January 2000

2000

Kathe Gable
University of Connecticut School of Nursing, kathe.gable@uconn.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://opencommons.uconn.edu/son_unison

Recommended Citation
https://opencommons.uconn.edu/son_unison/8
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 Gahle, 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 Bammau 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

Kathleen A. Bruttomesso
DNSc, RN, Interim Dean

Unison Contents:
Interim Dean’s Notes 1
Greetings From the Alumni Society President 2
Sigma Theta Tau Mu Chapter 2
New Faculty Members 3
Research News 4
Distinguished Lecture Series 6
The CareLink Program 7
Alumni Notes 10
Student News 14
Homecoming Calendar of Events 17
Third Annual Alumni Awards Banquet 18
Scholarship Report 20
Faculty Creativity and Scholarly Publication 22
Honor Roll 24
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 Marley ’98, ’99, Kathleen Renkowicz ’97, Judith Niederseder 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 Society 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 “Senior Tea.” This celebration is a great part of our growth as a Society. 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 that the Greek words, Sigma, Theta, and Tau are inscribed on the Sigma Theta Tau coat of arms. They mean love, honor, and courage, ideals that remain as pertinent today 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 global network” of 460 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, 1999). Sigma Theta Tau is dedicated to promoting 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.

KARYL BURNS ’74-’80, PhD, RN, CS, President Mu Chapter

Left to right: Karyl Burns ’74-’80, President; Beverly Leggitt ’67, Recording Secretary; Elena Norris ’94, ’97, President Elect; Kathleen Grobbennonse, School of Nursing Interim Dean.

Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, Honors 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 that the Greek words, Sigma, Theta, and Tau are inscribed on the Sigma Theta Tau coat of arms. They mean love, honor, and courage, ideals that remain as pertinent today for our nurses, 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 global network” of 460 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, 1999). 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.

KARYL BURNS ’74-’80, PhD, RN, CS, President Mu Chapter

I consider myself a native of the District of Columbia because I have lived there on Capitol Hill since 1980. I commute weekly to Storrs and have enjoyed the travel and variety of living in two such diverse environments. I am original-ly from Ohio, where I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education and Spanish in 1971. I taught junior high and special educations before returning to school, I received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Akron (OH) in 1979. Although I worked for a time as a Public Health Nurse in a sheltered workshop for mentally retarded adults, most of my nursing career has been spent in neonatal intensive care.

Beginning in 1980, I worked at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington as a Staff Nurse, Charge Nurse, and Neonatal Transport Nurse. During that time, I earned a Master of Science in Pediatric Primary Care 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 am an active member of Sigma Theta Tau, the National Association of Neonatal Nurses, and the American Associations 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 newborn infant at a parent) on maternal stress in the neonatal intensive care unit, using biobehavioral, biochemical, and psychosocial measures.

In my free time, I enjoy reading mystery novels, mystery novels, mystery novels, well, I mean really reading mystery novels. I also enjoy walking, 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. ENGEL, DNSc, RNC, CNRN, Assistant Professor

I have lived there on Capitol Hill since 1980. I commute weekly to Storrs and have enjoyed the travel and variety of living in two such diverse environments. I am original-ly from Ohio, where I earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education and Spanish in 1971. I taught junior high and special educations before returning to school, I received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Akron (OH) in 1979. Although I worked for a time as a Public Health Nurse in a sheltered workshop for mentally retarded adults, most of my nursing career has been spent in neonatal intensive care.

Beginning in 1980, I worked at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington as a Staff Nurse, Charge Nurse, and Neonatal Transport Nurse. During that time, I earned a Master of Science in Pediatric Primary Care 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 am an active member of Sigma Theta Tau, the National Association of Neonatal Nurses, and the American Associations 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 newborn infant at a parent) on maternal stress in the neonatal intensive care unit, using biobehavioral, biochemical, and psychosocial measures.

