

University of Maryland

# NURSING

LEADERSHIP — PARTNERSHIP — INNOVATION



Expanding the  
Science of Nursing  
Through Research

# University of Maryland NURSING

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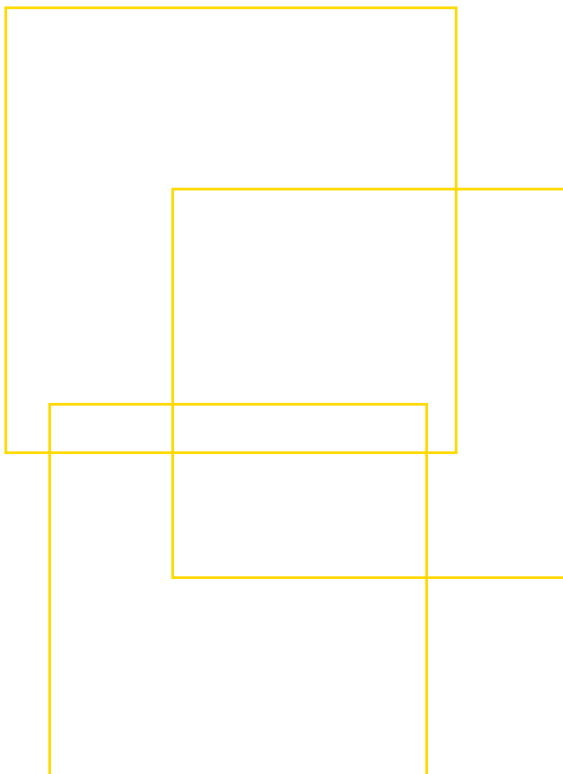
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## On the Cover

Associate Professor Christopher Ward, PhD, and Assistant Professor Susan G. Dorsey, PhD '01, MS '98, RN, co-directors of the School of Nursing's Developing Center of Excellence in Disorders of Neuroregulatory Function, pose in one of the School's basic science research laboratories.

# From the Dean



Dean Janet D. Allan

*The American Association of College of Nursing (AACN) states in their AACN Position Statement of Nursing Research (2006) that “nursing research involves rigorous scientific inquiry that provides knowledge to advance practice, shape health policy, and impact the health of people worldwide.” As a practice profession, nursing relies on a continually developing and expanding body of scientific knowledge to help*

*individuals, families, and communities stay healthy, and to manage acute and chronic illness and disease. To this end, the University of Maryland School of Nursing has built a nationally recognized research program with a growing community of scholars dedicated to making an impact on important health issues and expanding the knowledge base for practice and education.*

Over a decade ago, the School of Nursing set out to establish itself as a center for the discovery and dissemination of knowledge that informs and improves nursing education and practice. Today, it is among a small number of Research I universities supporting a growing cluster of bench researchers who are centering their investigations on targeted national health issues.

In this issue of *University of Maryland NURSING*, we feature nurse scientists who are conducting groundbreaking brain and nervous system research, as well as breast cancer research. The School's superb wet labs, located in the 3,000+ square feet of space dedicated for bench research, have attracted these basic science researchers. In addition, the bench research program has very strong ties with the Biomedical Research Department in the University of Maryland's School of Medicine.

Also featured in this edition is an update on our first Center of Excellence – The Center for Work and Health Research. This Center positions the School as a major leader in advancing the knowledge and policy base for workplace health. The Center houses a group of scholars who are addressing critical occupational health and policy issues. Their work significantly influenced the

recent National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's policy report, *Over-Extended Work Shifts*. The Center also provides a unique opportunity for doctoral students to participate in translating scientific knowledge into health policies in order to improve the health of workers.

To support the School's Vision that “we advance discovery that contributes to wellness, prevention, and health,” we are committed to the continuing development of a culture of scholarship within the School. The 2005 National Research Council's report, *Advancing the Nation's Health Needs*, strongly emphasizes the need to enhance the productivity of nurse researchers by providing an environment that promotes success. One way that we have addressed this recommendation and our commitment to developing a stronger culture of scholarship, was the establishment of a special program (in 2004) for new nurse scientists. This program involves a well-developed three-year plan of research, strong mentoring, reduced teaching assignments, and resources to support each faculty member's program of research. To date, there are six faculty members in this program, and three already have extramural funding.

Our success in educating superb nurse scientists is evidenced by the outstanding accomplishments of our alumni. In this issue, you will read about groundbreaking work in psychosocial oncology being conducted by Ruth McCorkle, PhD, BSN '69, RN, FAAN, and Barbara Medoff-Cooper, PhD, MS '72, RN, FAAN, who is conducting research on infant development, feeding behaviors, and infant temperaments. These alumni, and many others, are making a positive impact on the health and well-being of our society through their research efforts.

We are very proud of our School's many accomplishments, particularly the research-intensive environment and culture we have developed, and which continues to grow. I hope you enjoy reading about our bench scientists 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



# From the Guest Editor



*Dr. Barbara A. Smith*

***The University of Maryland School of Nursing has earned a reputation as a premier research institution by cultivating and expanding a comprehensive, multidisciplinary research program. When I arrived at the School of Nursing in 2003, one of my goals as Associate Dean for Research was to not only maintain that reputation, but also build upon its strengths by continually developing new research initiatives for the School, its faculty, and its students.***

In the School of Nursing's 2003-2006 Strategic Plan, a strategic goal was set to "establish centers of excellence that build on current strengths and market needs." The Centers would provide the framework for conducting timely and relevant research for today's challenging health care environment and provide the opportunity for those with similar interests to work together closely. In keeping with that goal, the School launched its first Center of Excellence in 2005 – the Center for Work and Health Research. Currently, a Developing Center of Excellence in Disorders of Neuroregulatory Function is well under way, and just as this magazine was ready to go to press, we received the wonderful news that the criteria has been met for a Developing Center in Palliative Care. The cutting edge research being conducted in these Centers serves the health care needs of the citizens of Maryland, the nation, and the world. Areas of interest for future Centers include nursing informatics, cardiovascular disease, health promotion/exercise, and aging.

The Office of Research, established in 1999 and restructured in 2003, plays a pivotal role in facilitating the School's research and scholarship mission by providing the resources needed to support our distinguished faculty and nurse scientists. The Office

provides technical assistance with the development, submission, and management of research grants so the investigator can devote more time to the science of the grant. In addition, the Office coordinates a seminar series, which features not only the School's own investigators, but also scientists from across the nation and around the world. The Office also provides expert review of grant applications through its Mock Review process, mentors both novice and established investigators, and fosters interdisciplinary collaboration. Through these efforts, we will continue to expand the quality and influence of the School's research portfolio.

Author and biochemist Isaac Asimov once said, "There is a single light of science, and to brighten it anywhere is to brighten it everywhere." At the University of Maryland School of Nursing, we are brightening that light by creating a community of science that breeds innovation and excellence in nursing research, education, and practice.

**Barbara A. Smith, PhD, RN, FACS, FAAN**  
Associate Dean for Research



*Office of Research Team*  
Front row -- Allison Hewitt, secretary; Sandra Murphy, administrative assistant; and Victor Peguero, MA, research administrator. Second row -- Barker Bausell, PhD, research methodologist, biostatistician, director of evaluation, and professor; Hyeon Joo Lee, doctoral student and research assistant; Dr. Barbara A. Smith; Lynee Roane, BSN, RN, research nurse coordinator; Sandra McLeskey, assistant dean for research and professor; and Brian Hockenberry, MSA, research grants and contracts administrator.

# Forging New Pathways

## in Nursing Research

*Behind the tangled neurons and misfired synapses that are the hallmarks of such diseases as Alzheimer's, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), Down's Syndrome, and chronic pain, are scientists eager to unravel the medical mysteries that destroy so many lives. While bedside medicine has its place in the treatment and compassionate care of patients, without question it is the pure science—the research—that brings hope.*

At the University of Maryland School of Nursing, it is nurses who are leading the charge toward breakthrough research into the brain and nervous system—all in an effort to understand why our elegantly designed human body sometimes utterly fails us.

Since the early 1990s, the School of Nursing has been a leader in this effort by developing a research-intensive environment that supports the work of faculty and students. More than one-third of the School's physical space is devoted to resources and laboratories for clinical, behavioral, health policy, and health services research, including enviable fully equipped wet laboratories for biological and physiological research.

"Bench research is important," says **Barbara A. Smith, PhD, RN, FACS, FAAN**, associate dean for research. "Institutionally, we are increasing our research interests, and creating an environment that is synergistic and collaborative."

But what makes the School of Nursing far different than the traditional research-driven institution is its unshakable foundation in the tenets of nursing care. "The beauty is that since we are nurses, we have seen sick patients," says **Cynthia Renn, PhD, MS '98, RN**, assistant professor. "We can put names and faces on the diseases we study. Many PhDs, without a clinical background, have only been in the lab working with cells or animals. They haven't seen patients with the disease they are studying. We have the ability to conjure up images of sick people. So we may ask questions differently because we know what patients go through."

### A Developing Center of Excellence

**Susan Dorsey, PhD '01, MS '98, RN**, assistant professor, and **Chris Ward, PhD**, associate professor, sit at a table discussing the

intricacies of neurotrophins and their receptors. The neurotrophins are a family of growth factors. Research is demonstrating that neurotrophins and their receptors play a critical role in numerous cell types in the body. Furthermore, alterations in these molecules can be associated with diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, ALS, and Muscular Dystrophy.

Dorsey's research centers on the role neurotrophins play in physiological and pathological conditions in the central and peripheral nervous system—work she has continued since arriving at the School of Nursing from a post-doctoral research position at the National Cancer Institute. By contrast, Ward's research focuses on skeletal and heart muscle and the role of calcium as a signaling molecule. Specifically, Ward investigates how alterations in calcium signaling underscore disease processes in these muscles. These two investigators initially teamed up for an ongoing project from Dorsey's work in neurons, but have since expanded their work into collaborative investigations exploring the functions of neurotrophins and their receptors in several areas.



*Dr. Chris Ward and Dr. Susan Dorsey stimulate cells and monitor their activity under the microscope.*

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So it makes sense that their groundbreaking work, as well as significant School of Nursing research under way in pain management, breast cancer, and neuropathy, have meshed into a developing Center of Excellence focused on disorders of neuroregulatory function. The work is funded primarily by the National Institutes of Health and the American Pain Society.

“This approach creates energy, synergy, and a sense of purpose,” says Dorsey. “We look at the way the brain regulates physiology from cognition to motor skills, as well as the physiology of pain management.” The work, she explains, traverses subcellular processes to whole animal physiology—an integrated, translational approach.

“We seek to bring a range of thinking and technologies that are typically not available in one lab,” she continues. “Our expertise enables us to address fundamental questions in the field.”

### Investigating Disease

Diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, and ALS are linked to neurotrophins and have certain common response mechanisms. “These growth factors signal through cell surface receptors. The composition of receptors set on the cell surface determines how well the cell receives the message,” explains Dorsey. “We are investigating a potential role for neurotrophins and their signaling pathway in disease.”

One of Dorsey's research projects, initiated when she was a graduate student at the University of Maryland School of Nursing, looks at the role of growth factors and receptors in Alzheimer's Disease (AD). One of the hallmark pathophysiological events in AD is the premature cell death of neurons in the brain's learning and memory centers. Previously, it was thought that these neurons died early because they lacked a full supply of neurotrophins. “You can think of it as a classic case of supply and demand, with neurons competing for a limited amount of growth factors in order to survive,” she says.

“Now, we have found through in vitro and in vivo studies of the mouse that the premature neuron death in AD may be due to a mis-expression of neurotrophin receptors on the cell surface, causing a reduction in the strength of the neurotrophin signal that the cells receive. In other words, even if the supply of neurotrophin in the brain is adequate, the signal telling

the cells to live cannot get through,” says Dorsey. “When we corrected the receptor expression, the functionality of the neurons in critical brain regions for learning and memory was restored.”

These findings were sufficiently paradigm-shifting that the University of Maryland, Baltimore secured a patent for gene therapy delivery of neurotrophin receptors. The results of the in vivo studies were recently published in the journal *Neuron* (Dorsey, et al., (2006) 51, 21-28).

For Ward, the role of neurotrophins and their receptors has much to do with neuromuscular transmission, synapse stability, and intracellular calcium signaling in nerve and muscle. “A greater understanding of these pathways may help unravel a portion of the cellular dysfunction that leads to conditions such as ALS, muscular dystrophy, and neuromuscular fatigue, as well as decreased muscle force during aging,” he says.



*Doctoral student Luke Michaelson and Dr. Chris Ward fabricate a glass micropipette, which will be used in laboratory experiments designed to examine the contraction of single muscle fibers.*

In Ward's lab, doctoral student **Luke Michaelson, BSN '03, RN**, is investigating the role of calcium signaling in muscle in support of related projects.

“I am interested in basic research science and how it can be applied to understanding clinical questions,” says Michaelson. By evaluating muscle function in a rat model of essential hypertension, Michaelson is investigating the loss of functional exercise capacity and muscle strength secondary to chronic hypertension and high blood pressure. “We are determining how the role of intracellular calcium

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channels and altered calcium signaling in muscle cells contributes to the decrease in overall muscle function,” he explains.

