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UConn
SCHOOL OF NURSING

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Spring 2014 ■ Volume 15

NEXT GENERATION NURSES



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UConn School of Nursing is taking the profession to a new arena of activity through healthcare innovations, training a new generation of nurses in applying creativity and entrepreneurial thinking to healthcare challenges.

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UConn School of Nursing ■ nursing.uconn.edu



FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE

NELSON MANDELA

1918-2013

“The dreamer has died, but the dream lives. We have been lucky to join in Cape Town’s celebration of Mandela’s life, and it has taught me *ubuntu* in a way I otherwise would not have understood.” -- Bonnie Fiducia, UConn nursing student in Cape Town during Mandela’s memorial.

Read additional memorial reflections from our students on page 14.

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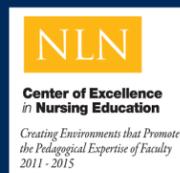
Front cover: *Top photograph features Megan Guerra '15 (left) and Jerrol Mitchell '15 (right). Bottom photograph (taken by Jerrol Mitchell) during the Nelson Mandela Memorial. Back cover: In the Eleanor K. Herrmann Reading Room are Family Nurse Practitioner graduates Kasia Lessard '13 (left) and Julie Heher '13 (right).*

Inside front cover:

Nursing student Alexis Oseiwusu '15 outside the Widmer Wing.

Inside back cover: *Alumnus and benefactor, Patricia Werner Bender '69.*

UConn
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Impacting NEXT GENERATION Nurses

Enthusiastic Support for UConn's Nursing Tradition

"Sooner or later, everyone needs a nurse," says Patricia Werner Bender '69, and if she had her way, all nurses would receive the compassionate and science-based training she received from UConn.

"They take the holistic view," says Bender, "They consider not only the physical aspects of illness, but also the side effects, including the psychological impact and the effect on the family."

Bender believes the School of Nursing does a particularly good job of preparing nurses for their role at the center of health care. "Health care has changed significantly since I was at UConn, and the School of Nursing has kept up with the needs of nurses, thoroughly preparing them for their careers. The students are ready when they graduate, and they transition smoothly into the real world of nursing work."

"The School of Nursing gave us skills, values, and leadership abilities that were transferable to many areas of our lives," adds Bender, whose long career as a nurse includes practice in settings from hospital-based bedside to community outreach, to staff development and private practice. "My UConn education was invaluable in providing me with the framework to provide quality care wherever I went."

Bender's support for the School of Nursing has been long and varied. She has established two scholarship



Patricia Werner Bender '69

funds, one in honor of her father, Robert A. Matheson, a 1941 UConn grad, and one to honor Harold and Lillian Lester, the aunt and uncle who encouraged her interest in nursing as a profession. She also has established an endowed fund to provide program support for the School, and she is an active volunteer; advocating for the School whenever possible.

"Patricia Bender exemplifies not only the technical and scientific abilities of today's nurses but also the empathy that makes a great nurse," says School of Nursing Dean Regina Cusson, who recently recognized Bender with the Josephine A. Dolan Award for Distinguished Service. The award is named after the first faculty member hired by Dean Widmer. "Jo was the glue that held the school together, just as Pat believes that nurses are the glue that holds together the health care system," says Cusson.

"The School of Nursing makes it easy for me and so many others to give back," says Bender. "We are so proud of the accomplishments of our School's faculty, staff and students. I feel enriched and blessed by my UConn education and I think it's important to support the School and its tradition of providing an exceptional education and graduating great nurses."

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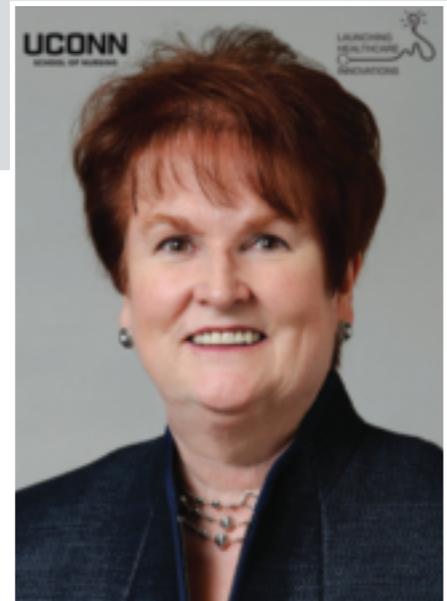


Smartphone? Smart site.
UConn Nursing Mobile

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, activities, and faculty accomplishments. You can also find additional information on our website at: nursing.uconn.edu. If you have any questions about this publication, or the School of Nursing, contact us at (860) 486-3716 or by email to barbara.slater@uconn.edu.



FROM THE Dean's Desk



NEXT GENERATION CONNECTICUT... NEXT GENERATION NURSES. It has a nice ring, doesn't it? UConn nurses are firmly rooted in Next Gen Connecticut. Think of the wonderful contributions our school makes to the health of Connecticut, preparing nurses of all levels to care for its citizens, fueling its economy and leading innovations in nursing research and scholarship.

Nursing is a STEM field. Just ask our freshman and sophomore students as they master their basic science courses. Or our juniors and seniors as they apply their scientific knowledge to patient care, using their recently developed critical thinking skills to sift through the myriad details of scientific knowledge they've acquired. Or our graduate students who have returned to higher education to enhance their scientific knowledge and embark on careers in advanced practice and research.

This issue of Unison is chock-full of articles about Next Gen Nurses, our faculty, alumni and students, and the cutting edge happenings in our school of nursing. I hope you will enjoy the stories. Read about Dr. Xiaomei Cong and her award-winning research on the neonatal gut microbiome (page 6). Her multidisciplinary research has garnered an NIH award, as well as one of only four internal grants awarded at UConn for research in genomics, a stellar feat considering the competition across the entire university.

One of my favorite activities this year was to introduce our seniors to the nurses' roles as innovators and change agents through our senior leadership course (page 8). Working closely with alumna Christine Meehan, we developed a unique thread throughout the course that culminated in our first nursing "shark tank." I can hardly wait to see who secures the top prize during our ATHENA Research Conference on April 25. I am already working with a multidisciplinary team to expand this program in future years with the goal of developing a center in nursing and health care innovations.

Contributors to the development of our Next Gen Connecticut programs are the wonderful new faculty who have joined our school (page 19). This year we added several new advanced practice faculty. Next year the focus of six new faculty positions will be on enhancing our pre-licensure faculty, as well as contributing to our emerging record of research and scholarship.

Be sure to check out the story about the moving experiences our study abroad students had in South Africa this year. While study abroad is always life-changing, this year was particularly memorable because our students were present for the death and subsequent celebration of the legacy of Nelson Mandela. You can share in a small way by reading their words about their experiences (page 14).

As we move into spring, a season of renewal and new beginnings for our graduates, I wish you a wonderful and relaxing summer. Stay tuned for many exciting new adventures next year.

Regina M. Cusson, PhD, NNP-BC, APRN, FAAN
Dean & Professor



NEXT GENERATION NURSES

STEM Fields: Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
... and NURSING.

- 1 Clear the mind of pre-judgments.
- 2 Analyze a phenomenon's component parts.
- 3 Start with the simplest before moving to the more complex.
- 4 Observe and record all data.

This is the scientific method. From its seventeenth-century father René Descartes runs a direct lineage to nurse statistician Florence Nightingale in the nineteenth century. Today's nurse scientists inherit it in qualitative, quantitative and mixed-methods research.

Nursing is a branch of the STEM disciplines -- science, technology, engineering, and math. As Dean Regina Cusson observes, "Nursing blends STEM fields by uniquely applying sciences like physiology, anatomy, chemistry, physics, genetics, pathophysiology, and pharmacology for effective nursing care and enhanced patient outcomes." Archival research by School of Nursing historian Jennifer Telford reveals founding Dean Carolyn Ladd Widmer's commitment to our students' broad and deep engagement with the sciences. Science is in UConn Nursing's genes.

Associate Dean Jacqueline McGrath, who leads our research and scholarship efforts, adds that "Nursing is the heart of STEM, a holistic approach that uniquely blends these different sciences together to enhance patient outcomes." Although scientific discovery is readily associated with our PhD program and its faculty, according to Associate Clinical Professor Sandra Bellini, scientific application is also the cornerstone of our DNP program, which she directs.

In this issue of *Unison* we feature the School of Nursing's place in science. ■



Senior nursing student Jerrol Mitchell '14 during a simulation lab exercise.

Visitors to the Widmer Wing may be surprised to see what look like fully equipped hospital or longterm-care facility rooms, complete with patients. These are state-of-the-art clinical simulation labs, used by both pre-licensure and advanced practice students.

Organizing and assessing clinical simulation activities rests in the able hands of Desiree Diaz '94, '09 MS, '04 PhD, associate clinical professor in the School of Nursing and director of its simulation and clinical resource laboratories.

The aim of clinical simulations is to prepare students in making clinical judgments and demonstrating clinical skills. To do so, Diaz points out, high fidelity is paramount: "The mannequins are all identified by name and have different functionality to promote realism. We have a multicultural and multigenerational lab. Our mannequins range from

a 25 week premie to a 83 year old geriatric patient. We have many ethnicities represented as well." The typical simulation process, Diaz explains, entails three stages: pre-briefing, the simulation scenario, and debriefing.

"Research has shown that the debrief is the most important part of the simulation where the most learning takes place," Diaz explains. "It allows all learners to reference what they just saw as one student interacts in the scene while all others are remotely watching via live video in a debriefing room located in Storrs Hall."

Maintaining evidence-based professionalism in simulation is supported by the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning. Diaz ensures that all simulation instructors, including those at regional campuses in the CEIN program, are appropriately trained and assessed. ■



Research exchange during the 2013 ATHENA Research Series poster session.



... in research

"... if you cannot get the habit of observation . . . you had better give up the being a nurse, for it is not your calling, however kind and anxious you may be" -- Florence Nightingale in Notes on Nursing.

Nurses come for the caring, but they stay for the science. An insatiable curiosity about each patient's individual personal circumstances and complex health needs. A firm determination to explore and exhaust all remedies. The humility to admit one's limitations. The drive to expand the nursing profession's knowledge. These are aspects of the skilled clinician and the tireless researcher.

Jacqueline McGrath believes her role as associate dean for research and scholarship is to ensure that School of Nursing faculty and doctoral students have the support and resources as a foundation for successful discovery, dissemination, and application of their scholarship. With an initial joint appointment as a faculty member in the School of Nursing and director of nursing research at Connecticut Children's Medical Center, McGrath moved into her new administrative role in the summer of 2013.

Of her new role, McGrath observes, "Several changes have already occurred in how we support scientists in the School of Nursing. We have more fully embraced Boyer's Model for guiding faculty scholarship, working toward full recognition and encouragement of all types

of scholarship. To that end we have refined the vision and goals of the Center for Nursing Scholarship and expanded the CNS team to include new members with different skill mixes."

