

Salisbury University

NURSING NOTES

SUMMER 2005

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

by Dr. Susan Battistoni

The Department of Nursing has had another busy and exciting year.

Enrollment has doubled in the last 10 years, increasing from 210 nursing and pre-nursing majors in 1995 to over 400 in fall 2004. Graduate enrollments are on the rise as well with 27 master's level students. This past year, there were a total of 78 bachelor's degree graduates (including two RN-B.S. graduates), in addition to five M.S. graduates who completed the Family Nurse Practitioner Track. Furthermore, the applicant pool for this year's upcoming junior class was the largest in our history with 185 applicants (first-degree and second-degree tracks combined) for 88 seats.

Curricular changes are in full swing for RNs with an associate's degree who wish to obtain the bachelor's degree. The revised RN-B.S. plan now recognizes their education and expertise. More information is available at www.salisbury.edu/Schools/Henson/NursingDept.html.

There have also been some changes in faculty within the Department. Dr. Elizabeth Rankin, long-time faculty member at SU (and University of Maryland, Baltimore prior) retired in December 2004. Dr. Mary DeLashmutt and Dr. Kathleen Lanigan both relocated from the area. We will miss them and their

contributions to the department.

Other faculty news includes the hiring of new faculty and the promotion in rank of current faculty. Debra Webster, with her expertise in psychiatric nursing, came on board in January 2004, and Rita Nutt, whose specialty is maternity nursing, will be joining us this coming fall. We also are happy to welcome a new full-time contractual faculty—Michelle Landy, as well as seasoned SU clinical faculty Margaret (Peggy) Mitchell and Katherine (Katie) Green for the upcoming year. Dr. Lisa Seldomridge was promoted to full professor and Dr. Mary DiBartolo was promoted to associate professor.

Also impressive are the many published articles (with many others in press) and presentations of our faculty (see "Faculty News" for details). Just "Google" their names and you will be pleased to discover the work of SU's nursing faculty.

In last year's newsletter, we told you of our plans to reframe class graduation pictures as part of our move from Power to Devilbiss Hall. Thanks for the many generous donations so far. If you'd like to make a contribution to this project or other departmental needs, you may still do so (see below).

We hope this finds you well and happily working in the profession! Until next time ...



You Can Make A Difference

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Department of Nursing may send their tax-deductible contribution to:

Salisbury University Foundation, P.O. Box 2655, Salisbury, Maryland 21802

Please make check payable to: SU Foundation—Department of Nursing

Thank you for your support!



(From left) Dr. Susan Battistoni, Nursing Department chair; "Sim Man"; Peggy Mitchell, Skills Lab director; Congressman Ben Cardin; McKaylee Kerwin, second-degree student; and Erin Teates, first-degree student

Congressman Ben Cardin Visits

Democratic Congressman Benjamin Cardin, representative of the 3rd district in Maryland who will be entering the Maryland Senate race in 2006, paid a special visit to the Eastern Shore last October and among his stops was the Department of Nursing at Salisbury University. After walking the University campus and a brief tour of the department—complete with a

demonstration of "Sim Man"—Cardin met with Dr. Janet Dudley-Eshbach, Henson School Dean Dr. Tom Jones, Department Chair Dr. Susan Battistoni, as well as other faculty and student representatives to discuss some of the critical issues in nursing, including the national shortage of nurses and nursing faculty amidst increasing enrollments.

FACULTY NEWS

PRESENTATIONS

• **Dr. Lisa Seldomridge & Dr. Cathy Walsh**

presented a poster "Addressing the Challenges of Grade Inflation Using Grading Rubrics" at the State of the Science Conference in Washington, D.C., October, 2004.

• **Dr. Karin Johnson**

was invited to present at the American Public Health Association conference in Washington, D.C., on November 8, 2004, on the topic of "Drugs and the Internet."

• **Dr. Thea McDowell**

presented this past June at the National Symposium on Health Science Distance Education held at Creighton University Medical Center School of Pharmacy and Health Professions in Omaha, Nebraska. The topic was "Learning Strategies, Technology, Pedagogy: Where to Start in Online Education."

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PRESENTATIONS

- **Dr. Cathy Walsh & Dr. Lisa Seldomridge** were invited to the Drexel University Nursing Education Institute meeting in Atlantic City, NJ, in July 2005 for a podium presentation "Grade Inflation in Faculty-Supervised Clinical Courses."
- **Dr. Lisa Seldomridge** also presented a poster (with Tracy Tull and Jill Hickman from Nanticoke Memorial Hospital) at the Drexel University Institute meeting "Growing Confidence and Competence Through Narratives: A Program for New Graduates at a Small, Rural Community Hospital."

