EDUCATING EXCEPTIONAL NURSING PROFESSIONALS FOR 35 YEARS!

In May 1979, then Salisbury State College conferred the Bachelor of Science with a major in nursing to the first graduating class. Thirty-five years later, we are Salisbury University, offering B.S., M.S. and D.N.P. degrees, using cutting-edge teaching strategies. While much has changed, one thing remains the same – the extraordinary quality of our students, alumni and faculty. Here’s a glimpse of the highlights of 2014.

Our first cohort of post-master’s Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) students completed Year Two of the three-year curriculum. Nine students are two-thirds of the way to the D.N.P. The 38-credit post-master’s option includes clinical nurse specialists, nurse practitioners, educational leaders and nurse executives. They continue work on their comprehensive doctoral projects, identifying a health care problem, reviewing research to determine possible interventions and strategies to improve patient outcomes, implementing necessary changes, and evaluating the effectiveness of the changes. Projects include: “Development of a Process Improvement Model to Ensure Post-Discharge Patient Follow-Up with Primary Care Providers,” “Implementation of the ABCDE Bundle to Enhance Patient Outcomes in the Intensive Care Unit” and “Transitioning to Bedside Shift Report in a Community Hospital System.” As these projects are implemented, recommendations for staff education and monitoring programs as well as fiscally responsible decision-making will result. Delivered in a distance-accessible format, the second year of the D.N.P. program has focused on quality improvement, health care management and finance. Faculty teaching in Year Two of the D.N.P. program include: Drs. DiBartolo, McDowell Winter, Willey, Webster, Rockelli and Professor Jordan Premo-Hurt.

A post-B.S.-to-D.N.P. option is launched – the first in Maryland! This 80-credit program is for students with a B.S. in nursing who wish to become Family Nurse Practitioners while earning a doctoral degree. These credentials (FNP with D.N.P.) will be necessary as all advanced practice nursing moves to require a doctorate. Deanna Schloemer (SU ’08) began this program in January 2014; she was joined in August 2014 by SU alumni Jordan Braniff (’12), Nalynn Holland (’13) and Jean Bancroft, Jaregui (’13).

$1.1 million in scholarships is available for students studying to become nurse practitioners. The Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration provides up to $22,000/year per eligible full-time student, and $11,000/year per eligible part-time student. Trainees may use funds for stipends, textbooks, tuition and fees. Licensed professional nurses with B.S. degrees in nursing who meet the grant’s criteria are eligible to apply. Thanks to Dr. Jeffrey Willey, the PI on this grant.

Development of faculty toolkits to teach psychology/mental health nursing skills: Using standardized patients to prepare new nurses funded by $299,983 grant. This project expands the use of standardized patients, which has been in place since 2010, by creating a series of web-based toolkits to teach students essential skills for caring for individuals with behavioral health issues. These toolkits will include learning objectives, pre-assignment activities, video vignettes of standardized patients portraying individuals with various mental health disorders, student assignments, feedback rubrics and suggested post-clinical activities. Toolkits will be available to all Maryland nursing programs and can be used to prepare students for “live” clinical experiences, to substitute for “live” clinical experiences in times of low census or lack of placements, to augment instruction for students who need additional experience to meet clinical objectives, and to assure that all students have exposure to caring for those with specific mental health issues. By using common learning activities across nursing programs in the state, future nurses will be better prepared to provide safe and quality care for individuals with behavioral health issues. Drs. Debra Webster and Lisa Seldomridge are the PI on this Maryland Higher Education Commission Nurse Support II funded project.

D.N.P. curriculum development continues supported by $1.079 million from the Maryland Higher Education Commission NSP-II grant. Course development and refinement continues so that all D.N.P. courses can be offered in a distance-accessible format with limited face-to-face meetings. Thirteen new students have begun study in either the post-B.S.-to-D.N.P. or post-M.S.-to-D.N.P. programs, many from the Baltimore-Washington area. With limited availability of doctoral programs in the state, SU was the first to offer the post-B.S.-to-D.N.P. option and is the perfect location for the D.N.P. program. Faculty working on this grant project include: Drs. Badros, Brown, DiBartolo, Hinderer, Jarosinski, McDowell Winter, Nutt, Rockelli, Seldomridge, Walsh, Webster, Willey, and Professors Alessandri, Jordan, Premo-Hurt and Smith.

Activities at the Henson Medical Simulation Center continue to expand. With a focus on creating alternative clinical experiences in the specialties of labor/delivery, high-risk newborn, critically-ill children and adults with psychiatric disorders, the Sim Center activities support expanded enrollments in the second B.S. program. Under the leadership of Dr. Debra Webster, we are now in our fourth year using standardized patients to portray individuals with mental health disorders including anxiety, bipolar, PTSD and schizophrenia. Students are improving therapeutic communication through these experiences. The pediatric team led by Drs. Campbell and Smith have developed a scenario where students must recognize signs of child abuse and take appropriate actions. The maternal/newborn faculty led by Drs. Bracken and Nutt and Professor Jordan have created blended experiences using a standardized patient wearing an empathy belly and another playing an abusive partner. In this labor and delivery scenario, students must recognize signs of intimate partner violence and act accordingly. Scenarios like this enable students to be full participants in very complex situations requiring exceptional, sensitive inter-professional communication.