In my free time, I enjoy reading mystery novels, mystery novels, mystery novels, well, I mean really reading mystery novels. I also enjoy walking, 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. ENGEL, DNSc, RNC, CNRN, Assistant Professor

University-New York Hospital School of Nursing’s program for non-nursing college graduates. I stayed on at New York Hospital, working in the neonatal intensive care unit and doing helicopter transports for sick newborns who had been born to drug-addicted mothers. My next job was as a Staff Nurse at a tiny 40-bed hospital in rural southeastern Kentucky. Here the role was a little different. I accompanied tiny babies up to the medical center three hours away by ambulance. While I was in Kentucky, I completed certification as a Nurse-Midwife and as a Family Nurse Practitioner. I received a Master’s Degree in Nursing from the University of Kentucky. Following a stint in private practice as a Midwife in Rhode Island, I became Director of the Midwifery Service at what was then called Boston City Hospital. Since 1990, I have been wearing my “Family Nurse Practitioner hat”. I have worked with nursing home residents and developed interests in pain management, symptom control, and management of end of life issues. I received a PhD in Nursing from the University of Massachusetts. My research focuses on pain and other quality of life issues for nursing home residents. While I have taught for many schools of nursing and Medicine, I am particularly honored to be part of the faculty at UConn. I look forward with excitement to being part of the coming years.

AMY LAUPER KENNEFICK, RN, PhD
Assistant Professor
Screening Hispanic Mothers for Postpartum Depression

Cheryl T. Beck DNSc, CNM, FAAN

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 infanticide. It has been reported that up to 50% of all 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 even more disadvantageous 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. Cross 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 screens the Hispanic mothers for postpartum depression.

Cheryl T. Beck DNSc, CNM, FAAN

Preventing Drug Interactions in Active Older Adults

Patricia J. Neafsey, PhD

In 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 neuromuscular diseases, the Donaghue Medical Research 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 Neafsey wrote the software program and designed the touchscreen system. Design consultant Zee 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 for 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 60 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. Julieette Shellenbarger ’99, project coordinator, and Henrietta Benka ’08, ’74, Professor, are supervising senior nursing students implementing the home study with clients of the New Britain VNA’s CareLink Program.

Patricia J. Neafsey, PhD

Postoperative Pain Communication Skills for Older Adults

Deborah McDonald: Postoperative Pain Communication Skills for Older Adults. Sponsored by The National Institute of Nursing Research.

Deborah McDonald Õ81, PhD, RN

The films were based upon previous research conducted by Dr. McDonald and three co-investigators from Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Sheila Thomas, Marjorie Freeland ’91, and Juan Mínez ’73. The current videotapes were tested with a focus group of elders, and evaluated by a world-renowned geriatric pain expert, Dr. Bruce Ferril.

Phase 2 of the study will begin on January 5, 2000. The effectiveness of the videotapes will be tested in a study using a posttest-only 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 McKinny ’96, 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 day 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 education 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 Õ81, PhD, RN

Professor

Sponsored by The National Institute of Nursing Research.

Strategies to Enhance Patient Outcomes after Coronary Bypass Surgery

Karyl Burns: Strategies to Enhance Patient Outcomes after Coronary Bypass Surgery. Sponsored by the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Karyl Burns Õ54, ’80, PhD, RN, CS

Associate Professor

Sponsored by The National Institute of Nursing 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 unintentional 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.

Henrietta Bernal ’68, ’74, PhD, RN, Professor
Please keep the alumni notes coming! They will continue to be published in “Remembrance Books” and in newsletters.

50’s

Catherine Hnes 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 & University of Massachusetts. UConn, Old Dominion University, Virginia Ives Bishop; Elisabeth Adomat Deluca

59 -

Gayle Pernicka Gabrielli ’60 - Coosia, CA. Worked in Thailand in Cambodian refugee camps for one year. Published in AJN on nursing modalities and Transcultural Nursing. Extensively traveled. Currently employed as Director of Patient Care Services at Hospice Family Care. Previously taught nursing for 20 years. Received a MS from Assumption College.

80’s

Carol E. Mildara Flomani ’65 - Phoenix, AZ. Currently employed at Arizona State University as a Programmer. Enjoy pool, needlecraft, cooking, and interesting conversation. Recently composed a cookbook with special recipes collected from friends. Enjoy traveling to CT to visit friends.

