Promoting Research Through Centers of Excellence
Preface:

I’m sure you were surprised when you received this edition of the University of Maryland School of Nursing’s news magazine and noticed that it has a new name, University of Maryland NURSING. Soon after I became Dean of the School of Nursing, we changed the format of The Pulse from a tabloid to a magazine. Now, it is time to change the name of the publication to best portray who we are and what we are about as we move forward with our Strategic Plan and the Vision we have created for the School. You will notice that the Alumni News section of the magazine is still called The Pulse because many of you identify with that name, and it is important to keep that tradition. I look forward to your continued support as we grow and change even more in the coming years, and I am glad that you are part of this exciting time in the School of Nursing’s history.

In August 2003, the faculty, staff and students of the University of Maryland School of Nursing created a new Vision and adopted a three-year Strategic Plan to actualize that Vision.

Our Vision:

“We are a nationally recognized top 10 school dedicated to developing nursing leaders for education, research and practice. Our commitment is demonstrated by creating a rich and vibrant community that advances evidence-based practice and scholarship across the health professions; by enhancing the quality and efficiency of education, practice and research; by incorporating state-of-the-art technology; by promoting Centers of Excellence where scholars come together to address significant health priorities; and by collaborating with colleagues from diverse professions, institutions and locations to develop innovative practice models that shape the evolving health care delivery system.”

On the Cover

The leaders of the School of Nursing’s Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and Justice (left to right) – Barbara Sattler, DrPH, RN, FAAN, research associate professor and Center co-director; Jane Lipscomb, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and Center co-director; and Jeffrey Johnson, PhD, professor, Department of Family and Community Health. Photography: Joe Rubino

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In this issue of *University of Maryland NURSING*, we celebrate, among other accomplishments, the establishment of the School of Nursing’s first Center of Excellence – the successful realization of one part of our Vision. The Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and Justice is an exemplar for how scientific knowledge informs our discipline. Critical and relevant research that addresses pressing health problems is the cornerstone of contemporary education and practice.

Centers of Excellence build on strengths in a focused area of scholarship to provide an environment for expanding the knowledge base, integrating specific education and practice initiatives, and mentoring new scholars. The Center, under the direction of Dr. Jane Lipscomb and Dr. Barbara Sattler clearly meets the criteria established by the School for designation as a Center:

1. sustained record of extramural funding
2. multiple faculty collaborations
3. provides and supports opportunities for doctoral student research
4. evidence of dissemination, translation and application of research findings.

The new Center of Excellence will concentrate the expertise of committed and productive nurse scientists and educators. These faculty will expand their research agendas in health care worker safety to better understand the complex issues contributing to the physical and psychological well-being of health care industry employees. In addition, the Center will provide innovative outreach activities that integrate environmental health perspectives into health care delivery and develop collaborations between environmentalist and health care communities.

One unique aspect of the scholars from the Center is the influence of their research on policy. An April 2004 Conference on Long Work Hours, co-sponsored by the School of Nursing and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), showcased researchers from around the world and the release of a NIOSH report, *Over Extended Work Shifts*. Faculty from the Center contributed research findings the development of the report.

One of the contributing factors to the School’s continued success is our outstanding alumni who are working in the health care workforce across the nation and around the world. In this issue of *University of Maryland NURSING*, you will read about Major General Gale Pollock, BSN ’76, MBA, MHA, MS, CRNA, FACHE, who graduated from our WRAIN (Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing) program in 1976, and who recently became the 22nd Chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. And that’s not all. She was promoted up two ranks in one day – from colonel to major general! What an extraordinary accomplishment and true testament to the caliber of our alumni.

Together we have accomplished so much in the past, and we continually strive to keep our School moving forward to ensure a successful future. I hope you enjoy reading about our new Center of Excellence and all the exciting things that are taking place at our School in this issue of *University of Maryland NURSING*.

Janet D. Allan, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN
Dean and Professor
We are pleased to introduce the School of Nursing’s first Center of Excellence – the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and Justice. This Center is dedicated to improving the health of communities through research, education, advocacy and practice directed at the prevention of occupational and environmental causes of illness and injury among vulnerable populations. The distinguishing feature of the Center is its commitment to translating work into practice and advocacy, as well as its integration into current educational efforts.

The Center consists of a team of internationally recognized researchers, educators, practitioners and advocates. The focus of our research is currently in the area of occupational health with an overarching theme of “organization of work” among service sector workers, particularly those in low paying jobs and those in the work of “caring.” Our research centers on working in traditional health care institutional settings and with community and home-based workers. Health outcomes of interest, and the focus of much of the Center’s funded research, include: workplace violence, musculoskeletal disorders and needlestick injuries. Research projects are selected and designed to fill research gaps necessary to advance public health policy.

The Center houses the nation’s first graduate program in Environmental Health Nursing. This program is attracting national and international students who are interested in exploring the environment and its impact on health. This includes examining the negative impacts of pollution and contaminants in our air, water, and food, as well as the positive impacts of land use when it creates safe redevelopment of contaminated waste sites or the incorporation of new parks and green spaces. This educational activity is so exciting because our students – in particular our graduate students – bring their rich nursing career experiences to their explorations.

The Center features national leaders in environmental health advocacy who are sitting at the policy-making tables influencing lawmakers and regulators to make informed decisions to protect human health. These nurses’ command of the sciences and their unique position as highly trusted citizens has enabled them to bring a fresh and effective new voice to the environmental decision-making arena.

An additional focus of our work is our emphasis on community-based efforts with an eye towards addressing the health disparities that plague so
many of the underserved populations with whom we work. From an occupational and environmental health perspective, our communities are more likely to include a hazardous waste site, and residents are likely to work in hazardous jobs, live in substandard housing and have limited, if any, access to health care and public services. All of these factors contribute to their higher rates of disease. The goal in all aspects of our work is to assist communities in developing the capacity to become effective advocates for their health through partnerships, health education interventions and empowerment.

A central theme of the Center is our ability to integrate our research, education and advocacy to impact the practice of nursing, and ultimately improve the lives of individuals and communities with whom we work and beyond. All those involved in the Center care deeply about our patients, our communities, and our environment, and hope to bring value to all those we serve through our research, educational efforts, practice and policy work.

In the pages that follow, you will read more about our Center and its projects, as well as stories about students and alumni who are working and studying in the occupational and environmental health and justice fields.

Members of the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and Justice

Todd Ambrosia, PhD, RN, CRNP, assistant professor
Brenda Afzal, MS, RN, project director
Marjorie Buchanan, MPH, RN, clinical instructor
Jeanne Geiger-Brown, PhD, RN, assistant professor
Robyn Gilden, MS, RN, program manager
Jeffrey Johnson, PhD, professor
Karen Kauffman, PhD, RN, associate professor
Jane Lipscomb, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and Center co-director
Kate McPhaul, PhD, RN, clinical instructor
Carles Muntaner, MD, PhD, professor
Alison Trinkoff, ScD, RN, FAAN, professor
Barbara Sattler, DrPH, RN, FAAN, research associate professor and Center co-director
Claudia Smith, PhD, RN, assistant professor
Rachel Smith, PhD, RN, assistant professor

Jane Lipscomb, PhD, RN, FAAN
Associate Professor
Co-Director, Center for Occupational and Environmental Health & Justice

Barbara Sattler, DrPH, RN, FAAN
Research Associate Professor
Co-Director, Center for Occupational and Environmental Health & Justice
Advancing Research Through Centers Of Excellence

Preventing Occupational and Environmental Causes of Illness and Injury Among Vulnerable Populations

Faculty members at the School of Nursing have a vision: A just world through healthy environments. To achieve this vision, the School has created a new Center of Research Excellence – the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and Justice – a fulfillment of one of its 2003-2006 Strategic Plan initiatives. The multidisciplinary Center enables educators and researchers already working in these areas to generate synergy, tackling tough issues related to home, work, school and community environments. The Center is dedicated to improving public health through research, education, advocacy and practice directed at the prevention of occupational and environmental causes of illness and injury. Their projects incorporate research results in education and clinical settings, improving community health and affecting policies to ensure that their findings lead to larger changes.

