

# PITT *Nurse*



THIS ISSUE **CONNECTED TO THE WORLD THROUGH SCHOLARSHIP**

ALSO INSIDE 2005 ALUMNI DAY | NURSING HORIZONS CONFERENCE

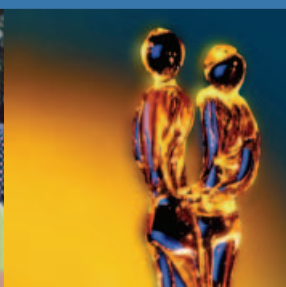


ABOUT THE COVER: VISITING SCHOLARS KUNG MI SUNG, PHD, RN, FROM KOREA; ISABEL IDIGORAS, BSN, RN, FROM SPAIN; AND JINA CHOO, PHD, RN, FROM KOREA, HELP BRING THE WORLD TO THE SCHOOL.

# *Inside* **PITT NURSE**



PAGE 3



PAGE 34

## **FACULTY SNAPSHOT 8**

Ann Mitchell wants to see Pitt nursing students practice around the world, and nursing students from all over the world to come here.

## **CONNECTED TO THE WORLD THROUGH SCHOLARSHIP 18**

Increased personal mobility and the free flow of information break down borders and bring the world to each of us, wherever we may live. Globalization has health implications as nurses treat people from many nations or move about the world for work.

DEAN'S MESSAGE	1
FACULTY SNAPSHOT	3
FEATURES	6
STUDENT SNAPSHOT	15
RESEARCH STUDIES	23
ALUMNI SNAPSHOT	28
ALUMNI NEWS + NOTES	29
ALUMNI DAY 2005 INVITATION	31
CAMEOS OF CARING	34
DEVELOPMENT NEWS	36
NURSE BEAT	37
REMEMBER WHEN	44
WHAT'S HAPPENING?	45
HORIZONS CONFERENCE	BACK COVER

**OUR WORLD CONTINUES TO GROW SMALLER.** The information age provides greater opportunity for local-to-global exchange as healthcare providers are increasingly able to communicate quickly with colleagues in even the most remote places. As a result of the ease and speed with which people can travel ever greater distances, new diseases which have their origins in one country quickly become a threat throughout the world.

The expanding globalization of society places increasing demands on the professional nurse to understand differing perspectives, traditions, religions, politics, cultures, and health maintenance behaviors. According to a 2000 report from the World Health Organization, nursing is one of the largest components of the health workforce. Nurses deliver, or supervise, most of the health services provided worldwide. Today's nurses have added value in the healthcare arena when they are able to facilitate quality care for diverse peoples.

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing has a long history of helping nurses from around the world participate in career development and research, and of establishing partnerships with international colleagues. The first international student was admitted to the School in 1944. The first international student to earn a post-baccalaureate degree at the School was Phoebe Azurin Dauz Williams, RN, PhD, FAAN, from the Philippines. Williams, an instructor at the University of Kansas School of Nursing, earned her master's in nursing in 1970 and completed her PhD in Nursing Care of Children in 1972. Since then, thirty international students have traveled to the School to earn advanced degrees. Our master's and doctoral graduates are in Cambodia, Egypt, Taiwan, Korea, Jordan, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Iceland, and Canada, many holding prominent positions in their governments and universities. In addition, eight post-graduate scholars from three countries have come to learn with us since the visiting scholars program began in 2000.

In 1990, the school launched a study abroad program for nursing students under the direction of Jacqueline M. Lamb, PhD, RN. Since then, over 100 School of Nursing students have traveled abroad to study in England; Basel, Switzerland; Palermo, Italy; Copenhagen, Denmark; and Northern India. Programs are in development for study abroad in Kenya, China and South America. Study abroad enables our students to expand their views of a globalizing society where multiple perspectives and beliefs are compelled to coexist. It promotes an enhanced understanding of nursing practice and education in other cultures and offers nursing students unique opportunities to grow professionally and personally.

Our faculty regularly attend and present at international conferences, and researchers at the School are participating in international research collaborations in the areas of chronic disease, technology and genetics. In addition, School of Nursing faculty have collaborated with nurse educators in Palermo, Italy; Basel, Switzerland; and Seoul, South Korea to advance nursing knowledge and best practices.



Janice S. Dorman, PhD, MS, has joined the School as associate dean of Scientific and International Affairs. Dr. Dorman comes to the School of Nursing from the Graduate School of Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh. She is a genetic epidemiologist who has spent her professional life collaborating with researchers abroad and traveling internationally to present her work. Dr. Dorman is actively seeking new opportunities for the School to expand international research and collaborative efforts that will give faculty and students the knowledge, experience and skills necessary to improve the quality of patient care and to expand the evidence upon which nurses base their care.

The world is changing, and the School of Nursing is preparing students to meet the challenges of global health and nursing care.

Sincerely,

**JACQUELINE DUNBAR-JACOB**, PhD, RN, FAAN  
DEAN, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
SCHOOL OF NURSING



# NURSING CARE IS A GLOBAL CONCERN

Changes in professional roles and the movement of people across national and international boundaries make it important to understand healthcare and nursing issues in a global context. Communicating with patients from diverse cultural backgrounds is only one challenge facing nurses today. Nurses need to think and act in ways that are culturally sensitive as they provide care.

- **Study abroad** programs broaden students' perspectives. As students learn about different cultures and the values that drive them, they begin to understand and accept cultural differences in patients and coworkers.
- While study abroad gives students an opportunity to understand nursing practice and education in different cultures, **international students** bring cultural diversity and experiences to our doorstep, challenging us to adopt a global perspective.
- **International collaboration** brings together nurses with similar research interests who share their talents and resources to address common areas of concern. Faculty at the School of Nursing are collaborating with international researchers in the areas of chronic disease, technology and genetics.

Our international programs and collaborations help advance nursing and healthcare knowledge, and enhance the quality of care given to all patients.



# Life is a Journey

**ANN MITCHELL HAS A VISION** for University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing students. “I want to see Pitt nursing students practice around the world, and I want nursing students from around the world to come here to Pitt,” says Mitchell, PhD, RN, AHNC, assistant professor of psychiatric nursing in the Department of Health and Community Systems at the School of Nursing, and assistant professor of psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine.

International travel is a priority in Mitchell’s life and an integral part of her desire to understand the perspectives of people from various cultures.

As Mitchell was in the process of finishing her doctoral course work, friends invited her to join them on a bicycle trip from Pittsburgh to Phoenix. It was an adventure she embraced, and one that changed her life. “Bicycling across the country was a slow-motion journey,” she says. “It changed my perspective of time, place, and people. There, along the back roads and small towns of America, people showed us such kindness and generosity.”

The experience inspired her to broaden her horizons even further. Soon afterwards, she called her travel agent to book a cheap ticket “to anywhere in Europe,” and ended up in Luxemburg. “I’ve always thought that if you have no where you need to be — you can’t really be lost. I got off the plane and began another part of my life’s journey.”

With a shoestring budget and an open-ended return ticket that was good for a year, Mitchell spent the next twelve months traveling through Scandinavia, England and Scotland, to Greece, and all





Ann was honored to be the first American woman to watch a Sumo wrestling practice and eat breakfast with the masters at the Nakadachi Beya School.

across Europe. She believes her background in mental health nursing sharpened her skills of observation, awareness of her surroundings, and ability to understand non-verbal communication as she traveled from country to country. “I was able to rely on instinctive non-verbal communication skills,” she says, “which allowed me to cross language barriers, understand, and be understood, without being fluent in another language.”

In no hurry to return home, Mitchell traveled throughout Europe until the very last day of her year-long open-ended ticket, returning again to Luxemburg just under the wire for her ticket’s expiration date. Once back in the States, she worked two full-time jobs over the next summer so she could continue the journey she began, traveling through Europe for another year and a half before settling back in Pittsburgh and completing her doctoral dissertation.

Not surprisingly, after completing her PhD, Mitchell spent the next two years working as a traveling psychiatric nurse. Taking 13-week assignments in San Francisco and Los Angeles, she had the opportunity to work in both the wealthiest and the poorest hospitals in California.

Mitchell returned to the University of Pittsburgh to accept a position as a research assistant professor and project director for a study with survivors of suicide and began to look for opportunities to be involved academically in international nursing. She was invited to design and teach the course “Contemporary Issues in Cross-Cultural Health Care” for the College of General Studies. Taught to groups of culturally and ethnically diverse, multidisciplinary students, the course objective is to increase awareness of how the delivery and acceptance of healthcare is influenced by social, cultural, and environmental factors.

Her international experiences, along with her background in psychiatric nursing, make Mitchell uniquely qualified to share a global perspective with her students on activities of daily living, food and nutrition, as well as birth and death rituals and other customs related to specific cultures. The course work is supported with web-based clinical case simulations to help Mitchell’s students develop cultural and interdisciplinary competencies.

She also incorporates lessons on the ethical considerations related to the research process with diverse populations. “In any

culture and in any language, it is important for people to understand what they are consenting to participate in.” Her ultimate goal is to translate cultural competency practices into research projects and clinical practices that facilitate superior healthcare, enhanced well-being and improved quality of life for diverse populations in America and throughout the world.

Mitchell has learned from health professionals all over the world who are experts in their fields. Her international collaborations go beyond crossing borders; they are an integral part of her educational curriculum. “International, multidisciplinary collaborations are increasingly important to provide quality healthcare in the future,” says Mitchell. “International collaborations need to be integrated into the educational curriculum to give students a broader view.”

Students who travel to different countries benefit from the network of international, multidisciplinary relationships Mitchell has developed through meetings, clinical observations and ongoing discussions. She and her colleagues help students think creatively about ways to decrease health disparities home and abroad.

Mitchell participated as a faculty scholar in a Swedish nurse exchange program between American and Swedish nurses. She also assisted in developing and coordinating a summer healthcare exchange program for Japanese student nurses and faculty. Mitchell was then invited to serve as a visiting faculty scholar in Tokyo, Japan and in Bangkok, Thailand.

In Japan, a country faced with a rapidly aging population and a suicide rate much higher than the United States, Mitchell presented a number of lectures about mental health and aging. Her research with family members and friends who have lost a significant other by suicide enabled Mitchell to consult with Japanese colleagues about the rising suicide rate in that country.

Mitchell was invited to see two things in Japan that no other American woman had seen before. She was honored to be the first American woman invited to visit Sakuragaoka Psychiatric Hospital in Tokyo. “In Japan, psychiatric hospitals are divided according to the severity of the mental illness, which differs from the U.S., where most hospitals treat the entire range of mental illnesses,” Mitchell says.





Ann and a colleague practice fan form Tai Chi.

She was also honored to be the first American woman to watch a Sumo wrestling practice and eat breakfast with the masters at the Nakadachi Beya School.

Mitchell has returned to Japan several times, including once as a delegate for the Pittsburgh-Omiya Sister City Program, dedicated to citizen-to-citizen cultural exchanges. Through this program, she lived with a host family which to this day she considers to be part of her extended family.

“While modern medicine has added years to the average lifespan, this is not always associated with an improved quality of life,” Mitchell says. Many consumers are seeking complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) techniques. In China, where she presented her research on survivors of suicide, Mitchell visited a Traditional Chinese Medical (TCM) hospital and found that hospitals are classified as specializing in Western medical systems, TCM, or both. “Some TCM practices, such as herbalogy, acupuncture and massage, are becoming more widely accepted in the international community,” says Mitchell. As a certified advanced practice holistic nurse, Mitchell offers her students practical solutions for integrating CAM with traditional medicine and technologies.

From the mainland, she went on to Hong Kong to visit another friend. “I was impressed by the large groups of elderly and non-elderly alike doing a variety of exercises and practicing martial arts in public parks,” says Mitchell. Her friend, a Tai Chi instructor, encouraged Mitchell to try her favorite form of Tai Chi called “fan form.” In this form, colorful fans are dramatically flung open and shut throughout the exercise as the practitioner moves through graceful martial art sequences. Mitchell was hooked when, much to her surprise, a group of 80 people turned around, watched her practice, then broke into a spontaneous applause, welcoming her to their practice.

“Wherever I’ve gone, it never ceases to amaze me how hospitable people are,” she comments. “It is a leap of faith to leave what is safe and comfortable, but every time I do, I find myself pleasantly surprised.”

Mitchell believes travel can give our students a global perspective and make them better nurses who are sensitive to the cultural needs of those for whom they provide care. **PN**

*Special thanks to Susan Benn for her contributions to this article.*

# The Transformation of a Culture



**THE MEDITERRANEAN INSTITUTE** for Transplantation and Specialized Therapies (Istituto Mediterraneo per i Trapianti e Terapie ad Alta Specializzazione, or IsMeTT) is an international center for specialized medicine serving the people of the Mediterranean region. Located in Palermo, the capital of the Italian island of Sicily, IsMeTT was founded in 1998 as a partnership between the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), the Cervello and Civico hospitals in Palermo, and the Sicilian regional government.

Considered among the most advanced in Europe, the new transplant center is a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to the transplantation of all solid organs and therapies for the treatment of end-stage organ failure. Before the new 70-bed center opened in 2004, transplant patients were treated in a temporary facility IsMeTT sub-let from an Italian hospital.

The move to the new facility allows IsMeTT to increase the number of patient evaluations and transplants.

However, IsMeTT is much more than a building. “The thing that strikes me the most about IsMeTT is the transformation of a culture,” says Gail Wolf, DNS, RN, FAAN associate dean for clinical affairs and director, administrative program at the School of Nursing, and chief nursing officer at UPMC. “The building is gorgeous, but that isn’t the ‘wow’ for me — the ‘wow’ for me is the incredible transformation of a nursing culture that has come about through IsMeTT, and the pioneer spirit of the nurses at IsMeTT who brought about that transformation. What they are doing is just phenomenal.”

When the first group of Italian nurses arrived in Pittsburgh to train as transplant nurses, it quickly became apparent the American



We were demonstrating a different level of quality and getting better outcomes because the nurses were better educated. They had been given the tools to observe the patients and knew what they were looking for. ...They couldn't deny this was working." Gail Wolf DNS, RN, FAAN



Gail Wolf (third from right) with pioneer nurses at IsMeTT

model of nursing is different from the Italian model. "The Italian nurses were more task-oriented," says Wolf. "They were not expected to function as autonomous, critical-thinking, decision-making nurses." Wolf and her staff redesigned the training program for the Italian nurses to integrate these skills, along with anatomy and physiology and the patient assessment approach to patient care. The nurses studied here for almost a year, working hand-in-hand with clinical nurse preceptors to model these new skills and behaviors at the bedside.

"Many of them spoke English, so I don't think learning in English was as hard as transplanting the American nursing model to an Italian culture," says Wolf. In Italy, physicians run everything and make all the decisions. These nurses spent a year observing nurses questioning physicians, planning patient care, being assertive

and a patient advocate — all those things American nurses take for granted. The goal was for them to adopt this model when they returned to Palermo. "It's not easy to do something so different when you've been trained one way for years and years and years — it's scary because you aren't sure what you're doing and because it goes against all the cultural norms. It's intimidating."

Wolf considers these nurses true pioneers. "Not only were we asking them to inoculate their country with another philosophy of practice, we were asking them to take an incredible risk going to work for a facility that many people in Palermo did not believe would ever happen," says Wolf. "They are used to projects being abandoned in Palermo - you see a lot of half-built and abandoned buildings there." In addition, nurses in Italy have government contracts and are set for life.

