

VILLANOVA NURSING

SPRING 2012

ADULT LEARNERS

Bringing Unique
Backgrounds to Nursing



Honors for Three Notable Nurses



Two distinguished alumnae will receive the College of Nursing Medallion, the College's highest award, while another receives a newly established honor at the 23rd Annual Mass and Alumni Awards Ceremony. It will take place on April 14 in the St. Thomas of Villanova Church.

- **Medallion for Distinguished Contributions to Clinical Practice:** **Susan Fretz Paparella '86 B.S.N., '02 M.S.N., R.N.**, vice president, Institute of Safe Medication Practices, Horsham, Pa., and adjunct assistant professor at Temple University School of Pharmacy, Philadelphia
- **Medallion for Distinguished Contributions to Nursing Education:** **Susan Warner Salmond '73 B.S.N., Ed.D., R.N., CNE, CTN**, dean, School of Nursing, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark, N.J.
- **Emerging Scholar Award:** **Bridgette Carter Brawner '03 B.S.N., Ph.D., APRN**, Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for Health Equity Research, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, Philadelphia

For more about the event, visit www.villanova.edu/nursing.

Mark your calendar!

April 14: 23rd Annual Mass and Alumni Awards Ceremony

April 26: Undergraduate Scholars Day

May 19: College of Nursing Convocation/Baccalaureate Mass

May 20: Commencement

June 9: Continuing Education: NLN preparation course for Certification as a Nurse Educator (CNE) Exam

June 7-10: Alumni Reunion Weekend

Friday:

- "Epidemics, Pandemics and the Common Cold" *Kimberly Connolly, M.P.H., B.S.N., R.N., director, Center for Global and Public Health and clinical assistant professor of Nursing*

- "Sizzling Summer Appetizers," a healthful cooking demonstration *Denice Ferko-Adams, M.P.H., R.D., LDN, director of the MacDonald Center for Obesity*

Prevention and Education

Saturday:

- Chat with the Dean
- Clinical Simulation Demonstration, Driscoll Hall

October 25-28: Continuing Education: "Nurse Educators: On a Journey of Excellence," the 39th Annual National Conference on Professional Nursing Education and Development, in cooperation with the Professional Nurse Educators Group (PNEG), Philadelphia

November 13: 34th Annual Distinguished Lecture in Nursing *Michael R. Bleich, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, the Dr. Carol A. Lindeman Distinguished Professor, School of Nursing, Oregon Health & Science University, Portland campus*

For the full Continuing Education listing, visit www.villanova.edu/nursing/ce.

VILLANOVA NURSING

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On the cover: Photograph of John Barrow, a junior, and the photos of the three students on pages 2-3 by Paola Nogueras

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Dear Alumni and Friends of the College of Nursing:

Change, diversity and innovation are the “buzz words” of the day. Although they communicate the climate that pervades most spheres of American life, it is important to look behind the words to determine what they mean for the systems in which we operate. For the College of Nursing, those primary systems are health care and higher education. Health care is increasingly complex and is changing in its modes of delivery and in response to the need to accommodate a larger number of aged individuals. The landscape of higher education is also changing. The demographics of the current student population reflect an increase in adults. Health care and higher education require greater interdisciplinary and interprofessional learning opportunities and collaboration. The impact of the economy and technology figures significantly in the preparation of health-care professionals who are to address the need for health maintenance, restoration and health promotion of diverse individuals and communities. Among the most challenging issues are patient safety, accessibility and affordability of health care and education. Other challenges include the transition of traditional models of health-care delivery to more community and client-based settings, and the evolving role of professional nurses as primary health-care providers.

It would be easy for our College of Nursing to continue to do what historically it has done well in the preparation of undergraduate and graduate nurses. However, we face imperatives that require movement in new ways, while maintaining the excellence of our traditional programs. A major study conducted by the Institute of Medicine in cooperation with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation sets forth goals and recommendations that provide direction for nursing’s future. For the College of Nursing, this translates into curriculum development and changes that prepare nurses for greater leadership and collaboration on interprofessional teams and for participating in designing and implementing new models of delivering health care in community-based settings to an ever-growing diverse and older, chronically ill adult population. It also demands our ability to meet the educational needs of growing numbers of adult students, some of whom are nurses pursuing advanced education and others who are choosing nursing as a second career preparation after graduation from college with majors in fields as diverse as music, biology, history, psychology and political science. Our adult students bring greater gender diversity to what has been a primarily female student population, as well as greater ethnic and racial diversity. Application of principles of adult learning and development of strategies to catalyze the rich experiential base that these students bring to the educational experience as they move through an accelerated major in nursing are among the many challenges that our talented faculty must address.

In addition to refreshing our traditional undergraduate and master’s programs, we continue to refine our Ph.D. Program so that its graduates can meet the future demands of teaching and



research in institutions of higher education. Primary among our efforts is the launching of our new Doctor of Nursing Practice Program, designed for master’s-prepared advanced practice nurses: nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, clinical specialists and midwives who have a primary commitment to clinical practice. Through the D.N.P. Program, these nurses will be equipped to participate in the development of new systems of delivering care, will be facile with health policy and financing, will provide leadership as primary care providers and may participate in the clinical education of students. The D.N.P. Program, which will open in June, is another new initiative that reflects our response to the need for change, innovation and preparation of nurses for the future.

In an atmosphere of change, we are mindful that not all change is progress. We need to maintain our perspective and be clear about what warrants changing. In all we do to educate nurses for the future, our fundamental and guiding principles must remain the qualitative and affective dimensions of patient care. Our philosophy of faith-based care, ethical practice with emphasis on the dignity and value of each person, family and community, will be reaffirmed. The mission of nurses to humanize a complex and often impersonal health-care environment for their patients remains central to our educational efforts. In the College of Nursing, relevant change abounds, and is demonstrated in our movement forward. Commitment to our core Augustinian values remains the touchstone for all we do as we embrace positive change and advance the College and its programs.

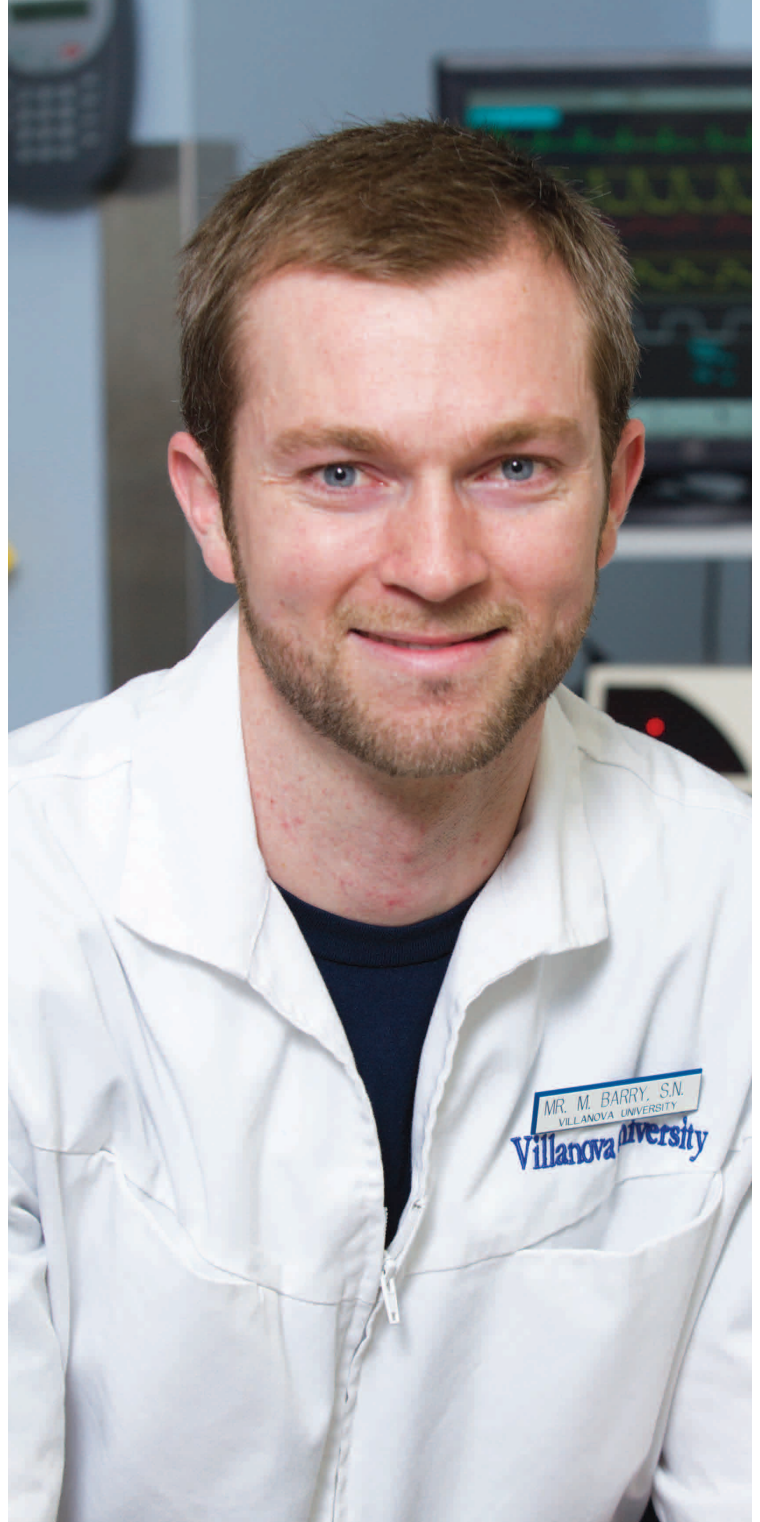
As always, your interest in the College of Nursing and your support of the College and its students are greatly appreciated. Our ability to maintain the stellar reputation that our alumni have created through their career performance as Villanova nurses fuels our efforts. We thank you.

M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN
Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor

ADULT LEARNERS

Bringing Unique Backgrounds to Nursing





(Clockwise) In their former lives, Chuck Rowland '07 B.S.N., '10 M.S.N., CRNP was a perfusionist; Michael Barry '07 A&S volunteered with the Augustinians in South Africa; Shannon O'Connor assisted at a therapeutic riding center; and Erica Hill handled security assignments in the U.S. Army. John Barrow (on the cover), a Navy seaman, is now charting a new course in nursing.

Highly motivated adults with college degrees in other fields are coming to the College to earn a second degree in nursing. In taking a calculated risk, they are becoming a valuable resource for the profession.

Educators appreciate a motivated learner, and motivation defines adult learners. Ever since its founding in 1953, the College of Nursing has welcomed adults into its undergraduate program. Each one brings a wealth of life experience and a determination to make a successful career shift. While these older students are benefiting from their studies, they in turn infuse the teaching-learning environment with their life experiences.

“They are experiential learners,” sums up Lynore DeSilets, Ed.D., RN-BC, assistant professor of Nursing, assistant dean and director of the Continuing Education in Health Care Program. She has been teaching and designing courses for adults for more than 30 years. These students “make connections between past experiences and their nursing education,” Dr. DeSilets observes.

Many of the College’s adult learners are in the accelerated second-degree program to earn the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree. This B.S.N. program is designed for adults who have previously earned an undergraduate degree in another field. They often have intriguing former lives: an actor in an Ecuadorian soap opera, a mountain climber, a doctorally-prepared physiologist, entrepreneurs, international volunteers, attorneys and biologists. They hold degrees in a variety of majors, such as business management, economics, French, biochemistry and Chinese history. They are graduates of an array of colleges and universities, including Villanova University, the University of Pennsylvania, Yale, Columbia, Cornell, New York University, Purdue and the University of California, San Diego. On these pages, we feature four adults from the accelerated program and one who is earning a traditional B.S.N.

Their widely varying backgrounds and previous careers demand different kinds of teaching strategies. The life experience of these adult learners becomes a valuable resource to enhance learning—for themselves, for faculty and for other students.

Adults pursuing education for a new career are especially motivated because they have made a deliberate choice, years after their first college commencement. In the midst of the rest of their lives—marriage, children, demanding commitments—they are taking calculated risks that involve personal and financial investment.

Maryanne Lieb ’84 M.S.N., R.N., clinical assistant professor of Nursing and coordinator of Second Degree Options, truly enjoys working with adult learners, which she began to do in 1986 before arriving at Villanova as a faculty member. Among these students who have carefully chosen to shift into a new field she consistently sees “a passion for nursing and a commendable work ethic.”

Lieb admires the experience adult students bring, and along with it, a mature outlook on higher education. “It changes my role,” she explains. “I become a facilitator, a collaborator, and learn much from them.” Adult students have high expectations of themselves and the faculty, even though they may need to build confidence as they learn in a new field. Some have been out of school for quite a while. They are attempting to balance their

education with life obligations and need to manage time properly. Committing to beginning a career in a new discipline is a challenge and speaks to their willingness to take risks.

The College’s faculty members encourage these students to integrate their past experience into the education environment. This begins from day one, when these new students meet current student mentors with a similar background. On the first day of the semester, the accelerated degree students introduce themselves to the class and tell their stories, including the reason they chose nursing. In a presentation early on, they showcase their past experiences and relate them to the profession.

The College’s adult students have a broader context in which they can incorporate new ideas and build new connections to shape a deeper understanding. They are exemplary learners who evaluate the validity of new ideas. Faculty must be sensitive to the principles of adult learning when teaching this group of students. The accelerated students prefer interactive techniques, such as case studies and discussion.

As students and new professionals, adult learners weave their distinct perspectives—gleaned from their diverse experiences—into their classroom and clinical courses. With adult learners being added to the nursing workforce, Lieb says she is secure about the future of the profession: “They are intelligent and mature and can make important contributions to nursing.”

CHUCK ROWLAND

From Advanced Technology to Advanced Practice

For 24 years, Chuck Rowland, CCP operated a heart-lung machine during cardiac surgeries. As a certified clinical perfusionist, he sustained more than 2,000 lives. He worked in operating rooms in many places—Arkansas, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Florida and New Jersey. But he wanted to become a nurse to have a more direct role in patient care. In mid-career, he decided to make that change.

In 2006, having already earned a bachelor’s degree in zoology at the University of Arkansas and an associate’s degree in extracorporeal technology at SUNY Upstate Medical Center, Rowland took the first step to launch his new career. At the age of 49, he enrolled in the College of Nursing’s accelerated second degree program to earn his B.S.N. That led to his becoming Chuck Rowland ’07 B.S.N., ’10 M.S.N., CRNP.

“As an adult, I was extremely motivated to excel in a second career educational experience,” Rowland recalls. “As an ‘older’ adult student, I was even more motivated.” Ultimately he continued on at the College to earn his master’s degree, preparing as an advanced practice nurse. He is now an adult nurse practitioner in outpatient cardiothoracic surgery at Thomas Jefferson University Physicians in Philadelphia.

Rowland sees the value of adult learners for the future. “The opportunities afforded by an adult learning experience in nursing are boundless,” he notes. “The educational experience, with years or even decades of life knowledge, allows one to focus on making the most of each interaction with professors, fellow students, clinical mentors and patients.”

Constantly seeking opportunities to contribute, Rowland is circling back to promoting health in the cardiac care arena. He recently completed a certificate course in smoking cessation and hopes in the near future to counsel clinic patients. In earning his M.S.N. at the College, he recalls that “As a graduate assistant, I had the pleasure of working with second degree students. I was so inspired by their accomplishments prior to coming to Villanova.” He continues to be impressed with the quality of the College’s adult students. “Each graduating class,” he notes, “is a unique contribution to the nursing profession.”