Giving Workers a Voice

“This Center is unique in its emphasis on the link between occupational and environmental health and justice. Most of our occupational health research looks at health care workers who provide care under highly stressful, even dangerous, conditions,” explains Center co-director and professor Jane Lipscomb, PhD, RN, FAAN. “The provision of care is an absolutely essential component of any society, yet we find that it is often undervalued.” In addition to studying and working to change work environments, the researchers and educators, they are also involved in advocacy at the local, state and national level to develop policies that support the rights and well-being of the care-giving work force.

“Several studies conducted by the Center have identified the critical importance of the way in which work is organized, its impact on the health of the provider, and ultimately patient care,” says Lipscomb. “We believe that it is a significant link to social justice. In our society, inequalities are expressed in the kinds of work people do and the degree of authority or power they have on the job. The approach we have developed at the Center is participatory; giving the workers we study ‘voice’ to influence the way in which the study is designed. For example, in our ongoing research on how to prevent workplace violence, we have developed a participatory collaboration with workers at each study site, in addition to working closely with management and union representatives. This provides us with much greater insight into what is actually going on in the workplace, and at the same time provides workers with the power to design and implement meaningful changes that will help prevent violence in the future.”

Promoting Healthy Environments

“Nurses are one of the most trusted professions among health care providers,” says Barbara Sattler, DrPH, RN, FAAN, research associate professor and co-director of the Center. “Because of that trust, nurses—using science-based knowledge—must promote healthy environments. That includes safe drinking water, clean air, healthy indoor air in schools and other buildings, safer farming and consumer choices for pest control, a decrease in the use of unnecessary antibiotics in livestock,

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remediating sites with contaminated soil, and other behaviors and policies that secure and improve the quality of our air, water, food and soil. By working within the nursing community with other disciplines, we hope to foster nursing leadership in the critical and emerging area of environmental health, while helping to create a national vision and developing a new voice for our environment and health."

As the School's first Center of Research Excellence – with more than $7 million in research awards for occupational, environmental and health-related research since 2001 – the Center concentrates the expertise of senior researchers in occupational and community health, expanding the School's research agenda in health care worker safety and responding to increased public concern about environmental hazards.

"This Center's pioneering initiatives that include both internal goals such as 'greening' the School's facilities and external goals such as identifying multidisciplinary collaborations among environmentalists, environmental professionals and health care practitioners," says Sattler.

"We are very proud of our first Center for Research Excellence, which includes some of the nation's top occupational and environmental health researchers," says Dean Janet Allan. "Through their efforts, we will have a better understanding of the complex issues contributing to the physical and psychological well-being of health care workers, and also how environmental hazards and risks affect the health of our communities."

Forging New Partnerships

Sattler's own innovative work of addressing environmental health concerns has long made the connections between air quality and childhood asthma, and between pesticide use in schools and communities and public health risks. She emphasizes the importance of science-based knowledge that promotes public health through cleaner environments and integrating that knowledge through community and nursing student education. Sattler and other faculty members have partnered with Health Care Without Harm, an international coalition of hospitals, health care systems, health professionals, and community and environmental health organizations that support environmentally safe health care systems.

“If one has good health, then one has social justice. If one has social justice, then one has good health," says Brenda Afzal, MS, RN, community health instructor and project manager of the School's Environmental Health Education Center, who has researched drinking-water safety and is forming a network of environmentalists and nursing organizations that are committed to forging new partnerships encompassing common goals, shared interests and concerns.

“Nursing and environmentalist leaders came together at a retreat in California last March to learn each other's values and languages, and to raise awareness and develop better strategies for integrating environmental health concepts into basic, advanced and continuing education," Afzal explains. "The goal is to actively engage the nursing community in partnership with other organizations to recognize that healthy people and a healthy environment are inextricable.”
Exploring Many Environments

The work of the new Center does not limit its definition of “environmental health,” to pollutant-related issues. “We want to look at all environments—school, home, work and community,” says Kate McPaul, PhD, MPH, RN, a clinical instructor at the School who teaches these concepts to both graduate and undergraduate nursing students. A recent graduate of the School of Nursing’s doctoral program, McPhaul’s dissertation research explored the safety of home health care workers, an area that has only recently gained attention. “A murder of two human service workers – one in Montgomery County, Md. And one in New York – inspired my interest in this area,” says McPhaul.

Looking at Workplace Hazards

In a similar vein, research being conducted by Lipscomb explores workplace violence prevention in the mental health and social service workplace. Working with worker’s unions and management in New York, Lipscomb is studying the impact of a comprehensive violence prevention program on staff health and safety. In addition to workplace violence, health care workers are exposed to biological hazards associated with blood- and airborne-infectious agents, chemical hazards, including anesthetic and antineoplastic drugs; and physical ergonomic hazards that lead to musculoskeletal disorders. These disorders rank second among all work-related injuries with the greatest number among health care workers.

Professor Alison Trinkoff, ScD, RN, FAAN, who first began researching nurses’ substance abuse in 1991, says her research led to looking at the impact of long working hours, working conditions, staff shortages and other demands on nurses’ health.

“When I began studying nurses, it occurred to me that there was an increasing number of injury reports related to the physically exerting activities they perform,” she said. Currently, Trinkoff is Principal Investigator for a study of nurses’ work schedules in relation to needlesticks and neck, shoulder and back injuries, funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Trinkoff’s research findings on nurses’ work schedules were used by the Institute of Medicine in their new report, “Keeping Patients Safe: Transforming the Work Environment of Nurses,” and to contribute to the evidence-base for “Handle With Care,” a program initiated by the American Nurses Association, to promote safer patient handling for nurses. She has also been studying the relationship of staffing in hospitals and nursing homes to worker injury and patient care quality under a grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

“It is my belief that a safer environment for nurses can also lead to better patient care,” says Trinkoff. The goal of her research is to develop and implement system-level interventions to reduce exposure to demanding work conditions and further strategies to diminish musculoskeletal and other injuries.
Also in the area of occupational health, Carles Muntaner, MD, PhD, a professor who is a social epidemiologist, examines work organization as it relates to the mental health and physical well-being of nursing assistants and home health care workers. His findings revealed that work organization can contribute to depression and anxiety among health care workers; for instance, he found that workers in for-profit nursing homes have higher symptoms of depression than their counterparts working in non-profit organizations.

Muntaner, who is currently carrying out a population-based analysis of Baltimore neighborhoods to explore the association between residential socioeconomic context in the prevalence of depression and anxiety disorders, is keenly interested in examining what role socioeconomic position plays in mental health.