In 2005 the School of Nursing's faculty adopted Ernest Boyer's four-fold typology of academic scholarship in his groundbreaking 1990 *Scholarship Reconsidered*: discovery, integration, application, and teaching. The UConn Center for Nursing Scholarship provides research and clinical faculty, as well as students, with a range of technical resources to support their science: research literature searches, consulting in qualitative and quantitative methods, grant application and management support, and technical editing. In addition, the CNS hosts monthly colloquia and workshops, including "modeling parties" that provide peer review to researchers. ■



Using Boyer's Model, UConn School of Nursing fosters interprofessional scholarship of all types to promote excellence in evidence-based practice and patient outcomes.



Pictured above Assistant Professor Xiaomei Cong (center) with PhD students Carrie-Ellen Briere '09 (left), and Victoria Vazquez '90, '08 MS (right).

Xiaomei Cong

NEXT GENERATION FACULTY



The K23 research team from left: Associate Professor (Molecular and Cell Biology) Joerg Graf, Assistant Professor Xiaomei Cong, doctoral student Victoria Vazquez, Associate Dean Jacqueline McGrath, and doctoral students Carrie-Ellen Briere, Dorothy Vittner, and Amy D'Agata.

In a breathtakingly bold move for an assistant professor, Xiaomei Cong has turned the direction of her research from the biobehavioral outcomes of NICU kangaroo care to a multidisciplinary collaboration studying neonates' gut microbiome.

In other words, baby poop.

The human body is an ecological system. It plays host to microbes -- including bacteria, eukaryotes, and viruses -- that far outnumber the body's cells. While we have long known that the gut microbiome is involved with digestion, a growing body of peer-reviewed research suggests associations between the gut microbiome and autoimmune diseases, obesity, and mental health problems like depression, anxiety, and autism.

Cong has long studied the effects of physical stressors on neonates. In her most recent work, for example, she has examined the physiological mechanisms in the well established benefits of kangaroo care (skin-to-skin contact between parent and infant) to alleviate NICU procedural pain. Her clinical trials of different durations of kangaroo care, measuring salivary levels of cortisol and oxytocin, extended our understanding of this simple, no-tech, intervention.

Building on that research, Cong will now investigate the mechanisms of early life stress and the neuro-immune system, specifically brain-gut-microbiota signaling mechanisms. She will investigate the regulation of early life stress by the brain-gut-microbiota axis and the prediction of neurodevelopmental outcomes in high-risk infants.

This promising avenue of research is part of a larger national endeavor sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. Begun in 2007 the Human Microbiome Project is developing tools and datasets for researchers. In its first phase the project observed and described the diversity of microbial communities inhabiting the body's mucosal surfaces, like the gastrointestinal tract. This stage evaluated these microbes' genetic metabolic potential. In the second current phase the Human Microbiome Project is creating the first integrated datasets of the microbiome's biological properties.

In 2013 the NIH National Institute of Nursing Research awarded Cong a three year K23 grant for a project entitled Early Life Physiological and Psychosocial Stress Imprints Gut Microbiome in Preterm Infants. As Cong explains, "Premature infants subjected to stressful early life experiences develop an altered gut microbiome, increasing the risk for neurodevelopmental morbidity and gastrointestinal dysfunction, including necrotizing enterocolitis." Supplemented by a UConn Affinity Research Collaboratives grant, one of only four awarded, this research will employ state-of-the-art genetic sequencing and computation.

Cong will now investigate the mechanisms of early life stress and the neuro-immune system specifically brain-gut-microbiota signaling mechanisms.

With her characteristic modesty, Cong attributes this project's potential to her multidisciplinary team. She has assembled a collaboration among UConn colleagues Joerg Graf (Molecular and Cell Biology), Jacqueline McGrath (School of Nursing and Connecticut Children's Medical Center), Adam Matson and Naveed Hussain (School of Medicine and CCMC NICU), as well as external partners Zhengqing Ouyang (Jackson Laboratory for Genomic Medicine) and Wendy Henderson (National Institute of Nursing Research, Biobehavioral Branch, Digestive Disorder Unit).

In this way nursing research leverages interprofessional health and life sciences to promote improved patient outcomes. ■



Pictured above (from left) Dean Regina Cusson and alumna Christine Meehan '74 with seniors in the nursing leadership class.

Future Nurse Innovators Jump into the "SHARK TANK"

Reality TV and clinical realities merged for the UConn School of Nursing's Class of 2014 when the senior class competed in teams for the attention and approval of an expert panel judging their proposed nursing technology innovations. Modeled after the hit ABC television program *Shark Tank* in which inventors and entrepreneurs seek venture investors, the School of Nursing's juried competition featured thirteen student teams and six judges.

Judges were drawn from a wide range of backgrounds: Kevin Bouley '80 (BUS), president and CEO Nerac Inc., a research and advisory firm for companies developing innovative technologies; Ellen Crowe, regional director of clinical excellence

and innovation for the eastern region of Hartford Healthcare; Cheryl Hoey, vice president of clinical nurse services, Connecticut Children's Medical Center; Mary Holz-Clause, UConn vice president for economic development; Rosemary Scricca '82, Bristol-Myers Squibb protocol manager; and School of Nursing alumna Christine Meehan '74, CEO and founder of CADImplant and an angel investor in GoldenSeeds.

"What struck me most was the creativity of our senior nursing students," Meehan observed, "and how quickly they responded to the challenge to come up with an innovative idea and develop it into a potential solution."

The top two proposals selected by the jurors were Seizguard, a detection device in a bracelet that alerts patients to oncoming seizures, and Baby Beat, a wireless continuous external monitor in the form of a lightweight flexible abdominal band that monitors fetal heart rate, fetal movement, and maternal contractions.

Herself an experienced innovator and winner of the 2011 Carolyn Ladd Widmer Outstanding Alumni Award for Leadership in Nursing, Meehan described her own entrepreneurial path: "I came to technical innovation when I was monitoring a hospital clinical study for implantable pumps for direct infusion of chemotherapy into the liver for cancer. I was asked to join the company that made the implantable pump to do all of their clinical training in the US. And that is how I transitioned into more of a medical business environment, but still using my nursing skills and clinical background."

This nursing innovation competition emerged from a reconceived nursing leadership course in the fall 2013 term in which Arthur J. Engler, associate

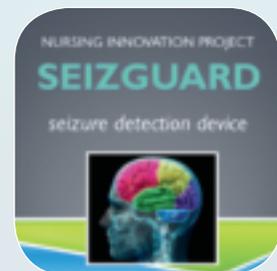
professor, Maria Tackett '72, '94 MS, clinical instructor, and Dean Regina Cusson emphasized teamwork and innovation.

" I transitioned into more of a medical business environment, but still using my nursing skills and clinical background," says alumna Meehan '74.

Nursing schools can be more deliberate in fostering ingenuity, Meehan observed: "Nursing educators can begin to teach about the 'healthcare marketplace' that our new graduates are going into. They need to understand the business of healthcare and hospitals, medical device manufacturers, pharmaceutical companies. All of these are factors in how healthcare is delivered and nursing plays a key role." ■



Michaela Morse '14 explains her team's innovation, a cleaning system for stethoscopes, as part of their presentation - Enhancing Health One Stethoscope at a Time.





Frank LaSala MD, assistant professor of traumatology and emergency medicine, with nursing junior, Gabrielle Dragotta '15 in the new UConn Health Urgent Care Center in Storrs.

UConn HEALTH

What that means for

UConn SCHOOL OF NURSING

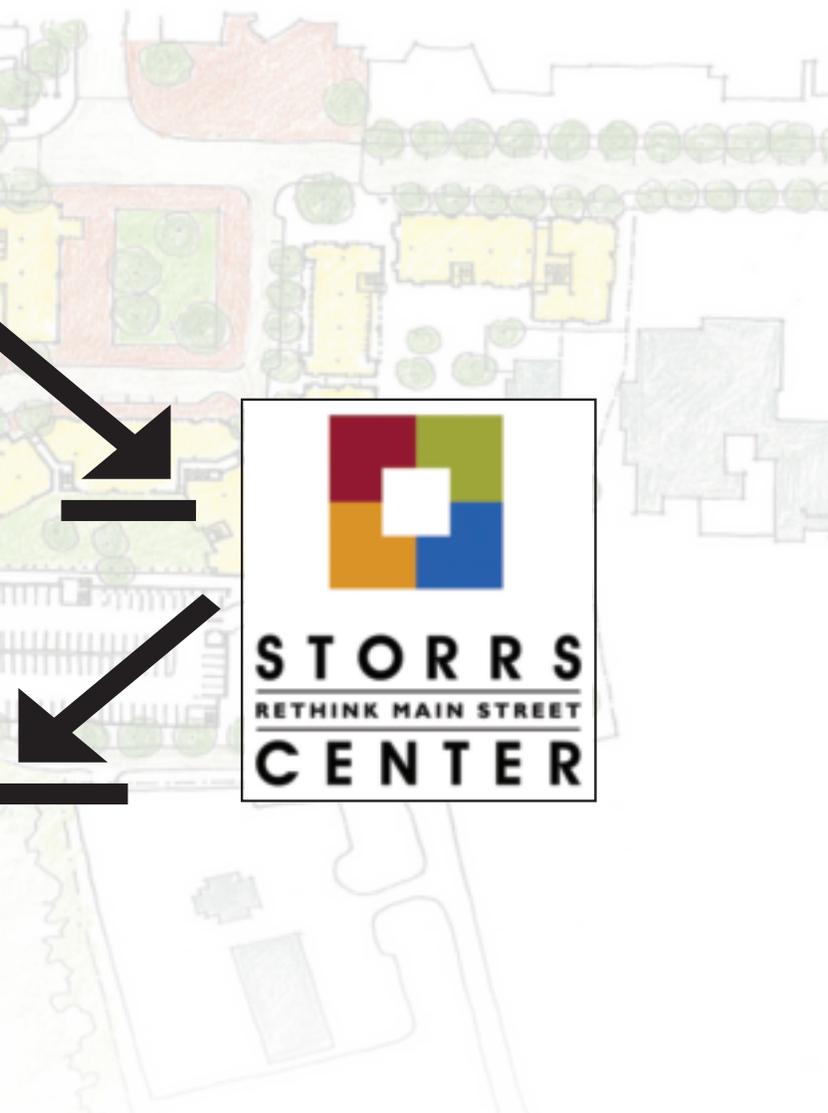
Longtime alumni who today barely recognize the Storrs campus because of recent building projects will now find another feature in Storrs Center, the new residential and commercial district. A full service primary and urgent health care center has opened, with 18,000 square feet of medical space and 2,600 feet of dental space.

In addition to a staff of eight physicians with family medicine, cardiology, orthopedics, sports medicine, internal medicine, and surgical specializations, two advanced practice nurses, Laura Sczurek '09 MS and Sharon Kandro, provide patient care. Future specializations will add dermatology, ob/gyn, and psychiatry.

Dean Regina Cusson sees a valuable opportunity for the School of Nursing's faculty and students as well as the campus and local communities: "The School of Nursing is excited to be a partner in the Storrs

Downtown UConn Health location. Our certified nurse practitioner faculty, licensed as APRNs in Connecticut, bring a wealth of clinical knowledge and acumen to the practice arena, which will add them as valuable members of the team who enhance outcomes of care." Faculty will precept advanced practice nursing students, adding an educational component to the practice setting.