MICHAEL BARRY

Committed to Care Globally

Hailing from Davidson, N.C., Michael Barry '07 A&S is used to being far from home. After graduating from Villanova University, he devoted the year 2008 to being an Augustinian volunteer in Durban, South Africa. Barry taught at a primary school and worked at a boys' home and with an HIV/AIDS respite unit, where he was inspired by the compassion and unconditional love of the unit's caregivers. His support role there brought him a sense of fulfillment.

Barry credits volunteering, plus internships and a variety of job experiences, for giving him the clarity and the strong sense of purpose he needed to choose nursing as his new career path. Reinforcing Barry's decision to become a nurse was his desire for a challenging and multi-faceted career, one that is constantly evolving and enables him directly to improve the lives of others. He notes “I'm using my experiences from abroad to shape my education and path in nursing. When you have such diversity in backgrounds and insight, from international volunteers to business professionals, everyone benefits.”

Having earned his bachelor's degree in geography with an environmental studies concentration at Villanova, Barry knew that when he came back at age 26 he could expect the same, high-quality education he experienced the first time around. He enrolled in May 2011 as a second-degree student in the College of Nursing's accelerated B.S.N. program. Part of the attraction in returning, he notes, was the University's mission and community involvement, which he felt was well reflected in the faculty and the endless opportunities for Nursing students.

Although there is always room for growth, Barry believes that wisdom and maturity are two of the greatest qualities of adult learners. Certain of his decision, he emphasizes that it was not made on a whim—it was a culmination of years of self-discovery, thought and determination to make a difference. Volunteering abroad has enabled him to understand and embrace cross-cultural differences. His career goals are in line with his past experiences: He plans to use his new nursing skills around the world in various capacities, whether in short-term medical relief or long-term public health education.



Experienced in the technology of cardiac surgeries, Chuck Rowland wanted to become involved in direct patient care. At the age of 49, he came to the College of Nursing to earn his B.S.N. (2007), stayed on for his M.S.N. (2010) and is now an adult nurse practitioner.



Volunteering in South Africa for a year was one of the experiences that inspired Michael Barry '07 A&S to enter nursing. As a student in the College's accelerated B.S.N. program, he seeks to gain knowledge and skills to use around the world in providing medical relief or public health education.

ERICA HILL

Military Discipline, Humanitarian Goals

Erica Hill's eyes have seen a lot in short time. The St. Louis native, now 29 years old, was inspired to change careers after watching nurses care for her mother over many years and multiple hospitalizations due to lupus. However, nursing was by no means a direct route. Hill came to it after being a West Point cadet and an Army officer immersed in a world of vehicles, systems engineering and securing supply chains in a combat zone.

As a cadet at the highly selective United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., Hill was on the track team, throwing hammer and weight, while earning her bachelor's degree in political science with a field of study of systems engineering. At graduation in 2006, she was commissioned into the U.S. Army as an ordnance officer, in charge of maintenance soldiers who repair wheeled and track vehicles, aircraft, radios and generators. She has seen duty in California, Korea and Afghanistan.

At her last duty station, in Kabul, Hill served as a security assistance officer, coordinating the delivery of supplies into Afghanistan, as well as training Afghan officers on the supply system. After being involved in the critical moves of medical supplies, weapons, and vehicles needed to sustain the Afghan National Army, as well as the country, she wanted to do more to help people. She researched nursing programs and chose the College of Nursing's accelerated B.S.N. program, since it offered faculty invested in student success, just as she had experienced at West Point.

Transitioning out of the Army and gearing up for an intense nursing program was challenging, but as a seasoned, disciplined



In a depot for wheeled vehicles in Kabul, Afghanistan, as an Army captain Erica Hill ensured that the right vehicles arrived to be distributed to the Afghan National Army. Now enrolled in the College's accelerated B.S.N. program, she aspires to aid developing countries.

student she was able to focus and multitask. Hill feels she brings to nursing "an eagerness to learn. I am a hard worker as well as a team player." She wants to become a nurse practitioner, aiding developing countries.

"As a former Army officer," Hill says, "I bring a different perspective to life, especially after deploying to a combat zone." She is aware of the differences in responsibilities in the Army and in nursing, and finds her new profession fulfilling. Now she provides her family with enjoyable updates. "I love nursing. I call home weekly, and tell my family about what I have learned."

SHANNON O'CONNOR

A Firm Hold on the Reins of Her Future

The intensity of volunteering at a Tennessee therapeutic riding center changed Shannon O'Connor's life goals. For three years, she helped children with cognitive and physical disabilities learn to ride horses. She volunteered there while earning her Bachelor of Animal Science degree with a concentration in horse science from Middle Tennessee State University.

"I was able to see some of the most amazing things," recalls O'Connor. A little girl with cerebral palsy who could not walk later progressed to using a walker. A little boy with autism, previously non-verbal, started talking to his horse and subsequently his instructor and family.

Right after college, she enrolled in the College of Nursing's accelerated B.S.N. program. As an adult student, now 23 years old, O'Connor finds herself more dedicated to her coursework load. "I feel I bring an interesting background to my own learning, comparing the things I learned as an undergrad and the things I am learning now," she says. "I've learned to ask many more questions than I ever did and I have a stronger drive to learn. I'm learning things that I want to learn, which is different from learning things that you just 'need' to learn."

O'Connor wants to integrate her new professional knowledge into her career goal of combining nursing with equine-assisted therapy. With that in mind, she is also becoming certified as an instructor in therapeutic riding. She is not the first Villanova nurse in her family: Her brother, Austin O'Connor '04 B.S.N., is now a pediatric nurse.

JOHN BARROW

Seaman Surfaces into Nursing

Over the past five years in the Navy, John Barrow logged close to half a million miles underwater on classified missions while serving aboard the USS Louisiana, a nuclear powered ballistic missile submarine. He held safety and security positions such as chief of the watch (third in command monitoring the ship), taught fire-fighting at the largest U.S. Navy enlisted school and was a rescue swimmer. But after traveling the country and the deep seas with the Navy, the Chicago native decided it was time to change course.

What a dramatic change it was. Barrow, now 30 years old, had earned a technical degree in applied marine science at Coastline Community College in California and an associate's degree in applied marine science/ship building in Bremerton, Wash. He



The love of horses that guided Shannon O'Connor's undergraduate education and volunteering now leads her into blending nursing with equine-assisted therapy. She is a student in the accelerated B.S.N. program.

had nearly completed a mechanical engineering technology degree with an emphasis in nuclear science. He had joined his sub's emergency medical assistance team. Education and duty are important to him, but he wanted more than the EMT schooling the Navy offered, though he did want to remain in the Navy. So he began to explore other options.

With a cousin in the Navy Nurse Corps and another who is a civilian nurse, Barrow was familiar with the appeal of the profession. He knew that in nursing, he could attain work-life balance, which was important since he and his wife, Adrienne, were starting their family (their son, Jack, will soon be 2 years old). He also knew nursing would allow him to continue to use his leadership skills while fulfilling his desire for an involved role in health care. "Commitment, knowledge and patient interaction encompassed nursing for me," he explains.

Barrow was selected for the Navy's competitive "Seaman to Admiral-21" commissioning program to prepare officers for the 21st century. As an officer candidate, he would have three years to complete his degree, and he knew just where: Villanova University. With his many credits, he needed just one course before becoming a sophomore in the College of Nursing's traditional B.S.N. program.

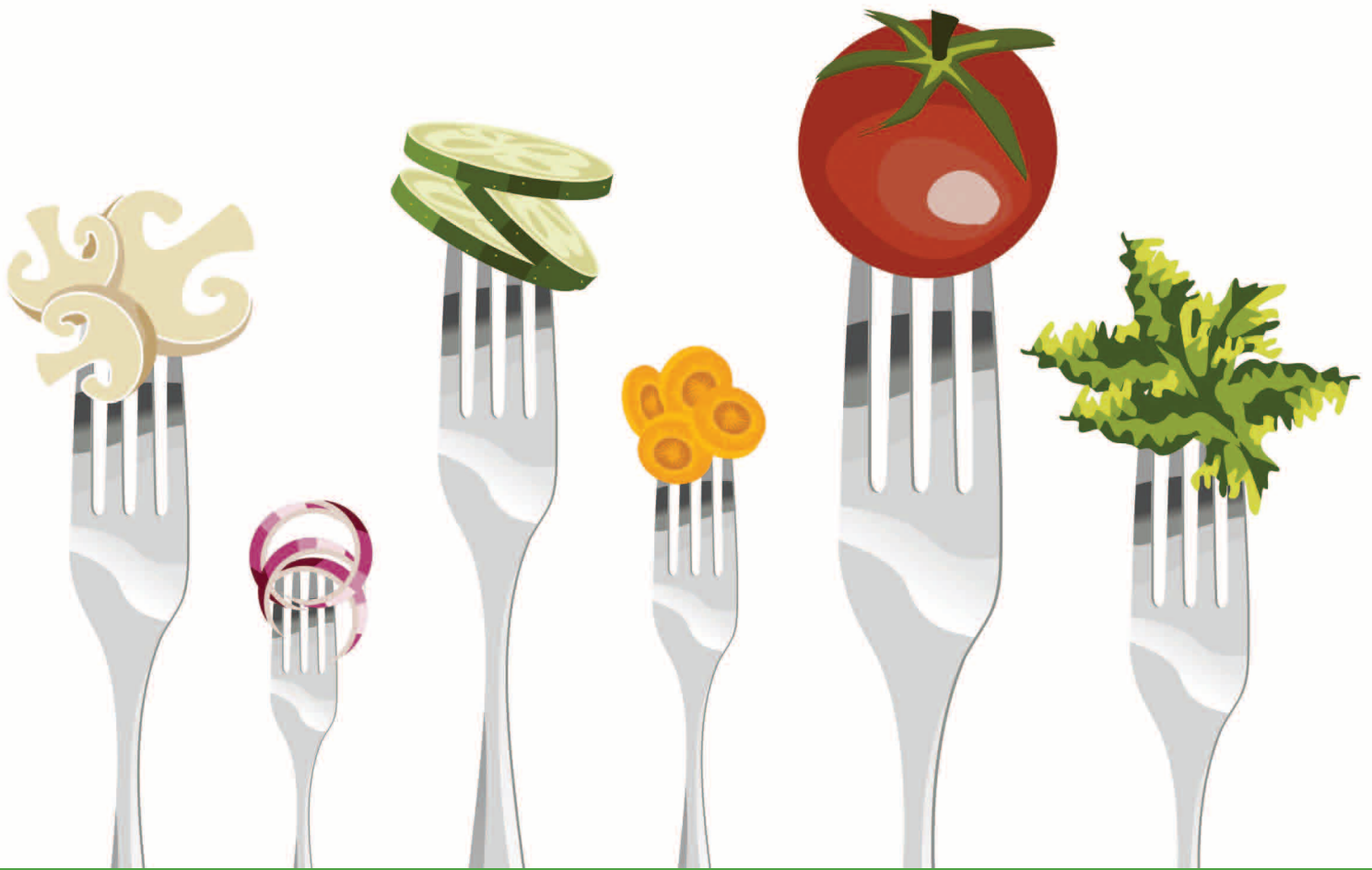
His confidence, plus the leadership skills he gained in the Navy, have helped Barrow as an adult learner. "Most undergraduates are still finding themselves and their voice," he says, "The Navy gave me the opportunity to find that, and now the opportunity to use it."

A junior at the College, Barrow has been making quite an impact. Recognizing that he and Kent Brinks were the only males in their class, the two are collaborating with doctoral student Michael Conti, M.S.N., CRNA to create a Men in Nursing group to foster increasing the number of males in the profession (Conti is coordinating with area colleges to form a Philadelphia consortium with that same goal).



Maintaining a work-life balance influenced John Barrow's decision to become a nurse. He and his wife, Adrienne, have a son, Jack. Barrow, now a junior in the traditional B.S.N. Program, has set his sights on becoming an acute care nurse practitioner and increasing the number of males in the profession.

Additionally Barrow works part-time in the College's clinical labs, is a College ambassador for prospective students and is a nursing assistant on campus at the St. Thomas of Villanova Monastery. "I would like to return to school to become an acute care nurse practitioner," he observes about his future. He plans to serve honorably for 30 years in the Navy and then wants to "be a part of health care in the civilian sector and teach my reliefs [future nurses]." With his drive and dedication to helping others, this will surely be an attainable goal. •



DON'T JUST SAY "LOSE WEIGHT"

To motivate patients, you need to begin the conversation.

"People assume that they will need to lose 20-30 pounds before they see a health improvement. In actuality, losing 10 pounds may decrease blood pressure and lower medication needs."

—Denice Ferko-Adams,
M.P.H., R.D., LDN

An overweight patient delays a visit to his primary care provider because he doesn't want to listen to another person telling him "You need to lose weight" without offering any tangible how to's and referrals. A health-care provider mentions to a young mother that her son's BMI indicates he needs to "just lose weight." In both situations, the vague message "lose weight" has very little impact because it is poorly communicated.

Patient-centeredness is a key characteristic of quality care, as the Institute of Medicine emphasized in its 2001 report "Crossing the Quality Chasm." Respecting a patient's values and needs is integral to patient-centeredness, as is clearly communicating.

When health-care providers invest time in communicating to overweight and obese patients the issues related to obesity, that has a positive influence, studies have shown. It changes their perceptions of the impact that excess weight may have on their health.

Denice Ferko-Adams, M.P.H., R.D., LDN, director of the College of Nursing's MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE), gets specific about the results of such research. She notes, "Overweight and obese patients who were told they were overweight by health-care providers were almost nine times more likely to perceive that weight was damaging to their health

compared to those not told.” Those patients were more likely to take action and aim for a healthy weight.

“People assume that they will need to lose 20-30 pounds before they see a health improvement,” Ferko-Adams points out. “In actuality, losing 10 pounds may decrease blood pressure and lower medication needs.” COPE’s director is known for her expertise and leadership in the 75,000-member American Dietetic Association (now the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics).

The numbers are staggering of those who need to heed that message. Two-thirds of American adults are either overweight or obese, and 17 percent of adolescents and children age 5 and older are overweight. Obese individuals have a significantly increased risk of death from all causes compared with those who maintain a healthy weight. There is also a rise in associated medical co-morbidities, such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Ferko-Adams notes, “With only one-third of Americans being within a normal weight range, it is also possible that the health professional may be overweight or obese and unsure of how to address obesity with his or her patient.” This creates another layer of sensitivity in patient-provider communication.

Once the conversation starts, it should be comprehensive and reflect the patient’s individual needs. Obesity is a complex issue and requires an integrated, multi-disciplinary team approach. “We also know that there are hereditary and environmental issues,” explains Ferko-Adams. To encourage social support networks for a patient, “The health-care provider should consider including other family members in initiating dietary and physical activity changes. In addition, providers should promote community activism among clients by challenging public policies that create environmental barriers, such as lack of safe recreation areas and serving unhealthy foods in schools.”

Ferko-Adams can evangelize about communication because she has seen its benefits firsthand. Before coming to Villanova, she was president of her own consulting company, Wellness Press, and was recognized nationally for her pioneering efforts in worksite wellness. In her dietitian-headed worksite programs, she encouraged participants with diabetes or high blood pressure to let their physician know they were taking part. When the provider was supportive, “the employee would complete the program and succeed,” she recalls. “The first step is that the physician or nurse practitioner needs to bring the topic to the table and help motivate the patient to make lifestyle changes.”

The College established COPE in spring 2011 to address the nation’s obesity epidemic through professional and consumer education and research. The new center serves as a focus for interdisciplinary collaboration in the prevention of obesity. COPE offers health providers the evidence-based tools to help overweight patients initiate change (see sidebar for one example).

