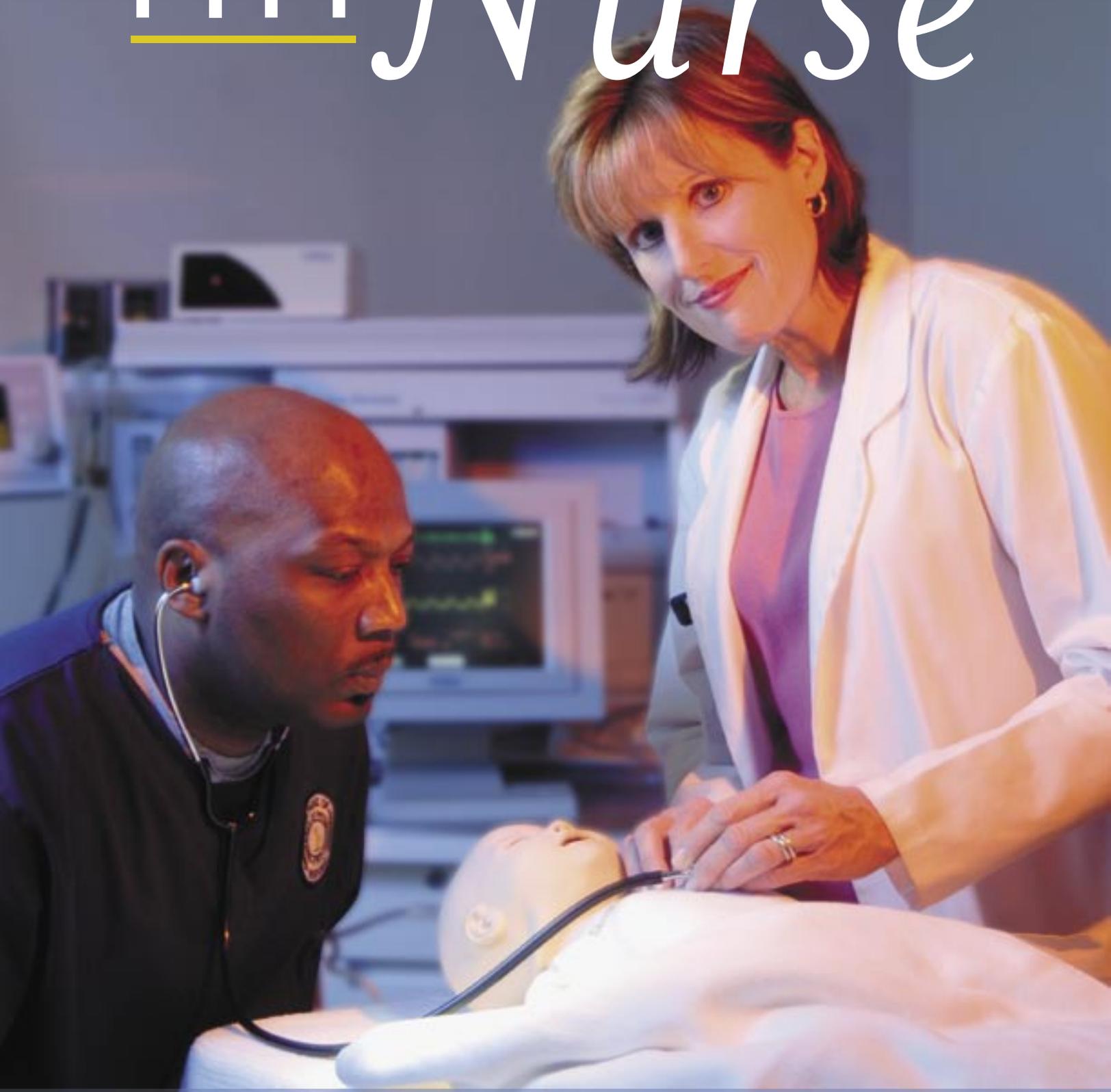


# PITT *Nurse*



THIS ISSUE: **INNOVATION AND LEADERSHIP**  
ALSO: FUNDING FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS | CALL FOR 2006 DISTINGUISHED AND HONORARY ALUMNI



ABOUT THE COVER: Donna Abriola, MSN, RN, instructor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, demonstrates procedures on the School's new SimBaby for student Greg Webb.

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The School is implementing a number of innovative programs that integrate the latest advances in health-care knowledge and research.

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Faculty at the School are engaged in clinical and basic research that provides a scientific basis for the care of individuals across the life span.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?	INSIDE BACK COVER

The practice of nursing is on the cusp of significant change, and the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing is responding with innovative educational and clinical programs ...



**FOR MORE THAN 65 YEARS**, the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing has had a positive impact on the quality of healthcare for all segments of the population through its teaching, research, and service. In addition to its highly acclaimed educational programs, the School is involved in multidisciplinary collaborations and high-quality, innovative research that provides a scientific basis for the best care of individuals across the life span.

The knowledge base for healthcare is growing at an extraordinary rate. Advances in scientific knowledge in areas such as cellular biology, genetics, and infectious disease have stimulated research leading to new treatments in the areas of chronic disease. Research into patient lifestyles and motivations has contributed to improved patient outcomes. In addition, new technologies have impacted healthcare; some of these innovations make it possible to diagnose and treat illnesses more successfully, some prolong life, and others improve the quality of life for patients. Still other technologies make the ever-expanding information base more accessible to healthcare professionals, enabling them to gather, analyze, evaluate, and apply

new information—leading, in turn, to more insights and more advances.

As a result, nursing work today is becoming increasingly complex and challenging; therefore the nurse of tomorrow will require far different skills than we expect today. In response to these changes and reports linking improved patient outcomes and safety to nursing education levels, the American Organization of Nurse Executives and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) issued statements in support of baccalaureate education for entry to nursing practice.

In this issue of *Pitt Nurse* you will read about some of the innovative programs the School is implementing to help today's nursing professionals keep pace with the changing demands of healthcare and the nursing profession. Evidence-based practice and simulation training are being incorporated throughout the baccalaureate and graduate curricula, and the School has established a new program of study for nursing students interested in participating in the University Honors College. The School was selected to be one of more than 70 sites nationwide piloting a new clinical nurse leader (CNL) program and is one of the first schools of nursing in Pennsylvania to offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), which the

AACN intends to be the terminal degree for advanced practice nurses by 2015. Our BSN to PhD program is preparing graduates with a strong research emphasis for academic and leadership roles in nursing. In addition, you will find information about some of our multidisciplinary research collaborations, including a new T32 grant and K12 and K30 career development educational grants for research development. You will also read about the School's alumni, faculty, students, and friends who are leaders in their fields.

The practice of nursing is on the cusp of significant change, and the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing is responding with innovative educational and clinical programs that prepare students with the knowledge, skills, and critical thinking they need to meet these changes and challenges, and with research programs and multidisciplinary collaborations that advance the science and practice of nursing.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob".

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

# Interdisciplinary Education

**THE SCHOOL IS IMPLEMENTING** a number of innovative programs that integrate the latest advances in healthcare knowledge and research, that anticipate changes in the healthcare industry, and that reflect the healthcare needs of the region, commonwealth, and nation.

## Integrating Innovation Across the Curriculum

### EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

Evidence-based practice (EBP) is a process by which nurses make clinical decisions using the best available research evidence and their clinical expertise as well as the preferences and values of the patient and family. Research has shown that clinical decisions based on best evidence, either from the research literature or clinical expertise, can improve the quality of care and the patient's quality of life.

Students are taught EBP as a total process, beginning with identifying what clinical questions to ask. Then, students are taught how to search and evaluate the most current literature to find and evaluate relevant studies. EBP is unique because it includes the preferences and values of the patient and family in the process. Because application and outcomes of the best evidence will differ based on the values, preferences, concerns, and/or expectations of the patient, the final steps students learn in the EBP process are to evaluate the effectiveness of care and continue to improve the process.

The faculty has given special attention to incorporate the process at each level of the program to ensure the curriculum prepares our graduates to remain current and apply new information wisely and systematically throughout their careers.



### SIMULATION TRAINING

The School of Nursing is a leader in offering human simulation experiences to facilitate full context learning within all programs. Simulation training enables students to develop clinical skills in an environment that is safe for both the students and for potential patients.

The School has been involved in simulation education since 1994. Beginning with our anesthesia program, this educational approach has been increasingly applied as the technology has become readily accessible. More than 22 simulators, AV systems, and 14 simulation theaters are available for students both at the School's simulation laboratory and at the nearby Peter M. Winter Institute for Simulation, Education, and Research (WISER) Institute. The skills lab is equipped with 15 skills mannequins and a variety of task trainers, including a pelvic exam simulator and a virtual IV insertion simulator. The simulation theaters at the School and WISER can be configured to resemble operating rooms, intensive care units, basic patient rooms, airway management training laboratories, ED trauma bays, ambulance/helicopter treatment areas, outdoor disaster scenes, or patient exam rooms.

Simulation is now used for students at all levels of the curriculum, enabling students to critically think through clinical cases, apply the nursing process, and actively engage in nursing care. Simulation scenarios have been developed for a wide range of events, from simple to complex, to give students an opportunity to experience situations they might never see on their clinicals and to apply problem-based learning in a simulated environment.

Obstetrics is one of the more exciting applications for simulation training. In the past, students learned obstetrics nursing largely through observation. Due to the specialized nature of obstetrics nursing practice and the need for consistent high-quality patient care, obstetric nursing practice for under-

graduate students at most schools consists primarily of observation of care with minimal hands-on interaction.

Using SimMan, SimBaby, and a pregnant simulator, students at the School have a hands-on learning opportunity to face rare and challenging scenarios including hemorrhage, sepsis, thromboembolic disease, uncontrolled hypertension, and amniotic fluid embolism. In addition, our students are the first teams of undergraduate nursing students in the United States to use full-scale clinical simulation with SimBaby.

The end result of simulation training is better nurses and safer patients. Instructors and students know early on through objective data which students are performing at a high level and which ones need additional training.

You can read more about simulation training at the School in the summer 2004 issue of *Pitt Nurse*, available online at our Web site, [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu).

### HONORS COLLEGE

Through the School's new program of study at the University Honors College (UHC), qualified nursing students can pursue a unique, competency-based undergraduate degree, the Bachelor of Philosophy (BPhil). To earn the BPhil, students must complete the general degree requirements for the School of Nursing and an approved UHC program of study that demonstrates they have gone beyond the requirements for a standard undergraduate degree.

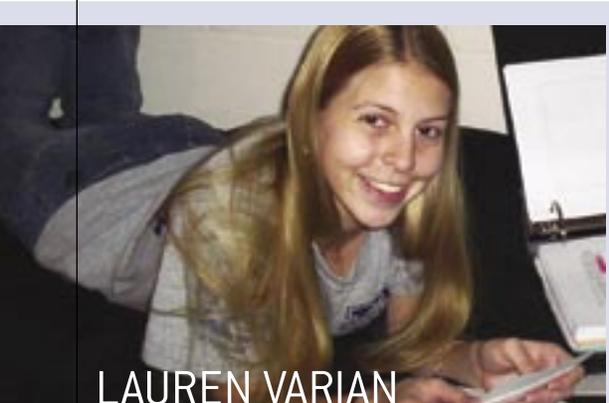
The University Honors College makes it possible for eligible School of Nursing students to take courses of particular depth and challenge beyond the nursing curriculum, participate in cocurricular and extracurricular activities, and benefit from concentrated academic advising as well as undergraduate teaching and research fellowships. Students, who are required to do a thesis to earn the BPhil, will find many other intellectual opportunities available for those who want them.

# Clinical Nurse Leader

OPENING IN FALL 2005

THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF NURSING is partnering with 11 UPMC practice partners and the Public Health Department to offer a clinical nurse leader (CNL) master's program. The School was selected as one of more than 70 colleges of nursing across the country to pilot this new specialty that will prepare direct-care nurses to assume leadership of direct nursing care management. Unlike the nurse manager role, which is largely administrative, the CNL brings a high level of clinical competence and knowledge to the point of nursing care and serves as a resource for the nursing team.

American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) plans call for the CNL to be the only clinical nurse master's degree to be offered after 2015.



LAUREN VARIAN

LAUREN VARIAN (2009), the first University Honors College (UHC) student from the School of Nursing, calls joining the UHC “the best decision I ever made. It made the adjustment to college life much easier for me.” Varian, who came to the School with an SAT score of 1510, could have gone anywhere. She chose the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing partly because it was the only school offering a dual BPhil and BSN degree. Varian appreciates all the opportunities available to her through the UHC and enjoys living in an atmosphere that is more conducive to learning. “I love that you can find people discussing philosophy in the halls at 2:00 in the morning,” she says.

# Q & A

## QUESTION: WHAT IS A CLINICAL NURSE LEADER?

The clinical nurse leader (CNL) is a generalist clinician with education at the master's degree level. Graduate education is necessary because the CNL must bring a high level of clinical competence and knowledge to the point of care and to serve as a resource for the nursing team.

## WHAT DOES A CNL DO?

The CNL's role is not one of administration or management. The CNL provides and manages care at the point of care to individuals, clinical populations, and communities. The role of the CNL encompasses the following broad areas:

- **Clinician:** designer, coordinator, and evaluator of care to individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations. The CNL provides care to individuals across the life span with particular emphasis on health promotion and risk reduction services.
- **Outcomes manager:** synthesizes data, information, and knowledge to evaluate and achieve optimal client outcomes.
- **Client advocate:** adept at ensuring that clients, families, and communities are well informed and included in care planning.
- **Educator:** uses appropriate teaching principles and strategies to teach clients, groups, and other healthcare professionals.
- **Information manager:** able to use information systems and technology that put knowledge at the point of care to improve healthcare outcomes.
- **Systems analyst/risk anticipator:** able to participate in systems review to improve quality of client care delivery, and anticipate risks to client safety with the aim of preventing medical error.
- **Team manager:** able to properly delegate and manage the nursing team resources (human and fiscal) and serve as a leader and partner in the interdisciplinary healthcare team.

## WHERE DOES A CNL WORK?

Implementation of this role will vary across settings, but it is not an administration or management function. The CNL is a direct clinical leadership position across all settings in which healthcare is delivered, not just the acute care setting.

## HOW DOES A CNL WORK?

This clinician functions as part of an interdisciplinary team. The CNL assumes accountability for patient care outcomes by communicating, planning, and implementing care directly with other healthcare professionals—coordinating, delegating, and supervising the care provided by the entire healthcare team, including physicians, pharmacists, social workers, licensed nurses, technicians, clinical nurse specialists, and nurse practitioners.

You can learn more about the CNL program at the AACN Web site, [www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu).