**Working Toward Social Justice**

“The goal for social justice is to make sure that social, economic and political institutions work in a fair and non-exclusive way,” says Professor Jeffrey Johnson, PhD, a public health sociologist whose research has focused on social justice issues related to occupational and community health. “If society’s major political, social and economic arrangements create more burdens and fewer resources for certain class, gender and racial groups while other groups benefit – and the least advantaged groups suffer substantially worse health as a result – then health injustice or inequity exists.”

According to Johnson, low-income communities are more likely to be located near hazardous waste sites, their housing stock is more likely to be substandard, the workers themselves are more likely to have hazardous jobs, and their access to health care and public services are more likely to be sub par—all contributing to higher disease rates. “Social justice in this context means helping to develop a community’s capacity to advocate for themselves through partnerships, health education interventions and empowerment,” says Johnson.

Dr. Carles Muntaner (center) and Dr. Jane Lipscomb (left) collaborate with Jeanne Geiger-Brown, PhD, RN, assistant professor, Department of Family and Community Health, to find ways to improve the work environment for home care workers.

Dr. Jeffrey Johnson

Exploring social justice aspects of public health enables the Center’s research educators to examine the link between scientific and ethical theories and how to apply them to the real world in relation to community health.

The Center’s research educators care about patients, communities and environments. They hope to achieve their vision by applying research, education and advocacy to promote a healthy society and thus, a more just one.
When Robyn Gilden, MS ’01, RN, first registered for the required Environmental Health course in the School of Nursing’s master of science program, she had no idea how it would change her career path and her life. But the more she learned about environmental health hazards the more passionate she became about creating change. “After taking the class, you don’t want to eat, drink or breath, then you get angry, then you want to fix it,” says Gilden.

Today, Gilden is a program manager in the School of Nursing’s Environmental Health Education Center. She is working on a project that provides technical assistance to communities with environmental contamination issues related to Superfund and Brownfield sites. Through the Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC) and Technical Assistance to Brownfield Communities (TAB) programs, Gilden and her colleagues are helping communities better understand environmental problems and empowering residents to participate in decisions affecting their communities’ hazardous substance problems.

“TOSC and TAB are a component of the Center for Hazardous Substances in Urban Environments, based at The Johns Hopkins University. The Center’s work focuses on research of waste issues affecting urban areas in the upper mid-Atlantic and northeastern regions of the United States. The Center’s goal is to disseminate the results of their environmental research and to provide educational and technical expertise to community groups and other stakeholders.

Through the TOSC and TAB programs, Gilden and her team are conducting environmental outreach in 12 communities, with groups such as the Washington Village Neighborhood Planning Council. One example of an outreach project is the on-going effort at Washington Village/Pigtown to create an open space for wildlife conservation. The nine-acre site on Maisel Street, in southwest Baltimore, was left vacant after hurricanes flooded the residential properties and all the buildings were demolished. The site soon became a dumping ground, as well as an area for prostitution and other illicit activities. Today, access roads to the area have been closed, mounds of trash have been hauled away, 165 trees have been planted, and the goal of reforestation and wildlife preservation is well underway.

“This is optimism…. planting trees amidst the dumping and other ills,” says former community resident and environmental activist Gary Letteron. “But, in a few years, we will have a new forest — right in the middle of Baltimore City — for people to enjoy and for wildlife to call home.”

In addition to community outreach work, Gilden’s other duties include supervising grant staff, creating and managing Web sites, coordinating conferences and workshops, creating educational materials and serving as a mentor. Although she leads the project, Gilden says she is just a small part of a dedicated team — a team that includes master’s student and research assistant Rebecca Clouse, BSN, RN, who Gilden says is “indispensable.”

“Hazardous waste is not something I thought I would be involved in, but the work is very interesting,” says Gilden. “I have an opportunity to interact with epidemiologists, toxicologists, environmental engineers, chemists, developers and others, to help our communities.”

Gilden will enter the School of Nursing’s doctoral program in fall 2005. Her research will focus on risk-communication education and effectiveness. Her goal is to enhance her skills and knowledge so she can be even more confident in what she presents to communities. Now instead of learning about environmental health, Gilden will be teaching others about it.
What is becoming more evident, however, is that the characteristics of environmental justice apply equally to other minority and health disparity groups, such as those with developmental, intellectual and cognitive disabilities. Individuals with mental retardation and developmental disabilities are among the poorest in the United States (one-third live below poverty level). Because of this poverty, they are exposed to the lead hazards of sub-standard housing and outdoor air pollutants from poorly sited public housing developments. Added to these risks are the exposures to poor indoor air quality caused by excess pesticide use, carbon monoxide, radon, environmental tobacco smoke and other indoor pollutants.

Current research about the comprehensive risks from environmental hazards in people with developmental disabilities is almost non-existent, and there are no instruments currently available to assess the environmental health risks of this population. Doctoral student Allison Del Bene Davis, BSN ’02, MS ’03, hopes to develop a tool that can be used to quantify and characterize the environmental health risks of the developmental disabilities community – a population at high risk for poor health outcomes from environmental exposures. Armed with a master’s degree in community health with a focus on environmental health, Davis hopes to merge these two specialties and concentrate her doctoral research on environmental justice.

“I plan to develop tools that can be used to assess these special vulnerabilities and create interventions that can decrease the exposures experienced by these communities,” says Davis, who plans to take a participatory approach to her research. “Involving the community is very important. We will work together on risk characterization, instrument development and eventually, in risk reduction advocacy.”

To address the need for increased awareness of individuals in these communities, their families and the agencies that support them, Davis hopes to develop targeted educational materials, programs and intervention strategies that provider agencies can use to decrease the environmental health threats to people with developmental disabilities in both their homes and work places.

“I want to work with this community – to empower them, educate them on environmental health, explain the risks and help them to understand their rights,” says Davis. “The way I see it, clean air and clean drinking water are basic human rights.”

Davis says an important part of Center for Environmental and Occupational Health and Justice – and what motivates her – is the high-quality research, the program development and collaborations, and the underlying feeling of justice, which serves as a framework for the Center. “Research and collaboration is done within the scope of improving health, equity and the quality of people’s lives,” she says.

Davis believes that her work is not just “research for the sake of research,” but a vehicle for creating change in order to decrease disparities and improve care. She hopes to use her research to advocate for policy changes that protect the health of people with developmental disabilities and other vulnerable populations.

“This is what keeps me here,” says Davis. “Being able to advocate for change and being able to make a difference. As for the School of Nursing, the faculty is so dedicated and so knowledgeable. For environmental health nursing, this is the place to be.”
Doctoral Student Capitalizes on Exciting Opportunities in New Center

Early in her nursing career, doctoral student Barbara Brady, BSN '97, MS '99, became interested in the frequency and distribution of diseases in at-risk populations. This interest further grew when Brady took community health electives and began working as a graduate research assistant for Alison Trinkoff, ScD, RN, FAAN, a professor in the Department of Family and Community Health. As a result of her experience, Brady continued this work after receiving her master's degree. She was promoted to project director for Dr. Trinkoff's studies of musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) in registered nurses, which afforded her the opportunity to further her education in the doctoral program.

This National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) study longitudinally examines the relationship of long work hours and overtime to needlestick injuries and neck, shoulder and back MSDs in over 2,600 nurses. As project director, Brady is responsible for coordinating most aspects of the study, including data collection and analysis, and procedural administration.