### Delving Into Pain

A bump on the toe might hurt a bit, but the pain dissipates quickly. Not so for patients who have HIV or are undergoing treatment for diseases such as cancer. In fact, as researchers at the School of Nursing are finding, neurons that are already damaged lower the threshold for pain and increase its intensity.

In collaboration with Dorsey, Renn studies pain behaviors in mice. One goal is to understand how the brain stem integrates and processes pain. “As pain persists, the nervous system becomes more excitable so that a smaller stimulus causes pain,” she says. Working on a recently developed model of HIV drug-induced peripheral neuropathy, Renn is investigating why the drugs associated with treatment often cause pain. “You give drugs to reduce the viral load, but these drugs can and often do cause or exacerbate neuropathy. The goal is to determine why they do and how to stop the pain.”



*Doctoral student Sherrie Lessans (left) and Dr. Cynthia Renn prepare for a dissection.*



*Dr. Susan Dorsey (right) observes as doctoral student Johnnie Holmes pHs a solution.*

**Sherrie Lessans, MSN, RN**, a doctoral student in the Dorsey/Renn lab who entered the PhD program after 25 years in nursing, touches the underside of a mouse’s paw with a Von Frey hair to examine whether mechanical allodynia, a noxious response to a normally non-noxious stimulus, is present. This series of fibers, with a range of widths, gauges physical responses to mechanical stimuli. Her question is: At what point does the mouse remove its paw?

Next, Lessans prepares the Paw Thermal Stimulator, which gauges pain sensitivity to thermal stimuli in the mice. The applications to humans are significant. Normal pain is designed to protect the body—to keep it from continuing a harmful act or to signal that something is wrong. But neuropathy is disabling and dysfunctional, a normal physiology that has gone awry.

When neuropathy occurs as a result of drugs, it can be spontaneous. “One consideration is that pain often causes patients and their physicians to change course. If we can better understand what causes the injury to the nerve in the first place, we can change that,” says Lessans.

She adds that research suggests there is a genetic predisposition to pain. Some people develop chronic pain and others do not. The end result might be therapies designed for one’s own genetic code. “It is so early in the story, but here we are, classically trained bench research nurses interested in physiological research.”

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It's the eureka moments in a nursing research program such as this that attracted **Lt. Commander Johnnie Holmes**, a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) in the U.S. Navy. Holmes, a doctoral student working with Dorsey, has just begun her four-year PhD studies. "I sought out this program because it is one of the few in the nation with bench research and access to state-of-the-art labs," she says. Holmes plans to become an instructor in the U.S. Navy, noting that the military group seeks doctorally prepared CRNAs.

"I am interested in the science of pain," she says. "What physiologic processes occur and what pathways pain travels in the neurons. The goal is to understand how to lessen chronic pain."

### **Neuroendocrine Response to Critical Illness**

Directly applicable to the patient bedside is the work of **Karen Johnson, PhD, RN, CCRN**, assistant professor, who seeks to understand the neuroendocrine response to critical illness. She is particularly interested in stress-induced hyperglycemia and its effect on the development of critical illness neuromyopathy.

As more patients survive critical illness, studies show that they have problems with mobility and rehabilitation for months after discharge from the hospital. This neuromuscular impairment contributes to physical, emotional, and financial strains on the family.

"Why does this occur and why do patients with it develop problems that may extend six months to a year after they leave the hospital?" she asks. "Clinicians must be aware of the frequency and severity of this condition. Studies say that 50 to 60 percent of patients in the intensive care unit develop neuromyopathy. We do not fully understand why," she says.

Noting that it is not simply a matter of muscle weakness due to inactivity, she explains that some evidence suggests it is a disturbance in the structure and function of peripheral nerves and skeletal muscles and that stress-induced hyperglycemia may play a role. "We are trying to connect hyperglycemia and bed rest as causes of neuromyopathy and other problems," she says.

Interventions must be made earlier to minimize the development of this type of neuromuscular impairment, she believes, adding that clinicians can



*Dr. Karen Jounson splices frozen brain tissue on a cryostat machine.*

no longer wait until the patient is discharged from the intensive care unit to begin exercise programs. New to the Center, Johnson is taking time to work with the other nurse-scientists in their research to learn how to study a clinical problem in the laboratory.

### **Entering A New Aspect of Breast Cancer Research**

As a complement to the work underway in neurotrophins, pain, and neuropathy, the research interests of **Sandra McLeskey, PhD, RN**, assistant dean for research and professor, are focused on breast cancer and the role of anti-estrogen compounds in its treatment.

"Nursing has always recognized the role of research—in quality of life, symptom management, traditional care, and psychosocial research," she says. She notes that her experience in animal and molecular studies supports the work by her peers.

Recently, McLeskey received a one-year, \$200,000 grant from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Maryland Affiliate to develop a comprehensive higher education program for nursing faculty and students that will aim to increase the awareness and understanding of breast cancer.

"There has been very little done in the way of breast cancer education in the nursing curriculum," says McLeskey. "This innovative partnership—the first in the nation linking the Komen Foundation with a nursing school—represents a new avenue. We will devise a program of education that will change the undergraduate and graduate curriculum."

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“There are many new targeted therapies and treatment of breast cancer,” says McLesky. “This funding will allow students and faculty to become aware of these developments, such as the genetics of an individual’s breast cancer that make it more susceptible to certain treatments.”



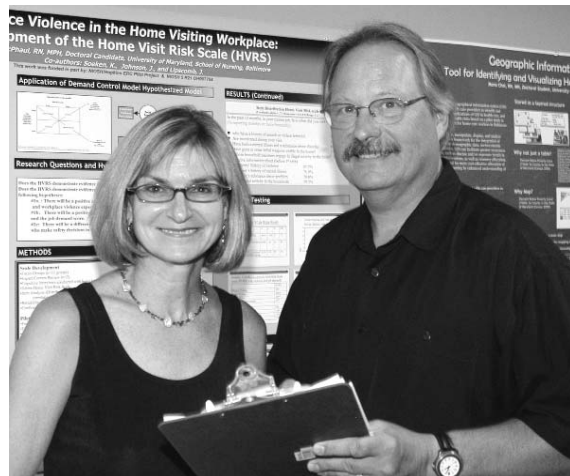
*Dr. Sandra McLesky.*

### Work and Health Research Center

While these nurse-researchers are concerned about the internal workings of the brain and central nervous system, their counterparts at the Work and Health Research Center are studying how the work environment influences employees’ health and safety.

The Center is the School of Nursing’s first designated Center of Excellence. As such, it has met the stringent requirements established by the School, which include collaboration among researchers, sustainable funding, and support of doctoral students. Center researchers have received more than \$7.5 million in research funding within the past five years to study how work environments such as acute care and psychiatric hospitals, social service workplaces, and home care settings affect those who provide health care and social services. During the past year, the Center has conducted field research in Maryland, California, Idaho, New York, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Washington State.

Professor **Jane Lipscomb, PhD, RN, FAAN**, director of the Center, is the principal investigator of a study funded by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health to examine the risk of needle sticks and bloodborne pathogen exposures among home care workers. “Activities performed in the home are much more variable and unstructured than what we find in the hospital, so they are much more challenging to understand, measure, and control,” she says.



*Dr. Jane Lipscomb and Dr. Jeffrey Johnson.*

**Kate McPhaul, PhD, MPH, RN**, assistant professor, also studies the home as a critically important arena for violence research and intervention.

“Increasingly, health care, long term care, and social services are delivered in the home and community rather than in institutions, so the traditional safety paradigm for workers and patients must be completely reconsidered,” she says. “Based on more than 25 focus groups of home visiting workers in five states, it has become clear to us that a new violence prevention paradigm is needed.”

**Jeanne Geiger-Brown, PhD ‘01, RN**, assistant professor, and **Carles Muntaner, MD, PhD**, a former professor at the School of Nursing, have conducted telephone interviews with more than 1,600 home care workers. Their research found that home care work is physically

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and emotionally demanding and that workers are at risk for musculoskeletal disorders and depression—all for a median income of \$12,000 per year.

On another front, Center researchers are studying nurses working in all settings. Professor **Alison Trinkoff, ScD, RN, FAAN**, has found that nurses are affected by the dramatic changes in the health care industry over the past decade, largely because of an increased emphasis on reducing costs.

“Working conditions can be impossible, with health care changes that influence patient care, recruitment, retention, and nurses’ health and error rates,” she says. For more than 10 years, Trinkoff, the principal investigator of the *Nurses Worklife and Health Study*, has researched the effects of long working hours, shift schedules, staffing levels, and physical and psychological work factors.



*Dr. Alison Trinkoff*

“For many nurses, these adverse working conditions don’t occur singly, but in combination, including working frequent shift rotation, returning to work after insufficient time off, and working overtime on short notice or on scheduled days off,” she says. She believes that health care providers and legislators need to recognize the limits within which nurses can practice safely.

In nursing, there can be obstacles to providing care, agrees Professor **Jeffrey Johnson, PhD**, associate director of the Center. “Nurses find it very frustrating not to be able to care for the ‘whole person’ because they are so overburdened. This creates moral stress, where professionals want to provide higher levels of care, but simply don’t have the time or the support to do so.”

Associate Professor **Karen S. Kauffman, PhD, RN, CRNP, BC**, an ethnographer and expert in the analysis of qualitative data, says, “Only after a careful review of the data from many focus groups can we begin to see the deeper patterns of what caregivers are experiencing. Listening to these voices provides us with a sense of the changes that need to be made.”

Lipscomb notes that nearly all the Center’s studies involve interventions. “We have found that only by engaging workers and their union representatives, along with management, in all aspects of the intervention, can we hope to accomplish any real change,” she says.

Johnson adds, “Measuring complex work exposures, evaluating the risks they pose to care providers, and designing protective interventions are the core activities of the Center for Work and Health Research. What are the most effective ways to make change? How can we contribute to the emerging science of workplace intervention?”

### **Advancing the Research Agenda**

Whether through a developing Center of Excellence such as the program in Disorders of Neuroregulatory Function, or through an established Center of Excellence such as the Work and Health Research Center, research at the School of Nursing makes a significant impact on the lives of patients and their families. Adding to this rich mix are promising research programs still coming together—efforts concerned with nursing informatics, palliative care, and aging.

As part of the research initiative, the School has made a commitment to training PhD nurses who will teach. The School is one of only 14 nursing schools in the nation to have received funding through the U.S. Department of Education’s Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) Teaching Scholars Training fellowship program.

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“Joining such fields as engineering and biochemistry, nursing has been identified as an area of need with regard to having PhD-prepared nurses as instructors,” explains **Sue Thomas, PhD, MS ’73, BSN ’69, RN, FAAN**, assistant dean for doctoral studies, who co-directs the GAANN program with **Louise S. Jenkins, PhD, ’85, MS ’81, RN**, associate professor.

“We received funding for seven fellowships in the amount of \$30,000 per year for each student, and full tuition.” The School of Nursing’s program will create a pipeline of instructors. It also offers a comprehensive teaching certification component, developed by Jenkins, which prepares doctoral students to teach.

Of note, the School of Nursing’s application stood head and shoulders above other applications because it received a perfect score on the technical review.



*Dr. Louise S. Jenkins and Dr. Sue Thomas consult with GAANN fellowship recipient Hyeon Joo Lee.*

Entering through the GAANN program or other avenues, the high-achieving nurse researchers at the School of Nursing benefit from a program that is eager to hear what they have to say. “We are targeting and recruiting faculty and students who bring interest, excitement, and energy to research,” says Smith.

For students, there is the unprecedented opportunity to work in Centers of Excellence and developing centers in synergistic and collaborative efforts. For faculty, says Smith, “This is a place that provides young, promising faculty with protected time to help launch their careers in research. We see so much potential in upcoming researchers at the School of Nursing.”



# Dr. Mary V. Neal –

## A Role Model for Nursing Research

***Professor Emeritus Mary V. Neal, PhD, RN, FAAN, undertook her first public health research project in the 1930s—while she was still in elementary school. With a few friends, she set out to discover how a laundry woman's eye condition arose, and if the condition was hereditary.***

"Her eye fluttered back and forth—obviously something was wrong with it. We thought we'd find a cure," she said. The curiosity of the schoolchildren fostered an interest in research that resulted in a remarkable career for this professor emeritus of the School of Nursing.

Neal and her friends—unbeknownst to any adults—divided the tasks into group jobs so that no one duplicated anyone else's work. One group visited the woman at home and observed her children to see if the eye condition had affected them. "We were only elementary school kids at the time and had to unobtrusively arrange to get ourselves to this lady's house so that we could see her children. For some odd reason, we only looked at the boys," she remembered with a laugh.

Another group interviewed the woman about her eye condition, and still another group sought information from the library. "We gathered our information and reported the results back to each other," said Neal. "We didn't discover either the cause or the cure for the eye problem, but we took the effort seriously. In those days when polio and other diseases like whooping cough were issues, public health was an important topic—even for kids."