COPE continues to grow its endeavors. At the College, COPE is incorporating weight-management scenarios into the state-of-the-art simulation lab so that students can practice clinical and communication skills. With professional organizations, COPE is exploring the idea of providing simulation toolkits and workshops for health-care providers. Plans also include monthly seminars on eight related topics for professionals and consumers.

For patients, proactively taking charge of weight and health can also have a positive societal impact, but here, too, communication



Communicating and relaying accurate information to obese and overweight patients is important to help them initiate lifestyle changes, says Denice Ferko-Adams, M.P.H., R.D., LDN, director of the College’s MacDonal Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE).

WHAT YOU SAY MATTERS!

To address the importance of communication in weight management and health promotion, the College of Nursing offered the first annual MacDonal Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE) Conference, “Weight Management: What YOU Say Matters!” It took place March 31 at the Philadelphia Marriott West in West Conshohocken, Pa. A pre-conference afternoon workshop on March 30 addressed “Conversations for Change: Motivational Interviewing in Primary Care.”

This continuing education conference and workshop attracted nurse practitioners, registered nurses, registered dietitians, educators, physicians, physician assistants and fitness professionals. Speakers explored ways to help patients initiate lifestyle changes to improve their weight and health. The sessions featured evidence-based research and practical ideas for communicating with patients of varying age and ethnicity. Topics included:

- the sensitivity of the topic of weight,
- enhancing patient messages,
- ideas for easy communication on weight and risk factors,
- relaying health messages through community partnerships or technology and
- exercise promotion.

is critical. It all starts with a respectful conversation. “Bottom line,” says Ferko-Adams, “is when primary care physicians and nurse practitioners acknowledge the weight problem and start the discussion, that patient is more likely to take positive action. Prevention is still the least costly intervention.”

For more information on the MacDonal Center for Obesity Prevention and Education (COPE), visit www.villanova.edu/cope. •

New D.N.P. Program Addresses Health-care Challenges

Acknowledging the growing demands of the country's complex health-care environment, the Institute of Medicine has emphasized the need to prepare advanced practice nurses to look at the fundamental health-care issues facing health systems and to solve the problems. The College of Nursing's new Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) Program is responding to this call for nurses to transform and lead change in the delivery of health care across the nation. To assure quality patient outcomes, nurses need the highest level of evidence-based, clinical knowledge and practice expertise.

Villanova Nursing's D.N.P. Program is designed exclusively for advanced practice nurses such as nurse practitioners, nurse

anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists and nurse midwives with a terminal practice degree. This practice-focused doctorate will position nurses for leadership roles to improve patient outcomes. An online program, it includes on-campus seminars. The first cohort begins in June.

Each cohort will have a unique theme for its D.N.P. project, a theme that resonates from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice Essentials. This D.N.P. project provides students with an opportunity to identify and improve a health-care issue within their clinical environment, community or health-care system by critically examining evidence-based research during the first semester in June. The knowledge acquired through courses in

leadership, quality improvement and patient safety, and health policy will continue to enhance the D.N.P. project throughout the four semesters. The final project will be a scholarly, publishable manuscript.

Debra Shearer, Ed.D., M.S.N., FNP-BC, director, says she is "proud to lead a D.N.P. Program that offers an educational landscape for advanced practice nurses to implement nursing research into practice. Our graduates will be prepared to influence clinical practice and health-care systems by using evidence-based research to initiate change and improve the quality of health care in this country."

For more information about the curriculum, application process and deadlines, visit villanova.edu/nursing/dnp. •

"Our graduates will be prepared to influence clinical practice and health-care systems by using evidence-based research to initiate change and improve the quality of health care in this country."

—Debra Shearer,
Ed.D., M.S.N., FNP-BC,
director of the
D.N.P. Program



To assure quality patient outcomes, nurses need the highest level of evidence-based, clinical knowledge and practice expertise. The College of Nursing's new Doctor of Nursing Practice Program offers advanced practice nurses a way to address those goals through distance learning and on-campus seminars.

Aligning Public Health and Primary Care Could Be Transformational

A nursing and public health leader passionate about the field of chronic diseases gave the College of Nursing's 33rd Annual Distinguished Lecture in Nursing. Bobbie Berkowitz, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN spoke on "Public Health Nursing: Aligning Public Health and Primary Care to Improve Chronic Disease Outcomes" to a packed Villanova Room in the Connelly Center on November 14, 2011.

In September 2010, Dr. Berkowitz became dean and the Mary O'Neil Mundinger Professor of Nursing at Columbia University's School of Nursing, as well as senior vice president of the Columbia University Medical Center. A renowned

Across the United States, the public health nurse workforce is shrinking.



expert in the field of public health systems and public health equity, she has practiced and conducted research in this field for many years.

Her lecture focused on the importance of creating effective structures and programs to eliminate health disparities and on the societal, economic and professional challenges associated with improving health equity in communities.

Finding answers to these challenges and defining practice agendas for public health could lead to a renaissance, Dr. Berkowitz believes. Aligning work in public health with improving the care provided in primary settings, especially considering the current shortage of primary care clinicians, could make a dramatic impact on chronic disease in this country, she noted.

Dr. Berkowitz made a strong case for this transformation by painting a picture of the country's projected health

status by the middle of this century. The U.S. population is projected to grow by 40 percent to around 400 million. This mid-century population will be an older and more diversified one. Twenty percent will be over 65 years of age; in 2005, it was 12.5 percent. The non-white population will expand to 50 percent, with the largest growth in the Hispanic and Asian populations.

Due to persisting inequities in health status, this demographic shift will have a palpable effect on health care. Across the United States, the public health nurse workforce is shrinking, decreasing the nation's ability to be highly effective in its public health agenda. The Institute of Medicine's (IOM) 2010 report on the "The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health" discussed the impact of nursing's role in chronic disease prevention, since nurses represent the largest segment of the health-care workforce. The IOM called upon nurses to practice to the full extent of their education and training. It also urged them to continue their education through improved delivery systems, and to be full partners and leaders in designing U.S. health care.

The nation's current health approach concentrates on illness, Dr. Berkowitz noted. However, she emphasized, "We know that progress toward healthier populations should be the primary focus of a reformed health system." Nurses are the most powerful providers of care coordination, she stated. With interprofessional collaboration, changes in public health-care systems are within reach.

The College's Center for Global and Public Health and the Alpha Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International co-sponsored the lecture.

To view this lecture, visit Villanova University's YouTube Channel. In the Nursing playlist, click on 33rd Annual Distinguished Lecture. •



Dean of Columbia University's School of Nursing, Bobbie Berkowitz, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN spoke at Villanova last fall on an area of special expertise: health policy and health equity as the U.S. population ages and becomes more diverse.

Three Students Conduct Public Health Research

At Lankenau Institute for Medical Research (LIMR), three undergraduates from the College of Nursing participated in either an independent study or internship focused on examining public health issues. Founded in 1927, LIMR is an independent, non-profit biomedical research center located in suburban Philadelphia on the campus of the Lankenau Medical Center. Part of Main Line Health, LIMR is one of the few freestanding, hospital-associated medical research centers in the nation.

The seniors, Marina Gallo, Monique Stenger and Megan Copel, furthered their interests in public health. All three acknowledge that their non-traditional experiences at LIMR have enhanced their understanding of the broad scope of nursing practice.

At the institute, they had the benefit of tutelage from Stanton “Stan” B. Miller, M.D., MPH, FACS, assistant professor and director of LIMR’s Center for Public Health Research and Educational Programs in Public Health. A former surgeon, Dr. Miller now focuses on community health. He serves on the College of Nursing’s Board of Consultants.

While each of the three students worked on a different project, one underlying theme evolved from their experiences. Gallo’s summer internship focused on developing an organizing framework for a proposed public health consortium comprised of LIMR, three nearby colleges (Bryn Mawr, Haverford and Swarthmore) and Villanova Nursing. Gallo met with faculty from the four schools who had expertise in diverse areas relating to public health, among them anthropology, microbiology and economics. Her exposure to a truly intradisciplinary team affirms the importance of teamwork in career development. “My experience with this internship opened my eyes to how many different career options I have as a nurse,” she says. “It shaped my career goals to allow me to explore other non-traditional opportunities.”



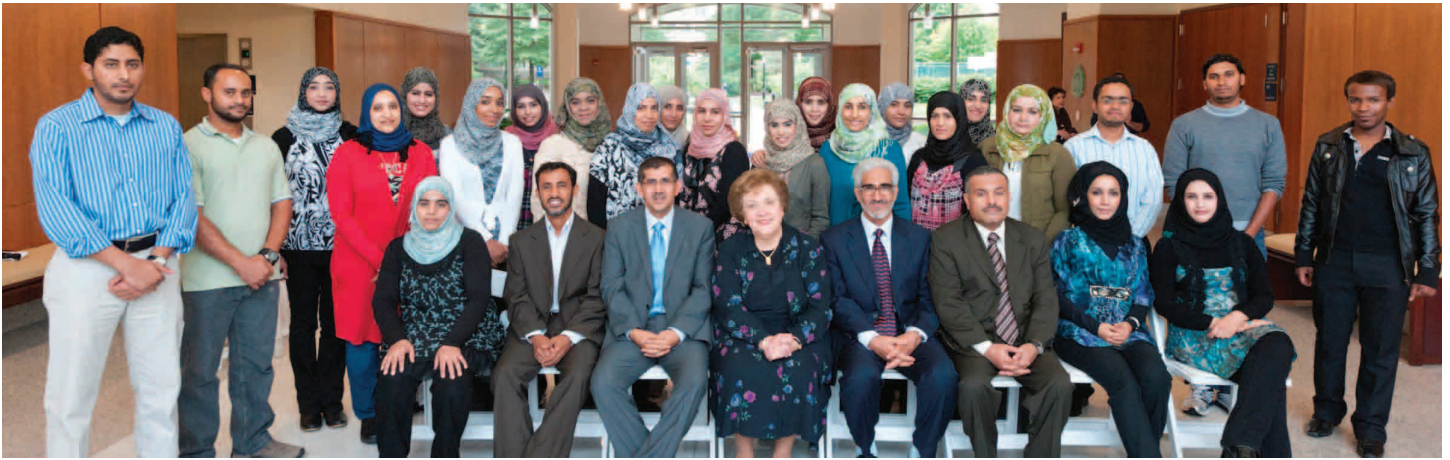
Internships and independent studies at Lankenau Institute for Medical Research gave Nursing students (from left) Megan Copel, Monique Stenger and Marina Gallo an enhanced outlook on the scope of nursing practice.

Stenger during her summer internship studied barriers to patient compliance in obtaining mammogram screenings. “From the analysis of data, I realized the importance of patient education and holistically caring for the patient,” she notes. “Throughout the program I met people with medical or nursing degrees who were working in ways that are different from the traditional health-care provider role.” Asked about her future career goals, Stenger replied, “I see myself working in a clinic or overseas in a non-governmental agency.”

Copel in her three-credit, yearlong internship focused on the measures implemented by parents living along the Main Line to protect children from injuries. She is working on a manuscript based on her research into preventing the most common sources of pediatric injuries: falls, poisoning, transportation, foreign bodies and fires. For example, she noted that if more parents knew about the dangers of riding ATVs, they could talk to their children about the risks. Copel acknowledges the importance of this experience: “There are a

plethora of preventable incidents that happen to children, and these incidents have significant impact on the health-care system and the family unit. It has also shaped my viewpoint on health care and possibly career goals by emphasizing the importance of primary prevention.”

Copel has seen the importance of prevention and initiative in other related work tied to her interests. At the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., during a summer externship she participated in the care of a variety of patients in the Level I trauma center’s Emergency Department. Last fall, in association with her term as president of the Villanova Chapter of the Student Nurses’ Association of Pennsylvania, she undertook a three-credit independent study of student leadership, mentored by her advisor, Carol Toussie Weingarten, Ph.D., R.N., ANEF, associate professor of Nursing. Copel is currently writing an article on aspects of leadership. Her mother is Linda Carman Copel, Ph.D., R.N., PMHCNS, BC, CNE, NCC, FAPA, professor of Nursing. •



Gathering during a reception in Driscoll Hall's lobby last September are Dean Fitzpatrick (seated, center front); the College's Omani students; and three delegates from Omani's Ministry of Health: Dr. Ahmed Al Qasmi (seated, third from left), H. E. Dr. Ali Talib Al Hinai (fifth from left) and Said Saidi (sixth from left).

College Welcomes Delegation from Oman

During their visit to the eastern United States, three distinguished members of the Ministry of Health of the Sultanate of Oman were hosted by the College of Nursing on September 28-29, 2011. The College welcomed H. E. Dr. Ali Talib Al Hinai, undersecretary of Planning Affairs; Dr. Ahmed Al Qasmi, advisor in Research and Studies; and Said Saidi, advisor in Administration.

The College enjoys a 17-year relation-

ship with Oman's Ministry of Health; nearly 200 Omanis have earned their B.S.N. and/or M.S.N. degrees from Villanova University. These Nursing alumni hold leadership positions in clinical practice, academia and health-care administration throughout their country. Villanova Nursing faculty have also provided consultation and continuing education in Oman. In turn, the Omani students have enriched Villanova culturally and intellectually.

The Omani visitors met with current students from the Sultanate as well as with faculty and administrators. They learned more about the College's programs and initiatives, visited Driscoll Hall classrooms and simulation labs, and toured Nursing's clinical sites in Philadelphia and the suburbs. They also attended a reception in the Driscoll Hall lobby with undergraduate and graduate Omani students and Nursing administrators. •



Villanovans Chosen as NLN Jonas Scholars

For the second time in the two-year history of its Jonas Scholars Program, the National League for Nursing selected Villanovans to honor. This year's Jonas Scholars, announced last fall, include Catherine Morse, M.S.N., R.N., CRNP-BC, CCRN and Stephanie Jeffers '11 Ph.D., R.N. Morse is a student in the College of Nursing's Ph.D. Program, and Jeffers has since graduated from it.

The Jonas Scholars Program, which supports nursing Ph.D. candidates as they complete their dissertations, promotes

models for shared faculty appointments among clinical affiliates and colleges of nursing and also fosters educational advancement of new nursing faculty.

Morse is researching "The Effects of Debriefing with Good Judgment on Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Students' Reflective Ability and Perspective Transformation."

Jeffers' dissertation, which she successfully defended last fall, was "Nurse Faculty Perceptions of End-of-Life Education in the Clinical Setting: A Phenomenological Perspective." •

(Top left) Stephanie Jeffers '11 Ph.D., R.N.
(Bottom left) Catherine Morse, M.S.N., R.N., CRNP-BC, CCRN

Meet Two Members of the Board of Consultors

The College of Nursing's Board of Consultors is comprised of successful leaders in a variety of arenas, including health care, education, business and nonprofits. Each member, with an affinity for the endeavors of the College and Villanova nurses, brings a rich context to his or her advisory role.

In this issue, we feature three members of the board. Here are profiles of two alumnae who enthusiastically support their College: Margaret "Meg" Robins Garrett '72 B.S.N., M.Ed., J.D. and Christina Larson Kelly '74 B.S.N., M.S.N., CFP®. See page 25 for a profile on board member Pamela Cembrook and her husband, John, who are parents of Villanovans and have established a new scholarship for Nursing.

Margaret "Meg" Robins Garrett '72 B.S.N., M.Ed., J.D. is senior counsel and senior director of Risk Management for the Johns Hopkins Health System's Legal Department in Baltimore. While she puts to use her master's degree in education from The Citadel and her law degree from the University of Maryland, it is her dedication to patients and their safety, nurtured at Villanova, that drives her career. Her Nursing education serves her well in her role. "At Villanova I was taught to listen to my patient and I learned to multitask. They taught me to be organized," she says. "The Nursing faculty led us to believe that we could do anything we aspired to do. I learned to be passionate about patients; we learned patient safety before the IOM [Institute of Medicine] report. At Hopkins, I have the ability to lead an organization to provide the safest care for our patients."

