculty and student research presentations and posters as well as a networking luncheon.



University Scholar Sylva Zander '06 BS presents her honors research, which she worked on with Associate Professor Arthur Engler, DNSc, RNC, CRNP, titled "The Experience of Postpartum Depression in Lesbian Mothers" during the student poster presentation portion of last year's research day.

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