January 2000

2000

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I am pleased to have this opportunity to once again send news and greetings to the alumni and friends of the School of Nursing. The faculty and staff have been very busy and we have enjoyed an exciting year. The Recruitment and Selection Committee had a very busy Spring interviewing potential faculty. We were very successful and were able to add two new faculty. Both Art Engler and Amy Kenetick are doctorally-prepared Nurse Practitioners, which greatly strengthens the Master’s Program.

With the help of Kate Gable, the School has continued to strengthen our relationship with our alumni. I had the pleasure of hosting alumni receptions at the Connecticut Nurses’ Association Convention, the Massachusetts/Rhode Island Nurses’ Association Convention, the New York Nurses’ Association Convention, and the Sigma Theta Tau International Bicennial Convention. It was a busy Fall season but I had the opportunity to meet many wonderful alumni of the School.

Thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends, we have doubled our annual giving from fiscal year 1998 to fiscal year 1999. The School also received four new endowments and pledges for Scholarships this year. The total amount pledged this year with State matching is $800,000. With an endowment that was received in June, 1998, the total for the School is $945,000. This kind of support will allow the School to recruit and support meritorious and needy students. Thanks to alumni giving, we were able to partially support 10 undergraduate students to attend the 47th National Student Nurses’ Association convention in Pittsburgh, April 21-25, 1999. It was a wonderful experience for the students and their enthusiasm has carried over to this year with a large membership in the UConn Student Nurses’ Association.

The Schools of Nursing, Allied Health, and Pharmacy have formed an Alliance. The goal of this Alliance is to increase collaboration and enhance efficiencies of operation. As Alliance partners, the three Schools will remain independent with individual Deans and separate faculty governance systems, but will work together to pursue common goals and interests through increased coordination and joint planning. We are currently developing a jointly offered introductory course for freshmen and are collaborating on joint recruitment efforts as well.

As with all schools of nursing nationwide, enrollment is down as we face a very severe nursing shortage both in the State and nationally. The School has joined with a national effort, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow, to promote public understanding of nursing’s contribution to meeting the critical human need for quality health care. Alumni and friends can encourage young, bright people to pursue careers in nursing and especially to enroll in the University of Connecticut School of Nursing.

The search for a new Dean continues. The Search Committee is working with a professional search firm and brought three candidates to campus in December, 1999. Although I am enjoying my term as Interim Dean, the School needs a permanent Dean in order to continue growing and meeting the challenges of the next millennium.

Kathleen A. Bruttomesso
DNSc, RN, Interim Dean
Greetings From the Alumni Society President

I am pleased to have this opportunity to once again send news and greetings to the alumni and friends of the School of Nursing.

As President of the Alumni Society, I would like to inform you of some exciting news and changes that are taking place within the organization of our Society.

First, I would like to welcome the new members of our Alumni Board. Lisa Marie Griffiths ’91, Judith Madlley ’98, ’99, Kathleen Renkonen ’94, ’74, Judith Niedererl Kelly ’73; Rosemary DiMaggio Courtney ’56; Lori Johnson ’99. Their willingness to give of their valuable time is what makes our Alumni Society special. Last year we reorganized our School of Nursing Alumni Association and became part of the larger UConn National Alumni Association. This year is one of rebuilding and expanding our outreach and services to alumni and friends. The Board and I hope that you can be a part of our growth as a Society.

We have many events planned (see the calendar on page 17), but I would like to highlight the Graduation Celebration, formerly known as the “Sensor Tea.” This celebration is a great way for you to meet our most important asset, our new graduate nurses, and possibly become a mentor for one of our newest alumni. The mentor program of the School of Nursing Alumni Society is new this year and I feel it is an exciting opportunity for us to help nurture and support these new nurses as they begin their career in nursing. I know you all have many special ideas to share and a comforting ear to listen. Healthcare is in the midst of its most trying times and we need to support each other more now than ever before. Recruitment of students as well as new alumni members is another important goal of the School of Nursing Alumni Society and who better to recruit but our own alumni.

Please participate in one of the School’s upcoming events. In addition to receiving the benefits of attending an event, you will be eligible to win a free dinner at the 4th Annual Alumni Awards Banquet.