"We didn't offer any guarantees," she says. "But these nurses believed there had to be a better way, so they took that risk."

One of the educators at IsMeTT coordinated a conference, inviting people from all over Italy to showcase what had been done. Wolf gave a keynote address at the conference, and the pioneer Italian nurses presented what they had done in their roles as unit managers. "Nurses are never in charge in Italy, but here were all these nurses managing a unit and demonstrating great outcomes with excellent transplant volume and outcomes," says Wolf. "We were demonstrating a different level of quality and getting better outcomes because the nurses were better educated."

It was an enormous transformation. As the nurses started talking about what they were doing, their peers saw it really could work. "I lived through the transformation of American nursing over 30 years, but to see it compressed down to three years was just phenomenal," says Wolf.

IsMeTT floor nurses Sabrina Scarpinato, RN, and Maria Rosaria Tarantino, RN, agree. "The focus at IsMeTT is on total patient care and critical thinking. You see a big change in terms of the time spent with a patient," says Scarpinato. "Nurses at IsMeTT are patient advocates." Scarpinato, the 2004 Cameos of Caring Awardee from IsMeTT, accompanied Tarantino to Pittsburgh when she received her award in October.

Scarpinato and Tarantino see many other changes, including improved opportunities for professional growth. But the biggest change they see is in the doctors. "In Italy, doctors traditionally have the last word," says Tarantino, "but at IsMeTT, nurses have more autonomy and the doctors consider them colleagues." Scarpinato notes the collegial working relationship between the nurses and the physicians has had a secondary benefit. "It isn't just a better way for the nurses to work, but a better atmosphere for patients as well," she says.

This past summer six students from the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing spent five-weeks rotating through various departments at IsMeTT as part of a new study abroad course, Health Care Delivery in Palermo, Sicily. Students worked under the super-vision of English speaking Italian nurses and American nurses, and spent time with Sicilian nursing students and faculty in the community. **PN**

For more information, go to [sti.upmc.com/IsMeTT.htm](http://sti.upmc.com/IsMeTT.htm) or <http://www.IsMeTT.edu>.

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"When I traveled to Palermo, Sicily to study at IsMeTT for five weeks, I knew I would encounter different people and situations — but I never imagined how much the difference in everyday culture and the professional nursing environment would shape my thoughts, or the type of person and nurse I want to be.

... In Italy I learned how much more meaningful the profession becomes when nurses take the time to invest in the knowledge and well-being of their coworkers, as well as their patients. By assisting coworkers professionally and being personally friendly, nurses are better prepared to invest in the well-being of their patients, ultimately creating better outcomes.

**JOHANNA STUMP, '05**

Study abroad provided a unique experience that will forever change my life — it changed my perspective in the way I view life. While every person is unique, meeting people with a different culture and language made me realize how similar everyone in this world is.

...I learned there's more to life than just working, that it's important to take in and enjoy life's moments. I try to incorporate these values into my life now.

**KRISTEN MARQUEZ, '05**



# Building Global Partnerships



**JANICE S. DORMAN, PHD, MS**, is the new associate dean for Scientific and International Affairs at the School of Nursing. Dr. Dorman is a genetic epidemiologist who has spent her professional life collaborating with researchers abroad and traveling internationally to present her work. She has been invited to speak all over the world, including: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Columbia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Egypt, England, Finland, France, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Santo Domingo, Saudi Arabia, Spain, and Sweden.

Dorman has also been the principal investigator of two NIH-funded international grants, one of which focused on the molecular epidemiology of type 1 diabetes worldwide. The other focused exclusively on China, where type 1 diabetes is extremely rare. For both studies, Dorman investigated whether the geographic differences in type 1 diabetes incidence were related to disease susceptibility genes in the population of the country. To ensure that uniform methods were applied for these investigations, Dorman served as course director for a NATO-supported advanced research workshop entitled "Standardized Methods for Epidemiologic Studies of Host Susceptibility." Participants from more than 20 countries convened at the University of Pittsburgh for this collaborative project. These efforts ultimately led to the development of the World Health Organization (WHO) DiaMond (Diabetes and Mondale—the French word for "world") Molecular Epidemiology Project, which Dorman directed from 1990-2000.

Because Dorman believes "research and teaching should be intertwined," she has conducted molecular epidemiology training courses in China, Argentina and Mexico, tailoring each course to the respective country. In addition, she participated as a faculty of several international diabetes epidemiology courses, including those courses held in Colombia, Egypt, Japan, Korea, Saudi Arabia and the UK. In 1999, Dorman was honored by the president of the Beijing Hospital of the Ministry of Health of China for presenting her lectures and exchanging her experiences with the people of China.

Dorman currently serves as the Director of Molecular Epidemiology for the WHO Collaboration Center for Disease Monitoring, Telecommunication and the Molecular Epidemiology of Diabetes Mellitus. Her husband, Dr. Ronald LaPorte, a professor of epidemiology at the Graduate School of

Public Health, directs the disease monitoring and telecommunication activities for the Collaborating Center, a center of excellence designated by the WHO Director-General to form part of an international collaborative network. Collaborating Centers carry out activities in support of WHO's mandate for international health work and its program priorities. There are over 900 WHO Collaborating Centers around the world, each of which has a particular area of expertise. Those located in the Americas work with WHO through the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

Dorman is working with Dean Dunbar-Jacob, nursing faculty and contacts at WHO and PAHO to develop a strategic plan to have the School designated as a WHO Collaborating Center by 2010. Currently, there are only 36 WHO Collaborating Centers that focus on nursing, 12 of which are in the U.S.

According to a 2000 report from the WHO, nursing and midwifery personnel constitute the largest component of the health workforce and deliver, or supervise, most of the health services provided worldwide. Health conditions, economic circumstances and financial resources vary widely by region as does the state of nursing and midwifery education and practices. Dr. Maricel Manfredi, former Regional Adviser for Nursing, WHO Region of the Americas, introduced Dorman to members of the current PAHO staff responsible for the WHO Nursing Collaborating Centers in the Americas to discuss these reports, talk about the current nursing situation in the Americas, and elaborate on nursing as a priority for the WHO. Dorman then discussed ways for the School of Nursing to have an impact on an international scale with Dr. Sandra Land, current regional advisor for nursing services at PAHO and a Pitt alumna.

As part of the planning process to become a WHO Collaborating Center, School of Nursing faculty and students will develop collaborative research projects and training programs with colleagues in the Americas and abroad. One of the countries Dorman is currently focusing on is China.

Dorman, who has spent a number of years working with Chinese colleagues, is exploring new opportunities for collaboration between the School of Nursing faculty and counterparts in China. In November, she spent two weeks in China with her close friend and colleague, Dr. Yang Ze, the Director of

*continued on page 16*



## An Eye-Opening Experience Finding Rewards and Sacrifices in India

**MARK VON STEIN, MN, RN, CCRN**, an instructor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care wanted to get his students out of Western Pennsylvania and out of their comfort zones to experience a broader world. Von Stein has lived all over the country, but as a native of Ligonier, PA, he knew how insulated one can become if not actively pursuing experiences outside the region.

“One of the great things about Pitt is that the School is so open to ideas,” says Von Stein. “We have the sharpest students.” His goal was to spark their interest and inspire them to take on bigger roles in national and international nursing. “I wanted to give our students an opportunity to broaden their views of a globalizing society and understand differing perspectives, traditions, religions, politics, cultures, and health maintenance behaviors.”

Von Stein went to the 2002 National Nursing Christian Fellowship Conference in search of a study abroad opportunity in a poor developing country and discovered an experience his students could weave into their nursing course work with the Emmanuel Hospital Association (EHA) in Northern India. EHA is a fellowship of Christian institutions and individuals with a mission to transform communities through caring, with primary emphasis on poor and marginalized populations. EHA provides communities with healthcare, health and development

programs, spiritual ministries and leadership development. The association is comprised of 19 hospitals that treat more than 500,000 people annually, and four schools of nursing ([www.eha-health.org](http://www.eha-health.org)).

Emmanuel Hospital offered Pitt nursing students an opportunity to study differences in healthcare priorities, delivery and economics in another country. Specifically, students could analyze how cultural beliefs and behaviors influence the health status of those living in the Indian culture in areas such as disease transmission, health policy, and health care economics. Students could also identify and compare differences in nursing practice, nursing education, nursing values, and health maintenance behaviors that result from organizational, cultural, and economic issues.

Three University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing students and one alum signed up to experience nursing care and nursing education with English-speaking student mentors and nurses in Northern India, each with their own expectations, goals and objectives

Von Stein hoped the study abroad experience in India would give Pitt nursing students a deeper understanding of human diversity; how cultural, racial, socioeconomic, religious, and lifestyle variations are expressed; and the resulting effects on healthcare delivery. He also wanted students to have a





better understanding of the enormous rewards and sacrifices that come with a career providing nursing care to under-served or vulnerable populations.

“Technology is such a large component in healthcare today, students risk losing the compassionate piece of nursing,” Von Stein says. “I want our students to be aware of our advantages as Americans and instill in them a sense of global responsibility. I want to deepen their sense of compassion and help them realize that one of their goals can be to help others who are struggling in their professions.” The students each took a step towards that goal by making one small sacrifice before they even left Pittsburgh. When Von Stein learned how scarce educational books are at Emmanuel Hospital he gathered up all the extra books in his and other faculty’s offices — many, free samples they had received from publishers. Each of the students agreed to take items out of their suitcases to make room for three books.

Robyn Bullock, in charge of nursing services and education for EHA, had an agenda as well. She wanted to promote an enhanced understanding of nursing practice and education in India among the American nursing students. But even more, she hoped working and studying alongside the American nursing students would help raise the respect and value of nursing in India and increase the sense of professionalism among the Indian nurses.

“Nursing is not a valued profession in India. The majority of nurses come from the lower casts where nursing is seen as an opportunity for

women who would not have had any other opportunities,” says Von Stein “It was an eye-opening experience for our students.”

The students spent three weeks immersed in Indian culture, living the life of an Indian student. They experienced nursing care and nursing education with English-speaking nurse mentors and students and even stayed in the dorm with the nursing students, a “nurse’s hostel” off limits to all men. Faculty led discussions, observations, and interactions with Indian healthcare providers, giving students an enhanced understanding of nursing practice and education in India.

At the end of the visit, their hosts staged a talent show. The Indian students and faculty performed cultural dances from different areas of the country, highlighting the many sub-cultures within the Indian culture. Before the School of nursing students left, a formal ceremony was held to say good-bye and the Indian nurses, who have so little, presented the Pitt students with gifts.

“The students all agreed they would take even more clothes out of their suitcases and carry more books next time,” says Von Stein. **PN**

# Pioneering Study Abroad

## Opening Minds and Broadening Horizons



**WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT** international studies at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, one name always comes up. Jacqueline M. Lamb, PhD, RN, is one of the pioneers of international study at the School.

Lamb has come a long way from the small West Virginia town where she was raised. Not so much in miles — but the cultural difference is enormous. Lamb grew up in a world where everyone looked and acted pretty much like her and her family. There was no real cultural or ethnic diversity.

That all changed when she fell in love with an Englishman and moved to England to be with him. Although the language seems very similar, there are distinct cultural differences. For example, Lamb learned that in England you say “thank you” five times in any transaction with a sales clerk. “You say ‘thank you’ when you hand your merchandise to the clerk, again when the clerk rings up your sale, when you hand the clerk your money, when the clerk hands you your change, and then one more time when you leave the shop,” Lamb explained.

That was just one small example of the cultural differences. “My mind opened and opened and opened,” says Lamb. “The experience propelled me to be a world citizen.” Since then, Lamb has worked in an English Pub, lived and practiced in Germany, studied Italian language and art history in Florence, Italy, and traveled extensively in Europe and North Africa.

Lamb believed it was an experience that would be equally beneficial for her students, so in 1990 she proposed a two-week study abroad program in England. “Knowledge of other cultures and experiences outside one’s own culture can open students’ minds and provide a broad education,” says Lamb. “Study abroad offers nursing students unique opportunities to grow professionally and personally.”

The first study abroad course took five students to Eastbourne, Sussex, on the southern coast of England in 1990. The course exposed students to English culture and gave them an opportunity to compare healthcare delivery systems in the United States and Great Britain. Students lived in the community with staff nurses, midwives,



district nurses and health visitors and used the facilities of Brighton University, which was then in the process of developing England's first master's degree program in nursing. They had clinical placements in hospital settings where they interacted with English nurses and nursing students. Students also accompanied district nurses and nurse midwives on their rounds to observe healthcare delivery in the community. During home visits, students were frequently invited to share a "cuppa" (tea) and had an opportunity to interact with a variety of English citizens.

The course was popular for the next twelve years. "Students learn to trust themselves and others," says Lamb. "You have success, and then you build on those experiences. Study abroad enhances self-confidence and promotes maturity."

Lamb, who taught nursing at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing for 25 years, was recognized with the "Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching" award in 1995. When Lamb retired from full-time teaching in 2002, she was invited to remain a part-time faculty to conduct her study abroad course in England and to develop and conduct new programs. In 2004, Lamb implemented two exciting new courses: Health Care Delivery in Palermo, Italy, and Health Care Delivery in Basel, Switzerland.

The program in Palermo is a five-week course based with UPMC, Palermo. Six students rotate through various units in the Mediterranean Institute for Transplantation and Specialized Therapies (Istituto Mediterraneo per i Trapianti e Terapie ad Alta Specializzazione, or IsMeTT), the new transplant hospital in Palermo. Students work under the supervision of English-speaking Italian nurses and American nurses, and spend time with Sicilian nursing students and faculty in the community.

In Switzerland, the program is affiliated with the Institut für Pflegewissenschaft and the university hospital. Six students participated in 2004, the first year this program was offered. An exciting part of the Switzerland program is a guided tour to Geneva to visit the United Nations, World Health Organization, International Council of Nursing and the International Red Cross Museum.

In addition, Lamb developed a six-week nursing program for American students in Copenhagen. Lamb also plans to reopen the course of study in England. "Helping students open their minds and broaden their horizons continues to be very satisfying," says Lamb. "It's important to continue learning — life is exciting!" **PN**

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

In 1990, I was fortunate to be a member of Jackie Lamb's maiden voyage for nursing study abroad in England. One of the most eye-opening experiences was witnessing the extent of care that was provided in home and community settings by nurses and how positively the patients responded. Nursing in the United States in the early 90's was just beginning to move to the home setting.

... The study abroad experience opened my eyes to the multitude of career opportunities available in nursing...Because of my experiences from the course, I am less afraid to take risks and I always question the status quo — let's think outside of the box, is there a better way to do this?

Jackie Lamb was a phenomenal guide on the journey and has become a wonderful mentor through the years. I aspire to be like her.

**KRIS GOSNELL, BSN '91**

The "Healthcare in Great Britain" course was the highlight experience of my time at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. Shadowing nurses in the hospitals of and near Eastborne was an incredible opportunity.

... Jacqueline Lamb was an exemplary role model and she was my inspiration for reaching beyond my limits.

**JOAN GODICH, BSN '97**

Infection Control Nurse  
Tripler Army Medical Center  
Honolulu, HI

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

This past May, I went to Basel, Switzerland for ten days with Jackie Lamb ... I didn't know it would change my perspective.

I was impressed by the very different view of time in Switzerland. It's less fast-paced — more laid-back and down to earth. Nurses take time to get to know their patients and to get their patients to trust them ... they seem to understand that if we neglect our own needs, we can't adequately care for our patients.

