

Hartwick Nursing News

Winter 2012

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Jeanne-Marie Havener
Ph.D., APRN, CNS, FNP

In the courses I teach, I am reminded on a near daily basis of the transformational leadership role nurses play at all levels of an organization. More than ever, nurses are called upon to function as members of multidisciplinary teams, use knowledge, and advocate at and beyond the bedside for much-needed improvements in the quality, safety, efficiency, and efficacy of health care. The nurse graduate of today must be a good team player who is able to embrace change and navigate the “permanent white water” (Vaill, 1996) of a very challenging and complex healthcare system. Thankfully, for our new graduates and those of us in nursing education, there is hope on the horizon in the form of nurse residency programs, such as the one we are collaborating on with Bassett Medical Center. In July, Bassett learned it was the recipient of a three-year Health Resource Services Administration grant on which Hartwick’s Department of Nursing is the collaborating educational partner. This year-long residency program provides newly minted graduates a supportive transitional path as they move from novice to advanced beginner to competent practitioner. Educational offerings focus on the further development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills, interdisciplinary collaboration, and conflict resolution. Nurse-residents are offered clinical classes, individualized bedside teaching, and mentoring as they synthesize the knowledge they have gained into practice. These programs have been demonstrated to increase nurse retention and the engagement of nurses in governance and leadership. We are so pleased to be working with our clinical partner on this program and even more so to have five of our new graduates participating in the program. Additionally, we are pleased to have two other Bassett nurse-residents join our Partnership for Nursing Opportunities Program.

STUDENT NEWS

Nursing Students Without Borders

By Penny Boyer
Associate Professor of Nursing

The Nursing Students Without Borders organization welcomed four new student leaders this year: President **Erin Sprague '13**, Vice President **Taylor Hellstrom '13**, Treasurer **Cassie Jonaitis '13**, and Secretary **Frances Nesi '13**.

In keeping with the organization’s mission to educate, build networks, and help people in need, the organization has sponsored some interesting events. In October, the group held a T-shirt painting party, during which attendees painted pink health messages about breast cancer on white T-shirts to be worn on campus. In addition, a ZUMBA class was held to raise money for breast cancer.

Also during October, a clothing-and-hospital-supplies drive was initiated to garner items for a rural hospital in Guatemala. To coincide with the upcoming National Aids Awareness Week, members will canvass students and faculty for support to buy HIV testing kits and paint the wall (located at the lower entrance to Hartwick) for AIDS awareness. Finally, NSWB is supporting Hartwick Identity Alliance and Amnesty International clubs by donating \$50 to provide condoms for people in Haiti.

Jaime deJager Receives John Christopher Hartwick Scholarship

By Jaime deJager '12

Coming from a very small town in downstate New York, and being the first in my family to attend college, I never would have guessed I would be one of six Hartwick students selected to receive the John Christopher Hartwick Scholarship. I owe this not only to my own hard work, but to that of my professors and the Hartwick community.

I have had many opportunities to be involved in myriad activities at

Hartwick. I was a member of the cheerleading squad and equestrian team, as well as a resident advisor of Saxton Hall for two years. I am still heavily involved in the tutoring program, Blue Key, and Alpha Omicron Pi.

I am thankful for these opportunities. While I am excited to leave and enter the real world as a nurse, I can honestly say I will miss Hartwick and my experiences here more than anything.

2011 Honors Convocation Award Winners for Nursing

Honors Convocation recognizes Hartwick students and faculty for the significant academic and scholarly contributions they made to the College during the academic year. The following nursing students were honored on May 12, 2011.