Mary Brown ’91, MS, RN, President, School of Nursing Alumni Society

Sigma Theta Tau Mu Chapter

Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, Honor Society of Nursing, was chartered at the University of Connecticut School of Nursing in 1955. Today, the chapter has well over 500 members. Membership is by invitation, and just recently, in November, Mu Chapter inducted 34 new members. Each year at induction, I take great pride in our Society as I hear the words of our induction ceremony. These words describe what membership in Sigma Theta Tau International represents and describe the ideals of the Society.

Let me remind you of what these are:

Membership in Sigma Theta Tau International is an award for individual achievement. It recognizes baccalaureate and higher degree-prepared nurses and students who have demonstrated superior scholastic achievement, academic integrity, professional leadership potential, and marked achievement in the field of nursing. The contributions that Sigma Theta Tau International makes to nursing and society depend on the quality of its members. The character of the membership of Sigma Theta Tau permits the Society to assist in the preparation of future nursing leaders (Sigma Theta Tau International, 1997).

At induction, newly inducted members, as well as our tenured membership, are reminded that we accept the “values and vision that motivated our founders to begin an organization that acknowledges an intellectual and scientific basis for nursing and cultivates the development of nurses scholars and leaders (Sigma Theta Tau International, 1997).” Additionally, we are all reminded of the Greek words, Sigma, Theta, and Tau, and that the letters are inscribed on the Sigma Theta Tau coat of arms. They mean love, honor, and courage, ideals that remain as poignant for today’s nurse, just as they were 77 years ago for our founders. Finally, at the induction ceremony we are informed that we are “an integral part of a formal network” of 403 chapters and more than 200,000 scholars worldwide. This network, as outlined in the 2005 Strategic Plan, will create a “global community of nurses who lead in using scholarship, knowledge, and technology to improve the health of the world’s people” (Sigma Theta Tau International, 1998). Sigma Theta Tau is dedicated to providing leadership in practice, education, and research. As president of Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, I am proud of the contributions of our members, including several members from outside the United States. Mu Chapter members truly are leaders who strive to improve nursing care worldwide.

Left to right: Karyl Burns ’74, ’80, President; Beverley Leggett ’91, Recording Secretary; Diana Norris ’94, ’92, President Elect; Kathleen Brottman, School of Nursing Interim Dean.

I consider myself a native of the District of Columbia because I have lived there on Capitol Hill since 1980. I commute weekly to St. Mary’s as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, MD. During that time, I earned a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Maryland at Baltimore in 1985, and a certificate in neonatal tertiary care from Georgetown University Hospital in 1987. From 1991 to 1993 I worked as a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, MD. I then taught in the new Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Masters Specialty Track at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, from 1993 to 1999. I completed my Doctorate in Nursing Science in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. In addition, I have an active member of Sigma Theta Tau, the National Association of Neonatal Nurses, and the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

My doctoral research was a quantitative study examining maternal grief and sickness impact in the year following a newborn death. I am also involved in a qualitative study looking at the experience of parents of children who are admitted unexpectedly to a critical care unit following a life-threatening illness or injury. Finally, I am ready to begin a study of the impact of Kangaroo Care (skin-to-skin, chest-to-chest holding of the deprived infant by a parent) on maternal stress in the neonatal intensive care unit, using biochemical, biophysical, and psychosocial measures.

In my free time, I enjoy reading mysteries, taking long walks, singing in the Choir of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, and traveling. I am also an active member of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

Arthur J. Engler
Assistant Professor

I am honored to be part of the faculty at UConn. I received my first Bachelor’s degree at UMass Amherst, then I received a BS from Cornell University. New Faculty
Screening Hispanic Mothers for Postpartum Depression

is a 3-year $180,000 grant from The Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donoghue Medical Research Foundation. The primary goal of this research is to improve the detection of postpartum depression in Hispanic mothers by producing a standard Spanish version of the Postpartum Depression Screening Scale (PDSS). Postpartum depression is a cross-cultural mental illness which can have devastating effects for 10-15% of new mothers and their families, including suicide and infant mortality. It has been reported that up to 50% of cases go undetected. The number of live births by mothers of Hispanic origin is rapidly increasing in the U.S. In the case of postpartum depression, where non-English speaking women may be ever more disadvantaged and isolated in their environments and that at more risk for depression than English speaking women, effective screening may be even more important. Validation as well as translation of instruments is needed for use with non-English speaking persons living in the U.S. Back translation will be used to produce the PDSS-Spanish Version. The translation process will involve eight translators who represent the four predominant Hispanic groups in the U.S.: two each from Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba and Central America. Once the PDSS-Spanish version is translated, its psychometric properties will be assessed in two phases. In the first phase, a sample of 350 Hispanic mothers will be recruited from clinical sites in Connecticut and Texas. The reliability and construct validity of the PDSS-Spanish Version will be assessed. In the second phase of this project, a sample of 150 Hispanic mothers will be recruited from the same clinical sites as in Phase 1. These 150 women will complete the PDSS-Spanish Version and the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) and also participate in a structured diagnostic clinical interview for DSM-IV depression disorders. The DSM-IV diagnosis will be the gold standard against which the sensitivity, specificity, and predictive values of the PDSS-Spanish Version will be determined. In Phase 2, data analysis will focus on determining how accurately the PDSS-Spanish Version screened the Hispanic mothers for postpartum depression.