According to Anne Diamond, interim chief executive officer of John Dempsey Hospital, "Nursing is the foundation in all medical services from the registered nurse to the advanced practice nurse, they are essential professionals of our interdisciplinary team providing exceptional medical care. Our goal at UConn Health is to provide a great working environment for each nurse so their contribution provides the safest care coupled with the rewards of knowing how they help each of their patients every day."



These health care providers will work in collaboration with existing services on campus, including the Speech and Hearing Clinic, Nayden Rehabilitation Clinic, and Student Health Services.

This health center will also provide a richly varied clinical site for pre-licensure and advanced practice students as well as a research site for faculty. "We are excited that the relationship between UConn Health and the School of Nursing has grown even closer this past year," Diamond observes, "and working with Dean Cusson and her team has been fantastic. We look forward to many new and exciting opportunities in collaborations benefiting the clinical, educational and research goals of both organizations."



Polifroni Leads UConn Public Engagement

"The Office of Public Engagement promotes socially engaged scholarship, community outreach, and service learning pedagogies that 'serve the public good, help prepare our students to be leaders in their chosen fields, and support faculty and staff in scholarly outreach efforts.'"

The Office of Public Engagement promotes socially engaged scholarship, community outreach, and service learning pedagogies that "serve the public good, help prepare our students to be leaders in their chosen fields, and support faculty and staff in scholarly outreach efforts."

The 411 on the

911 911 911

PROGRAMS



SNEMS-C program participants during a safety exercise with UConn Fire Captain Stanley Landry.

School Nurse Emergency Medical Services (SNEMS-C)

This past summer the UConn School of Nursing offered the School Nurse Emergency Medical Services for Children Program for the first time. Attendees were drawn to the program for a variety of reasons: to review their skills, to feel more comfortable in scenarios in a school setting, to stay up to date and reach their full potential, and to be prepared for an emergency. The goal of the program is to reduce morbidity and mortality in students who become injured or ill at school. Nurses were taught skills they would need to assess students, give pre-hospital care, and form intervention strategies and school emergency plans. Responses to the program were extremely positive, with participants from all experience levels feeling they benefitted. One school nurse said, "I have extensive background in medicine, and this was a fabulous review." Another felt that, "this program should be mandatory... especially for those new to school nursing." This continuing professional development initiative is one of many to come as the School of Nursing expands its outreach and service to Connecticut.

Medical Management of CBRNE Incidents Conference (Chemical - Biological - Radiological and Nuclear - Explosive)

Healthcare professionals must be prepared for emergencies including those involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE). To provide that preparation, alumnus Rich Shok '08 (Owner of Code One, LLC) has been instrumental in bringing the Medical Management of CBRNE events to UConn twice this past year. The course is designed for healthcare professionals and others, including fire and hazmat personnel and law enforcement officials. Through small group exercises, facilitated discussions, human patient simulator hands-on learning and traditional classroom conversations, participants learn skills essential in handling these types of crises. Topics include planning for the effects of a CBRNE incident, identifying CBRNE agents and the physiological effects they have on the human body, and proper triage methods during a CBRNE event. After taking the course, participants have the skills they need to properly handle a CBRNE crisis, which can include industrial accidents, terrorism, and crimes, keeping themselves and those around them safe.



Next Generation Acute Care Nursing

Nursing graduates Margaret Powell '13 MS (left) and Francesca Dimaira '13 MS (right).

Over twenty years ago, the UConn School of Nursing's Acute Care Master of Science program saw its first graduating class. At the time, the program had been created to fill an immediate need for APRNs in the acute care arena because residency hours were adapted and hospitals were seeing possible gaps in patient coverage. Since then, the program has progressed and expanded. The average graduating class has increased to about fifteen students, who gain an understanding of the role of acute care APRNs in rehab facilities, long term care facilities and acute care centers. The most recent addition to the curriculum has been increased emphasis on the geriatric population.

In 2006, Associate Dean and Associate Clinical Professor, Paula McCauley '96, '98 MS, '10 DNP, became the track coordinator for the program. Under her leadership, there has been increased interest in the program, with 20 to 30 applicants per year. McCauley explains that there has been a shift towards "student centered learning and away from a traditional 'lecture' format." There is also a larger network of APRN mentors available, whereas before students were often placed with a physician. Students are required to participate in over 700 hours of a clinical practicum, and McCauley would like to see the majority of those hours be with an APRN.

In addition to those clinical hours, students take core courses in graduate nursing education, theory, health policy, research and genetics. A special simulation lab

has also been developed in the new Widmer Wing, which will continue to be expanded. Upon completion of the program, these nurses are qualified to manage adult and geriatric patients in all acute care settings.

McCauley has ambitious goals for the program and the next generation of acute care nurse practitioners. She would like to see Connecticut enact legislation allowing ACNPs to practice independently, the purpose of Gov. Malloy's Senate Bill 36 introduced in the 2014 session of the General Assembly. At the same time, she hopes that "we at UConn will continue to provide the ACNP graduates with the knowledge, attitude and skills necessary to be competent, inquisitive, collaborative practitioners who lead interprofessional teams in providing patients and their families with the care needed to restore or return them to their optimum level of health and wellness and provide care that will enhance their quality of life."

With millions of Americans newly insured through the Affordable Care Act, the Master of Science in Acute Care is preparing Next Generation Nurses.



View additional program information at: nursing.uconn.edu



Nelson
Mandela
1918-2013

Nursing seniors and faculty spending the fall 2013 semester in Cape Town, South Africa, were eyewitnesses to the end of a historic era with the death of Nelson Mandela, known affectionately by his Xhosa tribal name, "Tata [Father] Madiba."

In their own words, eloquent testimony to this moving moment in world history . . .

"As our study abroad students in Cape Town were preparing for two days of exams to complete the semester, news broke that Nelson Mandela had passed away at the age of 95. I knew the students had a busy day in store for them with a review session. I also knew that they had grown to love South Africa as their second home and by extension Nelson Mandela and all he stood for. In our nursing leadership class we often referred back to some of his qualities that made him a great leader."

-- Denise Bourassa, assistant clinical professor



Photograph by Jerrol Mitchell '14

First Hand *Memorial* Experiences

"There is an overwhelming desire to celebrate his life and his legacy, but also to mourn with the people in the community and the country. We were able to attend a memorial in Cape Town the day after his death on the 6th of December and the atmosphere of love for Nelson Mandela was tangible. People were singing and dancing and their voices conveyed the deepest respect and love for their Tata (father). Nelson Mandela has truly left behind a great legacy of forgiveness, acceptance, and equality – and legacies don't die. His sacrifices and wisdom have and will forever stay with South Africa and countries worldwide." -- Tina Nguyen '14



"I have discovered the tremendous capacity for people to change your life, how moments will change your life, and how, ultimately, YOU will change your life because, as Nelson Mandela once said, you are the "captain of your soul." No one else is going to run the ship for you."

-- Marichris Cariaga '14

"At this ceremony, people were mourning but also showing their appreciation. There were important figures in the city who spoke, transportation was free, and so many religions / races / languages were represented here. The people were Black, "Coloured," White, Indian, Asian, Purple, and Blue, but most importantly all the people here were Beautiful. It was amazing to see, and the cameras recorded people and projected the images on the screen, which was beautiful because you could see around you and on the video that there was so much diversity in this area ...Nelson Mandela had such a positive influence and even after his death, he is showing us how far the country has come as a whole." -- Jazmynn Noia '14





In Touch with Reverend Rose

“... the students make a noticeable contribution to the actual care of the patients in these communities,” states Reverend Rose.

Written by Jerrol Mitchell '14

Reverend Vernon Rose's jovial wisdom and gripping charisma embrace all who meet him. He draws them into deep conversations that often end with a sense of enlightenment.

A Cape Town, South Africa, native, Rev. Rose is the UConn study abroad coordinator on site there. “At the contractual level,” Rev. Rose says, “my role is finding clinical sites in South Africa in the areas of pediatrics and maternity care as well as going to the US to interview and select the students who will study abroad here. But I think more importantly, my role extends to building character and investing in the lives of young people. So in many respects, I am seen as a coordinator of the study abroad program here in Cape Town.”

During the fall of 2013 we spoke with Rev. Rose about his vocation and the role of UConn's School of Nursing, starting by asking, ***What contributions have the UConn nursing students made in Cape Town?***

“Whenever I visited the clinical sites, the staff that engaged UConn students waxed lyrically about the role of the students,” Rev. Rose told us. “It’s not just about the hosts from the clinical sites sharing their experience, but because of their limited capacities, the students make a noticeable contribution to the actual care of the patients in these communities. The other part of the legacy is that when the nursing students leave, they leave a good reputation at and for the sites.”

... and his Enlightenment



Pictured above: (left) Dean Cusson and Reverend Rose in Widmer Wing lobby during his Connecticut visit. (center) Reverend Rose interviews candidates for study abroad program. (right) Study abroad instructors and students with Reverend Rose in Signal Hill, Cape Town, with beautiful Table Mountain in the background.

In his course on South African culture and health care for study abroad students, Rev. Rose addressed the concept of legacy, what it means to leave something behind to inspire others and be remembered by them. His hoped-for legacy is to acquire access to other sites that are currently inaccessible: "I also hope that one day those who aspire to become community health nurses would have the opportunity to come because we actually have access to all of the community health facilities under the City of Cape Town. And I think my final and all inclusive goal is to use that pool of human resource capacity to impact on a project that is sustainable."

We also asked, ***Is there a specific quality of UConn nursing student that allows us to be successful in working with the community?***

"I guess the reason why I am pursuing this objective of the legacy being a sustainable project is precisely because I think the students that come here, come with certain invaluable experiences and skills," Rev. Rose observed. "You've also volunteered in different settings other than just health care, so it's just amazing to have an amalgam of all these talents and gifts that students and faculty are able to contribute to the sustainability."

Mentor and model, Rev. Rose has already secured his own legacy among the School of Nursing's Cape Town study abroad students.



Pictured above: Senior nursing student, Angela DeJong '14, with children at the Boys & Girls Club in Johannesburg.

News

STUDENT

All in the Nursing Family

When Susan Hynes graduated from the Certificate Entry into Nursing program (CEIN) in December of 2013, there was no question concerning the support behind her. Not only was she a member of the UConn community, but her mother had been a nurse since 1976, and two of her sisters had graduated from CEIN's precursor, the MEIN program: Nora in 2008 and Katie in 2009.

All three sisters attended the University as undergraduate students: Susan as an economics major, Katie as a history

major and Nora as an allied health sciences major. They were introduced to nursing from a young age because of their mother, always hearing her stories that made the career seem important and fulfilling. Although they didn't choose nursing at first, the three sisters eventually found their way to it and back to UConn. As Susan explains, "UConn nursing has become something we pride ourselves in . . . we have all felt confident and competent as nurses graduating from UConn, prepared not only for a new nursing career but also for continued education."

The three sisters enjoyed and appreciated their experiences in the CEIN program and have commented on how it has evolved. When Nora applied, the program did not even exist in Stamford,



Pictured above from left are Hynes sisters and fellow UConn graduates, Nora, Susan and Katie Hynes during the 2013 CEIN commencement ceremony.

which is where Katie and Susan attended. In a decade the program has grown to four sites, and it now awards a bachelor of science degree in nursing as well as nine credits towards the master's program.