For Neal, however, the seeds of decades of public health research were planted during those childhood days in Frostburg, Md. With an adult life dedicated to similar quests, she became a pioneer of nursing-based research and amplified the role of professional nurses. In recognition of her leadership in expanding the scientific basis of nursing practice, she earned the designation of "Living Legend" from the American Academy of Nursing in 1996.

Neal's innate curiosity, powers of observation, dogged persistence in solving problems, and willingness to sacrifice many hours in the library led her deep into the research arena, something women of her era were not expected to embrace. Her hours of research in infant mortality led to a practical application. She is well-known as the inventor of the rocking hammock, a motorized device for an incubator or crib, which has been instrumental in decreasing the mortality rates of premature infants.

Neal knew early in her life that she would become a nurse. "Back then, women didn't have many options. They either got married or became teachers or nurses. I didn't see myself in the classroom," she said. "I was interested in public health, so I went to nursing school."

After earning a diploma in nursing from Memorial Hospital in Cumberland, Md., Neal joined the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and served in Iceland and England during World War II.

"It was an exciting time to be an Army nurse," she said. "That was when antibiotics were discovered, and I was privileged to be a nurse for one of the control groups of soldiers that received antibiotics. They didn't tell us exactly what it was at first, but the men had infections and they all got better quicker than the ones who didn't take the pills. I think that it may have penicillin. I am lucky that I was right in the forefront of that discovery."

Upon her return from the service, Neal earned a baccalaureate degree in education from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a master's in literature from the University of Pittsburgh. During this period, public health nursing in Pennsylvania was under the auspices of the American Red Cross, and Neal practiced polio nursing for that organization. In 1953 she was sent to Hawaii as director of Red Cross Nursing Services. There she organized classes for mothers, using interpreters to communicate with various ethnic groups. When "a volcano on the Big Island erupted for 40 days and 40 nights," as she put it, she sprang into action, organizing nursing efforts for the injured and homeless. In the process she gained an abundance of experience in handling disasters.

"The way things worked out in my life, I was quite fortunate to be there as a Red Cross nurse at the time. Establishing a safe place where people could go and be treated was the logical thing to do," she said. "The destruction of the volcano was an amazing sight to see. The lava just rolled through, burning and covering everything."

Still interested in maternal and child health, Neal left Hawaii and the Red Cross to pursue a doctorate at New York University while also working as a consultant for the National League for Nursing. Working with childbearing families living in New York City's tenement houses, Neal learned that

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**Then**



*Dr. Mary Neal with her specially designed rocking hammock. Circa early 1960's.*

premature infants did well initially, but “by the fourth week after birth, they failed. They moved around when they were first born, but in four weeks time, they gradually became less vital,” she said.

Neal noticed that although the infants in the incubators were fed and monitored, they were not handled or touched. “I suspected that the motion they would have gotten in utero as the mother walked around and went about her daily activities—motion that they lacked in the incubators—may have been related to their high mortality in the fourth week of life,” she said.

After many hours in the library, Neal found a study that linked premature rat births to neurological handicaps and high mortality. She also discovered that motion, or lack thereof, was closely associated with a nerve center located just behind the ear.

**Now**



*Dr. Mary Neal poses beside her rocking hammock, now on display at the School of Nursing's Living History Museum. Circa 2006.*

To test her hypothesis, Neal needed the approval of physicians at the Cornell University-New York Hospital. “I had submitted my proposal, and one of the doctors had gone to the library to check every single one of my references before he’d approve it. Back then nurses weren’t involved in research. Once he was confident that I knew what I was talking about, he approved my work,” she said.

Neal then set about designing the motorized canvas hammock—an effort that consisted mostly of months of trial and error—and which eventually relied on a motor she scavenged from a toy. “When I grew up, if you didn’t have something or lacked the money to buy something, you made it. So it was just the most natural thing for me to make something that I needed if it didn’t exist.”

The “rocking hammock” she designed provided motion and stimulation to each infant for 30 minutes three times a day when it was tested in

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four New York City hospitals. The test consisted of an experimental and a control group. Findings indicated that the premature infants who had not been rocked in the hammock showed less weight gain. Those who had been rocked demonstrated fewer abnormalities and a higher survival rate past the four-week mortality wall.

“We did lose a few babies in the control group—the group not being placed in the hammock—but the ones in the experimental group gained weight and moved themselves around too,” she said.

Neal’s landmark study inspired additional research efforts into the care of premature babies. Today, these infants enjoy closer contact with their parents and caregivers and an earlier discharge than was once considered possible.

After earning her PhD at New York University, Neal directed the undergraduate program at Adelphi University before joining the faculty at the University of Maryland School of Nursing in 1968 as an associate professor. She became chair of the Department of Maternal and Child Health in 1972. During her tenure, she received grants from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for 11 consecutive years to develop and expand the role of professional nurses in maternal and child health in collaboration with physicians and health care teams.

Also during her tenure, she spurred research interests at the School of Nursing when she launched the first series of groundbreaking

invitational conferences on the research concepts that emanated from her grant-funded work. She established the framework for the teaching and practice of maternal and child health nursing during a period of 12 years.

“Many of my master’s students submitted well-researched papers for the conferences, and many of them went on to earn doctorates in nursing at prestigious universities,” she said. “As a result of these early conferences, participants were able to identify the need for a system for information retrieval that later prompted the creation of computerized databases...30 years before the advent of informatics,” said Neal.

Elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 1977, Neal was the first School of Nursing faculty member to attain this honor. Although she retired in 1983, she has remained active in the profession, serving on a variety of hospital boards and councils as a consultant in maternal and child health. She received a Governor’s Citation from the state of Maryland in 1984 in recognition of her contributions to the field. In that same year, the School established the Research Award, a scholarship for nurses with a keen interest in research.

Today, this octogenarian nurse pioneer continues to remain active at the School of Nursing, serving several days a week as a docent in the School’s Living History Museum. She credits her success to one thing: “persistence.”

## School of Nursing Launches Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

*Under new guidelines adopted by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) in October 2005, advanced practice nurses and other RNs seeking top leadership roles in nursing practice will be educated at the doctoral level. In response to the AACN’s recommendation to offer a practice-focused doctorate as a viable alternative to the research-focused doctorate, the School of Nursing launched the state of Maryland’s first DNP program this fall.*

“We are proud to assume a leadership role in offering the DNP program because it clearly responds to current and future needs of the America health care system and to the educational demands of current nurse educators, nurse administrators, nurse informaticians, and all advanced practice nurses,” says Dean Janet Allan.



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According to the AACN's *Frequently Asked Questions* (May 30, 2006), the DNP focuses on providing leadership for evidence-based practice. This leadership requires competence in translating research in practice, evaluating evidence, applying research in decision-making, and implementing viable innovations to change practice.

Until now, master's prepared nurses desiring to further their education had no choice but to enter research-focused doctoral programs, such as the PhD or DNSc, which, by design, prepare nurse scientists. While nursing research is vitally needed and contributes to the improvement of health care for the nation, many nurses prefer to remain focused on direct patient care or leadership in systems that support patient care as they pursue advanced degrees in their profession. In addition, many DNP candidates look forward to educating future generations of nurses by becoming faculty at nursing schools.

Matthew D'Angelo, CRNA, MS, BSN '98, assistant director of the School of Nursing's Nurse Anesthesia program and a member of the inaugural DNP class, says he didn't feel as though his clinical interests were being addressed with other doctoral programs like pharmacology, neuroscience, and the nursing PhD.



*Dr. Patricia Morton (center) discusses the DNP program with students Matthew D'Angelo and Dionne Mebane Raley.*

"I pride myself on being a clinician," he says. "Anesthesia is an evolving practice, and clinicians often lack the tools to understand and incorporate changes in practice. I hope the DNP will ultimately help me develop techniques to improve not only my practice, but that of anesthesia as a whole."

With six years experience as a pediatric nurse practitioner in both primary and specialty care of children, combined with one year of teaching at Coppin State University's Helene Fuld School of Nursing, DNP student Dionne Mebane Raley, MSN, RN, AE-C, CRNP, says her interests in obtaining a DNP degree are "multifaceted."

"This is a wonderful opportunity for clinician-scholars to have a terminal degree focused on advancing clinical skills and learning to dissect, translate, and implement research (rather than performing it) to improve patient care," she says. "My long-term goal is to direct a pediatric nurse practitioner clinical program while continuing to practice pediatric primary care. A DNP degree will help me obtain these goals by combining advanced assessment and management skills with the theoretical, analytical, and business skills necessary to be a clinician-scholar."

To specifically support the DNP program, the School of Nursing received a five-year, \$1,020,000 grant from the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission's Nurse Support II Program, an initiative designed to help alleviate the state's critical shortage of nursing faculty and bedside nurses. Dean Janet Allan led her peers and collaborated with other health care providers in the state to conceive and help develop the Nurse Support Program.

"This practice-focused doctoral program opens the door for nurses who want to pursue one of the most advanced degrees in their field, rigorously applying scientific evidence in practice environments; participating in multidisciplinary collaborations; and leading at the highest educational, clinical, and executive ranks," says Patricia G. Morton, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, interim associate dean for academic affairs and director of the DNP program.

To learn more about the School of Nursing's DNP program, call 410-706-7522 or visit [www.nursing.umaryland.edu/programs/dnp](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/programs/dnp).

# RESEARCH GRANTS 2005-2006

## Susan Dorsey, PhD, RN

*Truncated trkB During Development and in Neuron Survival*

\$148,429 (multi-year), National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)

*Development of a Mouse Model of HIV Therapy-Induced Painful Peripheral Neuropathy*

\$16,000, American Pain Society

*Supraspinal BDNF Signaling Modulates Nociception*

\$222,750 (multi-year), NINR

## Mary Ellen Haisfield-Wolfe, PhD(c), MS, RN

(Sponsor - Deborah McGuire, PhD, RN, FAAN)

## Catherine Kelleher, ScD, MPH, RN

*Evaluation of House Calls Program at Washington Hospital*  
\$11,690, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

*Home Care Outcomes of Expanded Home Health Aide Roles*

\$613,146 (multi-year), AHCPR

## Cara Krulewitch, PhD, CNM, RN

*Maternal Opioid Treatment*

\$48,635 (multi-year), University of Maryland, College Park

## Jane Lipscomb, PhD, RN, FAAN

*Health Issues of Female Mexican Crab Pickers*

\$4,996 (multi-year), Johns Hopkins University  
*Evaluation of Workplace Violence Prevention Intervention*  
\$538,145 (multi-year), NIOSH

*Evaluation of Organizational Justice Intervention to Alleviate Type III Violence*

\$312,673 (multi-year), CDC/NIOSH

## Sandra W. McLeskey, PhD, RN

*Differentially Expressed Proteins in Tamoxifen-Resistant Breast Tumors*

\$7,000, American Nurses Foundation

## Eun-Shim Nahm, PhD, RN

*Web-Based Hip Fracture Prevention Modules for Seniors*  
\$182,655 (multi-year), National Institute on Aging

## Lynn Oswald, PhD, RN

*Hypothalamic-Pituitary-Adrenal Axis and Alcoholism*

\$58,653, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

## Keith Plowden, PhD, RN

*Baltimore City Faith-Based Prostate Cancer Prevention*

\$139,017 (multi-year), U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command

# TRAINING GRANTS 2005-2006

## Janet Allan, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN

*Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships*  
\$211,435 (multi-year), HRSA

## Heidi Ehrenberger, PhD, RN, AOCN

*Nurse Education, Practice and Retention: Career Ladder*  
\$265,224 (multi-year), HRSA-Contract Operation Branch

## Louis Heindel, DNP, CRNA

*Nurse Anesthesia Program Focused on Diversity and the Underserved*  
\$282,170 (multi-year), HRSA

## Tinagene (Pia) Inguito, PhD(c), RN

*Self-Efficacy Based Intervention to Facilitate Recovery*  
\$41,760 (multi-year), The John A. Hartford Foundation

## Sandra McLeskey, PhD, RN

*The Komen Maryland Affiliate Nursing Partnership: Advancing Education and Practice*  
\$200,000 (multi-year), The Maryland Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation

## Mary Etta Mills, ScD, RN, FAAN

*Other Health Professions Programs (Earmarks)*  
\$245,515, HRSA-BHP-Division of Medicine

**Barbara Resnick, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP**

*Testing Restorative Care Nursing Program*  
\$644,036 (multi-year), AHRQ

*Tuberculosis Curriculum Coordinating Center*  
\$8,437 (multi-year), Arkansas Department of Health

*BCC Challenge Grant: Measurement of PA in Older Adults*  
(No Cost Extension), Texas A&M University

**Barbara Sattler, DrPH, RN, FAAN**

*Environmental Health Nursing w/the Healthcare Without Harm*  
(No Cost Extension), Healthcare Without Harm

*Training & Technical Assistance to Brownfields, EPA Region 3*  
\$43,000 (multi-year), US Environmental Protection Agency