Cheryl T. Beck

Preventing Drug Interactions in Active Older Adults

is an educational intervention to prevent prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) drug and alcohol interactions in active, community living older adults with chronic cardiovascular and neurovascular diseases. The Donoghue Foundation funds the 4-year project. The objectives of the program are to increase older adults' knowledge of potential interactions of prescription medications with OTC drugs and alcohol and to increase their confidence (self-efficacy) in how to avoid such interactions. The "Personal Education Program" (PEP) is an interactive multimedia program housed on large-screen laptops equipped with infrared sensitive touchscreens. Patricia Neasley wrote the software program and designed the touchscreen system. Design consultant Zoe Strickler (formerly of the School of Fine Arts) developed the computer animations. PEP is the first software program created specifically for the learning styles and psychomotor skills of older adults. The project is also the first to use touchscreen-equipped laptops for patient education. Focus groups of older adults evaluated PEP components in a formative manner during development. Four instruments to measure outcomes were developed and tested to use: an objective test to measure knowledge, a self-report measure of self-efficacy, a self-report measure of Rx/OTC drug and alcohol use to study changes in patterns of self-medication, and a satisfaction instrument. The program was piloted with 90 subjects and resulted in large effects for both knowledge and self-efficacy gains. The program is currently being tested in an extended clinical trial in both home and clinic settings. Juliette Sheldon, M’99, project coordinator, and Henrietta Bernal, 68, ’74, Professor, are supervising senior nursing students implementing the home study with clients of the New Britain VNA’s CareLink Program.

Patricia J. Neasley, PhD

Associate Professor

Patricia Neasley: Preventing Drug Interactions in Active Older Adults.

Sponsored by The Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donoghue Medical Research Foundation

Postoperative Pain Communication Skills for Older Adults

is a $186,000 National Institute of Nursing Research Academic Research Enhancement Award. The purpose of this project is to develop and test a videotape that teaches preoperative elders how to manage and communicate their postoperative pain to their health care providers. During Phase 1 of the study, two patient education videotapes were produced. The first videotape teaches elders about general postoperative pain management. The second videotape teaches elders how to more effectively communicate their pain and pain management needs to their nurses and doctors after surgery. The films were based upon previous research conducted by Dr. McDonald and three co-investigators from Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Sheila Thomas, Marigie Freeland ’91, and Juan Mires ’73. The current videotapes were tested with a focus group of elders, and evaluated by a world-renowned geriatric pain expert, Dr. Bruce Ferrell.

Phase 2 of the study will begin on January 5, 2000. The effectiveness of the videotapes will be tested in a study using a pilot trial and three group comparison with repeated measures design. Participating elders who are awaiting surgery for a single total hip or total knee replacement will be randomly assigned. One group of elders will receive the standard preoperative teaching conducted at the hospital. The second group will receive the standard preoperative teaching and the general pain management videotape. The third group will receive the standard preoperative teaching, the general pain management videotape, and the videotape about communicating their pain with their nurses and doctors after surgery. Dr. McDonald will recruit and provide the videotape intervention to the participating elders. Sheila Malony ’66, a Geriatric Clinical Nurse Specialist and doctoral student at the University of Connecticut School of Nursing, will visit the elder participants on their first and second postoperative days and measure their pain using the McGill Pain Questionnaire Short Form. She will also telephone the elders on their first and seventh day after hospital discharge to measure their pain. Data collection will take place at Hartford Hospital and Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, and continue through December, 2000. Older adults who can effectively communicate their pain in a timely way may be more likely to secure changes in their pain management and avoid suffering from poorly managed pain. Elders who receive both the general pain management and pain communication skills educational videotapes are anticipated to experience significantly less pain after their surgery than the elders in the other two groups. If the preoperative patient education videotapes do result in significantly less pain for elders, the videotape will be made available for use in hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, and Nurse Practitioner and physician offices to enhance elders’ postoperative pain management.