Garrett's professional motivation is making a difference in health care, and that has her circling back to Villanova. When invited to serve on the Board of Consultors in 2010, she was happy to accept. She recalls comments from several nursing executives who have said "You can always tell a Villanova nurse from other nurses," adding, "It all comes back to values and virtues." For Garrett, that



Margaret "Meg" Robins Garrett '72 B.S.N., M.Ed., J.D.

is the core of the nursing education here. "The most valuable part of my education was how Villanova Nursing instilled values and virtues into all aspects of our college experience," she offers. "Villanova always taught students to think about the patient as a whole," nurturing "students who were empathic and respected both patients and clinicians. The faculty taught us to 'think outside the box,' before academia embraced the concept."

Garrett cherishes the Villanova Nursing tradition and helps support it through her advisory capacity on the board. "I want Villanova Nursing to excel. I am so proud of the programs Dean Fitzpatrick and her faculty have developed," she explains. That tradition ultimately makes Garrett's job easier, fulfilling the goal of having patient safety at the forefront of all providers' minds and making sure that the nursing program "stays ahead of health-care reform."

It is no surprise that Garrett, a loyal, longtime basketball fan, comes from a Villanova family. Two brothers, a niece and a nephew are also alumni, as is her youngest of four children, Erin '07 VSB, who plans to attend this June's Alumni Reunion Weekend with her mother. The College of Nursing is the magnet drawing Garrett back. "I am so proud to be a Villa-

nova nurse," she notes. "I am proud to be a member of the Board of Consultors. I want to do whatever I can to assist Villanova Nursing to move forward with the nursing needs of the patient population and to never forget its Augustinian roots."

Christina Larson Kelly '74 B.S.N., M.S.N., CFP® is a nurse concerned about health-financial health. In the course of her career, her observations about nursing led her to become president of Larson Financial Planning Inc. in Winchester, Mass. "For over 30 years I worked in nursing administrative positions in several Boston teaching hospitals," Larson Kelly notes. "Using the assessment skills Villanova instilled in me, I realized that in addition to taking care of patients, there was a need for nurses to take care of themselves. Their financial health was one area that needed serious attention but there weren't resources available to assist them." Building on her teaching and administrative knowledge, plus her master's degree in nursing from Boston University, in 1992 Larson Kelly added to her portfolio a Certified Financial Planning certificate from Northeastern University.

"I transitioned my skills of taking care of patients and developing systems to taking care of the nurses who work in the systems. In my current role I help nurses achieve their financial goals because I have an understanding of the work they do, the 'language' they speak, and I understand the stresses and joys of a modern nursing career," she offers. Larson Kelly brought her expertise to campus by presenting "Reducing Stress Through Financial Health" for the Nursing Alumni Association's continuing education event held during the June 2011 Alumni Reunion Weekend. She also educates Nursing students on financial issues like benefit packages.

In 2010, Larson Kelly was invited to join the Board of Consultors. Reflecting on defining moments in her life, she realizes that one key opportunity was her Villanova Nursing education. She recalls

the demanding course load, the need to constantly prioritize and the faculty's high performance expectations. "The lessons I learned at the College of Nursing served me well throughout my graduate education and career," she observes. "The demand for excellence and the development of critical thinking skills were the most valuable part of my education."



Christina Larson Kelly '74 B.S.N., M.S.N., CFP®

Larson Kelly readily gives back to her alma mater. "The board provides me with the privilege to offer insights from my many years of nursing experience and executive expertise. It has many valuable members and together I hope that we provide support and assistance, which is helpful to the leadership of the College," she explains.

Among her goals is to engage Nursing alumni in becoming more active in their contributions to the College. Her fond memories ignite her service. As Larson Kelly says, "The College of Nursing is a very special place with incredible passion and camaraderie that I enjoy every time I visit. I hope that my involvement on the board and financial contributions will help the College continue with many years of success." •

Geriatric Conference Attracted Nursing Educators

Reflecting the focus of today's health-care agenda, educators have been striving to make sure their programs are preparing nurses, especially in advanced practice, to meet the needs of older adults. The all-day "Mid-Atlantic Conference to Advance Geriatric Competencies in Undergraduate and Graduate Education" addressed this need. The College of Nursing and its Continuing Education in Nursing and Health Care Program hosted the event in Driscoll Hall on December 9, 2011.

The night before, well-respected geriatric specialist and nurse educator Mathy Mezey Ed.D., R.N., FAAN spoke on "Setting the Stage to Care for Older Americans," as part of the College's 17th annual Health and Human Values Lecture Series. Dr. Mezey is associate director of education initiatives of the renowned John A. Hartford Foundation's Institute for Geriatric Nursing at New York University. The foundation offers numerous programs supporting geriatric nursing education. It also offers various assessment tools and evidence-based information that has been instrumental in influencing elder care in all settings.

Dr. Mezey challenged educators to help nursing students understand the complexities, but also the joy, of geriatric care as they transition into practice arenas where the majority of their patients may be older adults.

The all-day conference emphasized the need for students to be prepared for new roles across the health-care system in supporting quality care for older adults. Geriatric experts offered valuable clinical information, best practices and evidence-based research to aid nurse educators in advancing geriatric educational competencies.

The care of the older adult is an essential part of the nursing curricula for students and educators as both B.S.N.

and graduate programs strive to prepare nurses for this growing population. This is especially true for advanced practice programs as educators revise curricula to meet the adult nurse practitioner Consensus Model for APRN Regulation (Licensure, Accreditation, Certification and Education requirements). This model calls for enhanced content related to care of older adults in all advanced practice curricula, as well as combining adult and gerontology nurse practitioner and clinical specialty programs into fully merged adult-gerontology nurse practitioner programs.

Conference sponsors included Philadelphia's Ralston Center and the University of Pennsylvania Health System's Geriatric Education Center, Department of Medicine, Division of Geriatric Medicine. The College played a key role in planning the conference. Among the planners from Villanova Nursing were Lynore DeSilets, Ed.D., R.N.-BC, assistant dean and director of the Continuing Education in Nursing and Health Care Program; Elizabeth Keech '66 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor; and Elise Pizzi, M.S.N., GNP-BC, adjunct assistant professor. Other nursing educators who assisted in



planning included Pamela Z. Cacchione '84 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., GNP-BC, associate professor of geropsychiatric nursing at Penn's School of Nursing, and M. Catherine Wollman D.N.P., R.N., assistant professor in the Division of Nursing/Health Sciences at Neumann University. •

Study Addresses Hypertension among Sugar Cane Workers

In developing countries, hypertension is a growing chronic health condition. Its prevalence in the Caribbean is estimated to be as high as 55 percent in some populations—including Haitian migrant communities in the Dominican Republic. While there is anecdotal evidence from health-care teams, there is little actual data due to social class inequities and health-related disparities.

Tamara M. Kear '09 Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor in the College of Nursing, has begun a new study to gather such data among a neglected group in one of the Caribbean's poorest areas. Her outreach and research are focusing on the Haitian migrant workers who live in bateyes, the shanty towns next to the sugar cane fields in the Dominican Republic. As an expert in nephrology and dialysis nursing, Dr. Kear sees first-hand how damaging high blood pressure can be to health.

In October 2011, eight Nursing juniors spent Fall Break caring for these Haitian migrant workers in La Romana, an industrial town on this developing nation's southern coast. They accompanied Dr. Kear and Kim Connolly, M.P.H., R.N., director of

“Neither Haiti nor the Dominican Republic recognizes citizenship of these children, who have no country to call their home.”

—Tamara M. Kear
'09 Ph.D., R.N.



the College's Center for Global and Public Health, to observe and deliver health care. La Romana is surrounded by mountains and sugar cane plantations. These workers and their families migrate from Haiti, on the other side of the island of Hispaniola, to harvest the crop. Despite their quest for a better way of life and education for their children, they have little or no access to health care.



Dr. Tamara Kear (right) interviews Haitian migrant workers in the Dominican Republic about their health and blood pressure while inspiring a new generation of researchers. With her is Allison Behette, a Nursing junior assisting in Dr. Kear's study of hypertension.

Each day, the Nursing group traveled to a different bateye, providing a mobile health-care clinic that assessed and treated nearly 300 people.

In conjunction with the students' health promotion work, which was part of their clinical practicum, Dr. Kear was beginning a new study, "Hypertension in Haitian Migrant Communities in the Dominican Republic: An Investigation of Three Rural Bateye Communities." Dr. Kear, who had made two previous trips, says she chose this population to study because "They are the ones who fall through the cracks of the health-care system. They are not considered Dominican citizens—even children born in the Dominican Republic of Haitian parents are not Dominican. Neither Haiti nor the Dominican Republic recognizes citizenship of these children, who have no country to call their home." This makes for an increasingly vulnerable population that may be left unnoticed and untreated.

During the clinics, students checked blood pressures manually and recorded them for 285 Haitians 16 years and older. They discussed medication use and accessibility and gave sessions on hypertension risk factors and management. Through recorded interviews with health promoters living in the bateyes, they explored barriers to hypertension management.

Allison Behette, a junior from Brooklyn, N.Y., began working with Dr. Kear during this health promotion experience and continues to assist her in data analysis. "Now that I am involved in the hypertension study," says Behette, "I feel like I am reliving the experience of my time in the Dominican Republic and really bringing it to a new level."

Dr. Kear's study is still in the initial phase, but she is working with Good Samaritan on a tool the hospital could use in collecting data in her absence. Once there is sufficient data, which could take several years, she will seek funding for an interventional study.

Notes Behette, "Going to the Dominican Republic in October was undoubtedly one of the greatest experiences of my college career. Not only did I gain clinical experience but I had the unique opportunity to experience a culture that is very different from my own. Although it is definitely interesting to see how various medical conditions such as hypertension are affected by demographics, gender, culture and a multitude of other factors, my favorite part of this study is knowing that whatever we find can make a difference in the lives of a group of people who have truly touched my heart and changed my life." •

A Tribute to Rose O'Driscoll's Four Decades at the College

Few people can say they have been part of an organization for 40 years. That is one of the many notable accomplishments of Rose Woytowich O'Driscoll '64 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N. as the College of Nursing lauds her and her four decades of service to the College and Villanova University. Known for her energetic spirit, rich laugh and positive outlook, she is a well-respected member of the campus community.

O'Driscoll is currently assistant dean for Administration and assistant professor of Nursing. Her affinity for Villanova began during freshman year. Living in Phoenixville, Pa., she should have been a commuter but was assigned housing. Could that be "because they thought I was from Arizona," she wonders. Her student life was the beginning of relationships that continue today. Her knowledge of the College and its culture is a highly valued asset summed up in the frequently heard "Ask Rose" or "Rose knows." Students, faculty, and alumni pepper O'Driscoll with questions all day, every day.

"Rose is one of the most optimistic people I've ever met," says M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor. "She is a model Villanovan. Rose is well-known on campus by her position but also by her upbeat personality. Loyal and supportive, you can count on Rose to get the job done. I value her as a close friend and a colleague. She has been my right hand for 34 years."

A positive force in the College, O'Driscoll is known for supporting, counseling, motivating and advising. She sees undergraduate students at both their most joyous and their most challenging times, frequently sharing with them her philosophy of "things happen for a reason" and guiding them to develop plans for the future. She's usually right. As alumni, they remember this and return to visit with her, share news and ask advice.

O'Driscoll has moved on three times from Villanova but always came back.

The first time, when she answered the call in 1966 to return to teach two years after earning her B.S.N., "I was honored," she recalls. The next year she left to earn her master's degree, then two years later returned to the Nursing faculty. In the early 1970s she stepped away from teaching to be at home with husband Bob and their new son, Rob. In 1976, she once again answered the College's call. Why? "I liked what I did," she remembers, noting that the people here are why she continues.

Before assuming her current title—where she oversees the non-academic operations in the College—O'Driscoll held a variety of positions, including instructor, coordinator of the junior curriculum and assistant to the dean. Several years ago, she worked closely with planners and construction crews as the Driscoll Hall project progressed. She has taught or mentored countless students and advises student groups including the Undergraduate Nursing Senate. She brings alumni and students together through the College's annual Career Day. She is the College's liaison to the Nursing Alumni Association. She doesn't just help build buildings. She helps build nurses and encourages their bonding as alumni. Among many other committees and initiatives she has led was co-chairing the College's 50th Anniversary committee.

At the University level, her contributions are just as valuable and significant, championing Nursing's interests while serving on numerous committees and task forces. "She enjoys whatever she is doing and being involved. She is very loyal to Villanova," notes Dean Fitzpatrick.

Among O'Driscoll's priorities is basketball. She is seen at most Wildcat men's basketball games while following Rob's games on her mobile device. Also a Villanova graduate, her son is an associate head coach at James Madison University.

O'Driscoll is an undeniable "cheerleader" for Villanova and the College of Nursing. She is an exemplar for future alumni. •



"Ask Rose. Rose knows" is advice heard frequently in Driscoll Hall and around campus. Optimism and enthusiasm have infused all four of the decades that Rose O'Driscoll '64 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N. has devoted to the College of Nursing.

"She enjoys whatever she is doing and being involved. She is very loyal to Villanova."

—Dean Fitzpatrick





(Left) Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, who directs the College's Ph.D. Program in Nursing, has a background in maternal-child and women's health. (Right) Joyce S. Willens '83 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.-BC is a resource at the College and nationally on pain and its management.

College Salutes Two Faculty Members for 25 Years of Service

The College of Nursing this year is honoring Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, professor and director of the Ph.D. Program in Nursing, and Joyce S. Willens '83 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.-BC, assistant professor, for their quarter-century of service. Both joined the faculty in 1986.

Dr. Sharts-Hopko has taught nearly a dozen courses for undergraduate and graduate students. Her commitment to excellence within the College, Villanova University and the profession is demonstrated through her service on a variety of committees and her memberships in professional organizations. She has received awards for outstanding service to the University community, such as the Lawrence C. Gallen, O.S.A., Faculty Service Award. A role model for students, she is treasurer of the Board of Directors of Sigma Theta Tau International, nursing's honor society, and was elected to the National League for Nursing's (NLN) Commission on Certification to help set policy for the designation of certified nurse educators.

In 2003, Dr. Sharts-Hopko was named the director of Nursing's new Ph.D. program. With a background in academia and maternal-child and women's health, she lectures frequently on education, research and clinical topics and has published numerous articles on evidence-based practice, women's health concerns such as vision impairment and disability, HIV/AIDS, childbearing and other areas. She continues to show her dedication to the field of nursing and the University with

her enduring professional growth and her devotion to improving nursing education.

Dr. Willens, former coordinator of the B.S.N./M.S.N. Gateway Program for Registered Nurses, has taught undergraduate and graduate students, including students from the Sultanate of Oman, in courses relating to the nursing process, health assessment, clinical practice skills and pain. She also serves on several University and College committees, including the Senate and Faculty Congress.

