

Hartwick Nursing News

Winter 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



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

At this time of year, as the cold winds start to blow and we turn our attention from the holidays, I am more mindful than ever of those in need. Like most of you I find myself asking, what is my responsibility in this world; and, how do I best use my finite time, treasures, and talents to create a better future? For most of us the answer is not so simple—there are so many worthy causes; but, as the Chair of *your* Nursing alma mater I ask you to carefully consider giving back to Hartwick and/or the Department. In these particularly dicey economic times many of our students not only have to worry about grades but the ability to pay for books, school supplies, gas, or, in some cases, tuition because of dire financial need. As nurses I know all of you understand that, despite current low vacancy rates seen across the country, the nursing shortage is still very real and looming on the horizon. I humbly ask you to think very seriously about making a donation, no matter how big or small, to the College and/or Department so that others might benefit from a Hartwick nursing education—a gift that will surely keep giving for years to come. Thank you so much and best wishes for the New Year.



Pinning Ceremony on May 28, 2010 | Congratulations to Nursing seniors Theresa Au, Alexandra Brophy, Desrie Bryan, Amanda Carvill, Sara Cunningham, Emmeline Elwood, Christina Evans, Erin Fleming, Krysta Frye, Ashley Gee, Khadine Harrow, Sarabeth Henderson, Hillary Johnson, Ashley Learned, Lisa Lucas, Laura Marcalus, Delancey Nicoll, Stephanie Nutt, Tracy Owusu, Anna Peterson, Caroline Power, Elizabeth Sauerbier, Catherine Scorzafava, Erika Ten Napel, Katherine Vergara-Cajiao, and Ashlee Wallace.

Distinguished Alumna Award

Dr. Debra Wollaber '73 delivered the keynote address and was presented the Distinguished Alumna Award during the Nursing Pinning Ceremony in May. Wollaber, a long-time supporter of Hartwick College and the Nursing program, served on faculty at Syracuse University from 1981 to 1986 and as a faculty member and then Dean of Belmont University's School of Nursing and College of Health Sciences and Nursing for ten years before more recently returning to teaching. At Belmont, she worked to promote better integration of high school-to-college and college-to-work transitions, and spearheaded efforts to document systemic issues that impact student learning. As well, she oversaw the design of the Inman Center, which houses the school of nursing at Belmont University. During her tenure as Dean she was designated as one of the "10 women to watch" by *Nashville Medical News* for her significant impact on the delivery of healthcare in middle Tennessee and elsewhere. In 2008, she received the Vision of Nursing Award during *The Tennessean's* annual Salute to Nurses Luncheon in Nashville. In her keynote address Wollaber reminded graduates of the importance of building bridges and taking chances. As well, she encouraged the students to be ever mindful of and grateful for the many lives that have touched theirs along the way to becoming a nurse and those that they will touch moving forward in their careers.

Student News and Accomplishments

Student Scholar Showcase

Sarabeth Henderson '10 presented her Freedman Prize project: "Theatre Arts in Nursing Education: The Lived Experience" in the third annual Student Scholar Showcase, May 14, 2010. This project was a collaborative effort between the Theatre Arts Department and the Nursing Department. Under the direction of Dr. Malissa Kano-White and Dr. Penny Boyer, Sarabeth developed and directed a readers' theatre performance depicting patients' perspectives of medical and nursing care.

Sigma Inductees

Congratulations to Anna Arnold, RN; Shannon Baker, RN; Catherine Bell; Amanda Brand; Gabrielle Evans; Karen Faller, RN; Mary Farrell, RN; Chelsey Gill; Rachel Gural, RN; Joanne Kosciusko, MSN, RN; Rebecca Martt; Stacy McLam; Wendy Moore, BS, RN; Colleen Moran; Nanette Root, RN; Elyse Russo; Alicia Sagendorf, RN; Christie Traynor; Maryellen Wrubleski, MSN, APRN; and Anna von Tsurikov, RN., who were inducted September 2010 into the Omicron Rho Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. This is the only international nursing honor society in the world and membership is a privilege bestowed on those who exhibit leadership and excellence in nursing.