**Barbara A. Smith, PhD, RN, FACSM, FAAN**

*Physical Activity & Nutrition Intervention in HIV*  
(No Cost Extension), NINR

**Sue Thomas, PhD, RN, FAAN**

*Patients & Families Psychological Response to HAT*  
\$236,412 (multi-year), NINR

**Alison Trinkoff, ScD, RN, FAAN**

*Extended Work Schedules & Workplace Injury in Nurses*  
(No Cost Extension), CDC/NIOSH

**Christopher Ward, PhD**

*Pathogenic Mechanisms that Initiate Duchenne's MD*  
\$7,425, Virginia Polytechnic Institute

*Local Regulation of Calcium Release in Skeletal Muscle*  
(No Cost Extension), NIAMS

*Local Calcium Signalling: Implications in Fatigue*  
\$74,250 (multi-year), National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

**Myra Woolery, PhD(c), MN, RN** (Sponsor - Deborah McGuire, PhD, RN, FAAN)

*Master's Preparation of Staff Nurses to Expand Clinical Instruction Capacity*  
\$1,325,000 (5-year), Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission

**Patricia Morton, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN**

*The Doctor of Nursing Practice: An Initiative to Increase Maryland's Nursing Faculty*  
\$1,020,000 (5-year), Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission

**Carol Snapp, DNSc, CNM**

*Enhancement of Nurse-Midwifery Specialty*  
(No Cost Extension), HRSA

**Sue Thomas, PhD, RN, FAAN**

*Teaching Scholars Training Program (GAANN)*  
\$295,568 (multi-year), U.S. Department of Education

**Rebecca Wiseman, PhD, RN**

*Colorectal Cancer Screening Program*  
\$8,318, Wicomico County Health Department



# Evidence-Based Practice Conference

## Focuses on Essential Skills and Competencies

*More than 300 people attended the third annual national conference on evidence-based practice, "Your Practice Based on Evidence: Essential Skills and Competencies," held at the School of Nursing last spring. Co-sponsored by the School of Nursing and the Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care Systems (VAMHCS), the conference offered an expanded program of lectures and sessions addressing the importance of the role of evidence in all areas of nursing practice.*



*Dr. Margaret Grey, Dr. Kathryn Montgomery, and Carol Nizzardini, MS, RN, VAMHCS Chief Executive.*

Pre-conferences provided comprehensive exploration and experience in essential aspects for building an infrastructure for evidence and for using evidence in practice. The main conference included presentations on a multidisciplinary team perspective on the use of evidence across disciplines, as well as essential competencies for nurses across practice settings and roles.

"The collaboration between our School of Nursing and the Veteran Affairs Maryland afforded us the unique opportunity to develop and implement a very comprehensive and innovative conference on the use of evidence in nursing," says Kathryn Montgomery, PhD '97, RN, associate dean for organizational partnerships, outreach, and clinical enterprise.

Margaret Grey, DrPH, RN, FAAN, dean of the Yale University School of Nursing, presented the keynote address, "Building Evidence for Care: A Researcher's Perspective." The distinguished lecture, "Nurses Using Evidence: Building Essential Skills and Competencies," was delivered by Chris Baker, PhD, RN, executive director, Quality and Safety Department, and clinical

nurse specialist for nursing outcomes, St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center, Madison, Wis.

"We are in a critical paradigm shift to evidence-based practice in nursing that is essential to improve the quality of care whether your professional role is that of an executive, manager, staff nurse, educator, or advanced practice nurse," says Dean Janet Allan. "We are proud to host a conference where nurses can learn the skills and competencies necessary for integrating evidence into their practice."

Conference speakers were supported by a generous endowment from Cmdr. Lura Jane Emery, MS '79, RN, who was introduced at the conference's opening session and surprised with a cake to celebrate her 80th birthday. Sigma Theta Tau International, Pi Chapter, provided additional support.

*Mark you calendar now for the 2007 Evidence-Based Practice Conference, scheduled for Thursday and Friday, April 19 and 20, 2007.*



*Cmdr. Lura Jane Emery is surprised with a cake, as Myrna Petersen, director of development, leads the singing of "Happy Birthday."*

# Integrative Psychiatric Nursing is Topic of Cain Lecture

*“Old Wisdom, New Science: East Meets West in the Practice of Integrative Psychiatric Nursing,” was the topic of the 12th Annual Ann Ottney Cain Lecture in Psychiatric Nursing, held at the School of Nursing last spring. Karen Kleeman, PhD, RN, CS, professor, Southwest Acupuncture College, Oriental Medicine Program, presented the lecture to an audience of nearly 150.*

“Taxonomies of medicine and taxonomies of psychiatry serve to stimulate speculation about origins of illness, in particular patients and the treatment best indicated for such patients,” said



*Dr. Karen Kleeman, Dr. Ann Cain, and Dean Janet Allan.*

Kleeman. “We need to go beyond our current classifications of illnesses in order to apply the right medicine with skillful means.” During the lecture, she addressed the questions: How do we find the particular key to a patient’s healing? Is it a medication, a change in diet, a surgical intervention, energy medicine, traditional Chinese medicine, psychotherapy, prayer, or exercise?

Kleeman stated that our current artificial boundaries for both diagnosis and treatment are beginning to blur as our practice of conventional, alternative, integrative, and complementary medicine begins to merge. “We can look forward within the next decade to a practice of One Medicine – Right Medicine, which is the best medicine for each individual in that moment, regardless of origin,” she said.

The Cain Lecture was established by students, faculty, alumni, and friends to honor Ann Cain, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor emeritus, upon her retirement from the School of Nursing in 1994. Their contributions allowed the School of Nursing to create an endowment to support this lecture, which is held in the spring of each year.

## Conferences for State Department Nurses Focus on Trauma

*A five-year contract between the U.S. State Department and the School of Nursing to provide primary care medical conferences for embassy health care workers culminated last spring with two sessions focusing on trauma. More than 200 nurses from around the world came to the School of Nursing in May and June to increase their knowledge in topics ranging from how to deal with injuries caused by bombings, gunshot wounds, falls, physical abuse, and vehicular crashes, to assessment mechanisms of injury, including forensics triage, pain management, stabilization, and transportation of victims.*

“Trauma was chosen as the subject for this year’s conference, due in part to the current political climate throughout the world,” said Kathryn Montgomery, PhD, RN, associate dean for organizational partnerships, outreach, and clinical enterprises, who was instrumental in creating the conference curriculum. She says the conference topics were chosen by the State Department, based on the needs of the nurses. “Participants were able to hone their skills through didactic seminars and case studies, as well as hands-on, comprehensive experiential learning modules.”

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Faculty members from the School of Nursing, as well as nurses and other medical professionals from the University of Maryland Medical Center's R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center (STC), taught topics such as shock, brain, and spinal cord injuries; musculoskeletal trauma; and thoracic and abdominal trauma. Hands-on workshops included packaging patients for transport, airway management, making triage decisions with multiple victims, critical thinking, and effective communication during trauma situations.

"Preparing the content for this program was both challenging and rewarding," said Karen McQuillan, MS, RN, CCRN, CNRN, clinical nurse specialist at the STC and lead curriculum developer for the conferences. "At Shock Trauma, we have the field's most advanced equipment, resources, and staff to care for our patients. In order to develop this program, I needed to create adaptive approaches to patient care based on what resources and supplies might be available at each foreign post."

Jim Radcliffe, NREMT, coordinator of the STC's Emergency Medical System field providers, taught an interactive session, "Packaging a Patient for Transport." The presentation offered innovative ways for providing basic care and packaging of a patient for transport to more definitive care.

"By constantly thinking on our feet, we can provide effective care and packaging with a board, bed sheet, shirt or cravats, and most importantly, DUCT tape," said Radcliffe. "I recognized that, depending on where these nurses were practicing, they were not only nurses, but often first responders in remote portions of the world. Medicine is an art where the canvas is always changing. It takes the creativity of the astute clinician to provide effective care in such a diverse set of circumstances."

Such is the case with Hilda Debrah, RN, ADN, who works full-time at the U.S. Embassy in Accra, Ghana. Debrah, who is responsible for the primary health care needs of 235 American employees and their families, says there are no formal Emergency Medical Systems in Accra, like those in the United States.

"The ambulances are not equipped to perform any type of intervention en route to the hospital, beyond providing a stretcher and an IV pole," she says. "And, trained emergency medical technicians or paramedics are nonexistent."



*Conference participants practice packaging a patient for transport.*

Debrah says many times the victims of vehicular accidents are transported in any type of vehicle that is available. "My role can shift from nurse to first responder/paramedic at any time. The conference session on transporting patients was particularly beneficial to me."

The potential for earthquakes in the Katmandu Valley of Nepal is great, due to its location on the edge of the Himalayas. In fact, seismologists believe that region is overdue for a quake that could register as high as 6.8 on the Richter scale. Carrie Sengelman, RN, who works for the U.S. Embassy Unit in Katmandu, says this prediction has brought much concern to the community, and the Embassy is beginning to prepare for such an event.

"Given the poor construction and infrastructure in the Katmandu Valley, we realize that a disaster of this magnitude would put us in a position to organize our own search and rescue and manage all medical emergencies," says Sengelman.

She says the conference provided her with more confidence in dealing with mass casualties and better prepared her to deal with any type of life threatening injury.

"The trauma photos helped me to better understand the different types of injuries, treatments, and probable outcomes I could encounter," she said. The instructors were excellent and brought their years of experience to the lectures."

"The five-year relationship with the School of Nursing has been richly rewarding and very productive," says Jennifer Grise, MSN, CFNP, FSHP, deputy director of foreign service health practitioner programs for the State Department. "The programs have given our nurses much-needed medical updates and have challenged them to be critical thinkers in a wide range of medical situations. The hands-on workshops allowed for simulated application and true collaboration."



# School of Nursing Hosts Nation's Largest Nursing Informatics Conference

*"Advancing Clinical Practice Through Nursing Informatics" was the theme for the School of Nursing's 16th Annual Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics, held July 19-22. More than 600 people attended the event, including participants from 39 states and eight countries.*



*Judy Ozbolt, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI, FAIMBE, director of the School of Nursing's Informatics program; Dean Janet Allan; Dr. Donald Detmer; and Mary Etta Mills, ScD, RN, FAAN, SINI chair person and former associate dean for academic affairs.*

"As the use of technology in health care becomes increasingly important, so does the need for nurses with the expert skills and knowledge to apply and manage information," said Dean Janet Allan in her opening remarks. "These nurses provide leadership in the conceptualization, design, and research of computer-based information systems in health care organizations and in industry." Dean Allan also noted that the School of Nursing's informatics programs serve as national models. The School initiated the nation's first master's specialty in nursing informatics in 1988, and the world's first doctoral program in nursing informatics in 1991.

Donald E. Detmer, MD, MA, president and CEO, American Medical Informatics Association, delivered the keynote address, *Current Issues in Improving Clinical Practice Through Informatics*.

"Clinical informatics faces a number of challenges and opportunities in order to improve practice dramatically," said Detmer. "Expert applied clinical informaticians are needed to support the knowledge and skills required by other clinicians, as well as citizens." He added that by the year 2010, our nation's health care system would need 10,000 additional informaticians – 5,000 nurses and 5,000 doctors.

Distinguished lectures were presented by Michael Zamore, policy advisor to Congressman Patrick Kennedy, who provided an update on health care IT legislation; Victoria Bradley, DNP, RN, FHIMSS, director of patient information at the University of Kentucky Hospital, who discussed the transformation of the work environment through information technology; and Jeffrey Goldsmith, PhD, president, Health Futures, Inc., whose talk focused on the influence of informatics on the future of health care.

The annual conference is 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 2007 Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics is scheduled for July 18-21, 2007, at the School of Nursing. For more information about the event, visit [www.nursing.umaryland.edu/informatics](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/informatics).



*Conference participants filled the auditorium for the keynote address.*



# Convocation 2006

*The School of Nursing's 2006 Convocation ceremony began with a special visit from Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., who delivered congratulatory remarks to the state's largest class of nursing students.*

*"Nursing is physically, emotionally, and intellectually demanding," said Gov. Ehrlich. "You are a critical part of our health care system, and I commend you for choosing a career in nursing."*

Tony McCann, secretary of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and Del. Shirley Nathan Pulliam, BSN '80, RN, also attended the event, held May 19 at the Baltimore Convention Center. Degrees were conferred on 551 nursing candidates, including 397 bachelor's degrees, 110 master's degrees, 26 post-master's degrees, and 18 doctoral degrees – the most PhDs ever awarded at the School.