Continued on page 3
FACULTY NEWS

PUBLICATIONS

- Webster, D. (2014). Using standardized patients to effectively teach communication in psychiatric nursing. Clinical Simulation in Nursing, 10(2), 81-86.

PRESENTATIONS

- Dr. Michele Bracken presented at the Oxford Women’s Leadership Symposium on the topic: Lifetime experiences of women who have left abusive relationships. The event took place this past March in Oxford, United Kingdom.
- Dr. Michele Bracken spoke at the Third International Conference on Forensic Research and Technology held in San Antonio, TX, in October, 2014 on the topic: Phenomenological study of the experiences of emergency department nurses in the referral for and/or administration of a lethality tool in a rural hospital.
- Dr. William Campbell presented at the 42nd Sigma Theta Tau Biennial Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana in November, 2013 on the topic: Improving student performance in a 4-year university nursing program.
- Dr. Mary DiBartolo presented a poster (co-authored with Dr. Debra Webster) at the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference this past summer in Copenhagen, Denmark on July 14-15, 2014. The poster was titled: Using a standardized patient experience to teach baccalaureate nursing students communication skills in dementia care.
- Dr. Mary DiBartolo and Dr. Dennis Klima (UMES) collaborated on a poster titled, Physical performance and balance confidence among nonagenarians, at the Gerontological Society of America's 67th annual scientific meeting which took place in Washington, DC from November 5-9, 2014.
- Dr. Katie Hinderer presented at a conference sponsored by the Jefferson Center for InterProfessional Education (JCPE) on the topic of Advance Care Planning in China in Philadelphia, PA, October 10-12, 2014.
- Dr. Katie Hinderer (with M. C. Lee) presented on the topic of Improving knowledge of advance directives in the Chinese American population: A pilot study, at the 10th International Conference on Grief & Bereavement in Contemporary Society (ICGB), at the University of Hong Kong, June 11-14, 2014. They also presented at Sigma Theta Tau’s 25th International Nursing Research Congress in Hong Kong later that month.
- Dr. Katie Hinderer presented with Dr. Robert Joyner on April 17, 2014 at the Regional Research Symposium, University of Maryland Eastern Shore on the topic of Maryland Eastern Shore Collaboration for Interprofessional Education (ESCAPE). Experience. A poster on the topic was presented at the All Together Better Health VII in Pittsburgh, PA, on June 6-8, 2014.
- Dr. Katie Hinderer (with M. C. Lee & K. A. Kehl) presented at the Association for Death Education and Counseling’s 36th Annual Conference held in Baltimore, MD, April 23-26, 2014. The poster was titled: Systematic Review of Advance Care Planning in Chinese People.
- Drs. Judith Jarosinski & Tina Reid gave a podium presentation at the Fifth International Nurse Education Conference at Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands, on June 24, 2014. The topic: Who will replace us? Outcomes of an initiative to increase clinical nursing faculty. Other co-authors were Drs. Katherine Hinderer and Lisa Seldomridge.
- Dr. Tina Reid co-presented with Dr. Renee Frederickson (Special Project Director, MAC, Inc.) at the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging’s 39th annual conference and trade show held in Dallas, TX July 12-16, 2014 on the topic: 247 Working caregivers: What they need to keep going.
- Dr. Debra Webster presented at the annual QSEN conference in Baltimore, MD in May, 2014 on the topic, Standardized patients in psychiatric nursing: Emphasizing quality patient-centered care and safety while teaching communication. She presented a second poster there titled, The integration of a patient-centered care and evidence-based practice: A clinical out-rotation.
- Dr. Laurie Rockelli & Megan Czyz (MS ‘14) presented a poster at the Annual ANCC Board Certification Nursing Conference held in Rockville, MD on March 19-21, 2014. It was titled: Delivery of primary care in an outpatient mental health clinic.
- Dr. Laurie Rockelli & Megan Czyz (MS ‘14) presented a poster, titled A Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) internship in an outpatient mental health clinic, at the 24th Annual Nurse Educators Conference in the Rockies held in Breckenridge, CO, July 17-19, 2014.

OTHER FACULTY NEWS

- Dr. Katie Hinderer and her husband, Eric, welcomed a baby boy, Gavin Keithly Hinderer, on November 30, 2013. He joins his brother, Will, who is now 4 years old.
COVER STORY CONTINUED

The Eastern Shore Faculty Academy and Mentoring Initiative (ES-FAMI) has trained 39 clinical experts as adjunct clinical faculty. Entering its fourth year, this collaboration between SU, Chesapeake and Sojourner-Douglass Colleges provides a solution to the nursing faculty shortage by providing a 30-contact hour program of online and face-to-face instruction, simulated clinical teaching sessions, and mentoring workshops. Academy attendees learn how to design and manage student clinical experiences, learning theories, and principles of evaluating student performance. The ES-FAMI experience emphasizes recruitment of a culturally, ethnically and gender diverse group of faculty who are available to teach part-time for one of the partner schools. Led by Drs. Hinderer, Jarosinski, Reid and Seldomridge, more than 60 percent of the graduates have taken a part-time teaching position with one of the three partner schools.