Virginia Ives Bishop ’69 - Glastonbury, CT. Home care has been main field of work. Employed with non-profit organization in Morden, CT, for the last 12 years. Married in 93 to Benjamin Bishop. Recently designed and built a new home in Glastonbury. Four sons, mutual love for travel, jewelry business, friends and family keep our lives full and busy.

Sandi M. Hillman ’69 - Rossell, GA. Currently, Associate Professor of nursing at Kent State University. President and founder of consulting business, Hillman Consulting International. Previous consulting work included developing a comprehensive community-based care management program.
Beth Ross Grog ’97 - East Hampton, CT. Currently employed by Hartford Hospital Physician Organization. Spent the last 25 years at Hartford Hospital in a variety of roles; Staff Nurse, Nursing management, information systems management, business management & now as a manager in the Joint Venture entry between Hartford Hospital and its physicians. Received MS in Health Administration from Baylor University.

90’s

Catherine Draken Pease ’89 - Vernon, CT. Employed full-time at UConn Health Center’s ICU and pediatrics with Manchester Memorial’s critical care areas. Married 8 years. Enjoys travel and fishing with husband whenever possible. Has bred, raised, and shown English Bulldogs.

Michael Rafana

Michael Rafana ’88 - Middletown, CT. Working for Alliance Imaging Inc., assisting with lithotripsy procedures in a traveling practice across the US. After helping position & localize the kidney stone, the nurse monitors the patient’s EKG and demonstrates if some cases the shock waves, can irritate the myocardium causing PVCs. Hall of the challenge of my job involves getting to work! I am in a different city daily. It can be a lot of fun. I have seen cities I might have never seen, and been to small country towns in the middle of nowhere.

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.


Robert Gosty ’95, ’96, Secretary, Clinical Instructor, UConn SON, Staff Nurse, Lawrence & Memorial Hospital Adult Medical/Surgical


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 Armati: 860 486-6403 or by emailmaratiml01@uconnvm.uconn.edu
Student News

Accepting Award Nominations

We are currently accepting nominations for the following awards to be given at the Fourth Annual Alumni Awards 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 alumni or group may be nominated. However, at least one member of the group must be an alumnus 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 Alumni Board representation will make the selection. Forward your nominations to

Kathie Gable
School of Nursing
231 Glenbrook Road, U-26
Storrs, CT 06269-2026
Phone: (860) 486-0613
Fax:(860) 486-0001
Email:
muradon03@uconnvm.uconn.edu

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-opthalmic 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 Version 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 clinics 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, APRN
Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Adult Nurse Practitioner Track

JDF Walk for a Cure

The School of Nursing rallied several students, faculty, and staff together for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (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 bused from the UConn campus to the celebration site at CIGNA in Bloomfield. There were over 4,000 walks at CIGNA and the Hartford Chapter exceeded their walker and fundraising goals by raising $510,000 this year (over a half a mill). 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 fundraising efforts and participation in the JDF Walk for a Cure:

Wendy Alperin-Lea ’00
Paula Antaya ’03
Lori Belliveau
Sara Bierley ’03
Jocelyn Brown ’00
Ray Bentromesso & Family
Kay Bentromesso
Charles Brunonesso & Family
Krista Burkharder ’02
Lynn Celone
Kristine Condon ’02
Beth Cyphers ’00
Christie Deluca
Beth Deuceecco ’03
Chelsea Dowle ’02
Kathe Gable
Artemis Gaudette ’02
Dierdre Glennon ’03
Karen Grant ’03
Laura Guerrero ’00
Alissa Heindel ’01
Fen Ho
Sochara Im ’03
Kristina Kulo ’01
Heather Lemanski ’01
Gary Linn
John McNulty ’84
Lynn Michelle
Denise Otton
Beth Pahlmann ’00
Lisa Razbi ’02
Jill Ray ’01
Kim Trefa ’02
Rommy Vredeh ’01 & Family