Dr. Willens is a knowledgeable resource for faculty and students interested in issues related to pain and its management. Stemming from her teaching and research interests, she has published scholarly articles and chapters and is the editor of *Pain Management Nursing*, the journal of the American Society for Pain Management Nursing (ASPMN). She also belongs to the American Pain Society. In June 2011, she was elected to a one-year term as president-elect of ASPMN and received its Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Willens is one of two nurses in the nation selected from ASPMN for the Content Expert Panel for the American Nurses Credentialing Center's new certification examination in pain management. She edited the 1996 AJN Book of the Year, *Pain Management: an Interdisciplinary Approach*. She has chaired ASPMN's task force that completed the role delineation survey defining what pain management nurses do. This study was published in *Pain Management Nursing* and serves as a basis for test content outline. •

FACULTY TRANSITIONS

Flexibility, networking and negotiation are among the skills of Clinical Assistant Professor **Francis Amorim, M.S.N., R.N., CCE**, the College of Nursing's new coordinator of Clinical Education. Her previous six years as student placement coordinator for Thomas Jefferson University Hospital involved matching more than 1,900 students from 13 nursing programs in the Philadelphia area with clinical units within that health-care system. Her new role at the College brings the challenge of ensuring excellent clinical placements for all Nursing undergraduates.

Fluent in Italian and with a "working knowledge" of Spanish and Portuguese, Amorim was raised in Philadelphia. After earning her B.S.N. from Thomas Jefferson, she began her career as a perinatal staff nurse at Pennsylvania Hospital. She quit her job one summer to realize a dream she shared with her husband, Thomas, a teacher, soccer coach and Villanova alumnus. They traveled through Europe to the World Cup Soccer tournament. Upon their return, she earned an M.S.N. degree as a perinatal clinical nurse specialist from the University of Pennsylvania. While raising their two sons, she held adjunct faculty positions in nursing programs in the Philadelphia area before returning full-time to Jefferson. Last July, her work there was recognized with the prestigious Excellence in Professional Development Educator/Academic Liaison Practice Award from the National Nursing Staff Development Organization.

"One of my better qualities is that I like people and like to resolve issues, because in both academic and practice [settings] there is a lot of negotiating," says Amorim. "Coming to Villanova was a different professional challenge and an excellent personal fit. I started in academia and came back to it." Appreciating the ways in which she has seen Villanova's mission and philosophical background blend, she says simply, "I love it."

Registered dietitian **Denice Ferko-Adams, M.P.H., R.D., LDN** is director of the MacDonald Center for Obesity



Prevention and Education (COPE); she joined Villanova Nursing in spring 2011. The College established this new center, funded by the MacDonald Family Foundation and the Take Shape for Life Foundation, to address the nation's obesity epidemic through professional and consumer education and research. She brings to her role more than 20 years of clinical, community and worksite experience in weight management. Integrating her experience and passion for wellness with a master's degree in public health from East Stroudsburg University, she is a national expert and leader in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the new name of the American Dietetic Association (ADA). She earned her B.S. in dietetics at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and completed the ADA's Child and Adolescent Certificate in Weight Management. In recognition of her pioneering efforts in worksite wellness and weight management, Ferko-Adams was honored in 2009 with the prestigious ADA Excellence in Practice Award in Business and Consultation and was the first recipient of the ADA/SCAN Award for Excellence in Practice for Wellness.

As president of her consulting company, Wellness Press, Ferko-Adams developed and implemented year-round weight, health, cafeteria and fitness campaigns for national clients, including ACTS



Retirement Life Communities, Air Products, Bethlehem Steel Corporation, BMW of North America, Harley-Davidson, Impact Health, Lehigh University, Mack Trucks and many others. She created software to track data on participants in her clients' programs, documenting outcomes that translate to saving health-care dollars.

Ferko-Adams served as an adjunct faculty member for Marywood University's dietetics' program and for the nursing program at Alvernia College (now University).

A nationally recognized speaker, Ferko-Adams frequently addresses worksite wellness and business topics. In addition, she serves as a resource for the media and has expertise in doing live cooking demonstrations for television. She has served in many national,

state and local leadership roles, including national professional issues delegate for the ADA, chair of ADA's Nutrition Entrepreneurs Dietetic Practice Group and president of the Pennsylvania Dietetic Association.

Amy E. McKeever '08 Ph.D., R.N., CRNP

began her new faculty role in January as assistant professor, teaching in the undergraduate and graduate program, with a concentration in maternal-child nursing in the undergraduate program. Her doctoral dissertation at the College was "College Students' Self-Reported Behavioral Change after an Educational Intervention to Reduce Behaviors Associated with Cervical Cancer Risk."



Dr. McKeever earned her B.S.N from Gwynedd-Mercy College and her M.S.N. and advanced practice training in women's health from the University of Pennsylvania. During her five years at Drexel University and two at Temple University, she was an active and engaged member of the nursing faculty.

Experienced in clinical arenas and teaching, Dr. McKeever is a certified registered nurse practitioner specializing in women's health. She has worked in a variety of clinical settings focusing on maternal-child health, providing primary care to women across the lifespan. Her clinical passion is caring for women with pre-malignant and malignant gynecological disorders. She provides care to these patients at her gynecological oncology practice at Main Line Health Care.

Dr. McKeever is a member of several clinical and research-oriented professional organizations, including the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses; the American College of Nurse Practitioners; the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners; the American Society of Colposcopists and Cervical Pathologists; and Sigma Theta Tau International. She has published several articles on maternal-child nursing, integrating evidence-based practice into teaching and cervical cancer risk reduction.

Debra Shearer, Ed.D., M.S.N., FNP-BC

in October 2011 began as director of the College's newly developed Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) Program. She

brings a wealth of experience in clinical practice, education and program development.

A B.S.N. graduate of La Salle University, Dr. Shearer worked in the neonatal ICU of St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia and on the transport team before completing her family nurse practitioner (FNP) degree in 1997 at MCP Hahnemann University's College of Nursing (now Drexel University College of Nursing and Health Professions). With her FNP license in hand, she practiced in Philadelphia in the emergency departments at Frankford Hospital and what was then Graduate Hospital, and in Wilmington, Del., at St. Francis Hospital. Her first faculty position was in 1998 with MCP Hahnemann's FNP program. She took three years off after the birth of her daughter in 2000, returned to Drexel as the coordinator for clinical adjunct faculty in nursing, later served as director of Clinical Education and in 2009 became chair of the Nurse Practitioner Department. She received her doctor of education degree from Rowan University in 2005, where her dissertation was "Out from the Periphery: Engaging Nursing Clinical Adjunct Faculty in Their Professional Development."

Always looking for a new challenge, in 2010 Dr. Shearer worked with Drexel's College of Medicine to develop and operate its Convenient Care Center at Liberty Place in Center City Philadelphia. She was the center's chief nurse practitioner and held a faculty appointment in Medicine.

Dr. Shearer now is ready for the challenges associated with developing and implementing a Doctor of Nursing Practice program. "I am looking forward to starting a program that will educate advanced practice nurses to translate nursing science into practice to improve patient outcomes," she observes.



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Angelina C. Arcamone '82 B.S.N., '86 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., CCE, assistant dean and director of the Undergraduate Program, co-authored with doctoral student **Nancy Wise '09 M.S.N., R.N.** the article "Survey of Adolescent Views

of Healthy Eating During Pregnancy” in *MCN: The American Journal of Maternal/Child Nursing*, 36 (8), 2-7.

Mary Ann Cantrell '89 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., CS, associate professor, published three articles:

- “Demystifying the Research Process: Understanding a Descriptive Comparative Research Design” in *Pediatric Nursing*, 37 (4), 188-189;
- “A Narrative Review Summarizing the State of the Evidence on the Health-Related Quality of Life Among Childhood Cancer Survivors” in *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing*, 28 (2), 75-82; and
- with K. Ruble, “Multidisciplinary Care in Pediatric Oncology,” in *Journal of Multidisciplinary Healthcare*, Vol. 2011 (4), 171-181.

Christine M. Crumlish, Ph.D., APRN, CCRN, assistant professor, co-authored with **Catherine Todd Magel, Ed.D., R.N.-BC**, assistant professor, the article “Patient Education on Heart Attack Response: Is Rehearsal the Critical Factor in Knowledge Retention?” in *MEDSURG Nursing*, 20 (6), November/December 2011, 310-317.

Lyn DeSilets, Ed.D., R.N.-BC, assistant dean and director of the Continuing Education in Nursing and Health Care Program, published three Administrative Angles columns in 2011 in *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*:

- “Are You Ready for the Net Genera-

tion or the Free Agent Learner?,” 42 (10), 340-341;

- “Reviewing Conference Abstracts,” 42 (6), 244-245; and
- “Food for Thought: How Do We Respect Our Learners’ Right to Privacy?,” 42 (1), 12-13.

Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, Ph.D, R.N., associate professor, published three articles online:

- “Use of the Internet by Parents of Middle School Students: Internet Rules, Risky Behaviours and Online Concerns” in *Journal of Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing*. Epub: doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2850.2011.01815.x;
- with M. Posner and M.K. Hutchinson, “Cigarette Smoking and Alcohol Use among Adolescents and Young Adults with Asthma,” in *Nursing Research and Practice*, 2011. Epub: doi:10.1155/2011/503201; and
- with A.W. Burgess and J.R. Flores, “Social Networking Patterns of Adolescents, Young Adults, and Offenders,” in *American Journal of Nursing*, 111 (7), 28-36. Epub: doi: 10.1097/01.NAJ.0000399310.83160.73.

Kathy Gray-Siracusa, Ph.D., R.N., M.B.A., NEA-BC, assistant professor, co-authored an article with L. Schrier, “Use of an Intervention Bundle to Eliminate Pressure Ulcer in Critical Care,” in *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 26 (3), 216-225.

Tamara M. Kear '09 Ph.D., R.N., assis-

tant professor, published two articles and one book chapter:

- “Teaching Dialyzer Designers of the Future,” in *Nephrology Nursing Journal*, 38 (3), 285;
- “The Use of Narrative Analysis to Study Transformative Learning in Associate Degree Nursing Students: a Focus on the Methodology,” in *Teaching and Learning in Nursing*, (2012) 7, 32-35.; and
- Chapter 9, “Renal and Urinary Tract Care Plans,” in *Nursing Care Plans: Diagnoses, Interventions, and Outcomes* (7th edition) by M. Gulanick and J. Myers.

Michelle M. Kelly '94 B.S.N., M.S.N., CRNP, clinical instructor, authored the article “Comparison of Functional Status of 8-12 Year Old Children Born Prematurely: A Review of the Literature” in *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*. Epub: dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.pedn.2011.03.010.

Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 M.S.N., '08 Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor, published two papers:

- “Going Alone: The Lived Experience of Arab Muslim Nurses Studying in the U.S.” in *Nursing Outlook*, 59 (5), 266-277 and
- “Nurses’ Role on Green Teams: An Environmental Health Opportunity” in *Pennsylvania Nurse*, 66 (1), 19-23.

Barbara Ott, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor, published two articles:

- with R.M Olson, “Ethical Issues of

LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

Frances Keen, D.N.Sc., R.N., associate professor (left), in June 2011 transitioned from her role as assistant dean and director of the Undergraduate Program, a position she held for 10 years. She now teaches adult health and leadership and management in the classroom and clinical settings and also works on special projects for Dean Fitzpatrick. **Angelina Arcamone '82 B.S.N., '86 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., CCE**, clinical assistant professor (right), succeeds her as assistant dean and director of the Undergraduate Program. Dr. Arcamone formerly was the coordinator of Clinical Education.



Medical Missions: The Clinicians' View" in *HEC Forum*, 23 (2), 105-113 and

- with M.A. McKay, "A 7-Year-Old Child Witnesses CPR" in *Journal of Emergency Nursing*, 37 (1), 100-101.

Bing Bing Qi '94 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor, co-authored an article with **Suzanne Smeltzer, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research; B. Resnick; and B. Bausell, "Self-efficacy Program to Prevent Osteoporosis among Chinese Immigrants: A Randomized Controlled Trial" in *Nursing Research*, 60 (6), 393-404.

Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, professor and director of the Ph.D. Program in Nursing, published three articles in *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*:

- "Health Care Reform: What Does It Mean for People Living with HIV?" Epub: DOI:10.1016/j.jana.2011.07.003;
- "Using Evidence in Practice," 22 (2), 77-80; and
- "Reading and Interpreting the Scientific Evidence," 22 (1), 6-8.

Suzanne C. Smeltzer Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research, co-authored four articles:

- with L.M. Long-Bellil, K. Robey, C.L. Graham, P.M. Minihan and P. Kahn, "Teaching Medical Students about Disability: The Use of Standardized Patients," in *Academic Medicine*, 86 (9), 1163-1170;
- with L.M. Long-Bellil, D.M. O'Connor, K. Robey, J.E. Hahn, P.M. Minihan and C.L. Graham, "Commentary: Defining Disability in Health Care Education," in *Academic Medicine*, 86 (9), 1067-1068;
- with C. Di Iorio, J.L. Hinkle, A. Stuijbergen, D. Algase, C.S. Amidei, J. Austin, J. Buelow, C. Fraser, E. Gulick and B. Habermann, "Updated Research Priorities for Neuroscience Nursing," in *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*, 43 (3), 1-7; and
- with A.P. Ross, "Nursing Management of the Adult Patient with Multiple Sclerosis," in the AANN and ARN Clinical Practice Guideline Series.

Kimberly K. Trout, Ph.D., R.N., adjunct associate professor; **Joanna McGrath, M.S.N., R.N.**, adjunct clinical assistant professor; and **Marcia C. Costello, Ph.D.**,

R.D., LDN, assistant professor, co-authored with Villanova faculty members Jill Flanagan, M.A., and Jesse C. Frey, Ph.D., the article "A Pilot Study to Increase Fruit and Vegetable Intake in Pregnant Latina Women" in *Journal of Primary Care & Community Health*, 3 (1), 2-5.

Joyce S. Willens '83 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.-BC, assistant professor, published three times recently in *Pain Management Nursing*:

- with D. Jarzyna, C.R. Jungquist, C. Pasero, A. Nisbet, L. Oakes, S.J. Dempsey, D. Santangelo and R.C. Polomano, "American Society for Pain Management Nursing Guidelines on Monitoring for Opioid-induced Sedation and Respiratory Depression," 12 (3), 118-145;
- "Are We Monitoring What We Think We Are Monitoring?," 12 (3), 61; and
- "ASPMN Continues to Advance the Science of Pain Management," 12 (2), 59-60.

FACULTY LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Elizabeth Blunt, Ph.D., R.N., APN-BC, assistant professor and coordinator of the Nurse Practitioner Programs, presented:

- "Would Florence Nightingale Use an iPhone?" at the International Training Conference, "100 Years of Nursing in Poland: Theory and Practice of Nursing in the 21st Century," organized by the Institute of Nursing and Midwifery of the Health Sciences Faculty of the Jagiellonian University Medical College in Krakow, held in Krakow June 2-3, 2011, and
- "Millennium World Development Goals: What are They and Why Should You Care?" at the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, held in Albuquerque, N.M., in April 2011.

Patricia K. Bradley, Ph.D., R.N., CS, FAAN, associate professor, was inducted as a Fellow into the American Academy of Nursing in October 2011. The following month, she received the Quality of Life Award from



BEBASHI, a Philadelphia non-profit with a mission to provide culturally sensitive health-related information, direct service, research and technical assistance to the urban community. BEBASHI recognized Dr. Bradley for her "tireless work on quality of life issues for African American breast cancer survivors."

Linda Carman Copel, Ph.D., R.N., PMHCNS, BC, CNE, NCC, FAPA, professor, presented three papers:

- "Intimate Partner Violence: Case Studies of Divided Loyalties in Muslim Women" at the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society's 41st Biennial Convention, held in Grapevine, Texas, October 29-November 2, 2011;
- "Intimate Partner Violence: Case Studies of Divided Loyalties" at the American Psychiatric Nurses Association's 25th Annual Conference, "Psychiatric Nursing: Quality and Safety through Connection, Engagement, and Partnership," held in Anaheim, Calif., in October 2011; and
- "Invisible Bruises: The Experience of Verbal Abuse for Women with Disabilities" at the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists' Annual Conference, held in Baltimore in March 2011.