Honors Convocation 2010 Award Winners

- Amanda Brand '11 | Andrew B. Saxton Undergraduate Fellowships
- Jaimie DeJager '11 | Close Family Scholarship
- Kelly Dwyer '11 | Grace Jones Scholarship in Nursing
- Gabrielle Evans '11 | Edith M. Lacey Memorial Nursing Award Faculty Scholar Award
- Mary Farrell '10, RN | Honor Society Inductee
- Erin Fleming '10 | A.O. Fox Memorial Hospital Award for Excellence in Clinical Practice
- Carly Jessett '11 | Nursing Alumni Memorial Scholarship
- Rebecca Martt '11 | John Christopher Hartwick Scholar Faculty Scholar Award
- Colleen Moran '11 | Faculty Scholar Award
- Catherine Scorzafava '10 | Honor Society Inductee
- Christie Traynor '10 | Harriet Babcock Nursing Scholarship
- Katherine Vergara-Cajiao | Omicron Rho Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau Award



Partnership for Nursing Opportunities Program with Bassett Medical Center

This is the tenth year of the program, with nine new RNs enrolled this fall. This year students enrolled in Dr. Jeanne-Marie Havener's RN to BS transition course are busily shaking the cobwebs off of their writing skills; fine-tuning their health-assessment skills; reflecting on their practice; and exploring phenomena such as nursing advocacy, professional engagement, and liberal education. Four students in the course co-authored an article for publication in the most recent edition of *Nursing Matters* on influenza immunization.

Recent graduates of this program have been on the move. Denise Ruley Famolara has taken a position as a data coordinator in Quality Resources Management and has been named a Nurse Research Fellow by the New York State Nurses Association. Denise, along with fellow recent graduates Christina Bourgeois, Robin Stasilli, Coleen Walrath Hollister, Robin Lopez, Patricia Otis, Melissa Worthington, Karen Caruso, and Brittany Decker, have all returned or are returning to graduate school. Several graduates also have assumed clinical adjunct roles in our traditional program and four of these graduates have served in leadership roles as the first four Chairs of the Bassett Nursing Association, representing the interests of over 600 nurses in the Bassett system.

HCASN by Rebecca Martt '11

Hartwick College Association of Student Nurses kicked off the year with some club bonding up at Elmoro Field. We had a great turn-out of returning and new members for games, tie-dye, and nursing camaraderie. This was a fun way to welcome many of the new nursing students on campus, including members of the huge freshman class, the three-year program, and the 18-month program. It was great to see returning students reconnecting with members of their class, and new students getting excited about the nursing program and all that it has to offer. We really have a strong group of nursing students this year.



After some fun in the sun, we got down to business. To begin our fundraising efforts for the year, we had our Applebee's dinner, where 10% of what was spent by diners at Applebee's came back to the club. We also sold HCASN t-shirts and syringe pens at the O'Connor Lecture. We have new t-shirts and sweat-shirts in the works for this semester, and also are trying to develop some Hartwick Nursing bumper stickers as a fundraiser. The proceeds from these fundraising efforts will go to support designated activities, including financial assistance to senior nursing students who are purchasing their pins in the spring.

The club has engaged in lots of fun activities for the holidays. We painted pumpkins for the Pediatric floor of Albany Medical Center and the A.O. Fox Nursing Home, and we contributed to the Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF campaign. At Thanksgiving we made cards to be given out to the residents at Otsego Manor as well as those at A.O. Fox Nursing Home, and also gathered winter decorations for these places. Our plans for Spring Term are tentative, but we would really like to go all-out for Nurses Week, including painting the Hartwick Wall and getting HCASN's name out there to highlight the activities of nursing on campus.



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The Hartwick College Department of Nursing Alumni Committee is accepting nominations for its Distinguished Alumnus/a Award

Our alumni represent the Department and College locally, nationally, and internationally through their work as nursing professionals. The Department takes pride in the accomplishments of its alumni, but needs assistance in identifying those who meet the following award criteria:

The Distinguished Alumnus/a Award is the highest recognition given by the Department of Nursing's Alumni Committee to an alumna or alumnus who has demonstrated continuous, outstanding, creative, and exemplary contributions to the profession of nursing or to healthcare. Nominees must be Hartwick College Nursing graduates and will be considered on the basis of leadership, achievement, and contribution in the areas of academia, administration, clinical practice, research, and/or service (professional and community). When submitting nominations, please indicate in which area the nominee should be considered. Nominations should be accompanied by information that supports the nomination (e.g., letters of support and pertinent materials such as a CV or resume).