Not surprisingly, Brady is focusing her doctoral studies on occupational injuries while working on the NIOSH grant. As part of her program, Brady is currently taking occupational and environmental courses, including an environmental law class offered through the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine. She is also completing a graduate degree at Towson University in the Health Science Department while working on her PhD at the School of Nursing.

"Working with this occupational research team, in combination with my clinical experience, advances me toward my next goal as a nurse researcher conducting my own field studies in occupational epidemiology," says Brady. "I have been able to experience the research continuum of a study from development to closing. I also have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of survey data collection. Furthermore, as a team, we have published results used by others to influence policy."

Brady says that since she has been in this research setting, she has witnessed the growth of the School's Occupational and Environmental Health program, and believes that the new Center of Excellence offers a multitude of research and learning opportunities.

"All of the disciplines – occupational health, environmental health and justice – are available," she says. "They provide balance and support for each other and bring many perspectives and approaches together."
New Programs Respond to Health Work Force and Educational Needs

As a leader in nursing education, the School of Nursing has launched several new programs to address critical needs in the professional health work force and to attract more students to the nursing profession.

Nurse Anesthesia Program
In response to a state and national shortage of nurse anesthetists, the School of Nursing recently launched the state’s only public nurse anesthesia master’s program to prepare advance practice nurses to provide anesthesia to individuals of all ages for all types of surgery.

A 2003 survey of Maryland hospitals showed a 22 percent vacancy rate for certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs). Many anesthesia departments reported that they have CRNA positions available, but are unable to hire due to the shortage. This causes delays in surgery and the inability to open operating rooms. The shortfall is expected to grow as the state’s over-65 population increases.

Nationally, more than 65 percent of the 26 million anesthetics administered each year are given by CRNAs. In addition, CRNAs are the main providers of anesthesia care to U.S. servicemen and women stationed around the world.

“Nurse anesthetists fill a critical role in providing anesthesia care to patients in large medical facilities, as well as rural areas,” says Associate Professor Mark Kossick, DNSc, CRNA, director of the School’s CRNA program. “It is a specialty that provides an opportunity for nurses to work and serve as leaders in education, research, and clinical practice.”

The 72-credit, full-time program takes 2-1/2 years to complete and integrates the basic sciences of physiology, pathophysiology, chemistry, physics and pharmacology with the clinical science of anesthesia. Students complete a five-semester clinical practicum, during which they administer a minimum of 550 anesthetics, as required for certification. Upon completing the curriculum, they are eligible to sit for the national CRNA certification exam.

Frankie Purifoy, BSN, RN, a member of the inaugural CRNA class and the first recipient of the School’s CRNA Scholarship, was working as a traveling nurse at Baltimore’s Sinai Hospital when she heard about the new program, which opened last fall.

“I love the autonomy and critical thinking that is involved in the specialty,” says Purifoy, who was interested in becoming a CRNA even before she finished high school. “Nurse anesthesia will keep me stimulated throughout my career.”

Clinical Research Management
A new master’s program in clinical research management was developed in response to the increasing demand for nursing leaders who can organize and manage clinical research studies. The demand was created by the increasing number of pharmaceutical agents, biotechnology products and medical devices now in development.

Clinical trials become increasingly complex because of technological advances and increased regulatory, economic and social pressures. This new master’s specialty

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addresses the need for the application of expert nursing knowledge to successfully conducting clinical trials. The clinical research nurse manager typically works in collaboration with a principal investigator at the clinical site where the studies are performed.

The program prepares graduates to:
- articulate key regulations and policies governing human research protections
- differentiate study designs used in clinical research
- implement informed consent procedures
- establish standard operating procedures
- develop a Clinical Research office
- establish processes for subject recruitment and selection
- educate research participants and family members about research protocol
- develop methods for data collection and management
- compile data regarding adverse reactions and organize study procedures in compliance with multi-center study requirements.

“Our goal is to prepare nursing leaders to shape and influence all facets of the clinical research enterprise,” says Heidi Ehrenberger, PhD, RN, AOCN, assistant professor and director of the program. “Our vision is to set the gold standard for this emerging nursing specialty.”

Students can complete the master's degree with 30 credits, which can be taken part-time or in two semesters of full-time study. A post-graduate certificate can be completed with nine credits of coursework.

“This program will provide me with the education necessary for research management and make me more credible and knowledgeable in my current position,” says Master's Student Kelly Bochicchio, BSN, RN, research manager for the Department of Clinical and Outcomes Research at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center.

Institute for Nurse Educators

An informal survey conducted by the School of Nursing revealed that in 2003 nearly 2,000 qualified applicants were denied admission to associate's and baccalaureate degree nursing programs in Maryland, due primarily to lack of faculty.

To address this critical and growing faculty shortage, the School initiated an Institute for Nurse Educators to both encourage more nurses and prepare them with the essential knowledge and skills to assume teaching roles in Maryland, the surrounding region and beyond. A $248,000 grant from the FY05 Federal Omnibus Appropriations Bill – championed by Sen. Barbara Mikulski and Reps. Elijah Cummings and Steny Hoyer – helped establish the Institute to address the nationwide shortage of nurses and critically needed nursing faculty.

The Institute identifies and coordinates existing resources, and seeks new resources to provide courses and programs to prepare nurses to become educators in academic or clinical settings. Courses are offered in the classroom or online for post-graduate students (including students currently enrolled in master’s or doctoral programs in nursing or other health professions), as well as a variety of single courses, or modules, for ongoing professional development of current faculty, clinical nurse educators and educators from other health professions.

“While our programs focus primarily on nursing education, they will be open to physicians, genetics counselors, physician assistants, pharmacists, dental...
professionals and others,” says Assistant Professor Carol O’Neil, PhD, RN, interim co-director of the Institute.

New initiatives and programs targeted by the Institute include e-learning, faculty development, continuing education and the development of the Maryland Faculty in Nursing and Health Professions Network.

“There is no quick solution to the nurse faculty shortage,” says Dean Janet Allan. “However, the School’s Institute for Nurse Educators will help us make major strides towards alleviating the problem by focusing our attention on recruiting and preparing nurses for faculty roles.”

**Teaching in Nursing and Health Professions**

Included in the Institute for Nurse Educators is the Teaching in Nursing and Health Professions post-graduate certificate program. This 12-credit program includes three educational courses and one elective, offered in the traditional classroom setting or online, with a new cohort of students beginning each semester. The first cohort, which included six nurses and one genetics counselor, completed the program in December 2004.

The courses are designed to provide students with essential knowledge and skills to prepare them to teach various types of learners (students, patients, caregivers or peers) in academic, clinical or professional settings. Theories of learning and teaching, and a broad array of instructional strategies and approaches to assessing learning, are key components in the program. Students pursue individual goals in a practicum experience in the setting where they would like to teach.

“The students bring a remarkable level of excitement about teaching to the program,” says Associate Professor Louise S. Jenkins, PhD, RN, program coordinator and interim co-director of the Institute for Nurse Educators. “The high quality of their work, as they develop their skills in teaching activities, offers great promise of their potential as excellent additions to faculty and teacher ranks of the future.”

**Honors Program**

The School of Nursing launched an honors program in fall 2004 to recruit outstanding students and prepare them for leadership roles in clinical, research and academic settings.

The program is designed to produce highly educated, professional nurses to help alleviate the nurse and nurse faculty shortage.