Each sister is settling into her career as a nurse. Nora was a surgical nurse for five years and now works as a step-down nurse at Stamford Hospital. Katie works in oncology in Michigan City, IL, and per diem at Stamford Hospital. Susan, who will be starting on a medical unit at Stamford Hospital, said that, "nursing has become such a significant part of our family . . . nursing is a career that does not promote boredom." The Hynes sisters enjoy the constant opportunities to learn and grow in their careers, along with the flexibility, autonomy and respect that come with being a nurse.

After having gone through the program herself, Susan Hynes recommends that future CEIN students be prepared to be committed. They should be flexible and "go with the flow." In the end, it will be worth it, she promises. To the next generation of nurses, Susan says, "Be flexible. . . know that there is so much you can do with nursing . . . Get certifications and keep learning."



Photography Contest Winner

UConn School of Nursing held its first student photography contest with the theme, *The Wonders of Nursing from a Student's Perspective*. **Madeline Hammell '14**, shot this winning photograph of fellow nursing student, Claire Francis '14 with children at the Boys & Girls Club in Soweto, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Read more about the winning photo at: <http://nursing.uconn.edu/news-events/photo>

Appointments

NEW FACULTY



Nancy Cronin, RN, MSN, Assistant Clinical Professor ...received her Bachelor of Science from the Boston College School of Nursing and her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Colorado. She is certified in neonatal resuscitation and has extensive clinical experience in both pediatrics and maternity nursing, specializing in endocrinology and children with chronic illnesses. Cronin has held positions at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center and St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford.



Joy Elwell, DNP, FNP-BC, FAANP, Associate Clinical Professor ...has thirty years of experience in nursing. She owns her primary care practice in Scarsdale, NY, and has served as a consultant in initiating nurse-managed health centers. At Concordia College, she designed, implemented and directed the Student Health Center. Elwell has helped to design, draft and pass legislation advancing nurse practitioner practice. She wants to reduce healthcare disparities and barriers to NP practice and is a fellow of the AANP.



Annette Jakubisin Konicki, PhD, ANP-BC, FNP-BC, Associate Professor/Coordinator of the Family Nurse Practitioner Primary Care Track ...received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from University of Steubenville, Ohio, and her Master of Science in Nursing, Post-Master's Certificates and her PhD from the University of Massachusetts, Worcester. Her nurse practitioner practices have included family primary care, women's health and pediatrics. Jakubisin Konicki's research has focused on primary prevention of heart disease in women of all ages. She serves as a resource for regional organizations on heart healthy behaviors.



Ruth Lucas, PhD, RN, Post Doctoral Fellow ...received her master's and PhD in nursing from the University of Illinois, Chicago, and has over 25 years of experience in nursing in clinical and educational settings. Recently, she completed a postdoctoral fellowship from Duke University's School of Nursing. Lucas's research focus is full term and late preterm infant feeding, particularly with children later diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, to determine if breastfeeding patterns may be an early screening tool for atypical developmental trajectories.

Achievements

FACULTY

Michelle P. Judge Next Generation Nutrition Science

Hardly a week goes by without reports in mainstream news media about new omega-3 research findings. And nutrition scientist Michelle P. Judge, assistant professor in the School of Nursing and UConn alumna ('94 Dietetics, '06 PhD Nutritional Science), is building the evidence base for interventions that offer promising outcomes in women's and children's health.

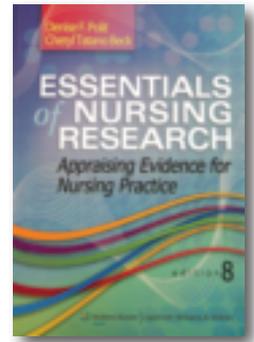
Judge's research supports a link between omega-3 consumed during pregnancy and better infant neurodevelopmental outcomes. In collaboration with Professor Cheryl Beck, Judge reported fewer postpartum depressive symptoms in women supplemented with omega-3 fatty acid during pregnancy. She is now examining omega-3 dose-effect in women with pre-gestational type II diabetes.

Her role in a multidisciplinary faculty that includes non-nurses is clear in her research agenda and teaching of clinical science courses. As Judge observes, "The promotion of optimal nutrition during pregnancy is a fundamental component of nursing practice to assure the delivery of high quality care and optimize health outcomes of mothers and infants." ■

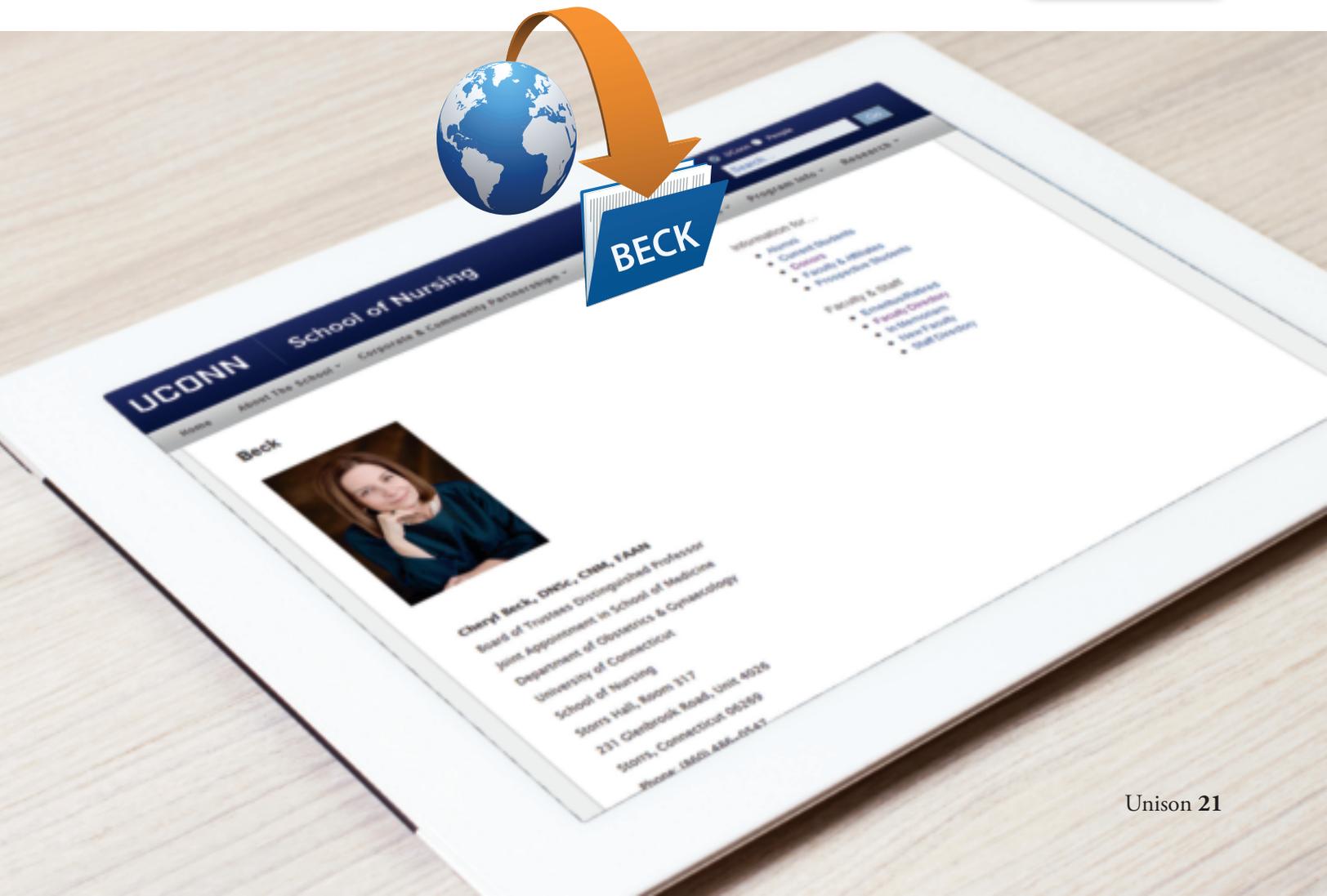
Cheryl Tatano Beck, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor, has earned another international distinction. A recent study in *Nursing Research* ranked two of her articles among the most frequently cited in the nursing research literature since 1956. “Predictors of Postpartum Depression” (2001) was the seventh most frequently cited; “The Effects of Postpartum Depression on Maternal-Infant Interaction” (1995) was 47th.

In addition to these classic solo-authored studies, Beck has recently been busy in collaborative projects. Last year she edited the *Routledge International Handbook of Qualitative Nursing Research*. With co-authors Jeanne Driscoll '04 PhD and Sue Watson she also published *Traumatic Childbirth*.

Currently, Beck and Thomas Lawrence Long, associate professor in residence, are collaborating on a nursing writing handbook, under contract with Oxford University Press. And her bestselling textbook, *Essentials of Nursing Research*, co-authored with Denise Polit, was given the 2013 Book of the Year Award from the *American Journal of Nursing*. ■



To read more about Dr. Beck's research visit nursing.uconn.edu.



Announcement ... Bavier to Take University of Texas Deanship

Anne R. Bavier, professor in the School of Nursing and its former dean, will leave UConn this summer to become dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Texas Arlington.

With combined programs in nursing and kinesiology, the UT college has over 9,000 students, more than half of whom are online students. It offers a continuum of degree programs from the baccalaureate through the PhD and DNP. The college also supports centers for continuing education, Hispanic studies in health, and nursing research.

During her tenure at UConn, Bavier enhanced the Center for Nursing Scholarship, increased development activities with the UConn Foundation, and oversaw the

introduction of the DNP program. With her leadership the School of Nursing was recognized by the National League for Nursing as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education.

After leaving the position of dean, Bavier served the University as chair of the Academic Deans Clinical Coordinating Committee, an interprofessional health professions body.

Last fall, Bavier was voted president-elect of the NLN. She will serve in that capacity for two years before becoming the organization's president for another two years. ■

Read about ...

Dr. Ivy Alexander '01 PhD, clinical professor and director of UConn's Advance Practice Nursing program on "An Expanding Role for Nurse Practitioners" in *UConn Today*. [today.uconn.edu]



SAVE *the* DATE

Graduate Recognition & Awards Ceremony

Saturday, May 9, 2014

11:30 am Reception/Ceremony
UConn Student Union Ballroom

University Ceremony
1:30-3:00 pm
Gampel Pavilion

Undergraduate Commencement

Sunday, May 10, 2014

1:00-2:30 pm
Jorgensen Center

Simulation User Network Conference

UConn School of Nursing
Friday, May 16, 2014

AAHN Conference *hosted by*

UConn School of Nursing

September 18-21, 2014

View information at: aahn.org

Reflections of Excellence Awards

Alumni and Scholarship Recognition

Saturday, November 15, 2014

Rome Ballroom, Storrs Campus

Visit our event page to learn more: nursing.uconn.edu/events

Faculty Scholarship

→
NEXT
GEN

Child and Parent Health

Publications

Beck, C. T. (2013). The obstetric nightmare of shoulder dystocia: A tale from two perspectives. *MCN: The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing, 38*, 34-40.