Deborah McDonald, PhD, RN

Associate Professor

Deborah McDonald: Postoperative Pain Communication Skills for Older Adults.

Sponsored by the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Strategies to Enhance Patient Outcomes after Coronary Bypass Surgery

is a study to test two learning strategies, modeling and self-modeling, in patients who have had coronary bypass surgery. The objective is to determine if these strategies lead to improved physical activity and exercise behavior in patients with cardiac disease. Patients are being recruited from Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, CT. Those randomized to the self-modeling group receive a videotape of themselves performing the cardiac exercises. Those in the modeling group receive a videotape of a model performing the exercises. Two control groups are included. Follow-up is for one year to determine self-efficacy for exercise and physical activity and exercise levels. The project has been funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research for three years. This is the third year of the study and data collection is scheduled to end this year. The staff at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center has been most supportive. Their contribution to the project is very much appreciated because Clinical Nursing Research needs not only patients to recruit, but also active and enthusiastic facilitation by the staff.

Karyl Burns

PhD, RN, CS

Associate Professor

Karyl Burns: Strategies to Enhance Patient Outcomes after Coronary Bypass Surgery.

Sponsored by the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Research Research Research Research Research Research Research Research Research Research Research
On April 1, 1999, our Spring presentation of the Distinguished Lecturer Series was held in the auditorium of the New Chemistry Building. Our lecturer was Elizabeth Anderson, DrPH, RN, FAAN. Dr. Anderson is a Professor of Health Promotion and Gerontology in the School of Allied Health Sciences and a Professor in the School of Nursing and the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. The title of Dr. Anderson’s lecture was Community in the Third Millennium: Shifting Paradigms. Dr. Anderson’s thought-provoking lecture was extremely well received as she started her presentation wearing a UConn ball cap along with a slide of our men’s basketball team winning the 1999 NCAA championship title.

Due to the uninvited presence of Hurricane Floyd, the Fall Distinguished Lecture had to be cancelled. The good news, however, is that Janice Morse, PhD (Nur), PhD (Anthr), FAAN, has been rescheduled to present at our Spring Distinguished Lecturer Series. Janice Morse is a professor at the University of Alberta. She is also Director of the International Institute for Qualitative Methodology and Editor of Qualitative Health Research. The date of the Spring lecture is Thursday, March 9, 2000. The title of Dr. Morse’s presentation will be “Comfort and Comforting” and CEU’s will be available. The lecture will begin at 4:00pm in the New Chemistry Building’s auditorium (A120). A reception will follow the lecture from 5:00-6:00pm. If you are planning to come to the lecture, please confirm your attendance by calling 860-486-0544. Cheryl T. Beck DNSc, CNM, FAAN, Chair

Distinguished Lecturer Committee

The CareLink Program: Seniors and Students, Partners for Wellness

CareLink is an award winning campus-community partnership that provides services to a community of elders by undergraduate and graduate students in partnership with the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Connecticut, Inc. This central partnership has resulted in the development of community links with churches, senior centers, high schools, family service agen-
The response from the students and the clients has been gratifying and case data show important outcomes are being achieved. Examples of successful interventions include:

1. An elderly man living alone with chronic asthma who had been hospitalized seven times the previous year, but has not been hospitalized since the initiation of home visits by the students. Students developed an easy system for him to take his medication and taught him what steps to take to avoid an asthmatic attack.

2. A woman, diagnosed by a student as having an acute episode of cellulitis, was referred to her physician who started immediate therapy, and averted a hospitalization. Before this intervention, she had usually waited until her condition required hospitalization.

3. In collaboration with an Assisted Living Facility, one of the students conducted fall-risk assessments of the residents and, using other aggregate data, has been able to identify the high-risk areas for falls (bedroom and bathroom) for this population. Falls are the leading cause of untreated injury among the elderly population and cost millions of dollars to the health care system. Future students will collaborate to develop a fall-prevention program in that facility.

4. Outreach to the minority elderly, conducted by a student with the collaboration of area churches, resulted in a blood pressure screening program. Several minority clients at high risk were identified and the services of CareLink were communicated. CareLink is a triumphant program because it has met a growing need in the community for nursing and health care while addressing the needs for community-based student education. It has been a successful partnership that can serve as a model for other similar types of community-campus partnerships.
Please keep the alumni notes coming! They will continue to be published in “Remembrance Books” and in newsletters.