Elizabeth Burgess Dowdell, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor, presented four papers:

- "Risky Internet Behaviors of Adolescents Who Have Contact with Online Strangers" at the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society's 41st Biennial Convention, held in Grapevine, Texas, October 29-November 2, 2011;
- with R. Prentky, "Predicting Risky Outcomes Associated with Internet Use among High School Students" at the 4th International Congress on Psychology and Law, held in Miami in March 2011;
- "Youth and Technology: Exploitation, Cyber-bullying, and Sexting" at the U.S. Department of Justice OJJDP's 2011 Conference for Children's Justice and Safety, "Unite, Build, Lead," held in Washington, D.C., in October 2011; and
- with T.T. Nguyen "Sexting, Cyberbullying, and Risk Taking: Results from Student Surveys" at the Inaugural National Strategy Conference on Combating Child Exploitation,

sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice and Silicon Valley Internet Crimes Against Children, held in San José, Calif., in May 2011.

M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, Connelly Endowed Dean and Professor, was an invited guest and speaker at the opening plenary session of the First International Nursing Conference, "Innovations in Nursing Education and Practice Leading to Quality Care," held in the Sultanate of Oman, November 27-29, 2011. The title of her paper was "Advancing Primary Care Through the Education of Advanced Practice Nurses."

Patricia Haynor, Ph.D., R.N., NHA, associate professor and coordinator of the B.S.N./M.S.N. Gateway Program for R.N.s, was part of a panel on "Reframing Nursing Practice in a World of Health Reform" at a Southeastern Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders' conference on "Implications for Nursing Practice under Accountable Care," held in Bala Cynwyd, Pa., in November 2011.

Tamara M. Kear '09 Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor, presented "Providing Care to Haitian Immigrants Living in the Sugar Cane Fields in the Dominican Republic" at the Duquesne University School of Nursing's Rita M. McGinley Symposium, "Face of the Immigrant," held in Pittsburgh in September 2011. Two months later she received a research grant from the American Nephrology Nurses' Association (ANNA) to support "Hemodialysis Catheter Outcomes: No Dressing Coverage and Randomized Prescribed Showering Study." Dr. Kear is ANNA's representative to the American Nurses Association's Work Group on Racism and Diversity. She serves as an invited member of the ANNA Research Committee. In January she was appointed as editor of the new evidence-based practice column in *Nephrology Nursing Journal*; she is writing the first column.

Assistant professors **Elizabeth Keech '66 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.** and **Ruth McDermott-Levy '96 M.S.N., '08 Ph.D., R.N.** co-presented with other Villanova University faculty members and students "An Interdisciplinary Program to Influence Health Outcomes in Rural Nicaragua," sponsored by the Friends Association for Higher Education and

held at Bryn Mawr College in June 2011.

Bette Mariani '82 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., assistant professor, presented:

- with **Mary Ann Cantrell '89 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., CS**, associate professor, and **Colleen Meakim '84 M.S.N., R.N.**, director of the Learning Resource Center, "Structured Debriefing" at the 4th Annual Arcadia Summit, "On the Pulse of Patient Safety, Education Management Solutions," held at the College of Nursing in August 2011;
- two papers at the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society's 41st Biennial Convention, held in Grapevine, Texas, October 29-November 2, 2011. The first presentation was with **Angelina C. Arcamone '82 B.S.N., '86 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., CCE**, assistant dean and director of the Undergraduate Program, and **Jennifer A. Cummins '00 M.S.N., R.N.-BC, CEN**, adjunct faculty member, on "Student and Registered Nursing Staff's Perceptions of 12-Hour Clinical Rotations in an Undergraduate Baccalaureate Nursing Program." The second one was with D. Cleeter, J. Guenther and M. Clark on "Outcomes and Sustainability of the Nurse Faculty Mentored Leadership Development Program."

Colleen Meakim '84 M.S.N., R.N., director of the Learning Resource Center, led the development of Standard I: Terminology in the inaugural Standards of Best Practice in Patient Simulation for the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL). These performance standards for simulation in health-care education were created over a two-year period. Meakim, currently the graduate program representative on INACSL's Board of Directors, at the time represented B.S.N. degree programs. She became a charter member of the organization in 2003 and has served in various roles on its board since 2005.

Suzanne C. Smeltzer, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research, last September was awarded the 2011 Alumni Merit Award from St. Louis University's School of Nursing. In December 2011 she was elected president of the Alliance for Disability in Health Care Education to serve from 2012-2013. Dr. Smeltzer presented:

- the keynote speech, "The Rewards and Challenges of Working with People with Disabilities: What We Need to Know," at a Southern Connecticut State University School of Nursing conference in New Haven in November 2011;
- the keynote speech, "A Passion for Research and Research for a Passion," at the 6th Annual Research Day, sponsored by the College of Saint Elizabeth in Morristown, N.J., in October 2011;
- a paper, "Villanova University's Health Promotion for Women with Disabilities Project," at the American Psychological Association's 2011 Annual Convention, "Health Promotion in Women with Disabilities: Interdisciplinary Clinical, Research, and Community Perspectives," held in Washington, D.C., in August 2011;
- a paper, "Health Care Access: Nursing and Disability," at an Association of University Centers on Disability/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention conference, held in Chicago in June 2011;
- "Access to Healthcare for Women and Girls with Disabilities," at a statewide ACHIEVA meeting to identify strategies to improve health-care access for adolescents and women with disabilities, held in Hershey, Pa., in March 2011. ACHIEVA is the umbrella organization for the ARCs in this area as well the largest provider of services for western Pennsylvanians with disabilities.

Carol Toussie Weingarten, Ph.D., R.N., ANEF, associate professor, has been re-appointed chair of the Editorial Board for *Pennsylvania Nurse*. She co-presented with her husband, Dr. Michael Weingarten, "Taking our Own Advice: From Clinicals and Classrooms to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany," for faculty advisors and consultants at the National Student Nurses' Association's convention, held in Salt Lake City, Utah, in April 2011.

Joyce S. Willens '83 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.-BC, assistant professor, has been invited to serve on the Main Line Health System's Pain Improvement Committee. In 2011 she was elected president-elect of the American Society for Pain Management Nursing. •

Faculty Share Expertise at National Conferences

2011 NLN EDUCATION SUMMIT

The following faculty were on the program for the 2011 National League for Nursing (NLN) Education Summit, "Leading Academic Progression. Advancing the Health of the Nation," held in Orlando, Fla., on September 21-24:

- **Frances Amorim, M.S.N., R.N., CCE**, coordinator of Clinical Education and clinical assistant professor, a paper, "Designing Quality Clinical Education: Best Practice for Student Advancement";
- **Maryanne V. Lieb '85 M.S.N., R.N.**, coordinator of Second Degree Options and clinical assistant professor, a paper, "Promoting Leadership Development in Individuals Underrepresented in Nursing";
- **Catherine Todd Magel, Ed.D., R.N.-BC**, assistant professor, a poster, "Collaborative Learning Experiences to Promote Collegiality";
- **Bette Mariani '82 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.**, clinical assistant professor, a paper, "The Effect of Mentoring on Career Satisfaction and Intent to Stay in the Nursing Profession";
- **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 B.S.N., '05 M.S.N., '11 Ph.D., R.N., CNE**, adjunct clinical faculty member, a poster, "The Effect of Simulation Training on B.S.N. Students' Competency in Intramuscular Injection Competency";
- **Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor and director of the Ph.D. Program in Nursing and chair of NLN's CNE Commission, a paper, "Get Ready, Get Set, Go Earn Your CNE Credential!"; and
- **Jodie Szlachta '11 Ph.D., CRNA**, associate program director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program, a paper, "The Effect of a Peer-Instruction Model on Nurse Anesthesia Student Learning in the High-Fidelity Patient Simulator."

CE HOSTS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EDUCATOR CONFERENCE WITH PNEG

The College of Nursing's Continuing Education (CE) in Nursing and Health Care is an important program offering



Villanova Nursing faculty and alumni gathering at the NLN Education Summit 2011 last September included (from left): **Bette Mariani '82 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.**, clinical assistant professor; **Angelina C. Arcamone '82 B.S.N., '86 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., CCE**, assistant dean and director of the Undergraduate Program; **Stephanie Jeffers '11 Ph.D., R.N.**; **Jodie Szlachta '11 Ph.D., CRNA**, associate program director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program; **Jennifer Gunberg Ross '00 B.S.N., '05 M.S.N., '11 Ph.D., R.N., CNE**, adjunct clinical faculty member; **Nancy C. Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor and director of the Ph.D. Program in Nursing; **Maryanne V. Lieb '85 M.S.N., R.N.**, coordinator of Second Degree Options and clinical assistant professor; **Colleen Meakim '84 M.S.N., R.N.**, director of the Learning Resource Center; and **Rose O'Driscoll '64 B.S.N., M.S.N., R.N.**, assistant dean for Administration.

local, regional and national conferences for nurses and health-care professionals.

In Baltimore on October 20-23, 2011, the successful educator conference provided by Villanova Nursing's CE staff drew more than 300 attendees from 36 states plus Canada and Singapore. "Advancing and Empowering Nurse Educators: Charting a Course for the Future," the 38th Annual National Conference on Professional Nursing Education and Development, was offered in cooperation with the Professional Nurse Educators Group (PNEG). Villanova Nursing's CE program also provided the 2010 conference and will host the 2012 one this fall in Philadelphia on October 25-28.

This CE conference has served as a prominent vehicle for professional nursing educators in academic, entrepreneurial, continuing education and staff development positions to strengthen their roles through learning, sharing and networking. It is the only national conference where nursing educators in all settings have an opportunity to learn side-by-side. Villanova Nursing faculty, doctoral students and alumni shared their expertise; among them were the following podium and poster presenters:

Presentations:

- **Elizabeth Blunt, Ph.D., R.N., APN-BC**, assistant professor and coordinator

- of the Nurse Practitioner Programs, and **Suzanne C. Smeltzer, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research, “Status of Disability Content in Graduate Nursing Education.” Dr. Blunt also was a panelist for “Bringing Standardized Patients into Academia: An Innovative Approach to Standardized Patient Recruitment”;
- **Marcia Costello, Ph.D., R.D., LDN**, assistant professor, and **Denice Ferko-Adams, M.P.H., R.D., LDN**, director of the MacDonald Center for Obesity Prevention and Education, “The Biggest Winner: Obesity Prevention Education for Nurses”;
 - **Ruth Crothers ’10 Ph.D., R.N., GCNS-BC, CNOR**, “The History of Organized Continuing Nursing Education 1957-1974: Backdrop to Future Directions”;
 - **Karen Goldschmidt, M.S.N., R.N., Ph.D.** student, “With a Little Help from my Friends...the Educator’s Role in Effective Student Study Groups”;
 - **Tamara M. Kear ’09 Ph.D., R.N., CNN**, assistant professor, “Exploring the Benefits of Collaboration between the Clinical Educator and Coordinator of Clinical Faculty”;
 - **Maryanne Lieb ’85 M.S.N., R.N.**, clinical assistant professor and coordinator of Second Degree Options, “Good Things Can Happen to Mediocre Cooks”;
 - **Catherine Todd Magel, Ed.D., R.N. BC**, assistant professor, “Collaborative Learning Promotes Collegiality”;
 - **Karen May, M.S.N., R.N., Ph.D.** student, “Exploring the Relationship of Genomics and Environmental Health with Senior Baccalaureate Nursing Students”;
 - **Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor and director of the Ph.D. Program in Nursing, “Bringing Nursing Research to Life with Undergraduate Students”;
 - **Anne Vitale ’08 Ph.D., R.N., APRN, BC**, “The Use of a Distance Learning Mentoring Program to Assist Novice Nurse Educators”; and
 - **Carol Toussie Weingarten, Ph.D., R.N., ANEF**, associate professor, “Working Smarter: Re-Envisioning Faculty Roles to Meet Challenges in Nursing Education.”

Posters:

- **Mary Ann Cantrell ’89 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.**, assistant professor; **Bette Mariani ’82 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.**, assistant professor; and **Colleen Meakim ’84 M.S.N., R.N.**, director of the Learning Resource Center, “The Role of Structured Debriefing on Students’ Clinical Judgment Abilities in Simulation”;
- **Ruth Crothers ’10 Ph.D., R.N., GCNS-BC, CNOR**, “The Development of Organized Continuing Education for Registered Nurses in the United States 1957-1974: Challenge for a Maturing Profession”;
- **Tamara M. Kear ’09 Ph.D., R.N., CNN**, assistant professor, “Cross-Disciplinary Learning Experiences: Implications for Nursing Education”;
- **Catherine Todd Magel, Ed.D., R.N. BC**, assistant professor, “Curriculum Development for a New Generation of Nursing Educators”;
- **Elizabeth Romeo ’10 Ph.D., CRNP, FNP-BC**, “The Predictive Ability of Critical Thinking, Nursing GPA and SAT Scores on First Time NCLEX-R.N. Performance”;
- **Jennifer Gunberg Ross ’00 B.S.N., ’05 M.S.N., ’11 Ph.D., R.N., CNE**, adjunct clinical faculty member, “The Effect of Simulation Training on Baccalaureate Nursing Students’ Competency in Performing Intramuscular Injection”;
- **Lorraine Rusch ’10 Ph.D., R.N.**, two posters, “Exploring Baccalaureate Nursing Students’ Experiences with Clinical Preparation, Clinical Reasoning, and Decision Making” and “Preceptor Perceptions of Student Readiness for Preceptorship: A Curriculum Evaluation Modality”; and
- **Carol Toussie Weingarten, Ph.D., R.N., ANEF**, associate professor, “Low Cost, High Impact Simulation for Leadership and Professional Development in Undergraduate Nursing Education: Achieving Essential Outcomes Through the Student Nurses’ Association.”

ENRS 24TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

This spring, faculty and doctoral program alumni presented their scholarly work at the 24th Annual Eastern

Nursing Research Society (ENRS) 24th Annual Scientific Sessions, held in New Haven, Conn., March 28-30.

Presentations:

- **Mary Ann Cantrell ’89 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.**, associate professor, “Alcohol Consumption and Smoking Rates between Survivors of Childhood Cancer and Matched Cohorts Surveyed in the Adolescent Health Study”;
- **Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor and director of the Ph.D. Program in Nursing, “The Association of Self-Reported Vision Status with Obesity, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease, and Health Risk Behaviors Among Adult Women Respondents to the 2008 National Health Interview Survey”;
- **Suzanne C. Smeltzer, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research, “Integration of Disability-Related Content in Nurse Practitioner Programs.” Co-authors of the paper are **Elizabeth Blunt, Ph.D., R.N., ANP, BC**, assistant professor and coordinator of Nurse Practitioner Programs; **Lisa Wetzel-Effinger ’08 M.S.N., R.N.**; and **Heather Marozsan ’10 M.S.N., R.N., CNP**;
- **Janet Fogg ’11 Ph.D., RNC-NIC, CNE**, “Stress, Coping, and Social Support for Single, Unpartnered Mothers of Infants in the NICU”;
- **Suzanne Foley ’11 Ph.D., R.N., WHNP-BC**, “A Fresh Look at the Postpartum Period: New Mothers’ Needs During the First Months at Home”; and
- **Stephanie Jeffers ’11 Ph.D., R.N.**, “Nurse Faculty Perspectives of End-of-Life Education in the Clinical Setting: A Phenomenological Perspective.”