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. Sedert, RN, MSN, CNOR, CRNFA, President of the Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN). Dr. Sedert 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 Konover Auditorium on the UConn Storrs Campus. Dr. Sedert discussed some of the following topics: legal issues, metaphors and traditions, empowering strategies, and the future role as a moral agent. Dr. Sedert is a strong professional advocate and “cheerleader for nursing” who represents the nation well at the forefront of Nursing. 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 clinics 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, APRN
Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Adult Nurse Practitioner Track

JDF Walk for a Cure

The School of Nursing rallied several students, faculty, and staff together for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (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 bused from the UConn campus to the celebration site at CIGNA in Bloomfield. There were over 4,000 walks at CIGNA and the Hartford Chapter exceeded their walker and fundraising goals by raising $510,000 this year (over a half a mill). 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
Big Blue visits the tent as alumni, families, and friends eat lunch.

Homecoming 1999

UC Connie 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 3/10 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.

EVENTS

- Mar. 9th - Distinguished Lecturer Series: Spring Presentation “Comfort & Comforting” featuring: June Marie, PhD (Nurs), PhD (Anthr), FAAN
Location: Chemistry 120 Lecture 4-30 pm
Reception: 5:00 pm - CEUS WILL BE AVAILABLE
- Mar. 11th - RN/MASG Information Session
Location: West Hartford Campus
Time: 10 - 12:00 noon
- Mar. 16th - Diabetes Education 2000 Conference
Location: Martha’s Vineyard
- Mar. 20-24th - Spring Break
- Mar. 29th - PhD Information Session
Location: School of Nursing
Time: 6 - 8:00 pm
- Apr. 13th - Sigma Theta Tau International All Connecticut Chapters 9th Annual Collaborative Research Day
Location: Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, CT
- Apr. 15th - Open House for admitted Fall ’00 undergraduates
Time: Welcome / Reception 10 am - 12 pm Alumni Lunch 12 noon
- Apr. 17th - “Career Opportunities for Nurses in the New Millennium” day
- Apr. 26th - RN/MASG Information Session
Location: School of Nursing
Time: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Apr. 27th - PhD Information Session
Location: School of Nursing
Time: 6 - 8:00 pm
- May 1st - RN/MASG Information Session
Location: School of Nursing
Time: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- May 8th - 2nd Annual Research Day
Location: Student Union
Time: 10:00 am Welcome, Room 378; 10:15 - 11:30 am Concurrent Sessions; 11:30 - 12 noon Scholarship Presentation; 12 noon - 1 pm 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 Dave 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
Parrying at the Alumni House. Hors d’oeuvres, beverages and entertainment.

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

Left to Right: Denise Otton, School of Nursing Staff Member; Cheryl Beck, Professor (dressed as Florence Nightingale); Regina Cusson, Professor

UCONN
School of Nursing

Homecoming 1999
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, BS, 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 1958. She retired as an Assistant Professor Emerita in 1992, 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 Ohlson 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 Bidwill-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 Pediatric 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 Alumnae award from Yale University where she received her Master’s Degree in 1974.

Susan T. Blackburn, PhD, RN, C, FAAN, (Class of ’86) was presented with the Beverly Koerner 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 at the University of Oregon where she serves as Co-Director of the Collaborative Health Sciences University of Washington/Children’s Hospital Nursing Practice Program. Susan has authored numerous publications and has received funding for various research projects. Susan has most recently acted as Co-Project Director of the Advanced Practice Genetics Nursing Program, funded by the Public Health Service. She currently serves as the Editor of the Journal of Neonatal and Pediatric Nursing and has been presented with the Distinguished Leader in Neonatal Nursing Award from the National Association of Neonatal Nurses. Susan also received a Distinguished Teaching Award from the University of Washington.

