Expanding Global Initiatives for Nursing Students

The Nursing Department has been offering global health experiences for students on a regular basis since January 2006 when Dr. Karin Johnson led a group of faculty, students and alumni to Tanzania for the first time. Now, just a few short years later, nursing students can choose between Tanzania, China and Ecuador during their education here at SU.

The January Tanzania trips, which emphasize HIV/AIDS prevention and sustainable agriculture, have been led by Dr. Johnson and will continue to be led by Dr. Tina Brown. These trips have been planned in collaboration with Global Service Corp. Student activities have included teaching in the villages around Arusha, going on a safari in the Ngorongoro Crater Conservation Area and visiting the area surrounding Arusha.

Dr. Dorothy McDowell has developed a relationship with Yangtze University in Jingshu, China, and took students there to be exposed to Traditional Chinese medicine for the first time in May 2009. This two-week trip is offered every year. The next one is planned for May 2011 and will include visits to Eastern and Western medical facilities, as well as excursions to the Great Wall, Forbidden City and Tianannmen Square.

The newest offering, being led by Dr. Vonnie Brown, is designed to increase the cultural sensitivity of nurses by introducing them to health and health promotion practices in Ecuador. In January 2011, any SU nursing alumni who are interested in participating in these experiences should contact the lead faculty member for more information. Dr. Theo McDowell, 410-548-5562, demcdowell@salisbury.edu; Dr. Vonnie Brown, 410-548-4784, vhbrown@salisbury.edu.

Salisbury University

GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR
Dr. Lisa Seldomridge

What a year 2009-2010 has been, with a record number of grant awards, expansion of enrollments in several programs, outstanding faculty scholarship and superb performance of our students. Here’s a sampling of what’s happening:

- The Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) was approved beginning in fall 2012, it is the first doctoral program at SU.

- Hospital clinical faculty positions were implemented after receiving a $635,601 grant from the Maryland Higher Education Commission Nurse Support Program to develop these positions in collaboration with Peninsula Regional Medical Center (PRMC) and Atlantic General Hospital (AGH). Two SU alumnus, Rebecca Skowbarch ’05 and Julie Long ’05 were hired in fall 2009 by PRMC and AGH, respectively. Kerry Nestor McGann ’02 was hired in the third position for fall 2010. During the academic year, these faculty supervise SU students in clinical experiences at their home hospital, during winter and summer. Each works in the education department at their respective hospitals. All are eared in the SU master’s program.

- Development of a Simulation Center is underway as a result of a $937,000 grant from the Maryland Hospital Association Who Will Care grant program. The 4,000 plus square foot Sim Center will use high-fidelity human patient simulators to teach students how to care for clients in the specialties of labor/delivery, high-risk newborns and critically ill children. Standardized patients (trained, paid actors) will be used to help students learn how to interact more effectively with clients with psych/mental health needs.

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- School of Nursing students will spend two weeks in Cuenca, Ecuador. Plans include:

  - Tasmanian Rugby Games in Mountfield, Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square.
  - Increase the cultural sensitivity of nurses by introducing them to health and health promotion practices in Ecuador. In January 2011, any SU nursing alumni who are interested in participating in these experiences should contact the lead faculty member for more information. Dr. Theo McDowell, 410-548-5562, demcdowell@salisbury.edu; Dr. Vonnie Brown, 410-548-4784, vhbrown@salisbury.edu.

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PRESENTATIONS

- Dr. William Campbell was invited in October 2009 for an oral presentation at the 17th National Conference on Civil War Medicine in Baltimore, MD. Fort Delaware: The Walls, Water, Diseases and People.
- Dr. William Campbell presented a poster at the Sigma Theta Tau’s 90th Biennial Convention held in Indianapolis, IN, in November 2009. The poster was titled: Girl Scout Nursing Exploration Fair: A Collaborative Community Service Learning Experience for Nursing Students.
- Drs. Debra Webster & Mary DiBartolo presented a poster at University of Maryland’s Annual Nurse Educator’s Conference this past March titled: Academic Inclusivity in Nursing Education.
- Drs. Mary DiBartolo & Lisa Seldomridge also presented a poster: Focus on Health: Using a Nursing Faculty-Hosted Public Access Television Series as an Educational Strategy.
- Dr. Debra Webster also was invited for a podium presentation for AHEC in Easton, MD, this past May: The topic: Caring for Clients with Dementia and Delirium.
- Dr. Debra Webster presented at the Drexel University Nursing Education Institute (DUNE) held in Myrtle Beach, SC, June 21-24. Her poster was titled: Using a Virtual Poster session to Engage Students in a Scholarly Activity in Psychiatric Nursing.
- SU was represented at DUNEI by Dr. William Campbell, who presented a poster titled: A Collaborative Community Service Learning Event for Girl Scouts as a Pediatric Nursing Clinical Experience.
- Drs. Lisa Seldomridge & Mary DiBartolo also presented two posters at DUNEI. One poster was titled: CinematicEducation: Teaching end-of-life issues using feature films. Journal of Gerontological Nursing, 35(6), 30-36.
- Wisconsin. The other was Focus on Health: Using a Nursing Faculty-Hosted Public Access Television Series as an Educational Strategy.
- Dr. Tina Brown presented a poster, Beliefs About Breast Cancer Among Black and Latino Women, at the Society for Psychological Study of Social Issues biennial conference in New Orleans, June 24-27.
- Dr. Theo McDowell & Carlene Campbell, M.S., RN recently presented at the Summer Institute for Nursing Informatics at University of Maryland in Baltimore. The institute was held July 21-24, and the presentations, Assessing Nurses’ Computer Literacy in Order to Maximize their Use of Health Care Information System, was selected as the Practice Award Winner.