Beck, C. T., Driscoll, J. W., & Watson, S. (2013). *Traumatic childbirth*. New York: Routledge.

Bryanton, J., **Beck, C.T.,** Montelpare, W. (2013). Postnatal parental education for optimizing infant general health and parent-infant relationships. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, 11*.

Tobin, C., Murphy-Lawless, J., & **Beck, C.T.** (2013). Childbirth in exile: Asylum seeking women's experiences of childbirth in Ireland. *Midwifery*. doi:10.1016/j.midw.2013.07.012

Cong, X., Ludington-Hoe, S., Vazquez, V., Zhang, D., & Zaffetti, S. (2013). Ergonomic procedure for heel sticks and shots in Kangaroo Care (skin-to-skin) position. *Neonatal Network, 32*(5), 353-7.

Duran, B. (2013). Posttraumatic growth as experienced by childhood cancer survivors and their families: A narrative synthesis of qualitative and quantitative research. *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing, 30*(4), 179-197.

McGrath, J. M. (2013). Family centered developmental care: Editorial. *JOGNN: Journal of Obstetrical, Gynecological and Neonatal Nursing, 42*(1), 91.

McGrath, J. M. (2014). Family: Essential partner in care. In C. Kenner & J. Wright Lott (Eds.), *Comprehensive neonatal nursing: A physiologic perspective* (5th ed., pp. 739-765). New York, NY: Springer.

McGrath, J. M. (2013). Human factors: The importance of communication to outcomes in the NICU. *Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing, 27*(2), 108-109.

McGrath, J. M. (2013). Important reminder: All neonatal caregivers are Brain Shapers. *Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing, 27*(3), 199-200.

McGrath, J. M. (2013). Parent reading to their infants in the NICU: Does it make a difference? *Developmental Observer: The Official Newsletter of the NIDCAP Federation International, 6*(1), 10-11.

McGrath, J. M. (2013). What is culturally appropriate care for high-risk infants and families? *Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing, 27*(1), 8-9.

(Abou) Samra, H., **McGrath, J. M.,** Wey, H., Schumacher, B., Fischer, S., Allan, C. & Jorgenson, B. (2013). The influence of geographic isolation on late preterm infant and mother outcomes. *Advances in Neonatal Care, 13*(3), 205-215.

Baker, B. J., **McGrath, J. M.,** Pickler, R. H., Jallo, N., Cohen, J. & (2013). Competence and responsiveness in mothers of late preterm infants versus term infants. *JOGNN: Journal of Obstetrical, Gynecological and Neonatal Nursing, 42*(3), 301-310.

Butt, M., **McGrath, J. M.,** & (Abou) Samra, H., (2013). An integrative review of parent satisfaction in the NICU. *JOGNN: Journal of Obstetrical, Gynecological and Neonatal Nursing, 42*(1), 106-120.

Cone, S. K., Pickler, R. H., Grap, M. J., **McGrath, J. M.,** & Wiley, P. (2013). Response to and recovery from endotracheal suctioning in preterm infants using routine versus four-handed care. *JOGNN: Journal of Obstetrical, Gynecological and Neonatal Nursing, 42*(1), 92-104.

Diallo, A. F., & **McGrath, J. M.,** (2013). Skincare in the newborn period: What are the implications for families? *Newborn and Infant Nursing Reviews, 13*(3), 106-109.

Gephart, S. M., Effken, J. A., **McGrath, J. M.,** & Reed, P. (2013). Expert consensus building using E-delphi for necrotizing enterocolitis risk assessment. *JOGNN: Journal of Obstetrical, Gynecological and Neonatal Nursing, 42*(3).

Newnam, K. M., **McGrath, J. M.,** Estes, T., Jallo, N., & Bass, T. (2013). An integrative review of skin breakdown in the preterm infant associated with nasal CPAP. *JOGNN: Journal of Obstetrical, Gynecological and Neonatal Nursing, 42*(5), 508-516.

Phillips-Pula, L., Pickler, R. H., **McGrath, J. M.,** Brown, L. F., & Dusing, S., (2013). Caring for a preterm infant at home: A mother's perspective. *Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing, 27*(4), 335-344.

Pickler, R. H., **McGrath, J. M.,** Reyna, B. A., McCain, N., Lewis, M., Cone, S., Best, A., & Wetzel, P. (2013). A model of neurodevelopmental risk and protection for preterm infants. *Advances in Neonatal Care, 13*(5) 53-9 (reprinted from *Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing* [2010], 24(4), 356-365).

Pickler, R. H., **McGrath, J. M.,** Reyna, B., Cooley, H. T., Best, A., Lewis, M., Cone, S., & Wetzel, P. (2013). Effects of the neonatal intensive care unit environment on preterm-infant oral feeding. *Research and Reports in Neonatology, 3*, 15-20.

Sables-Baus, S., DeSanto, K., Henderson, S., Kunz, J. L., Morris, A. C., Shields, L., Urbach, C., & **McGrath, J. M.** (2013). *Infant-directed oral feeding for premature and critically ill hospitalized infants: Guideline for practice*. Chicago, IL: National Association of Neonatal Nurses.

Tuthill, E., & **McGrath, J. M.,** (2013). The importance of breastfeeding education for all women of childbearing age. *Newborn and Infant Nursing Reviews, 13*(2), 58-59.

Moriarty Daley, A., Sadler, L. S., & Reynolds, H. (2013). Tailoring clinical services to address the unique needs of adolescents from pregnancy test to parenthood. *Current Problems in Pediatric and Adolescent Health Care, 43*, 71-95.

Presentations

Beck, C. T. (2013, October). *Bringing visibility to traumatic childbirth through qualitative research*. Keynote, Perinatal Mental Health Symposium 2013, Massey University, Auckland, New Zealand.

Beck, C. T. (2013, October). *Traumatic childbirth: Bringing visibility through qualitative research*. Keynote, 4th Annual Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice Conference, Georgia Regents University, Augusta, GA.

Beck, C. T. (2013, June). *Panel on birth trauma and perinatal mental health*. Keynote panel, Postpartum Support International 2013 Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN.

McGrath, J. M. (2013, May). *Epigenetics and experiences in the NICU*. Invited presentation, Cultivating Growth and Collaboration in Neonatal Therapy, National Association of Neonatal Therapists, Fort Worth, TX.

McGrath, J. M. (2013, November). *Epigenetics and experiences in the NICU*. Invited keynote, Conference Proceedings, Neonatal Hot Topic, Southern California Association of Neonatal Nurses, San Diego, CA.

McGrath, J. M. (2013, May). *Please do touch: Non pharmacologic care strategies to minimize NAS symptoms*. Invited presentation, Vermont Oxford Network INICQ 2013, Controversies in Caring for Infants and Families Impacted by Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, Burlington, VT.

McGrath, J. M. (2013, November). *The science and research supporting integration of family-centered developmental care in the NICU*. Invited presentation, Conference Proceedings, Neonatal Hot Topic, Southern California Association of Neonatal Nurses, San Diego, CA.

McGrath, J. M. (2013, July). *The science and research supporting integration of family-centered developmental care in the NICU*. Nursing grand rounds presentation, South Dakota NICU Nursing Community, consultation visit, South Dakota State University, Sioux Falls, SD.

McGrath J. M., Elswick R. K., Fidler, H., & Vollum, S. (2013, May). *Feasibility of NICU-PLAY for very preterm infants*. Conference proceedings, Children's Hospitals Nurse Research Scientists Fly-In, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.

McGrath, J. M., Walsh, S., Fidler, H., & Elswick, R. K. (2013, April). *Feasibility of NICU-PLAY: Understanding aspects of compliance*. Conference proceedings, poster, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

Wagner, S. M., Noorthoek, A., Clinger, T. & **McGrath J. M.** (2013, May). *Changes in maternal stress with NICU-PLAY*. Conference proceedings, Children's Hospitals Nurse Research Scientists Fly-In, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.

Moriarty Daley, A. (2013, April). *Do you B.N.I.? The brief negotiated intervention for adolescents*. Invited presentation, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners NAPNAP 34th Annual Conference on Pediatric Health Care, Scoring Big For Children's Health, Orlando, FL.

Moriarty Daley, A., Cong, X., & Walsh, S. (2013, April). *School-based health centers and access to prevention counseling for adolescents during high school*. Invited poster, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners NAPNAP 34th Annual Conference on Pediatric Health Care, Scoring Big for Children's Health, Orlando, FL.

Faculty Scholarship

NEXT
GENERATION

Corrections Nursing

Publications

Peternelj-Taylor, C., & **Panosky, D.** (2013). Advancing forensic correctional nursing. *Journal of Forensic Nursing, 1*(9), 1-2.

Bailey, C., & **Shelton, D.** (2013). Self-reports of faulty parental attachments in childhood and criminal psychopathy in an adult incarcerated population: An integrative literature review. *Journal Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing*. doi: 10.1111/jpm.12086

Swanson, J. W., Frisman, L. K., Robertson, A. G., Lin, H. J., Trestrman, R. E., **Shelton, D. A.**, Parr, K. E., Rodis, E., Buchanan, A., & Swartz, M. S. (2013). Costs of criminal justice involvement among persons with serious mental illness in Connecticut. *Psychiatric Services, 64*, 630-637.

Presentations

Diaz, D., Panosky, D., Reagan, L., & Shelton, D. (2013, March). *Correctional nurse super-users: The use of simulation to advance practice and engage the workforce*. Paper, Academic Consortium on Criminal Justice Health Conference, Chicago, IL.

Ehret, M., Shelton, D. & Barta, B. (2013, July). *Medication adherence among female inmates with bipolar disorder*. Paper, Correctional Mental Health Conference, National Commission on Correctional Healthcare, Las Vegas, NV.

Ferszt, G. G., **Miller, R. J.**, Hickey, J., Maull, F., & Crisp, K. (2013, November). *Impact of a mindfulness based intervention with women in prison*. Paper, 141st Annual Meeting and Exposition, American Public Health Association, Boston, MA.

Panosky, D. (2013, October). *Caring for our inmate patients with confidence and competence: A case study approach*. Paper, 13th International Custody and Caring Conference, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Panosky, D., Shelton, D., Diaz, D., Reagan, L., & Zheng, B. (2013, March). *Advancing correctional nurse competencies for quality care: Evaluation of simulation learning and satisfaction*. Paper, 2013 Association of Community Human Service Agencies Multidisciplinary Educational Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Panosky, D., Shelton, D., & Weiskopf, C. (2013, October). *Evaluation of a correctional nursing competency program: Evaluation data results and successful partnership implementation*. Paper, National Conference on Correctional Health Care, Nashville, TN.

Reagan, L., Diaz, D., Nicholson, M., & Shelton, D. (2013, March). *Enhancing the competency of the correctional nursing workforce through a collaborative approach: Process and progress*. Paper, 6th Academic and Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health, Chicago, IL.