# Doctor of Nursing Practice

OPENING IN 2006

**IN A MOVE THAT RECOGNIZES AND VALIDATES** the unique expertise of nurses engaged in clinical practice at the highest level, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing determined that the level of preparation necessary for advanced nursing practice roles should move from the master's degree to the doctoral level.

Currently, advanced practice nurses (APNs), including nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse midwives, and nurse anesthetists, are prepared in master's degree programs that often carry a credit load equivalent to doctoral degrees in the other health professions. The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree reflects the level of scientific knowledge and practice expertise required for nurses in these roles to assure high-quality patient outcomes.

Nurses graduating from this program will be prepared with a blend of clinical, organizational, economic, and leadership skills. While other/existing practice disciplines focus on research, education, or practice, the DNP combines all three for advanced patient care and leadership. The DNP is designed for nurses seeking a terminal degree in advanced nursing practice, and offers an alternative to research-focused doctoral (PhD) programs.

The University of Pittsburgh will be the first school of nursing in Pennsylvania to offer a DNP for advanced practice. A faculty work group, with representatives from each department, developed a curriculum for the program. Pending approval from Faculty Council and the University Council on Graduate Study, the School anticipates accepting students into this program in January 2006.

## Q & A

**QUESTION: DOES IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP) PROGRAM MEAN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES (APNS) WILL NO LONGER BE PERMITTED TO PRACTICE WITHOUT A DOCTORATE?**

No. At the present time, nurses with master's degrees will continue to practice in their current capacities. Recommendations will be forthcoming from the Roadmap task force on how to facilitate rapid transition to the DNP for master's-level nurses seeking this credential.

**WON'T ADDING ANOTHER NURSING CREDENTIAL ONLY CREATE MORE CONFUSION ABOUT NURSING DEGREES?**

In the position statement, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Task Force on the Practice Doctorate was clear that all practice doctorates should convert to the DNP designation to reduce confusion and differentiate these programs from research-focused degrees.

**I'M STARTING A NEW MASTER'S PROGRAM. SHOULD I CONTINUE?**

Yes. The availability of master's-prepared clinicians is essential to the health of our nation. The transition date of 2015 for the DNP was set far enough in the future to give programs enough time to make a smooth transition.

**IS THIS DEGREE MEANT ONLY FOR NURSE PRACTITIONERS (NPS) OR OTHER APN ROLES?**

This conversation is currently under way. At the School of Nursing, we have elected to move just the advanced practice programs to the DNP at the present time.

**WHAT GRADUATE PROGRAMS WILL THE SCHOOL OF NURSING CONTINUE TO OFFER?**

The School of Nursing will continue to offer programs in advanced practice, including nurse practitioner programs with acute care, family, adult, child, psychiatric, and a new neonatal emphasis; clinical nurse specialist programs with acute care and psychiatric emphasis; and nurse anesthesia. In addition, master's degree programs in informatics, education, administration, and clinical research will continue.

**ARE THERE ANY NEW PROGRAMS AT THE SCHOOL OF NURSING?**

Yes. A new neonatal nurse practitioner program is in the planning process.

You can learn more about the DNP degree program at the AACN Web site, [www.aacn.nche.edu](http://www.aacn.nche.edu).



Simulation training allows students to develop clinical skills in an environment that is safe for both the students and potential patients.

## BSN to PhD

**THE PHD PROGRAM** at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing opened in 1954, one of the first three schools in the nation to offer doctoral preparation in nursing. The School continues to keep pace with the changing demands of health-care and the nursing profession with a wide variety of options, including MSN to PhD and BSN to PhD programs.

The BSN to PhD program offers students an opportunity to accelerate their research career. Students are guided to achieve early success obtaining funded grants, publish in peer-reviewed journals, and complete their dissertation. The School of Nursing offers students an opportunity to study with a multidisciplinary faculty and be mentored by outstanding nurse researchers who focus on biobehavioral research, technology, and genetics.

Both the traditional MSN to PhD and the BSN to PhD programs prepare scholars to extend scientific knowledge that advances the science and practice of nursing and contributes to the scientific base of other disciplines.

## Research

The University of Pittsburgh is recognized as a major nursing research center and has attracted national, state, and local recognition for its commitment to high-quality, innovative research and its multidisciplinary, collaborative process. Ranked seventh in the amount of funding received from the National Institutes of Health, the School of Nursing has been designated a Research Intensive Environment by the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Faculty at the School are engaged in both clinical and basic science research that provides a scientific basis for the care of individuals across the life span. Current faculty research initiatives include:

- **BIOBEHAVIORAL RESEARCH**, including adherence, adolescent health, chronic disorders, critical care, oncology, and women's health
- **TECHNOLOGY**, including person-technology interactions and information technology
- **GENETICS**

For years, the School of Nursing has been a leader in biobehavioral research. Now, with additional grants focusing on emerging areas such as information technology and genetics, the School remains on the cutting edge of nursing research.

# Roger Glunt

## YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A NURSE TO BE A LEADER FOR NURSING ...

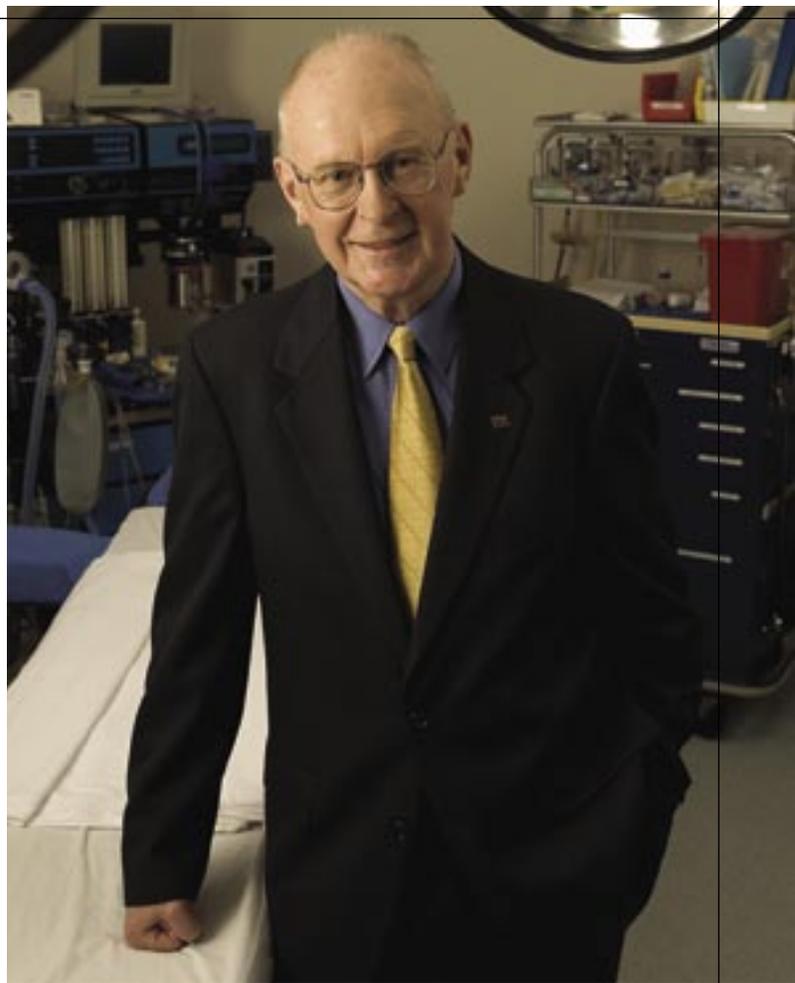
*We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.*  
—Sir Winston Churchill

**HEAD OF THE PITTSBURGH-BASED** Glunt Development Co. Inc. and Jayar Construction Co. Inc., J. Roger Glunt (KGSB 1960) is an industry advocate and the champion of numerous local and national philanthropic causes, including the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

Glunt established the Nancy Glunt Hoffman Memorial Fund at the School of Nursing with the vision of advancing the practice of oncology nursing. Created as a tribute to his sister, Nancy Glunt Hoffman (BSN '62), who lost her battle with cancer in December 2001 at age 61, the fund will be used to endow a chair that will position the University of Pittsburgh as a model for oncology nursing research and practice. Glunt calls his sister “a woman of indomitable spirit, humor, energy, generosity, and love who faced her illness with dignity and a passion for life. She never missed an opportunity to demonstrate her kind and caring nature.” In addition to a generous personal donation, Glunt has helped solicit gifts from oncology physicians, the Oncology Nursing Society, family members, acquaintances, and related corporations and foundations. To date, Nancy Hoffman’s family, friends, classmates, and colleagues, including many School of Nursing alumni, have donated more than \$120,000 to the fund in honor of her lifelong career in nursing and her courageous battle with cancer. To fully endow this chair, \$1.5 million must be raised. Glunt is determined to see this project come to fruition and will do whatever it takes to assure its success.

A 2002 honorary alumnus of the School of Nursing, Glunt is chair of the School’s Board of Visitors, chairman of the School’s Volunteer Advisory Committee for the capital campaign, and a member of the University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees. Glunt is also a visionary. During his tenure as president of the University of Pittsburgh Alumni Association from 1994–96, Glunt initiated a number of changes: He started the Legislative Network to make sure Pitt has a voice in Harrisburg and helped establish Pitt clubs to connect with alumni in other parts of the country.

In addition to his extensive involvement with the University of Pittsburgh, Glunt actively participates in several other philanthropic ventures. He is chair of the Funding and Development



Committee at the Beulah Presbyterian Church in Churchill, Pa.; served as chair of the National Housing Endowment for eight years; and volunteers for Habitat for Humanity and Hosanna Industries, a community organization that seeks to rehabilitate 500 homes each year.

He was recognized for his service and philanthropy with the Robert L. Payton Award for Voluntary Service in 2004. This award is presented on behalf of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education to an individual who demonstrates the advancement of the philanthropic tradition and the spirit of volunteerism, both in time and/or financial commitment. Glunt is also featured in a recent ad in *Builder and Big Builder* magazine. The ad is one of a series sponsored by the Homebuilding Community Foundation to highlight the charitable giving of its donors.

But the first thing you notice about Glunt is his warmth. The (long!) list of his charitable activities gives testimony to his characteristic compassion and generosity, but it does not begin to give a picture of Glunt’s graciousness and kindness. A sincere and modest man, Glunt has never sought acclaim or recognition for any of his good deeds. He simply believes in giving back—to his community and to his school.

Glunt is a true gentleman, a role model, and a good friend of the School.



# INNOVATIONS AND LEADERSHIP IN NURSING RESEARCH

## GENETICS

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, an estimated 1.5 million Americans suffer a traumatic brain injury (TBI) each year, and TBI is a leading cause of death and disability among children and young adults in the United States.

**THE LEVEL OF FUNCTIONAL OUTCOME** attained by a TBI victim is highly variable, even when age, injury, and care are similar. Explaining this variability may hold the key to improving patient outcomes after a TBI.

Yvette Conley, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, was recently awarded a research grant for her study, “Mitochondrial Genetics of Recovery After Brain Injury” from the National Institute for Nursing Research.

Conley’s study takes an innovative approach in that individual genetic variation may play a role in the level of functional outcome attained after TBI. Conley will specifically focus on individual mitochondrial DNA variation, including heteroplasmy as well as mitochondrial energy production. Heteroplasmy is the situation in which, within a single cell, there is a mixture of mitochondria (energy-producing cytoplasmic organelles), some containing mutant DNA and some containing normal DNA.

To our knowledge, the School of Nursing is the first in the nation with active genomics laboratories in-house. The laboratory is under the direction of Conley, who mentors others in the genomic research activities for the School.

In October, Conley will join Janice Dorman, PhD, associate dean for scientific and international affairs and an experienced genetic epidemiologist, to conduct a preconference workshop for the International Society of Nurses in Genetics titled “Identifying Susceptibility Genes and Evaluating Their Contribution to Disease.” This conference will provide a great opportunity for Conley and Dorman to expand the pool of nurses working in the area of genetics.

## TECHNOLOGY

We live in a time when we are surrounded by technology—it has become an integral part of our daily life. Faculty at the School of Nursing are studying innovative ways to enhance technology for healthcare to promote better quality of life and designing ways to promote adherence.

Of the 34 School of Nursing faculty who presented at the State of the Science Conference in Washington, D.C. last fall, five presented on technology. Those presentations were again presented at the School of Nursing in December. The presentations gave both audiences an opportunity to see how technology crosscuts healthcare disciplines, and showcased the wide range of innovative research currently being conducted at the School. The technology presentations included:

- Lora Burke, PhD, MPH, RN, associate professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, “Using Technology to Document Actual Patterns of Self-Monitoring Among Subjects in a Weight Loss Study.”
- Annette Dabbs, PhD, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, “Designing Prototypes for Technology-Based Interventions.” Dabbs has recently focused her research on handheld computer programs for lung transplant recipients.
- Heidi Donovan, PhD, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, “Translating Theory-Guided Psycho-Educational Interventions from Face-to-Face Interviews to an Internet-Based Medium.” Donovan’s work focuses on symptom management for women with ovarian cancer, with a particular emphasis on developing psycho-education programs to help women manage their multiple symptoms.
- Mary Beth Happ, PhD, RN, associate professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, “An Individualized Technology-Based Intervention to Improve Communication with Nonspeaking ICU Patients: Methodological Issues” at the State of the Science conference. Judith Tate, MSN, research associate in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, presented on Happ’s behalf at the School.
- Judith Matthews, PhD, MPH, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, “The Nursebot Project: Transdisciplinary Collaboration in Developing Robotic Assistive Technology for Older Adults.”

Matthews has also recently presented updates on the Nursebot Project both at the University and abroad. The Nursebot Project is a multidisciplinary and multi-institutional collaboration that has produced two separate prototype robots for older adults: a mobile robotic personal assistant and a robotic walker. These robots are intended to provide cognitive and physical assistance that augment, rather than replace, human caregiving and support.

Matthews’ study is designing and building a personal mobile robotic assistant to monitor and guide the daily activities of an elderly person and enable the elderly to live in their own homes for as long as possible.

The robots first become oriented with elderly patients by introducing themselves, describing their features, determining the user’s ability to read and synthesize speech, and initiating a practice session. Field tests for the Nursebot Project are being conducted at Longwood, a retirement community in the Pittsburgh area, and have been well received.

A robotic assistant can help compensate for the limitations imposed by aging and disability and help sustain independence through functions such as reminders to take prescription medications, transporting objects, stimulating social interaction, and providing access to remote services.

The goal of the multidisciplinary team is to develop technology to enhance the quality of life, fit seamlessly into patients’ daily routines, and serve as an adjunct to nurses and other healthcare providers. “At its best, technology exists to make life easier and better,” Matthews says, “but it only has value if people can and will use it.”

