Greetings from the Chair by Dr. Susan Battistoni

This past year was especially busy with activities related to national and state re-accreditation. The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and the Maryland Board of Nursing (MBON) visited Salisbury University in April, and I am happy to report that the visit went well. We are awaiting the final report which is scheduled to arrive in October.

Other exciting news this past spring was the awarding of the first Lucy Tull exemplar nursing faculty Distinguished Faculty Awards. Two arrive in October.

Also had another successful trip to the event you won’t want to miss!

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Keep In Touch! • SU Department of Nursing Chair, Dr. Susan Battistoni • Send any news or updates to: Dr. Mary DiBartolo • mcdibartolo@salisbury.edu OR Dr. Thea McDowell • demcdowell@salisbury.edu www.salisbury.edu/nursing

Did You Know …
The Department of Nursing will be celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2009? A special reunion celebration is being planned for next spring. Keep posted for more information the event you won’t want to miss!

SU faculty at Yangtze University, Jingzhou, China (continued on back)

T he Department of Nursing continues its ‘Going Global’ Efforts

This past year, there were 77 graduates from the undergraduate program and seven from the graduate program. Our NCLEX-RN first time pass rate is staying strong at or above 90 percent.

Two tenure track faculty (Debra Webster and Mary Parsons) completed doctoral work and graduated this past May. Drs. Cathy Walsh and Dorothea McDowell were promoted to full professor.

Finally, this will be my last newsletter where I report to you as chair as I will be returning to faculty as of August 15 after six years as chair, and Lisa Seldomridge will return to the chair’s position. Other new faces include new Administrative Assistant I Carmel Boger, who was hired in February to replace Valerie Butler.

Best wishes to all our new graduates and alumni!

As far as curricular updates, the department developed a Clinical Nurse Educator and an RN-MS option for the graduate program as part of the NSPI grant. Both of these tracks have been approved and will be implemented this fall. Also good news for graduate students attending SU’s M.S. in nursing program who reside on the Eastern Shore of Virginia or southern Delaware. They can now qualify for a Provost Scholarship to help the University in efforts to address the shortage of nurses prepared at the master’s level. Dr. Dorothea McDowell also will be offering a new online course on the topic of traditional Chinese medicine in spring 2009. We are in the process of converting all of our courses for RNs seeking the bachelor’s degree to an online format for their convenience.

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The Tanzanian trip involved an intensive orientation to the culture, language and customs in Tanzania as well as to the challenges associated with HIV/AIDS in that country. Then a week was spent preparing for and teaching groups in HIV/AIDS prevention as well as visiting health care facilities and programs that offer services to people living with HIV/AIDS. Participants stayed with Tanzanian families in their homes and became part of the family during their stay. A two-day safari to Lake Manyara National Park and the Ngoro Ngoro crater provided a glimpse into the beautiful natural environment of Tanzania. The third trip is scheduled for January 6-22. The cost for this trip of a lifetime is approximately $5,000. If any alumni are interested in joining the group, there may be a few seats remaining. Please contact Dr. Johnson for further information at 410-543-6411 or kejohnson@salisbury.edu as soon as possible.

Faculty visiting Yangtze University this summer spoke to nursing students, medical and nursing faculty, and nurses on “Nursing and Medical Education in America,” “RN Licensure,” “Community Health Nursing” and “Transitioning from Student to Nurse.” The group also observed nursing students, traditional Chinese Medicine students, as well as care being given in both Eastern and Western Medicine facilities. The first Traditional Chinese Medicine Study Abroad Program will be offered May 24-June 5, 2009. This program will include observation of Eastern medicine modalities, lectures by Traditional Chinese Medicine doctors, as well as, tours of the ancient city of Jingzhou and visits to the Great Wall and the Forbidden City. Any interested alumni should contact Dr. McDowell at 410-548-5562 or demcdowell@salisbury.edu. Both of these programs include credit-bearing nursing courses of various amounts. Please contact the faculty members for specific details.
In Memory of Kathleen (Katie) Kolls
Associate Professor-Emeritus

September 29, 1926-March 27, 2009
Outstanding teacher, colleague and role model
The Kathleen Kolls Memorial Fund to support the Department of Nursing at SU has been established in her memory. Memorial contributions may be sent to:
Salisbury University Foundation, Inc,
P.O. Box 2655
Salisbury, MD 21802
Please specify “Kathleen Kolls Memorial Fund”

CLASS NOTES

1990
Karen Blackwell Woronick has worked in a variety of areas since graduation, including emergency medicine, hyperbarics, fixed-wing transport, pediatric cardiac intensive care and is currently employed as a clinical research nurse for Children’s National Medical Center. She is also pursuing her master’s degree in health care systems management.