Shelton, D. (2013, October). *Building sustainable research teams with correctional partners*. Paper, 13th Biennial International Conference on the Nurse's Role in the Criminal Justice System, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Shelton, D. (2013, October). *A preceptor-mentor program for retention of new nurses in prison settings*. Paper, 13th Biennial International Conference on the Nurse's role in the Criminal Justice System, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Shelton, D. (2013, April). *Consensus building of nursing's role in a proposed correctional health practice-based research network*. Paper, Spring Conference, National Commission on Correctional Healthcare, Denver, Colorado.

Shelton, D. (2013, February). *Implementing a public-academic partnership in corrections: Theory and praxis*. Paper, Southern Nursing Research Society 2013 Annual Conference, Little Rock, AR.

Shelton, D., Panosky, D., Diaz, D., Reagan, L., Weiskopf, C., & Nicholson, M. (2013, October). *Changing a culture: Implementing the ANA Correctional Nursing Competencies*. Paper, National Conference on Correctional Health Care, Nashville, TN.

Shelton, D. & Peternelj-Taylor, C. (2013, October). *The road to correctional nursing workforce development: A discussion regarding nursing competencies in the US*. Paper, 13th Biennial International Conference on the Nurse's Role in the Criminal Justice System, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Culture, Language, and History

Publications

Long, T. L. (2013). Nurses and nursing in literary and cultural studies. In P. D'Antonio, J. A. Fairman, & J. C. Whelan (Eds.), *Routledge handbook on the global history of nursing* (pp. 37-54). New York: Routledge.

Long, T. L. (2013). A plague on both your houses of worship: The meanings of epidemic disease in William Byrd II and Cotton Mather. *Literature & Medicine, 31*, 1-16.

Long, T. L. (2013). Self-efficacy and writing beliefs in nursing. *Nurse Author & Editor, 23*(2). <http://www.nurseauthoreditor.com/>

Long, T. L. (2013). Tales of plagues and carnivals: Samuel R. Delany, AIDS and the grammar of dissent. *Journal of Medical Humanities, 34*(2), 213-226.

Diallo, A. F., & **McGrath, J. M.** (2013). A glance at the future of cultural competency in healthcare. *Newborn and Infant Nursing Reviews, 13*(3), 121-123.

Presentations

Matsuda, Y., **McGrath, J. M.**, Jallo, N., & Masho, S. (2013, July) *Predictors of sexual communication among Latino couples*. Paper, Sigma Theta Tau International's 24th International Nursing Research Congress, Prague, Czech Republic.

Matsuda, Y., Knafl, G. J., & **McGrath, J. M.** (2013, November). *Examining relationship/ family planning factors & sexual relationship power among immigrant Latino couples in the United States (U.S.): Actor-Partner Interdependence Model*. Paper, American Public Health Association Annual Conference, Boston, MA.

Long, T. L. (2013, June). *The Wound-Dresser and the women of the war: Whitman, female Union nurses, and the debate about pensions*. Paper, Melville and Whitman in Washington: The Civil War Years and After, Ninth International Melville Society Conference, George Washington University, Washington, DC.

Long, T. L. (2013, January). *AIDS and apocalyptic rhetoric*. Invited lecture, Campaigns and Revolutions, Department of Communication, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO.

Long, T. L. (2013, January). *A plague on both your houses of worship: The meanings of epidemic disease in Cotton Mather and William Byrd II*. Paper, 128th Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Boston, MA.

Long, T. L. (2013, January). *Avenues of access for recent PhDs*. Panelist, 128th Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Boston, MA.

Disease

Publications

Alexander, I. M. (2013). Countering the mainstream media: Balancing fear vs reality in managing osteoporosis (online CME/CE program). *Medscape*. <http://www.medscape.org>

Alexander, I. M., & Andrist, L. A. (2013). Menopause. In K. Schuiling & F. Likis (Eds.), *Women's gynecologic health* (2nd ed., pp. 285 – 328). Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett.

Frame, K., & **Alexander, I. M.** (2013). Mind-body therapies for sleep disturbances in women at midlife. *Journal of Holistic Nursing, 31*, 276-284.

Skorupski, N., & **Alexander, I. M.** (2013). Multidisciplinary osteoporosis management of post low-trauma hip fracture patients. *JAANP: Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, 25*(1), 3-10.

Delaney, C., Apostolidis, B. Bartos, S., Morrison, H., & Smith, L. (2013). A randomized trial of telemonitoring and self-care education in heart failure patients following home care discharge. *Home Health Care Management & Practice, 25*(5), 187-195.

Driscoll, J. W. (2013). Women and the DSM-5: A clinician's response to the question of invisibility. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing, 33*, 618-625.

Mangano, K. M., **Walsh, S. J.**, Kenny, A. M., Insogna, K. L., & Kerstetter, J. E. (2013). Dietary acid load is associated with lower bone mineral density in men with low intake of dietary calcium. *Journal of Bone Mineral Research*. doi:10.1002/jbmr.2053

Disease

Presentations

Alexander, I. M. (2013, May). *Osteoporosis identification, prevention, and management*. Invited presentation, Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association Annual Meeting, North Haven, CT.

Alexander, I. M. (2013, February). *Menopause and osteoporosis*. Podcast interview, Hispanic Marketing and Public Relations. <http://www.hispanicmpr.com>

Lang, K., **Alexander, I. M.**, Simon, J., Sussman, M., Lin, I., Menzin, J., Friedman, M., Dutwin, D., Bushmakina, A., Thrift-Perry, M., Altomare, C., & Hsu, M.-A. (2013, March). *Burden of illness associated with selected health conditions among women aged 40-64 years: Interim findings from a U.S. nationally-representative survey*. Poster, Women's Health 2013: The 21st Annual Congress, Washington, DC.

Delaney, C., & Bartos, S. (2013, April). *A randomized trial of telemonitoring and self-care education in heart failure patients recently discharged from home care or skilled nursing facility*. Paper, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Sessions, Boston, MA.

Education

Publications

Hegedus, K. S., McNulty, J., Griffiths, L., Engler, E., Cabrera, L., & Rose, V. (2013). Developing and sustaining a study abroad program as viewed through a caring lens. *International Journal for Human Caring*, 17(1), 24-32.

(Abou) Samra, H., **McGrath, J. M.**, & Estes, T. (2013). Developing and testing the Nurse Educator Scale (NES): A robust measure of students' intentions to pursue the educator role. *Journal of Nursing Education*. doi:10.3928/01484834-20130430-03.

Van Hoof, T. J., & **Polifroni, C.** (2013). Promoting interprofessional collaboration in primary care through an educational program that spans the practice spectrum. *Academic Medicine*, 88(8), 1056.

Presentations

Polifroni, E. C., D'Agata, A., Greaney, S., & Morrison, H. (2013, November). *Nursing academy: Diversity for the workplace and social determinants of health*. Paper, Sigma Theta Tau Biennial Conference, Indianapolis IN.

Morrison, H., Polifroni, E. C., D'Agata, A., & Greaney, S. (2013, July). *Diversity for the workplace and African American nursing majors*. Paper, Black Nurses Association Conference, New Orleans LA.

Shellman, J., Melillo, K., Abdallah, L., Dodge, L., Dowling, J., Prendergast, N., Rathbone, A., Remington, & Thornton, C. (2013, February). *Dedicated education unit in LTC: Evaluation of an innovative clinical education model*. Poster, Long Term Care Applied Research Education Day, Ontario, Canada.

Van Hoof, T. J. (2013, November). *Promoting the new and changing culture of learning*. Invited presentation, Joint Session of the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education and the Association of American Medical Colleges, Philadelphia, PA.

Gerontology

Publications

Shellman, J. (2013) Life review and reminiscence. In E. Capezuti, M. Malone, P. Katz, & M. D. Mezey (Eds.). *The encyclopedia of elder care* (pp. 437-439). New York: Springer.

Mokel, M., & **Shellman, J.** (2013). Acceptability of the Fetzer/NIA multidimensional measure of spirituality in a sample of community-dwelling black adults. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*. [Epub ahead of print]

Mokel, M., & **Shellman, J.** (2013). An integrative research review of instruments measuring religious involvement: Implications for nursing research with African Americans. *Journal of Nursing Measurement*, 21(3), 437-449.

Nicholson, N., & **Shellman, J.** (2013). The effects of the Carelink model on social isolation in older adults. *Research in Gerontological Nursing*, 6(2), 89-97.

Mangano, K. M., Kerstetter, J. E., Kenny, A. M., Insogna, K. L., & **Walsh, S. J.** (2013). An investigation of the association between omega 3 FA and bone mineral density among older adults: Results from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey years 2005-2008. *Osteoporosis International*, October 10. [Epub ahead of print]

Mangano, K. M., Hutchins-Wiese, H. L., Kenny, A. M., **Walsh, S. J.**, Abourizk, R. H., Bruno, R. S., Lipcius, R., Fall, P., Kleppinger, A., Kenyon-Pesce, L., Prestwood, K. M., & Kerstetter, J. E. (2013). Soy proteins and isoflavones reduce interleukin-6 but not serum lipids in older women: A randomized controlled trial. *Nutrition Research*, 33, 1026-1033.

Presentations

Shellman, J., Brown, M., Stone, D., Darius, C., Adgwe, G., Jeneba, J., & Addison-Bailey, K. (2013, November). *An examination of reminiscence functions in older black adults: Implications for interdisciplinary practice and research*. Paper, 3rd Interdisciplinary Aging and Society Conference, Chicago, IL.

Shellman, J., & Zhang, D. (2013, November). *Psychometric evaluation of the modified reminiscence functions scale in a sample of black adults: Implications for reminiscence practice and research*. Paper, 10th International Reminiscence and Life Review Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Shellman, J., Brown, M., Stone, D., Darius, C., Adgwe, G., Jeneba, J., & Addison-Bailey, K. (2013, April). *An examination of reminiscence functions in black adults*. Paper, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

Nicholson, N., & **Shellman, J.** (2013, April). *Decreasing social isolation in older adults: Effects of an empowerment intervention offered through the CARELINK program*. Paper, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

Pain and Symptom Management

Publications

Cong, X., Delaney, C., & Vazquez, V. (2013). Neonatal nurses' perceptions of pain assessment and management in NICUs: A national survey. *Advances in Neonatal Care*, 13(5), 353-60.

Cong, X., McGrath, J. M., Cusson, R. M., & Zhang, D. (2013). Pain assessment and measurement in neonates: An updated review. *Advances in Neonatal Care*, 13(6), 379-95.

McDonald, D., Walsh, S., Vergara, C., & Gifford, T. (2013). The effect of a virtual pain coach on pain management discussions: A pilot study. *Pain Management Nursing*, 14(4), 200-209.

Puia, D., & McDonald, D. (2013). Older Black adult osteoarthritis pain communication. *Pain Management Nursing*. doi:10.1016/j.pmn.2012.09.001

Presentations

Cong, X., Vazquez, V., Delaney, C., McGrath, J., Chen, H., & Liang, S. (2013, March). *Nurses' perspectives of neonatal pain management: Results from U.S. and China*. Paper, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

Vazquez, V., Cong, X., & Dejong, A. (2013, March). *Nurses' perspectives of neonatal pain management: Content analysis*. Poster, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

McDonald, D. (2013, May). *Trialing to pain control: A grounded theory study*. Poster, American Pain Society Conference, New Orleans, LA.