Matthews’ passion for technology extends beyond the Nursebot Project. She is also involved in the robotic walker project highlighted in the fall 2004 issue of *Pitt Nurse*.

Technology is also used to help children and their families. When a child is diagnosed with cancer, the child’s caregivers are faced with tough decisions that often must be made while the family simultaneously deals with overwhelming stresses related to the diagnosis and treatment. Current models of family-centered healthcare emphasize the importance of provider-caregiver information sharing to ensure understanding of information, a model that is sometimes difficult to achieve.

Deborah Lewis, EdD, MSN, MPH, RN, associate professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, is using informatics to refine, implement, and evaluate an innovative family-focused, Web-based resource that provides patient-centered information and extends the process of family-provider communication beyond the clinical setting to reach the home and community. The Internet-based resource, titled *Caring Place*, will provide individualized clinical information, patient-centered information resources, and access to online family-provider and family-to-family communication for caregivers of children with cancer. The ongoing development of the



*continued on page 19*



# INTERNATIONAL GROUP

For Janice Dorman, PhD, MS, associate dean for scientific and international affairs at the School of Nursing and professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, the concept of global health has always been an important one. To coordinate international efforts at the School, Dorman has formed the International Group. Comprising more than 75 faculty and students, the group was created as a forum for international discussion. The group's aim is collaboration between members who are well traveled and those who are only beginning global journeys.

**IN THE FALL, THE INTERNATIONAL GROUP WILL MEET MONTHLY** and feature presentations, discussion of upcoming international events, and ethnic fare. Alternating between in-house speakers and presenters from outside the University, scheduled presenters include Sandra Land, PhD, BSN ('67), regional advisor on local health services, Health Systems and Services Division at the Pan American Health Organization; and representatives from Global Links, Duquesne University, and the University Center for International Studies. The spring lecture series will offer presenters from the newly formed global health course at the School.

"I'm enthusiastic about the group's ability to work together to reach international goals," Dorman said.

Dorman is also working with her husband, Ron LaPorte, PhD, professor in the Department of Epidemiology at the Graduate School of Public Health. LaPorte, Dorman, and their team plan to build Global pIT—"IT" stands for information technology—using contacts they have made through LaPorte's Supercourse. The Supercourse is a new interdisciplinary system designed to bring the best possible science to the world. It is a cost-effective and multidisciplinary sharing of lectures.

More than 20,000 scholars are involved, and Supercourse may be the most renowned project in global health. Faculty from 151 countries have joined, and according to LaPorte, the Supercourse has the world's largest compilation of top-flight prevention lectures, including six Nobel Prize winners. More than 1,000 faculty across the world have contributed lectures. More than 2,000 lectures in the areas of precaution and global health can be found on the Supercourse Web site, [www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec19931/index.htm](http://www.pitt.edu/~super1/lecture/lec19931/index.htm), which receives more than 75 million hits a year.

After years of traveling the world to lecture about the importance of global health, LaPorte, Dorman, and their team have established strong global connections in such countries as Brazil, China, the former Soviet Union, India, Italy, and Pakistan. Dorman and LaPorte also head the World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Disease Monitoring, Telecommunication, and the Molecular Epidemiology of Diabetes Mellitus, the only center of its kind in Pittsburgh.

International travel, collaboration, and recruitment have been a focus of the School for many years. Many School of Nursing faculty regularly attend and present at international conferences to advance nursing knowledge and best practices. Pakistan, Switzerland, and Taiwan are only a few of such global venues. International faculty and student recruitment has also been a focus for the School. Scholars from Cambodia, Canada,

Egypt, Iceland, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Korea, and Taiwan have come to study at the school. In addition, faculty representing countries as diverse as Egypt, Kenya, and South Korea help our students understand healthcare and nursing issues in a global context.

**"I'm enthusiastic about the group's ability to work together to reach international goals."  
Janice Dorman**

Faculty also travel with students through study abroad programs set up by the School and the University. Study abroad gives our students a global health perspective and promotes an enhanced understanding of nursing practice and education in other cultures. Students have traveled with faculty to Denmark, England, India, Italy, and Switzerland, and similar programs are in development for China, Kenya, and South America.

This spring, a global health course is being implemented into the curricula to act as a stepping stone for global opportunities. Designed to introduce students to issues in healthcare delivery in selected countries where international study abroad programs exist, the course will demonstrate the concepts necessary to develop an understanding of healthcare from a global perspective, broaden their views of a globalized society, and examine their roles within the global community.

A global health practicum is also being introduced to work with students to study abroad. Dorman will take the lead teaching role for the course, assisted by Julius Kitutu, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems and director of Student Services; and Jacqueline Lamb, PhD, MN, part-time faculty from the Department of Health Promotion and Development and a longtime international guide for students traveling abroad.

"Our goal is to have each student leave with some type of international exposure," Dorman said. "Whether it's a presentation about a country's healthcare needs or an entire semester abroad, it's important for our students to gain an international perspective."

You can read more about the school's international scholarship connections in the winter 2005 issue of *Pitt Nurse*.



**JOHN O'DONNELL, MSN, RN**, instructor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care and director of the School's nurse anesthesia program, is also assistant director for nursing simulation at the Peter M. Winter Institute for Simulation Education and Research (WISER) Institute, where he chairs a research committee. In addition, O'Donnell is on the Board of Directors of the National Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation and cochairs the Simulation Efforts in Graduate and Undergraduate Education (SEGUE) Committee at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. He is also a husband, a father, and for the past five years, a student, pursuing a doctorate in epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health.

An acknowledged expert in human simulation education, O'Donnell is passionate about his work. He has presented on the local, state, national, and international levels and published in a variety of nursing and medical journals. In addition to human simulation education, he is interested in problem-based educational approaches, procedural sedation, and injury epidemiology related to medical error.

**PITT NURSE: WHY DID YOU WANT TO BECOME A NURSE?**

**O'Donnell:** First, I wanted a profession with guaranteed employment. My father was encouraging me to work in Sharon Steel and as the sixth of seven children, I had an opportunity to see my older siblings with liberal arts degrees struggle to find work they enjoyed. Every summer, I worked as a counselor at an Easter Seals camp for handicapped children—my whole family did. From that experience, I knew I wanted a profession where I could help people. When I was 18, I became friends with the camp nurse and learned about the nursing profession from her. It seemed like a good way to put together my desire to help others and be assured employment.

**AS A MALE, YOU MUST HAVE BEEN A PIONEER AS A NURSE. DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE CHALLENGES AND REWARDS OF YOUR NONTRADITIONAL CAREER CHOICE?**

The first thing every male nurse faces is questioning of your character and your orientation. Male nursing students also face challenges from faculty who may not believe that men possess the sensitivity and caring necessary to be a nurse. On the other hand, societal stereotypes can work to the advantage of men who successfully demonstrate these traits, because people often look to men as leaders.

**WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO GO INTO ANESTHESIA?**

As a critical care nurse at Magee-Womens and Presbyterian Hospitals, I worked in postanesthesia recovery and critical care. I met and worked with many CRNAs and I liked the autonomy

# John O'Donnell

## HE'S NO DUMMY!

*When I interviewed for the nursing program at Carlow College they told me it was a co-ed campus. It turned out to be pretty much just me and ed!*  
—John O'Donnell

of anesthesia nursing. I was admitted to the anesthesia program at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing the year it became a master's program.

**WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A TEACHER?**

Well, every nurse is really a teacher, aren't they? While working on my anesthesia degree, I took a job as a teaching assistant the same year Ellen Chaffee donated money for a skills lab. I helped set up the lab, taught in the undergraduate curriculum, and was given the responsibility for teaching sophomore students. Two of my students that year went on to become my anesthesia students later. Soon after my graduation from the anesthesia program, I began mentoring students in the OR and teaching classes. I was recruited as the third full-time faculty member in the anesthesia program and 18 months later moved up to the director position.

**HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN HIGH-FIDELITY HUMAN SIMULATION?**

I could see simulation was the wave of the future and volunteered to work on projects with Drs. Rene Gonzales and John Schaefer (the WISER director), who were the Department of Anesthesia simulation gurus. Over the last 10 years, Dr. Schaefer and I have developed a close and collegial relationship while working together with other faculty members to develop a broad range of curricula and tools to evaluate trainee performance.

I was named assistant director of WISER for nursing in 2004. With over 22 full- and part-task simulators and as many as 13 available simulation areas, WISER and its satellites comprise one of the largest civilian facilities in the world. Currently, we train over 10,000 healthcare professionals each year. I'm proud to be a part of this interdisciplinary resource for educational research, continuing medical education, and patient safety.

**WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB—AS A TEACHER AND AS A NURSE?**

That's an easy question! Without a doubt it is the "aha!" moment! When students get it—whether it's how to start an IV, put in an endotracheal tube, or understand an obscure concept like the uptake and distribution of inhaled anesthetics—when the "aha" happens, you can see it in their eyes. For me that's a very exciting moment!

**WHAT DO YOU TELL YOUNG MEN, OR ANYONE ELSE, CONSIDERING A CAREER IN NURSING?**

This is a great career! I tell everyone: There is an urgent need for nurses, nurses enjoy monetary and professional recognition, the public trust us, and there are so many opportunities to succeed. Success is unlimited if you work hard.

**WHAT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES HAVE YOU SEEN IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY AND NURSING SINCE YOU FIRST BECAME A NURSE?**

Healthcare has transitioned from a physician-dominated system to more of a business model since I first became a nurse. On the direct patient care front, the current movement to make base healthcare interventions and decisions be based on the best available evidence promises to change the face of the industry!

**WHAT CHANGES DO YOU SEE IN HEALTHCARE EDUCATION?**

I believe that technologic advances including simulation are the wave of the future and represent opportunities to allow educators to design more meaningful student experiences. The ethical advantage of learning in a simulated environment where all elements of the learning situation can be altered for maximal student experience without patient risk is very appealing—after all, how many of us who teach in healthcare want our students' first IV start to be on one of our own children? Intuitively, we would all be more comfortable if IV starts 1–20 were on a mannequin or virtual patient. Educational approaches have changed dramatically as we figure out how to use simulated environments or situations to train students more efficiently and give them key skills before they encounter their first "live" patients. Student confidence in a clinical environment used to take months to develop; with simulation training we now have trainees functional and appropriately confident on day one.

**WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT?**

My family, of course. I have great kids and a wonderful wife! My daughter, Maeve, is 11, and my sons, Connor and Liam, are 9 and 13. The boys and I consider ourselves the No. 1 Pitt basketball and football fans—I think everything my oldest son wears has a Pitt logo on it! My wife, Mindy, is also a double Pitt alum and a rabid basketball fan.

Professionally, I am proud of helping to create a nationally recognized, stable program—but the smartest thing I ever did was to hire talented faculty. Laura Palmer, Bettina Dixon, Sandy Sell, and most recently Rick Henker each have unique areas of expertise. Even big challenges become manageable when our team works together. I also have been incredibly fortunate to have my department chair, Dr. Leslie Hoffman, as a mentor. She has shared her wisdom and advice unsparingly. As a faculty, we are very frank with each other and take lots of risks in our educational approaches—you have to if you want to remain leaders. Sometimes things work and sometimes they don't, but we always learn something of value no matter the outcome. I believe our program and faculty stability support change, and that change in turn nourishes our program's stability.

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing's commitment to leadership is demonstrated by the number of faculty who have received awards for excellence in teaching, research, or service. It would be impossible to list all faculty memberships and awards, but a summary of leadership positions (such as officer, board member, chair, cochair, grant or educational reviewer, appointed expert, or member of a policy-making committee, etc.) in state, national, and multidisciplinary organizations follows. Faculty participation in these organizations brings cutting-edge knowledge to the School and helps advance the science and practice of nursing.

The School's outstanding faculty prepare students to make contributions in a wide range of specialties as nurse scientists who will develop advances in many areas of healthcare and health promotion, and as nurse leaders who will impact national and global healthcare issues.

**SUSAN ALBRECHT, PHD, MPM, RN, FAAN**, associate dean for student and alumni services, development, and public relations; and associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality: Expert Panel, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Steps to a Healthier U.S.
- American Academy of Nursing: Adolescent Expert Panel
- American Nurses Association: Congress on Nursing Practice and Economics
- Association of Women's Health, Obstetrics, and Neonatal Nursing: Science Team Leader, Research-Based Protocols
- March of Dimes: Visiting Professorship in Nursing, Prematurity

**CATHERINE M. BENDER, PHD, RN**, assistant professor, Department of Health and Community Systems

- Oncology Nursing Society: coordinator-elect, Advanced Nursing Research Special Interest Group

**LISA BERNARDO, PHD, MPH, RN**, associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems

- *American Journal of Nursing*: 2003 Book of the Year Award, *Core Curriculum for Pediatric Emergency Nursing* [co-author]
- National Academies of Practice: cochair, Nursing Academy
- Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation: Interdisciplinary Research Committee

**LORA E. BURKE, PHD, MPH, RN**, associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems

- American Heart Association: cochair, Second Scientific Conference on Compliance in Healthcare and Research,



Susan Albrecht



Catherine M. Bender



Lisa Bernardo



Lora E. Burke



Eileen Chasens



Rose E. Constantino



Mary M. Cothran

Washington, D.C.; Planning Committee, Scientific Conference on Obesity, Lifestyle, and Cardiovascular Disease; chair, Obesity Committee, Council on Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Metabolism; and Leadership Committee, Council on Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Metabolism

- National Council of Patient Information and Education: Board of Directors
- Who's Who in Health Sciences Education

**DENISE CHARRON-PROCHOWNIK, PHD, RN**, associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- American Diabetic Association: National Scientific Grants Review Panel and Publication Policy Committee
- Nightingale Awards: Board of Directors

**EILEEN CHASENS, DSN, RN**, associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems; and coordinator of the Accelerated Second Degree BSN program

- Sleep Research Society: board, Membership Committee

**SUSAN M. COHEN, DSN, RN**, associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties: secretary
- Society for Menstrual Cycle Research: president; and cochair and board, International Conference

**YVETTE P. CONLEY, PHD**, assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- National Institutes of Health: Study Section for Health of the Population: Nursing Science Children and Families

**ROSE E. CONSTANTINO, PHD, JD, RN, FAAN, FAFCE**, associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems

- Pennsylvania Legal Access for Women: chair of the board

**MARY M. COTHRAN, PHD, RN, CRNP**, assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development; director, Women's Health Nurse Practitioner program; and director, Adult Health Nurse Practitioner program

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing: reviewer, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

**ANNETTE DABBS, PHD, RN**, assistant professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care

- American Thoracic Society: chair, Nursing Assembly Planning Committee
- International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation: Nursing and Social Sciences Council; and cochair, Research Committee