... On a trip to Geneva, we visited the United Nations, World Health Organization, International Red Cross Museum, and the International Council on Nursing.

This trip changed my perspective. I now see how important it is to take time to talk to my patients — to get to know them and get them to trust me.

**ERIN LEECH '05**

Studying abroad opened my eyes to the many possibilities that exist in international nursing. It also gave me a chance to interact with students, who were my age, and observe their nursing curriculum. The striking similarities and the many differences I observed gave me a great appreciation for the culture, the nursing program, and the many wonderful people involved with our stay. The level of respect and appreciation noted from both groups (Swiss and American students) was perhaps the most amazing part of the program. I will treasure this experience and the wonderful friends I have made for the rest of my life.

When my daughter/son asks me one day, "Mom, I have been thinking about studying abroad. What do you think?" I will be able to answer, "Let's get your passport."

**SARAH CLARKE '05**

Studying in Copenhagen was positively the best part of my college education. The six weeks breezed by as I learned about myself as a woman, a nurse, a traveler, and a friend.

**BROOKE DAVIS '05**



# THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED



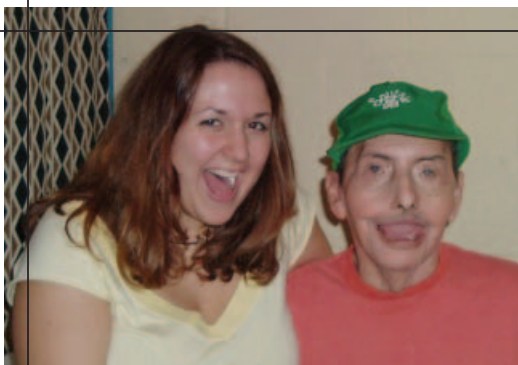
**ARIANA BOWER, '06, IS PASSIONATE**, determined and driven. Before applying for her college education, Bower struggled over the decision of her major. She loves nursing and loves traveling to experience different cultures of the world. She applied to the University of Pittsburgh and decided to work on combining those two passions together into a career.

Bower has been traveling since she was thirteen, to places such as England, Ireland, Italy, Venezuela, and Ecuador. Her first travel experience was a family trip to Quebec City, Canada, where Bower had a taste of French-influenced culture. Once old enough, she spent time in England, Ireland and Italy with her parents, who are teachers, and their students.

But an experience as an exchange student in Caracas, Venezuela had the most profound effect on her ambitions. Bower graduated from high school in 2001 and deferred her acceptance to the University of Pittsburgh after being accepted as an exchange student in Caracas through her hometown Rotary Club. She stayed with a host family and repeated her senior year in Caracas as one of the requirements for the program. "I did it because I love Spanish, and had studied it all through high school ... I had heard so many great things about the culture and the people — and it turns out I just fell in love with them!"

Then there was a revolution. A civil war broke out between socioeconomic classes in Venezuela, over oil and its management by the government. Bower marched in this historic uprising with her host mother, who worked as a chemical engineer for the main oil company, PDVSA. "Living through such a profound period in time for this country was probably the best experience of my life ... you can't even image how incredible it was." The Rotary program, and her frightened parents, advised Bower to come home, which cut the trip from a full year to ten months.

Bower's experience in Venezuela reinforced her love of Latin American culture. When her brother, a medical student, suggested they go to Ecuador to work in a



Ariana Bower with a patient

medical mission for the summer, she agreed. “We both love Latin American culture, we’re both in the healthcare field, and we’re really close, so we wanted to do this together.” This trip was extremely appealing to Bower because she knew she would have the opportunity to work side-by-side with nurses in a variety of hospital settings, gaining insight on Latin American medicine and procedure. “I thought I wanted to be an international nurse and work in South America, but I couldn’t really say that until I actually went down there and experienced it.”

Bower and her brother stayed in Guayaquil, Ecuador with an American nun from Brooklyn who is primarily responsible for the operations of a Hansen’s disease (leprosy) foundation/clinic. Many days, while her brother worked with a local doctor on the further development of his medical clinic, Bower worked in an infectious disease hospital for children and then later would reunite with her brother at the Hansen’s clinic, practicing in a nurse’s role while he treated the patients. Bower learned there is a huge difference between nursing in Ecuador and in the United States. She was astounded at the lack of education and the improper use of universal precautions. “I don’t think most people realize how much we have living here in the United States. So much can be done down there; the smallest help to us is the biggest help to them.” Bower’s trip with her brother to Ecuador has been one of the most significant influences on her future professional career.

“I’m such a huge advocate for nurses going abroad because nursing is so different from country to country. There are so many

study abroad programs at the University of Pittsburgh, even outside of the nursing school,” Bower says. She encourages anyone who wants to study abroad to look at the programs available through the study abroad office on the eighth floor of the William Pitt Union. Bower wants nursing students to know it is possible to study and see the world while in nursing school. She insists on it. “I’m living proof. Along with the very strict and defined nursing school schedule, I’m working on three certificate programs: African studies, Latin American studies, and global studies, with a concentration in global health,” she says. “One of the great things about Pitt is the enormous variety of classes offered, which allows for the overlapping of credits.” Bower is taking 72 credits in addition to her nursing credits. By carefully selecting courses with overlapping credits, she has been able to plan for graduation in four and a half years. “It’s really hard to do and I know that turns a lot of people off — but it can be done, and it will be worth it,” she says.

At the moment, Bower is preparing for the 2005 spring term Semester At Sea program through the University of Pittsburgh. “I’m really excited about this trip — you get a little ‘taste’ of several continents.” Bower, along with other Pitt students and students from many other universities, leave January 18 from Vancouver, Canada, sailing west. In addition to classes on the ship, the program includes intermittent stops in ports such as: Busan, Korea; Kobe, Japan; Shanghai, China, Hong-Kong, China; Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Channai (Madras), India; Mombasa, Kenya; Cape Town, South Africa; Salvador, Brazil, and La Guaira, Venezuela. Bower plans on taking at least one day in each country to spend time in a hospital, observing and speaking with both healthcare providers and patients, hoping to gain a broader perspective of cross-cultured medical systems.

Bower has a large support system which includes her advisors, mentors, friends, and especially her family. “I don’t know what I would do without these amazing people in my life. It seems like no matter what new ideas I throw at them, they are always ready to help in whatever way possible,” she says. “I know it’s a non-traditional route, but I’m very proud of what I’ve been able to do with the resources I have.” **PN**

## BUILDING GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS — continued from page 9

Department of Medical Genetics at the National Institute of Geriatrics, Ministry of Health in Beijing. Dorman talked about her research in the genetic epidemiology of type 1 diabetes, as well as the School’s major research interests in Beijing, Nanning, Guilin and Liuzhou.

She also learned more about the impact of nursing in China, the potential for students to study abroad, and opportunities for faculty to provide training and conduct research with Chinese counterparts. Possible areas of study include research in type 2 diabetes,

osteoporosis and aging. These are particularly important research topics for China because it has the world’s largest elderly population, with 134 million people over age 60.

Dorman hopes China is the first in a new series of international collaborations that focus on nursing research and education. “I look forward to helping the School build more partnerships globally,” says Dorman. “It’s a very exciting time for international nursing research.” **PN**





**OSAMA SAMARKANDI, BS, GMD, MBA, RN**, is “An outstanding informatics master’s student,” according to Deborah Lewis EdD, RN, associate professor and coordinator of nursing informatics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Department of Health and Community Systems. The feeling is mutual. Samarkandi calls Lewis “the best advisor ever.” Lewis, who is well known and respected in the field of nursing informatics, is one of the reasons Samarkandi decided to come to the School of Nursing to study for his master’s. He is especially grateful for her support and encouragement.

Samarkandi studied in the United States before. In 2001, he was one of ten students from King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center (KFSH&RC) who traveled from Saudi Arabia to study at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. He already held a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from King Abdulaziz University and was a master’s candidate in administration at the Arabian Academy for Science and Technology and Maritime Transportation. Samarkandi was an administrator at KFSH&RC when Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Charity Establishment offered him a scholarship to earn a bachelor of science degree in nursing (BSN).

The ten students stayed together and supported each other in all aspects of their lives in the United States. “It was a collaborative effort,”

says Samarkandi. “We all pitched in \$200 and bought a used car. Only one of us could drive, so that person had to take us everywhere. Eventually, one-by-one, we each got our licenses.” They all earned BSN degrees and some of them continue toward higher education.

The experience is different this time. Samarkandi is here with his wife and their child. “People at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing are different,” says Samarkandi. “The way they treat foreigners is more welcoming and hospitable. They are so kind, helpful, and encouraging.”

Samarkandi, who is here to study nursing informatics, wants to implement E-health in Saudi Arabia. An E-health system is currently limited by the bandwidth of the Saudi internet connections. “You can’t transmit large amounts of data with dial-up,” says Samarkandi. “But that will get better. And when Internet access improves in Saudi Arabia, we will be ready to implement a nursing informatics system.”

“The opportunities for male nurses in Saudi Arabia are beginning to increase, and the Ministry of Health is making a good effort to support it,” says Samarkandi. “The image of nursing is still not very high in Saudi Arabia. Hopefully this will change, but it will take time.” **PN**

# Judith A. Erlen, PhD, RN, FAAN

## NURSES SHARE COMMON GOALS

**INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL STUDENTS** have traveled to the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing to earn advanced degrees for over thirty years. In 1954 the School became one of the first three schools of nursing in the country to offer a doctoral degree.

“The emphasis in the doctoral program now is nursing research within broad focal areas,” says Judith A. Erlen, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development and doctoral program coordinator. “We look for individuals who want to do research in chronic disorders, acute care, adolescent health, technology, genetics or women’s health, and we try to find the best faculty match for their interest.”

International doctoral students are encouraged to direct their research toward health problems relevant to the people in their country. According to Erlen, this approach has been successful “These are individualized programs set up with a mentor and an individual student. The programs are customized to meet each student’s particular needs and interests,” she says. “We are trying to prepare them so they can go back and do work in their own country to advance their personal educational and professional goals and the health concerns of their country.” School of Nursing doctoral program graduates can be found in Canada, Israel, Japan, Jordan, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Iraq.

Because of cultural differences, international students have to modify what they learn here to make their research relevant to their country. Nursing theory, ethics and clinical textbooks are culture-specific to Western culture, so international students need to make adaptations. For example, because of cultural differences, ethical issues are viewed differently in the Far East and women’s health issues are viewed differently in the Middle East.

International research and educational collaborations and international students at all levels help broaden the perspectives of all students and faculty. As the students become more comfortable with

the program and their peer group, they begin to share experiences from their own countries and talk about the things that are different in their cultures. “There’s so much we can learn from our international students. Everyone isn’t able to travel abroad, but it’s interesting to share cultures, hear the different positions of our international students, learn there is more than one approach, and begin to think about the world in a different way,” says Erlen. While there are differences, there are a lot of similarities. “You learn we share common goals — nurses share common values. It doesn’t matter where they come from. We all share a desire for knowledge and skills and caring about people.”

“When people start to share, it’s wonderful. It enriches everyone!” **PN**





## INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL STUDENTS & RECENT GRADUATES

Forty-six students are currently enrolled in the doctoral program, including six international students. Recent graduates are working as educators, administrators, and researchers in their own countries.

RECENT DOCTORAL GRADS	FROM	MENTOR(S)	DISSERTATION
Yu-Yun Hsu, PhD '04, RN, assistant professor at the Department of Nursing in the National Cheng Kung University	Taiwan	<b>Susan Sereika, PhD</b> , associate professor and director, Center for Research and Evaluation with <b>Lorah Dorn, PhD, RN</b> , professor of pediatrics, Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center	The Effects of Type 1 DM, Perceived Pubertal Development, Negative Life Events, and Social Support as Moderators in the Predictive Model for Psychosocial Adjustment in Girls at Puberty in Taiwan
Ayman Hamdan-Mansour, PhD '04, RN	Jordan	<b>Kathryn Puskar, DrPH, FAAN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems	Alcoholic Use Predictors in Rural Adolescents
Kawkab Shishani, PhD '03, RN assistant professor, Hashemite University	Jordan	<b>Sandra J. Engberg, PhD, RN, CRNP</b> , assistant professor and chair, Department of Health Promotion and Development	The Relationship between Depressive Symptoms and Adherence to Pelvic Floor Muscle Exercise (PFM) after Completing Behavioral Therapy Program
Sathja Thato, PhD '02, RN	Thailand	<b>Denise Charron-Prochownik, PhD, RN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development	An Assessment of Risky Health Behaviors During Adolescence Among Vocational Students as Conceptualized by the Expanded Health Belief Model in Bangkok, Thailand
Chuan-Hsiu Tsai, PhD '01, RN	Taiwan	<b>Sandra J. Engberg, PhD, RN, CRNP</b> , assistant professor and chair, Department of Health Promotion and Development	The Effectiveness of a Pelvic Floor Muscle Rehabilitation Program in Managing Urinary Incontinence Among Taiwanese Middle-aged and Elder Women
CURRENT DOCTORAL STUDENTS			
Wanida Sanasuttipun, PhD, RN	Thailand	<b>Denise Charron-Prochownik, PhD, RN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development	The Impact of Early Prenatal Disclosure of Congenital Heart Disease on Adaptation of Parents with Young Infants
E. Jean Dunning, PhD '99, RN	Ontario, Canada	<b>Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN, FAAN</b> , dean, School of Nursing; professor of nursing, epidemiology and occupational therapy; and director, Center for Research in Chronic Disorders	Construct Validation of Chronic Sorrow in Mothers of Children with Chronic Illness
Eun Seok Cha, MPH, RN	Korea	<b>Willa Doswell, PhD, RN</b> , assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development	
Lichun Chia, BSN, RN	Taiwan	<b>Sandra J. Engberg, PhD, RN, CRNP</b> , assistant professor and chair, Department of Health Promotion and Development	
Pei-Ying Chuang, MS, RN	Taiwan	<b>Marilyn Hravnak, PhD, RN, CRNP</b> , assistant professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care	
Ji Yeon Choi, MN, RN	Korea	<b>Leslie Hoffman, PhD, RN, FAAN</b> , department chair and professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care	
Shiaw-Ling Wang, MSN, RN	Taiwan	<b>Denise Charron-Prochownik, PhD, RN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development and <b>Susan Sereika, PhD</b> , associate professor and director, Center for Research and Evaluation	

**THE INTERNATIONAL VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM** provides an opportunity for international nurse scholars to pursue an individually designed mentored program to enhance their research skills and learn from faculty and/or clinicians. These individualized programs can range from six months to two years in length.

While some post-doctoral scholars are pursuing research careers when they go home, many come to the United States to gain other leadership training. Some hold positions in government, others return to nursing service administration positions. Still other scholars are nurse educators, returning to schools of nursing that want to develop their own PhD programs. “These schools may have master’s programs,” says Erlen. “Now they want to prepare their own nurse scholars with doctoral degrees.” Within the international nursing community there is a growing need to prepare nurse leaders, educators and researchers in order to provide quality care across all disciplines.




## BUILDING ACADEMIC NURSING IN SWITZERLAND

**SABINA DE GEEST, PHD, RN**, director and professor of nursing at the Institute of Nursing Science, University of Basel in Switzerland was inspired by her experiences as an international scholar at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. Using the connections she made at the school, De Geest helped establish the Institute of Nursing Science (INS) at the University of Basel. De Geest collaborated with Sandra J. Engberg, PhD, RN, CRNP, assistant professor and chair in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, to develop a clinical assessment course for BSN and MN students — the first University program for nursing in Switzerland and the first advanced practitioner program in Europe. The course was taught by Joanne McDowell, PhD '85, RN. In addition to program development, Engberg helped with testing and evaluation.