Robin Froman, PhD, RN, FAAN, (Classes of ’84 & ’87) was presented with the Marlene Kramer Outstanding Alumni Award for Research in Nursing. Robin is currently Professor and Associate Dean for Research at the University of Texas Medical Branch. Prior to working at UTMB, Robin was a Professor and Director of the Center for Nursing Research at the University of Connecticut. She had also served as the Health Promotion Department Chairperson and Interim Associate Dean. Robin presently serves on the editorial boards of several well-known nursing journals and has extensive publishing 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 the Virginia Henderson Book Collection, the Josephine Dolan Papers, the Connecticut School of Nursing Alumni Collection and the Wilcox College School of Nursing Papers for the Nursing Leadership Archives. In 1992, Eleanor was a Connecticut Nurses’ Association Diamond Jubilarian receiving the Josephine A. Dolan Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Education.
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. Marmoor Surgical Arthritis 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 Ferdinand & Tamara Callands ‘03, recipient of the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship ‘98 – ‘00.

- **Eleanor Gill Scholarship** 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.

- **Virginia Charter ‘01** received the L. Marmoor Surgical Arthritis 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 Ferdinand & Tamara Callands ‘03, recipient of the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship ‘98 – ‘00.

Scholarships and Endowments

- **Virginia Charter ‘01** received the L. Marmoor Surgical Arthritis 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 Ferdinand & Tamara Callands ‘03, recipient of the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship ‘98 – ‘00.

Elizabeth Anderson

Additionally, the School of Nursing is pleased to announce that the Presec Fund Family Nursing Scholarship, the Nursing Scholar Fund and the Mary Barbara Rice Scholarship have recently been established to help support nursing students in the School. The School of Nursing continues to maintain the Nursing Scholarship Fund that can provide scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students at the School of Nursing. We thank all alumni and friends who have gener-

- **Virginia Charter ‘01** received the L. Marmoor Surgical Arthritis 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 Ferdinand & Tamara Callands ‘03, recipient of the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship ‘98 – ‘00.

Donald Brenner and Tamara Callands ‘03, recipient of the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship ‘98 – ‘00.

- **Tara Beren 02** received The Ralph & Ruby Gilman Scholarship for the ‘99 - ‘00 academic year. This Scholarship fund supports tuition and fees for students of the School of Nursing.

- **Ann Mollie ‘02** received The Amanda and Jacob Brax Memorial Scholarship for the ‘99 - ‘00 academic year. This scholarship fund provides aid and support for students in the School of Nursing.

- **Ann Mastromasi ‘00** received The Amanda and Jacob Brax Memorial Scholarship for the ‘99 - ‘00 academic year. This scholarship fund provides aid and support for students in the School of Nursing.

- **Jennifer Pope ‘00** received the Edgar, Clark & Blanch Scholarship for Fall ’99. This fund provides aid to an undergraduate nursing student.

- **Jamie Trojanowski ‘00** received the Dorothy Solomon Schuman Memorial Scholarship for Fall ‘99. This fund provides aid to an undergraduate nursing student.

- **Tamar A. Callands ’03** received the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship for the ‘99 - ‘00 Academic year.

This fund provides support to a student from Fairfield County who has shown service and best exemplifies Christine Yoran Brenner’s values.

Additionally, the School of Nursing is pleased to announce that the Presec Fund Family Nursing Scholarship, the Nursing Scholar Fund and the Mary Barbara Rice Scholarship have recently been established to help support nursing students in the School. The School of Nursing continues to maintain the Nursing Scholarship Fund that can provide scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students at the School of Nursing. We thank all alumni and friends who have gener-

- **Virginia Charter ‘01** received the L. Marmoor Surgical Arthritis 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 Ferdinand & Tamara Callands ‘03, recipient of the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship ‘98 – ‘00.

Donald Brenner and Tamara Callands ‘03, recipient of the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship ‘98 – ‘00.

- **Tara Beren 02** received The Ralph & Ruby Gilman Scholarship for the ‘99 - ‘00 academic year. This Scholarship fund supports tuition and fees for students of the School of Nursing.

- **Ann Mollie ‘02** received The Amanda and Jacob Brax Memorial Scholarship for the ‘99 - ‘00 academic year. This scholarship fund provides aid and support for students in the School of Nursing.