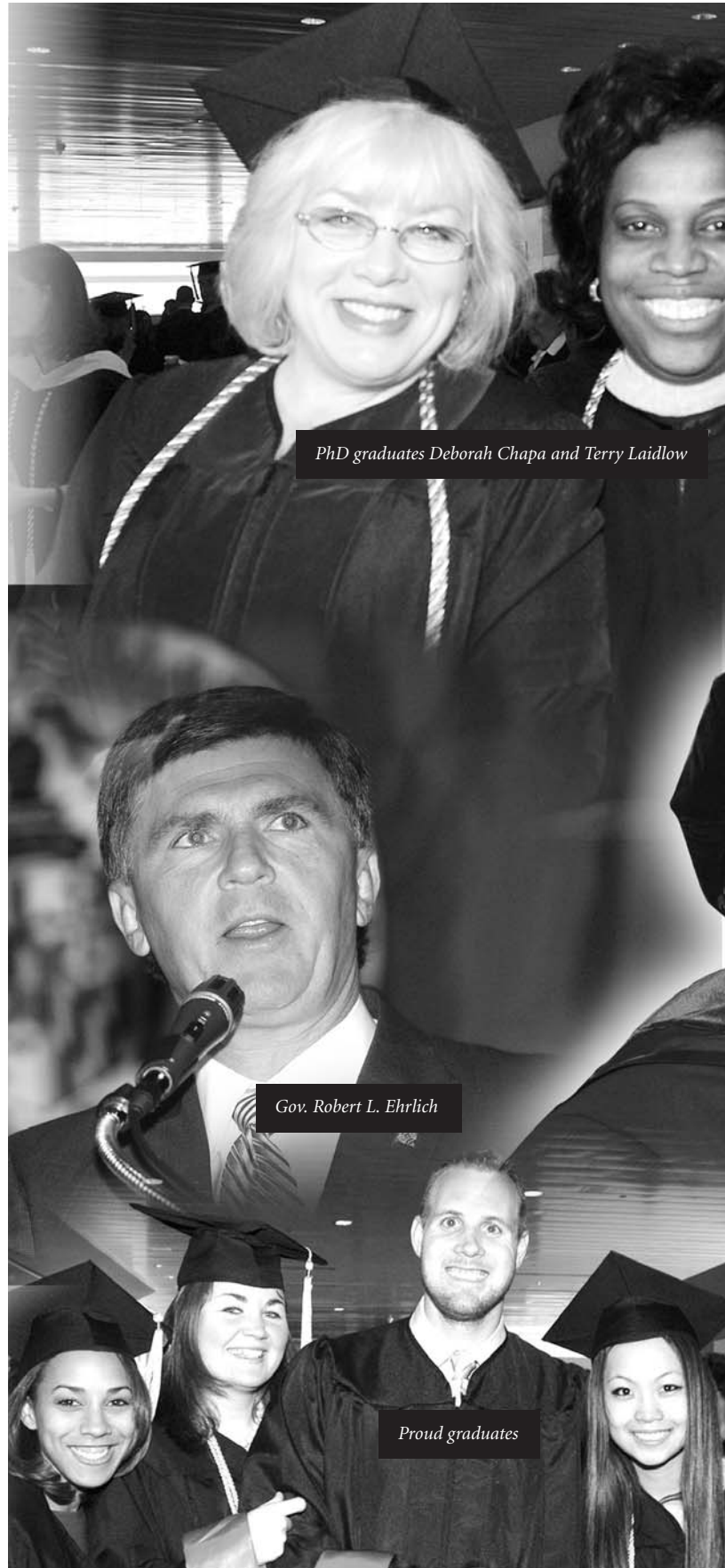
Nellie C. Robinson, MS '79, RN, vice president of patient services at the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C., delivered the Convocation address.

*"You are entering nursing at a time when both the health care industry and the nursing profession are severely challenged. The world is smaller, expectations are greater, and demand is knocking down our doors," she said.*

*"Nursing is a noble and rewarding profession that today calls for leaders, educators, practitioners, and researchers. Find a passion and pursue it because when you love what you do, the sky is the limit."*

Master of Science graduate Krystina Mints, BSN '02, RN, delivered remarks on behalf of the students.

*"Nursing is dramatically changing, and with the critical nursing shortage, attention is focused greatly on our profession. For years, patients have reported that nurses have made the greatest impact on their health care experiences. With that in mind, your education has provided the tools to continue this trend and empower the profession of nursing."*



PhD graduates Deborah Chapa and Terry Laidlow

Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich

Proud graduates



*Dr. Keith Plowden and a happy grad*

*Mother and daughter grads Karen Buchanan and Bridgette Burnett*

*Nellie C. Robinson and Dean Janet Allan*

*Dr. Carol Esche and Dr. Lyn Murphy*



# Faculty Appointments



**Judith Criner, PhD, MS, RN**, has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. Criner holds a PhD in adult health from the University of Texas, Austin School of Nursing; an MS from the University of Hawaii; and a BSN from the Medical College

of Georgia. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as Director of Continuing Education, Director of Instructor Training Courses, and Nursing School Coordinator for the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Nursing Education and Staff Development Unit.



**Matthew D'Angelo, MS, BSN '98, RN**, has been appointed clinical instructor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health and assistant director for the Nurse Anesthesia master's specialty. D'Angelo holds an MS from Georgetown University School of Nursing and a BSN from the

University of Maryland School of Nursing. He comes to the School of Nursing from his previous position as a nurse anesthetist at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland Medical Center.



**Michelle Duell, MSN, BSN '95, RN**, has been appointed clinical instructor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health and director of clinical education for the Nurse Anesthesia master's specialty. Duell holds an MSN from Hahnemann University and a BSN from the University of

Maryland School of Nursing. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as a staff nurse anesthetist at the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center and the University of Maryland Hospital.



**Suzanne L. Feetham, PhD, RN, FAAN**, has been appointed professor in the Department of Family and Community Health. Feetham is nationally and internationally recognized for her research and scholarship in nursing research of families, system change in health care, and the integration of genetics and genomics in

education, practice, and policy. She holds a PhD from Michigan State University (Family Sciences), an MSN from Wayne State University, and a BSN from the University of Michigan. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as senior program manager at the Health Resources and Services Administration's Center for Quality.



**Suzanne Gordon, BA**, an award-winning journalist and author, has joined the School of Nursing as a visiting professor in the Department of Family and Community Health. For the past 15 years, Gordon has been observing nurses and other caregivers, and writing about care giving and health care reform issues. She has

served as an adjunct professor at the University of California San Francisco School of Nursing and the McGill University School of Nursing, and as a visiting scholar at the Boston College School of Nursing.



**Linda J. Hickman, PhD '98, MBA, RN, CHE**, has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, where she is teaching in the Health Services Leadership and Management master's specialty and directing the Nurse Support Program grant. Hickman holds a PhD

from the University of Maryland School of Nursing, an MBA from Marymount University, and a BSN from Wesley College. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as Vice President of Patient Care and Chief Nursing Officer for Chester River Hospital Center in Chestertown, Md., where she has served for the past 20 years.

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**Deborah Jones, PhD, RN**, has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. Jones received a PhD, an MSN, and a BSN from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is a member of Alpha Kappa

Alpha Sorority, the Nurses Organization Veteran Affairs and the National Association for Healthcare Quality. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as a nurse manager on the Cardiovascular Care/Telemetry Unit at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Birmingham, Ala.



**Kathleen Michael, PhD, RN, CCRN**, has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. Michael holds a PhD from the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, an MSN from Seattle Pacific University, and a BSN from the

University of Washington. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous as Program Manager (Director of Health Programs) of the Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center, University of Maryland.



**Judy G. Ozbolt, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI, FAIMBE**, has been appointed professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, and director of the Nursing Informatics program. Ozbolt, who is nationally and internationally known for

her expertise in nursing informatics, most recently served as a Scholar at the Institute of Medicine in Washington, D.C. She previously served as the Independence Foundation Professor of Nursing and Professor of Biomedical Informatics, as well as the Joe B. Wyatt Distinguished University Professor at Vanderbilt University. Ozbolt holds a PhD and MS

from the University of Michigan, and a BSN from Duke University.



**Nina Trocky, MSN, RN**, has been appointed clinical instructor and assistant director of the Clinical Research Management program in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. Trocky holds an MSN from Catholic University of

America and a BSN from Temple University School of Nursing. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as program director at Harris Technical Services Corporation.



**Kathryn Von Rueden, MS, RN, FCCM**, has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. Von Rueden holds an MS from the University of Minnesota and a BSN from the Georgetown

University School of Nursing. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as Director of Professional Development and Quality at Anne Arundel Medical Center.



**Margaret Watt, MSN, RN, FNP**, has been appointed clinical instructor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. Watt holds a BSN and an MSN/FNP from the Georgetown University School of Nursing. She

comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as a cardiology nurse practitioner at Suburban Hospital in Washington, D.C., and as a forensic nurse examiner-adult with Shady Grove Adventist Hospital in Rockville, Md.

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**Marisa Wilson, DNSc, MHSc, RN**, has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. Wilson holds a DNSc from the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, an MHSc from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, and a BA

from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as Senior Project Director for Clinical Information Systems at the Johns Hopkins Hospital.



**Carolyn J. Yocom, PhD, RN, FAAN**, has been appointed associate professor and chair of the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health. Yocom holds a PhD in Nursing Sciences with an emphasis on Nursing Education Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago; an MSN from the Frances Payne

Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University; and a BSN from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as Assistant Dean of Research and Grants at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, College of Nursing, where she also held positions as an associate professor and coordinator of outreach programs. Prior to joining the faculty at Rutgers, Yocom spent 15 years with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, where she held positions as Assistant Director of Testing Services and Director of Research Services. As Director of Research Services, she was responsible for developing and implementing the research agenda for the National Council, directing and conducting research projects on issues related to the regulation of nursing practice. She is the author of numerous publications, she has made many national and international presentations, and she has garnered \$4 million in external grant funding.

## Administrative/Staff Appointments

### Doerr to Head New Communications Department



**Gail Doerr, MS**, has been named executive director of the School of Nursing's new Communications Department. In this position, she will create and implement the School's branding and identity campaigns, and provide oversight for all marketing, advertising, public relations, and publications. Because

electronic media is now a primary communication tool for recruitment and information sharing, the School's Web site is part of the new department,

and is also under her direction. Doerr formerly served as the Director of Business and Program Development in the School's Department of Organizational Partnerships, Outreach, and Clinical Enterprise. She comes to this position with more than 15 years experience in communications and business development for higher education and health care organizations. She holds an MS from Fordham University and a BS from Mercy College.

"Proper communication about our School and its students, faculty, and programs is of utmost importance in meeting our strategic goals and initiatives," said Dean Janet Allan. "Gail Doerr brings the level of expertise and experience required to lead this new department in positioning our School as a leader in nursing education, research, and clinical practice."

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**Amanda Barnes, MS**, has joined the Office of Student Affairs as an admissions counselor. Barnes holds an MS from Shippensburg University, where she served as a graduate assistant in the Admissions Office. She holds a BA from Washington College.

**Charles Bennett, AA**, has joined the Instructional and Learning Technologies Department as a LAN administrator. Bennett holds an AA from the University of Baltimore. He comes to the School of Nursing from MCI, where he provided desktop and laptop support and performed hardware repairs and basic LAN administration duties.

**Billy Best, MPH**, has joined the Office of Student Affairs as director of admissions. Best holds an MPH from the University of Baltimore and a BA from Clemson University. He comes to the School of Nursing from his previous position as a nurse recruiter at Maryland General Hospital.

**Stacey Boyd** has joined the School of Nursing as coordinator of the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. She comes to the School from her previous position as program coordinator in the Department of Surgery, University of Maryland Medical Center.

**Lisa Conway** has joined the Office of Academic Affairs as a coordinator. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as an academic program specialist at the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Division of Community Psychiatry.

**Deborah Hicks, BS**, has joined the Office of Administrative Services as an accountant. She holds a BS from the University of Baltimore and an AA from Catonsville Community College. Hicks comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as a manager at the University of Maryland, Baltimore Institute of Human Virology.

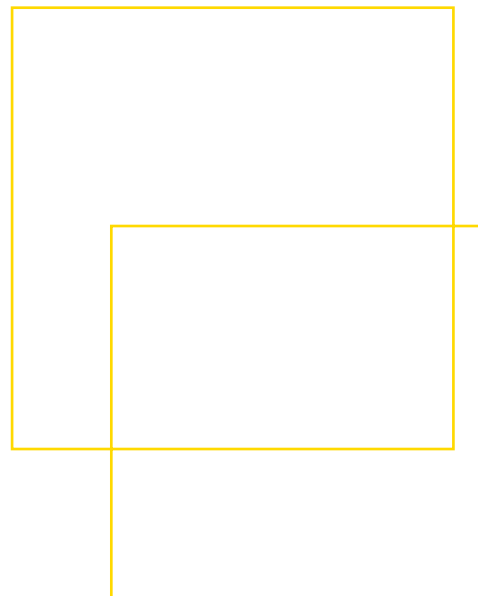
**Larry Nohe, AA**, has joined the Instructional and Learning Technologies Department as a systems engineer. Nohe holds an AA from Harford Community College, and comes to the School of Nursing from his previous position as a field engineer at System Source.

**Abby Plusen, MSW**, has joined the School of Nursing as program manager for "The Komen Maryland Affiliate Nursing Partnership: Advancing Education and Practice" grant. Plusen holds an MSW in Social Work from the University of Texas. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as a manager at the University of Maryland, Baltimore Institute of Human Virology.