Sponsored in part by the Aaron Straus and Lillie Straus Foundation, Inc., in partnership with the Central Scholarship Bureau, and with partial support from an anonymous donor and endowed funds from The Helene Fuld Health Trust, the program provides special clinical and research opportunities for exceptional students. A rigorous educational experience will prepare these nurses to meet challenges presented by the nursing shortage, the diversity of patient populations and the complexities of interdisciplinary health care.

Excellence in scholarship, clinical skills and research is promoted through enriched coursework, involvement in research and intensive mentoring relationships with faculty. Students are selected based on their achievements in previous college coursework, an honors essay, school and community service, and school evaluation.

“This program provides the opportunity to have a mentor, which is a real asset to the learning process,” says Katharine Giancola, a BSN honors student and one of the first 11 students selected for the program. “It is really a program within a program, which is why it was so attractive to me.”

“At the School of Nursing, we have identified some critical issues facing the health care work force and the nursing profession and all of these programs are helping us address those issues,” says Dean Janet Allan.
Nearly 450 people attended a fundraiser last June to benefit the Open Gates Health Center. The event, held at the home of David Oros, chairman of the School of Nursing’s Board of Visitors, and Marla Oros, MS ’84, RN, president of Open Gates, Inc., and a former associate dean at the School of Nursing, raised $200,000 for the Gateway to Health Campaign. Guest speakers included Gov. Robert Ehrlich, Jr.; Baltimore Ravens linebacker Peter Boulware; Margaret Josza, MSW, MA, executive director of Open Gates; and Edith Nelson, an Open Gates patient. The Governor presented the Oros’ with a proclamation and thanked them for hosting the event.

Since 1993, School of Nursing faculty, staff and students at the Open Gates Health Center have been providing and advocating for quality health care services for underinsured and underserved residents of the Pigtown/Washington Village community in Southwest Baltimore. In addition to services provided to over 5,000 residents annually, Open Gates serves as a principal clinical training site for nursing students. It has redefined the clinical learning experience with an evidenced-based practice model.

In November 2004, Open Gates merged with People’s Community Health Centers (PCHC), a federally qualified health center. Like Open Gates, PCHC has a rich history of serving the most vulnerable individuals and families in the community. Open Gates will maintain its relationship with the School of Nursing as a clinical site for community health students.

By all accounts, the 14th Annual Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics, Connecting the Health Care Continuum, held at the School of Nursing last July, was a huge success. More than 400 nursing informaticians from across the United States attended the conference, where experts in nursing and health care informatics presented sessions on informatics practice; current information technologies; information systems selection, implementation and evaluation; strategic planning for health care systems; and use of Web-based technology for distance learning.

Nancy Staggers, PhD, RN, FAAN, enterprise CIS program director of Catholic HealthCare West and associate professor of clinical informatics, University of Utah School of Nursing, presented the keynote.

Governor Ehrlich presents a proclamation to Marla Oros at the Open Gates Fundraiser.

Summer Institute in Nursing
Informatics is a Great Success

SINI attendees enjoy dining, networking and dancing at the Walters Art Museum.

continued on next page
address, “Realizing the Vision for the Electronic Health Record: Opportunities and Challenges.” Suzanne Bakken, DNSc, RN, alumni professor of nursing and professor of medical informatics, Columbia University, delivered the distinguished lecture, “Integrating Nursing Terms into Concept-Oriented Health Care Terminologies Using ISO Reference Terminology Models for Nursing,” conference attendees were treated to an evening of dining, dancing and networking at the Walters Art Museum, complete with a live orchestra and Latin dance instructions.

The annual conference, designed for nurse managers and executives, nurses interfacing with information systems departments, managers of nursing information systems and informatics educators. It benefits nurses who are new to informatics, as well as those who have experience in the field.

The 2005 Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics, “Breaking the Barriers of Healthcare Informatics: People, Process and Technology,” is scheduled for July 20-23 at the School of Nursing. More information about the event is available at www.nursing.umaryland.edu/informatics.

Dean Janet Allan and Comptroller William Donald Schaefer hosted a thank-you reception for donors to the Hilda Mae Snoops Memorial Scholarship Fund on Nov. 15 at the School of Nursing. More than 50 people celebrated the success of the scholarship, which had accumulated $900,000, funding scholarships for 21 students.

The Snoops Scholarship Fund was endowed in 1999 by Schaefer in memory of Snoops, his longtime friend and companion, who was also a nurse. The scholarship fund provides financial aid to nursing students based on need and merit. “With this memorial scholarship, I hope to keep Hilda Mae’s spirit alive,” says Schaefer. “I know, too, that the scholarship will help prepare nurses and help combat the critical nursing shortage in our state.”
The School of Nursing recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of its doctoral program, one of the first PhD nursing programs in the nation. The festivities began with a reception on Nov. 5 honoring Elizabeth R. Lenz, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean and professor, Ohio State University School of Nursing, who established the program in 1979 and served as program director through the 1980’s. The event continued on Nov. 6 with a program, a luncheon, and tours of the School.

During the program, Lenz presented “Life Lessons,” in which she recounted her association with doctoral education, discussed what makes a great and sustainable program, and underscored the map of teamwork and flexibility.

“Everything I know about doctoral education I learned at the University of Maryland,” said Lenz. “Your students are your legacy and they can define your future.”

**New Faculty**

Susan Dorsey, PhD ‘01, MS ‘98, RN, as been appointed assistant professor, Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. She holds a PhD and an MS from the University of Maryland School of Nursing, and a BSN from West Virginia Wesleyan College. Dorsey comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as Research Fellow at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Mouse Center Genetics Program, Neural Development Group.

Heidi Ehrenberger, PhD, RN, AOCN, has been appointed assistant professor, Department of Family and Community Health, and coordinator of the Clinical Research Management master’s program. She holds a PhD from the University of Tennessee College of Nursing, an MSN from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing and a BSN from the University of Michigan School of Nursing. Ehrenberger joins the School from her previous position as nurse consultant, Clinical Cancer Research.
Elizabeth Helm, MSN, BSN ’75, PNP, RN, has been appointed clinical instructor, Department of Family and Community Health. She holds an MS and PNP from the Catholic University of America, and a BSN from the University of Maryland School of Nursing. Helm comes to the School from her previous position as a pediatric nurse practitioner at the University of Maryland Hospital.

Laura Koo, MS, CRNP, has been appointed clinical instructor, Department of Family and Community Health and Organizational Systems and Adult Health. She holds an MSN from Boston College, a BSN from the University of Arizona and a BA in Spanish from the University of Maryland, College Park.

Mark Kossick, DNSc, CRNA, RN, has been appointed associate professor, Organizational Systems and Adult Health, and director of the Nurse Anesthesia master’s program. He holds a DNSc from the University of Tennessee, an MS from the University of Kansas, a BS from Edinboro University and an AD in Nursing from Kent State University. Kossick previously held the positions of associate professor, associate program director and director of academic education at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Fatima Ramos-Marcuse, PhD, BSN, RN, ANCP, has been appointed assistant professor, Department of Family and Community Health. She holds a PhD from the Ferkauf School of Psychology, Yeshiva University; an MS from the Columbia University School of Nursing; and a BSN from the University of Maryland School of Nursing. Ramos-Marcuse comes to the School from her previous position as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Psychology, University of Maryland, College Park.

Dawn Mueller, PhD ’01, MS ’98, RN, CRNP, has been appointed assistant professor, Department of Family and Community Health. She holds a BSN from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and an MS and PHD from the University of Maryland School of Nursing. Mueller completed a post-doctoral fellowship in the Developmental Genetics/Stem Cell Laboratory at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and served as a part-time clinical instructor with the School of Nursing prior to joining our faculty full-time.

