

# Salisbury University

## NURSING NOTES

SUMMER 2008

### 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 Distinguished Faculty Awards. Two exemplary nursing faculty members were honored—Dr. Karin Johnson and Mary Kane received their plaques in a special recognition ceremony this past spring. Kane also was honored this past spring for her 30 years of service at SU.

During fall 2007, the department hosted Yanlin Heng (associate professor of nursing, Yangtze University, Jingzhou, China). Heng attended classes, met with students and provided lectures on the topic of traditional Chinese medicine. This past May, three faculty (Susan Battistoni, Dorothea McDowell and Tina Brown) went to China at the invitation of the Medical School of Yangtze University to discuss the possibility of SU nursing students visiting their university to learn more about traditional Chinese medicine. We also had another successful trip to Tanzania, Africa, this past January. A group of faculty (Karin Johnson, Tina Brown and Voncelia Brown), as well as undergraduate, graduate and pre-med students and a nursing alumnus, spent two weeks on a volunteer mission with the Global Health Corps' HIV/AIDS Prevention Program. This is the second trip to Tanzania for the Department of

Nursing and another trip is planned for January 2009.

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 NSPII 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 online format for their convenience.

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.

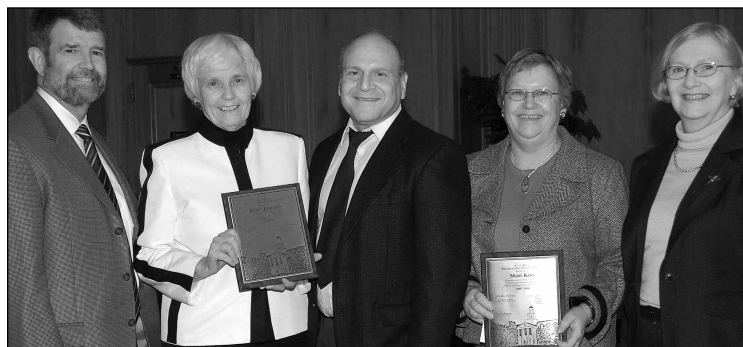
Best wishes to all our new graduates and alumni!



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



(From left) SU Foundation Capital Campaign Chair Henry Hanna, Dr. Karin Johnson, Henson Interim Dean Michael Folkoff, Mary Kane and Nursing Chair Susan Battistoni

### SU Continues its 'Going Global' Efforts

The Department of Nursing continues to broaden its global influence. In 2008, two widely diverse cultures were explored by nursing faculty and students. In January 2008, Drs. Karin Johnson, Tina Brown and Vonnie Brown led a group of undergraduate and graduate students in the second departmental trip to Arusha, Tanzania, for the purpose of HIV/AIDS service learning. Then in May 2008, Drs. Susan Battistoni, Brown and Dorothea McDowell visited Yangtze University, Jingzhou, China, to pave the way for a Traditional Chinese Medicine Study Abroad program that will be offered for the first time in May 2009.

The Tanzania 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 Ngorongoro 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 [kejohanson@salisbury.edu](mailto:kejohanson@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](mailto:demcdowell@salisbury.edu).

Both of these programs include credit bearing nursing courses of various amounts. Please contact the faculty members for specific details.



SU faculty at Yangtze University, Jingzhou, China

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# 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 Alternative 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 Homecare: Asthma."
- **Dr. Vonnice 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

- **DiBartolo, M.C.** (2008). The demographic tidal wave: Are we ready? *Journal of Gerontological Nursing*, 34(4), 3-4.
- **Seldomridge, L.A., & DiBartolo, M.C.** (2008). The changing face of accelerated second bachelor's degree students. *Nurse Educator*, 32(6), 240-245.
- **Walsh, C.M., Seldomridge, L.A., & Badros, K.K.** (2007). The California Critical Thinking Disposition Inventory: A further factor analytic examination. *Nurse Educator*, 33(3), 113-117.
- **Walsh, C.M., Seldomridge, L.A., & Badros, K.K.** (2008). Developing a practical tool for preceptor use. *Nurse Educator*, 33(3), 113-117.

## 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"

Salisbury  
UNIVERSITY

# CLASS NOTES

1982

**Cathy Amoss-Babcock** began her career at Franklin Square Hospital, working in Med-Surg, oncology, ICU and PACU completing certifications in chemotherapy and ACLS. Later, she accepted a position as a clinical nurse manager and after working for Johns Hopkins Home Health returned to FSH. In May 1997, she graduated from College of Notre Dame with a Master of Art in Business Management and a minor in health care administration and then became the director of Patient Care Services for Critical Care at FSH. She has since worked as a substitute school nurse for Harford County and a healthcare consultant. She is married and has four children.

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](http://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 Breastchester, Inc., a high-end breastfeeding boutique ([www.breastchester.com](http://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 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), Cutler (4) and McKay(1).

2005

**Carol O'Driscoll** is living in the Florida Keys and works as director of Surgical Services at Fishermen'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.