50’s
Catherine Hines Adams ’58 - Jacksonville, FL. Most recently worked as a Professor at The Sage Colleges. Previous employment included working as an Assistant Professor at UConn, Old Dominion University, Berkshire Community College & UMass Boston. Currently Self-Employed. Mail to PO Box 12345, Wethersfield, CT. A sister of two wonderful sisters.

60’s
Carol L. Milardo Fiorani ’68 - Corona, CA. Worked in Thailand as a Cambodian refugee camps for one year. Published in AJN on nursing modalities and Transcultural Nursing. Extensively traveled. Currently employed at Desert Care Network as a Director of Patient Care Services at Hospice Family Care. Previously taught nursing for 20 years. Currently involved in community nursing. Hobbies include painting, travel, and cherishing time spent with family and friends.

80’s
Gayle Pernicka Gabrielli ’89 (Class Agent) - South Windsor, CT. Employed by VNA Health Care, Inc. for 16 years and currently directing a community of care network through a contractual agreement with the UConn Health System.

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Beth Rose Greig ’97 - East Hampton, CT. Currently employed full-time at UConn Health Center’s ICU and per diem with Manchester Memorial’s critical care areas. Married 8 years. Enjoy travel and fishing with husband whenever possible. Has bred, raised, and shown English Bulldogs.

90’s

New Alumni Board Members

Lisa Marie Griffiths ’91 - Vice President. Currently employed at University of Connecticut Health Services on Storrs Campus as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse for Women’s Health Services.


Rosemary DiMaggio Courtney ’56 - Retired from Yale-New Haven Hospital after 25 years in various positions. Worked as a Nurse Educator and Recruiter prior to her most recent position in Hospital Administration, Facilities Planning and Design.

Lori Johnson ’99 - Currently Psychiatric Nurse working as an on-call clinician at the Institute of Living, Hartford Hospital’s Mental Health Network.

Senior Board Members

Margo Brown ’91, President, Vice President Rockville General & Manchester Memorial Hospitals

Robert Goss ’93, ’95, Secretary, Clinical Instructor, UConn SON, Staff Nurse, Lawrence & Memorial Hospital Adult Medical/Surgical

Mary Jane Williams ’92, Treasurer, Associate Professor, Central Connecticut State University

New Replacement Pin Policy

The School of Nursing is pleased to be able to help you replace a lost UConn School of Nursing pin. For more information please contact Mark Amato: 860 486 6403 or by email: nursadm01@uconnvm.uconn.edu

Meet with Connecticut’s Best and Brightest Nurses!

Interested in a forum to meet with students and discuss career and other work opportunities??

To discuss options to: Meet with students
Deliver company-specific information
Recruit in a cost-effective manner

Previous successful marketing approaches have occurred during “Graduation Celebration”, an event hosted by alumni to congratulate the graduating class.

Additional opportunities to advertise through sponsorship are available.

Meet with Connecticut’s best and brightest future nurses.

For more information, we welcome you to contact the Director of Public Relations, Katie Gable, at (860) 486-0613.
We are currently accepting nominations for the following awards to be given at the Storrs, CT 06269-2026 Banquet on October 28, 2000:

- The Carolyn Ladd Widmer Outstanding Alumnus Award for Leadership in Nursing
- The Eleanor K. Gill Outstanding Alumnus Award for Clinical Excellence in Nursing
- The Marlene Kramer Outstanding Alumnus Award for Research in Nursing
- The Beverly Koerner Outstanding Alumnus Award for Education in Nursing

The award criteria are:

1. Outstanding contributions in leadership, clinical excellence, research, or education.
2. Individual alumna or group may be nominated. However, at least one member of the group must be an alumna of a SON degree program.
3. Individual nominated may be living or deceased.