- Pennsylvania State Nurses Association: Cabinet on Nursing Practice and Professional Development

**HEIDI S. DONOVAN, PHD, RN**, assistant professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care

- National Ovarian Cancer Coalition: Medical Advisory Board, National Division

**WILLA DOSWELL, PHD, RN**, associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- American Nurses Association: Advisory Committee, National Institute of Mental Health/Substance Abuse and Mental Services Administration Ethnic Minority Fellowship Program
- National Institutes of Health/National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development: Advisory Committee of the National Child Study
- National Institutes of Nursing Research: Study Review Group on Children and Families

**JACQUELINE DUNBAR-JACOB, PHD, RN, FAAN**, dean, School of Nursing; professor of nursing, epidemiology, and occupational therapy; and director, Center for Research in Chronic Disorders

- Academy of Behavioral Medicine: president
- Association of Adults and Children with Learning Disabilities: Board of Directors
- Bayer Institute for Health Care Communication: Research Advisory Board
- International Assistance Group: Board of Directors
- National Institutes of Health, Roadmap Initiative: Scientific Advisory Board, Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS) network
- Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board: Leadership Council, Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers
- Robert Wood Johnson Nurse Fellow
- UPMC Shadyside Presbyterian Hospital: Board of Directors

**SANDRA J. ENGBERG, PHD, RN, CRNP**, chair and assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- Wound Ostomy and Continence Nursing Center for Clinical Investigation: board

**JUDITH A. ERLÉN, PHD, RN, FAAN**, professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development; coordinator, doctoral program; and associate director, Center for Research in Chronic Disorders

- Association of Nurses in AIDS Care: Research Committee
- Eastern Nursing Research Society: liaison; Awards Committee



Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob



Sandra J. Engberg



Judith A. Erlen



Nancy C. Grove



Mary Beth Happ



Richard Henker



Leslie Hoffman

- Midwest Nursing Research Society: reviewer
- Sigma Theta Tau International: collateral reviewer
- Society for Behavioral Medicine: mentor

**NANCY C. GROVE, PHD, RN**, director and associate professor, nursing program, and coordinator, School Nurse Certificate program, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown

- American Cancer Society: Advisory Board and committees
- United Cerebral Palsy: Board of Directors and program chair

**JUDITH NOBLE HALLE, PHD, MSN, RNC**, assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- National League of Nursing: board, West Virginia chapter

**MARY BETH HAPP, PHD, RN**, associate professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care

- Oncology Nursing Foundation: grants reviewer
- University of Pennsylvania Hartford Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence: faculty liaison

**RICHARD HENKER, PHD, RN**, vice chair and associate professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing: site reviewer, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education
- Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists: Didactic Instructor of the Year

**LESLIE HOFFMAN, PHD, RN, FAAN**, chair and professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care

- Johnson & Johnson: One of 10 nurses featured in video highlighting nurse researchers

**MARILYN HRAVNAK, PHD, RN, CRNP**, assistant professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care

- American Association of Critical Care Nurses: Advanced Practice Workgroup
- National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties: Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Special Interest Group and National Panel on Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Competencies
- Society of Critical Care Medicine: chair, Nursing Section Research Committee

**KATHY S. MAGDIC, MSN, RN, APRN, BS**, instructor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care; and coordinator, acute care nurse practitioner program

- Pennsylvania Coalition of Nurse Practitioners: executive board member; chair, Reimbursement Committee; chair, American College of Nurse Practitioners Committee; and Health Policy Committee

**ANN MITCHELL, PHD, RN, AHN-BC**, assistant professor, Department of Health and Community Systems; and assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine

- International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses: cochair, Planning Committee for International Conference
- Mayview State Hospital: Board of Trustees, appointed by former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge
- North American Consortium of Nursing and Allied Health: board; and cochair, International Program Planning Committee
- PDV Communications: Editorial Board, Advancing Suicide Prevention
- Pennsylvania State Nurses Association: Nurse as Global Citizen Award
- Suicide Survivors Research Workshop (cosponsored by the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention and the National Institute of Mental Health to set a national research agenda for suicide survivors)

**DONNA NATIVIO, PHD, CRNP, FAAN**, associate professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development; and director, family/adult and pediatric nurse practitioner programs

- American College of Nurse Practitioners: Program Committee, Clinical Conference
- American Nurses Credentialing Center: Test Development Committee, Professional Nursing Practice Examination
- National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty: consultant for quality education
- Pennsylvania State Nurses Association: Cabinet for Nursing Practice and Professional Development
- Society of Primary Care Policy Fellows: board
- Southwestern Pennsylvania Area Health Education Centers: board

**JOHN O'DONNELL, MSN, RN**, instructor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care; and director, nurse anesthesia program

- American Association of Nurse Anesthetists: site reviewer, Council on Accreditation; representative to the Anesthesia Patient Safety Consensus Conference, Use of CO<sub>2</sub> Absorbent; and Scholarship Selection Committee
- Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation: Technology Committee
- Glaxo-Smith Kline: appointed to Advisory Board on Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting, National Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists

**ELLEN OLSHANSKY, DNSC, RNC, FAAN**, chair and professor, Department of Health and Community Systems



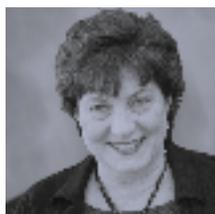
Ann Mitchell



Donna Nativio



John O'Donnell



Ellen Olshansky



Kathryn Puskar



Margaret Q. Rosenzweig



Elizabeth A. Schlenk

- American Orthopsychiatric Association: treasurer
- Eastern Nursing Research Society: treasurer
- Zero-to-Three (a multidisciplinary organization that brings together infant and family professionals, uniting the fields of medicine, mental health, research, science, child development, and education): fellow
- State of the Science Conference: 2006 Planning Committee

**THELMA PATRICK, PHD, RN**, assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- American Heart Association: Council for Cardiovascular Nursing
- HELLP Syndrome Society (an international network for persons affected by the combined disorders of hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes, and low platelet count): board
- Vermont Oxford Network: chair, Multidisciplinary Advisory Council

**KATHRYN PUSKAR, DRPH, RNC, FAAN**, professor, Department of Health and Community Systems

- American Psychiatric Nurses Association: past president
- Eli Lilly Company: International Advisory Board on long-acting antipsychotic medication
- National Institutes of Mental Health: service grant applications reviewer in rural mental health delivery
- Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company: roundtable discussion, "The Anatomy of Stress"

**MARGARET Q. ROSENZWEIG, PHD, RN**, assistant professor, Department of Acute and Tertiary Care

- Oncology Nursing Society: Board of Directors, and awards chair

**ELIZABETH A. SCHLENK, PHD, RN**, assistant professor, Department of Health and Community Systems

- American College of Rheumatology: Research Agenda Task Force
- Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals: chair, Committee on Research

**JANET STEWART, PHD, RN**, assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing*: editorial board

**LOUISE WASZAK, PHD, MN, CRNP**, assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- American Nurses Association: Committee on Bylaws

**DEBORAH WHITE, PHD, MSN**, assistant professor, Department of Health Promotion and Development

- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners: chapter secretary



**PITT NURSING  
STUDENT  
DEFIES  
PHYSICS ...**

**... SHE MUST!**  
There have to be the same

24 hours in every day for each of us, but somehow Second Lieutenant Malgorzata A. Bujak, GN, BSN ('05), manages to fit a week into every day!

Bujak was named the 2005 winner of the Emma W. Locke Award. This prestigious honor is awarded to only one graduating senior from the entire University each year. Established in 1946 by Charles A. Locke in memory of his mother, this award is presented in recognition of high scholarship, character, and devotion to the ideals of the University. The student must have at least a 3.85 grade point average and plan to continue his or her education after graduation.

After graduating from the School of Nursing with a 4.0 grade point average, Bujak was deployed as an Army nurse to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas for her initial Officer Basic Course. She will be stationed there for two years as her first permanent duty assignment. Her high grades and outstanding service record in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) earned Bujak first pick for her Army posting—even Hawaii. She might have chosen to return to Landstuhl, Germany, where she participated in the summer training program in 2004. She chose Fort Sam Houston because it is the center for the Army Medical Department, and, as one of the largest Army medical centers, it offers many learning opportunities.

Bujak was born in Poland and lived there until she was 13 years old, when her family moved to Key West, Fla. It wasn't easy, but she overcame the language barrier, as well as the culture shock, to succeed in her studies in high school. Although she felt a bit isolated at first, she started joining various activities where she quickly made friends and found an active and satisfying social life.

She is in the first generation in her family to attend a university in the United States. Her family considered attending college a necessity, even though it presented a financial hardship—especially with a sister in college at the same time. Scholarships helped defray some of the expenses. Bujak joined the Army ROTC to earn additional scholarship money and found a passion. She excelled in the physical field training and especially loved the sense of teamwork.

She was recognized as a University Scholar in her junior year and was a member of the National Dean's List. In addition, in 2004 Bujak was named the Top Army ROTC MS III Nursing Cadet in the Eastern Region, which comprises more than 160 nursing schools. She was an executive officer, the second highest-ranking position, in the ROTC program and was responsible for planning all training-related and social activities, the cadet fund, and fundraising.

Bujak was also involved in a number of volunteer endeavors while she was at the School, and was a member of a number of campus organizations, including the Nursing Student Association, Sigma Theta Tau, National Scholars Collegiate Society, and the Golden Key International Honor Society. In addition, she was a member of the Polonia Dance Ensemble and the color guard for Pitt's marching band.

Just reading about all of her activities and accomplishments is exhausting! Scanning the list, one might expect Bujak to be a serious and intense person. So her warmth and humor are a delightful surprise! Her enthusiasm is infectious, and she has a smile that lights up a room.

She plans to pursue an advanced degree in nursing during her military service. Bujak developed an interest in obstetrics, pediatrics, and emergency nursing when her brother was born prematurely. Impressed with the caring and skill of the nurses during the six weeks he spent in the neonatal intensive care unit, she felt she had found her calling.

Looking to the future, Bujak wants to use her leadership and nursing skills to promote and strengthen the profession of nursing, and create strong and effective nursing teams. She plans to give back to the profession she loves through mentorship or preceptorship programs, and through participation in organizations that influence current nursing issues. Ultimately, she hopes to go into research, which she calls, "the foundation of nursing care."

She has set high goals for herself, but Bujak is a leader who thrives on a challenge!





## NEW UNIFORMS

**THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH** School of Nursing is implementing a new uniform for undergraduate traditional nursing students. The new uniforms, the fifth in the history of the school, replace the navy blue scrubs, which were adopted in 1993.

### WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?

The new uniforms are a white short-sleeve uniform button-down top with a navy blue stripe on the collar with navy scrub pants for women, and a white short-sleeve zipper-down uniform shirt with a navy blue strip on the collar with navy scrub pants for men. All-white shoes are also required for men and women.

Michael Cellurale ('06) and Jill Radtke ('05) model the new uniforms.

### WHY THE CHANGE?

The decision to change the uniform was accelerated when the University Book Center started carrying a navy blue scrub top and pants with the Pitt Panther. The School felt this might create a problem for its students. In addition, the maintenance staff at UPMC now wears navy scrubs.

A task force was formed to select the new uniforms with a look that would identify our students as nurses. The task force included the dean and both associate deans, a few undergraduate faculty, students from the Dean's Advisory Board, and a group from the general population.

The task force selected a white top in response to a nationwide trend for nurses to return to all-white uniforms, a comeback that is fueled by patient confusion, not nostalgia or fashion. While white uniforms are only one way to identify nurses, they make it easier for patients to figure out who the nurse is among the hospital staff. The move isn't popular, but many nurses agree the white uniforms look more professional. The uniform retains the navy blue bottoms because white was not considered practical for students walking around a city campus.

## A TIMELINE OF UNIFORMS AT THE SCHOOL OF NURSING



Perkins Kuehn, the first dean of the School of Nursing, the first uniform is light blue with white bands crisscrossed over the bodice and a white apron.

Annual tuition is \$150.



**1940:**

Designed by Ruth

A navy blue woolen cape, worn over the uniform in winter months, was discontinued due to wool shortages during World War II. Students were required to appear in full uniform in the hospitals and in the classroom.



a student with a previous degree in design. Recognizing that nursing was not the field for her either, she left the school before she was capped. When out on the street, students had to carry their caps.



Caps were designed by

Junior students received a half-black band that was secured diagonally across the left wing of the cap. Senior students received a full black band that was secured  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch from the fold of the cuff on the cap. Male students received a single gold bar worn on the uniform shirt.

**NURSING RESEARCH** *continued from page 9*

Caring Place software will provide an innovative approach to assist family caregivers of children with cancer in meeting currently unmet information and communication needs, and will provide evidence regarding “best practice” in design and development of Internet resources to support communication and information sharing.

**BIOBEHAVIORAL RESEARCH**

The abrupt onset of menopause and its related symptoms is one consequence of breast cancer treatment for younger women. Menopausal symptoms can disrupt usual activities, alter sleep patterns, and decrease quality of life for many women. Recent findings from the Women’s Health Initiative on the use of outside estrogen support the need to investigate nonhormonal approaches for short-term menopausal symptom relief. Susan Cohen, DSN, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, is examining the effectiveness of mindfulness meditation for menopausal symptom management in women who are breast cancer survivors, as well as women with naturally occurring menopause.

Cohen’s study on menopause and meditation for breast cancer survivors set out to establish the feasibility of a mindfulness meditation program to relieve symptoms such as hot flashes, as well as explore whether the effect is different in women with naturally occurring menopause versus women with menopause secondary to chemotherapy for breast cancer. The study uses changes in frequency and severity of hot flashes, frequency of sleep disruption, various aspects of quality of life, and physiologic stress response as outcome measures.

Catherine Bender, PhD, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, is studying cognitive impairment related to anastrozole use in women, to examine and compare the effect of anastrozole on cognitive function. Anastrozole is an anticancer drug used to decrease estrogen production and suppress the growth of tumors that need estrogen to grow.

Adjuvant therapy regimens containing hormonal agents such as anastrozole have significantly improved the cure rate for women with early stage breast cancer with or without chemotherapy. However, several negative consequences are associated with this treatment, including cognitive impairment that may lead to a deterioration in quality of life.

Bender also recently received an Oncology Nursing Society research award for her study, “Symptom Clusters in Patients with Chronic Disorders and Cancer as a Comorbidity.” A symptom cluster is three or more concurrent symptoms that are related to and influence one another. As the number of cancer survivors increases, it is increasingly important to know how a past diagnosis of cancer influences symptom clusters experienced by patients with other chronic health problems. This is the first study to document symptom clusters in patients with chronic health problems who also have cancer as an additional condition.