Poster:

- **Bing Bing Qi ’94 M.S.N., Ph.D., R.N.**, assistant professor, “A Validation of the Self-Reported Exercise Measure in a Self-Efficacy Enhanced Osteoporosis Prevention Program among Chinese Immigrants.” •

Believing in Mission

For John and Pamela Cembrook, some choices are obvious. Find a mission congruent with their own, embracing the ideal of service to others, and act on it. For that reason, these parents of a Villanova University alumna (Allissa '11 A&S, who majored in mathematics with a minor in business) and two current Nursing students (Samantha, a junior, and Jacqueline, a freshman) have felt a strong affinity both for Villanova and the College of Nursing. In 2011 they established the Pamela M. and John W. Cembrook Family Endowed Scholarship, which will provide financial support for Nursing students with demonstrated academic merit and financial need. The first scholarship will be awarded in fall 2012.

Giving back is a belief emblematic of this Bernardsville, N.J., family. John Cembrook is managing director of the Technology Division of Goldman Sachs Group Inc. Pamela is former president of Friends of Matheny and a current board member for the Matheny Medical and Education Center in Peapack, N.J., a special hospital and educational facility for medically complex children and adults with developmental disabilities. Since 2008, they have served on Villanova's Parents Executive Committee. Additionally, Pamela serves on the College of Nursing Board of Consultors.

"The Villanova community has become an important part of our lives and enriched the lives of our daughters," they explain.



Pamela and John Cembrook are the parents of three daughters who are Villanovans: (from left) Allissa '11 A&S, Samantha and Jacqueline, both of whom are Nursing students.

"We feel very fortunate to be in a position to give back to the Villanova community and help current and future students."

The missions of the University and the College speak to the Cembrooks. "From our first experiences at Villanova, we felt there was something special and unique about the University," they note. "With the balance of outstanding academics, school spirit and an institution that goes far to help others, we felt that this was the best place for our girls. *Veritas, Unitas, Caritas* are not just words at Villanova, they are a way of life. We feel a strong affinity for these principles."

Not ones to stand on the sidelines, the Cembrooks actively engage in service and have similar expectations of their daughters.

Samantha and Jacqueline, having had "extensive and wonderful experiences" working with children with disabilities at the Matheny center while in high school, truly desired "to help those in need," Pamela explains. Her daughters chose the College of Nursing because "Villanova's Nursing program is exceptional and is highly regarded throughout the medical field and the nursing profession," she notes. The couple chose to benefit Nursing students with the new scholarship. Why? For the Cembrooks, the reason is clear: "We feel it is very important to help give future students the ability to attend Villanova's College of Nursing and have the same wonderful experiences and educational opportunities our daughters are having." •

Four New Scholarships Funded

The David and Christine Clark '94 Endowed Scholarship was established in 2011 by David N. ('94 A&S) and Christine Butler ('94 B.S.N.) Clark. It will offer financial support to students enrolled in the College of Nursing who have demonstrated academic merit and financial need. The first award will be in fall 2012.

The Richard W. and Martha B. Coyle Nursing Scholarship was established by Dick and Martha Coyle in 2011 to

be awarded annually to an undergraduate Nursing student with demonstrated academic merit and financial need, with emphasis on leadership and service to the College. Their daughter, Becky Coyle '07 B.S.N., is now a nurse practitioner.

The **Dean's Nursing Scholarship** was established in 2011 by an anonymous alumni donor to assist undergraduate Nursing students who demonstrate academic merit and financial need. Additional contri-

butions to the fund may be made by interested people or organizations at any time.

Mike '67 A&S and Terry '67 B.S.N. (Wilson) Mruz contributed doctoral scholarship support to the College of Nursing to provide financial assistance, leadership development, health policy immersion and mentoring to two students, and additional funding for conference/seminar opportunities. The awards are in partnership with the Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence's Nurse Leaders Scholarship Program and will be available for award in 2012. •

Donors and Students Meet One Another at Scholarship Breakfast

Special friends of the College of Nursing make possible the education of many future Villanova nurses. Scholarship recipients and their families had a chance to meet and thank their generous donors, as well as share their Villanova stories, at the annual Scholarship Breakfast in Driscoll Hall, held on September 17, 2011, during Villanova University's Parents' Weekend.

The Robert and Frances Capone Scholarship
John Barrow, junior, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Beatrice A. Chase '54 Scholarship for Nursing
Victoria R. Steiner, sophomore,
Syracuse, N.Y.

Richard W. and Martha B. Coyle Nursing Scholarship
Sinead C. Kemmy, senior, Norwood, Mass.

The Frances Farrell D'Ambrisi Endowed Nursing Scholarship
Karli Miller, freshman, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
Makenzie Miller, freshman, Morrestown, N.J.

The Eastwood Family Nursing Scholarship
Sarah E. Sheerin, junior, Lancaster, Pa.
Stephanie J. Gailor, junior, Lancaster, Pa.

The Eastwood Family Nursing Scholarship and PPJOC Endowed University Scholarship
DeAnna M. DelGaiso, senior, Philadelphia

The Linda D. and James W. Eastwood '68 Family Endowed Nursing Scholarship
Caitlin B. Rhoades, senior, Glassboro, N.J.

The Memorial Endowment Fund of Margaret S. and Jeremiah J. Enright
Catherine J. Capozzola, senior, Delmar, N.Y.
Melissa Pfeifer, freshman,
Plymouth Meeting, Pa.

The Daniel M. and Christine A. Finnegan Endowed Nursing Scholarship in Memory of Eileen S. Lupton '03
Christine V. Bochanski, junior,
Lansdowne, Pa.

The Eileen Greyson Hoffman '61 Scholarship for Nursing
Jessica Lee, junior, Albany, N.Y.



The College's fall 2011 scholarship recipients include (front row, from left) Hana Lee, Esther Lee, Jessica Lee, Sarah Sheerin, Carolyn Peng, Mackenzie Miller, Ashley Phillips, Maggie Wang, Melissa Pfeifer, Katherine Conte, Christine V. Bochanski (back row, from left) Shakia Blount, John Barrow, Stephanie J. Gailor, Andrew E. Masiello, Lauren A. Robinson, Catherine J. Capozzola, Sinead C. Kemmy, Marie E. McClure, Zoe Gasparotti, Jennifer Warren, Lisa J. Rivera, Karli Miller, Caitlin B. Rhoades, Victoria Steiner and DeAnna DelGaiso. Not pictured: Jolyssa Lewis.

Mary Alice Holland Memorial Scholarship
Katherine Conte, junior, Glen Mills, Pa.

The Kreider Family Endowed University Scholarship
Maggie Wang, junior, Philadelphia

The Eileen S. Lupton '03 Endowed Memorial Scholarship
Marie E. McClure, junior, Coatesville, Pa.

Gerald M. and Carolyn A. Miller Family Scholarship
Carolyn Peng, junior, Philadelphia

The Mother Teresa Endowed Nursing Scholarship Established by Peter and Colleen Schleider in Memory of Richard and Ellen Wright
Esther Lee, freshman, Fullerton, Calif.
Lauren A. Robinson, junior, Avondale, Pa.

Theresa Wilson and Michael J. Mruz Scholarship in Nursing
Lisa J. Rivera, senior, Brick, N.J.
The Mary V. O'Donnell Endowed University Scholarship
Hana Lee, senior, Ridgefield, N.J.

The Col. Julia B. Paparella and Dr. Benedict A. Paparella Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Marie E. McClure, senior, Coatesville, Pa.

The Pizzi Family Nursing Scholarship
Jolyssa Lewis, freshman, Philadelphia

The Pompizzi Family Endowed Scholarship for Nursing
Zoe Gasparotti, junior, Cockeysville, Md.

The Alexis Rosenberg Foundation Endowed Scholarship
Jennifer Warren, freshman, Stoneham, Mass.
Shakia Blount, junior, Philadelphia

The Margaret Mary Starzynski Memorial Fund Scholarship
Andrew E. Masiello, senior,
Staten Island, N.Y.
Ashley Phillips, freshman,
Maplewood, N.J.

For more information regarding donation to scholarship funds or other opportunities within the College of Nursing, contact Sue Stein, University advancement officer for the College, at (610) 519-7980 or by e-mail at sue.stein@villanova.edu. •

“Forever Family” Creates Network of International Inspiration

There is a family in southern New Jersey’s Logan Township that can’t help but inspire each other and the larger world. Adam Boroughs ’92 B.S.N., R.N. is a clinical nurse III in the Trauma-Surgical ICU at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Seeing hope and changing lives is part of his daily practice. But his world-changing begins at home.

Boroughs came to the College of Nursing as an undergraduate with unique experience. Six of his siblings were adopted, and four of them had special needs. For Boroughs, the most influential among them was Sherita. She was born premature with Down syndrome and cardiac and airway problems requiring mechanical ventilation. Along with his parents, Boroughs as a teen-ager was trained in ventilator care. “My parents are amazing people,” he shares. Sherita, who died suddenly during his junior year, remains a major influence on his life. His own impact on nursing began during those years. Boroughs was an outstanding leader in the Villanova Chapter of the Student Nurses’ Association of Pennsylvania, serving as a board member and a delegate to the national convention, among other activities.

His experience at Villanova University then inspired his mother, who had delayed her dream of a nursing career until she had raised her children. Deborah Boroughs ’95 B.S.N., R.N. followed her son to the College of Nursing and graduated with honors. She is currently the administrator of the Ventilator Assisted Children’s Home Program, a Pennsylvania Department of Health program in collaboration with The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Boroughs soon found himself being sought after and promoted like a star athlete, beginning in Philadelphia. “I cut my teeth at Einstein [Medical Center] in the pediatric ICU and then was recruited to the emergency department,” he says. There, he became the interim nurse manager before being recruited to head the New England Medical Center’s Emergency Department in Boston in 1997.



The Boroughs family, joined in faith, love and advocacy, celebrated Christmas 2011 together: (front row, from left): Irina (6), Luke (6), Ivan (13), Blair (8), Sam (6) (back row, from left) Shaquanah (20), Caroline (14), Albertine (15), Zoe (16), Freddie (16), Amy Boroughs and her husband, Adam Boroughs ’92 B.S.N., R.N.

Along the way, he had met his future wife, Amy, a foster care social worker. On their first date, she told him of her plan to adopt Shaquanah, a little girl who initially was one of her emergency caseload placements. Amy, who had fallen in love with Shaquanah over a year’s time, was thrilled to hear that Adam not only had six adopted siblings but wanted to adopt some day. Married in January 1994, about two years later they had twins Freddie and Zoe (now 16), and a few years after that, their daughter Caroline was born.

When they returned to Philadelphia in 2000, Boroughs worked as an emergency department staff nurse and soon became manager. In 2004 he was promoted to director of Physician Marketing for Penn’s Health System. With the realization of job success came a push from within to expand the family. The Boroughs, a family of strong faith, on Father’s Day 2004 listened to their pastor talk about adoption. After contemplation, research on international opportunities and always remembering Sherita, they were moved to adopt Ivan, and shortly thereafter, Blair, two boys from

Hong Kong who have Down syndrome. “Amazing and inspirational,” says Boroughs of their sons. In 2007 the couple became aware of Albertine, a young girl from war-torn Liberia with sequelae from

“The last four children we adopted were total throwaway citizens in their home countries. It is heart-breaking and challenging to deal with these issues but love does truly conquer all.”

—Adam Boroughs
’92 B.S.N., R.N.



cerebral malaria. Amy describes Albertine as having “seen and experienced the very worst that life can be,” though today she is an enthusiastic student whose memories of her parentless days of struggle are “fading to the past.”

GREETINGS FROM THE NURSING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Alumni,

It has been another busy and successful year for us, but first a little of the back story.

The Nursing Alumni Association (NAA) board is, and has always been, a loyal and hardworking group. Over time we have tried a variety of ways to connect, engage and communicate with Nursing alumni. We've had some successes and challenges. Two years ago, we embarked on what a marketing person might describe as a "re-branding" campaign. We updated the association's name, developed a strategic plan and aligned our goals with the College of Nursing and Villanova University to reach alumni more widely and, more importantly, in a sustainable way. This summer, we recruited six new board members who represent a diversity of professional skills, experiences and class years:

- Colleen Avery '09 B.S.N.
- Sharon Johnson '91 M.S.N.
- Mary Ellen Lorenz '83 B.S.N.
- Mary Reale '77 B.S.N., '91 M.S.N.
- Jeanne Venella '82 B.S.N.
- Kelly Zazyczny '94 B.S.N., '11 M.S.N.

We have had three meetings with our expanded board and the energy, enthusiasm and ideas have been amazing and infectious. We have plans to establish relationships earlier with undergrads, use social media effectively (even for those of us who didn't grow up with it) and hold social events in different venues, as well as continue our support of the Annual Alumni Mass and Awards Ceremony, Continuing Education events and the Annual Distinguished Lecture in Nursing.

NAA dues support a variety of initiatives—graduate and undergraduate financial awards and even our presence here on campus.

Our office in Driscoll Hall is a result of our pledge during the construction of the building. We need you to partner with us as we continue to support the College of Nursing, and each other, in these ways. Visit our Web pages at www.villanova.edu/nursing, where you can renew your membership online and also contact board members to share ideas. "Like" us on Facebook (Villanova University Nursing Alumni Association) and make sure we have your current e-mail address to keep up with news. We are always interested in what you have to say!



Joanne F. Gurney '71 B.S.N., '88 M.S.N., R.N.
President, Nursing Alumni Association

That year, further inspiration came out of tragedy. "In 2007, my oldest daughter, Shaquanah, was severely injured when her school bus was broadsided. She was ejected from the bus, respiratory arrested and was resuscitated," recalls Boroughs. After nine weeks of hospitalization, she made a miraculous recovery and returned to school five months later. During that time, Boroughs had what he calls a "Jerry Maguire experience," referencing the movie character's career shift. So he returned to bedside care and has been happy with the decision ever since.

Opportunities continued to cross the family's path. When no one responded to an urgent plea to find a family for a Ukrainian toddler with special needs, after much thought Amy and Adam decided to adopt Luke, and shortly thereafter, Irina. Both toddlers were on the cusp of turning 4. Boroughs explains, "In Eastern Europe, orphans with special needs are transferred to mental institutions once they turn 4

years old. The conditions in these institutions are horrific, and it is estimated that 60 percent of the children die within the first year of institutionalization."

During their first trip to Ukraine, the couple met Sam, a child with spina bifida; his expected adoption had not worked out. The Boroughs happily brought Sam into their clan as well. "The last four children we adopted were total throwaway citizens in their home countries. It is heart-breaking and challenging to deal with these issues but love does truly conquer all," says Boroughs. "The amount of love returned from our guys is the easiest part." He describes his wife as "amazingly compassionate," adept at "creating calm from chaos" in the home. Boroughs, inherently a teacher, knows that he has learned from his family—about the enrichment of bringing children into their "forever family," the strength of a marriage and most of all that "God doesn't make mistakes."

The same leadership drive that Boroughs cultivated in the College of Nursing and that

serves him professionally also galvanizes him to educate others about adoption. The Boroughs promote resources such as reecesrainbow.org, which facilitates the adoption of children with special needs. They are starting an orphan ministry at their church. "Our goal is to raise awareness of orphans and identify ways to help make a difference," he says.

Melding his professional talents with personal passions, Boroughs continues to reach out to the most vulnerable around the world, including in Haiti following the earthquake. "I just recently got back from Bulgaria," he says, "where I got the opportunity to transfer a severely neglected orphaned child with Down syndrome; she weighed just over 10 pounds at age 9." (Read her new family's story at theblessingofverity.com).