To achieve her ultimate goal of making the program self-sustaining, De Geest worked with Engberg and McDowell to develop a "Teaching the Teachers" clinical assessment course for doctoral students and faculty.

In addition, De Geest worked with Engberg and McDowell to launch a research program. She was the primary investigator on a grant to study heart failure, the first nursing grant submitted in Switzerland and the first grant by a nurse to be funded by the Swiss National Science Fund.

Sabina De Geest, PhD, RN  
director and professor of nursing  
Institute of Nursing Science  
University of Basel  
Basel, Switzerland

A portrait of Sabina De Geest, a woman with short blonde hair and glasses, wearing a maroon blazer over a dark top and a necklace. She is standing in front of a window with a reflection visible.

“The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing helped set the pace in developing the graduate education programs, research portfolio and clinical field development activities at the Institute.”

A woman with long dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark blazer and light blue pants, stands on an escalator. She is smiling and has her hands clasped in front of her. The background is bright and slightly blurred, showing the structure of the escalator and some yellow lights.

# ESCALATING OPPORTUNITIES

*“A WISE MAN WILL MAKE MORE OPPORTUNITIES THAN HE FINDS.” — Bacon.*

**JINA CHOO, PHD, RN, TRAVELED** halfway around the world to get ahead in her own country — she said good-bye to her family in Seoul, South Korea and came to the United States to study for two years to help realize her goal of becoming a nursing leader in Korea.

Academic success in Korea is based in part on westernized values. To get a faculty position in one of the top two universities in Korea, candidates must have studied in the United States. It is also important for applicants to have been published in a highly rated and respected professional journal, many of which are written in English.

Choo chose nursing research because she is confident she can become a leader in this area. “I want to be a leader in our

society,” says Choo. “There is a lot of competition, especially with males, in other disciplines or academic areas and in the Korean culture, men are given priority for leadership positions. Nursing is more open to women so it is easier to compete to be a leader.”

In Korea, there are opportunities, although limited, for funding for post-doctoral fellowships in chemistry, physics and medicine. “There is little funding in nursing compared to other disciplines,” says Choo. “There are no opportunities for funding in nursing for post-doctoral fellowships in Korea, so scholars must go abroad.” Choo is married and has a daughter who is in elementary school here. Her husband is back in Korea.





Choo came to the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing to pursue her scholarly interest in cardiovascular disease, especially cardiac rehabilitation, and primary and secondary prevention of risk factors through diet and exercise. “Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in Korea, but preventive medicine and research related to prevention are not well developed,” she says. “With this education, I can contribute to the prevention of cardiovascular disease in Korea.”

She is participating in a research project with Lora Burke, PhD, MPH, RN, associate professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems. “I searched the internet to find a research project congruent with my area of interest. Lora’s project is oriented to cardiovascular prevention so I decided to come here,” says Choo. “I wanted to participate in Lora’s research project.”

Burke is a global person. “My parents came from Europe. I worked in a healthcare facility in Germany and traveled in Europe for six months the year after college. Since that experience, I’ve been interested in the bigger picture, in other cultures and what healthcare professionals in other countries do,” she says. “Working with Jina is a way for me to know and understand at a deeper level the Korean culture, what they do, how and why, and what they value.” Burke has presented at international conferences in several countries, including the Philippines, Ireland and Jordan.

Last year Choo focused on grant submissions to fund her research. “Even though we didn’t get any of the grants, it was good experience,” she says. “I learned the process of writing and submitting grants.”

Her visa does not allow Choo to be paid for her work, “This is a barrier for all the international scholars,” Burke says. Burke is helping Choo work on two more grants to fund her research “We hope the next two will be funded,” says Burke. In the meantime, her post-doctoral studies are funded by what Choo calls “the family

plan.” “Her family back home makes an incredible sacrifice to support her for two years on the American economy,” says Burke. “This shows how much the Korean culture values education.”

Choo is impressed with the data management system at the school. The Independent Review Board (IRB) requires that data be kept for five years after a study is completed, regardless of how long it takes to complete the study. As a result, the Center for Research in Chronic Disorders (CRCD) and Dr. Burke has data that is ten years old. In Korea they do not keep data very long — it’s temporary. “I was surprised that 10-year-old data is kept in the data base,” says Choo. “Lora has a data manager on the project who is keeping data perfectly. I can use this data, so I was very surprised!”

Burke meets with the project staff for the current trial every week and reviews the data every month — more often if necessary. “You have the history of the study and the subjects from previous studies so you can go back and analyze data. Even though it is 10-years old, there are many important things you can learn from data sets,” says Burke.

“Keeping and managing the data is very important,” says Choo. “I served for six years in a cardiac rehabilitation center as a cardiac rehabilitation coordinator. If I had known this system, I would have handled the data differently.”

Choo was surprised by how independent the faculty is in academic activities. “Once they are funded, faculty researchers here create a team and work very closely together,” says Burke. Professors are not as independent in Korea, where research may be supported by the university or the government, the Korean Research Foundation. Doctoral students work on their mentor’s projects.

Burke is confident Choo will realize her goal and become a nursing leader when she returns to Korea. **PN**



## HEALTH CARE ISSUES OF OLDER ADULTS IN THE UNITED STATES

**Kwuy Bun Kim, PhD, RN**, administrator at Kyung Hee University in Korea, came to the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing to investigate quality of life in elderly Korean Americans. Kim was mentored by Sandra Engberg, PhD, RN, CRNP, assistant professor and chair, Department of Health Promotion and Development.

Her studies with Dr. Engberg gave Kim an idea. The elderly are respected in Korea, but there are not enough facilities to care for the growing elderly population. Kim wanted to share the knowledge she was acquiring with her colleagues in Korea to help address the issues of this growing population. She collaborated with Dr. Engberg and Barbara Spier, PhD, RN, to develop a seminar on gerontological nursing for faculty from the College of Nursing Science, Kyung Hee University, Seoul, South Korea. Twenty-six nurses, faculty and a translator attended the five-day intensive workshop held on July 7-11, 2003. The schedule included field trips to several local hospitals and centers for older adults, including Vintage, a multipurpose center for older adults; Woodside Place, a state-of-the-art Alzheimer's care facility; and Longwood, a continuous care facility. Topics covered included: demographics and research priorities; physiological changes; pain and arthritis management; complementary medicine and alternative therapies; stroke treatment and rehabilitation; prevention of falls and alternatives to restraints; depression, loneliness and self-esteem; research and care issues in Alzheimer's and dementia patients; polypharmacy; urinary incontinence; end-of-life issues; and future trends.

## THE PITT FACTOR DOWN UNDER

**HELEN EDWARDS, PHD, RN, FRCNA**, is head of the School of Nursing and principal researcher at the Centre for Health Research, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in Australia.

Edwards is currently leading a range of research projects to improve the quality of life and quality of care for the elderly. Findings from these studies have been published in international refereed journals and book chapters. She has been invited as a keynote speaker to several international and national conferences and is the chief investigator for an innovative community intervention project for the treatment of chronic leg ulcers and an Australian national study trialing innovative clinical education models.

A member of key international and national nursing organizations, Edwards has been involved in numerous activities to advance gerontological nursing, including: the first gerontological nursing course to be offered in Australia in partnership with an aged care provider; externally funded Professorial Chair in Aged Care; the exchange of staff between the university and aged care industry providers; and the first International Communication, Aging and Health Conference in Australia.

## COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE NURSING EXPERIENCE IN KENYA

**MARGARET N. MUIVA, MSN**, chairman of the Department of Nursing Sciences at the University of Nairobi visited the School of Nursing in 2003 to explore potential collaborations in the areas of nursing education and research. Her presentation, "Health Care Issues in Kenya," drew an enthusiastic audience of faculty and students from the Community Health Nursing course, the Africana Studies Program, and the University of Pittsburgh Center for International Studies (UCIS).

During her week-long visit, Muiva met with the school's administrative and research personnel, department chairs, MSN and BSN Council chairs, as well as with international studies faculty, Ann Mitchell and Mark Von Stein. She also met with Africana Studies and UCIS staff and faculty. In addition, Muiva had an opportunity to observe faculty and students in the Skills Lab and in hospital settings.

Julius M. Kitutu, PhD, research assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, has been in contact with Muiva to discuss implementing a study abroad program for School of Nursing students in Kenya. In September 2004, Kitutu traveled to Nairobi where Muiva arranged for him to meet with administrators and faculty from the Department of Nursing Sciences at the University of Nairobi. Kitutu also visited four sites where nursing students receive clinical training: Kenyatta National Hospital, Thika District Hospital, Kiambu District Hospital, and Karuri Training Health Center.



## Recent Post-Doctoral Research Studies

Visiting Scholars at the School of Nursing have conducted research on a wide range of topics within the areas of chronic disease, technology, and genetics.

STUDENT	FROM	MENTOR(S)	FOCAL AREA
Fisun Ergun, PhD, RN	Turkey	<b>Cathy Bender, PhD, RN</b> , assistant professor, Department of Health and Community Systems; <b>Susan Cohen, DSN, RN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development; <b>Margaret Rosenzweig, PhD, RN</b> , assistant professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care	<b>Oncology nursing</b> , including: quality of life of nursing staff working in oncology units in Turkey and exercise intervention for the management of fatigue in patients receiving chemotherapy
Eun Bun Lee, MSN, RN	Korea	<b>Gayle Whitman, PhD, RN, FAAN</b> , former associate professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care	<b>Nursing Service Administration</b> including scheduling, patient classification systems, quality improvement, programs and clinical research
Soo Jin Kim, PhD, RN	Korea	<b>Kathryn Puskar, DrPH, FAAN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems	<b>Adolescent Mental Health</b> and a comparison of school adjustments among adolescents in the United States and Korea
Kwuy Bun Kim, PhD, RN	Korea	<b>Sandra Engberg, PhD, RN, CRNP</b> , assistant professor and chair, Department of Health Promotion and Development; <b>Susan Cohen, DSN, RN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development	<b>Quality of life in elderly Korean Americans</b> ; Effects of acupuncture therapy on insomnia; and the effects of meridian exercise on anxiety, depression, and self-esteem on female college students in Korea. Kim also organized a workshop on gerontological nursing for faculty from the College of Nursing Science, Kyung Hee University, Seoul, South Korea
Jina Choo, PhD, RN	Korea	<b>Lora Burke, PhD, MPH, RN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems	<b>Cardiovascular Disease</b> with a focus on cardiac rehabilitation, and primary and secondary prevention of risk factors through diet and exercise
Kyung Mi Sung, PhD, RN	Korea	<b>Kathryn Puskar, DrPH, FAAN</b> , associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems	<b>Adolescent Mental Health Issues In Korea</b>
Sohyune Sok, PhD, RN, professor, College of Nursing Science, Kyung Hee University, Seoul, South Korea	Korea	<b>Judith A. Erlen, PhD, RN, FAAN</b> , professor and doctoral program coordinator, Department of Health Promotion and Development	<b>Chronic Disorders and Complementary/Alternative Therapies</b> Inducted into Sigma Theta Tau at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing
Isabel Idigoras, BSN, RN	Spain	<b>Judith A. Erlen, PhD, RN, FAAN</b> , professor and doctoral program coordinator, Department of Health Promotion and Development	<b>Clinical Outcomes of Patients with HIV</b>

## 2004 STATE OF THE SCIENCE

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing was well-represented at the 2004 National Congress on the State of the Science in Nursing Research, "Nursing Science — Working Toward a Healthier Nation," on October 7-9, in Washington, D.C. Thirty-three School of Nursing faculty and members presented an astounding total of 24 abstracts, posters and sessions.

Co-sponsored by the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science (CANS), the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) and the nation's top nursing organizations, the State of the Science is held biennially to showcase the contributions of nurse researchers and influence the national agenda. Nurse researchers from around the country join with recognized experts, funding agencies supporting nursing research, policy makers, and academic leaders to explore emerging scientific discoveries related to nursing practice.

An open membership council of the American Academy of Nursing, CANS promotes better health through nursing science and acts as a national networking and advocacy entity for nursing scientists and supporters of nursing science. In addition, CANS is a strong voice for nurse scientists at the national and international levels to support the development, conduct and utilization of nursing science.

## THE EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Since 1990 the International Congress of Behavioral Medicine (ICBM) has been held every two years in six cities on three different continents. The Eighth Congress was organized by the International Society of Behavioral Medicine (ISBM) and the German Society of Behavioral Medicine and Behavior Modification (DGVM) to increase research, knowledge, and applications of behavioral medicine, and to provide a network for people interested in behavioral medicine. A prominent feature of ISBM is its interdisciplinary and inter-professional character.

The 2004 Congress, held on August 25-28, in Mainz, Germany, featured a scientific program of symposia, oral and poster presentations, workshops, and meetings. Tracks included: aging, pulmonary disorders, cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, nutrition & obesity, women's health, health behaviors, and health education. Susan Sereika, PhD, associate professor and director of the School of Nursing's Center for Research and Evaluation chaired a symposium, "Magnitude and Predictors of Poor Adherence across Regimens." As part of the symposium, Sandra J. Engberg, PhD, RN, CRNP, assistant professor and chair in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, presented a paper on "Predictors of Nonadherence to a Pelvic Floor Muscle Exercise Regimen," and Lora E. Burke, PhD, MPH, RN, associate professor in Health and Community Systems, presented a paper on "Predictors of Nonadherence to Weight Loss Protocol." Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN, dean, professor of nursing, epidemiology and occupational therapy, and director of the Center for Research in Chronic Disorders provided a summary and discussion of the papers presented in the symposium.

## INTERNATIONAL DIABETES SELF-EFFICACY STUDY

The School of Nursing is collaborating with International Partners in Self-management and Empowerment (IPSE), an international consortium of researchers with a shared interest in the area of adherence and self-efficacy in chronic disorders. IPSE members include faculty in nursing at Utrecht University, Netherlands; University of Basel, Switzerland; University of Warwick, United Kingdom; Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium; Queensland University of Technology, Australia; and the University of Pittsburgh.

The group met in Mainz, Germany in August to discuss their current project, a cross-cultural study of self-management in patients with Type 2 diabetes. In addition to contributing to the pool of data for the study, the School's Center for Research in Chronic Disorders (CRCD) data management and analysis core is serving as the pooled data

center for the project. The CRCD provides management and analysis support for data sets collected from several independent studies currently being conducted in the United States and in different parts of the world, including: Australia, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Each of the independent studies is using two instruments designed to measure outcome expectancy and diabetes specific self-efficacy in persons with Type 2 diabetes, the Diabetes Management Self-Efficacy Scale (DMSES) and the Perceived Therapeutic Efficacy Scale (PTES). As part of the study, the DMSES and PTES instruments are meticulously translated to be understandable to populations in each country where they are used, but still fundamentally identical to the instruments used in every other country. One of the goals of the study is to determine if the two instruments are equally valid in different countries for people with Type 2 diabetes.

## INTERDISCIPLINARY QUALITATIVE RESEARCH GROUP

A group of interdisciplinary colleagues across the University of Pittsburgh campus has come together informally to teach and learn qualitative research.