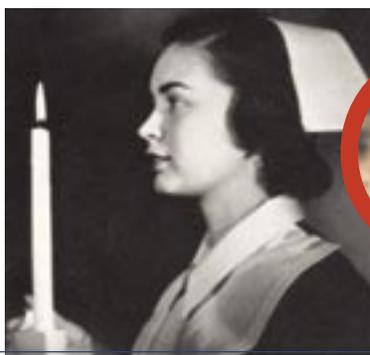
Research is the foundation of nursing care. Our faculty are conducting clinical and basic science research in a wide range of areas to provide a scientific basis for the care of individuals across the life span and address some of the most challenging issues facing today’s healthcare practitioners.



**1951:** Uniform is a dark blue dress with collar, bib, and apron. A version of this style was used for the next several decades.

Annual tuition is \$220.

**1961:** Board in the Medical Center Nursing Residence, now Lothrop Hall,



is \$19.25 per week, including uniform laundering.

**1989:** The issue of the nursing cap is put up for a student vote by Dean Enid Goldberg. The majority of students decided the cap should no longer be part of the uniform.

Banding is eliminated as a result of discontinuing caps. Junior students



wear a single gold bar, and senior students wear two gold bars on the collar of their uniforms.

**1990:** Students have the option of either a dark blue dress or pants.

**1993:** Uniforms are navy blue scrubs with the School of Nursing seal sewn on the v-necked top.



At the fall convocation program, junior and senior students are presented with white nametags identifying their class status. Sophomores receive nametags in advance of their clinical rotations.

**2005:** Back to whites!

# “It’s not how old you are, but how you are old!”

## A TRIUMPH FOR AGING

### SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNA ANGELA STAAB COMPETES AT THE NATIONAL SENIOR OLYMPICS

**ANGELA (ANGIE) M. STAAB**, BSN ('65), MN ('72), CNP, competed in her fourth Senior Olympics from June 3–17, 2005, in Pittsburgh. Staab, who calls herself “chronologically gifted,” joined more than 10,000 athletes from all 50 states, making this year’s games one of the largest multisport events in the world.

In order to compete in the Senior Games, athletes must place in local games and then place first or second in their state games. Some of the participants are professional or lifelong athletes, but most, like Staab, were late bloomers—more than 70 percent started a new fitness activity after age 50. They all prove that “the aging process can truly be the greatest journey of all”—the motto of the Senior Games.

Staab placed in the top 10 in all of her events. She cycled in the 10K and 5K races; ran 200-, 400-, 800-, and 1,500 meter races; and competed in the shot put, discus, and javelin. She has her own bicycle, discus, shot put, and javelin—her husband gave her the bicycle

for their 39th wedding anniversary—but she is especially proud of her discus. A Mother’s Day gift from her children and grandchildren, the discus is signed with words of encouragement such as, “Go Grandma” and “May the force be with you!” Staab says, “I’ll bet I’m the only grandma who ever got a discus for Mother’s Day.”

Filled with seemingly boundless energy and enthusiasm, Staab embodies her favorite philosophy: “It’s not how old you are, but how you are old!” But that was not always the case. Until she was 49, Staab had always been an uncoordinated, slightly overweight career woman, wife, and mother. As vice president of patient services at a North Carolina hospital, she preached the benefits of exercise for older adults but never practiced it, at least not until her employer asked her to represent the hospital in an athletic competition for local industries, businesses, and hospitals.

Although she didn’t think she had the coordination or training to compete in any of the athletic events, Staab wanted to participate. Teammates assured her she would surely get points for the team in whatever she entered, because there were no “older women” in any of the events! After consulting her family, Staab chose the 5-kilometer race. The only glitch was she would have to complete the distance in less than 45 minutes to qualify.

When her daughter took her out to run/walk the road the first time, she completed the 5 kilometers in 65

minutes! “Clearly, I had my work cut out for me—and only three months to do it,” Staab says. Determined not to let her team down (and to impress her new employer), she invested in a pair of running shoes and a sports bra, borrowed her daughter’s running shirt and shorts, and began training on the driveway. She started out slowly, as all seniors should, but day by day, with coaching help from her daughters and the support of her son and husband, she steadily improved. “Little by little, I began to get the feel

“I’ll bet I’m the only grandma who ever got a discus for Mother’s Day.”

of running and accept the challenge. My muscles became stronger, and I actually had less aches and pains than before I began running,” Staab says.

By the day of the race, she could jog most of the 5 kilometers in a time of 42.5 minutes. With one daughter running beside her, coaching and setting a pace, and another daughter running backwards in front of her, cheering her on, Staab finished the race in 36 minutes, a personal best! “It wasn’t easy. But with all of my adrenaline going and the hospital staff cheering and having great expectations, there was no way I wasn’t going to finish the race,” Staab recalls.

She earned 10 points, and her team won the Corporate Cup. “That was it. The competitive bug had bitten me. I was hooked!”

Like most of the Senior Olympians, Staab competes throughout the year, setting goals and planning a training program to achieve them. She runs every day and cross-trains several times a week in swimming and weight training. When she isn’t training, she enjoys hiking, skydiving, and windsurfing. Staab believes this is all an investment in her health. Studies have shown that older adults who exercise have fewer years of disability, more independence, and improved quality of life. Staab is living proof—her parents and all of her siblings died at early ages from heart disease, diabetes, or high blood pressure. As the only surviving member of her family, Staab attributes her longevity to exercise and a healthy diet. “I try to follow the ‘use it but don’t abuse it’ approach,” she says. “This is important, because as you age, you have more opportunity to overtrain and injure yourself.”

Like most athletes, Staab has had injuries, but sensible training prevents them from being any greater than they would be for the younger athlete. This past year she broke a bone in her heel but continued to exercise in nonweight-bearing activities. While wearing a cast, she logged 350 miles on her bike, then removed the cast and swam on alternate days.

“Since the day I started jogging on my driveway, I have been competing—and winning locally, often because I am one of only two or three women in my age category. We need to get older women running like their male counterparts,” Staab says. As she huffs and puffs and pulls herself across the finish line, Staab is reminded that only 10 percent of the people in the nation, in all age categories, can even complete a 5-kilometer race, and only 1 percent of the seniors in the nation are senior athletes. She has boxes of medals and trophies, but they do not matter to her. “What matters is that with each race, I add years to my life, and I teach older adults by example instead of just preaching about exercise!” By practicing what she preaches, Staab encourages students and older adults to tie on a pair of sneakers and exercise to improve their health.



## ALUMNI PROFILES

The following alumni profiles demonstrate how Pitt nurses have impacted the science and practice of nursing through their innovation and leadership.



### RESEARCH AND SERVICE

**TERRI E. WEAVER, PHD, BSN ('73), CS, FAAN,** Associate Professor of Nursing, Chair, Biobehavioral and Health Sciences Division, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing

Weaver's cutting-edge research on the effect of daytime sleepiness on daily behaviors and assessment of outcomes is recognized nationally and internationally. She is the principal investigator of a clinical trial funded by the National Institutes of Health and leader of an investigation in obstructive sleep apnea, and has produced two notable disease-specific functional status measures: one for chronic pulmonary disorders and the other for sleep disorders.

Committed to sharing her professional expertise in a service capacity, Weaver has been active at the local, state, and national levels of the American Lung Association (ALA) for more than 20 years. She chaired the Will Ross Medal Committee, cochairs the Lung Disease Action Committee, and is the incoming chair-elect of the ALA board and its representative delegate from Pennsylvania. Her service to the ALA also includes terms as vice president and secretary.

Weaver is involved in numerous professional associations, including the American Thoracic Society, where she served as chair of the Assembly on Nursing and International Scientific Conference Committee.



### EDUCATION

**BERNADETTE MELNYK, PHD, MSN ('83), CPNP/NPP, FAAN, FNAP,** Dean and Distinguished Foundation Professor in Nursing, Arizona State University College of Nursing

Melnyk is a nationally known educator, pediatric and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, and a researcher funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Nursing Research. She was associate dean for research at the University of Rochester in New York prior to her appointment as dean of the College of Nursing at Arizona State University (ASU) in January 2005.

Setting an aggressive agenda for ASU, Melnyk is committed to designing innovative educational programs, leading intervention research to improve health and quality of life in high-risk populations, and establishing a Center for the Advancement of Evidence-Based Practice. She believes evidence-based practice can significantly improve healthcare, patient outcomes, and systems.

Melnyk is the author of numerous publications, including a recently published book, *Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing and Healthcare: A Guide to Best Practice* [Lippincott].

### MILITARY

**BRIGADIER GENERAL MARCIA F. CLARK, MS, BSN ('63), BA,** United States Air Force (Retired)



Clark was formerly the mobilization assistant to the director, nursing services, Office of the Surgeon General, United States Air Force, Washington, D.C. Her military assignments have included chief nurse of the 40th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron (AES), McChord Air Force Base, Washington, and later as commander. The AES units of the Air Force Reserve are responsible for more than 90 percent of the worldwide patient evacuation of military members and their dependents.

Clark participated in flights in the Pacific during the Vietnam War, working as a flight nurse and caring for the military wounded. Her awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf cluster, the Combat Readiness Medal with five Oak Leaf clusters, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm.

As a civilian, Clark specialized in kidney disease and dialysis and was at the forefront of successful organ transplantations. She worked in Denver, Colo., with Thomas E. Starzl, MD, PhD, as head nurse on the team that pioneered organ transplant techniques with kidneys, livers, and hearts, and was instrumental in setting up the dialysis and transplant capability at Bethesda (Md.) Naval Hospital for the U.S. Navy. Clark retired after 30 years of service with the rank of brigadier general. She is a past president of the American Nephrology Nurses Association and is a life member of the Reserve Officers Association, currently serving as president of the Seattle chapter.

### RESEARCH

**MARGARET GREY, DRPH, BSN ('70), FAAN,** Annie Goodrich Professor of Nursing Research, Associate Dean for Scholarly Affairs, Director, Center for Self and Family Management of Vulnerable Populations, Yale University School of Nursing



Grey is an educator and a distinguished clinician and researcher. A pediatric nurse practitioner with expertise in diabetes, her research has focused on the natural history of adaptation to chronic illness in childhood, especially children with diabetes mellitus, and the study of behavioral interventions that improve both metabolic control of diabetes and the quality of life in young people and their parents. She is also committed to the prevention of type 2 diabetes in high-risk youth.

Instrumental in the development of practice-based research networks in nursing, Grey has been principal investigator for grants totaling over \$15 million. She is the author of more than 160 journal articles, chapters, and abstracts and has received numerous regional and national honors for her research.

Grey has shared her expertise on multiple review panels for the National Institutes of Health and Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and was chair of the Nursing Science Review Committee for the National Institute for Nursing Research. She was president of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners and a member of the second cohort of the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows. Additionally, Grey serves on the Board of Directors of the American Diabetes Association.

# ALUMNI NEWS + NOTES

## Nursing Alumni Society President's Message

AS I LOOK TOWARD THE 2005–06 ACADEMIC YEAR, I'm excited with the possibilities that lie ahead!

My colleagues and I who serve on the Nursing Alumni Society Executive Committee represent all nursing alumni—now over 9,000 members strong. By working together to demonstrate the alumni role and maintain an alumni presence at the School, we are committed to cultivating a strong alumni culture. It is our hope to inspire current nursing students to take pride in the Pitt nursing tradition and to remain connected long after they leave. We also work to reach out to alumni like you and encourage you to reconnect and join with us to advance nursing alumni spirit.

One of my first initiatives as president is to launch a Nursing Alumni Society Web page as part of the School's Web site. Meeting dates and alumni activities will be posted, making it easy for alumni to learn of our plans, share ideas, and volunteer. Also, the committee will begin an effort to create space in the Victoria Building where historical items—such as vintage uniforms, books, etc.—can be displayed. I invite you to become involved!

Dr. Joan P. Byers, MSN ('87)  
*President*

## AFRICAN AMERICAN NURSING ALUMNI COMMITTEE

I AM PLEASED TO REPORT OUR EFFORTS CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Through the generosity of alumni and friends, the financial burden for nursing students has been eased. Also, mentorship has helped us touch the future of nursing. I believe students welcome our interest and guidance as they navigate the often-challenging waters of their educational journeys.

As a subcommittee of the Nursing Alumni Society Executive Board, we offer our ongoing support and collaboration on behalf of the projects it will address in the upcoming academic year. Enough can't be said of teamwork—a necessary ingredient in the recipe for success.

Please check out the School of Nursing Web site at [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu) for volunteer opportunities ranging from scholarship to mentorship to membership. Your involvement will take us to the next level.

Luevonue Lincoln, PhD ('82), MN ('78)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CONVOCATION AND ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY LAB DEDICATION

**September 12, 2005**

Join Dean Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob at this academic year kickoff event, including the dedication of the newly renovated anatomy and physiology lab, a tribute to the memory of Ellen E. Chaffee, MLit, MSN, associate professor emerita.

*First Floor, Victoria Building  
1:30 p.m. Dessert Reception*

### SEVENTH ANNUAL CAMEOS OF CARING AWARDS GALA

**October 1, 2005**

A celebration of nursing, the Cameos of Caring Awards Gala honors outstanding nursing professionals from hospitals across Western Pennsylvania. This year, 42 nurses will be recognized as Cameos of Caring awardees. Proceeds from the event benefit the Cameos of Caring Endowed Nursing Scholarship.

*Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom  
David L. Lawrence  
Convention Center  
6 p.m. Reception and  
Silent Auction  
7 p.m. Dinner and Awards  
For more information,  
visit our Web site at  
[www.cameosofcaring.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.cameosofcaring.nursing.pitt.edu).*

### SCHOOL OF NURSING RESEARCH DAY AT THE ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY

**October 19, 2005**

The School of Nursing will highlight its current research activities, and faculty will present an overview of thematic areas. Individual projects will also be highlighted.

*Oncology Nursing Society  
Headquarters*

### HOMECOMING 2005

**October 20, 2005**

Pathway to Professions: A Career Networking Event  
*Connolly Ballroom  
Alumni Hall  
6–8 p.m.*

**October 22, 2005**

Join fellow nursing alumni and celebrate Pitt nursing pride!

*Alumni Hospitality Tent  
at Heinz Field  
Three hours prior to kickoff of  
Pitt vs. Syracuse Homecoming  
football game.*

### FRESHMAN FAMILY WEEKEND

**October 20–22, 2005**

*continued on page 26*



# Alumni Day 2005 Photo Gallery



Dean Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob welcomes returning alumni.

The School of Nursing marked Alumni Day 2005: It's All About You! on Saturday, May 21, at the Pittsburgh Hilton.