Cynthia Renn, PhD(c), MS ’98, RN, has been appointed assistant professor, Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. She recently completed all the requirements for her PhD in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Maryland School of Dentistry. Renn holds an MS from the University of Maryland School of Nursing and a BSN from York College of Pennsylvania.
The School of Nursing graduated the largest class of nursing students in the state at ceremonies held on May 21, 2004 at the Lyric Opera House in Baltimore. Degrees were conferred on 487 nursing candidates, including 327 bachelor’s degrees, 148 master’s degrees, six post-master’s degrees and six doctoral degrees.

Clare Hastings, PhD ’95, BSN ’77, RN, chief for nursing and patient care services at the Magnuson Clinical Center, National Institutes of Health (NIH), delivered the convocation address:

To the BSN graduates, she said:

“We need your perspectives, your diverse backgrounds, your energy, and yes, your endurance.”

To the master’s graduates, she stated:

“We need your ability to continue your embedded clinical knowledge with an understanding of systems, organizations and analyses, whether in a clinical specialty, informatics or organizational leadership.”

To the smallest group of graduates, the doctoral students, she said:

“You are joining the group of clinical scholars that will define the future of nursing in the years to come.”

In closing, Dr. Hastings shared one of former NIH Chief Nurse Vernice Ferguson’s 12 Commandments of Nursing:

“Thou shalt take care of self before attempting to care for others.”

Bachelor’s degree candidate Angelica Angco delivered remarks on behalf of the students.

A recognition ceremony and pinning for our 185 December 2004 graduates was held at the School of Nursing on Dec. 20, 2004. A standing-room-only crowd filled the auditorium to celebrate the occasion.

Congratulations to all 2004 graduates!
Dr. Sandra Picot and Dr. Deborah McGuire

Angelica Angco delivers student remarks

Dr. Clare Hastings and Dean Janet Allan

Graduates celebrate the day

Dr. Mary Neal and Ms. Esther McCready

Dr. Catherine Kelleher poses with a proud graduate
Katharine Dever, BA, has joined the School of Nursing staff as an administrative assistant for the Shady Grove Center's nursing program. Dever, who holds a BA from the Ohio Wesleyan University, previously worked as a legal secretary and was owner/CEO of a catering company.

Pamela Ezzat, BS, has joined the Department of Information and Learning Technologies as program manager in the Media Center. She holds a BS from the University of Maryland, and certifications as a community health education specialist and as a training specialist. Ezzat has experience in a variety of settings, including library media, database development for library holdings and personnel management.

Jana Goodson has joined the Department of Administrative Services as a human resources associate. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position with the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Human Resources Office.

Lori Harris, BA, has joined the Office of Academic Affairs as an academic program specialist. Harris, who holds a BA from James Madison University, comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as assistant to the dean at Rutgers University School of Nursing.

Tracey Jamison, MA, has joined the Office of Student Affairs as director of admissions. She holds a master’s degree from the University of Baltimore and a bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland, College Park (UMCP). Jamison comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as assistant director of admissions at UMCP, where she coordinated the recruitment of undergraduate and graduate students.

Nancy McDowell has joined the Department of Organizational Partnerships and Outreach as an administrative assistant. She has held several administrative assistant and sales manager positions in the Baltimore area.

Kevin So, MS, has joined the Department of Information and Learning Technologies, Department as an instructional designer. So, who holds a BS from UMCP and an MS from Towson University, has extensive experience in the instructional design field.

Christine Ward, MS, has joined Department of Organizational Partnerships and Outreach as manager for professional development and continuing education. She holds a BS from UMCP and an MS from Towson University. Ward comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as program manager, health education, for an organization that provides a variety of corporate wellness programs across the nation.

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**Wanted! Volunteer Museum Docents**

The School of Nursing’s Living History Museum needs more volunteers to add to its corps of docents. The docents usually work one day a month, meeting and greeting students and other visitors to the Museum, and often sharing stories about their days in nursing school and their experiences in the nursing profession. This is a great opportunity for all alumni, but particularly those who are retired. It is a very rewarding experience, and a wonderful way to give back to your alma mater.

The Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, during each semester. Parking is provided in the Penn Street Garage. For more information, contact Jean Keenan, DIN ’48, 410-465-3439.
Through my involvement with the School of Nursing as a faculty member, a researcher, an alumnna and president of the Alumni Association, and memeber of the Board of Visitors, I am continually amazed at the new and innovative approaches our School takes to nursing education, research and practice.

Most recently, in fall 2004, the School launched its first Center of Research Excellence — the Center for Occupational and Environmental Health and Justice — a strategic initiative set forth in the School's 2003-2006 Strategic Plan. The Center will cull the expertise of researchers, educators, practitioners and advocates to improve the health of vulnerable communities through research directed at preventing occupational and environmental causes of illness and injury. The Center will house the nation's first graduate program in Environmental Health Nursing, where students can explore the environment and its impact on health.

In this issue of University of Maryland NURSING, you will read about research initiatives, programs, and courses that are taking place through the Center. These projects involving our faculty, researchers, students and alumni will help foster community participation, advocacy and empowerment, which are the heart of the Center’s mission.

Beginning with this edition, our magazine will have a new name: University of Maryland NURSING. As you read in the “Letter from the Dean,” this change was made to better define our School and its community as we move further into the Strategic Plan. The alumni section of the magazine will keep the title, Alumni Pulse, a name our alumni have identified with for many years.

Our School of Nursing is a national and international leader due to our ability to realize when change is necessary, make the appropriate changes, and then continue to move forward. As we celebrate another New Year, we also celebrate our new Center of Research Excellence and our School's new and innovative programs and initiatives. We look forward to working with you, our alumni, as we continue to lead the way in nursing education, research and practice.

Sincerely,

Barbara Resnick, PhD ’96, CRNP, FAAN
President
WRAIN Alumna Named 22nd Army Nurse Corps Chief

Maj. Gen. Gale S. Pollock, BSN ’76, MBA, MHA, MS, CRNA, FACHE, a 1976 graduate of the School of Nursing’s Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing (WRAIN) program, became the 22nd Chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps at ceremonies held last summer at the Women in Military Service to America in Arlington, Va. In an unusual, but not unprecedented event, Pollock was promoted up two ranks in one day – from colonel to major general. She is the first Chief of the Army Nurse Corps to achieve this honor since Congress passed a federal law in 2003 requiring a Chief also to be a two-star general.

“I am truly honored to represent the fabulous Army nurses who support our military members and their families,” says Pollock. “I want the Army Nurse Corps to become the first choice of nurses graduating from BSN programs. We have required a BSN for entry since 1970, so this is one of the few organizations in the nation that can offer the professional nurse a full range of options and additional education.”

In her role as Chief, Pollock sets the environment in which Army nurses can provide the highest quality of care to a full range of beneficiaries. She insures that Army nurses have the option to serve in a variety of positions and remain clinically competent. She also seeks additional annual funding for educational programs and nursing research— that range from clinical specialties to PhDs in research— to change practice patterns and raise the quality of nursing care nationwide.

“The demands on an Army nurse are challenging, but there is no feeling more satisfying than to serve those who maintain our freedom,” says Pollock.