**Lynnee Roane, BSN '85, RN**, has joined the Office of Research as nurse coordinator. Roane holds a BSN from the University of Maryland School of Nursing. She comes to the School from her previous position as clinical research coordinator at Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore.

**Yan (Sunny) Sun, MEd**, has joined the Instructional and Learning Technologies Department as an instructional designer. Sun holds an MEd from Texas A&M University and a BS from Beijing Capital Normal University in China. She comes to the School of Nursing from her previous position as an instructional designer for Web education programs at the University of Texas, Arlington.

**Brian Walls, BA**, has joined the Office of Student Affairs as academic coordinator. Walls holds a BA from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). He comes to the School of Nursing from his previous position as assistant director of scholarships at UMBC.



# Letter from the Alumni President

*This has been a tremendous year for the School of Nursing, and the Alumni Association has been there to support many of the endeavors that make the School outstanding.*



*Caleb A. Rogovin, Alumni Association President*

As president of the Alumni Association, I have the honor of serving as a member of the School of Nursing's Board of Visitors. Dean Janet Allan has assembled a wonderful array of leaders from the corporate world and the community to assist us in fulfilling the School's mission and vision. This year, each Board member has taken on the challenge of helping promote, champion, or find funding for new initiatives or existing programs, such as the Honors program, the Clinical Research Management master's specialty, the Governor's Wellmobile program, and Centers of Excellence.

The Alumni Association continues to support the School by finding new ways to reach out to our fellow alumni. During the past year, we held two *Thank-a-Thons*. With the support of the Alumni Association Council and volunteer faculty and staff, we were able to make more than 400 phone calls to thank many of our alumni supporters. A number of alumni were surprised that we were not asking for money, but just calling to thank them. The calls also provided a way for us to reconnect with many alumni and speak with some of them for the first time. Our hope is to make contact with as many alumni as possible and determine the best ways we can be of service to you. If you didn't receive a call during the past two "*Thons*," we hope we will be able to reach you the next time around.

Throughout the year, we met many of our graduates at various conferences and events around the nation, as well as right here in Maryland. In early spring, we held the first reception for Shady Grove alumni at the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville. Nearly 50 people attend the event, designed to bring our Shady Grove alumni together again and keep them informed of all the happenings at the School.

The 2006 Alumni Reunion was the biggest yet! An evening reception at the B&O Railroad Museum on Friday, May 5, kicked-off the weekend of activities. On Saturday, 37 members of the Class of 1956 were inducted as the newest members of the Heritage Class at a special program held at the School of Nursing. It is wonderful to experience the esprit de corps of the Heritage Class and to see the broad range of other classes and current students mingle in a wonderful social setting. The weekend also included lectures and presentations, and was well received by all who attended. Please reserve June 1 and 2, 2007, for another outstanding Reunion Weekend!

As a proud alumnus, it is my honor to continue to support the School and my fellow alumni. I hope you received our latest fundraising brochure, "*Who inspired you?*" that features six of our faculty members from across the decades who have made an impact on our students and the nursing profession. I think fondly of Dr. Patricia Gonce Morton, who is profiled in the brochure, and who, to this day, remains my mentor in nursing and in life. Please take a moment to think about the faculty member who inspired you, and send in a gift in honor of that person. If you have not received the brochure, please contact the Alumni Office.

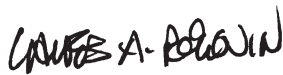
In this edition of *University of Maryland NURSING*, you will read about some of our alumni who are involved in bench research here at the School of Nursing, and how others are making their mark on nursing research at other institutions. The groundbreaking work being conducted by all of these nurse researchers is truly inspiring. Students from all the programs in the School have the opportunity to observe bench research first hand, and it is amazing to see how this experience impacts their education and the future of nursing. With your support, these programs will continue to grow and expand.

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Please let us know what is happening with you, or tell us about a classmate or colleague. E-mail, call, or send us a letter with updates, and also make sure we have your current address so we can stay in touch. As always, we will do our best to keep you informed. We look forward to hearing from you!

With best regards,



**Caleb A. Rogovin, CRNA, MS '92,  
CCRN, CEN**  
President, Alumni Association

#### Alumni Office contact information:

alumni@son.umaryland.edu

Samantha Stern Davis  
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Check out the School of Nursing's web site  
<http://nursing.umaryland.edu> to update your  
contact information and get the latest news.

## Alumnae Make Their Mark on Nursing Research

### Breaking New Ground in Psychosocial Oncology

*A pioneer in oncology nursing, Ruth McCorkle, PhD, BSN '69, RN, FAAN, is the first Florence S. Wald Professor of Nursing at the Yale University School of Nursing, where she chaired the Doctor of Nursing Science program from 1998 to 2004 and currently serves as director of the Center for Excellence in Chronic Illness Care. McCorkle, who is well known for her work in psychosocial oncology, has focused her research on patient responses to cancer at critical points in the illness, including the point of diagnosis, the initiation of treatment, the period of active treatment, survivorship, recurrence, disease progression, and terminal illness.*

"After I had been a nurse in the Air Force during the Vietnam War, I wanted to specialize in an area of nursing that would allow me an opportunity to develop ongoing relationships with patients and their families," says

McCorkle. "I was comfortable talking about premature death with families and thought oncology nursing was right for me."

Over three decades, McCorkle has developed the Program of Research on Patient and Family Caregiver Outcomes, in which she and her team examined the positive effects of interventions performed by Advance Practice Nurses (APNs) to relieve treatment-related symptoms and improve functional abilities in patients with cancer. The series of studies showed that oncology patients receiving care from APNs remained physically and socially independent longer than those who did not receive such services. They also had fewer re-hospitalizations for symptoms and complications.

To measure symptoms and functional status during the study, McCorkle and her team developed a Symptom Distress Scale and an Enforced Social Dependency Scale, which are still in use today by investigators worldwide.

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The studies also revealed the extreme burden that caregivers experience and the increased responsibility they assume for their family members. Included in McCorkle's studies was an investigation of spousal bereavement that examined the psychological distress of family caregivers before and after the death of a loved one.

"My research has been and will continue to be used to establish guidelines for assessment of patients' symptoms, but additional work is needed," she says. "Currently, in our health care system, patients are not referred to home care after cancer surgery, even though they will develop complex, ongoing needs once they are discharged and additional cancer therapies are started."



*Dr. Ruth McCorkle (left) consults with Dr. Dena Schulman-Green, project director on their ovarian study.*

McCorkle's interest in cancer and palliative care is longstanding. More than 20 years ago, she studied at St. Christopher's Hospice in London and participated in clinical studies to relieve distressing symptoms associated with dying. Since then, the National Institutes of Health and other prestigious organizations have continuously funded her studies on managing life with cancer.

She has served as a member of the study sections for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR). She was director of the Center for Advancing Care in Serious Illness at the University of Pennsylvania, one of only six nationally supported research centers

funded by the NINR. In the early 1980s, she obtained the first non-medical NCI Institutional Training Grant (T32), which opened the door for other non-medical disciplines to become competitive in securing funding.

Elected to the Institute of Medicine in 1990, McCorkle has received many awards for her outstanding contributions to nursing science and oncology nursing. In 1988, she received the Outstanding Research Award from the Pennsylvania Nurses Association, and in 1993, the American Nurses Association recognized her as Nurse Scientist of the Year. She received the Distinguished Research Award from the Oncology Nursing Society in 1994, and in spring 2006, she received the 2006 Distinguished Contribution to Nursing Research Award from the Eastern Nursing Research Society.

In addition to her BSN from the University of Maryland School of Nursing (1969), McCorkle holds an MS and a PhD from the University of Iowa. She has held teaching positions at a number of institutions, including the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Washington, and the University of Iowa, as well as various staff nursing positions.

### **Improving Care for Infants and Children**

Barbara Medoff-Cooper, PhD, MS '72, RN, FAAN, has been in love with children—and caring for children—since the first day she walked onto a pediatric floor as a nursing student. A professor in pediatric nursing and Director of the Center for Biobehavioral Research at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, Medoff-Cooper is internationally recognized for her research on infant development, feeding behaviors in high-risk infants, and infant temperaments.

Medoff-Cooper, who has devoted her professional career to finding ways of improving care for infants and children, credits her early interest in infants to Mary Neal, PhD, RN, FAAN, University of Maryland School of Nursing professor emeritus (see pp. 12-14), who first brought her to the nursery during maternal and child health nursing classes at the School of Nursing in the 1970s.

"I fully attribute my love of infants and infant development to Dr. Neal," says Medoff-Cooper. "I will never forget how she taught us about the 'amazing newborn.' It was her passion about the

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*Dr. Barbara Medoff-Cooper (right) observes as a new mother feeds her baby using Medoff-Cooper's feeding equipment.*

preterm infants that has stayed with me during my entire professional career.”

As a pediatric nurse practitioner, Medoff-Cooper enjoyed newborn visits and making rounds in the newborn nursery. “It was really the concerns of the parents of preterm infants about their infant's behavioral style, and the difficulties in parenting these infants, that drove me to my doctoral program,” she says. Her doctoral program at Temple University enabled her to study various aspects of infancy with a number of experts. Her dissertation involved the study of the biologic, behavioral, and environmental influences on developmental outcomes in preterm infants at six months of age.

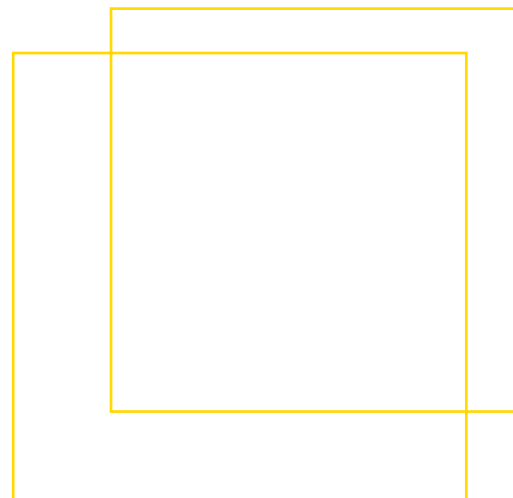
Medoff-Cooper has received many research awards, including five from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study neurodevelopmental outcomes of high-risk infants. She is currently the principal investigator on a \$3.2 million, five-year grant funded by NIH to study the feeding behaviors and energy cost in infants who have had corrective or palliative surgery for congenital heart disease. The study, the first of its kind, seeks to find out why these infants fail to grow, even after they have had surgery to correct their congenital anomaly.

“My work has brought attention to the importance of understanding the development of feeding behaviors as an index of neurobehavioral maturation in preterm and other high-risk infants,” says Medoff-Cooper. “We have shown that preterm infants with organized feeding patterns at 40 weeks are more likely to have better developmental outcomes at 12 months. I hope that in the future all high-risk infants will have feeding assessment before they go home from the hospital.”

Medoff-Cooper began her career as a Robert Wood Johnson clinical nurse scholar. She is the first recipient (in 2005) of the Ruth M. Colket Endowed Chair in Pediatric Nursing, awarded by The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, which recognizes and supports nurses with doctoral degrees who conduct cutting-edge research. She has served on numerous review panels for NIH, Sigma Theta Tau International, and the American Nurses Foundation.

A visiting scholar at the Hebrew University/Hadassah Medical Organization since 1996, Medoff-Cooper has also been a visiting professor in England, Sweden, and Hong Kong. She is the author of numerous peer-reviewed journal articles, chapters, and sections, and she has been invited to lecture worldwide on the care and research of preterm and high-risk infants.

Medoff-Cooper holds a BSN from Trenton State College, an MS from the University of Maryland School of Nursing, and a PhD from Temple University.



# SCHOOL of NURSING ALUMNI and FRIENDS

JOIN US FOR an ESCORTED TOUR to LONDON and the  
FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MUSEUM with a STOPOVER IN ICELAND!

Sponsored by the University of Maryland School of Nursing Alumni Association

**APRIL 21-28, 2007**

Earn Continuing Education credits while enjoying an educational, fun-filled week in London, followed by a stopover in Iceland, with fellow University of Maryland School of Nursing classmates, alumni and friends.

Former faculty member Jean Trotter, BSN '72, MS '77, will be our escort and guide.

## **TOUR INCLUDES:**

- Five nights stay in a first class London hotel with breakfast daily
- Full-day escorted tour of London, including Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, Parliament and Big Ben, St. Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London.
- Escorted tour to Windsor Castle and Thames River Cruise, including lunch
- A full-day visit to the Nightingale Museum, including lunch
- Afternoon High Tea in London
- One night stopover in Iceland, including tour of Icelandic countryside, visit to Blue Lagoon Thermal Reserve, and hotel with breakfast
  - CEU's available

## **COST for this 8-Day/7-Night Escorted Tour:**

\$2395 per person\*, based on double occupancy, including round-trip airfare from Baltimore.

A \$500 deposit is due by November 15, 2006, to reserve a space.

Mark your calendar now, and plan to join us for this exciting trip abroad. For more information, contact Samantha Davis, director of alumni relations and annual support, 410-706-0674, or e-mail: [ssdavis@son.umaryland.edu](mailto:ssdavis@son.umaryland.edu).