PUBLICATIONS

- **Walsh, C.M., & Seldomridge, L. A.** (2005). Clinical grades: Upward bound. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 44(4), 162-168.
- **Seldomridge, L.A., & DiBartolo, M.C.** (2005). A profile of accelerated second bachelor's nursing students. *Nurse Educator*, 30(2), 65-68.
- **Badros, K.K., Seldomridge, L.A., & Walsh, C.M.** (2005). Issues in critical thinking: Measurement in advanced practice students. *Nurse Educator*, 30(4), 139-140.
- **Delashmutt, M.B., & Rankin, E.A.** (2005). A different kind of clinical experience: Poverty up close and personal. *Nurse Educator*, 30(4), 143-149.
- **DiBartolo, M.C. & Seldomridge, L.A.** (2005). A review of intervention studies to promote NCLEX-RN success of baccalaureate students. *Nurse Educator*, 30(4), 166-171.
- **Dr. Thea McDowell** was invited to review three chapters on antibiotic therapy for the text *Pharmacology: Connections to Nursing Practice* to be published this year by Prentice-Hall. She was also a co-author with M.E. Mills in a chapter titled, "Academic Programs" published in *Online Health Science Education: Development and Implementation* (2005), N. Jairith, ED.
- **Dr. Edna Quinn** Professor Emeritus, was a recent contributor to *Magill's Literary Annual* (2005), which offers annual essay reviews of 200 outstanding books published in the U.S.

PERSONAL NOTE

Wedding bells were ringing for **Dr. Ruth Carroll** in June 2005 when she married long-time (and recently retired) SU arts professor and former associate provost, Dr. Kent Kimmell.

Going Global: Trip to Tanzania Slated for January 2006

The Department of Nursing is proud to announce its first international nursing trip for two weeks to Tanzania, West Africa, to participate in HIV/AIDS education. Faculty, current students, alumni or other interested parties are invited. Participants will depart for Tanzania on January 8 and return January 23. The program is directed by Global Service Corporation and will include a home stay with a Tanzanian family, visits to local health care agencies and an over-night safari. The cost is approximately \$3,500.

For more information, please contact faculty coordinators Dr. Karin Johnson (kejohnson@salisbury.edu) or Dr. Thea McDowell (demcdowell@salisbury.edu).

1987

Pam Stetina completed her master's in nursing administration at the University of Phoenix in 1996 and is currently living in Texas and is working as an assistant professor of nursing at Texas A & M University—Corpus Christi. She is currently in the process of completing her Ph.D. at Texas Women's University; the topic of her dissertation is the effect of hysterectomy on quality of life of Hispanic and Caucasian women. She is married to Frank Stetina who also graduated from Salisbury University with a degree in geography.

1988

Debra (Slacum) Webster has joined the nursing faculty at SU. After receiving her M.S.N. in 1994, she has worked at Chesapeake Youth Center and PRMC before joining the faculty in January. She has been accepted to start the doctoral program at Wilmington College this fall.

1989

Connie (Davis) Johnson completed her M.S.N. at SU (FNP track) with a capstone project titled, "The Impact of Diabetes Self-Management Education on Specific Diabetes Indicators."

1991

Penny (Justice) Makuchal was named one of the top 39 educators in the nation. She was one of two Maryland educators to receive honorable mention as a member of the *USA Today* 2004 All-USA Teacher Team. Recently completing her Ph.D., she currently works at the Worcester County Technology and 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.

Margaret (Peggy) Mitchell, who also completed her M.S.N. at Salisbury in 2000, has come on board as a full-time nursing faculty member. Peggy has also worked at Coastal Hospice as a pain management consultant, in addition to her part-time position as the department's Nursing Resource Lab coordinator.

2001

Donald Clayton completed the master's program (FNP track) at Salisbury University this past December. The title of his capstone project was "Purchase of Prescription Medication from Abroad."

Erica (Schwartz) Disharoon graduated from SU's master's program (FNP track) after successful completion of her capstone project, "Alcohol Withdrawal: A Guide for Assessing and Managing the Alcohol Withdrawal Patient."

2002

Cynthia Knight graduated from the master's program at SU (FNP track) this past December after successful defense of her capstone project where she created an informational packet addressing sports injuries.

SAD NEWS

Leslie Cimetta-Bowman (B.S.N. 2000, M.S.N./-FNP track 2003) passed away last fall.

Send Us Your YOUR News!

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Visit:
www.salisbury.edu/schools/Henson/nursingdept/