1993
Amanda (Frost) Olewiler worked for 10 years at Beebe Medical Center in Lewes, DE, in the step-down unit. After the birth of her first child in 2003, she resigned from the hospital and started a business (www.catholiccarepackages.com) which has gone international.

1995
Rebecca (Hafeman) Rosen—After working as a psychiatric nurse at New York Hospital in White Plains, she moved to New York City and worked as a triage nurse for the drug rehabilitation unit at the Smithers Clinic. She later changed her focus to lactation and received her breastfeeding certification in 2003 and became a postpartum Doula. She now owns a breastfeeding consulting business called Northeast Lactation and another business, The Breastcheste, Inc., a high-end breastfeeding boutique (www.breastchester.com) with two locations in the New York metropolitan area. She is a board member of the Breastfeeding Advocacy Network. After pursuing her master’s degree at Columbia University, she is now planning to start a doctoral work there in family health. She is married and has two boys.

2000
Noelle (Reed) Stewart just completed her master’s degree at Johns Hopkins University in health systems management and clinical nurse specialist. She has worked at Johns Hopkins Hospital since graduation and just recently accepted a new position as the manager/coordinator of the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit there. She was married in 2007 and is residing in Harford County.

2001
Eileen (Hawley) Rizzo has worked at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center since graduation as a high-risk labor and delivery nurse. This past spring, she obtained her certification as a forensic nurse examiner with an area of concentration in sexual assault and domestic violence cases. She currently collects all forensic evidence pertaining to sexual assault cases in Baltimore County.

2001
Matthew Dunn has since graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine and is completing his first year of internship. He is working at Christiana Care Hospital and A.I. DuPont Hospital for children to complete a combined residency in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. He is married to Diana and has three boys: Tyson (7), Cutter (4) and McKay (1).

2005
Carol O’Driscoll is living in the Florida Keys and works as director of Surgical Services at Fisherman’s Hospital since June 2007. She was previously an OR manager at Anne Arundel Medical Center. She is working on her M.S.N. in nurse education at Drexel University’s online program.

2007
Katie McGrath was recently invited to attend a press conference by Governor Martin O’Malley at the St. Joseph’s Medical Center in Towson, MD, to announce new initiatives to address the nursing shortage. She has worked there since graduation on the medical-surgical oncology floor. She also recently became certified through the ONS to administer chemotherapy.

FACULTY NEWS

PRESENTATIONS

• Dr. Tina Brown presented at the Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) conference in Chicago in June. Her poster was titled “Why Perform Breast Self-Exams? Profiling Never, Infrequent and Consistent Screeners.”

• Drs. William Campbell & Molly Parsons gave two presentations at the Sigma Theta Tau Biennial convention held last November in Baltimore. They were titled “Clinical Grading Rubrics: Taking the Guesswork out of Clinical Grades” and “Head Start: An Alternate Pediatric Clinical Experience.”

• Dr. William Campbell was an invited speaker at the eight annual symposium of Partners in Respiratory Care Excellence held at Salisbury University in March. His presentation was “Pediatric Clinical Experience.”

• Dr. Vonnie Brown & Professor Rita Nutt presented on the “St. Francis Parochial School Initiatives,” a successful community health education project implemented by the second-degree students in spring 2007, at the Association of Community Health Nurse Educators conference held in Atlanta in June.

• Drs. Lisa Seldomridge & Mary DiBartolo presented a poster titled “Clickers in the Classroom: “Thinking Out Loud Without the Risk” at the annual Drexel University Nursing Education Institute held in Atlantic City, NJ, in June.

• Drs. Lisa Seldomridge, Cathy Walsh & Karen Badros presented a poster, “Preparing for an External Accreditation Review: It’s All in the Timeline,” at the annual Drexel University Nursing Education Institute held in Atlantic City, NJ, in June.

• Dr. Debra Webster also presented a poster at the Drexel University Nursing Education Institute in Atlantic City in June titled, “Changing Perceptions of Mental Illness: A Mixed-Method Study.”

PUBLICATIONS