Watch for further information on the School of Nursing Web site ([www.nursing.umaryland.edu](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu))

\*The cost of the trip includes a \$50 tax-deductible contribution to the School of Nursing Alumni Association.



*Baltimore Foundation, Inc.*

*Funds for the School of Nursing are managed by the University of Maryland*

# Alumni Association Council

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Esther McCready, DIN '53

Kathryn Lothschultz Montgomery, PhD '97

Patricia Gonce Morton, MS '79, PhD '89

Jewel Moseley-Gray, BSN '59

Eun-Shim Nahm, PhD '03

Carol Romano, BSN '77, MS '85, PhD '93

Janet Southby, MS '71

Sandra Sundeen, MS '68

Sue Thomas, BSN '69, MS '73

# Class Notes

## 1960s

**Carol Miller Bruflat, BSN '68, MSN, RN, WHNP/FNP**, has begun a two-year term as president of the Virginia Council of Nurse Practitioners. She currently works in a private OB/GYN practice in Northern Virginia.

## 1970s

**Patricia Hong, BSN '72, MA, RN**, professor emeritus, University of Alaska Anchorage School of Nursing, was co-author and presenter for an abstract selected for podium presentation at the Western Institute of Nursing Assembly held recently in Albuquerque, NM. Petersen, J.A., Hong, P.A., and Pflaum, J.S. (April 2006): Mentorship: Retention Strategy for New Faculty.

**Linda Flynn, BSN '75, RN**, assistant professor at Rutgers College of Nursing, recently launched a study to explore the impact of nurse staffing levels and work environment on patient outcomes. The project was funded by a \$357,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and contributions from the New Jersey State Board of Nursing.

**Peggy Chamberlain Wilmoth, PhD, MS '79, BSN '75, RN**, presented the 25th Mara Mogensen Flaherty Memorial Lecture at the Oncology Nursing Society's 31st Annual Congress, held last spring in Boston. The topic of the lecture was, "Life After Cancer: What Does Sexuality Have to Do With It?" Wilmoth is a professor of Adult Health Nursing at the School of Nursing, College of Health and Human Services, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, and serves as Brigadier General of the U.S. Army Reserve and Commander, 332nd Medical Brigade.

## 1980s

**The Honorable Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, BSN '80, RN**, was a recipient of the American Public Health Association's 2005 Distinguished Public Health Legislator of the Year Award. The annual awards honor individuals at the federal, state, or local levels who support public health issues.

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**Elizabeth Jesukiewicz Frey, JD, BSN '82, RN,** has been elected president of the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association. She is a trial attorney and RN with the law firm of Jack H. Olender & Associates, P.C., Washington, D.C., where she handles catastrophic medical malpractice and personal injury cases.

**Margaret Franckhauser, MS '82, MPH, RN, ARNP,** executive director, Community Health and Hospice, Inc., Laconia, N.H, received her MPH from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and has served six years on the New Hampshire Board of Nursing. She has also served on state and national committees dealing with advanced practice issues, and has held several clinical positions since graduating from the School of Nursing.

**Frances Lessans, MS '85, BSN '80, RN,** president of Passport Health, Inc., and a member of the School of Nursing's Board of Visitors, received an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2006 Award for Maryland in the "Healthcare Education and Related Services" category.

**Susan K. Newbold, MS '83, RN, BC, FAAN, FHIMSS,** a doctoral candidate at the School of Nursing, was appointed by Maryland Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich to a 22-member task force to study the Electronic Health Record (EHR) in Maryland and the current and potential expansion of the EHR in the state.

### 1990s

**Capt. Catherine Wilson, MS '90, RN,** assumed command (CEO) of the U.S. Military Hospital Kuwait and nine Troop Medical Clinics throughout the country last November. Her staff, comprised of health care professionals for 22 different military commands, provided health care to our fighting forces, regardless of Service affiliation. This year, Capt. Wilson assumed command of Naval Hospital Bremerton, a family practice teaching hospital located in Washington State.

**Rear Admiral Carol Romano, PhD '93, MS '85, BSN '77, RN, BC, CNAA, FAAN,** Chief Nurse Officer, U.S. Public Health Service, has been named an "Illustrious Alumni" of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), and will be honored at the UMB Founder's Week Gala being held Oct. 26, 2006, in Baltimore. Winners were chosen based on their impact on society, the profession or the school; their service as role models for students or others in the profession; and demonstrated leadership on behalf of UMB.

**Helen Scannell Thomas, MS '93,** has been appointed director of the Lillian D. Wald Community Nursing Center of the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing (JHUSON), located in East Baltimore. In this role, Thomas will lead JHUSON faculty and staff efforts to address health disparities by delivering free and reduced cost services to uninsured and underinsured families in the East Baltimore Community.

**Rebecca Wiseman, PhD '93, RN,** an assistant professor in the School of Nursing's Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, will receive the University of Maryland, Baltimore's (UMB) 2006 Public Service Award at the UMB Founder's Week Gala being held October 26, 2006, in Baltimore. Wiseman will be recognized for her service to the state of Maryland as director of the Governor's Wellmobile program, a program that provides primary care services to underserved and uninsured citizens of Maryland.

**Kristin K. Tepas, BSN '95, RN,** is currently working at Merit Medical in Atlanta as a clinical specialist for the southeast region. In this position, Tepas conducts hospital in-services, device trials, and product evaluations. She formerly worked as an RN in a neonatal intensive care unit, as a professional health care recruiter, and as a clinical research coordinator in cardiology.

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**Lt. Col. Susan Jano, MS '96, RN**, has returned to the United States after working as Chief Nursing Officer on the night shift at the Air Force Theater Hospital (AFTH) in Balad, Iraq. In this role, she provided direct nursing care to both American and Iraqi patients, supervised more than 30 nursing personnel, assisted with the coordination of aeromedical evacuation missions, and served as senior officer on duty. She is currently stationed at Vandenberg Air Force Base in Lompoc, Calif., where she commands and leads 110 health care personnel assigned to the Air Force clinic. She is dual certified by the ANCC in Advanced Nursing Administration and Medical Surgical Nursing. She was named the 2005 Air Force Field Grade Nurse of the Year for her accomplishments as Nurse Manager of a 36-bed Inpatient Medical Unit at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, Texas.

**Barbara Resnick, PhD '96, RN, CRNP, FAAN, FAANP**, a professor in the School of Nursing's Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health, has been named a Fellow in the Gerontological Society of America. Fellows are recognized by their peers for outstanding contributions to the field of gerontology.

**Cecil King, MS '98, BSN '95, RN, CNOR**, was the recipient of the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses' 2006 Outstanding Achievement in Perioperative Academic Nursing Education Award. The award was presented at the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) Congress Awards Dinner, held last spring in Washington, D.C.

**Joan Kramer, PhD '98, MS '78, RN**, and **Susan Crocetti, BSN '83, RN, CPHQ**, of the Johns Hopkins Community Physicians, submitted a winning entry for the Eighth Annual Cheers Award given by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices. The award is presented annually to individuals and organizations that "have set a superlative standard of excellence for others to follow in the prevention of medication errors and adverse drug events."

**Terry Tucker, MS '94, BSN '81, RN**, received the 2006 Professional Nurse Award for Clinical Excellence from NOVA, the national professional organization of VA nurses. The award was presented at the 26th Annual Meeting held in Miami. Tucker currently works as a critical care nurse specialist at the Baltimore VA Hospital.

## 2000s

**Lynda Artusio, MS, '01, BSN '92, RN, CS-P**, owner of Healing Connections Counseling Center in Frederick, Md., received a grant from the Frederick Small Business Development Council to provide a logo, brochures, business cards, and Web site for her business ([www.healingandtherapy.com](http://www.healingandtherapy.com)), which provides individual, family, and couples counseling services.

**Kara Lauze Plummer, MS '02, RN**, was pictured in an article, "eICU Support Center Opens," which appeared in the June 26-July 3, 2006 edition of UMass Memorial Hospital's weekly newsletter, *News & Views*. Plummer, a nurse practitioner critical care specialist is involved in a project at UMass Memorial to deliver ICU care via telemedicine.

**Leslie Greenberg, MS '04, RN**, received a Women's Research and Education Institute Congressional Fellowship for 2006, and is working with the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and the Retirement, Security, and Aging Subcommittee staff in the office of Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD). Greenberg is a graduate of the School of Nursing's Health Policy program.

**John Roemer, BSN '04, RN**, has joined MedStar Research at Harbor Hospital in Baltimore as Clinical Research Coordinator for the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging.

**Mona Choi, PhD '06, RN**, was accepted into the Centers for Disease Control's Public Health Informatics Fellowship Program for the Class of 2006-2008. She will be working at the National Center for Public Health Informatics, Division of Alliance Management and Consultation in Atlanta.

## Reception Held for Shady Grove Alumni



*Left to right - Kathie Dever, academic coordinator at Shady Grove, poses with Tammy Bobo, MS '05; Alex Ngati, MS '05, BSN '03; and Jana Goodwin, MS, RN, ANPC, a clinical instructor at Shady Grove.*

Shady Grove nursing alumni were acknowledged at a reception held last spring at the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) in Rockville, Md. Nearly 50 people attended the inaugural event, designed to bring USG alumni together and keep them apprised on the latest happenings at the School of Nursing. Attendees included Dean Janet Allan; Stu Edelstein, executive director, USG; Kathryn Montgomery, PhD '97, RN, associate dean for Organizational Partnerships, Outreach, and Clinical Enterprise; Karen Clark, PhD, RN, director of the USG nursing program; Samantha Davis, director of alumni

relations and annual support; Alan Silverstone, a member of the School of Nursing's Board of Visitors, and a number of current and former USG faculty and staff. Prior to the reception, Dean Allan met with current USG nursing students.

"The first USG alumni reception was a wonderful beginning," says Samantha Davis, director of alumni relations and annual support. "We hope to build upon this year's success and make this annual event even more successful in the future."

## School of Nursing Alumna Celebrates 100th Birthday



*Myrna Petersen, director of development, presents Edith Miller with a School of Nursing poster, as fellow School of Nursing alumnae gather to participate in the surprise.*

**Edith (Hall) Miller, DIN '28**, sparkled in her purple beaded top and "jeweled" tiara as she celebrated her 100th birthday on July 8 at Carroll Lutheran Village in Westminster, Md. Miller's grandson Daniel Miller, and his wife Tracey, hosted the party for the School of Nursing's oldest living alumna. Guests included family members, friends, and School of Nursing alumnae Betty Cooper, '48 and '61; Jayne Johnson, '47; Janet Hall, '61; Theresa Maskell, '50; Lenora McKenzie, '45; Lorraine Neel, '41; and Eleanor Wells, '46. Myrna Petersen, director of development at the School of Nursing, presented Miller with mementos from the School and introduced alumnae who were in attendance. Alumnae remember Miller as a perceptive and understanding instructor in the hospital when they were students. They said she was always "calm and collected." Maybe that's the secret for living 100 years!

# Class of 1956 are Newest Members of Heritage Class



*The Class of 1956.*

***Nearly 100 faculty, staff, and alumni helped kick-off the 2006 Alumni Heritage Celebration at an all-class reception held Friday, May 5, at the B&O Railroad Museum. Guests enjoyed an evening of dining, dancing, reminiscing, and touring the historic railroad car exhibits.***

The following day, 37 members of the Class of 1956 were inducted into the Heritage Class – a special honor for those who graduated 50 or more years ago – at a ceremony held at the School of Nursing. The School of Nursing is very proud of the accomplishments of the Class of '56, many of whom went on to receive master's and doctoral degrees. Many have had long and distinguished careers in the health care professions, and some have served as school of nursing deans and professors. Other celebrating classes were well represented at the reunion, including the Classes of 1951, '61, '66, and '71.

During the ceremony, Patricia Gonce Morton, PhD '89, MS '79, CRNP, FAAN, professor and interim associate dean for academic affairs, delivered welcoming remarks on behalf of Dean Janet Allan, and also provided an update on

School of Nursing news. Rebecca Wiseman, PhD '93, RN, assistant professor and director of the Governor's Wellmobile program, gave a presentation on the School of Nursing's response to Hurricane Katrina.

Following a luncheon, attendees toured the School's Nursing Museum, clinical simulation labs, the Wellmobile, and the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center.

Mark your calendars now for the 2007 Alumni Heritage Reunion Celebration weekend, scheduled for June 1 and 2, 2007, when the Class of 1957 will be inducted into the Heritage Class, and all classes ending in "2" or "7" will be honored. All alumni are encouraged to attend and join in the fun.

Anyone interested in helping with the event should contact Samantha Davis, director of alumni relations and annual support, 410-706-0674, or e-mail: [ssdavis@son.umaryland.edu](mailto:ssdavis@son.umaryland.edu).