The Qualitative Research Group began when two faculty members from other schools within the University came to Ellen Olshansky, DNSc, RNC, FAAN, professor and chair in the Department of Health and Community Systems, requesting to be mentored in qualitative methods that complement their own research programs. The group grew over the next few weeks. "We continue to grow as we meet regularly," says Olshansky. "We realize that integrating resources across the University of Pittsburgh campus could facilitate education, training and interdisciplinary collaboration in qualitative research methods."

Olshansky received a Steven Manners infrastructure grant to build on these informal meetings by establishing a formal interdisciplinary working group. The group encourages interdisciplinary collaboration in qualitative research among faculty and students and provides training, mentoring and



resources in qualitative research methods for the entire University of Pittsburgh community.

Visit the group's web site for more information at [www.pitt.edu/~qualgrp](http://www.pitt.edu/~qualgrp)

### THE CLINICAL RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The University of Pittsburgh is one of seven national recipients of a prestigious award to develop a multidisciplinary clinical research career development program for junior investigators. The Clinical Research Scholars Program (CRSP) is supported by the National Institutes of Health through the K12 mechanism.

This program, open to post-docs, fellows, and junior faculty from all six Schools of the Health Sciences, is designed to provide funding, clinical research training, mentoring and hands-on research to individuals who will become leaders in multidisciplinary research at the University, as well as nationally and internationally.

The award provides salary support and research funding for 25 scholars for up to five years. The School of Nursing actively participates in this initiative.

For further information, please visit the K12 website [www.crhc.pitt.edu/crsp](http://www.crhc.pitt.edu/crsp)

## IN THEIR OWN WORDS

During my PhD studies I was exposed to theoretical, research, statistical and adolescent health courses. These courses not only provided me with knowledge of the nursing profession, but also introduced me to a scientific thinking process. In addition, I learned the *spirit of truth and strict research process*...I still keep these two themes in my professional career and life.

### YU-YUN (ALICE) HSU, PHD '04, RN

assistant professor at the Department of Nursing  
National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

Being in the United States and witnessing 9/11 is unforgettable. The Free Europe Liberty radio station interviewed me on the third anniversary of the tragedy and asked, 'Did you feel people treated your family differently in the aftermath?' I told them, 'Yes. They treated us differently in a positive way – the support we had from the school and neighbors was overwhelming.' That is something I always share with people everywhere — the School of Nursing is the place where international students do not feel they are foreigners.

### KAWKAB SHISHANI, PHD '03, RN

assistant professor,  
Hashemite University, Jordan

...Students, who came with me from Jordan and chose other universities, were envious for the good chances that we have here as doctoral students and for the excellent and healthy academic environment.

### AYMAN HAMDAN-MANSOUR, PHD '04, RN

assistant professor at the Faculty of Nursing  
University of Jordan

BY KIM MOWREY

**SANDRA LAND, PHD, BSN'67**, is regional advisor on local health services, health systems and services at the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). She began her career as a staff nurse at Presbyterian University Hospital in the clinical area of obstetrics. Maternal and child health and public health administration have continued to be important to her throughout a career that has not only spanned decades, but continents. "I really enjoy international work," Land says.

"My experience as a student at the University of Pittsburgh had an impact on my career path. I had to take a course in public health, and I really liked the public health aspect of nursing," Land says. "I've been in public health nursing ever since."

After graduating from the School of Nursing, Land joined the Peace Corps and went to Comalapa, Guatemala as a volunteer and public health nurse. When her time in the Peace Corps ended in 1969, she attended the University of North Carolina and earned a master's degree in public health in 1971.

In the early 1970s, Land worked first in South Carolina as a coordinator for maternal and child health and family planning projects at Charleston County Health Department, and then in Delaware as a nursing consultant and a family planning nurse practitioner at the Division of Public Health in Dover. She later became the director of family planning at the Division of Public Health, and earned her PhD in public policy and administration from the University of Delaware in 1984.

In 1985, Land moved to Texas to assume the position of regional nursing director at the Texas Department of Health. She returned to school at the University of Texas Health Center at San Antonio, graduating in 1989 with an MSN in women's health.

Influenced by her time in the Peace Corps, Land looked for international work that would give her an opportunity to travel when she and her husband moved to Washington DC. She accepted the position of regional advisor at PAHO in 1990 where she remains. Since 1992, Land has also been part of the World Health Organization (WHO)/PAHO Initiative, Health of the Indigenous Peoples. She has worked on general models of care, maternal and child health programs and traditional quality of care.

Land says she has enjoyed being a nurse because it has given her the perspective to see the

importance of developing patient care and has offered her close contact with clients and communities. "I wouldn't have wanted to do the things I've done without being a nurse," she says.

Janice Dorman, PhD, MS, associate dean for scientific and international affairs at the School of Nursing, contacted Land in September 2004 to discuss ways for the School to build on international projects, and expand their efforts to the Americas. At Land's suggestion, Dorman is exploring ways for the School to have an impact on a broader scale and establish effective links in the Latin American and the Caribbean regions.

"I think research will become more and more interdisciplinary and the School of Nursing should maximize existing linkages with the Graduate School of Public Health to maximize impact," Land says. "It's important to try to see things through public health lenses."

Land believes building on the School's existing programs in rural areas will help develop a model for helping Latin American regions. After recently attending a global alliance on patient safety, she feels quality of care and patient safety are growing areas of concern as well.

After her retirement in December 2005, Land hopes to remain active in international work. She has looked into such

programs as Partners of the Americas, a network of citizens from Latin America, the Caribbean and the United States, who volunteer to work together to improve the lives of people across the region through community-based activities. Partners' network of volunteers promotes collaboration in the region's social and economic development through working relationships among professionals and institutions across the hemisphere and has successfully formed 60 partnerships, 120 chapters between the United States, Latin American countries and the Caribbean. Locally, Pennsylvania partners with Brazil.

Land began her career in western Pennsylvania and plans to retire here. She will retire to Fort Littleton, PA in south central Pennsylvania after a long career serving communities worldwide as a public health nurse.

"I've been very fortunate in my career," Land says. "I would make the same decisions again, starting with going to Pitt." **PN**



# ALUMNI NEWS + NOTES

## Nursing Alumni Society President's Message



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** The Nursing Alumni Society is looking ahead to a productive 2005. I'm pleased to report our efforts thus far this academic year have met with much success.

The Executive Committee has welcomed class representatives from each undergraduate class to its planning meetings. This has been a wonderful experience for we are learning so much from each other...a truly 'win-win' situation! When presented the opportunity to fund subscriptions to a professional journal for the nursing students residing in the Living Learning Center on the 13th floor of Lothrop Hall, the Executive Committee responded wholeheartedly.

Many nursing alumni have answered the call to become involved with other worthy projects. The School's Mentorship Program has successfully attracted a number of alumni who have volunteered to share their time and expertise as mentors. Homecoming 2004 brought nursing alumni to the 2nd annual *Pathways to Professions* event at Alumni Hall and to the Alumni Tent at Heinz Field. Alumni participation in our fundraising initiatives — the annual poinsettia sale and our lovely "Pitt Nursing" bracelets — has been impressive. I can't tell you how much alumni support is appreciated as we strive to raise scholarship dollars and educate nursing students about the alumni role: giving back of time and talent to our Alma Mater.

I personally invite fellow nursing alumni to make plans to attend Alumni Day 2005 on Saturday, May 21, 2005, at the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel. We have some wonderful things planned...especially for YOU! I look forward to seeing you there!

**GLORIA PELC GOTASKIE, MSN '94, BSN '77**  
President

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Nursing Horizons Conference

March 11, 2005  
Victoria Building

#### Pinning

April 29, 2005  
Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall – 7:00 p.m.

#### Commencement

May 1, 2005  
Petersen Events Center – 1:00 p.m.

#### Graduate Student Dinner

May 1, 2005  
4:00 p.m.

#### Alumni Day 2005 – "It's all about YOU!"

May 21, 2005  
Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel

#### Anesthesia Conference

June 4, 2005

To RSVP for an event or for more information, please contact Jennifer Fellows at 412-624-5328 or via e-mail at [jmw100@pitt.edu](mailto:jmw100@pitt.edu).

### APPLICATIONS FOR RUTH PERKINS KUEHN RESEARCH AWARD DUE JULY 1

**THE RUTH PERKINS KUEHN RESEARCH AWARD**, established in honor of the School's founder and first dean, Dr. Ruth Perkins Kuehn, is presented to an alumnus or faculty member whose work demonstrates a clear clinical application and support for the practice of nursing. Funding priorities are based on the proposal's scientific merit, with consideration given to the investigator's ability to conduct the study. The project's potential for leading to further research,

methodology/theory development and its contribution to nursing knowledge or knowledge in other fields is also evaluated.

**Deadline for 2005 submissions is Friday, July 1, 2005.**

For application criteria and guidelines for the Ruth Perkins Kuehn Research Award, call the Center for Research and Evaluation at (412) 624-4854 or check online at <http://cre.nursing.pitt.edu> after May 1.



## 1960's

**Dr. Patricia Murphy Bitar, MNEd '67**, chairperson, department of pupil services at Valley High School in New Kensington, PA, earned a PhD in nursing in May 2004. Dr. Bitar's dissertation focus was "The Self-Perceptions of Adolescents with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder."

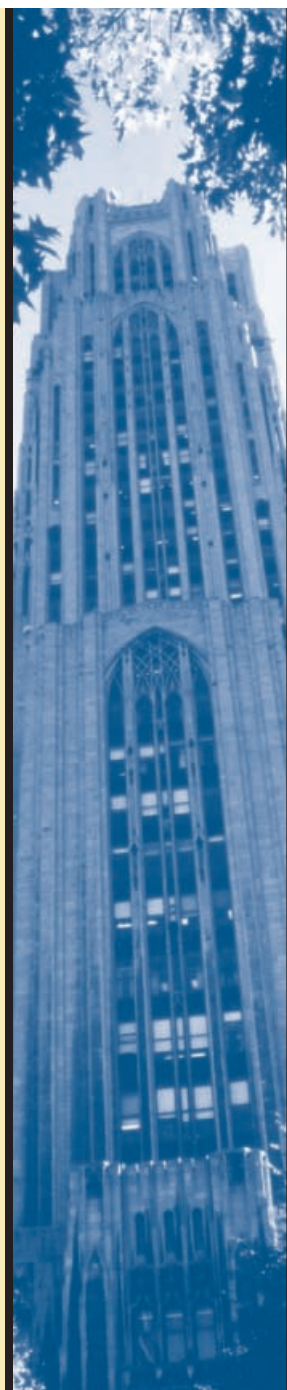
**Dr. Janet Rexrode Southby, BSN '69**, retired U.S. Army colonel, has been recently appointed to the Potomac State College of WVU Board of Advisors. Dr. Southby spent 31 years in active federal service and at the time of her retirement in 1996 was serving as chief of the department of nursing at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and as chief nurse at North Atlantic Regional Medical Command in Washington, DC. Currently an adjunct assistant professor of nursing at The Catholic University of America and deputy director of Interagency Institute for Federal Health Care Executives at George Washington University, Southby is president of the Walter Reed Society, vice president/president-elect of the Army Nurse Corps Associations and a member of the board of directors for the U.S. Army Women's Museum Foundation.

## 1970's

**Barbara Hagins, BSN '76**, retired from Abbott Laboratories pharmaceutical regulatory affairs management staff, has formed her own consulting firm, Barbara Hagins & Associates, Inc., to assist bio-technical and pharmaceutical companies with advertising and product promotion. The firm serves clients in the Chicago area and across the country.

## 1980's

**Alice E. Conway, PhD '88, MN '68**, promoted to full professor in the Department of Nursing at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, has been awarded a Center for Advancing Partnerships in Education 3-phase grant entitled "Teaching Strategies to Enhance Critical Thinking in Nursing Students in the 21st Century."



## 1990's

**Joan Such Lockhart, PhD '92, MNEd '79, BSN '76, CORLN, AOCN, FAAN**, professor and associate dean for academic affairs at Duquesne University School of Nursing in Pittsburgh, PA, is author of Unit-Based Staff Development for Clinical Nurses, Oncology Nursing Society, 2004. The book provides clinical nurses with practical information about the key components of staff development and serves as a guide for nurses who wish to strengthen and expand their competencies related to their professional role and progress in clinical advancement programs within their work settings.

**Jennifer Hlad, MSN '94**, a nurse practitioner, recently obtained a new position in emergency medicine within the Virginia Emergency Medical Association. She staffs Fair Oaks Inova Emergency fast-track and education. Over the past five years, Jennifer has worked in the emergency department, having been in family practice at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center previously.

**Susan Kwiecinski Mason, BSN '98**, recently promoted to clinical nurse education specialist for oncology services at the University of North Carolina Hospital in Chapel Hill, is in the master's program at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. Her focus of study is clinical nurse specialist. Susan is the wife of Tim Mason, BSN '98.

**Tim Mason, BSN '98**, currently working in the UNC North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center, is co-author of the article, "Methemoglobinemia in Critically-Ill Burn Patients," to be published in the January 2005 issue of the *American Journal of Critical Care*. Tim is the husband of Susan Kwiecinski Mason, BSN '98.

## 2000's

**Grace Duling, BSN '01**, currently practicing at Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina, is planning to explore travel nursing in January 2005.

## In Memoriam

**Mabel Whitney Konopa '46**  
October 7, 2004

**Elizabeth Hulings Booker '47, '60**  
October 6, 2004

**Ruth Pidgeon Jenkins '51**  
March 13, 2004

**Carla Mensch Hoagland '69**  
July 2, 2004

**Edith R. Van Halanger '76**  
July 15, 2004

**Carla J. Knox '92**  
July 19, 2004

*If you wish to express condolences to a classmate's family, the Alumni Office will be pleased to forward your message. Contact Joan Nock at [jno100@pitt.edu](mailto:jno100@pitt.edu) or 412-624-2404. Mail can be directed to Ms. Nock at: University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing; Office of Advancement and External Relations; 218 Victoria Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15261.*

The University of Pittsburgh  
**School of Nursing Alumni Society**

Invites you to

# ALUMNI DAY 2005

Saturday, May 21, 2005

at the Hilton Pittsburgh, Gateway Center

## *“It’s all about YOU!”*

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### 10:00 AM

- Registration/Welcome/Continental Breakfast
- Class Reunion Meet & Greet/Photos  
(‘45, ‘50, ‘55, ‘60, ‘65, ‘70, ‘75, ‘80, ‘85, ‘90, ‘95, ‘00)
- Boutique Shopping

#### NOON

- Luncheon/Fashion Show

#### 1:00 PM

- Program
- Gloria Gotaskie, ‘77, ‘94  
*President, Nursing Alumni Society*
- Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN, FAAN  
*Dean, School of Nursing*
- 2005 Distinguished & Honorary Alumni Awards
- Nursing Alumni Scholarship Awards

### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

#### HILTON PITTSBURGH, GATEWAY CENTER

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Reservations: 1-800-Hiltons

Room Rate: \$99/night (available until 4/21/05)

*When making reservations, please state you are with the “University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.”*

#### 2005 Class Gift Program

Classes marking reunions in 2005 may make donations in any amount in honor of their milestone celebrations. Please indicate your class year on your check’s memo line when directing a check to the “University of Pittsburgh” for this program that benefits nursing students and include with your Alumni Day 2005 registration. Your generosity is most appreciated.