In addition to her new title as Chief of the Army Nurse Corps, Pollock holds a host of other titles including Commanding General, Pacific Regional Medical Command; Commanding General, Tripler Army Medical Center; U.S. Army Pacific Command Surgeon; TRICARE Senior Market Manager, Hawaii; and Professional Filler System (PROFIS) Commanding General, 18th Medical Command.

Pollock decided to become a nurse at age five when her mother asked her what she wanted to be when she grew up. “I’m going to be a nurse because I have to take care of God’s sheep,” she told her mother. And she says she never gave it another thought. Later, at about age 12, a family friend who was a nurse told her that to be successful in nursing, you must get a baccalaureate degree in nursing.

Pollock was selected for the WRAIN scholarship program and received a BSN from the School of Nursing and a direct commission in the Army Nurse Corps in 1976. She attended the U.S. Army Nurse Anesthesia program and is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. She holds a master’s degree in business administration from Boston University, a master’s in health care administration from Baylor University, and a master’s in national security and strategy from the National Defense University. Pollock is also a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.
The WRAIN program was launched in 1964, following negotiations between the Department of the Army and academic officers at the University of Maryland. Students in the four-year program were subsidized by the U.S. Army. Upon graduation from the University of Maryland School of Nursing, they were obligated to serve three years in the Army Nurse Corps. Although it was headquartered at Jane Delano Hall on the grounds of Walter Reed Medical Center, WRAIN faculty and students functioned as one body within the total University of Maryland School of Nursing. The program ended in 1978, having graduated approximately 1,100 nurses.

“We are proud to count Maj. Gen. Pollock among our cadre of distinguished alumnae,” says Dean Janet Allan. “We wish her great success in her new role.”

Alumni Association Council

President
Barbara Resnick, PhD ’96

Vice President
Pam Lentz Williams, BSN’84, MS’00

Treasurer
Marcie Snyder O’Reilly, BSN ’88

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Janet Harris, MS ’97

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Jane Johnson, DIN ’47
Sue Kim-Saechao, BSN ’99
James Manning, BSN ’98, MS ’00
Esther McCready, DIN ’53
Kathy McCullough, MS ’79
Kathryn Lothschultz Montgomery, PhD ’97
Patricia Gonce Morton, MS ’79, PhD ’89
Jewel Moseley-Gray, BSN ’59
Caleb Rogovin, MS ’92

Carol (Pane) Romano, BSN ’77, MS ’85, PhD ’93
Lisa Rowen, MS ’86
Janet (Rexrode) Southby, MS ’71
Sandra Sundeen, MS ’68
Jaap Tekelenburg, BSN ’96
Sue Thomas, BSN ’69, MS ’73
Ruby Wesley, PhD ’87
Greg Williams, BSN ’97
Beth D. Yarnold, BSN ’96, MS ’98
2004 –

Tina Doyle, MS '04, BSN '01, is the proud owner of The Pregnancy Shop, located in York, Pa. The shop provides encouraging, resourceful and pampering products exclusively for expecting mothers and babies.

Marty Non, MS '04, RN, is currently working as a clinical coordinator lead nurse in a U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Health Unit in Rockville, Md. The unit is managed by Federal Occupational Health and Aspen Med, Inc., and provides health service and promotion to government employees who work for SAMHSA/Department of Health and Human Services.

2003 –

Elizabeth Hill-Westmoreland, PhD '03, RN, had her proposal, "Falls in Elderly Nursing Home Residents: Development of a Person-Environment After Fall Assessment," was selected for the 2004 Sigma Theta Tau International/American Nurses Foundation Joint Research Grant in the amount of $7,500 for one year.

2002 –

Amy Loughlin, MS '02, CNM, was named medical director of her community health center in rural South Carolina. She will remain on staff as a midwife while directing the center.

2001 –

Ann Pike-Paris, MS '01, was named Section Editor of the Environmental Health column for Pediatric Nursing, a research journal published six times per year. Her first two articles focused on mercury and arsenic. Pike-Paris is currently residing in East Aurora, N.Y., with her family.

Michael Vallez, BSN '01, MS '02, RN, CRNP, was awarded the 2004 American Association for the Study of Liver Disease's NP/PA Clinical Hepatology Fellowship in the amount of $78,000. The goal of the fellowship is to provide a one-year postgraduate hepatology training program for nurse practitioners and physician assistants in a clinical outpatient setting.

2000 –

Eileen Feeney, PhD '00, MS '96, RN, C, CARN, associate professor of nursing at York College of Pennsylvania, was the recipient of the International Nurses Society on Addictions Award for Community Service and Advocacy in recognition of the Wellness Centers and Smoking Cessation programs she initiated in the city of York, Pa. In addition, Dr. Feeney recently received the Sigma Theta Tau Eta Eta Chapter's Award for Excellence in Education.

Sara Hart, MS '00, received her PhD in Public Policy from the University of Maryland Baltimore County in May 2004. She is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Kansas School of Nursing.

Robin Newhouse, PhD '00, MS '99, RN, co-authored the following articles:


1999 –

Cheryl Dover, MS '99, BSN '95, RN, CNA, BC, associate professor, Prince George's Community College (PGCC), has been named Nursing Department Chair at PGCC.

John Renee Repique, MS '99, RN, presented “Computers, Informatics, and Psychiatric Nursing: Leveraging Technology to Enhance Practice, Care Delivery and Quality,” at the 2004 American Psychiatric Nurses Association's 18th Annual Conference held in October 2004 in Phoenix.

continued on next page
continued from page 27

1997 –

Navy Captain Mary Chafee, ScD, MS ’97, RN, CNAA, FAAN, has been selected to pursue full-time doctoral study at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md. Capt. Chaffee recently completed an assignment as Director of the Navy Medicine Office of Homeland Security, where she established and led a team focused on improving the level of emergency preparedness in Navy hospitals and clinics around the world.

1994 –

Doctoral student Margaret Bevans, MS ’94, RN, AOCN, received a career development award in the amount of $2,000 at the Oncology Nursing Society’s 29th Annual Congress held last spring in Anaheim, Calif.

1993 –

Laila Farhood, PhD ’93, is currently a psychiatry-mental health nursing professor at the American University of Beirut (AUB). She also has a private practice in the Psychiatry Department, Faculty of Medicine at AUB. Her research focus is the impact of violence/wars on mental health, and most of her published research is on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, depression and health status of civilians and prisoners of war.

1991 –

Clinton E. Lambert, PhD ’91, RN, CS, FAAN, and his wife Vickie A. Lambert, DNSc, RN, FAAN, spent three months as a visiting professors at Wuhan University in China, where they taught nursing administration and psychiatric/mental health nursing to graduate nurses. Prior to their work in China, the Lamberts spent two years teaching and consulting in Japan, South Korea and Thailand. They will return to Wuhan University in spring 2005.

Richard Ricciardi, MS ’91, CPNP/FNP, has been promoted to Colonel in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. In addition, Ricciardi was elected president of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners.

1983 –

Susan K. Newbold, MS ’83, RN, BC, FAAN, was the keynote speaker at a health care informatics workshop held in October 2004 in Manitoba, Canada. She discussed the “Evolution of Health Informatics” and “Clinical Informatics.” In addition, Newbold has been named Chair Elect (2004-2006) and Chair (2006-2008) of the Executive Committee, Educational Technology Information Management Advisory Council for the National League for Nursing.