# In Memoriam

Naomi White, DIN '27  
 Oscie Crosland, DIN '30  
 Pauline Oyeman, DIN '34  
 Mary Kluka Gormally, DIN '37  
 Catherine E. Tochtermann, DIN '37  
 Lois Hundertmark, DIN '38  
 Dorothy Walker, DIN '39  
 Charlotte Franz, DIN '41  
 Etta Mae Robertson, DIN '41  
 Doris Heaven, DIN '42  
 LTC Eleanor Gordner, DIN '43  
 Mariam Hutchins Stier, DIN '43  
 Shirley Milke, DIN '45  
 Mabel S. Leidig DIN '47

Minnie Sunderland, DIN '47  
 F. Margaret Fitzgerald, DIN '48  
 Jean G. Costello, DIN '50  
 Betty Watts Kelleher, DIN '50  
 Maxine M. Russell, DIN '51  
 Alice S. Weber, DIN '53  
 Stephani Al-Sarraf, BSN '56  
 Ruth E. Bytheway, BSN '58  
 Sr. St. Urban Auer, MS '58  
 Wilda V. Kaufman, BSN '60  
 Edith M. Tetlock, MS '60  
 Rosa J. Ramirez, BSN '62  
 Josephine V. Miles, BSN '66  
 Laurie Buhler, BSN '70

Patricia Chadwick, MS '72  
 Ida R. Fitzberger, BSN '73  
 Suzanne M. Diffley, BSN '74  
 Sandra A. Johnson, BSN '74  
 Sarah K. Welch, BSN '74  
 Stephanie Pinney, BSN '75  
 Alice W. Haak, BSN '76, MS '78  
 CAPT Patricia Hornback, BSN '76  
 Priscilla J. Roessler, MS '76  
 CMDR Ann M. Sullivan, BSN '85  
 Gloria A. Taylor, BSN '85  
 Mary J. Stitcher, BSN '91  
 Jill E. Mierau, MS '01  
 Wendy S. Luttrell, BSN '02, MS '05  
 Ann E. Metz, BSN '03

## Petersen Named Director

### of Development



*Myrna J. Petersen*

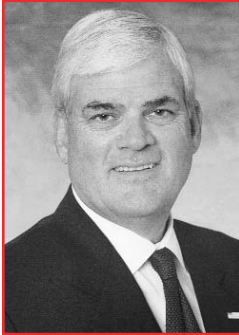
*Dean Janet Allan recently named Myrna Petersen as the School of Nursing's new Director of Development. Petersen has been a fundraising professional in the health and higher education arenas for 20 years, including five years at the University of Maryland School of Nursing, where she served as director of corporation and foundation relations. She has attained*

*major funding at the local, national, and international levels on behalf of the Benjamin Rose Institute, Case Western Reserve University Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, and the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. Her service experience includes the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing Foundation and the American College of Nurse-Midwifery Foundation, as well as cultural and community volunteer activities. Petersen is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals, and is active with the Nursing Advancement Professionals of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. She holds a BA from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.*

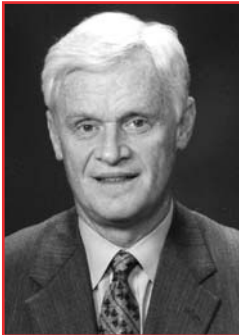
"Myrna Petersen brings a wealth of experience and a strong commitment to excellence to this position," says Dean Janet Allan. "She will provide leadership and expertise for our Board of Visitors as we move into the School's 2006-2009 Strategic Plan and begin to develop our capital campaign."

# Board of Visitors

## Welcomes New Members



**Steven S. Cohen**, chair of the School of Nursing's Board of Visitors, recently announced the addition of four new members to the Board.



**Scott Corbett** is a Senior Vice President with Sodexo Health Care, a hospitality services company providing contract management for Food and Nutrition, Plant Operations and Maintenance and Housekeeping. Mr. Corbett has 34 years experience as a manager and is responsible for operations and sales in the Mid-Atlantic area.



**Victoria McAndrews** is co-founder, senior vice-president, and chief financial officer of CMD Outsourcing Solutions, Inc., a privately owned, Baltimore-based call center that focuses on health care, higher education, and business-to-business services. In her role as CFO, McAndrews is responsible for the financial and risk management of the company. As a company co-founder, she is actively involved in strategy setting and development of key business relationships for the company. McAndrews holds a BA from Harvard University.



As Vice President for Development at the Baltimore Washington Medical Center (BWMC), **Beth Peters** has administrative oversight of fundraising efforts for the BWMC and the BWMC Foundation. In this role, she leads capital campaigns; plans and implements the major gift program, annual giving, and special events fundraising; and directs community cultivation activities and volunteers. Peters, who has 18 years experience as a development professional for non-profit organizations, holds a BA from the University of Maryland, College Park, and an MBA from Loyola College of Maryland.



**Deborah Tillett**, a technology industry veteran, is president of BreakAway, Ltd., a leader in modeling and simulation software used for developing computer games, training, and analytical tools. Under her leadership, BreakAway has grown, in the past five years, from a few game developers in Hunt Valley, Md., to a staff of 88 with two studios in Texas. Her efforts have resulted in company revenue growth of more than 250 percent over the past two years. Tillett holds a BA from Towson University and an MBA from Loyola College's Sellinger School of Business.

"We are excited about adding these new members to our Board, and we welcome them," says Board Chair Steven S. Cohen. "As the School of Nursing moves forward with its 2006-2009 Strategic Plan, our new members and the entire Board will be working on several projects to support the strategic goals and initiatives."

# Board of Visitors

*The School of Nursing's Board of Visitors consists of dynamic and active individuals whose contributions of time, knowledge, and funds serve as a cornerstone for sustaining excellence in undergraduate and graduate nursing education. At the invitation of the Dean, Board members serve in an advisory role, communicate the School's messages to the greater Baltimore business and professional community, and partner with the School in strategic fundraising initiatives.*

## Steven S. Cohen

Chairman, Board of Visitors  
Senior Vice President  
Integrated Operations,  
MedStar Health

## Eric R. Baugh

Senior Vice President of Medical  
Affairs and Chief Medical Officer  
CareFirst Blue Cross Blue Shield

## Scott Corbett

Senior Vice President  
Sodexo Healthcare Services

## Debra B. Doyle

Senior Operations Executive  
Erickson Retirement  
Communities

## Antonella Favit-Van Pelt

Medical Director  
Department of Clinical  
Pharmacology and  
Experimental Medicine  
Guilford Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

## Jack Gilden

President  
Gilden Integrated

## Sonya Gershowitz Goodman '73

Frances Lessans '80, '85  
President  
Passport Health

## Victoria C. McAndrews

Co-Founder, Senior Vice President,  
and CFO  
CMB Outsourcing Solutions

## Katherine McCullough '79

Senior Vice President for  
Patient Care Services  
University of Maryland  
Medical System

## David S. Oros

Chairman and CEO  
Aether Holdings, Inc.

## Marian Osterweis

Executive Vice President  
Director, Division of  
Global Health  
The Association of Academic  
Health Care Centers

## Beth A. Peters

Vice President for Development  
Baltimore-Washington  
Medical Center

## Judy Akila Reitz

Executive Vice President  
and COO  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital

## Caleb Rogovin '92

Assistant Director, Nurse  
Anesthetist Program  
University of Maryland School  
of Nursing  
President, Alumni Council

## Alan Silverstone

Independent Consultant

## Julia Ann Smith

Principal  
JAS Financial, LLC

## Deborah Tillett

President  
BreakAway, Ltd.

## William A. Zellmer

Deputy Executive Vice President  
American Society of Health  
System Pharmacists

# School of Nursing Marketplace

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 spirit wear, jewelry, tote bags, note cards, and more, are available for purchase. Proceeds benefit the School's Living History Museum and the Alumni Association.



## Shirts

Golf Shirt (pink, light blue, maize, navy blue and hunter green; Sizes M-XL)	\$30
Long Sleeve T-Shirt (Red, white; Sizes M, L, XL)	\$15
Short Sleeve T-Shirt (Red, white; Sizes M, L, XL)	\$10
Sweatshirt (Gray or red; Sizes M, L, XL)	\$20



## Hats:

Baseball Cap (Navy blue, maroon)	\$15
Visor (Maroon)	\$ 9

## Umbrellas:

Golf Umbrella (Red/white, black/gold)	\$25
Tote Umbrella (Red, black)	\$15



## Carrying Items:

Lunch Sack (Red)	\$ 7
Tote Bag (Red/Black)	\$10

## Mugs:

Travel Mug (red)	\$13
Ceramic Mug (Red, white)	\$ 7



## Clocks:

Flip Clock	\$15
Photo Frame Clock	\$15

## Disc Charms:

14K Gold	\$260	Gold Overlay	\$45
10K Gold	\$210	Sterling Silver	\$35

## Wooden Building Replicas:

Davidge Hall	Parsons Hall	\$15 ea.
1970 School of Nursing	1999 School of Nursing	



Alumni Key Ring (Gold and black metal)	\$ 8
License Plate Holder	\$15
Journal	\$10
Calculator	\$15
School of Nursing Poster (18"x24")	\$15
Nursing Nostalgia Note Cards (12 per pack)	\$10
School of Nursing Note Cards (10 per pack)	\$15

Item	Quantity	Price Per Item	Total
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

+ \$5 shipping/handling per order

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail order form with payment to: **Office of Development**

**University of Maryland School of Nursing, 655 West Lombard Street, Room 727, Baltimore, MD 21201-1579**

(Make checks payable to: University of Maryland School of Nursing) **Questions? Call 410-706-7640.**



## WHERE THERE'S A WILL...

...There's a way to sustain  
the mission of the  
University of Maryland School of Nursing.

### Have you already remembered the School of Nursing in your estate plan?

Please be sure to let us know so  
we may extend our thanks to you  
through membership in the  
**LEGACY COUNCIL**.

Interested in exploring possibilities?  
Give us a call. Together we can help  
you and your attorney tailor a  
bequest strategy that is the right  
size for you regardless of your budg-  
et – or, select an annuity or trust  
that will provide you with income  
for life.

We look forward to meeting you  
and introducing you to members of  
the University of Maryland,  
Baltimore Office of Planned Giving.  
Each of your questions is important.  
You will have all the time you need  
to come to a decision that makes  
you feel comfortable and satisfied.

### If you do not have a will,

you are not alone. Among  
persons age 35-44, 59 percent have  
no will. For your own peace of  
mind, and for the sake of those you  
love, we encourage you to seek the  
advice of an attorney now, and cre-  
ate a plan that is right for you and  
your family.

Should you also choose the option  
of including a bequest to the School  
in your will, it is a painless way to  
contribute without touching cash  
that is critical to your wellbeing. A  
bequest is a thoughtful way to give,  
and a vital source of support for our  
institution and its mission.

As one donor said, "Putting the  
School of Nursing in your will is a  
way to make something out of  
nothing, and is such an easy way to,  
'give back'." You can do it!

*All gifts and bequests to benefit the School of Nursing should be made to the **University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation, Inc.** (UMBF) a 501 (c)(3) organization that holds and administers funds on behalf of the schools on our campus.*

#### CONTACTS:

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Senior Director of Planned Giving  
**UNIVERSITY OF MARY-  
LAND BALTIMORE  
Office of Planned Giving**  
410-706-2069  
Toll free 1-877-706-4406  
Clamb001@umaryland.edu  
www.umaryland.edu/plannedgiving



# Mark Your Calendar

## Edmunds Lecture

Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2006  
4 to 5:30 p.m.; reception following lecture  
Featuring Sandy Summers, MSN, MPH, RN  
Executive Director, Center for Nursing Advocacy  
For information, call 410-706-1838 or  
[www.nursing.umaryland.edu/events](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/events)

## Virginia Lee Franklin Dean's Lecture

Thursday, Nov. 1, 2006  
For information, call 410-706-3767 or  
visit [www.nursing.umaryland.edu/events](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/events)

## Ann Ottney Cain Lecture in Psychiatric Nursing

Friday, March 30, 2007  
For information, call 410-706-3767 or  
visit [www.nursing.umaryland.edu/events](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/events)

## Evidence-Based Practice Conference

Thursday and Friday, April 19 and 20, 2007  
For information, call 410-706-3767 or  
visit [www.nursing.umaryland.edu/events](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/events)

## Alumni Trip to London (see p. 32)

April 21-28, 2007  
For information, call 410-706-0674 or  
visit [www.nursing.umaryland.edu/development/alumni](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/development/alumni)

## Alumni Heritage Celebration

Friday and Saturday, June 1 and 2, 2007  
For information, call 410-706-0674 or  
visit [www.nursing.umaryland.edu/alumni](http://www.nursing.umaryland.edu/alumni)

## Convocation

Friday, May 18, 2007  
9:30 a.m.  
Baltimore Convention Center

## Commencement

Friday, May 18, 2007  
3 p.m.  
First Mariner Arena

## Summer Institute in Nursing Informatics

Wednesday, July 18 – Saturday, July 21, 2007  
For information, call 410-706-3767 or  
Visit [www.nursing.umaryland.nursing/informatics](http://www.nursing.umaryland.nursing/informatics)



## UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF NURSING

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