Christy M. Traynor

A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital Excellence in Clinical Practice Award

Megan F. Conroy

Harriet Babcock Nursing Scholarship

Carly Ramos

Emerson International Internship Scholarship

Anna J. Arnold, Colleen R. Moran, and

Rebecca J. Martt

Honor Society Inductees

Jamie deJager, Carly Ramos

Faculty Scholars Nursing

Jaimie deJager

2011-12 John Christopher Hartwick Scholar

Rebecca J. Martt

Hartwick College Honors Program

Courtney R. Smith

Edith M. Lacey Memorial Nursing Award

Sarah E. Briggs

Nursing Alumni Memorial Scholarship

Sandra V. Rosario

Omicron Rho Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau Award

Elizabeth G. Scholl

Andrew B. Saxton Undergraduate Fellowship in Nursing

Carly Ramos

Grace Jones Spain Scholarship in Nursing

Chelsea E. Sharpe

Albert & Helen J. Ubert Scholarship

Students Present Theses, Research

By Penny Boyer, Associate Professor of Nursing

Several RN mobility students in Associate Professor of Nursing **Penny Boyer**’s senior thesis class presented their theses on May 5 at a poster session at Bassett Medical Center’s Regional Research Evening.

Harpreet Kaur | Strategies for Community and ER Nurses to Improve Detection and Prevention of Child Abuse

Alicia Sagendorf | Nurses’ Role in Promoting Coping Strategies in Adult Spinal Cord Injuries

Rachel Gural | Effective Nursing Management of Malnutrition Post Gastric Bypass Surgery

Kristen Puffer | Improving Nurses’ Cardiac Triage Decisions in the Emergency Department.

On May 13, several students enrolled in Assistant Professor of Nursing **Cynthia Ploutz**’ gerontologic nursing course presented at the Scholar Showcase. Topics focused on the predominant themes of the course, including promotion of positive perspectives on aging and enhancing the health and well-being of elderly population in any setting. Interactive presentations included:

Allison Kist and Amber Sellevold | Alzheimer’s Artistry

Elizabeth Scholl and Lauren Weed | Mutt Medicine, Animal Assisted Therapy with the Elderly

Natasha Biltucci, Sarah Briggs, Kara Kinne, Kyla Mininger, and Nevin Perez | Secrets to a Longer Life, What Can You Do?

Brittany Baughman, Staci Daddio, and Courtney McGrath | Yield to the Elderly

Two seniors also presented theses during this year’s Showcase:

Anna Arnold RN | Improving the Health of Impoverished Children

Ogechukwu Mbamalu | Effective Strategies for Recruiting Retaining African American Nursing Students



In her role on the editorial board of the *New York Nurse*, Professor of Nursing **Peggy Jenkins** has assisted students to publish critiques of the literature, including: **Abby Hoffay '12**, review of Pluss, C., Billing, E., Held, C., Henriksson, P., Kiessling, A., Karlsson, M., & Wallen, H.N. (2011); **Christie Traynor '11**, review of Kirchhoff, K. T. & Kowalkowski, J. A. (2010); **Colleen Moran '11**, review of Natan, M.B. & Lowenstein, A. (2010); **Liz Scholl '12**, review of Churchman, J. & Doherty, C. (2010); and **Jamie De Jager '12**, review of Kory, P., et al. (2011).

This fall, Hartwick College welcomed eight registered nurses from Bassett Healthcare to the Partnership for Nursing Opportunities Program. These RNs, enrolled in Professor of Nursing **Jeanne-Marie Havener**’s Nursing Transitions course, will complete degree requirements to obtain a bachelor of science with a major in nursing in 2013: Linda Beers, surgical; Laura Bennett, cardio-vascular care; Bruce Grover, manager, CVCU; Tiffany Grover, surgical; Michele Hendricks, CVCU; Kelly Morris, oncology; Andrew Oaks, medical; Tina Riordan, OR; Tanya Streeter, CVCU.

Seniors Sponsor Health Fair

On November 4, senior nursing students in Associate Professor of Nursing **Tina Sullivan**’s Community Health course put on a health fair at Morris Central School. The goal of the fair was to educate gradeschool students about public-health issues such as diet, exercise, high blood pressure, tobacco use, and teen pregnancy. Students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade attended the fair and learned about methods to promote health and reduce their health risks. The nursing students set up live demonstrations and display stations in the gymnasium. Students stopping at each station were given pamphlets and informational sheets to bring home or discuss in their health class.