McDonald, D. (2013, April). *Trialing to pain control: A grounded theory study*. Poster, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

Camilleri, C., **McDonald, D.**, Martin, C., & Davis, D. (2013, May). *Postoperative pain and pain management in opioid tolerant patients*. Poster, American Pain Society Conference, New Orleans, LA.



is a practice discipline that uniquely bundles STEM sciences as the foundation for providing effective nursing care and enhancing patient outcomes.

Faculty Scholarship

NEXT
GENERATION

Pharmacology and Nutrition

Publications

Alexander, I. M. (2013). Foreword. In *PDR nurse's drug handbook, 2013 edition*. Montvale, NJ: PDR Network.

Alexander, I. M. (2013). Hormone replacement therapy. In M. Edmunds & M. Mayhew (Eds.), *Pharmacology for the primary care provider* (4th ed.). Chicago, IL: Elsevier.

Lussier, M. M., **Briere, C. E.**, & **McGrath, J. M.**, (2013). Bottle-feeding the breastfed infant in the NICU. *Newborn and Infant Nursing Reviews*, 13(1), 5-6.

Tuthill, E., **McGrath, J.** & Young, S. (2013). Commonalities and differences in infant feeding attitudes and practices in the context of HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa: A metasynthesis. *AIDS Care* 2013, 1-12.

Presentations

Alexander, I. M. (2013, November). *Hormone therapy discussion*. Video presentation, the Menopause Care Collaborative, New York, NY.

Judge, M. P., **Beck, C. T.**, **McKelvey, M. M.**, Durham, H. A., & Lammi-Keefe, C. J. (2013, April). *Specific symptoms of postpartum depression (PPD) are decreased in mothers supplemented with docosahexaenoic acid (DHA, 22:6, n-3) during pregnancy*. Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

McGrath, J. M. (2013, July). *Feeding and nutritional support: Engaging families*. Invited presentation, Vermont Oxford Network INICQ 2013, Controversies in Caring for Infants and Families Impacted by Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, Burlington, VT.

Professional Issues

Publications

Puia, D., **Lewis, L.**, & **Beck, C. T.** (2013). Obstetrical nurses' traumatic experiences of being present for a perinatal loss. *Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic, and Neonatal Nursing*, 42, 321-331.

Elwell, J., & White, K. (2013). The DNP as integrative practitioner. In K. White & M. Zaccagnini (Eds.), *The doctor of nursing practice essentials: A new model for advanced practice nursing* (2nd ed., pp. 378-387). Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett.

Elwell, J. (2013). The elevator speech: Brief message – strong impression. *JNPA: The Journal*, 3(3), 9.

Sundean, L. J., & **McGrath, J. M.** (2013) Ethical considerations in the neonatal intensive care unit. *Newborn and Infant Nursing Reviews*, 13(3), 117-120.

Presentations

Beck, C.T., & **Gable, R. K.** (2013, April). *Another scar to my soul: A mixed methods study of secondary traumatic stress in labor and delivery nurses*. Paper, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

Puia, D., **Lewis, L.**, & **Beck, C. T.** (2013, April). *Obstetrical nurses' traumatic experience of being present for a perinatal loss*. Paper, Eastern Nursing Research Society 25th Annual Scientific Session, Boston, MA.

Mariano, C., & **Delaney, C.** (2013, February). *Role of holism in nurturing balance, vitality and preventing burnout in nurses*. Paper, Integrative Health Symposium, New York, NY.

Zahourek, Z., **Delaney, C.**, & Barrere, C. (2013, June). *Self-care research panel: Challenges, opportunities, and outcomes*. Panel presentation, American Holistic Nurses Association 33rd Annual Conference, Norfolk, VA.

Elwell, J. (2013, October). *State and national legislative updates for advanced practice nurses*. Invited keynote, New Jersey State Nurses Annual Convention, Atlantic City, NJ.

Elwell, J. (2013, April). *The DNP and 2015 – just the facts*. Invited keynote, Sage College and Sigma Theta Tau, Latham, NY.

Elwell, J. (2013, January). *Legislative updates for nurse practitioners*. Invited keynote, Advanced Practice Nursing Council, Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, NY.

Panosky, D., **Shelton, D.**, & Weiskopf, C. (2013, October). *Essentials of nurse leadership: Performance enhancement*. Paper, National Conference on Correctional Health Care, Nashville, TN.

Quality Outcomes and Organizational Innovation

Publications

Van Hoof, T. J., Miller, N. E., & Meehan, T. P. (2013). Do published studies of educational outreach provide documentation of potentially important characteristics? *American Journal of Medical Quality*, 28(6), 480-484.

Van Hoof, T. J., Ho, S. Y., Kelvey-Albert, M., Wright, D., & Meehan, T. P. (2013). Opportunities to improve colorectal and breast cancer screening in Connecticut. *Connecticut Medicine*, 77(1), 5-10.

Meehan, T. P. Sr., Meehan, T. P. Jr., Kelvey-Albert, M., **Van Hoof, T. J.**, Ruth, S., & Petrillo, M. K. (2013). The path to quality in outpatient practice: Meaningful use, patient centered medical homes, financial incentives, and technical assistance. *American Journal of Medical Quality*, September 4. [Epub ahead of print].

Theory and Method

Publications

Beck, C. T. (Ed.). (2013). *Routledge international handbook of qualitative nursing research*. New York: Routledge.

Polit, D. F., & **Beck, C. T.** (2014). *Essentials of nursing research: Appraising evidence for nursing practice* (8th Ed). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams, & Wilkins.

Polit, D. F., & **Beck, C. T.** (2014). *Study guide for essentials of nursing research: Appraising evidence for nursing practice* (8th Ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Polit, D., & **Beck, C. T.** (2013). Is there still gender bias in nursing research? An update. *Research in Nursing & Health*, 36, 75-83.

McGrath, J. M. (2013). Not all studies with small samples are pilot studies. *Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing*, 27(4), 281-283.

Moriarty Daley, A. (2013). Adolescent-friendly remedies for the challenges of focus group research. *Western Journal of Nursing Research*, 35, 1043-1059.

Presentations

Beck, C. T. (2013, May). *Qualitative health research-Creating a new discipline: Pearls, piths, and provocations*. Invited plenary panelist, Ninth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, Champaign, IL.

Beck, C. T. (2013, April). *Comparison of descriptive phenomenological methods*. Invited presentation, University of Nordland, Bodo, Norway.

Beck, C. T. (2013, April). *2 day metasynthesis workshop*. Invited presentation, University of Nordland, Bodo, Norway.

McGrath, J. M. (2013, April). *Mentorship: Importance to your research trajectory*. Invited presentation, Conference Proceedings, 7th Annual NANN Research Summit, Scottsdale, AZ.

McGrath, J. M. & (Abou) Samra, H. (2013, October). *Getting past the fear of conducting research*. Get Connected, Leading the Way: The Power of Neonatal Care. Conference proceedings: National Association of Neonatal Nurses, 29th Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN.



The nurse scientists of today partner with scientists of all disciplines to move the science of discovery, and application to the patient care arena.

Feature

STAFF



Lisa Soder Still Balancing

The School of Nursing's administrative services specialist for faculty and building support services, **Lisa Soder**, began her professional career in gymnastics, teaching young gymnasts how to balance and lifting them in demonstrations of form. As a result of an injury from trying to lift too many wannabe gymnasts, Lisa Guerra (as she was at the time) looked around for a new career.

Her background in health and physical education led Soder to the UConn School of Nursing as a temporary typist, then to a one-year position as executive secretary to the president of the Eastern Nursing Research Society, and from there to the Division of Health and Human Development, until she finally returned for good to Storrs Hall.

The connection between her first career and her second is not lost on Soder: "Both jobs required diligence and perseverance and a thick skin. I should have taken up Juggling 101 as it would have been very useful in my current position!"

Soder is particularly proud of the role of nursing in her family -- her mother was a nurse and her daughter Megan will graduate from the School of Nursing in May. Megan says, "Being a student and having my mom work in the School of Nursing has been a really positive experience. I feel like I've really gotten to know a lot of professors and the faculty on a more personal level."

Her proudest professional accomplishment occurred when she served as liaison to the Widmer Wing and Storrs Hall construction and renovation teams, "organizing and contacting all internal and external support people to empty our entire four-floor building, find temporary space for 30 faculty and staff, and then move everyone back into the newly renovated building but in new locations right before school began." She also organizes new faculty orientations and prepares the handbooks that will guide them through their UConn careers. -- Still balancing. ■

Staff

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News

ALUMNI



Dear Alumni,

I became involved in the Nursing Alumni and Friends Society after a conversation with Alumni and Community Relations Coordinator Kathe Gable. I expressed my desire to show appreciation for everything the School of Nursing has done for me. Kathe said that, if I really wanted to show my gratitude, I should become involved in the UConn Alumni Association to give back to our community of nurses. As your newly elected president, I am committed to positively representing the University and doing the best I can to serve you.

As a whole, we are continuing to support the current nursing students, alumni, and the University. The network of alumni is growing, with a brand new slate of officers taking on leadership roles: vice president (president elect) Karin Gaertner '11; treasurer Joanna Breton '10 ; and secretary Megan Richardson '08, '11 MS. Additionally, our three newest board members include John McNulty '84 MS, Julie Armstrong Muth '98 MS and Jane Presnick Lyon '78. These nurses are helping to make the society reach its full potential.

Our Society is working towards inspiring the next generation of nurses. I have been to high schools to talk to students about what they need to do if they are interested in going into the healthcare field. Not only is it important to provide them with information, but it is also good to be a personal resource and even mentor for them. Students can benefit from this as early as middle school.

Our School of Nursing is a truly special place. When I first had the idea to become a nurse, I was running on the high school track and field team, and my GPA was not high enough to be accepted. Luckily, faculty members saw potential in me and gave me the opportunity to take my first nursing course over the summer. I was in a research class with Dr. Cheryl Beck, who helped me to organize my thoughts and become a better writer and a better student. The faculty in the School mentored me and encouraged me to reach my goals. I am proud to be a part of the UConn Nursing Family and am glad to continue giving back. I hope that many of our current and future nurses feel the same way. Thank you to my mother, Phyllis Hogan, a fellow nurse practitioner, my family, and all of you for supporting me and giving me this opportunity to lead you.

Yours sincerely,

Bereshith Adams '06, '11 MS, APRN

President, School of Nursing Alumni & Friends Society
General Surgery and Trauma Team, Saint Francis Hospital & Medical Center



2014 Alumni Awardees Announced ...

Margaret Flinter '74, '10 PhD
Carolyn Ladd Widmer Leadership Award

Paula P. Greenberg '85
Eleanor K. Gill Clinical Award

Maria Tackett '72, '94 MS
Beverly Koerner Education Award

Robin Whittemore '91 MS
Marlene Kramer Research Award

Mary-Ellen (Mell) Hobson '77, '86 MS
Josephine Dolan Service Award

Balance

Work-Life

Jane (Presnick) Lyon '78 NURS-Honors (*pictured second on right*) has ties to UConn that run deep. This honors scholar began her nursing career with her education at UConn, and she learned many lessons at Storrs, ones that have helped her maintain a sense of harmony in all aspects of her busy life.