- **Ann Mastromasi ‘00** received The Amanda and Jacob Brax Memorial Scholarship for the ‘99 - ‘00 academic year. This scholarship fund provides aid and support for students in the School of Nursing.

- **Jennifer Pope ‘00** received the Edgar, Clark & Blanch Scholarship for Fall ’99. This fund provides aid to an undergraduate nursing student.

- **Jamie Trojanowski ‘00** received the Dorothy Solomon Schuman Memorial Scholarship for Fall ‘99. This fund provides aid to an undergraduate nursing student.

- **Tamar A. Callands ’03** received the Christine Yoran Brenner Scholarship for the ‘99 - ‘00 Academic year.

This fund provides support to a student from Fairfield County who has shown service and best exemplifies Christine Yoran Brenner’s values.

Additionally, the School of Nursing is pleased to announce that the Presec Fund Family Nursing Scholarship, the Nursing Scholar Fund and the Mary Barbara Rice Scholarship have recently been established to help support nursing students in the School. The School of Nursing continues to maintain the Nursing Scholarship Fund that can provide scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students at the School of Nursing. We thank all alumni and friends who have gener-
Doctoral Students

Donna Clemens


Jeanne Driscoll


Sheila Ostran


Sheila Molony


Susan Storts


Creating common ground: Developing values, beliefs and customs into pregnancy education.

Planning Giving

Provide for the School of Nursing in estate plans Transferring Appreciated Securities (no long term capital gains to you) Establishing a Life-Income Gifts

Name

Address

Phone

Class of

If you would like to discuss planning gift, please contact Nancy Schneier at the UConn Foundation (860)255-9965 or (860)486-6216.

Matching Gift from will match your contribution.

Be an Angel! We Deeply Appreciate Your Support! Please Consider Any of the Following:

Joining the Alumni Association/School of Nursing Society

Making an outright Major Gift of Cash or Appreciated Securities.

Transferring Appreciated Securities (no long term capital gains to you)

Establishing a Life-Income Gifts

If you would like to discuss planned giving, please contact Nancy Schneier at the UConn Foundation (860)255-9965 or (860)486-6216.

Matching Gift from will match your contribution.

If you would like to discuss planning gift, please contact Nancy Schneier at the UConn Foundation (860)255-9965 or (860)486-6216.
Faculty Members

Lynn Allen, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor
Elizabeth Anderson, PhD, APRN, Clinical Professor
Cheryl Beck, DNSc, CNM, FAAN, Professor
Hennaric Boran, PhD, RN, FNP
Tom Brown, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor
Kathleen Brunstrom, DNSc, RN
Kathy Burnham, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor
Jeanie Davis & Associate Professor
Kayd Bums, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor

Part-Time and Special Payroll Employees

Laura Anderson, ’98, MS, ARNP, ACNP-CS, Lecturer
Jake Albertscheid, PhD, ABABM, Lecturer
Lucy Beyerun, RN, Lecturer
Deno Beshath, MSN, RN, Lecturer
Patricia Burke, MS, RN, Lecturer
Dona Chismar, MSN, RN, Lecturer
Helen Dry, MS, RN, Lecturer
Elizabeth Epp, MS, MT (ASCP), SM, Lecturer
Valerie Fischer, ’79, MS, RN, Lecturer
Rob Green, 88, MS, RN, Lecturer
Monica Hansson, MSN, RN, CNA, DNSc, ARNP, Lecturer
Mary Ellen Johnson, MS, RN, Lecturer
Wendy Flieller, RN, MS, Lecturer
Leza Kudlick, ’79, ’87, MS, RN, Lecturer
Yvette McCarron, PhD, Lecturer
Sakora Neumohamed, MSN, RN, Lecturer
Dana Noon, ’83, MS, RN, Lecturer
Shola Olowe, MSN, RN, Lecturer
David Ryan, ’98, MS, RN, Lecturer

Please forgive any inadvertent omissions. If your name has been misprinted or listed incorrectly, please call the Development office at (860) 486-5600 so that we may correct our errors! We thank you for your continued support of the School of Nursing.