The event was well-received by both students and faculty. Many expressed their thanks for the useful knowledge they gained by attending the fair. Sullivan, who coordinated the event, also is the nurse-practitioner at the school-based health center, operated by Bassett Healthcare in Morris. This is the first year Hartwick nursing students have put on the health fair, and we look forward to participating again next year!



O'Connor Chair Lecture Fall 2011 Featured Terry Fulmer

Terry Fulmer, RN, FAAN, was the featured speaker during October's O'Connor Chair of Nursing Lecture Series. Her evening lecture addressed the Institute of Medicine's *Report on the Future of Nursing*. She provided faculty and student workshops on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and her work on the Future of nursing and her research.

"Older adults often need help with activities of daily living," she said, "and when they're very ill, they often need help with geriatric syndromes such as incontinence, confusion, and falls, and that's all in the domain of nursing care. A physician might diagnose those problems, but it's the nursing practice that creates a care plan to address them. With older patients, the most important component of care, by far, is nursing care."

Fulmer is dean of the Bouve College of Health Sciences at Northeastern University in Boston. Her program of research focuses on acute care of the elderly and elder abuse and neglect. She has served on numerous national boards that examine issues of the elderly and nursing issues. A former Brookdale National Fellow, she is a Distinguished Practitioner of the National Academies of Practice, a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, the Gerontological Society of America, and the New York Academy of Medicine, and is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine. She was the first nurse to be elected to the board of the American Geriatrics Society and the first nurse to serve as the president of the Gerontological Society of America.

FACULTY NEWS

Cynthia Ploutz is nearing completion of a nine-month training and certification as a Level 1 Validation worker with The Validation Training Institute: www.vvalidation.org. The certification involves weekly clinical practice and application of validation methods with residents at a local long term care facility. Validation therapy has been used since the 1950s and was developed by Naomi Feil (Feil, 2003). Communication is one of the essential skills of any HCP, and this therapy enhances the capability of nurses and other healthcare workers in listening and focusing on the real needs of a person with dementia and confusion, to improve quality of life, reduce agitation, aggression, anxiety and depression, and assist in resolution of life issues. (Feil, 2003). Feil, N. (revised with de Klerk-Rubin, V.) (2003). *V/F Validation: The Feil Method*. Cleveland, Ohio: Edward Feil Productions

Professor **Peggy Jenkins** has contributed a chapter on drugs for treating Parkinson's disease for *Aschenbrenner & Venable's* third edition of *Drug Therapy in Nursing*. (Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins).

Dr. **Jeanne-Marie Havener** was appointed a member of the Bassett Research Institute and the advisory board to SUNY IT. In addition, she is chairing the articulation task force for the NYS Council of Deans.

Lynda Selover, director of the Partnership for Nursing Opportunities Program with Bassett, retired at the end of the fall semester. She joined the department in 1992 and has been instrumental in the development of the RN Mobility program. Her pleasant nature and caring demeanor endeared Lynda to all her students and co-workers alike. She worked very closely with Alice Lichtenstein, setting up classes for the RNMO students.

Jenny Morissette retired in June 2011 from the Department of Nursing. Jenny had been with the department since 1995. Her 16-year career began as secretary of nurse recruiting. In 2001, she added to her responsibilities, taking on the role of Secretary, Nursing Recruitment, RN Mobility & Continuing



Professors **Terry Turick-Gibson**, MS, APRN-BC, PNP, and **Tina M. Sullivan**, Ph.D., APRN-BC, FNP, as nurse practitioners in Bassett Medical Center's School-Based Health Program, were recently part of a team of NPs awarded the 2011 Magnet Prize by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) and Cerner Corporation. The Magnet Prize is the highest honor ANCC bestows within Magnet-recognized organizations and recognizes innovative nursing programs and practices.