All nominations should be submitted no later than January 30 to Hartwick College, Attn: Alumni Committee, Department of Nursing, PO Box 4020, Oneonta, NY 13820.

Jamaica Transcultural Nursing Scholarship

Last January, Shelley Polinsky-Lynch '00 traveled to Jamaica with junior Nursing students. It was a return to the country she and her classmates had visited as Hartwick students in 1999. Today, Shelley is joined by Class of 2000 alumnae Amy Witherell, Taryn Chase, Kristen Normand-Nunez, Kara Krzykowski-Slowinski, Linda Zarnoch-Hirtzel, Sue Ketchum, Marney Kommalan, and Sara Parise-Dorrian in a desire to become even more involved in healthcare in Jamaica.



As costs have increased, the number of Hartwick students able to travel to Jamaica during January Term has declined. Chair of the Nursing Department Jeanne-Marie Havener recently acknowledged that many promising Nursing students struggle financially and are unable to take part in the program.

As members of that 1999 Jamaica class, we know how we benefitted from our Jamaican experience. The financial struggle of today's students has touched our hearts and compelled us to act. We know some of you remember what a monumental experience the Transcultural Nursing program was, or perhaps wish there was a way you could have participated. Now there is. As proud Hartwick alumni, we have the opportunity to give back.

Our class has collectively decided to help current and future Nursing students by forming a scholarship program that will provide much-needed financial assistance to students excelling in their studies. It won't take much from each of us to reach our annual goal of \$3,000. We and the students who will benefit from this scholarship greatly appreciate your consideration. Our hope is to make this an annual opportunity for tax-deductible giving.

How can you help?

Online | Go to www.hartwickalumni.org/hartwickfund to donate online. Be sure to indicate Jamaica Transcultural Nursing Scholarship in the comments section under "Make a Gift."

Mail | Send a check to Hartwick College, PO Box 4020, Oneonta, NY 13820. Please write Jamaica Transcultural Nursing Scholarship in the memo line of your check.

Volunteer | If you're unable to help financially, but can donate your time, help with fundraising, or assist in other ways, contact us at HartwickNursingJamaica@gmail.com.

Facebook | Friend us on Facebook! We're [HartwickNursingJamaica](https://www.facebook.com/HartwickNursingJamaica), and we hope you'll join us and share your Jamaica picture or tell a story about your Jamaican experience.

Please consider helping give today's Hartwick Nursing students the gift of the Jamaica Transcultural Nursing experience. We appreciate your support, and we look forward to supporting the growth of deserving students.

Fall O'Connor Lecture Series "Changes and Challenges in Nursing Education"

Dr. Barbara Penn, the fall O'Connor lecturer, provided the public with a rousing presentation on the current state of nursing and nursing education. Speaking to a full house, Penn outlined the findings of the newly released IOM report and the challenges that lay ahead in practice, research, and education. Further, she called on nurses and nursing students to be ready to meet these challenges through continuing education, civic engagement, professional and public advocacy, and advanced practice.



ALUMNI NEWS

Amanda Carvill '10, having passed her boards, has expressed to faculty that she is privileged and honored to be a Hartwick College Nursing alumna.

Richelle Schmidt '09 has accepted a full-time position on the post-partum floor at Massachusetts General.

Caitlin Niedzialkowski '07 e-mailed that CRNA program is challenging and exciting; she is gaining an even more in-depth understanding of concepts and issues that she has faced and will face daily. She credits "my undergrad with preparing me to learn this advanced material. It's obvious which students don't have a good understanding of the basic material and they're really struggling." She wanted to remind the Nursing students that leaning the material matters more than for just the test! Caitlin stresses to do more than just pass, as graduate schools (CRNA schools anyway) won't look at students with a GPA under 3.0,

and many require above a 3.5, a fact she was not aware of while at Hartwick, and is thankful she achieved good grades. She keeps in touch with Brittany Decker and Missy Worthington, who are in a CRNA program in Albany.