Today, Boroughs easily relates his endeavors to his Nursing experience, noting "Villanova instilled a sense of service—an acute awareness of how much responsibility we have for others." •

NURSING ALUMNI NOTES

1960s

Tara Siegal Cortes '67 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., FAAN was honored as a New York Women's Agenda (NYWA) 2011 STAR in December 2011. NYWA is a coalition of women professionals, organizations and community activists who support the diversity and interests of New York women through collaboration, advocacy and education. Dr. Cortes, executive director of the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing and professor of geriatric nursing at New York University's College of Nursing, was honored for exemplifying the qualities embodied in NYWA's mission through her work supporting healthy aging in place and promoting access of care to vulnerable populations.

1970s

Dorrie Fontaine '72 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., FAAN this April in Baltimore will receive the 2012 University of Maryland School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award, recognizing her excellence in nursing. She earned her master's degree there. At the University of Virginia School of Nursing, Dr. Fontaine serves as dean and the Sadie Heath Cabaniss Professor of Nursing. Former president of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, the largest specialty nursing organization in the world, she is a passionate educator and researcher who advocates and leads in areas such as interprofessional education and shaping a transformational model to provide compassionate end-of-life care across the health-care spectrum.

Frances R. Vlasses '72 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, ANEF, NEA-BC last fall was inducted as a Fellow into the American Academy of Nursing and also inducted into the National League for Nursing's Academy of Nursing Education. At Loyola University Chicago, Dr. Vlasses is an associate professor and department chair at the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing. Her research focuses on creating healthy work environments, interprofessional collaboration and quality of life for individuals with disabilities. She publishes and speaks on issues related to the



Three Nursing alumnae at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) were among those gathering for a photo after Patricia Danz '82 B.S.N., R.N., CPON (right) received a "Pitcher of Hope" award. With her are Ellen Tracy '81 B.S.N., '97 M.S.N. (left), director of Medical and Subspecialty Nursing, and Madeline McCarthy Bell '83 B.S.N. (center), president and chief operating officer of CHOP. All three are recipients of the College of Nursing Medallion.

PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY NURSE HONORED

Patricia Danz '82 B.S.N., R.N., CPON is a clinical nurse IV and certified pediatric oncology nurse in the Oncology Clinic at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). She received the "Pitcher of Hope Award" at CHOP on June 10, 2011, the fifth recipient of this honor instituted as part of the Alex's Lemonade Stand kick-off in June. The award honors a clinician who has demonstrated commitment and service to the oncology population over time. Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, which has raised more than \$50 million, continues the efforts begun when 4-year-old Alexandra Scott, who died at age 8, and her brother set up a lemonade stand in Philadelphia to raise money for pediatric cancer research.

Danz was one of the nurses who cared for Alex, as well as for many other oncology patients during her almost 30 years at CHOP. For 11 years she worked with the first formal Palliative Care Service and was able to coordinate the care of hundreds of patients whose families choose to have them die at home. For the last 10 years, she has been working in the outpatient oncology clinic in a leadership role while still providing direct patient care. Danz's nomination came from a number of leaders in the oncology division, among them **Ellen Tracy '81 B.S.N., '97 M.S.N.**, director of Medical and Subspecialty Nursing. Tracy, a longtime colleague and friend, presented the award.

quality of nursing work life and creative strategies for health-care leadership.

Nancy Munro '75 B.S.N., an acute care nurse practitioner at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center, in December 2011 was named one of 10 recipients of *Washingtonian* magazine's 2011 Excellence in Nursing Award. In naming her a "Health Hero," the magazine noted, "Munro pioneered the role of acute-care nurse practitioner at Washington Hospital Center and at

NIH, persuading physicians that nurse practitioners could care for patients with complex, life-threatening diseases." At NIH's clinical research center, Munro is the senior nurse practitioner in the Critical Care Medicine Department and serves on the Pulmonary Consult Service. She also is a clinical instructor in the Acute Care Nursing Practitioner/Clinical Nurse Specialist Graduate Program at the University of Maryland School of Nursing in Baltimore. She has made significant contributions to the

American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, serving on its national Board of Directors and chairing various work groups that have written standards for care delivery and identified important education topics.

1980s

Karen Javie '87 M.S.N., R.N., of Philadelphia, in August 2011 was appointed as vice president of Operations at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital in Darby, Pa. She has 25 years of experi-



ence as a health-care executive in acute care and ambulatory care settings with academic teaching and community facilities.

1990s

Jeanne Jellig Alhusen '93 B.S.N., Ph.D., FNP-BC earned a Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins University's School of Nursing in 2011. She was awarded an NIH NRSA predoctoral training grant to fund her dissertation research, which focused on disparities in neonatal outcomes. She



has authored several articles and book chapters on disparities in maternal-child health, and has presented at many national and international meetings. She is currently a postdoctoral research fellow at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. After completing her fellowship, she will become an assistant professor at the University of Virginia School of Nursing. Dr. Alhusen lives in Severna Park, Md., with her husband and four young children.

Susan Kilroy '95 B.S.N., R.N., nursing clinical educator, facilitated a shadow day at La Rabida Children's Hospital in Chicago in January for Villanova Nursing senior Maeve Boyle.

Evelyn Dogbey '96 B.S.N., Ph.D., APRN, BC in August 2011 became an assistant professor of nursing at Misericordia University in Dallas, Pa.

Elizabeth "Liz" Schmidt Rodriguez '98 B.S.N., D.N.P., R.N. is a nurse leader at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. She earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Duke University in May 2010, where she was presented with the "Outstanding DNP Capstone Award" for her project. She published with B. Thom and S. Schneider about the project, "Nurse and Physician Perspectives on Patients with Cancer Having Online Access to Their Laboratory Results," in the July 2011 *Oncology Nursing Forum*, (38) 4, 476-482.

2000s

Jennifer A. Cummins '00 M.S.N., R.N.-BC, CEN in May 2011 was named the 2011 "Nurse of the Year" at Riddle Hospital in Media, Pa.

Tyonne Hinson '01 M.S.N., R.N. in spring 2011 was promoted to director of Neonatal Nursing Services at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). She has more than 12 years of clinical and administrative experience in newborn intensive care. CHOP noted that in Hinson's most recent position as nurse manager of the Harriett and Ronald Nassin NI/ICU, she has demonstrated exceptional leadership in the growth of the program and in developing strong interdisciplinary and nursing teams that have resulted in demonstrated clinical outcomes.



SISTERS GRADUATE TOGETHER AS PNPS

Many adult learners appreciate the benefits of the "buddy system" when returning to school. Being able to share the challenges of advanced education as life swirls around you can mitigate stress and aid learning. It's not often that family members can connect in this way but two sisters proved its worth by graduating together with master's degrees in the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) specialty. Reflecting on their experience at the College of Nursing, the sisters were all smiles at the 2011

Winter Convocation on December 14. **Laurie Wittmer '06 B.S.N., '11 M.S.N., R.N.** (right) as an undergraduate had become familiar with Villanova University and was thinking about graduate school. When her sister, **Lyndsy Wittmer '11 M.S.N., R.N.** (left), approached her about pursuing the PNP specialty, she realized they could attain a huge goal together and keep each other motivated. Both are interested in clinical care as well as education in their future careers.



Do You Have News to Share?

Stay in touch—tell us about your latest job, award and other news.

Contact Ann Barrow McKenzie
'86 B.S.N., '91 M.S.N., R.N.
Phone: (610) 519-6814
E-mail: ann.mckenzie@villanova.edu.

Bridgette Carter Brawner '03 B.S.N., Ph.D., APRN,

Distin-
guished Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing's Center for Health Equity Research, has received a \$932,129, four-year grant from the federal Centers for Disease Control for her study "HIV/STI Prevention among Heterosexually-Active Black Adolescents with Mental Illnesses." Notes Dr. Brawner, "I am humbled and honored by this opportunity to have a significant impact on the HIV/STI landscape in Philadelphia." Because adolescents with mental illnesses are a historically underserved group with respect to HIV/STI prevention, and black adolescents in particular are disproportionately affected, she hopes to generate data to address unique unmet risk reduction needs, partner with community stakeholders to deliver a novel intervention in a nontraditional setting embedded in the community and inform mental health policy through her work. Dr. Brawner was featured in the Spring/Summer 2011 *Villanova Nursing* article "Fast Track to Excellence."



Manar Al-Azzam '04 M.S.N., Ph.D. in August 2011 successfully defended her dissertation at the University of Iowa, "Arab Immigrant Muslim Mothers' Perceptions of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)." Dr. Al-Azzam, who is from Jordan, returned home to teach psychiatric mental health nursing at Princess Salma Faculty of Nursing at Al albayt University in Mafrq.

Laura Berry '06 B.S.N., R.N. hosted Villanova Nursing senior Bridget Carroll during a shadow day at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Amy Witkoski Stimpfel '06 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N. graduated in May 2011 with a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Her dissertation was "The Impact of Hospital Staff Nurse Shift Length on Nurse and Patient Outcomes." She continues at Penn's Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research as a postdoctoral research fellow.

Navy Ensign Michelle Barba '10 B.S.N., R.N. is serving with the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps at NAS Jacksonville Naval Medical Center's maternal-infant unit.

Alison Spicer '11 B.S.N., R.N., a staff nurse at the University of Virginia Children's Hospital, practices on an acute care/PICU stepdown unit. She looks forward to starting graduate school soon.

Janet Fogg '11 Ph.D., RNC-NIC, CNE is an instructor in the undergraduate and graduate programs in Penn State University's School of Nursing. She was appointed to the graduate faculty in September 2011 and has been working on the curricula for new master's degree programs for nurse educators and nurse administrators.

In Memoriam: Alumni and Friends

J. M. Ada Mutch, M.A., R.N., an icon on Philadelphia's Main Line, died in Rosemont, Pa., on January 27, two weeks before her 107th birthday. Although not an alumna of the College of Nursing, she was a longtime friend. In 2005 the College awarded her a Medallion for her outstanding leadership in nursing and her volunteer service to the community.



A graduate of what was then the Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing, she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Teachers College, Columbia University. Following

service in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, she was associate director of nursing at Columbia-Presbyterian before her appointment as director of nursing at Lankenau Hospital in Wynnewood, Pa. Her father, the Rev. Andrew Mutch, pastor of Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, emigrated from Scotland when she was a small child. She was known for her many community, church and professional contributions, especially to the Nurses Educational Funds, Inc.

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Hazel Johnson

'59 B.S.N., Ph.D. died in Wilmington, Del., on August 5, 2011, at the age of 84, following a long illness. She is interred at Arlington National Cemetery. She was the first African-American woman to hold the rank of general in the U.S. Army and the first African American to hold the position of chief nurse of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. She served on the Villanova University Board of Trustees, and Villanova and two other universities awarded her honorary degrees. The College of Nursing honored her in 1984 as one of the first recipients of the Medallion for Distinguished Achievement. At Nursing's Convocation each year for graduating students, the College presents the Hazel Johnson Leadership Award.



A native of West Chester, Pa., she graduated from Harlem Hospital School of Nursing; earned her bachelor's degree in Nursing from Villanova; a master's degree from Teachers College, Columbia University; and her doctorate from The Catholic University of America. She served in Korea and developed an educational program for Army nurses at the University of Maryland.

Following her retirement from the Army, she directed the Government Affairs office at the headquarters of the American Nurses Association, then had a distinguished academic career, teaching in the graduate nursing program at George Mason University. She was featured in the Spring 2006 *Villanova Nursing*. This pioneering Villanovan epitomized the Army slogan "Be all you can be." She communicated that message to hundreds of nurses whom she mentored with purpose and a memorable sense of humor.

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Mildred Wetzel

'59 B.S.N., of Largo, Fla., died on November 19, 2011. Serving with the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during World War II, she experienced hospital ship duty in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. During the Korean War, she served in the Air Force and during the Vietnam War was with the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, retiring with the rank of lieutenant colonel. Her civilian career included service with VA medical centers in New York, Chicago and Philadelphia. Her life showed a great love of God, country, family and friends.

Kathleen Faircloth '70 B.S.N., of Boynton Beach, Fla., died on December 7, 2011, after a long battle with polycystic kidney disease. She had practiced for more than 35 years as a nurse in New Jersey and in Boynton Beach.

Maureen Kudrewicz Fuchs '72 B.S.N., of West Chester, Pa. died at home on January 26 after a battle with cancer.

Dorrie Fontaine '72 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., FAAN describes her Villanova Nursing roommate and friend as having loved "all things Villanova."

Kelly Jolee Nekola '06 B.S.N., R.N., of Lincoln, Neb., died October 18, 2011. She practiced as a vascular operating room nurse at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia and at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz. She most recently was a traveling operating room nurse.

Carolyn Peluso '09 M.S.N., CRNA, of Marlton, N.J., died suddenly on January 23. She earned her master's degree from the Villanova University/Crozer-Chester School of Nurse Anesthesia. She remained at Crozer-Chester Medical Center to practice in the Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine as an employee of Associates in Anesthesia, Inc. where she was considered a "beloved and valued member" of the team. •

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Visiting with Nursing's Navy and Army ROTC students last November were (front row seated, from second on left) Capt. Betsy Myhre, Dean Fitzpatrick, Gen. (Ret.) Anthony Zinni '65 VSB, Rear Adm. (Ret.) Christine M. Bruzek-Kohler '74 B.S.N., and Capt. Maryalice Morro '83 B.S.N. In the back row on the left are Patricia Mynaugh, Ph.D., R.N. and Barbara Ott, Ph.D., R.N., both of whom are associate professors in the College of Nursing.

Military Alumni Share Their Wisdom with Students

In November 2011, Gen. (Ret.) Anthony C. Zinni '65 VSB, retired four-star Marine Corps general and former commander in chief of the United States Central Command, spent a week at Villanova University as a scholar-in-residence. His arrival brought together military alumni and students for a unique opportunity to share perspectives.

The College of Nursing invited Gen. Zinni to speak as part of its 17th Annual Health and Human Values Lecture Series. In an overflowing room of students, faculty, staff, military colleagues and community members, he addressed "The Global Humanitarian Missions of the U.S. Military." Gen. Zinni discussed the military's involvement in disaster relief missions and complex humanitarian missions over the last two decades.

Among the military colleagues in attendance were two members of the College's Board of Consultors and prior recipients

of the College of Nursing's Medallion for leadership: Rear Adm. (Ret.) Christine M. Bruzek-Kohler '74 B.S.N., recently retired commander of Navy Medicine West and former director of the Navy Nurse Corps and now executive director, Healthcare Operations Joint Task Force, National Capital Region, and Capt. Maryalice Morro '83 B.S.N., chief executive officer/regional chief of staff, Navy Medicine East. They joined Gen. Zinni for lunch with Army and Navy ROTC students, generously sharing time and stories. A Navy Nurse Corps colleague of Adm. Bruzek-Kohler's, Capt. Betsy Myhre, also attended.

Gen. Zinni relayed his keen appreciation of nurses and corpsmen, which started when he was twice wounded in Vietnam. Today when he visits wounded warriors, he talks about the positive impact of nurses, especially when they care for the whole person and family. During his tour of the Driscoll Hall simulation labs, the distin-

guished military nurses spoke with the students, offering to continue the conversation in the future.

Adm. Bruzek-Kohler notes of these conversations, "Future Navy nurses could speak freely with their 'seniors' about their expectations, and we could share with them the opportunities that await them. I think it was a wonderful opportunity for them to see that women in the military have a tremendous opportunity to excel and to reach the highest levels of leadership. In the Nurse Corps they will be given so many experiences in all kinds of environments early in their career—something that many of their civilian colleagues would not necessarily face soon after graduation."

Capt. Morro agrees, recalling advice that was shared: "The Navy will afford them opportunities far beyond anything they imagined of a typical nursing career and will embrace them as they come along." •



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