### REGISTRATION FORM – ALUMNI DAY 2005, SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2005

#### Please RSVP by May 14, 2005.

- ☐ YES, I plan to attend Alumni Day. Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ NO, I cannot attend but wish to make a Class Gift donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(include name at graduation)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail or Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Check here if new address or telephone number

Name(s) of Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **University of Pittsburgh** and return with this form to the School of Nursing, Room 218, 3500 Victoria Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. Contact Joan Nock, associate director of alumni relations, at 412-624-2404 or [jno100@pitt.edu](mailto:jno100@pitt.edu) for more information.

## READING, WRITING AND RAVIOLI

### Alumna Volunteers in Italian Classrooms

**SUN-DRENCHED OLIVE GROVES, SIDEWALK CAFES AND LIVELY CLASSROOMS** - all were factors in creating an unforgettable cultural experience in Southern Italy for University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing alumna, Nicki Jo Perfetti, BSN '02, of Pittsburgh.

Perfetti was part of a Global Volunteers team that devoted two weeks in October, 2004 to teaching conversational English to adults and youths in the Puglia region of Southern Italy. Now in its 20th year, Global Volunteers is a nonprofit organization that offers short-term volunteer opportunities all over the world.

Perfetti focused her energies on teaching middle-school students in the ancient white-walled city of Ostuni, located just inland from the port city of Brindisi. "I bonded with the students and their teacher," said Perfetti. "The Italian people are very warm and friendly,"

At the invitation of local host organizations, Global Volunteers sends teams of volunteers to sites in 19 countries, including the United States. Founded in 1984 by Bud Philbrook, Global Volunteers works under the direction of local community leaders. No special experience or expertise is necessary to join a Global Volunteers program.

"This program was the experience of a lifetime — in cultural, spiritual and personal ways," says Perfetti. "What better way to bridge peace and understanding between American and Italian cultures than to be a volunteer teaching English in Italy?"

While this project was a conversational English-teaching program, other service programs involve light construction or painting, assisting local medical staff, providing computer training or caring for at-risk children. Volunteers pay their own tax-deductible participation fees. The organization is not subsidized by any government or religious agency. One- two- and three-week programs are offered on six continents. All project-related costs, including airfare, are tax-deductible.

For more information, contact Global Volunteers at (800) 487-1074, 375 E. Little Canada Rd., St. Paul, Minn. 55117, [email@globalvolunteers.org](mailto:email@globalvolunteers.org) or go to [www.globalvolunteers.org](http://www.globalvolunteers.org).



## TRAVEL AND LEARN

**THE PITT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** mission statement includes the words "enrich the lives of alumni." Travel is one of the most enriching experiences one can have. Each year the association hosts educational travel programs near and far. Join fellow Pitt grads in traveling to one of the following destinations in 2005, and continue your education:

- Panama Canal Cruise - *January*
- Yucatan Peninsula - *March*
- Passage of Peter the Great - *May*
- Waterways of France - *May*
- Village Life in the Alps - *May*
- British Isles Cruise - *June/July*
- Village Life in Wales - *July/August*
- Yellowstone/Dude Ranch - *August*
- Krakow - *August*
- Danube & Hapsburg Cruise - *August*
- Great Lakes Cruise - *September*
- America's Last Coast: Seattle to Vancouver - *October*
- Saxony Cruise - *October*

For more information, visit [www.alumni.pitt.edu/travel/](http://www.alumni.pitt.edu/travel/)

Become a member of the Pitt Alumni Association today.

Call 1-800-258-PITT (7488) or visit

[www.alumni.pitt.edu/membership/](http://www.alumni.pitt.edu/membership/)

## ALUMNI DAY 2005

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Alumni Society is excited about hosting Alumni Day 2005: "It's all about YOU!" on Saturday, May 21, 2005 at the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel.

*The event will offer:*

- Milestone Reunion Celebrations
- Classes of '45,'50,'55,'60,'65,'70,'75,'80,'85,'90,'95,'00
- 2005 Distinguished and Honorary Alumni Awardees
- 2005 Student Scholar Recognition
- Boutique Shopping
- Fashion Show, featuring Pitt Nursing alumni

Plan to be a part of the fun because it's all about YOU! Please see registration form on page 31. Registration form can also be downloaded from the School's website at [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu). Click on 'Alumni & Friends.'



## PITT NURSING BRACELET: A TREASURE TO BEHOLD!

**THE NURSING ALUMNI SOCIETY** is sponsoring the sale of Pitt Nursing bracelets created especially for alumni, students and friends. Made of sterling silver beads and Swarovski crystals, the bracelet features blue and khaki crystals. Each piece is handcrafted and strung on 49-strand stainless steel nylon-coated wire. Bracelets, available in 7" – 7½" – 8" lengths, can be ordered in two styles – one features more crystals while the other features more sterling silver beads. The bracelet comes with a nursing cap charm, and customers may choose between a lobster claw or toggle clasp. Bracelets sell for \$50 each.

When ordering, please make sure to specify length, style and clasp. Use order form below or download an order form from the School of Nursing's website at [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu); click on 'Alumni & Friends.' Any questions can be directed to the School of Nursing Alumni Office at 412-624-2404. Proceeds benefit student activities and scholarship.

QTY	SIZE	STYLE	CLASP	PRICE	TOTAL
	Small – 7" Approx wrist size 6"			\$50	
	Medium – 7½" Approx wrist size 6½"			\$50	
	Large – 8" Approx wrist size 7"			\$50	
SHIPPING/HANDLING					\$ 3
ORDER TOTAL					\$

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to "**University of Pittsburgh**" and write 'Pitt Nursing Bracelet' on memo line. Mail check and order form to: **University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing Alumni Office, 218 Victoria Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15261**



## PHONE-A-THON CONTINUES TO MAKE GREAT CONNECTIONS

The School of Nursing continues to reach out to alumni through personal phone contact...a great way to update our records and keep in touch. We're always interested in hearing about you and will be calling you soon!

## AFRICAN AMERICAN NURSING ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

**AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR** filled with renewed hope and possibilities, I would like to take a moment to reflect on our achievements.

Through our collective efforts, we have made a difference in the lives of nursing students. Many of us have participated in the School's Mentorship Program. By sharing our knowledge and experience with mentees who are bright and eager to learn, we have literally touched the future of nursing. Additionally, we have raised significant dollars since 1989 to ease the financial burden of students — nearly \$36,000. These accomplishments are a direct result of the level of alumni commitment that makes me extremely proud to be a Pitt graduate!

However, with the rising cost of tuition, more dollars are needed. Therefore, I am personally appealing to fellow alumni to make a donation to help defray the cost of tuition and books and enhance diversity at the School of Nursing by attracting quality students.

Checks may be made payable to: "*The University of Pittsburgh*" and mailed to: The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing; 218 Victoria Building; 3500 Victoria Street; Pittsburgh, PA 15261. Please write "AAEND" on the memo line.

The future of the Committee depends on alumni who are willing to carry on the proud tradition we have established. I have served as

Chair for the past three years and believe it's time for me to step down. Fresh ideas from newly involved alumni are necessary for us to build on past accomplishments and ensure future success.

Please consider involvement in the African American Nursing Alumni Committee. For more information, contact Joan Nock, associate director of alumni relations, at 412-624-2404 or via e-mail at [jno100@pitt.edu](mailto:jno100@pitt.edu).

**LUEVONUE LINCOLN, PHD'82, MN '78**  
Chair

# Cameos of Caring: A Celebration of Nursing



**THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH** School of Nursing honored 43 nurses from 36 area hospitals and one Palermo, Italy facility at its sixth annual Cameos of Caring Awards Gala on Saturday, October 16. Over 1000 guests gathered in the Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center to salute the 2004 Cameos of Caring Awardees and to celebrate the nursing profession. Mike Clark, local news anchor for WTAE-TV, served as the emcee for the event and shared praise for nursing, his wife's profession.

Nominated by their peers, the 2004 awardees demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to quality patient care through their practice. Each embodies the spirit of Cameos of Caring. To date, 197 nurses have received the prestigious Cameos of Caring Award.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Cameos of Caring Endowed Scholarship at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. This year, over \$80,000 was directed to the scholarship fund bringing the total dollars raised to over \$300,000. The scholarship is awarded annually to nurses wishing to enhance their education.

This year, three Pitt Nursing graduates received the Cameos of Caring Award, they are: Tammy McElhinny Enders, BSN '87, of Magee Womens Hospital of UPMC Health System; Eileen O'Toole, MSN '89, '96, the Advanced Practice Awardee from West Penn Allegheny Health System, Allegheny General Hospital and Becky Mitchell-Perry, BSN '99, MSN '02, the Donate Life Awardee from UPMC Shadyside.

A special thank you to our event sponsors:

**University of Pittsburgh Medical Center**  
**Center for Organ Recovery & Education**  
**Johnson & Johnson**  
**Cerner Corporation**  
**STAT Staffing**  
**UPMC Physician Services**

For more information about the Cameos of Caring Awards Program and Gala and the Cameos of Caring Endowed Scholarship, please visit our website at [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu) or call 412-624-5328.



## SPREADING BEYOND BORDERS...

### SABRINA SCARPINATO, RN

UPMC Italy, The Mediterranean Institute for Transplantation and Specialized Therapies

Sabrina Scarpinato is a floor charge nurse at The Mediterranean Institute for Transplantation and Specialized Therapies (Istituto Mediterraneo per i Trapianti e Terapie ad Alta Specializzazione, or IsMeTT). IsMeTT is an international center for specialized medicine, serving the people of the Mediterranean region. Located in Palermo, IsMeTT was founded as a partnership between the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, the Cervello and Civico hospitals in Palermo, and the Sicilian regional government.

A resident of Palermo, Scarpinato earned her nursing diploma at the Civico Hospital School of Nursing. With experience in medical surgical nursing, Scarpinato has assumed increasing responsibility as a preceptor and charge nurse. She finds what is most satisfying about her career is the sense of empathy and human relationship with patients and the teamwork with colleagues.

Scarpinato's colleagues respect her professionalism and diligence, sound decision making, and problem solving abilities.

### LUCY THOMPSON, RN, MN, CCRN

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

Originally from Sydney, Australia, Lucy Thompson is an advanced practice nurse in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit (CICU) at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. In this role, Thompson mentors staff members and provides advanced assessment of high-risk patients, assists with patient transport and provides hands-on care during emergencies and operative interventions.

"Nursing is a career that allows me to meet and work with patients and families who face obstacles that are unthinkable, people who manage to turn adversity into advantage and who are miracles in their own right," she says.

"Thompson single-handedly designed, planned and implemented our Cardiopulmonary Nursing Fellowship Program, designed to make our nurses bedside experts in pediatric cardiac care," says Chris Angeletti, patient service manager, CICU. Thompson cites her involvement with the fellowship program as the most significant event of her career. "The satisfaction of watching someone learn and apply a new piece of knowledge, or master a difficult clinical skill is beyond words," she says.

School of Nursing alumni among 2004 awardees: (L-R) B. Mitchell-Perry, MSN '02, BSN '99, T. Enders, BSN '87, E. O'Toole, MSN '89, '96 and School of Nursing Dean, Dr. Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob.



## 2004 Cameos of Caring Awardees

Children's Hospital of  
Pittsburgh

**Heidilyn M. Dolinich**

Heritage Valley Health System,  
Sewickley Valley Hospital

**Amy L. Dunn**

Heritage Valley Health System,  
The Medical Center, Beaver

**Rachel A. Wallick**

Jefferson Regional Medical  
Center

**Gerald M. Saylor**

Latrobe Area Hospital

**Hilda White**

LifeCare Hospitals of  
Pittsburgh

**Lorraine Kwiecinski**

Magee-Womens Hospital of  
UPMC Health System

**Tammy Enders**

Monongahela Valley Hospital

**Dana Green**

Ohio Valley General Hospital

**Susanne A. Forsythe**

Pittsburgh Mercy Health  
System

**Susan M. Berger**

St. Clair Hospital

**Maureen Wolesslagle**

Uniontown Hospital

**Mary Kay Stiver**

UPMC Bedford Memorial

**Karen Bischof**

UPMC Braddock

**Vanessa O'Kain**

UPMC Horizon

**Laurie Hardesty**

UPMC Italy

**Sabrina Scarpinato**

UPMC Lee Regional

**Ruth Ann Lasky**

UPMC McKeesport

**Vonnie Zabelsky**

UPMC Northwest

**Marilyn Brody**

UPMC Passavant

**Maggie Lattanzio**

UPMC Presbyterian

**Renee C. Hernandez**

UPMC Rehabilitation Hospital

**Nancy Czolba**

UPMC Shadyside

**Patricia Cosentino**

UPMC South Side

**Karen Ferrari**

UPMC St. Margaret

**Bobbie Olszewski**

VA Pittsburgh Healthcare  
System, Heinz Division

**Donald P. Fox**

VA Pittsburgh Healthcare  
System, Highland Division

**Janice M. Rihely**

VA Pittsburgh Healthcare  
System, University Drive  
Division

**Darlene Ann Dietrich**

West Penn Allegheny Health  
System, Allegheny General  
Hospital

**Tina M. Biondi**

West Penn Allegheny Health  
System, Alle-Kiski Medical  
Center

**Kathy McPherson**

West Penn Allegheny Health  
System, Canonsburg General  
Hospital

**Darlene Marcischak**

West Penn Allegheny Health  
System, Forbes Regional  
Hospital

**Risa Candelore**

West Penn Allegheny Health  
System, Suburban General  
Hospital

**Nancy M. Chisholm**

West Penn Allegheny Health  
System, The Western  
Pennsylvania Hospital

**AnnaMarie Pozycski**

Western Psychiatric Institute &  
Clinic

**Annie Hahn**

Westmoreland Health System,  
Frick Hospital

**Susan Perry Koloshinsky**

Westmoreland Health System,  
Westmoreland Regional  
Hospital

**Christine Colland**

### 2004 ADVANCED PRACTICE AWARDEES

Children's Hospital of  
Pittsburgh

**Lucy Thompson**

Heritage Valley Health System,  
The Medical Center, Beaver

**Brenda Petrella**

UPMC Horizon

**Kimberly A. Lombardi**

West Penn Allegheny Health  
System, Allegheny General  
Hospital

**Eileen O'Toole**

West Penn Allegheny Health  
System, The Western  
Pennsylvania Hospital

**Joan M. Latsko**

### 2004 DONATE LIFE AWARDEE

UPMC Shadyside

**Becky Mitchell-Perry**



## DEVELOPMENT NEWS

**THE SCHOOL OF NURSING**, in conjunction with the University of Pittsburgh, is in the eighth year of a ten-year Capital Campaign. With the silent phase of the Campaign commencing in July 1997, this major fundraising effort is set for completion in June 2007. The University of Pittsburgh's goal is \$1 billion. To date, a total of \$733 million has been raised, approximately 73% of the anticipated goal. The School of Nursing reached \$7 million (or 82%) of its \$8.5 million goal as of November 30, 2004 and is confident it will not only successfully meet, but also exceed, its goal by June 2007. This high expectation is fueled by the generous support of alumni, corporations, faculty, foundations, friends, organizations, and staff.

Voluntary support for the School of Nursing has increased. Total cash and pledges for fiscal year 2004 were an impressive \$1,486,911. This represented an increase of \$381,372 or 34% from FY 03. The number of donors also rose in FY 04: 1,847 donors compared to 1,650 in FY 03. This reflects an increase of 197 donors, or 12%, over the previous year. The School of Nursing received two significant estate gifts and two major grants from a corporation and foundation in 2004.