Education. This involved assisting with the coordination of the Partnership for Nursing Opportunities with Bassett Healthcare. Jenny worked with Linda Selover and the Partnership Program. She was also instrumental in assisting Dr. Havener with the development and implementation of the 18-month Accelerated Nursing program. Jenny worked closely with incoming students, and coordinated the nursing newsletter, O'Connor Chair Lectures, and many more activities within the nursing department. Jenny's day-to-day presence and pleasant personality is missed by faculty and students. She has retired to her home in Florida with her husband, John.

The Nursing Department would like to welcome **Donna Decker** to Hartwick and the Department of Nursing. Donna is the new full-time Coordinator of Nursing Opportunities, working with all prospective students, handling the department's marketing efforts and signature events, and working as a liaison between the department and Admissions, Advising and Registration, and Marketing.

New Arrival: 'The Sim Baby'

Thanks to the generosity of President **Margaret L. Drugovich**, the department is pleased to announce the newest addition to our Learning Lab, SimBaby! An offspring of SimMan and SimAnnie, SimBaby is an advanced infant patient simulator that can be programmed for case-based learning or assessment purposes, allowing students to practice technical skills and critical thinking in a risk-free environment. This is the first step in upgrading all of the equipment, task trainers, curricular technology, and simulation equipment in the lab. Such improvements are made possible through grants, lab fees, and your continued financial support of our dedicated lab fund. If you are a donor, please accept our thanks for your support. If you have never donated, we could use your financial help. This spring, we hope to purchase Sim Annie (after all, the baby does need a mother), which will allow students to practice numerous assessment and technical skills. Your support goes a long way toward that goal. Even the smallest donation helps.

ALUMNI NEWS

Gabby Evans '11 has moved to North Carolina, accepting a position in a nurse residency program at Wake Forest Baptist Health in Winston-Salem.

Rachel Karker '11 has accepted a full-time position with St. Peters in Albany, NY, in the medicine/oncology unit. Rachel writes that the unit is absolutely gorgeous, with large bay windows and plenty of comfortable work space. She also wanted to thank Jeanne-Marie for all the guidance she provided her throughout the years. "I truly couldn't ask for a better role model than you."

Ashley Learned '10 lives and works in Boston as a school/day rehabilitation nurse for children with disabilities and children of low-income families, including homeless children. She works with children of all ages, from 3 weeks to 25 years. She is responsible for the oversight of more than 100 children. Ashley credits the nursing faculty "for the priceless education that I received. I jumped into this position

head first, even though I was scared beyond belief, but I have been working there for almost a year now and I couldn't be happier."

Marian Cadman Wemple '56 has gathered the correspondence she had with her parents during the first two years she attended Hartwick College, along with related illustrations, and added commentaries contrasting a college nursing student's experience then and now. If anyone is interested in reminiscing about the "good old days" or contrasting the experience then with that of today, she will print, bind, and mail you an illustrated copy to cover her expenses of \$25. She can be contacted at mwemple@lamar.colostate.edu or her postal address, 900 Worthington Circle, No. 324, Fort Collins, CO 80526.

Kaissa Benth '12-RNOP, a member of the first graduating class of accelerated nursing students, gave birth to a baby girl, Makayla Rose, on November 29.

Ihona van der Ven '13: *The Bouquet of Life* is something I created during January Term 2011. The class was titled Claystillation, a combination of clay and an installation. Our class had a short 14 days to create a mini-

imum of 100 pieces that we would combine into a piece of work, an instillation. Being a nursing student, I started making bones, red blood cells, fingers, ears, and other little body parts that combined to make *The Bouquet of Life*. It is so wonderful to have this opportunity at Hartwick, to be able to be enrolled in a highly competitive, well-accredited nursing program, yet have the freedom and support to enjoy a month-long intensive art class exploring my creative side.