PUBLICATIONS


FOND FAREWELL

We send warm wishes to Dr. Karin Johnson and Professor Mary Kane who retired July 1, 2010.

Johnson joined the nursing faculty at Salisbury State College in 1978 and became one of the first doctorally prepared nursing faculty members. She was instrumental in the development and leadership of the graduate program, launched in 1982. In addition to over 30 years as a nursing faculty teaching nearly every course in the curriculum, she was known for her expertise in epidemiology. Johnson also served SU as the director of grants and sponsored research and assistant to the president.

Kane joined the SU faculty in 1977 as one of the founders of the baccalaureate nursing program. She taught undergraduates in psych/mental health, community health, and the renowned Life and Death Issues (PHIL 325/NURS 325) course. She also taught graduate students in Issues in Advanced Nursing Practice (NURS 514) and Management of Adults (NURS 538). As a nurse practitioner, Kane worked with under-represented groups in correctional health and at the Village of Hope. Both of our dear colleagues have left a remarkable legacy that will remain with us for years to come. They will be sorely missed.

Continued from the Chair

CLASS NOTES

1997

Robyn (Yanke) Gilden completed her Ph.D. at University of Maryland, Baltimore in January 2010 and is working as an assistant professor of nursing at UMB teaching undergraduate community health clinical and practice.

1999

Tisa (Brumbley) Elliott is working at Peninsula Endoscopy Center in Baltimore, MD, in the pre/post operative area. She is married to Rick and has two daughters, MacKenzie and Kayton.

2004

Angela (Kukta) Jefferson works as a nurse practitioner at Peninsula Urology Associates located in Salisbury. She received her certification in urology in 2008. She is married (as of October 10, 2009) and lives in Laurel, DE. She and her husband Kurt are expecting their first child in September.

2007

Kay Kaiser-Freda married Matthew Trader in Ocean City in June 2009 and is working as a medical surgical RN at Georgetown University Hospital and pursuing her master’s in nursing education at Salisbury University. She and her husband are currently living in Salisbury.

2007

Brooke Bowen accepted a new position as MDS coordinator at Berlin Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Prior to this, she had worked at Peninsula Regional Medical Center on J South Orthopedic/GET Unit since graduation. She resides in Snow Hill, MD.

2007

Matthew Brown received the Circle of Excellence Award from Shirley Hospital where he is employed as a RN on 6West Unit and is active in the Nurse Practice Council there. He received his award recognizing outstanding job performance at a ceremony on May 14.

2009

April Freeman welcomed a baby girl, Calista June, on June 11. Calista joins three other siblings and proud father Jim (also an SU alum). They reside in Easton, MD.

Tykeda Pinder accepted a RN position at the federal prison in Petersburg, VA.

IN THE LOCAL NEWS

Two SU nursing graduates were featured in a recent press release from Peninsula Regional Medical Center this past spring.

Teresa Niblett (1999), director of Cardiovascular Services, and Erin (Brinkley) Mareck (2004), CTIICU clinical coordinator, were part of the team accepting the Center’s Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit Beacon Award for Critical Care Excellence.

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Two Nursing Grad Help in Haiti

In April of this year, Patricia Grey and Eileen Stump, both 2009 graduates, took a 16-day trip to work in an emergency room in Port Au Prince, Haiti. They traveled with the volunteer organization, International Medical Corps, as part of the relief efforts launched in response to the devastating earthquake there in January. When they arrived, the city was in ruins and thousands of families were living in tents-camps throughout the area. They primarily worked in the ER of the University Hospital in the center of Port Au Prince about six blocks from the Presidential Palace. Because the hospital itself was unsafe, they worked out of tents set up in the hospital parking lot instead.

Not only did they see patients with serious traumatic injuries, but also tropical diseases (such as malaria and typhoid fever) attributed to minimal access to clean water. While they said the experience was both physically and emotionally exhausting, they learned so much and felt honored to be part of the experience. Upon their return, they continue to work on a medical/surgical unit at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore that specializes in infectious disease, including the care of HIV/AIDS patients.

Trish and Eileen are celebrating their one-year milestone at UMMC and will soon be both sitting for the AIDS Certified Registered Nurse certification exam.

First Graduates of the Master of Science Clinical Educator Track

Seven students received the Master of Science after completing the newest graduate track – clinical educators. Carlene Campbell, Holly Hayman, Deana Kenney and Aaron Sebach were awarded their degrees at the May 2010 Salisbury University commencement exercises. Nadya Julien and Stacy Moyer received their degrees in August 2010.

The Clinical Educator Track, launched with support from a Maryland Higher Education Nurse Support Program (NSP)-2 grant, prepares graduate nurses for positions in education in colleges/universities or health care settings.