The focus for fiscal year 2005 fundraising includes the following:

- ✦ Endowed Scholarships – targeted for graduate studies and traditionally under-represented individuals
- ✦ Endowed Research Funds – targeted for young investigators
- ✦ Endowed Nursing Oncology Chair – to recruit and retain a faculty leader
- ✦ Increasing awareness of Planned Giving options — see insert in this issue
- ✦ Broadening the School's circle of philanthropic friends

To accomplish the School's goals, alumni, faculty and volunteers are invited to:

- ✦ Make a gift today. Online giving is simple, connect to [www.pitt.edu/giving.html](http://www.pitt.edu/giving.html)
- ✦ Get involved. Attend School of Nursing activities such as alumni, continuing education or mentoring programs
- ✦ Keep connected. Provide the School with updated contact information
- ✦ Be an ambassador. Encourage classmates, friends and colleagues to keep connected and become involved

Working together, we can meet the School's goals. If you would like to become involved, have questions or need additional information, please contact Mary Rodgers Schubert, MPM, RN, director of development, at 412-624-7541 or [mschuber@pitt.edu](mailto:mschuber@pitt.edu).

SPRING 2005

## Continuing Education Programs

### INNOVATIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES: TOOLS TO IMPROVE LEARNING

**FEBRUARY 11, 2005**

*Keynote Speaker: Susan A. Albrecht, PhD, RN, FAAN*

This half-day conference is designed to actively engage nurses in generating new ideas about learner-centered teaching.

### NURSING HORIZONS CONFERENCE

**MARCH 11, 2005**

*Keynote Speaker: Terri E. Weaver, PhD, CS, FAAN*

*Associate Professor and Chair*

*Division of Foundational Sciences and Health Systems*

*University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing*

Sleep, The Tossed Away Necessity? How sleep impacts an individual's health and functioning will be addressed along with the influence of shift work, work duration, and patient safety issues.

### NURSING AND BIOMEDICAL INFORMATICS SYMPOSIUM

**APRIL 8, 2005**

*Instructor: Scott Weber, EdD, RN, FACHE, FHIMSS*

*Associate Professor and Chair*

*Division of Foundational Sciences and Health Systems*

*University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing*

Graduate majors in Nursing Informatics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing will present their advanced practice and research projects in clinical and biomedical informatics

### FAST TRACK BACK: RE-ENTRY INTO PRACTICE

**MAY 3-JUNE 6, 2005**

Designed for the RN without recent clinical experience preparing for re-entry into nursing practice.

### EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE IN CHILDREN'S HEALTH: FOCUS ON FITNESS AND NUTRITION

**MAY 6, 2005**

This conference, designed for pediatric, school and public health nurses, as well as teachers, coaches and other pediatric professionals, presents the current evidence and best practices regarding childhood fitness and nutrition.

### 2005 PHARMACOLOGY UPDATE

**AUGUST 26, 2005**

This conference is designed to meet the ongoing continuing education needs of advanced practice clinicians in various areas of pharmacologic management of disease and health care.

*For more information or to register, please call 412-624-3156 or e-mail: [conted@pitt.edu](mailto:conted@pitt.edu).*

### GIVE US YOUR OPINION...

The Nursing Continuing Education Department is seeking your suggestions for conference topics for the coming year. Please visit our

website at: [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu) Click on our Continuing Education Home page and complete the brief survey.

## TRAUMA AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing now offers a Trauma and Emergency Preparedness clinical emphasis within the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program. The program is designed to provide education and experience in trauma, emergency medicine and emergency preparedness. Extensive clinical and simulation experiences supplement a strong didactic program.

**Leslie Hoffman, PhD, RN, FAAN**, department chair and professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, was honored by Johnson & Johnson in a film highlighting ten nurse researchers in action. While the work of these nurse scientists represents a broad range of research topics and settings, the film reflects the passion they possess for the patients they serve and ties nursing research into improved patient care.

Titled, "America's Nurses: They Dare to Care," the film was created in partnership with the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research (FNINR) as part of the Campaign for Nursing's Future, a multi-year campaign to attract more people to the nursing profession in hospitals and extended care facilities. The film was debuted at the FNINR NightinGala on October 6, in Washington, DC.



Moore (second from left) is congratulated by (l to r) Chancellor Mark Nordenberg; School of Nursing Dean, Dr. Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob; and Provost James Maher, Jr.

## ONCOLOGY NURSING PIONEER HONORED

**Pearl F. Moore, MN '76, BSN '68, FAAN**, chief executive officer of the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), the ONS Foundation, the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation and Oncology Education Services, Inc., was named a 2004 Legacy Laureate by the University of Pittsburgh. One of eleven Legacy Laureates recognized by the University, Moore was recognized for her work in oncology nursing that includes founding the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), an international organization with over 30,000 members, and raising millions of dollars for cancer research.

The University's Legacy Laureate program was launched in 2000 to recognize alumni for their personal and career achievements and provide them the opportunity to contribute to the success of current students. Legacy Laureates are University of Pittsburgh alumni who have achieved exceptional success in pursuit of their life goals and who continue to inspire others by example.

Through the Legacy Laureate program, each year a number of the University's most accomplished graduates return to campus to share their experiences, accomplishments, and advice through informal contacts with current students, faculty and administrators.

On Tuesday, October 19, Moore presented "Proud to be a Pitt Graduate," an overview of some of the seminal events in her life and career, to an audience of faculty, staff, students, and friends at the School of Nursing. The next day, Moore shared her expertise and suggested strategies for successful grant writing over lunch with graduate students and international scholars at the School.

Legacy Laureates Day kicked off, "Remembering Pitt: Homecoming 2004" on Thursday, October 21. The eleven Laureates were honored with a by-invitation-only dinner at the home of Chancellor Mark Nordenberg, and participated in "Pathway to Professions," a career networking event for Pitt alumni.

"Nursing makes so much possible — whether you have one or two jobs or many jobs," says Moore. "I'm a lucky woman who loves what she does!"

## MITCHELL RECEIVES NURSE AS GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARD

**Ann M. Mitchell, PhD, RN, AHNC**, assistant professor, Department of Health and Community Systems, has been awarded the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association's 2004 Nurse as Global Citizen Award which recognizes a member who has demonstrated citizenship as a nurse in the local, state, national, or international community. For strength of character, commitment and competence, the recipient is recognized by peers as one who makes a difference and who inspires other nurses to make a difference in the world.

## CONVOCATION AWARDEES

**Terry Starrett, MSN, RN**, doctoral student and project manager in the School of Nursing's Department of Health and Community Systems, received the Ruth Perkins Kuehn Research Award during the 2004 Convocation ceremony on September 13. Established in honor of the School's founder and first dean, the Ruth Perkins Kuehn Research Award is presented annually to an alumnus or faculty whose work demonstrates a clear clinical application and support for the practice of nursing. Starrett is conducting research on "The Feasibility and Acceptability of Using Personal Digital Assistants with Veterans Having Type II Diabetes."

**Sheila Alexander, PhD, BSN**, assistant professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, and **Ji Yeon Choi, GSR, MN, RN**, were awarded the Leslie A. Hoffman Endowed Acute Care Nursing Research Award during the 2004 Convocation ceremony on September 13. This award was established through the efforts of Dr. Hoffman's father and former students to recognize her contributions to nursing research.

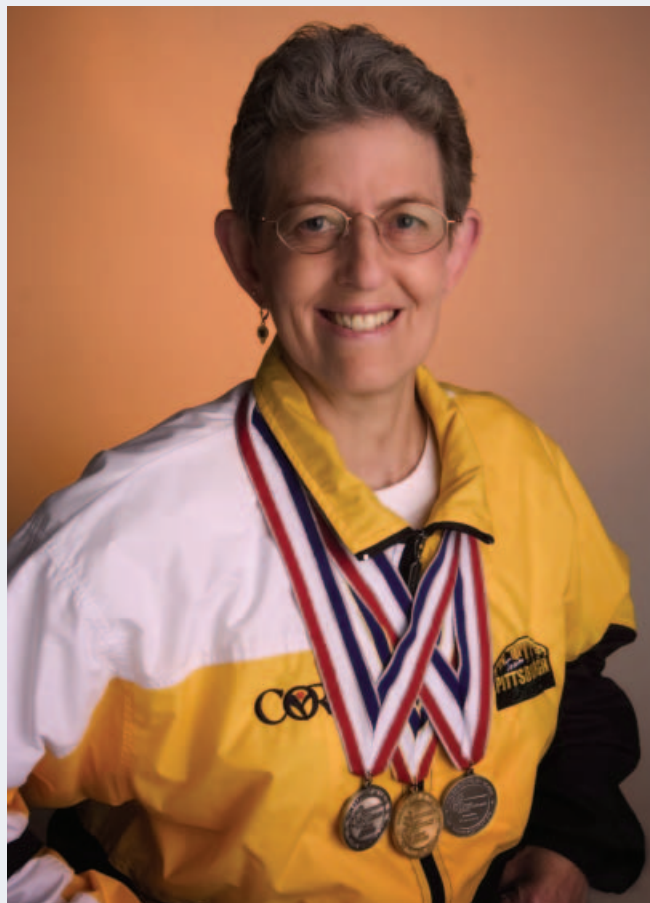
## Transplant Olympian

**Terry Starrett, MSN, RN**, doctoral student and project manager in the School of Nursing's Department of Health and Community Systems, won three medals at the 2004 Transplant Olympics held July 28 through August 1, 2004 at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Starrett earned a gold medal in the 100-meter breast stroke and silver medals in the 400-meter freestyle swimming and 100-meter track. According to CEO John Davis, the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) organizes the US Transplant Games to demonstrate to the public that transplantation works and to illustrate the tremendous need for more organ donors. "Transplant athletes compete as if they've never been sick a day in their lives. In fact, many have been very sick and would have died without an organ donor," says Davis. "Win or lose, this group of athletes all carry an inner trophy – a new organ that qualifies them for the dream team in the game of life."

The U.S. Transplant Games is the largest sports event in the world for people with life-saving organ transplants. 2004 marked the organization's eighth biennial Olympic-style U.S. Transplant Games. "The U.S. Transplant Games provide the transplant community the opportunity to honor the extraordinary generosity of donors and donor families," says Davis. "These individuals make transplantation possible by providing the 'Gift of Life' to some of the more than 85,000 people who are in need of a life-saving organ transplant."

NKF is the world's largest organization dedicated to promoting organ and tissue donation. It provides education and offers programs for transplant recipients, donor families, living donors and the professionals who care for them.

Starrett is already training for the 2005 Transplant Olympics, set for July 16 through 24 in London, Ontario Canada.





## School of Nursing Participates in Community Clinical Events

**The School of Nursing took part in several community events, providing screenings and health education.**

### **WTAE-TV HEALTHY 4 LIFE AND AMERICAN DIABETES EXPO**

Faculty and students partnered with the Allegheny County Medical Society to provide blood pressure screening and educational service to participants at the WTAE-TV Healthy 4 Life and American Diabetes Expo on Saturday, August 28, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. The School of Nursing joined over 100 community providers to screen and educate attendees at this major community health screening and educational event. The mission of the American Diabetes Association is to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all people affected by diabetes.

### **HOMewood CHURCH OF CHRIST HEALTH FAIR**

Faculty and Students offered blood pressure screenings and healthy heart education at this small community faith-based health fair on Saturday, September 11.

### **DAY OF HEALTH SCREENINGS SPONSORED BY HIGHMARK CARING FOUNDATION**

Death rates from heart disease, prostate cancer, diabetes and stroke are from 1.5 to 3 times higher in African American individuals. The Day of Health Screenings event on Saturday, October 30, at the James F. Henry Hill House included health risk assessments and health screenings. The goals of the event were to increase awareness of heart disease, prostate cancer, diabetes and stroke; educate attendees about early detection, prevention and disease management; and encourage medical follow up.

School of Nursing faculty and students provided blood pressure screenings, healthy heart education, BMI (Body Mass Index) calculations, healthy eating education, and health risk assessments. Over 100 citizens of the Hill District and surrounding areas participated.

### **UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES HEALTH FAIR**

On Thursday, November 4, School of Nursing faculty and students provided blood pressure screenings and healthy heart education at The William Pitt Union as part of the University's annual health fair. They also assisted in BMI calculations and offered education on healthy eating and exercise.

## Influenza Vaccination Program

The School of Nursing, along with the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD), administered influenza vaccinations to individuals who were unable to obtain a vaccination from their private physicians and who met screening criteria identifying them as high risk individuals. A School of Nursing collaboration with the ACHD enables senior level community health nursing students to practice within various areas of the Department.

The first clinic, held on October 18th, in Oakland, drew enormous community response. In order to provide appropriate shelter for the elderly, the site was moved to a large tent at Heinz Field for the duration of the program, which spanned 6 days and included thousands of injections. School of Nursing faculty provided injections throughout the program. In addition, students from the Community Health Nursing course and medical surgical nursing course, accompanied by clinical faculty, assisted with injections, client interviews, crowd management, and injection and supply preparation. School of Nursing clerical staff volunteered their assistance, making this a mutually beneficial experience. School of Nursing students had a valuable opportunity to participate in a meaningful community activity, to gain experience in mass immunizations and public health nursing interventions, to increase their confidence in technical skills and to provide a much needed community service. Following this, the faculty and students organized two "FluMist" clinics under the authority of the Health Department with donated vaccine from the Medical Center. One targeted health science employees and students and one targeted the public.

The School of Nursing is partnering with the Highmark Caring Foundation in events targeting city neighborhoods and addressing the needs of high risk African American citizens. In addition, the school is planning for the Working Hearts National Woman's Heart Day, scheduled for February 18th, at the David Lawrence Convention Center, and will continue to recruit faculty and students to participate in various community events. Any alumni who are interested in such activities should contact Nancy Donovan, MN, RN, coordinator of community clinical events at [ndo100@pitt.edu](mailto:ndo100@pitt.edu) or 412-624-6943.



## FACULTY NEWS

**Lisa Bernardo, PhD, MPH, RN**, instructor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, received her health fitness instructor certification through the American College of Sports Medicine. This certification is the gold standard in the fitness industry.

**Nancy C. Grove, PhD, RN**, director and associate professor of the Nursing Program, and coordinator of the School Nurse Certificate Program at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (UPJ), was awarded a Nursing Education Grant from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation. The \$24,000 grant is intended to reduce the financial demand on nurses by providing scholarships for students who graduate from the UPJ nursing program in the 2004-2005 academic year.

Grove received a similar grant from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation for the 2003-04 academic year. That \$26,000 grant was distributed to 22 qualified graduating nursing students. "The part I like best is watching the surprise and joy on the student's faces as they are handed the checks," says Grove.

**Ann M. Mitchell, PhD, RN, AHNC**, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems in the School of Nursing and assistant professor of psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine, has been awarded a Hewlett International Small Grant through the University Center for International Studies for her study "Nurses' Reactions to Patients' Deaths: A Cross-Cultural Comparison." Working with a group of researchers in Pittsburgh and Boston, Mitchell studied nurses' reactions to the death of their patients, as part of a larger study, funded through the Nathan Cummings Foundation, to examine physicians' reactions and coping strategies. Mitchell and colleagues presented findings from those studies on cultural competence in end-of-life care at the 3rd Hispanic Congress of Health Related Professions. "Death, like life, across cultures has its rules and taboos," says Mitchell.

**Donna Nativio, PhD, CRNP, FAAN**, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development and director of the family/adult and pediatric nurse practitioner programs, was honored for 30 years of continuous certification as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). The recognition ceremony and dinner took place at the American Nurses Association Biennial meeting in Minneapolis in June 2004. Nativio was also elected to a two-year term as vice chair of the Content Expert Panel for ANCC's Pediatric Nurse Practitioner certification examination in October 2004.