Elizabeth Shohov Olhovskiy '95, of Jordanville, NY, died suddenly in September. A registered nurse at the Utica Neighborhood Center and Rome Memorial Hospital, and was working toward a Nurse Practitioner certification. She is survived by her husband, The Reverend Deacon Nicholas Olhovskiy, and her daughter Anna. A funeral service was held at St. Seraphim Russian Orthodox Church, Sea Cliff, NY and also in Jordanville at Holy Trinity Monastery.

Faculty News

Congratulations are in order for **Dr. Penny Boyer, RN, CNE** and **Peggy Jenkins, MS, CCRN, CNE**, who both recently passed the National League for Nursing's certification examination in nursing education; certification recognizes excellence in the advanced specialty role of the academic nurse educator.

Dr. Jeanne-Marie Havener, APRN, CNS, FNP, along with her nursing colleagues at Bassett Healthcare, recently co-authored and edited an article that has been accepted for publication on the success of the Bassett Partnership for Nursing Opportunities program; it will appear in an upcoming volume of *Nursing Clinics of North America*.

Congratulations also are in order for **Dr. Tina Sullivan, APRN, FNP-BC**, who was recently awarded the Ph.D. in Nursing from Binghamton University. Dr. Sullivan's dissertation work entitled "The Efficacy of the 'Keep on Track' Educational Intervention and its Impact on Farm Safety Knowledge Levels among Rural School Age Children." Her research explored the phenomenon of farming injuries in children and whether or not an educational intervention could increase rural, school-age children's knowledge levels of farm safety.

Theresa Turick-Gibson, MS, RN, PNP-BC, is on a one-year sabbatical to complete course work toward the Ph.D. in Education at Binghamton University.

Farewell to Edie Colton and a Warm Welcome to Wendy Moore '00
This past spring the Department bid a fond farewell to Edie Colton, MS, RN, the Department's devoted Learning Lab and Technology Coordinator for the past four years. In her role as the LLTC, Edie, always the consummate professional, worked closely with faculty and students, deftly handling multiple competing demands with a mix of gentle good humor, patience, kindness, and diplomacy. In the lab Edie served as mentor, confidant, and instructor to the many, many students with whom she worked. Every student knew Edie and Edie knew every student. Always the professional, Edie, with her vast experience in nursing education, helped to inform curricular decisions and provided off-needed assistance and friendly advice to her colleagues. While Edie's presence is missed, she and her husband Larry are now able to enjoy the fruits of a well-deserved retirement in their new home in the beautiful community of Skaneateles, NY.

As the Department prepared for Edie's departure, we cast about for someone equally talented and capable of fulfilling the demands of the LLTC. Much to our surprise and delight, **Wendy Whitmore Moore '00** joined the Department this past fall as the new LLTC. Wendy, a graduate student in nursing education, has been assisting the faculty in both the lab and clinical setting while continuing her studies. Wendy lives in nearby Morris, with her husband Darrell and their children, Aiden, Noah, and Ella.



Homecoming & Reunion 2010

A wonderful afternoon gathering of the Nursing Class of 1962 was enjoyed by 13 members of the class during Homecoming & Reunion 2010: Rose Elliott '62, Sue Wainwright '62, Patty Brink '62, Marilyn Michaud '62, Carol Anderson '62, Carol Brown '62, Jeanette Waterman '62, Anne Johnson '62, Emily Mikulewicz '62, Merriam Boeing '62, Dinah McClure '62, Karin Engkvist '62, and Beck Brown '62. Highlights of the reunion were accommodations at Pine Lake, lunch at the Neptune Diner with Hartwick College President Margaret L. Drugovich, and a tour Bassett Medical Center under the guidance of our RN Mobility Faculty, Maureen Murray, Director of Professional Practice. These alumnae met several of our Hartwick graduates as well as one of our current students, Paris Maney '11, involved in a summer Nursing internship program directed by Dr. Jeanne-Marie Havener, Nursing Department Chair.