**THE NURSING ALUMNI SOCIETY** Executive Committee welcomed alumni from graduation years ending in "0" and "5" who gathered to mark milestone reunions and make new memories. Vendors, offering a variety of unique products, composed the first-ever Alumni Day Shopping Boutique; alumni modeled the latest in spring/summer fashions from Talbot's; and the 2005 Distinguished and Honorary Alumni were recognized.

Representing the Class of 1945 were Leona Olander Moore (who traveled from Springfield, Mo.), Geraldine Webber Painter, and Gladys Dill Sloane (from Maryland).

Special thanks goes out to the milestone reunion classes, who raised more than \$2,000 as part of the Class Gift program. This demonstration of generosity speaks volumes on behalf of alumni who share a commitment to their alma mater and nursing's future. The funds will be used to purchase equipment for the Skills Lab and benefit all students.



Class of 1945 60th reunion [left to right]: Geraldine Webber Painter, Gladys Dill Sloane, and Leona Olander Moore.



Top to bottom:  
Class of 1955 50th reunion, Class of 1965 40th reunion,  
Class of 1975 30th reunion, Class of 1980 25th reunion

## 1950S

**Arlene P. Stein, PhD, BSN ('57)**, is currently retired, but her nursing career included service as director of the nursing program at Weber State University and nurse manager at Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs, Colo. She is past president of the Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and was a member of its Board of Trustees.

## 1960S

**Harriet Berlin McClish, BSN ('61)**, a retired industrial rehabilitation nurse, helped establish the Ambassador Nurse program at Berger Health System in Circleville and Pickaway County, Ohio. This volunteer program enables nurses who no longer provide direct patient care to support and enhance nursing and physician care provided to patients. McClish received the Berger Hospital's Shining Star Award in November 2004 in recognition of personal commitment and dedication to providing exceptional customer service.

**Dr. Sue Rogan Pinkerton, BSN ('65)**, served as chief nursing officer for 10 years at St. Michael Hospital in Milwaukee, Wis., and 10 years at Shands at the University of Florida in Gainesville. She now consults and teaches and has traveled to England, working with the University of Leeds and the Royal College of Nursing. Currently, Pinkerton works almost exclusively at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C. and teaches an online graduate course at the University of Kansas. She is a columnist for *Nursing Economic\$* and has written on various topics regarding the aspect of leadership. Pinkerton is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.

## 1970S

**Dr. Margaret Grey, BSN ('70)**, has been named the Annie Goodrich Professor of Nursing Research at the Yale School of Nursing (YSN). She has served as the associate dean for scholarly affairs at YSN since 1993 and is the director of the National Institutes of Health-funded Center for Self and Family Management of Vulnerable Populations. A pediatric nurse practitioner with expertise in diabetes, Grey's research focus is on the natural history of adaptation to chronic illness in childhood.

**Angela Simon Staab, MN ('72), BSN ('65)**, has been promoted to adjunct associate professor at the University of North Carolina School of Nursing and will serve in that capacity through April 2009.

**Captain Holly Williams, PhD, BSN ('76)**, a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, has joined The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team in Training program. This program supports endurance training in preparation for the Marine Corps marathon in October 2005.

**Dr. Kathleen Rayman, BSN ('78)**, an associate professor in the Professional Roles/Mental Health Nursing department at East Tennessee State University (ETSU), has received the Joyce R. Bassham College of Nursing Faculty Fellowship. The award, established by former ETSU faculty member Dr. Joyce Bassham, provides a three-year stipend to support research activities. Rayman's research focus is diabetes in Latinos.

## 1980S

**Marianne Allen, MN ('80), BSN ('75)**, works as a clinical nurse specialist in maternity and perinatal bereavement at Pinnacle Health System in Harrisburg, Pa.

**Major Kimberly A. Smith, BSN ('87)**, is Army Nurse Corps head nurse, Second ACR Forward Surgical Team in Al Kut, Iraq. She has previously worked with the Children's Hospital in Minsk, Belarus.

## 1990S

**Lorraine Starsky, BSN ('94)**, a public health nurse, has recently accepted a position with the Allegheny County (Pa.) Health Department's Chronic Disease Prevention program as a diabetes nurse consultant. The program's focus is prevention through education and community outreach to schools and community organizations, especially high-risk populations. Previously, she had worked in the Infectious Diseases program.

**Maj. (s) Keith G. Crook, MFS, BSN ('94)**, worked as a nurse in the Veterans Administration and U.S. Air Force before becoming a special agent in the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, investigating felony crime impacting the Air Force. In August 2001, Crook was selected to attend the Air Force Institute of Technology civilian institution program at George

Washington University (GWU), Washington, D.C., and concurrently was a forensic medicine fellow at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology. The last time he practiced as a nurse was September 11, 2001 at the Pentagon. He earned his master's degree in forensic sciences from GWU in August 2002 and is employed as a forensic sciences consultant, providing specialized forensic assistance on violent crime across a 10-state area in the Rocky Mountain region. In December 2003, he was deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, to provide tactical counterintelligence support to coalition forces. He was selected for promotion to major, and will assume that responsibility in November 2005. Crook received the Bronze Star for his service supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

**Captain Michael L. Young, BSN ('95)**, returned in March from a one-year deployment as an active duty U.S. Army Nurse Corps captain in Operation Enduring Freedom. He was stationed at Brooke Army Medical Center in the cardiovascular-telemetry ward and provided direct patient care. Young was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal/Mobilization, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. He transitioned back into civilian life with United Healthcare in Rockville, Md., working in the inpatient clinical appeals department. His wife, Lisette, and four children are most happy to have him home.

**Deena Brecher, BSN ('97)**, is a clinical nurse specialist in emergency services at the A. I. DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del. She won the National Emergency Nurses Association/Micromedix Best Research Abstract Award at the Emergency Nurses Association Scientific Assembly in San Diego in September 2004.

**Jennifer Harpst Catanzarito, BSN ('98)**, marked her first wedding anniversary on April 17 with her husband, Michael. Her mother, Janet Harpst, created an heirloom quilt to mark the occasion. One of the blocks on the quilt bears the School of Nursing seal to represent Jennifer's alma mater.

**Diane Adiutori, MSN ('99)**, CCRN, CRNP, ACNP-CS, recently elected treasurer of the Northwest Pennsylvania Nurse Practitioner Association, is an acute care nurse practitioner in neurosurgery with Saint Vincent Health Center in Erie, Pa.

## 2000S

**Mildred Jones, PhD ('00), MSN ('90)**, associate professor in the School of Nursing at Carlow University, was honored with the Nursing Practice Award by the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, District 6, in May. This award recognizes excellent clinical practice in patient care, often in challenging circumstances. Jones also received the 2005 Max and Esther Sestili Award for Excellence in Teaching.

**Audrye Burdette, BSN ('05)**, was commissioned as a U.S. Army second lieutenant (2LT).

**Karen Campano, BSN ('05)**, currently pursuing a master's degree in informatics at the School of Nursing, presented in July at the 15th Annual Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics: Breaking the Barriers of Healthcare Informatics: People, Process, and Technology sponsored by the University of Maryland School of Nursing. Her abstract, "My HealtheVet: The Gateway to Veteran Health and Wellness," was awarded the highest scholarship by the committee and selected as most influential to the field.

**Bethany Francis, BSN ('05)**, was the first graduating Adena Johnson Davis Scholar at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. Named for a Pitt nursing pioneer, Adena Johnson Davis ('47), the first African American to enroll

at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing and the first to graduate from any school of nursing in the Pittsburgh area, the scholarship was established to encourage more African American/minority students to enter the nursing profession. Davis presented Francis with a personal award—her own nursing cap—at the School's Pinning Ceremony on April 29, 2005.

**George Rodway, PhD ('05)**, successfully defended his dissertation, "Intermittent vs. Continuous Hypoxia: Impact on Hemodynamic Variables and Gene Expression," in March 2005.

**Melissa Taylor, PhD ('05)**, successfully defended her dissertation, "Social Support, Personal Control, and Psychological Functioning Among Individuals with Heart Failure," in April 2005.

**Tim Yourk, BSN ('05)**, was commissioned as a U.S. Army second lieutenant (2LT). In September, after passing his boards, Yourk will attend officer basic course (OBC), a two-and-a-half-month course to prepare candidates to be officers in the U.S. Army. After OBC, Yourk's first duty station will be Fort Bragg, N.C., where he will work on a medsurge unit for six–12 months before being deployed to Iraq. His future plans include working within a critical care setting and pursuing a master's degree or possibly even going on to medical school. Yourk was married on June 17, 2005.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*continued from page 23*

**MARYANN F. FRALIC  
DISTINGUISHED  
LECTURESHIP**

**November 3, 2005**

The 2005 Maryann F. Fralic Distinguished Lecturer is Peter I. Buerhaus, PhD, RN, FAAN, senior associate dean for research and Valere Potter Professor of Nursing at Vanderbilt University, who will address nursing retention and trends in the nursing workforce. This afternoon workshop includes lunch and offers continuing education credits.

*Victoria Building*

*1 p.m. Lunch*

*2 p.m. Workshop*

*Registration Fee: \$30*

**NURSING ALUMNI  
SOCIETY ANNUAL  
POINSETTIA SALE**

**November 1–21, 2005**

Order forms available online October 31 at [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu)

**POINSETTIA PICKUP**

**December 6, 2005**

*Victoria Building*

**PINNING**

**April 28, 2005**

*Soldiers & Sailors  
Memorial Hall  
7 p.m.*

**COMMENCEMENT**

**April 30, 2006**

*Petersen Events Center  
1 p.m.*

**GRADUATE STUDENT  
DINNER**

**April 30, 2006**

*Pittsburgh Athletic  
Association  
4 p.m.*

*For more information  
on upcoming events,  
please call 412-624-5328,  
e-mail [jmw100@pitt.edu](mailto:jmw100@pitt.edu),  
or visit our Web site at  
[www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu).*

## In Memoriam

**Mary Ann Cook McFetridge '43**

December 22, 2004

**June L. Glath Bissell '46**

January 7, 2005

**Mary Patton Miller '46**

December 3, 2004

**Patricia Wonderling Zinsser '46**

April 2, 2005

**Frances Hendrickson Williams Mitchell '49, '53**

March 22, 2005

**Mary Jane Huczko Boyle '53**

March 9, 2004

**Marjorie Beers Kalish '53**

July 11, 2004

**Joan J. Kyes '66**

May 19, 2005

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

## Announcing

Support is Available for Full-Time Study in the

**BSN to PhD  
Program  
For Fall 2005**

To learn more about the doctoral program at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, contact:

Dr. Judith A. Erlen

Doctoral Program Coordinator

E-mail: [jae001@pitt.edu](mailto:jae001@pitt.edu) or

Phone: 412-624-1905

Or, visit our Web site at [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu)

## 2005 Distinguished/Honorary Alumni

The School of Nursing is proud to salute the 2005 Distinguished and Honorary Alumni Awardees:

### 2005 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

#### Dr. Richard A. Henker, MSN ('02)

Rick Henker, PhD, CRNA, associate professor in the School of Nursing's Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, is an outstanding educator, clinician, and professional role model. Over a 12-year career at the University of Pittsburgh, Henker has continually promoted the School's educational, service, and research missions. His teaching excellence has been recognized by the School of Nursing, the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists, and the Society of Critical Care Medicine. A well-recognized scholar, Henker is the author of numerous articles, book chapters, and abstracts. His positive attitude, enthusiasm, and sense of humor endear him to students and colleagues alike.

#### Dr. Patricia R. Messmer, BSN ('67)

Patricia R. Messmer, PhD, RN, BC, FAAN, a nurse researcher at Miami Children's Hospital, is a visionary nursing leader, impacting the profession by conceptualizing and demonstrating the relationship of research to education and implementation in nursing practice. She is a pioneer in the Magnet program, and her research has included the social aspects of healthcare, particularly as it relates in multicultural environments. Building a network of supporters to link the School of Nursing and the Florida Heart Research Foundation, Messmer received funding that has enabled Pitt nursing students to participate in a unique clinical experience, exposing them to work with a diverse population of patients and healthcare providers.

#### Captain Holly A. Williams, BSN ('76)

Holly A. Williams, PhD, MN, RN, a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service, is a nurse epidemiologist in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Malaria Epidemiology Branch. She has contributed to improving the health of the world's citizens through direct care, teaching, research, and professional collaboration in global health, with a focus in malaria control. As the associate recruiter for the CDC, Williams provides guidance to nurses who want to become commissioned officers. She serves on the editorial boards of nursing and anthropology peer-review journals and teaches at Emory University in anthropology and nursing and at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

### 2005 HONORARY ALUMNUS

#### Gail A. Wolf, DNS, RN, FAAN

As a nursing administrator, educator, mentor, and leader, Dr. Gail Wolf has demonstrated her commitment to the profession time and again. In spite of a most demanding schedule as the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's (UPMC) chief nursing officer, Wolf is always available to serve the School of Nursing. She has served as the School's associate dean and adjunct professor, and a member of the Board of Visitors. She graciously participated at pinning and graduation. Additionally, the School's Nursing Horizons Conference and its Cameos of Caring Awards program have benefited from Wolf's ongoing advocacy within UPMC.

Congratulations to these outstanding nursing professionals!



Dr. Richard A. Henker



Dr. Patricia R. Messmer



Captain Holly A. Williams



Dr. Gail A. Wolf

## Call for 2006 Nominations

The School of Nursing Alumni Society is accepting nominations for its 2006 Distinguished Alumni and Honorary Alumni Awards. Our alumni represent the University of Pittsburgh locally, nationally, and internationally through their work as nursing professionals. The School takes pride in the prestigious accomplishments of its alumni but needs assistance in identifying those individuals who meet the following award criteria.

### 2006 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Nominees for the 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award(s) must be a University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing program graduate and will be considered

on the basis of leadership, achievement, and contribution in areas similar to the following: academia, administration, clinical practice, research, and service (professional and community).

When submitting 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award nominations, please indicate in which area each nominee should be considered.

### 2006 HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD

This award recognizes an individual who is not a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, but who has demonstrated extraordinary service and support to and for the School's mission.

When submitting nominations for Distinguished and Honorary Alumni, please include any materials (such as curriculum vitae or resume) and information that supports that nomination (i.e. letters of support, pertinent materials).

All 2006 Distinguished and Honorary Alumni nominations should be submitted no later than January 31, 2006 to the University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing Alumni Office, 218 Victoria Building, 3500 Victoria Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261.

For more information, please contact the Nursing Alumni Office at 412-624-2404.

**JUNE 2007 WILL MARK THE END** of the University of Pittsburgh's Discover a World of Possibilities fundraising campaign. To date, the campaign has raised \$800 million of its \$1 billion goal.