Submit a letter of nomination identifying contributions made, and include the nominee’s curriculum vitae. A faculty committee with Alumnus Board representation will make the selection. Forword your nominations to:

Kathe Gable
School of Nursing
231 Glenbrook Road, U-26
Storrs, CT 06269-2026
Phone: (860) 486-0613
Fax:(860) 486-0001
Email: maudak03@uconnvm.uconn.edu

JDF Walk for a Cure

The School of Nursing called several students, faculty, and staff together for the JDF Walk for a Cure on 9-26-99. Our nursing team enthusiastically raised over $2,100 dollars. Doug Bradway from the UConn Research Foundation did a wonderful job organizing the Storrs Campus Team in his role as a liaison to JDF and the Health Center for the walk. Students were busied from the UConn campus to the celebration site at CIGNA in Bloomfield. There were over 4,000 walkers at CIGNA and the Hartford Chapter exceeded their walker and fundraising goals by raising $510,000 this year (over a half a mil!). UCONN did a fantastic job by raising close to $54,000 ($14,000 of which was due to the efforts on the Storrs campus). The School of Nursing wishes to thank all our team’s generous sponsors and especially the following individuals for their funding efforts and participation in the JDF Walk for a Cure:

Wendy Alperin-Lea ’00
Panda Antaya ’03
Lori Belliveau
Sara Bierley ’03
Jocelyn Brown ’00
Ray Bruntonesso & Family
Kay Bruntonesso
Charles Bruntonesso & Family
Krista Burkhackler ’02
Lynn Celone
Kristine Conlon ’02
Beth Cypres ’00
Christie DeLuca
Beth Disecco ’03
Chelsea Dow ’02
Kathe Gable
Artemis Gaudette ’02
Dierdre Glennon ’03
Karen Grant ’03
Laura Guerrero ’00
Alissa Heindel ’01
Fen Ho
Sochara Ims ’03
Kristina Kulo ’01
Heather Lemanski ’01
Gary Linn
John McNulty ’84
Lynn Michaelson
Denise Otton
Beth Pahlnamm ’00
Lisa Razich ’02
Jill Ray ’01
Kim Traska ’02
Ronny Vereland ’01 & Family

Student News

JDF Walk for a Cure School of Nursing Team

Masters Students Outstanding Clinical Experiences

During the Summer of 1999, 11 Primary Care Nursing Students took an elective course to enhance their clinical skills. Students worked at the United States Coast Guard Academy clinic, community health centers, and in private physician offices in nephrology, cardiovascular, and neuro-ophthalmic medicine. Six students participated in the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Student/Resident Experiences and Rotations in Community Health (SEARCH). Caroline Sullivan ’00, had the opportunity for a SEARCH experience with Migrant Farm Workers in Connecticut. As part of the outreach program from the Vernon Community Health Center, Caroline, with volunteer physicians and medical students from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine, provided primary care at campgrounds and picnic benches under the stars. Scott Credit’s ’00 SEARCH experience took him to the Detroit Health Care for the Homeless in Michigan. With other Nurse Practitioners, Scott provided primary care to homeless individuals, families, refugees, and uninsured persons in clinics and shelters throughout the city. Scott will be a member of the Health Care for the Homeless staff beginning in February, 2000. While learning the role of the Advanced Practice Nurse, whether in the cities or in rural settings, the Primary Care Nursing students from UConn continue to provide quality health care and caring to their clients.

Elizabeth Anderson, PhD, APNR
Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Adult Nurse Practitioner Track

Special Distinguished Lecturer Visit

UConn’s School Of Nursing and the Perioperative Graduate Students were pleased to host a special lecturer in the Fall of 1999. The honored guest was Patricia C. Seifert, RN, MSN, CNOR, CRNFA, President of the Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN). Dr. Seifert gave a special seminar to the Masters Perioperative students and was then joined by some undergraduate Nursing Cluster students for a lovely dinner. Her lecture entitled “From Metaphor To Reality: Patient Advocacy In Perioperative Nursing” was held on Thursday, November 18th, from 6:30-7:30pm at the Thomas Dodd Center’s Kinney Auditorium on the UConn Storrs Campus. Dr. Seifert discussed some of the following topics: legal issues, metaphors and traditions, empowering strategies, and the future role as a moral agent. Dr. Seifert is a strong professional advocate and “cheerleader for nursing” who represents the nation well in addressing the strengths and future concerns of Operating Room Nurses. The School of Nursing is grateful to have such a strong professional advocate and “cheerleader for nursing” who represents the nation well in addressing the strengths and future concerns of Operating Room Nurses. The School of Nursing is grateful to have such a
Homecoming 1999