Bernardo



Schlenk



Grove



Beach



Mitchell



Nativio

**Elizabeth A. Schlenk, PhD, RN**, assistant professor, Department of Health and Community Systems, was appointed chair of the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals (ARHP) Committee on Research after serving on this committee for one year. She will work on a submission of a workshop grant for the 2005 ARHP Annual Meeting on Responsible Conduct of Research to the Association of American Medical Colleges

## Transitions

### FACULTY

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing is pleased to welcome the following faculty:

### FULL-TIME

**Sheila Alexander, PhD, BSN**, joined the faculty as an assistant professor, tenure stream, in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care. Dr. Alexander was formerly project director on an NINR funded study in the department.

**Michael Beach, MSN, RN**, joined the faculty as a clinical instructor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care.

**Carole Shimko Senter, PhD, RN**, joined the faculty as assistant professor, tenure stream, in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care. Senter is associate director of student services, graduate programs.

**Judy Kaufmann, DrPH, MA, MSN, RN**, has been appointed assistant professor, tenure stream in the Department of Health Promotion and Development.

### PART-TIME

**Michele Kuszajewski, MSN, RN**, joined the faculty in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care as a part-time instructor.

## RESEARCH STUDIES

**Sheila Alexander, PhD '04, BSN '89**, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, received an award from Sigma Theta Tau – Eta Chapter for her study, "APOE Genotype and Cerebral Vasospasm and Outcomes after Subarachnoid Hemorrhage."

**Lora Burke, PhD, MPH, RN**, associate professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, has been awarded a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for her study "Treatment Preference and Vegetarian Diet in Weight Loss – Administrative Supplement" (09/30/04 – 04/30/06). Burke was also awarded an administrative supplement to her current R01 funding for her study, "Patterns of Self-Monitoring Among Weight Loss Study Participants," through the NIH and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (10/04- 04/06).

**Denise Charron-Prochownik, PhD, RN**, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, was awarded a grant from the University of Pittsburgh Diabetes Institute for her study "Reproductive Health Program for Women with Diabetes Across the Lifespan" (10/01/04 – 04/30/06).

**Annette Dabbs, RN, PhD**, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, was awarded a grant from the University of Pittsburgh Central Research Development Fund for her study "Customized Hand-Held Computer Applications for Lung Transplant Recipients" (07/01/04 – 06/30/06).

**Deborah Lewis, EdD, RN**, associate professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, has been awarded a grant from the National Institutes of Health for her study "Internet Resource for Caregivers of Children with Cancer" (09/15/04 – 08/31/06).

**John O'Donnell, MSN, RN**, instructor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care and director of the school's nurse anesthesia program, was awarded a grant from The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for Nurse Anesthetist Traineeships. (07/01/03 – 06/30/05). O'Donnell was also named the 2004 Distinguished Clinical Scholar during the 2004 Convocation ceremony on September 13. The Distinguished Clinical Scholar Award was established with contributions from the school's faculty practice fund and donations from alumni and friends. This competitive award enables clinical track faculty at the school to explore focus areas and then incorporate their findings into curriculum. O'Donnell plans a three-part project focusing on simulation training in obstetrics and pediatrics and training faculty in simulation use.

**Kathryn Puskar, DrPH, FAAN**, associate professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, has been awarded a grant from the National Institutes of Health for her study "Anger Assessment and Intervention in Rural Youth" (09/01/04 – 08/31/07).

## BSN TO PHD: NEW CHALLENGES AND ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

**Sheila A. Alexander, PhD '04, BSN '89**, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care is the School's first BSN to PhD graduate, and a woman who likes a challenge.

Alexander started her career on a neurosurgical floor, transferring to a neurosurgical intensive care unit after a year and a half "to find a greater challenge," she says. Eight years and several challenges later, Alexander decided to go back to school to earn a master's degree.

To fulfill the requirements of the MSN program, Alexander took the Research Practicum course under the direction of **Mary E. Kerr, PhD, RN, FAAN**, professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care. "Much to my surprise, I discovered research was fun," she says. "I enjoyed the work I was doing and was intrigued by the independence of the nurse researchers from whom I was learning." At Dr. Kerr's suggestion, Alexander switched to the BSN to PhD program. "While I often questioned the spontaneity of this life-altering decision, I never regretted it," Alexander says. "The education I received here prepared me for the future — I am ready and able to become an educator and an independent researcher. The possibilities are endless!"



Sheila Alexander, PhD '04, BSN '89 (right) is congratulated by Dr. Mary Kerr, after successfully defending her dissertation entitled, "Cerebrospinal Fluid Calcium, APOE Protein and Genotype in Individuals with and without Cerebral Vasospasm after Subarachnoid Hemorrhage," to become the school's first BSN to PhD graduate.



## STUDENT NEWS + NOTES

**Arley B. Nahas '06**, assisted flood relief efforts in the Pittsburgh area communities of Carnegie and Oakdale when remnants of Hurricane Ivan swept through the region on September 17, adding 5.9 inches of rain to ground already saturated by 3.6 inches of rain from Hurricane Frances. Supported by the Nursing Student Association, School of Nursing faculty and staff posted money collection boxes at the William Pitt Union and the Towers Lobby; washed cots used as beds for displaced flood victims; and donated ready-to-eat foods, cleaning supplies, and bottles of water to aid in relief efforts.

## DISASTER DRILL

The nursing special topics class, Disaster Preparedness and Mass Casualty (NUR 1865), conducted a Mock Disaster Drill on Monday, December 6, 2004. The scenario was a partial collapse of the escalator in the front Lobby during a gathering of students, faculty and staff. Severe, moderate, minor and fatal injuries were simulated in the drill.

"This student-led drill demonstrated the importance of drill planning and execution to the class," says **Paul J. Kapsar Jr., MSN, RN, CRNP**, instructor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care. "The drill also provided a test of the new paging system and a review of the school's disaster planning process."

## NURSE ANESTHESIA PROGRAM

**Deanna Alko '07** was recognized for the life-saving care she provided a patient while rotating at Covenant Medical Center in Saginaw, Michigan. "I am very proud that Deanna is here with us at Pitt," says John O'Donnell, MSN, RN, director of the school's anesthesia program and instructor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care.

"Deanna's performance speaks volumes not only about the type of anesthesia provider she is, but also about the quality education and training we received here at Pitt," says Eric A. Wrenn SRNA, who recommended Deanna for recognition. "I am proud to be considered one of Deanna's colleagues and to be a student at Pitt."

## AANA MEETING NOTES

At the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington in August, **Kelly Wiltse, RN, BSN**, second-year student in the nurse anesthesia program, was elected as the student representative to the AANA Education Committee. This is the only elected student position in the national organization, and Kelly is the second student in the University of Pittsburgh Nurse Anesthesia Program to be elected to this position over the past 3 years.

**Kim Mason, RN, BSN**, and **Liana Davis RN, BSN**, third-year students in the Nurse Anesthesia Program, received honorable mention for their paper, "Beta Blockade in Non-cardiac Surgery: A Review," submitted to the AANA student writing contest. Only 3 papers were recognized from submissions to this national writing contest.

**Eric Wrenn, SRNA**, third-year student in the Nurse Anesthesia Program, received the AANA Joyce Kelly Scholarship.

## BLUE AND GOLD NURSING STUDENTS

School of Nursing students **Ashley E. Earley '06**, **Ashley M. Elford '06** and **Josephine M. See '07** were selected for membership in the University of Pittsburgh Blue and Gold Society's Class of 2004-05. Comprised of 30 undergraduate student leaders university-wide, who act as liaisons between the Pitt Alumni Association and the University's student community, the Society maintains an extremely selective recruiting process, choosing candidates who demonstrate leadership, strong academic responsibility and "Pitt Pride." Earley, Elford, and See join fellow nursing student, **Bethany Francis '05**, a Blue and Gold Society member since 2003.



Air Force ROTC Scholarship, Mark Albright '05 and School of Nursing Dean, Dr. Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob



[Clockwise, Top, Left]  
Ashley E. Earley '06,  
Ashley M. Elford '06,  
Josephine M. See '07

## CONVOCATION

## STUDENT AWARDS + SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to the following School of Nursing students honored with awards and scholarships at the 2004 Convocation ceremony on September 13.

### UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Adda Eldredge Scholarship, Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter  
**Jessica Field '04**

Adena Johnson Davis Scholarship in Nursing  
**Bethany Francis '05**

\*African-American Nursing Alumni Scholarship  
**Ikeba Y. Bonas '05**

Air Force ROTC Scholarship  
**Mark Albright '05**

\*Ann M. J. Reed Memorial Scholarship  
**Mallory Mansour '08**  
**Ainsley Marshall '08**  
**Joanna McKee '07**  
**Linda Russo '07**  
**Crystal Teichert '07**

Ann Yurick Award, Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter  
**Amanda Basey '08**

\*Anne J. Pierce Endowed Fund for Student Resources\*  
**Cullen Chiu '08**

Army ROTC Partners in Nursing Education Scholarship  
**Malgorzata Bujak '05**  
**Audrye Burdette '05**  
**Chelsi Genday '06**  
**Elise LaCroix '07**  
**Timothy Yourk '05**

\***Deborah Elaine Lawhorn Memorial Fund**  
**Amber Jobe '05**

\***Dr. Ann Gera Yurick Memorial Fund**  
**Bridget Urda '06**

\*Elaine F. Hagerty Memorial Nursing Student Resources Fund  
**Amanda Bowling '06**

\*Elizabeth Lucas & Wilbur J. Chaffee Memorial Undergraduate Scholar's Award  
**Johanna Stump '05**

\*Ellen B. Rudy Endowed Scholarship for Future Nursing Leaders  
**Malgorzata Bujak '05**

\*Frank & Anna Minno Scholarship Fund in Memory of their Daughter Lt. Col. Julia Minno  
**Amy Walsh '05**

Ira Richmond Award, Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter  
**Kevin Morrissey '04**

\*Kathryn C. & John W. Conway Endowed Student Nursing Award  
**Michelle Raymond '05**  
**Tracy Schuessler '06**

Keeper of the Light  
**Jennifer Fleege '04**

\*Ladies Hospital Aid Society Endowed Fund for Student Resources  
**Andrea Fuhrman '05**

\*Lt. Ann Visnovsky Miner-Class of 1948 Nursing Scholarship Fund  
**Chelsi Genday '06**  
**Elise LaCroix '07**

Mamie Garland Scholarship Award, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., Kappa Chapter  
**Gertrude Y. Sefa '07**

Northeast Regional Scholarship Award, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc., Kappa Chapter  
**Monique McClinton '05**

Nursing Alumni Senior Student Award  
**Jessica A. Cooper '04**  
**Esther E. Cummings '04**

\*Pirates Alumni African-American Nursing Student Scholarship  
**Sheree King '06**

\*Rebecca Olive McKinney Endowed Fund for Student Resources  
**Sarah Zangle '06**

\*The Stella Yaksich Endowed Scholarship  
**Laura Barnes '06**

### GRADUATE AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Adda Eldredge Scholarship, Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter  
**Bonnie Noll (Doctoral)**

\*Beryl B. Haughton Jackson Endowed Fund for Graduate Students to Study Women's Health  
**Emily Stevens (Doctoral)**

Bessie Li Sze Scholarship  
**Rachael Rosenfield (Master's)**

Corinne M. Barnes Award, Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter  
**Christine Gelacek Cassesse (Master's)**

\*Corinne M. Barnes Endowed Scholarship  
**Beth Grabiak (Doctoral)**  
**Wendy Henderson (Doctoral)**

Doris E. & Davina J. Gosnell Endowed Nursing Scholarship  
**Bashira Charles (Doctoral)**

\*Dorothy Drake Brooks Endowment  
**Kelly Winkelvoss (Master's)**

Elizabeth Lloyd Noroian Scholarship  
**Sheila Alexander (Doctoral)**

Enid Goldberg Award, Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter  
**Denise Miller (Master's)**

\*Jeanne Swindell Wolfe Orr Endowed Fund for Graduate Students  
**Shenoa Bernstein (Master's)**

\*Patricia P. Lynch Scholarship  
**Keiko Kobayashi (Master's)**

\*Rose E. Constantino Endowed Scholarship  
**Eun-Seok Cha (Doctoral)**

Ruth Perkins Kuehn Student Award, Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter  
**Jennifer Lingler (Doctoral) & Eric Wrenn (Master's)**

Shirley Negley Kobert Award  
**Tricia Roesch (Master's)**

\*Szeming Sze Student Award  
**Dawn Lea (Doctoral)**

\*W. Edward and Jeannette L. Wolfe Memorial Fund  
**Greig Williams (Master's)**

\* Denotes endowed School of Nursing Scholarship. Scholarships in **bold** print are first-time awards.

## REMEMBER WHEN

Can you identify the year and the faces?



**IF SO, CONTACT JOAN NOCK AT 412-624-2404 OR [jno100@pitt.edu](mailto:jno100@pitt.edu). WE WILL PUBLISH YOUR ANSWER IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PITT NURSE.**

Want to share your memories with fellow alums? Just send us your favorite photo of yesteryear, and we'll run it in an upcoming issue. Submit your pics to: *Pitt Nurse*, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, 218 Victoria Building, 3500 Victoria Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. All pictures will be returned.



### REMEMBER WHEN PHOTO FROM SUMMER 2004 ISSUE

Calls from classmates of the BSN Class of 1986 — Marita Galya Griffin, Chris Sirimarco Nelson and Thomas Skelly - helped identify the handsome group in the 'Remember When' photo from our Summer 2004 issue. The photo was taken in April 1986 and includes (l to r): Donna Smith Skelly (Tom's wife), Joe Kelly, Tom Skelly and Janet Palamone (class president.) Thanks to all who contacted the School!



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# What's Happening?

Please send us information about your career advancements, papers presented, honors received, appointments, and further education. We'll include your news in the Alumni Notes section as space allows. Indicate names, dates, and locations. Photos are welcome! Please print clearly.

NAME:

DEGREE AND YEAR OF GRADUATION:

HOME ADDRESS: IS THIS A NEW HOME ADDRESS? ☐ YES ☐ NO

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***PITT NURSE***

Joan F. Nock

Associate Director of Alumni Relations  
University of Pittsburgh  
School of Nursing  
218 Victoria Building  
3500 Victoria Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15261  
E-mail: [jno100@pitt.edu](mailto:jno100@pitt.edu)

The University of Pittsburgh  
**School of Nursing Alumni Society**

Invites you to

## ALUMNI DAY 2005

on Saturday, May 21, 2005

at the Hilton Pittsburgh, Gateway Center

*“It’s all  
about YOU!”*

Complete the form on page 31 and return to the School of Nursing,  
Room 218, 3500 Victoria Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. Contact Joan  
Nock, associate director of alumni relations, at 412-624-2404 or  
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## **NURSING HORIZONS CONFERENCE**

March 11, 2005

7:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

This dynamic program is designed to prepare nurses for the ever-changing and challenging world of healthcare. The Nursing Horizons Conference is designed for all levels of nurses. The concurrent sessions feature outstanding speakers in their respective areas of expertise, including street drugs, HIV/AIDS, stress management and more.

Cost: \$120.00

Location: University of Pittsburgh  
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Free parking to the first 130 registrants!

6.0 contact hours

For more information visit [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu) or  
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