The School of Nursing has certainly done its part to contribute to the campaign's success. Through the generosity of alumni, faculty, friends, and staff, the School has raised more than \$7.4 million toward its \$8.5 million goal. It is a tremendous accomplishment to be so close to reaching our goal, but what is truly impressive is the impact these dollars will have on our students, our faculty, and the School.

Each year, more nursing students receive financial support from endowed scholarship and student resource funds. This fall, for the first time, nursing students will participate in the University Honors College, and one highly qualified student will receive significant financial support. Human simulation has been incorporated into all levels of study, with "SIM Baby" joining the simulation experience. New space has been created for clinical research, providing a designated area for researchers to collect and synthesize subject data. Work on a state-of-the-art anatomy and physiology laboratory is under way and will offer students an extraordinary learning environment beginning in the fall.

Reaching the campaign goal is a priority; launching new programs and projects is progress. There are several initiatives that deserve philanthropic attention:

- The Nancy Glunt Hoffman Fund is dedicated to advancing the practice of oncology nursing. The goal is to create a chair in oncology nursing.
- Current doctoral students have joined together to establish a fund to support future doctoral students and will be soliciting gifts from doctoral program alumni and faculty.
- Young investigators require seed money, and there is a growing interest to create a fund that would support budding researchers.

Providing immediate support can be as simple as writing a check, making a phone call, or going online. However, long-term support takes careful thought and planning. The University of Pittsburgh has planned giving information available online, printed information available upon request, and experts on site with whom to consult regarding various giving options. You can play an important role in the future of nursing by becoming involved. Take time to reflect on your nursing experience. Would you like to enhance the educational experience of a current or future student? Receive more information? Make an informed decision?

Please contact Mary Rodgers Schubert, MPM, RN, director of development, at 412-624-7541 or [mschuber@pitt.edu](mailto:mschuber@pitt.edu), or visit [www.giveto.pitt.edu](http://www.giveto.pitt.edu) for more information.

**MONTHLY PROGRAMS ARE SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR.**

## 2005 Pharmacology Update

**AUGUST 26, 2005 AT 8 A.M.**

*First-Floor Lobby, Victoria Building*

Pharmacology Update is an annual event at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. The 2005 version emphasizes a broad pharmacologic knowledge base necessary for evidence-based practice. The aim is to enable clinicians to offer interventions that represent best practice. We begin and end the day with keynote speakers. They will address the important issues of drug development and monitoring of safety from public and governmental perspectives. Concurrent sessions address disease-specific drug therapies for adult and child populations along with some epidemiologic considerations.

Pharmacology credits, Act 48 credit hours, and CME will be available.

## Fundamentals of Disaster and Mass Casualty Care

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2005 AT 8 A.M.**

*First-Floor Lobby, Victoria Building*

This course is designed to build on the foundation of medical-surgical nursing to provide the participant with an understanding of the causes, prevention, and mitigation of disasters and insight into the disaster management system nationally and locally. The course will include content relevant to all disciplines in the disaster care continuum and then focus on the caregiver's role in these systems.

## Enhancing Quality of Life in Late Life: The Role of Complimentary and Alternative Therapies

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2005 AT 9 A.M.**

*First-Floor Lobby, Victoria Building*

This program is designed to provide an overview of several complementary and alternative therapies. There is now a strong literature base supporting the use of such therapies as acupuncture, herbal remedies, yoga, and related techniques. The purpose of this educational program is to explore the use of such therapies with older adults in a variety of settings.

## Evidence-Based Practice for the Clinician

**OCTOBER 14, 2005**

*University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing, Victoria Building*

Please save the date, and check the Web site for more information.

## Aging and Technology at the Cutting Edge

**OCTOBER 21, 2005**

*Holiday Inn Select, University Center, Pittsburgh*

In conjunction with other entities at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, and UPMC, the School of Nursing is cosponsoring the first in a series of conferences on Technology for Life and Living. Judith T. Matthews, PhD, MPH, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, is codirector of the course.

Please save the date, and check the Web site for more information.

## Genetic Update for the Nurse Educator

NOVEMBER 18, 2005

University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing, Victoria Building

Please save the date, and check the Web site for more information.

## Teaching Evidence-Based Practice for the Nurse Educator

FEBRUARY 10, 2006

Please save the date, and check the Web site for more information.

For details about any of our upcoming programs, please call 412-624-3156, e-mail [conted@pitt.edu](mailto:conted@pitt.edu), or view information online at [www.pitt.edu/ffnursing/continuingedu/index.html](http://www.pitt.edu/ffnursing/continuingedu/index.html).



## GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

**THE CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN CHRONIC DISORDERS (CRCD)** sponsored a grant-writing workshop for selected young faculty researchers from the University of Pittsburgh and three partnering schools of nursing: Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, La.; West Virginia University in Morgantown, W.Va.; and the State University of New York in Brooklyn, N.Y. The workshop was led by Judith Erlen, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, doctoral program coordinator, and associate director of the CRCD, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. Presenters included Susan Sereika, PhD, associate professor and director of the Center for Research and Evaluation; Christopher Ryan; and Deborah Evansky. In addition to Erlen, School of Nursing faculty who provided mentorship throughout the program included Susan M. Cohen, DSN, RN, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development; Mary Beth Happ, PhD, RN, associate professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care; Willa Doswell, PhD, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development; Elizabeth A. Schlenk, PhD, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems; Carol S. Stillely, PhD, RN, research assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, and project director and associate director, Cognitive Core of the CRCD; Leslie Hoffman, PhD, RN, FAAN, chair and professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care; and Judith T. Matthews, PhD, MPH, RN, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems. The group will return in September for part two of the workshop, in which the participants' research proposals will be presented for mock reviews before submission for possible funding.

## announcing

### Predocctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships are Available for Technology: Research in Chronic and Critical Illness

Examines ways various forms of technology enable the resolution of patient health problems and assist in monitoring biobehavioral outcomes

Funded by the National Institutes of Nursing Research (T32 000857)

Applications Due by February 15, 2006

To learn more about this training grant contact:

Dr. Judith A. Erlen, director

E-mail: [jae001@pitt.edu](mailto:jae001@pitt.edu) or

Dr. Leslie Hoffman, codirector

E-mail: [lhof@pitt.edu](mailto:lhof@pitt.edu)

Phone: 1-888-747-0794

## RESEARCH RESOURCE DAY

On July 8, the faculty, staff, and students at the School attended Research Resource Day. This day-long event highlighted University resources, helped answer budgetary and compliance questions, and illustrated ways to publicize research. The idea to highlight University resources available for the faculty came at the suggestion of Dean Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob. The School's Research Task Force Committee—chaired by Janice S. Dorman, associate dean for scientific and international affairs—coordinated the day.

Teresa Brosenitsch, PhD, scientist administrator, Office of Research, Health Sciences; Laurel Yasko, RN, BSN, CCRC, director, Office of Clinical Research; Joan Lakoski, PhD, assistant vice chancellor for academic career development; and Darlene Zellers, MA, director, Office of Academic Career Development gave morning presentations highlighting resources available in their respective offices.

Afternoon presentations were given by Allen DiPalma, interim director, Office of Research; and Kathleen Sidorovich, financial research administrator for the Health Sciences, who discussed budgetary and compliance issues and rules for reporting the percentage of effort researchers spend on their projects. Joan Britten, public relations coordinator for the School of Nursing, and Jocelyn Uhl, assistant director, UPMC News Bureau, presented a step-by-step process to help faculty publicize their research.

## CAMBODIAN OUTREACH

**Richard Henker, RN, PhD**, vice chair and associate professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, traveled to Cambodia to teach from January 17–28, 2005. Henker lectured and worked in the operating rooms with the anesthesia care providers at Sihanouk Hospital Center of Hope in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

He worked predominantly with the anesthesia staff (three nurse anesthetists and one anesthesiologist), although other nurses and physicians attended his lectures on respiratory physiology, pharmacology, and basics of anesthesia care. In addition, Henker held morning conferences to discuss anesthesia care for patients and worked with care providers in the operating room to improve assessment and other anesthesia-related skills.

Henker was sponsored by Health Volunteers Overseas, a group he linked with at the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists meeting in Seattle in August 2004. He hopes to take students along to experience nursing practice in Cambodia in the future.



## EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE WORKSHOP

Four instructors visited the School from McMaster University School of Nursing in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Donna Ciliska, E. Ann Mohide, Jenny Ploeg, and Helen Thomas conducted a three-day workshop on May 3–5, 2005 to help our faculty implement evidence-based practice throughout the baccalaureate and graduate curricula.

Ciliska, PhD, RN, professor and nursing consultant with the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Department of Public Health, is a career scientist with the Ministry of Health in Ontario, coeditor of the journal *Evidence-Based Nursing*, and is codirector of the Canadian Centre for Evidence-Based Nursing.

Mohide, BScN, is an associate professor who has taught research methods at the graduate and undergraduate levels for many years. She is an associate editor of the journal *Evidence-Based Nursing* and cochair of the Evidence-Based Nursing Committee for a large tertiary hospital employing 2,800 nurses.

Ploeg, PhD, RN, is an associate professor and an associate member of the gerontology program. She is a public health associate with the Public Health and Social Services Division in the City of Hamilton and codirector of the Community Care Research Centre.

Thomas, MSc, RN, is an associate professor and clinical consultant to the Hamilton Social and Public Health Research Education and Development program. She is also director of the Effective Public Health Practice project.

## Qualitative Research Workshop

### CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN QUALITATIVE RESEARCH

The Working Interdisciplinary Qualitative Research Group, funded by the University of Pittsburgh Center for Social and Urban Research (UCSUR), held a conference on Thursday, April 28 at the School of Nursing. The conference brought together scholars from a variety of disciplines and several institutions. The keynote speaker was Margarete Sandelowski, PhD, RN, FAAN, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Sandelowski discussed the state of the science of qualitative research.

The Working Interdisciplinary Qualitative Research Group began about two years ago and was formalized in July 2004 with funding from UCSUR. The goal of this working group is to facilitate qualitative research methods to understand personal perspectives of topics of interest. Members of the group are researching such areas as living with diabetes, experiences of domestic violence, issues related to smoking cessation in adolescents, family perspectives of end-of-life decisions, and numerous other topics related to health and social conditions. An important emphasis of the group is to develop community-based research projects in which community members work in partnership with academicians.

For more information about this group, please contact Dr. Ellen Olshansky at 412-624-6913, or visit its Web site at [www.pitt.edu/ffqualgrp](http://www.pitt.edu/ffqualgrp).

## PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR HEALTH CARE

As a Pennsylvania Governor's School for Health Care [PGSHC] partner this past summer, the School of Nursing offered a three-day program for 115 exceptional high school students. School of Nursing faculty led lectures sessions and hands-on workshops that included introduction to clinical skills and patient interviewing skills.

PGSHC, funded through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Health, provides opportunities for students from across the commonwealth to learn more about healthcare and healthcare careers.

Students must be Pennsylvania residents and may only apply during their junior year of high school.



## FIRST ANNUAL SCHOOL OF NURSING JUNIOR SCIENCE AWARDS

**Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN**, dean of the School of Nursing, introduced the first-, second-, and third-place winners of the Pittsburgh Public Schools Science Exposition, which was held at the University of Pittsburgh Chevron Chemistry Building on March 8, 2005. The students presented their posters to the faculty. On behalf of the School of Nursing, Dean Dunbar-Jacob awarded each of the students with a monetary award and a certificate of achievement for their accomplishments.

Andrew Goldstein, the first-place winner, was in the seventh grade at Sterret Classical Academy, and his teacher was Ron Reed. Andrew's winning poster is titled "The Effect of Meditation on Blood Pressure."

Gretchen Gally, the second-place winner, attends the Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts, and her teacher was William Hileman. Gretchen's winning entry is titled "Inhibitory Effect of Vitamin B-12 on Candida Kefyr."

Amber Mullen, the third-place winner, was in seventh grade at Schiller Classical Academy, and her teacher was Phillip Koch. Amber's winning entry is titled "Adhesive Bandages."

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing plans to make this an annual award to recognize scientific achievement and encourage interest in the behavioral sciences at the middle-school level.



**Nancy Grove, PhD, RN**, director of the nursing program and associate professor at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, did a book review published in the National League for Nursing's official journal, *Nursing Education Perspectives*, May/June 2005: Hudack, S. [2004]. "A Daybook for Nurses: Making a difference each day." Indiana: Sigma Theta Tau International.

## STUDENT NEWS

**Alison Colbert, MSN, GSR**, received an award from the Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine (ATPM). The award was presented at the Paul Ambrose Health Promotion Student Leadership Symposium, held from June 24–26, 2005 in Washington, D.C. The symposium is sponsored by the ATPM and the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with the American Medical Student Association and Community-Campus Partnerships for Health. The primary objectives of the symposium are to: 1) provide leadership training and prevention education to 45 health professions students interested in public health, prevention, healthcare policy, and medical and health sciences education; and 2) cultivate a cohort of student leaders capable of expanding the focus of health professions education, and ultimately, improving the nation's health.

As part of the award, ATPM gave Colbert a micro-grant to implement a preventive health project at the University of Pittsburgh. Colbert may use the grant to create a health literacy module for nursing students.

**Ava Puccio, BSN to PhD student**, received the Nursing Specialty Award from the Society of Critical Care Medicine at the 34th Critical Care Congress in Phoenix, Ariz., on January 18. Her oral abstract presentation, "The Influence of Gender on Interstitial

Glutamate and Lactate/Private Levels in Human Brain after Severe Traumatic Brain Injury," was the best-scored abstract in the nursing category of research.

At the request of Dean Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, **Brenda Sheets ('05)**, a student in the Accelerated Second Degree program, testified in support of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) at the Pennsylvania State Senate Appropriation Committee hearings in Harrisburg on Thursday, February 17, 2005.

The PHEAA called Sheets and several other witnesses to give a face to their student grant and loan programs. Sheets testified about the impact of the PHEAA award, which made her participation in the Accelerated Second Degree program possible.

**Tanya Green**, a sophomore nursing student, was named Miss Black Pitt, an award based more on intellect, personality, and talent than just beauty. Green, who entered the contest on a challenge from a friend, recited a Bible verse in Jamaican for her talent.

**Lauren Broyles** received an award from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses for her research, "Clinicians' Evaluation and Management of Pre-Existing Substance Use, Chronic Pain, and Psychiatric Conditions in Long-Term ICU Patients" [6/1/05–5/31/06].