UCONN School of Nursing
EVENTS

- Mar. 9th - Distinguished Lecturer Series Spring Presentation “Comfort & Comforting” featuring: Janice Morse, PhD (Nurs), PhD (Anthr), FAAN Location: Chemistry A20 Lecture 8:00 p.m. Reception 5:00 p.m. - CEUS WILL BE AVAILABLE.
- Mar. 11th - RN/MS/AGS Information Session Location: West Hartford Campus; Time: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Mar. 16th - Diabetes Education 2000 Conference Locations: Multimarker Project Manager and Research Center Foundation Reservation: Time: 1 - 4:30 p.m. - CEUS WILL BE AVAILABLE. Call 800-486-4262 for program questions.
- Mar. 20-24th - Spring Break
- Mar. 30- Apr. 1st - Eastern Nursing Research Society Convention Locations: Newport, RI
- Mar. 29th - PhD Information Session Location: School of Nursing Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Apr. 13th - Sigma Theta Tau International All Connecticut Chapters 9th Annual Collaborative Research Day Location: Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, CT Time: 1 - 4:30 p.m. - CEUS WILL BE AVAILABLE. Call 860-486-4262 for program questions.
- Apr. 17th - Graduation Celebration Location: Alumni House Time: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Apr. 18th - “Career Opportunities for Nurses in the New Millennium” all-day CEU presentation by Philip A. Kalisch Location: West Hartford Town Hall Time: 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Apr. 27th - PhD Information Session Location: School of Nursing Time: 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- May 1st - RN/MS/AGS Information Session Location: School of Nursing Time: 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- May 8th - 2nd Annual Research Day Location: Student Union Time: 10:00 a.m. Welcome, Room 378; 10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions, 11:30 - 12 noon Scholarship Presentation, 12 noon - 1 p.m. Luncheon and Poster Presentations.

Homecoming Parade
Music of the UConn Marching Band and viewing the wonderfully crafted theme floats.
Homecoming Pre-Game BBQ
Fun and frolicking at the Homecoming Pre-game BBQ. The Dice and Charlie band playing classic hits, kids enjoying a caricaturist, balloon artists, face painters and moon bounce. Friends and fellow classmates gathering in the school and college, group, and organization sponsored tents adorning the mall.
Homecoming Football Game
Pre-Game Husky Hour
Partying at the Alumni House. Hors d’oeuvres, beverages and entertainment.

Big Blue visits the tent as alumni, families, and friends eat lunch.

Homecoming 1999
UConn Homecoming 1999, Spirits of the New Millennium: RIP the 20th Century, kicked off at 9:00 a.m. on October 30, 1999. The School of Nursing tent in the Student Union Mall was bigger and better than ever. Offerings included a continental breakfast, interesting displays, information about the current faculty and state of the School, raffle prizes, fun activities and games for children. The School of Nursing had no trouble decorating the tent for Halloween and our well-used skeleton joined with many other props from the simulated lab to make for a ghoulish but enticing place to hang out for the day. Our very own Professor Cheryl Beck dressed up as Florence Nightingale and joined the nursing students in giving out popcorn and welcoming visitors to our tent. The Alumni Association provided many wonderful activities for alumni, families and friends to participate in. We hope to have you join us next year for more of the same great activities:

Alma Meter Fun Run
All levels of runners and walkers hitting the road for a 3.1 mile race around campus.

KidsK
A non-competitive run for children age 3-11. Distance of 7/10 mile (ages 3-7) and 1.4 miles (ages 8-11).

UConn 2000 Bus Tour
Observing the exciting changes to campus brought about by the UConn 2000 initiative.

Left to Right: School of Nursing Student Workers: Rebecca Friedman, Nelly Gador ’03, Lynn Michaelson

Left to Right: Denise Otton, School of Nursing Staff Member; Cheryl Beck, Professor (dressed as Florence Nightingale); Regina Cusson, Professor
Sharon holds an important position as one of the 15 members of the American Nurses’ Association (ANA) Congress of Nursing Practice. The Congress focuses on long-range policy development essential to the mission of the ANA and establishes a plan of operation for carrying out the Association’s responsibilities. Sharon serves as the American Nurses’ Credentialing Center Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Test Development Committee and on the Maternal-Child Certification Board. In 1999, Sharon was presented with a Distinguished Alumni award from Yale University where she received her Master’s Degree in 1974.

