

Salisbury University

NURSING NOTES

SUMMER 2004

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

by Dr. Susan Battistoni

As I am sure you may remember, there is always something happening in and around the Department of Nursing—and some things never change. However, the past year brought some very positive changes. Finally after 15 years, the Department of Nursing is located on the main campus. During summer 2003, we moved into the remodeled second floor of Devilbiss Science Hall (Now simply called Devilbiss Hall). All of the departmental offices and labs (practice, health assessment and multimedia viewing rooms) are located on this floor. Most of the nursing classes are also offered in this building. With the move, we were able to expand the lab space to accommodate the increasing class sizes. Being next door to the Henson Science Hall, where the other departments in the Henson School are housed, has helped us to be much more a part of the School and the University as a whole.

We were also excited in October when the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and the Maryland Board of Nursing notified us that we had received full accreditation for five years. Our next visit will be in spring 2008. Adding to this accomplishment was the fact that two faculty members, Drs. Lisa Seldomridge and Karen Badros, were selected to be accreditation visitors by the CCNE. Both of them have been part of an accreditation team conducting an accreditation visit this year at other institutions.

We are doing our part to lessen the nursing shortage by continuing to have high enrollments in both our traditional and our second-degree programs. In fall 2003, 160

nursing students enrolled in junior/senior level courses. Fifty-nine students graduated in May 2004 and 100 percent of SU nursing graduates were employed in the area of their choice upon graduation. Enrollment in the master's program has been low for several years; however, we are seeing an upsurge in interest in the graduate program with increased enrollments for fall 2004.

As you will see in the "Faculty News" section, many of our faculty are very busy with research and publications while others are maintaining clinical practices in a variety of settings. The faculty membership has had few changes in the past few years. We were fortunate last August to hire Mary T. (Molly) Parsons, CRNP—a graduate of our second degree and master's program. Molly is teaching primarily in the pediatric undergraduate course and pediatric sections of the family nurse practitioner course. We have started discussions with Dr. Shane Neely-Smith, at the College of the Bahamas, to develop a transcultural nursing course experience/exchange. Dr. Neely-Smith came to SU to discuss this idea, which was conceived by Dr. Mary DeLashmutt.

And lastly, we are launching the first installment of what we hope will be a regular newsletter publication for our nursing alumni. Check out this first issue and feel free to send in any news or updates, either personally or professionally, so that we can include it in the next edition. Also, stop by and visit some time if you are ever in the Salisbury area please visit and tour our new facilities!

SIM MAN Simulated Patient Now Available in Nursing Resources Lab

This summer the Nursing Department increased its number of males available in the department when it purchased "Sim Man," a universal patient simulator provided by Laerdal Medical Corporation. This manikin provides many learning opportunities that previously were not available on manikins that the department owned. Sim Man has physiologically correct carotid, femoral, brachial and radial pulses, a pre-programmed medical library of heart, lung, bowel and vocal sounds, ability to take blood pressures by palpation or auscultation with

the Korotkoff sounds synchronized with pulse, and an ECG library of over 2,500 cardiac rhythms that allow cardiac monitoring, defibrillation and external pacing.

In order to use this manikin, its potential two faculty members, Dr. Dorothea McDowell and Professor Peggy Mitchell, traveled to Texas in July for a two-day, intensive workshop. Use of the manikin will be integrated into several junior-level courses, including Adult Health I and II and Health Assessment.

FACULTY NEWS

PRESENTATIONS

- *Professor William Campbell* presented, "Pediatric Tobacco Prevention: A Teaching Learning Partnership Project" at the 37th Annual Convention of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International in Toronto, Canada (November, 2003)
- *Dr. Lisa Seldomridge* presented a poster titled, "Attracting Students to the Professorate: A Faculty Shadowing Experience" at Drexel University Institute for Nursing Education, Philadelphia, PA (June, 2004)
- *Dr. Mary DeLashmutt* presented, "Spiritual Needs of Mothers Raising Children While Homeless" at the 14th International STTI Nursing Research Congress: Global Diversity in Research, Education, and Practice in the Bahamas (June, 2003). Dr. DeLashmutt also presented "What's Poverty Got To Do With It?" at the 100th Maryland Nurses Association annual convention in Annapolis, MD.
- *Dr. Lisa Seldomridge and Dr. Cathy Walsh* will be presenting a poster titled, "Addressing the Challenges of Clinical Grade Inflation using Grading Rubrics" at the 2004 National State of the Science Conference, Washington, D.C. (October, 2004)

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FACULTY NEWS continued

PUBLICATIONS

- *Tull, K. & Carroll, R.* (in press).
“Advanced Practice Nursing in Home Health.” *Home Health Care Management and Practice*.
- *Walsh, C.M. & Seldomridge, L.A.* (in press)
“Clinical Grades: Upward Bound.” *Journal of Nursing Education*.
- *Seldomridge, L.A., & DiBartolo, M.C.* (in press)
“Profile of Accelerated Second Bachelor’s Nursing Students.” *Nurse Educator*.
- *Seldomridge, L.A. & DiBartolo, M.C.* (in press).
“Can success or failure be predicted for baccalaureate graduates on the computerized NCLEX-RN?” *Journal of Professional Nursing*.
- *DiBartolo, M.C. & Soeken, K.L.* (2003).
Appraisal, coping, hardiness, and self-perceived health in community-dwelling spouse caregivers of persons with dementia. *Research in Nursing & Health*, 26, 445-458.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

SU DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
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CLASS NOTES

1991

Penny (Justice) Makuckal was chosen as Maryland’s 2003 School Nurse of the Year. She currently works at the Worcester County Technology & Career Center and is a school nurse consultant for all 14 Worcester County public schools. Penny completed her master’s degree at Salisbury University in 1997 with a Home Health Clinical Specialist Concentration. She lives in Stockton, MD, with her husband Denny, and a daughter, Maranda.

1997

Robyn (Yanke) Gilden married Brad Gilden in 1997 and is proud to announce the birth of their first child, Zachary Jacob, born on May 26. Robyn completed her master’s degree with a focus on environmental health nursing at the University of Maryland and now works for UM in the Environmental Health Education Center.

1999

Jill Erickson married Geoffrey Hill in April 2004 and currently works at Johns Hopkins Hospital on the Children/infants and toddlers floor. **Malea (Rey) Billmeyer** married Albert Billmeyer in July 2004 and currently works at North Arundel Hospital’s Emergency Department. **Tania (Bellia) Weiss** married Christopher Weiss in August 2000 and has a baby girl, Sara Ashley born in March 2003. She works at Peninsula Regional Medical Center in the Emergency Department. She is currently enrolled in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at Salisbury University.

2000

Meredith (McCue) Loosarian married Derrick Loosarian in October 2003 and currently works on the Post-partum Unit at Johns Hopkins Hospital. **Lori (Morsberger) O’Connor** married Ryan O’Connor in April 2002 and currently works in the Emergency Department at Johns Hopkins Hospital. She is planning to complete her master’s degree in December 2004 at Johns Hopkins to become certified as an Adult Primary Care Nurse Practitioner.