Jane followed in her siblings' footsteps when she attended UConn, and it was here she met her husband, David '78 (CLAS), '81 (BUS), in McMahon Hall on October 14, 1977, during a Yankees and Red Sox playoff game. Despite a difference in team loyalties, they married five years later and began their family. They had four boys, who all eventually attended UConn as well: Michael '08 (CLAS); Robert '11 (CLAS), '14 (LAW); David '14 (CLAS-Honors); and William '16 (BUS).

Jane's family was the impetus for her career in nursing. Her mother was a nurse as were her aunts. But her mother foresaw changes coming to the profession and encouraged Jane to earn a formal college degree in the field. "[My mother] was a diploma graduate (St. Raphael's in New Haven) but knew that the future of nursing was the baccalaureate and encouraged me to get my BSN," said Lyon. "I am forever grateful to her for that advice."

When Jane came to UConn as an honors student, the Honors Program was still relatively new, though its ranks were growing. "I believe our graduating class in the School of Nursing had 106 students in 1978 with two of us graduating from the Honors Program," she said. Jane fondly remembers the structured education of the UConn Nursing program, the clinical on-site experiences her senior year, and the exceptional faculty. "In addition to the coursework," said Lyon, "the time management, responsibility, and professionalism learned at UConn have served me well."

Before she even graduated from UConn, Jane was already building her resume and gaining experience at an institution that would eventually become a large part of her career. "Between my junior and senior year, I worked as a student trained aide at Waterbury Hospital," she said. "That auspicious beginning led to a 35-year affiliation with Waterbury Hospital. I was hired as a graduate nurse in 1978 in the float pool. Being in the float pool was great because I learned about many different areas of nursing. Every night was different!" During the course of her nursing career, Lyon continued to challenge herself.



She has worked in surgical intensive care, post-critical care, and cardiac care, ranging from a charge nurse to a nursing supervisor, and even worked briefly as a nursing instructor.

The option of a per diem schedule was another reason why Jane chose nursing. This scheduling system afforded Lyon the flexibility "to accommodate my other passion—raising a family," she said. Jane has been able to effectively blend both career and home life for her four sons. She served as PTA president, member of the Soccer Club Board of Directors, registrar for the Soccer Club, coach for her sons' youth baseball teams, and Merit Badge Counselor for the Boy Scouts. "The Honors Program taught me to push myself and not say 'no' to a challenge," she said. "I took on all of these tasks wondering how I would get it all done, but the lessons learned at UConn about working hard have paid off."

In 2007, when her boys were mostly grown or already off to college, Jane focused her attention again on nursing, and she accepted a position as nursing supervisor at UConn's Health Center, where she remains today. Her job requires her to closely monitor staff levels and problems across 14 units, and address policy and procedural questions for medical staff.

This job brings her back to UConn, though she never really left. The Lyon boys attended and watched UConn games throughout their childhoods, ate at the Dairy Bar, and wore UConn gear from infancy. "Having my children attend UConn has been a wonderful experience," she said.

Jane and her siblings are also proud UConn donors, having established the Presnick Family Scholarship in honor of their parents, which is awarded to a junior nursing student. ■

Notes CLASS

Malia Johnson '56

A member of the American Association for the History of Nursing, Malia always loved nursing history and she credits Josephine Dolan as a major influence on her career in nursing. Malia taught community health nursing for 25 years at the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing before retiring to teach at the University of Hawaii/Maui Community College. Malia earned her EdD at

University of Hawaii in 1997; her doctoral dissertation was written from a historical perspective. From as far away as Hawaii she is pleased to participate in ideas to support the Josephine Dolan collection.

Beverly Oxenhorn Premo '66

Remembering her days as a graduate nurse, Beverly recalls being put 'in charge' on nights just 2 weeks out of school. Talk about trial by fire! Thanks to all her nursing faculty, she credits her education and experiences for helping to mold her into a nurse who became a 'head nurse' (administration), then a nursing educator who taught for 18 years in an associate degree nursing program. Currently, she co-directs a free health clinic for the uninsured/underinsured and works per diem at Baystate Health System in Springfield, MA.



(Photograph by Pietro Camardella)

Jennifer Telford '99

Sharing her love for both nursing and history, Jennifer Telford enjoys teaching Advanced Pathophysiology and an acute care nurse practitioner seminar for graduate students here at UConn. She also practices as a nurse and nurse practitioner on a per diem basis as part of the Center for Hospice Care in Norwich. This past January, Jennifer was selected for this year's second annual *Southeastern Connecticut 40 under Forty Award*. According to the committee, she had been nominated due to "consistently demonstrating excellence in [her] profession as well as leadership, commitment, and service in [her] region." Congratulations to Jennifer for being recognized as one of the best and brightest individuals in our community under 40 years old.



From left: Maryjoan Ladden '73, Barbara Hatcher '66 and Margaret Flinter '74, '10 PhD (and new AAN Fellow)

Three Waterbury Natives, RWJ Scholars and Distinguished UConn Nursing Alumni

Three Waterbury natives and distinguished alumni of the School of Nursing and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Executive Nurse Fellows Program enjoyed a reunion at the Alumni and Friends reception during the 2013 annual meeting of the American Academy of Nursing. **Maryjoan Ladden** is currently the senior program officer for the Human Capital Team at RWJF. In 2010, she received the School's *Carolyn Ladd Widmer Outstanding Alumni Award for Leadership*. Previously she served as interim chief programs officer at the American Nurses' Association, and during her tenure with Harvard Medical School and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care she held many roles including assistant

professor of Ambulatory Care and Prevention, director of the Office of Continuing Professional Education, and director of the Medicare Education Partnership. **Barbara Hatcher** is currently a principal consultant at Hatcher-DuBois-Odrick Group in Washington, DC. In 2009, she received the *Josephine A. Dolan Distinguished Service Award*. Previously, she was chief science officer for the American Public Health Association's Office of Science, Technology, and Innovations and served as a primary advisor to the executive director, providing technical assistance and support to public health associations globally. **Margaret Flinter** is the senior vice president and clinical director of the Community Health Center, Inc (CHC), a private, non-profit agency providing primary health care and social services with primary care centers across Connecticut. She established the Weitzman Center for Innovation in Community Health and Primary Care as the research and development arm of CHC and serves as the director of the center. In 2014, she will receive the *Carolyn Ladd Widmer Outstanding Alumni Award for Leadership in Nursing*.

Rosemary Scricca '82

Rosemary recently was a "Shark Tank" judge, evaluating senior's innovation projects presented during the Nursing Innovation event on April 10. Rosemary was selected as a "shark" because of her familiarity with innovation and her role as associate director of global clinical operations & strategy for Bristol-Myers Squibb in Wallingford, CT. In July 1989, Rosemary began her career at BMS, a biopharmaceutical company whose mission is to discover, develop, and deliver innovative medicines that help patients prevail over serious diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic hepatitis B and C, HIV/AIDS, and rheumatoid arthritis.

Rosemary has held positions of increasing responsibility, scope, and leadership at Bristol-Myers Squibb. Currently, she is responsible for the operational planning, coordination, implementation, and management of global clinical research studies from protocol development to study closure in accordance with Good Clinical Practices and regulatory requirements.

Prior to joining Bristol-Myers Squibb, Rosemary worked as a staff nurse at the New England Deaconess Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Rosemary also worked as a ship nurse for Carnival Cruise Lines.



Jane K. Dickinson '00 PhD

Jane's book, *People With Diabetes Can Eat Anything: It's All About Balance*, is for those who are new to diabetes, those who need more support and information about diabetes, and those who care about someone with diabetes. Jane, who has had diabetes since 1975, and has been helping others live well with diabetes since 1995, shares stories from her personal and professional experiences, anticipates questions, and puts readers at ease. It's about making healthy choices (most of the time), having a positive attitude, and seeking balance, in order to get on with living.



Joanne Blum '01 MS

Recently Joanne was elected and installed as the president of the National Ladies Auxiliary, Jewish War Veterans (JWV) of the USA. Currently, an adjunct clinical instructor at UConn, Joanne has enjoyed a nursing career largely devoted to caring for veterans. She was formerly assistant director at the CT Department of Veterans Affairs and finished her career there as health care administrator.



During her second term as president of the Hartford-Laurel Auxiliary #45, her husband Jerry, a Navy Vietnam Veteran and a proud member of JWV, was post commander. Together, they did much to unite the Post and Auxiliary efforts in support of veterans. On a national level, she has worked her way up chairing and serving on numerous JWV committees. Joanne also serves on the board of the National Museum of American Jewish Military History and is a Life Member Associate of the Vietnam Veterans of America, as well as the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary. She is a past president and the current delegate of Sigma Theta Tau Mu Chapter, UConn's chapter of the international honor society for nursing.

And Joanne loves to smile. She observes that it takes much less energy to smile than to frown. In fact, she has adopted a "Value of a Smile" ethos. In these times, when people are cutting down on expenses, a smile goes a long way and costs nothing. Joanne believes that, at a gathering where one might not know anyone in the room, a smile brings wonderful results. Her mother was given a book in eighth grade by Wilbur D. Nesbit, *The Value of a Smile*.

To quote the book:

"So smile away---
Folks understand what by a smile is meant;
It's worth a million dollars - and it doesn't cost a cent."

Joanne advises, "So, let's keep smiling. We may attract more new members, just by our smile." Fittingly, her theme for her yearlong leadership role is "Smile Across the Miles of JWVA."

Awards

ALUMNI



UConn School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni honored on October 5, 2013

Alumni awardees from our 71st Anniversary Reflections of Excellence event (back row from left): Colonel Joseph S. Blansfield, Barbara P. Riley, Colleen Delaney, (front row from left) Patricia Bender, Maren J. Coffman.



Barbara P. Riley '91 MS

Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer of Rhode Island Hospital
(Carolyn Ladd Widmer Leadership Award)

Colonel Joseph S. Blansfield '75

Program Manager, Trauma and Acute Care Surgery at Boston Medical Center
(Eleanor K. Gill Clinical Award)

Colleen Delaney '80, '98 MS, '04 PhD

Associate Professor, UConn School of Nursing
(Beverly Koerner Education Award)

Maren J. Coffman '05 PhD

Associate Professor, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
(Marlene Kramer Research Award)

Patricia Bender '69

Retired Clinical Nurse Specialist and Volunteer at UConn School of Nursing
(Josephine Dolan Service Award)

CONNECTING ALUMNI ■ SUPPORTING STUDENTS ■ STRENGTHENING UCONN

For the first time in over a decade, the School of Nursing exceeded its fundraising goals in 2014, raising \$798,701 in philanthropic support, 98.9% of which was in direct support of students and programs. Scholarships alone provided sixty-eight students with \$284,020 in financial support. **Thank you!**

Private support makes great things happen, attracting and retaining the brightest and most talented students through generous scholarships, and providing them with innovative learning opportunities. With your help, we can continue on an upward trajectory, providing our students with the skills and resources they need to become the leading change agents for healthcare solutions: the **Next Generation Nurses**.

Contact a member of our development team and find out how you can be part of the solution!

Kristen E. Willis, CFRE

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