Susan T. Blackburn, PhD, RN, C, FAAN, (Class of ’66) was presented with the Beverly Komer Outstanding Alumni Award for Education in Nursing. Susan is a Professor in the Department of Family and Child Nursing at the University of Washington, Seattle. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Family and Child Nursing at the University of Washington where she serves as co-Director of the Collaborative Health Sciences University of Washington/Doln Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program. Susan has authored numerous publications and has received funding for various research projects. Susan has most recently acted as Co-Principal Director of the Advanced Practice Genetics Nursing Program, funded by the Public Health Service. She currently serves as the Editor of the Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing and has published experience. In 1990, Robin was a Connecticut Nurses’ Association Diamond Jubilarian receiving the Virginia Henderson Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Research. She is the editor of the Quantitative Methods column in Nursing Research.

Clockwise Top Right: Awardee Robin Froman ’84 & ’87, MS, RN and Presenter, Marlene Kramer RN, CS - PNP. Awardee Robin Froman ’84 & ’87, MS, RN, FAAN and Presenter, Marlene Kramer RN, CS - PNP. Awardee Robin Froman ’84 & ’87, MS, RN, FAAN and Presenter, Marlene Kramer RN, CS - PNP.

Third Annual Alumni Awards Banquet

O n October 30, 1999, the School of Nursing presented four Outstanding Alumni Awards and one Distinguished Service Award at the Third Annual Alumni Awards Banquet held at the Hartford Marriott in Rocky Hill. Distinguished award recipients, guest presenters, faculty, alumni celebrating reunions, retired faculty, and other special individuals were present at the ceremony. The alumni awards were established in 1997 as a way to recognize our most talented alumni, as well as to honor the Deans of the School.

Clara Anderson Williams ’56, M.S., RN, was presented with the Carolyn Ladd-Widmer Outstanding Alumni Award for Leadership in Nursing by Michael Widmer. Clara, affectionately known by faculty and students as “Andy”, was first appointed to work as an instructor at the School of Nursing in 1956. She retired as an Assistant Professor Emerita in 1993, and worked part time until 1997. Andy’s tremendous contribution to the Connecticut Nurses’ Association (CNA) included her service on many committees including acting as Secretary and Chair of the Government Relations Council for several years. In 1983, Andy was a Connecticut Nurses’ Association Diamond Jubilarian receiving the Agnes Olson Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Through Political Action. Andy was given an award by the University of Connecticut for excellence in teaching and has also been presented by Sigma Theta Tau, Mu Chapter with the Josephine A. Dolan Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Sharon Bidwell-Cerone ’70, PhD, RN, CS-PNP, was presented with the Eleanor K. Gill Outstanding Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence in Nursing. Sharon is a Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing at the University of Buffalo School of Nursing. As a Certified Perinatal Nurse Practitioner, Sharon holds an important position as one of the 15 members of the American Nurses’ Association (ANA) Congress of Nursing Practice. The Congress focuses on long-range policy development essential to the mission of the ANA and establishes a plan of operation for carrying out the Association’s responsibilities. Sharon serves as the American Nurses’ Credentialing Center Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Test Development Committee and on the Maternal-Child Certification Board. In 1999, Sharon was presented with a Distinguished Alumni award from Yale University where she received her Master’s Degree in 1974.

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Scholarships and Endowments

The School of Nursing wants to thank all of the generous individuals who have contributed to various funds helping support the mission of the school. The School of Nursing is pleased to report that the annual giving doubled over the last year and that there was a tremendous increase in the development of scholarships available to our students. In 1999, the School of Nursing was thrilled to be able to grant the following students scholarships:

• Virginia Charter ‘01 received the L. Marmor Surgical Arts Award. This Fund provides Scholarship support for undergraduates.

• Juliette Shellman ’99 received an award from the Eleanor Gill Scholarship Fund for Spring ’99. This Fund provides a Scholarship for a Master’s Degree Graduate Student in a nursing program.

• Robert Oliver ‘01 received an award from the Fannie E. Becan Scholarship Fund. This Fund provides a Scholarship to a student in the School of Nursing with preference given to Hartford residents.

Scholarship Publications

20

Scholarly Publications

Elizabeth Anderson

Cheryl Beck


Kathryn Hegedus

Debbie McDonald

Patricia Neufy

Carol Polidroni
Doctoral Students

Donna Clemmens

Jeanne Driscoll


Donna Clemmens
Jeanne Driscoll

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Name

Address

Phone

Class

If you would like to discuss planning given, please contact Nancy Schneier at The UConn Foundation (860)256-9965 or (860) 486-6126.

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Establishing an Endowment

Creating common ground: Developing a Heideggerian view of person: a perspective on advanced practice approach.

Name __________________________________________________

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Donna L. Jones Fund

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