## NEW STUDENT RESOURCE FUND

The Tony and Mildred Sherry Savino Memorial Student Resource Fund will provide financial support for eligible full-time students at the School of Nursing's Oakland campus for students who graduated from a public high school in the Altoona, State College, or Hollidaysburg areas in Blair and Center Counties. Eligible students must have completed their first year of study, have earned a quality point average of 2.75 or higher, and demonstrate active community service or professional involvement. Qualified students will be selected by a committee of faculty at the School of Nursing with preference given to undergraduate students.

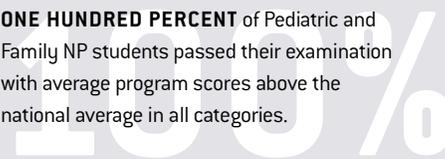
## SCHOOL REPRESENTED AT COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIRS

In spring 2005, the School of Nursing participated in several community health fairs. The wellness events offered blood pressure screenings, body mass index, and healthy eating and heart education. Faculty and members of the Nursing Student Association volunteered their time to target University staff and residents of the Pittsburgh's eastern urban area.

## SIGMA THETA TAU NEWS

In April, the School of Nursing's Eta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau inducted 63 new members, including undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students.

**ONE HUNDRED PERCENT** of Pediatric and Family NP students passed their examination with average program scores above the national average in all categories.



## FACULTY NEWS AND NOTES

**Lisa Bernardo, PhD, MPH, RN, HFI**, associate professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, received the 2005 Dean's Distinguished Teaching Award. Bernardo has been on the faculty at the School since 1996 and works with evidence-based practice in nontraditional health promotion and fitness activities, such as pilates and yoga.

**Joanne Connelly, MSN, CRNP**, instructor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, participated in the premiere UPMC Nursing Grand Rounds presentation in June. UPMC Nursing Grand Rounds, a system-wide continuing education program for nurses, will be offered monthly for nurses and healthcare professionals and provide the opportunity to share clinical and research advances, as well as to discuss social and ethical issues.

**Rose E. Constantino, PhD, JD, RN, FAAN, FACFE**, associate professor, Department of Health and Community Systems, was awarded certified forensic nurse (CFN) designation by the American College of Forensic Examiners International.

**Richard Henker, PhD, RN**, vice chair and associate professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, has been appointed evaluator to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The CCNE is the only accrediting body devoted exclusively to the evaluation of baccalaureate and graduate degree programs in nursing. Henker also received the Didactic Instructor of the Year Award from the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

**Mary E. Kerr, PhD, RN, FAAN**, former professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, has joined the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) as deputy director. Kerr will work closely with NINR Director Patricia Grady, RN, PhD, in planning, directing, and managing the programs and resources of the Institute.

**Julius Kitutu, PhD**, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, has assumed the position of director of student services. A native of Kenya, Africa, Kitutu earned his BSc degree and MSc in statistics from Nagpur University in India. He returned to Kenya and served as a lecturer at Maseno University for three years. Kitutu moved to the United States, where he completed three additional degrees at the University of Pittsburgh: MEd in planning and evaluation, MEd in methodology, and his PhD in education (administration in higher education). Kitutu served as a teaching assistant in the Department of Psychology in Education and as a graduate student researcher (GSR) in the Department of Administration and Policy Studies. He has been in the School of Nursing since 1999, first as a GSR, then research associate, and then research assistant professor. Kitutu has worked with a number of investigators in the School through the Center for Research in



Lisa Bernardo



Rose E. Constantino



Richard Henker



Mary E. Kerr



John O'Donnell



Kathryn Puskar



Margaret Q. Rosenzweig

Chronic Disorders and the Center for Research and Evaluation. In addition, he has provided support to the Evaluation Committee and to Student Services over the past year.

**John O'Donnell, MSN, RN**, instructor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care and director of the school's nurse anesthesia program, will serve as the American Anesthesia Nursing Association delegate at an Anesthesia Patient Safety Foundation (APSF)-sponsored "Absorbent Conference": This national "Consensus Statement" meeting will focus on the use of carbon dioxide absorbents to reduce the risk of adverse interactions with volatile anesthetic drugs. O'Donnell serves on the APSF board and is a member of the APSF Committee on Technology.

**Kathryn Puskar, DrPH, RNC, FAAN**, has been promoted to the rank of professor with tenure in the Department of Health and Community Systems. Puskar was appointed to a national panel of experts by Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company. She was one of 11 experts asked to participate in a roundtable discussion titled "The Anatomy of Stress." The panel discussed the importance of stress in physical health, the significance of recent stress research and how these findings should affect the actions of care providers and policy makers, and myths about stress; and explored issues related to perceptions of patients, the public, and decision makers, along with the incentives and disincentives to address stress during medical examinations, and the costs of not addressing a patient's past and current stress.

**Margaret Q. Rosenzweig, PhD, RN**, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, received the 2005 Innovation in Education Award from the University of Pittsburgh Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence for her project, "Communication Skills for Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Students."

**Elizabeth Schlenk, Rosemary Hoffmann, Helen Burns**, and **John O'Donnell** presented a 90-minute Simulation Symposium at the International Council of Nursing.



## RESEARCH STUDIES

**Sheila A. Alexander, PhD ('04), BSN ('89)**, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, received an award from the Central Research Development Fund of the University Research Council for her research on "CSF Ca<sup>++</sup> APOE Protein and Genotype and CV after TBI" (7/1/05–6/30/07).

**Catherine M. Bender, PhD, RN**, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, received an Oncology Nursing Society research award for her study, "Symptom Clusters in Patients with Chronic Disorders and Cancer as Comorbidity" (2/1/05–6/30/06). Bender was also awarded an R01 research grant from the National Cancer Institute for her study, "Cognitive Impairment Related to Anastrozole Use in Women" (5/1/05–4/30/10).

**Eileen Chasens, DSN, RN**, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, received an award from the Central Research Development Fund of the University Research Council for her research on "Daytime Sleepiness and Physical Activity in Adults with Obstructive Sleep Apnea" (7/1/05–6/30/07).

**Jina Choo, PhD, RN**, postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Health and Community Systems, received an award from Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter, for her research on "Psychometric Evaluation of the Cholesterol Lowering Diet Self-Efficacy Scale Short Form" (7/1/05–6/30/06).

**Susan M. Cohen, DSN, APRN**, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, received a research grant from the National Cancer Institute for her research on "Menopause and Meditation for Breast Cancer Survivors" (2/9/05–1/31/08).

**Yvette Conley, PhD**, assistant professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, received an award from the National Institutes of Health and National Institute of Nursing Research for her research on "Mitochondrial Genetics of Recovery after Brain Injury" (4/7/2005–1/31/2009).

**Annette Dabbs, PhD, RN**, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, received a grant from the Center for Research and Evaluation for her study "Pocket Path: Using Pocket PCs to Promote After-Transplant Health."

**Linda Garand, PhD, APRN, CS**, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, received an award from the National Institutes of Health for her research, "Prevention of Psychiatric Morbidity in AD Caregivers" (5/18/05–4/30/10).

**Judith Kaufmann, DrPH, CRNP**, assistant professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development, received an award from the Central Research Development Fund of the University Research Council for her research, "Developmental Differences in Adherence to the ABCD Program for Pediatric Weight Measurement" (7/1/05–6/30/07).

**John O'Donnell, MSN, RN**, instructor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care and director of the school's nurse anesthesia program, received an award from Sigma Theta Tau, Eta Chapter, for his research on "The Impact of Intravenous Catheter Insertion Training Modalities on Clinical Intravenous Catheter Insertion Performance" (7/1/05–6/30/06).

**Ellen Olshansky, DNSc, RNC, FAAN**, chair and professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems, received a grant from the Center for Research and Evaluation for her study, "Nurses' Perceptions of Depression in their Cardiac Patients."

**Margaret Rosenzweig, PhD, CRNP-C, AOCN**, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, received the 2005 Innovation in Education Award from the Advisory Council on Instructional Excellence for her project, "Communication Skills for Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Students" (5/1/2005–4/30/2006).

**Elizabeth A. Schlenk, PhD, RN**, assistant professor in the Department of Health and Community Systems and chair of the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals (ARHP) Committee on Research, was awarded a grant from the Association of American Medical Colleges Office of Research Integrity to fund a workshop at the ARHP annual meeting on responsible conduct of research titled, "Responsible Data Management in Research: Getting It Right the First Time."

**Paula Sherwood, PhD, RN, CNRN**, research assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, received a grant from the Center for Research and Evaluation for her study "The Costs of Cancer Care," and an award from the Pittsburgh Cancer and Aging Program for her research on "Stress and Aging: Caregiver Outcomes in Neuro-oncology" (5/1/05–04/30/06).

**Mi-Kyung Song, PhD, RN**, assistant professor in the Department of Acute and Tertiary Care, received two awards from the Central Research Development Fund of the University Research Council: one for her study "An Exploration of the Illness Trajectory after the Onset of Chronic Lung Rejection" and another for her research on "Program to Improve Communication About End-of-Life Care Among African American Patients with End-Stage Renal Disease" (7/1/05–6/30/07).

**SHOW OFF YOUR PITT NURSE PRIDE IN STYLE!**

The Nursing Alumni Society's Pitt nursing bracelet fundraiser continues to be a success! The bracelet has been 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 lengths of 7, 7½, and 8 inches, 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 the order form provided or download an order form from the School of Nursing's Web site 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
<b>ORDER TOTAL</b>					<b>\$</b>

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

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

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



# The Pitt Career Network

**THE PITT CAREER NETWORK WANTS YOU!**

Career Services and the Pitt Alumni Association are pleased to announce a new online service for Pitt alumni and students—the Pitt Career Network.

**WHAT IS THE PITT CAREER NETWORK?**

The Pitt Career Network (PCN) is an online directory and includes information about alumni careers and professional experiences. This free service for alumni and students seeking career-related contacts, insight, and advice is not an employment service or job board. Instead, the PCN offers opportunities to network with the University's diverse and talented alumni base.

**HOW DOES THE PCN WORK?**

- To become a PCN contact, alumni simply enter professional information in an online profile using their Alumni Online Services ID and password.
- Students and alumni can then customize profile searches based on any or all of the following fields:

Industry	Job Title	State
Employer Type	Minority-Owned Business	Professional Organizations
Volunteer Activities	Metro Area	Graduation Year
Job Function	Career Stage	Country
Employer Name	Alumni-Owned Business	Student Activities
Special Interests		School/College/Campus
City		

- Student and alumni networkers will send a blind e-mail to the alumni profile's account and the networking begins!

**WHO HAS ACCESS?**

All registered students can access PCN using their Pitt user name. Alumni who register with Alumni Online Services can access PCN.

**WHERE DO I FIND THE PCN?**

Links are available from the Pitt Alumni Association home page; the Career Services home page; various school, college, and campus alumni pages; the Pitt Club pages; or by going to [www.alumni.pitt.edu/networking](http://www.alumni.pitt.edu/networking).

**WHEN WILL THE PCN BE AVAILABLE?**

Alumni can log on now and create profiles. Once a critical mass of alumni is accumulated in early fall, the search engine capability will be launched.

Questions and comments can be directed to [networking@alumni.pitt.edu](mailto:networking@alumni.pitt.edu).

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
SCHOOL OF NURSING

# CAMEOS OF CARING AWARDS GALA

SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 1, 2005



## FEATURING:

- 36 Awardees
- 5 Advanced Practice Awardees
- 1 Donate Life Awardee

**SPIRIT OF PITTSBURGH BALLROOM  
DAVID L. LAWRENCE CONVENTION CENTER**

- 6 p.m. Reception and Silent Auction
- 7 p.m. Dinner and Awards Presentation
- Postevent reception with live entertainment

\$100 per person

Event proceeds benefit the Cameos of Caring Endowed Nursing Scholarship.

Please detach the bottom reply form and mail to:

University of Pittsburgh  
School of Nursing  
Jennifer Fellows  
218 Victoria Building  
3500 Victoria Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

**RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 21, 2005**

[WWW.CAMEOSOF CARING.NURSING.PITT.EDU](http://WWW.CAMEOSOF CARING.NURSING.PITT.EDU)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone Number:

Home \_\_\_\_\_ Business \_\_\_\_\_

I/We wish to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ table(s) of 10 at \$1,000 each.

I/We wish to make \_\_\_\_\_ reservations at \$100 each.

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_. Please make checks payable to University of Pittsburgh.

I/We cannot attend but wish to make a contribution.

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

I/We wish to be seated with \_\_\_\_\_.

I/We have no seating preference. Please have the Gala Committee select seating.

I/We have special dietary needs. Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ vegetarian dinners for \_\_\_\_\_.

I/We have accessibility needs. Please call me at \_\_\_\_\_ to discuss.

## PLEASE LIST THE NAMES OF THOSE IN YOUR PARTY

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A copy of the official registration and financial information of the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Please be advised that Internal Revenue Service regulations require a donation to be limited to the excess of the total amount paid over the value of the benefit received. Forty dollars of the total cost per ticket is tax deductible.

Can you identify the year and the face?



IF SO, CONTACT JOAN NOCK AT 412-624-2404 OR JN0100@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: University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing, 218 Victoria Building, 3500 Victoria Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15261. All pictures will be returned.



**REMEMBER WHEN PHOTO FROM WINTER 2005 ISSUE**

Calls and e-mails from alumni—Marianne Allen, Dr. Jann Torrance Balmer, Denise DeMaio Click, and Linda A. Garrity—helped to identify the “Remember When” photo from our Winter 2005 issue. The photo was taken at the Pinning Ceremony in April 1975 and includes *(front row left to right)*: Marianne Allen, Susan Aveni Drogan, and Mary Backes Coffield; *(back row center)*: Margaret Corley. Thanks to all who contacted the School!



# Student Support

The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing offers a wide range of programs to address the changing demands of healthcare and advance the science and practice of nursing.

## **STUDENT SUPPORT:**

- Support is Available Through Teaching Fellowships, Graduate Student Researcher Positions, and Scholarships
- Support is Available for Full-Time Study in the BSN to PhD Program
- Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships are Available for Technology: Research in Chronic and Critical Illness—Funded by the National Institutes of Nursing Research (T32 0008857)

For more information, phone 1-888-747-0794 or visit our Web site at [www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu).

## **DISTINGUISHED AND HONORARY ALUMNI**

# *Call for 2006 Nominations*

The School of Nursing Alumni Society is accepting nominations for its 2006 Distinguished Alumni and Honorary Alumni Awards. Our alumni represent the University of Pittsburgh locally, nationally, and internationally through their work as nursing professionals. The School takes pride in the prestigious accomplishments of its alumni but needs assistance in identifying qualified individuals.

***Nominations Are Due by January 31, 2006***

For more information, please contact the Nursing Alumni Office at 412-624-2404.



**University of Pittsburgh**

*School of Nursing  
3500 Victoria Street, Room 218  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260*

[www.nursing.pitt.edu](http://www.nursing.pitt.edu)

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