1979 –

Peggy Chamberlain (Metcalfe) Wilmoth, PhD, MS ’79, BSN ’75, has been promoted to professor, Department of Adult Health Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, University of North Carolina-Charlotte. Her area of research is psychosocial oncology. Wilmoth is also a Colonel in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, and serves as Commander of the 332nd Medical Brigade in Nashville, Tenn.

1971 –

Claudette Silberfein, MS ’71, assistant director of nursing at the Alzheimer’s Resource Center of Connecticut, presented a workshop at the annual conference for Connecticut’s Assisted Living Association.
Class of 1954 Inducted Into Heritage Class

2005 Event Scheduled for May 6-7

Fifteen members of the Class of 1954 were inducted into the Heritage Class at the annual Alumni Heritage Celebration held at the School of Nursing on Oct. 16. During the program, Alumni Association President Barbara Resnick, PhD ‘96, CRNP, FAAN, presented the inductees with their Heritage pins. Dr. Betty Lou Shubkagel, a member of the Class of ’54, gave a special memorial tribute to Virginia Lee Franklin, DIN ’54, for whom the Franklin Lounge and Franklin Lecture are named. The Class of ’54 presented Dean Janet Allan with a check as a class gift to the School, and they acknowledged their class advisor Bette Singleton, DIN ’47, by naming an auditorium seat in her honor.

The Class of 1969 was also well represented, with nearly 20 classmates participating in the event. Also in attendance were alumni from the classes of ’59, ’64, ’74, ’79, ’89 and ’99, who were celebrating their five-year anniversaries, and a number of Heritage Class alumni from ’39 through ’53.

Mark your calendars for the 2005 Alumni Heritage Celebration, scheduled for May 6-7, when the Classes of 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995 and 2000 will be honored. Festivities will begin with a reception on Friday evening at a venue in downtown Baltimore (to be determined), followed by the program at the School of Nursing on Saturday, when Dr. Betty Shubkagel will be received as Professor Emeritus. More information will be distributed via U.S. mail and the School of Nursing Web site (www.nursing.umaryland.edu) as it becomes available. Anyone interested in helping plan the 2005 Celebration should contact Samantha Davis, director of alumni relations and annual support, 410-706-0674, or e-mail her at: ssdavis@son.umaryland.edu.

In Memoriam

Larue Martin, DIN ’29
Elizabeth Skinner, DIN ’34
Vera Ulrich, DIN ’39
Myrtle K. Ageton, DIN ’45
Carole S. McNinch, DIN ’45
Alice C. Scigliano, DIN ’45
Hazel Carroll, DIN ’46
Gloria Kecken, DIN ’47
Jeanne B. Awaht, DIN ’48
Nena D. McGill, DIN ’52
Penelope Childress DIN ’55

Jean Cunningham BSN ’55
Helen V. Kramer, MS ’57
Sue Mullen Brattan, BSN ’59
Ethel Stinchcomb, MS ’60
Louise Hodgson, MS ’65
Diane E. Dwinnells, BSN ’68
Christopher Bothwell, BSN ’69
Shirley Claire Hosier, BSN ’69
Rita W. Vanilith, BSN ’71
Phyliss Luckenbaugh, BSN ’72, MS ’79

William Heinrich, MS ’74
Deidre C. Tateishi, BSN ’77
Louise E. Cole, BSN ’78
Michael Haryman, BSN ’80, MS ’86
Katherine E. Siemer, BSN ’82
Maj. Cynthia Finnegan, BSN ’85
Frances J. Heck, MS ’92
Martha Kinney, BSN ’94
Melanie J. Bruner, MS ’95
Joanne Lois Lee, MS ’98
**School of Nursing Marketplace**

Offers Great Gifts and Souvenirs

Show your school spirit or purchase a gift for your favorite School of Nursing alumnus at the School of Nursing’s Marketplace. A variety of souvenirs and gift items, including clothing, jewelry, posters and more are available for purchase. Proceeds will benefit the School’s Living History Museum and the Alumni Association. National Nurses Week is May 6-12 and Convocation is May 20. What a great way to say “thank-you” to your favorite nurse, or “congratulations” to a special graduate!

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Mail order form with payment to: Valerie James, Development Associate
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(Make checks payable to: University of Maryland School of Nursing) Questions? Call Valerie James, 410-706-7640.
Three New Members Join Board of Visitors

Three new members have been added to the School of Nursing’s Board of Visitors. The new Board members, who will serve three-year terms from 2004-2007, include Steven S. Cohen, FACHE, senior vice president of integrated operations, MedStar Health; Frances L. Lessans, RN, president, Passport Health; and William A. Zellmer, deputy executive vice president, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

In his role as Senior Vice President of Integrated Operations at MedStar Health, Steven Cohen is responsible for the coordination and leadership of numerous operational departments, diversified business units and service lines, including comprehensive home care physician practices, pharmacy services, laboratories, imaging and facilities management. He also directs MedStar’s system-wide work redesign and integration process. Cohen holds a master of science degree in health care administration from Trinity University (Texas), and a bachelor of science in pharmacy from the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Fran Lessans, MPH ’85, BSN ’80, is founder and president of Passport Health, a company that provides comprehensive counseling and information about diseases and immunizations to corporate and leisure travelers. The business, which began in Baltimore in 1994, currently includes 50 franchise territories with multiple sites in each territory. Both U.S. and foreign governments have called upon Lessans to develop training programs and call centers for immunizations. She holds a master’s degree in public health and a bachelor of science in nursing from University of Maryland School of Nursing.

As deputy executive vice president of the America Society of Health-System Pharmacists, William Zellmer is responsible for strategic planning, professional policy development, government affairs, public relations and international affairs. He has a special interest in applying the resources of a professional society of pharmacists to help the profession focus on the most critical societal issues related to the appropriate use of medicines. Zellmer holds a master’s degree in public health from The Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor of science in pharmacy from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

“We welcome our new Board members and look forward to working with them on future projects to benefit the School of Nursing,” says David Oros, president and CEO of Aether Systems and chairman of the Board of Visitors.
Members of the School of Nursing’s Board of Visitors come from the ranks of corporate and community leadership, and from committed alumni and friends of the School. These distinguished members actively participate by lending their skills and expertise to the areas of fundraising, public relations, advocacy and education.

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Undergraduate Open House
Saturday, March 12, 2005
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Graduate Open House
Thursday, March 10, 2005
5 to 8 p.m.
For information, call 1-866-687-7386 or e-mail: openhouse@son.umaryland.edu

Ann Ottney Cain Lecture in Psychiatric Nursing & 50 Year Anniversary Celebration of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Program
Friday, April 1, 2005
2 to 6:30 p.m.
For information, call 410-706-3767

National Conference on Children & Adolescents
Thursday, April 14 – Sunday, April 17, 2005
For information, call 410-706-3449 or e-mail: NCCA@son.umaryland.edu

Your Practice Based on Evidence: Transforming Nursing Care
Friday, May 6, 2005
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
For information, call 410-706-3767 or e-mail doerr@son.umaryland.edu or visit www.nursing.umaryland.edu/ebp

Alumni Heritage Celebration
Friday and Saturday, May 6 & 7, 2005
For information, call 410-706-0674

Convocation
Friday, May 20, 2005
9:30 a.m.
Lyric Opera House

Commencement
Friday, May 20, 2005
3 p.m.
First Mariner Arena

Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics
Wednesday, July 20 – Saturday, July 23, 2005
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