Inter-professional education builds teamwork between nursing, respiratory care, pharmacy and physical therapy students. Each spring, SU undergraduate nursing and respiratory care students, as well as UMES pharmacy and physical therapy students come together to solve clinical problems and share their expertise in simulated patient care encounters. Hosted at UMES and led by Drs. Hinderer, Winter, Robert Joyner (respiratory therapy) and Professor Freda from SU, students work together to address issues with mobility, polypharmacy and altered cognition. Now in its fourth year, this experience has been featured in a recent publication in Journal of Respiratory Care Education.

There’s a new “doctor” in the house. Nancy Smith will receive her D.N.P. in December 2014 from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Smith joined the SU faculty in fall 2011.

We have several new faces in the department:

- **Professor Marguerite Russo** is an experienced Family Nurse Practitioner with a background in hospice/palliative care nursing and informatics. She expects to finish her Ph.D. in nursing in 2015. Professor Russo teaches undergraduate community health nursing and graduate FNP courses in adult health management.
- **Professor Kimberly Allen** was appointed to a full-time tenured position in fall 2014. She will complete her D.N.P. at Salisbury University in May 2015. Professor Allen teaches undergraduate students in introduction to professional practice and adult health nursing.
- **Professor Teena Milligan** has joined us as the coordinator of the Lucy Tull Resource Labs. Professor Milligan, an expert orthopedic/urology nurse, was most recently in a shared PRMC-SU Hospital Clinical Faculty position.
- **Kristi Jenkins**, administrative assistant, joined the staff in August 2014. She brings extensive experience in information technology and customer support.

Great study abroad trips are available every year. Travel to South Africa in January 2014 with Dr. Tina Reid and Ecuador in January 2015 with Dr. Vonnie Brown. Read more about the trip to South Africa in this issue.

**GLOBAL HEALTH EXPERIENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA**

In January 2014, the Nursing Department partnered with Child Family Health International (CFHI) to provide students with an opportunity to explore the challenges of HIV/AIDS as well as other health problems in beautiful Cape Town, South Africa. CFHI is the leading nongovernmental organization placing health sciences students in global education programs in ways that are socially responsible and financially just. CFHI enjoys special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and is committed to community engagement and local integrity.

In this two-week program, students resided with South African families in homestays. Students participated in clinical rotations at various health care facilities in underserved settings and a variety of community clinics. The CFHI partnership with the University of the Western Cape expanded these clinical opportunities. Additionally, students toured Table Mountain, Robben Island and the Cape Town waterfront. All of these learning experiences greatly enriched the cultural experience of being in South Africa!

This upcoming winter term, Dr. Voncelia Brown is taking a group of students to Ecuador January 4-22. Stay tuned for details on that popular travel experience for nursing students in the next edition of Nursing Notes.
LUCY TULL DISTINGUISHED FACULTY

Drs. William Campbell and Mary DiBartolo (below) were recently selected as the Lucy Tull Distinguished Faculty for 2014. This award recognizes nursing faculty for their commitment to excellence in nursing education in the health care of the region. Both are long-time faculty members of the Nursing Department and were recognized at the Nursing Convocation ceremony in May.

CALL FOR ALL VINTAGE SALISBURY NURSING T-SHIRTS/SWEATSHIRTS

The Department of Nursing is designing a campus quilt created from Salisbury nursing T-shirts and sweatshirts. The quilt will use the front or back panels of various Salisbury nursing garments worn by students and faculty over the last 35 years. The quilt will become part of our SU Nursing Museum, be on permanent display in the department and be exhibited for special events such as the upcoming 40th anniversary celebration.

We are seeking SU, SSU and SSC Nursing clothing along with any SNA t-shirts. Search your closets, drawers and attics for any t-shirt or sweatshirt you are willing to part with that mention nursing at the University, or which was designed by or promoted by SNA. Donate your garment for consideration to become an item of SU nursing history. About 20-25 will be selected for the final quilt. If you are willing to part with yours, tag it with your name, address, phone number, year of graduation and approximate year of the garment. If used you will be recognized for your donation; if not used we will contact you to see if you want it back. If selected for use, the item cannot be returned.

Drop off to the Nursing Department in Devilbiss Hall or mail: Attn.: Dr. William Campbell, Nursing Department, Salisbury University, 1101 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801. The items must arrive before January 31, 2015.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Email any updates to: Edith Hooke at elhooke@salisbury.edu Visit our website: www.salisbury.edu/nursing

SU is an Equal Opportunity/AA/Title IX university and provides reasonable accommodation given sufficient notice to the University office or staff sponsoring the event or program. For more information regarding SU’s policies and procedures, please visit www.salisbury.edu/equity.